

SEVEN LAKES
BACK AT STATE
TOURNAMENT
FOR SECOND
STRAIGHT YEAR
SPORTS | B1

Katy Times



VOLUME 111, ISSUE 15

THE GREATER KATY AREA'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1912 ■ katytimes.com

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Mayor Dusty Thiele, museum coordinator Joshua Garland and parks director Kevin Browne show the plaques that will be displayed in Thomas Park following its designation as a Lone Star Legacy Park by the Texas Recreation and Park Society.

Katy's Thomas Park receives recognition as Lone Star Legacy Park

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Texas Recreation and Park Society has designated Katy's Thomas Park, 5919 4th St., as a Lone Star Legacy Park.

In describing the honor, Kevin Browne, the city's parks director, said a park must be at least 50 years old and be associated with historic events or sites, or events specific to the community and state. Browne said Thomas Park is one of six parks in Texas to receive this honor this year.

According to the city website, Thomas Park today is popular for small weddings

and family gatherings. It is also known for a tri-county marker that signifies where Harris, Fort Bend and Waller County all meet.

According to the Katy Heritage Society, in 1890 a surveying team led by Milton August Beckendorff established the intersection of the counties and created the marker.

The park is named in honor of James Oliver Thomas. He was a settler from Missouri who purchased 46 acres of land in December 1895 and hired L.C. Luckel and P.M. Cash to plat a townsite along the tracks of the MKT

See **PARK**, page A3

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Position 3, Katy ISD Board of Trustees

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Three candidates are seeking the position 3 seat on the Katy ISD Board of Trustees. They are Bruce Bradford, a mortgage loan originator; Shawn Miller, a college professor, and Amy Thieme, a realtor.

The winner will succeed incumbent Ashley Vann, who is not seeking re-election.

The winner needs only a plurality of votes to win the seat. Early voting begins April 24 and runs through May 2. Election Day is May 6.

About you

1. Describe your professional background and how that will help you if elected.

Bradford: I worked in telecom for 16 years in a variety of roles in management. I ran my own business for 10 years in Katy. I

See **POSITION 3**, page A3



Committee reviewing data, projects for bond

CONTRIBUTED AND STAFF REPORTS

A Katy ISD Community Bond Advisory Committee is reviewing over 55 possible projects and their associated costs for a bond issue that is expected to be put before district

voters in the November election.

The committee held its second meeting April 5, where it considered proposed school renovation projects, new campus needs and safety and technology improvements across the district.

Lisa Kassman, the district's facilities, planning and construction executive director, said four new schools are recommended for a 2023 bond. Of these four new recommended

Above: Members of the Katy ISD 2023 bond committee review and discuss data they will use in deciding how to proceed on a possible bond package.

See **BOND**, page A6

KATY ISD

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MEET THE CANDIDATES

Position 4, Katy ISD Board of Trustees

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Three candidates are seeking the position 4 seat on the Katy ISD Board of Trustees. They are Erica Brettell, a stay-at-home mom; Morgan Calhoun, a stay-at-home mom, and Cicely Taylor, an education administrator.

The winner will succeed in-

cumbent Leah Wilson, who is not seeking re-election.

The winner needs only a plurality of votes to win the seat. Early voting begins April 24 and runs through May 2. Election Day is May 6.

See **POSITION 4**, page A6

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Position 5, Katy ISD Board of Trustees

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Two candidates are seeking the position 5 seat on the Katy ISD Board of Trustees. They are Mary Ellen Cuzela, a Katy ISD substitute teacher, and Shana Peterson, who is retired.

The winner will succeed incumbent Greg Schulte, who is not seeking re-election.

The winner needs only a plurality of votes to win the seat. Early voting begins April 24 and runs through May 2. Election Day is May 6.

About you

1. Describe your professional background and how that will help you if elected.

Cuzela: I have classroom experience as an active substitute teacher in all different parts of Katy ISD (north and south of I-10, east, west and in between). I have actively participated in school board meetings advocating for parents, students and teachers. I am fluent in Spanish. I was a software consultant.

Peterson: I have 31 years of educational experience in Texas public

See **POSITION 5**, page A3

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Stuff the Sleigh event set for April 14

Stuff the Sleigh hosts Bags, Bingo and Bubbles, which is set for 6-11:30 p.m. April 14 at Palacio Maria 21728 Highland Knolls Dr. Tickets are \$100.

The evening features designer bags, bingo and bubbles, an 80s-themed fundraiser supporting pediatric cancer and hematology patients and families. Purse designers include Louis Vuitton, Valentino, Tory Burch, Kate Space, Michael Kors, and Coach.

Other silent auction items include an in-home private chef experience for eight people. Additionally, dozens of raffle items, including a wine-tasting tour for up to 16 people from Nice Wines of Houston, items from Kendra Scott, Pucci, Sea World, The Alley Theater and more will be available.

Also being raffled are five tickets to any regular-season Astros game in Section 122, Row 6, online now. Raffle purchasers do not need to attend the event to win.

For more information and to register, visit the website thesleigh.org/bags-bingo-bubbles.html.

Gus George Law Enforcement Academy offering paid cadet positions

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office announces that the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy is now offering paid cadet positions.

Cadets who qualify will earn an hourly rate of \$22.50/hour to attend the Basic

Peace Officer Course, where tuition will be waived, and uniforms will be provided. Upon graduation, the paid cadets will receive field training and an assignment within the sheriff's office. Limited openings are available for paid cadets who meet qualification



SHERIFF ERIC FAGAN

criteria.

During the course, cadets receive training in defensive tactics, firearms proficiency, patrol rifle, active shooter response, emergency driving, physical fitness, first aid, criminal investigations and crime scene procedures, among other law enforcement topics.

The full-time course will begin Aug. 7.



SHERREL ROGERS

Royal High football coach Theadis Reagins coaches his football players, but like so many others in Royal ISD, he serves as a mentor for other students, such as this fourth grader who hopes to be a football coach one day.

Graduation will be held Jan. 26, 2024. Anyone who graduates from the academy will have the opportunity to apply for full-time positions within the sheriff's office.

The Gus George Law Enforcement Academy will be hosting a weekend test date April 22 at 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, in Richmond. Testing is also held during the week on every other Thursday at various times. Click on the link below to see all available dates and times. Testing requirements include passing the Nelson Denny as well as the 1.5-mile run.

To register for a test date, visit the website gusgeorgelawenforcementacademy.org/basic-peace-officer-course/. The deadline to test for the fall course is June 30. For more information, call 281-341-4780 or email Donna Silewicz at donna.silewicz@fortbendcountytx.gov.

"Being in law enforcement takes a special kind of person," Sheriff Eric Fagan said. "Here in Fort Bend, we need individuals who are ready to make a difference in the community and join our team."

Fort Bend County Libraries launch new online financial planning resources

Fort Bend County Libraries announces the addition of a new online financial-planning resource, Weiss Financial Ratings, for consumers. This new resource provides powerful tools for individuals who want to protect their finances, invest wisely, grow their wealth and learn more about financial management.

A demonstration of this new resource will take place at Fort Bend County Libraries' Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. April 20 in the meeting room of the library, 8100 FM 359 South in Fulshear.

Library staff will provide an overview of key features of the Weiss Financial Ratings resource. Learn how the resource provides consumers with the tools they need to make informed decisions about their financial needs.

For more information, call the library at 281-633-4675.

Friends of Cinco Ranch Branch Library seeking gently-used book donations for book sales

The Friends of the Cinco Ranch Branch Library are requesting donations of gently-used books so they can replenish their supplies and continue their book sales and fundraising efforts. Donations can be brought during business hours to the Cinco Ranch Branch Library, 2620 Commercial Center Blvd.

The Friends of the Cinco Ranch Branch Library have long had ongoing book sales in the library, as well as special book-sale events periodically. These book sales are a primary fundraising source for the organization.

Money raised by the Friends of the Library Book Sales has provided funding for special adult and children's programs, cultural events, and staff-development and continuing-education programs for library employees.

Items that are needed include gently-used fiction and nonfiction adult, youth, and children's hardback and paperback books that are clean and not torn. Textbooks are also accepted.

Items that cannot be accepted include cassettes, VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, encyclopedias, medical/legal/computer books

older than 2019, or books that are damp, moldy, dirty, or insect-ridden.

The Friends of the Cinco Ranch Branch Library organization is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation. Donations and contributions to the Friends are tax deductible.

For more information, call the Cinco Ranch Branch Library at 281-395-1311 or email friendsofcinceranchlib@gmail.com.

Brennon Marsh joins Austin County State Bank management team

Austin County State Bank announces the addition of Brennon Marsh, of Katy, to its Sealy location. Dennis Hansen, bank president, said Marsh will serve as vice president and market manager of commercial lending.

Marsh stated he was looking forward to serving the Sealy and surrounding communities. He is a fifth-generation Texan and 1998 graduate of the University of Texas. He has been in community banking for 24 years. He lives in Katy with his wife Beverly; they have two sons, Matthew, age 14 and Preston, age 13. He grew up in Baytown and has been a Rotary member since 2005.

When he isn't helping people grow their businesses and build their balance sheets, Marsh is most likely in the outdoors, fishing and hunting with his sons. "My family enjoys traveling from the Pacific Northwest wine country to the beaches of Mexico," Marsh said. "I enjoy chasing reds, speckled trout and waterfowl all over." He also enjoys hunting in southwest Texas and calling up wild turkeys with his sons.

"Brennon brings with him a level of banking experience and knowledge which will benefit our overall lending team," Hansen said. "Austin County State Bank looks forward to expanding our lending capabilities in Sealy, Austin County and the surrounding communities. Brennon, who has a history of being an active part of the community he serves, will be an excellent addition to our banking team."

Austin County State Bank has been in business since 2007. The main location is Bellville, with the first branch opening in Sealy in November, 2018 and Godley in 2019. "We are committed to building strong financial and personal relationships with business owners, individuals and families in our service areas," Hansen said.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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CLUES ACROSS

- Atomic mass unit
- Criticize mightily
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Stand in for
- Everyone has one
- Brew
- Rectify
- Popular Dodge truck model
- Beef or chicken intestine
- Satisfy
- Of a particular people or localized region
- Movements in quick tempos
- Able to pay one's debts
- Fleshy bird beak covering
- Dueling sword
- Helps
- Court is in it
- Touch lightly
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Of one
- Baked good
- Jai __, sport
- About aviation
- Low oval mound
- Rugged mountain ranges
- Compel to do something
- A way to carve
- Sao __, city in Brazil
- Mustachioed actor Elliott

CLUES DOWN

- Sharp mountain ridge
- Thin, fibrous cartilages
- Provides new details
- Muscular weaknesses
- Ottoman military title
- Banes
- Horse-riding seats
- Arms of a shirt
- Narrow path along a road edge
- Viper
- Disfigure
- Variety of Chinese language
- Portray in a show
- Wrongful act
- No (slang)
- State of agitation
- __ Diego
- One point east of due south
- 007's creator
- The NBA's Toppin

33. Midway between north and northeast
37. Examples
38. __ Gould, actor
39. The habitat of wild animals
40. Artful subtlety
41. Infielders
42. Keep under control
43. Herb

44. Distressed
47. A way to go down
48. Type of acid
49. Take by force
51. Collected fallen leaves
52. Shout of welcome or farewell
53. Monetary unit
58. Swiss river

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

POSITION 3

from page A1

have been a mortgage lender for the last 10 years. Over these years I spent a lot of time interacting with a very diverse customer base with a variety of needs. I feel comfortable facing unique opportunities and solving problems with a team.

Miller: I have over 20 twenty years of experience in education and have received several awards including two Faculty Excellence Awards and the Outstanding Accounting Education Award for Teachers in Texas. I have Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), which includes research conducted on finances for nonprofits. I am currently a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), and I have accounting experience auditing public corporations. My teaching and accounting background will help me to be an effective Katy ISD school board member.

Thieme: My extensive teaching experience makes me ideally suited to creating solutions that will improve student outcomes. With a focus on advanced mathematics, my skills in the classroom helped students enjoy remarkable success in the course curriculum and on end-of-year testing. Furthermore, as a successful small business owner, I will bring financial management experience to the areas of budget creation and oversight.

2. Do you have children enrolled in Katy ISD schools? If you have children that are not enrolled in Katy ISD schools, where are they enrolled and why not Katy ISD?

Bradford: We had three kids graduate from Cinco Ranch High School.

Miller: I have three children, who have all been enrolled in Katy ISD schools from kindergarten until now. One child has graduated and the other two are in high school.

Thieme: My husband and I are proud parents of two adult children. Our son graduated from Texas A&M with a degree in biochemistry, and our daughter is studying nursing at Samford University.

About your positions

3. What would your top three priorities be if elected, and why?

Bradford: Foundational excellence. Presenting best of class curriculum and best of class teaching strategies K-3. Ensuring K-3 children have the solid literacy foundational and number sense skills.

Vocational victories. We need to double capacity of Miller Career Center and expand programs to fit our student population needs.

Miller: My top three priorities are safety, student success and support teachers. The first component is safety; all students, teachers, and staff should feel safe. Secondly, my priority is for student success. Students should be prepared for their goals, whether that is college, career, or military. The third area is to support teachers. Our teachers should be well paid and given the resources they need to teach.

Thieme: It is critical that we concentrate on returning to the basics of reading, writing, math, science and history. The mastery of core courses and critical thinking will create a foundation for students to excel throughout their educational careers and are vital for success in college,



**BRUCE
BRADFORD**



**SHAWN
MILLER**



**AMY
THIEME**

trade school, the military and the workforce. Additionally, the recruitment of passionate teachers will inspire our children to achieve their goals. Lastly, in light of current events, I would like to revisit compiling a safety audit for all campuses in our district and implementing further safety protocols.

4. Did you support the recent Katy ISD tax ratification election? Why or why not?

Bradford: Yes, it was essential to

giving our teachers the raise they deserve.

Miller: I do support increases for teacher pay. I believe Katy ISD has some of the best teachers in Texas, and therefore should be paid accordingly. As a teacher for over 20 years, I believe we are not paid enough. Many teachers and I have taken a pay cut to accept a teaching position.

Thieme: I fully support funding our public schools to address growth in our district so that we can maximize student achievement for all Katy ISD students. The recent failed proposal probably indicates that voters are concerned about higher taxes in an inflationary period.

5. What measures would you support to improve teacher retention and recruitment?

Bradford: For retention, we need to make sure we give proper respect and support to our teachers. Recognize and celebrate the good days as much or more than the tough ones. For recruitment, we may need to consider signing bonuses based on a sliding scale of qualifications.

For all teachers I visualize a defined education/community partnership offering "soft" benefits to teachers of Katy ISD. This program would include increased volunteer participation to reduce the stress on our teachers in the area of "non-teaching duties."

Miller: I believe that to recruit and retain high-quality teachers in Katy ISD we must pay teachers a higher salary and provide better benefits. Teachers should also be supported in the classroom through technology and classroom support resources. In addition, teachers should be provided with quality professional development opportunities, mentoring and other programs that support high-quality teachers.

Thieme: Practical steps to address teacher recruitment and retention could include smaller class sizes, half-day teaching positions

for retired teachers, competitive compensation and benefits, advocating for increasing TRS cost of living adjustment, protecting teacher planning periods and campus administrations that support classroom management to reduce behaviors that disrupt the learning environment.

6. Do you support vouchers under consideration by the Legislature? If vouchers are adopted, how would you keep the district from losing that funding?

Bradford: I do not support vouchers or the voucher programs as they are currently being considered by the legislature. If adopted we need to push legislators to establish a balancing fund for public education.

Miller: School boards do not make decisions about vouchers. It is up to the state legislators. If vouchers were passed, I would continue to keep my kids in Katy ISD schools. Depending on which bill was passed, there may be opportunities to increase enrollment by marketing to families that live outside of Katy ISD to use their voucher to attend a Katy ISD school.

Thieme: Trustees are not able to legislate. They abide by legislation passed by legislators and signed by the governor. They should recognize, however, that creating a superior student environment is the best remedy against students leaving our schools. I support measures that increase state funding to Katy ISD.

7. Do you agree with the district's policy on removing certain books from school library shelves? If not, would you repeal the policy, or how would you change it?

Bradford: As I understand the current policy, I agree with it. I like the fact that there are standards and a community committee to review publications in question. Let's be cautious here and fact-based.

Miller: I believe textbooks should be age appropriate. Just as we have standards for movies, school libraries should only provide books that are age appropriate. This provides a safe learning environment for our students. Parents that do not agree with this policy can always purchase these books themselves or check them out from a public library for their children.

Thieme: The goal is to foster an environment where learning is optimized. Books that contain graphic, sexualized content divert student achievement and should not be in public school libraries. Public funds should be used for academic curriculum, teacher/classroom resources, etc. that fully align with course objectives and TEKS.

8. Do you, or would you, accept campaign donations from interest groups from outside the district?

Bradford: This is our community. I will be 100% funded by family, friends and neighbors. If you want to partner with me, please go to bradford4katyisd.com.

Miller: I have not accepted campaign donations from outside interest groups.

Thieme: I have not received any donations from interest groups or from outside the district and do not intend to solicit donations from such.

POSITION 5

from page A1

schools. I have taught general and special education, worked as an educational diagnostician, and held leadership roles in the departments of dyslexia and special education. I participated in the development of the special education operating guidelines, created various training documents, and served on campus advisory boards.

2. Do you have children enrolled in Katy ISD schools? If you have children that are not enrolled in Katy ISD schools, where are they enrolled and why not Katy ISD?

Cuzela: Yes. We have two children enrolled in Katy ISD schools and one child who graduated from Katy ISD schools.

Peterson: We do not have school-aged children; however, we chose to raise our five children in Katy because of the high quality of education Katy ISD could provide. Our children all graduated from Katy ISD ready and prepared for the future.

About your positions

3. What would your top three priorities be if elected, and why?

Cuzela: I want to see a consistently applied discipline policy. With consistent discipline comes consistent teaching and learning. I want to attract and retain great teachers by improving their job satisfaction. I want to ensure a smooth rollout of the new phonics-based reading curriculum, to continue to address online learning/testing issues and review and enhance our math curriculum.

Peterson: Retaining and recruiting of teachers and school staff is a priority. These individuals have the most direct impact on our students. My second priority is the physical and emotional well-being of our students. When students are emotionally healthy, they experience fewer disciplinary incidents, and can concentrate better on academics. Another priority is community engagement. Strong communities foster strong schools and student success.

4. Did you support the recent Katy ISD tax ratification election? Why or why not?

Cuzela: I'm in favor of allocating limited resources to teachers and frontline staff. It is critical to address the teacher shortage as a top priority.

Peterson: The school board indicated if the TRE passed the funds would be invested in salaries. Being aware of the issues regarding unfilled positions and retaining current employees I supported the TRE. I felt the teachers were deserving and worthy of this increase.

5. What measures would you support to improve teacher retention and recruitment?

Cuzela: Teachers rarely enter the teaching profession because of pay; ensuring their job satisfaction is critical. Addressing discipline issues, decreasing their administrative workload, and adhering to classroom size limits are ideas to help retain and attract great teachers. They should be paid



**MARY ELLEN
CUZELA**



**SHANA
PETERSON**

at the top of the salary range compared to surrounding districts.

Peterson: I support retention bonuses, teacher incentive allotments, and competitive compensation packages. When recruiting, we need to start the hiring process early, attend job fairs to secure incoming graduates, and work to develop cohorts for education. I want to prioritize ways to reduce workloads and provide resources, so teachers can focus on what they

do best: teach.

6. Do you support vouchers under consideration by the Legislature? If vouchers are adopted, how would you keep the district from losing that funding?

Cuzela: School board members cannot legislate for or against school vouchers. I'm in favor of maximizing funding from the state such as with the basic allotment per student to ensure we can appropriately compensate our teachers and provide robust funding for safety and security. I look forward to keeping Katy ISD a desired education destination for students and teachers regardless of whether vouchers are adopted.

Peterson: I've worked in public education, my children attended public schools, and I'm running for a public-school board position. I support and have confidence in the public education system. However, if school choice is passed, I believe Katy ISD will step up to the challenge and continue with excellence to educate our students. The district can certainly communicate the concerns regarding the loss of funding but ultimately the state will make this determination.

7. Do you agree with the district's policy on removing certain books from school library shelves? If not, would you repeal the policy, or how would you change it?

Cuzela: Yes. Sexually explicit, vulgar books of any sort should be removed from campus libraries. If the book cannot be read aloud in the classroom, it should not be in schools. If reading a book aloud on radio or TV broadcasts violates FCC regulations, it should not be in schools.

Peterson: It is important to review the content and appropriateness of books. Not all subject matter is fitting for all ages and maturity levels. I believe the district has an acceptable policy in place, which includes procedures for reviewing and ordering books.

8. Do you, or would you, accept campaign donations from interest groups from outside the district?

Cuzela: I have not accepted any campaign donations from interest groups outside of the district.

Peterson: I have not accepted campaign donations from interest groups outside the district. Accepting donations from groups not affiliated would be a clear conflict of interest. This is a local nonpartisan election, and the position is to serve the community of Katy.

PARK

from page A1

Railroad. According to the Katy Heritage Society, Thomas applied for a post office and listed the town as Katy, after the railroad.

The three men donated parkland to the town in December 1907. By that criteria, Thomas Park is the

oldest park in Katy. Yet the parkland itself remained unused until April 1975. Katy, by then, had become a city, incorporating in 1945.

In 1975, the Tri-County American Revolution Bicentennial Commission redeveloped Thomas

Park is a Bicentennial Park. Thomas Park was formally dedicated on July 4, 1976.

The Texas Recreation and Park Society is headquartered in Jonestown, Texas, which is northwest of Austin and about 165 miles from Katy.



BID DEADLINE MAY 11

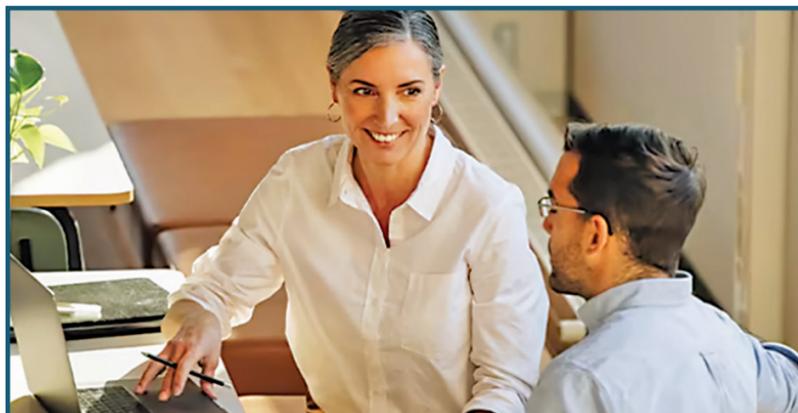
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Urgent calls from college

Having two of my semi-grown daughters in college simultaneously has truly been an adventurous journey for our family — the kind where you enjoy amazing new experiences, but your expensive designer luggage gets stolen and you have to request an extra air-sickness bag.

For the first few months of their college lives, our daughters called us regularly to discuss their activities and to tell us how much they missed us (or at least our pets). Now, on the rare occasions when they call/text, we know it means one of two things: 1) they need more money or 2) something is wrong (and they probably need more money to fix it).

Our most recent crisis-text involved our “happy-go-lucky-and-blow-\$300-on-another-pair-of-limited-edition-Nikes” middle daughter. At around 1 a.m. on a Friday night, my wife received an urgent text from an unknown number informing us that it was our daughter using a friend’s phone because she had lost her phone (again) and, therefore, could no longer function as a viable human being.

We replied to the text by informing her that our Life360 parental-stalking app showed her phone to be at a restaurant where her mother and I can’t afford to eat. (We didn’t ask why she was awake and out in the middle of the night because we naturally assumed she was attending a nocturnal Bible study.)

After not receiving any communication for next several hours and frantically imagining that she had been abducted by Russian Nike traffickers, we were relieved by a late-morning call from our daughter, who provided a rather vague and suspicious explanation of how she had found her phone and could now resume life as an actual person. (I’m pretty sure she also asked for more money.)

Other than a couple of the most expensive flat tires in the history of flat tires, a sophomore-college-student-proof pickle jar lid and a gymnastics accident in which she basically dislocated her entire body, our eldest and most expensive daughter has managed fairly well.

One of her more memorable requests for help was last semester when she called to inform us that she and her

JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



Seriously, though, I realize that raising children to be independent adults should be one of a parent’s primary goals, but it’s still nice to be needed from time to time while they are on their college journey, even if it just involves a stubborn pickle jar lid—and more money.

roommates had tried out her brand-new, state-of-the-art, top-of-the-line, high-end, gourmet air fryer, and it started smoking. I replied that she should tell the air fryer that smoking is addictive and bad for its health. (She didn’t laugh.)

She said they eventually discovered that the source of the smoke was a freshly-baked cardboard packaging insert they had failed to remove from within the device before trying to use it. (I think I broke a rib laughing.)

She then asked if we thought the air fryer would be ok. I replied that if it quit smoking immediately, it could probably avoid heart disease and cancer. (I’m pretty sure she hung up at that point.)

Seriously, though, I realize that raising children to be independent adults should be one of a parent’s primary goals, but it’s still nice to be needed from time to time while they are on their college journey, even if it just involves a stubborn pickle jar lid—and more money.

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.



Hey, Medicare, I'm counting on you

I will qualify for Medicare coverage in five years and, much to my surprise, I can’t wait to get government health coverage—because my current coverage is pricey.

I recently finished a consulting assignment, which provided me full health benefits. To maintain my health insurance policy through COBRA, I must pay \$750 a month.

I also have to cover the first \$3,300 of costs before full coverage kicks in.

That means that if I go to the hospital with a bad flu—which I did for the first time in my life recently—I’ll receive a giant bill to pay for my deductible.

My total health care costs for the year, give or take, would be \$13,000—almost \$1,100 per month.

Considering my current costs, Medicare coverage is a bargain.

Medicare became law in 1965 and is now offered in four parts to Americans over the age of 65:

Medicare Part A covers inpatient hospital care, skilled nursing facility care, hospice care and some home health care. Most people do not pay a premium for Part A, as they paid into the program for years as taxpayers.

Medicare Part B covers doctor visits, outpatient services, preventive care and some medical equipment. The standard monthly premium for Part B in 2021 was \$148.50, but higher-income earners may pay more.



TOM PURCELL

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Medicare Part C, also known as Medicare Advantage, is an alternative offered by private insurers to supplement A and B with additional benefits.

Medicare Part D helps pay for the cost of prescription drugs. Its average cost in 2021 was about \$33 a month.

Medicare sounds almost too good to be true, which brings us to its greatest challenge: how do we pay for it as America ages and millions more begin receiving benefits?

Initially, there were many more people paying into the fund than using it—five people paid in versus one person who received benefits—but with baby boomers retiring in big numbers, that is no longer the case.

When Medicare began in 1965, Americans 65 and older made up only 10% of the population. Today, Americans over the age of 65 account for about 17% of the U.S. population.

Here’s another worrisome detail: Medicare payroll taxes are only paying for about 62% of the program’s annual \$800-plus billion cost. The balance is paid for from

the general U.S. cash register—which is running a trillion and a half short every year.

The way things are going, the Medicare fund is on track to run a \$1 trillion annual shortfall in only 10 years.

The Biden administration is mostly offering a typical non-solution to Medicare’s financial challenges: tax the rich.

But taxes alone will not solve this challenge. Comprehensive reform is the only solution.

The solution requires a thoughtful, bipartisan approach and will likely include some pain, such as cutting some benefits and extending the age of eligibility from 65 to 67 or so.

Will our politicians summon the courage to deal with this very real challenge—or will they chase cheap votes by telling elderly Americans the other party is trying to take their health coverage away?

I have my worries. I’m in no hurry to become 65, but the only saving grace I hope 65 will bring is for Medicare to relieve me of the \$1,100 bucks a month I currently pay for basic health care.

Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, which features pet advice he’s learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

Katy Times

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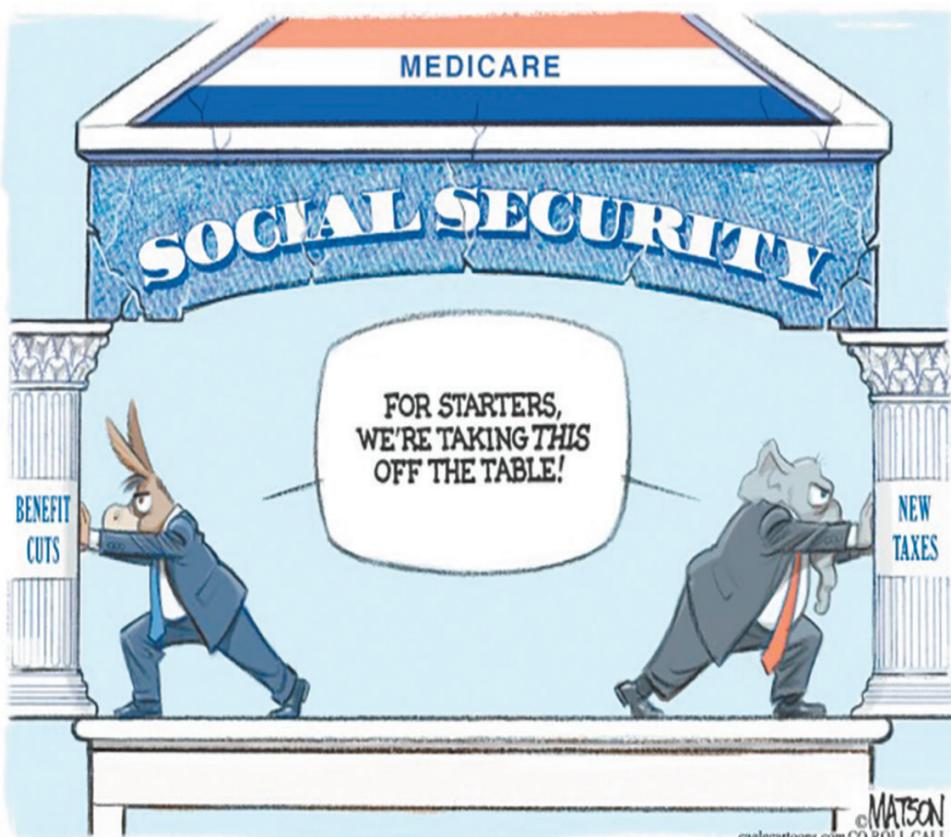
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TRIBUTE

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we announce the passing of our beautiful mom, Frines Keeling on April 7, 2023.

She was born in Paysandu, Uruguay on February 11, 1940 and married the love of her life, Joe Keeling, in 1971 after a chance meeting at the Caracas Airport. They had a love at first sight storybook romance and lived in Lima, Peru where their two children were born.

They also lived in Caracas, Venezuela and eventually moved to the United States and settled in Katy, Texas.

Frines was known for her kindness, loving heart and strength of character. She will be dearly missed by all who had the good fortune to know her. Her family was her passion, and she was a wonderful mother who was always there when we needed her. She had many friends, took pride in helping others in need and was a well-loved member of the community.

She and Joe enjoyed traveling all over the world. Amongst her favorite destinations were Israel, Singapore, Japan and cities all across Europe. Experiencing new cultures and meeting and understanding the people of the world was a treasure to her.

Frines had a myriad of health issues over the last 20 years, but they never held her back from enjoying life and family. No matter what challenge she was facing, she persevered with a smile on her face. She was the strongest person



FRINES G. KEELING
1940-2023

we have ever known, and she leaves a wonderful legacy of perseverance and resilience for all that survive her.

She is survived by her two children, Martin Keeling of Katy, Texas and Barbara Keeling Steen and her husband Lias Jeff Steen of Houston, Texas. She is also survived by two step-children, Tim Keeling and his wife Robbie Keeling of Lake Winnebago, Missouri, Kathy Keeling Pearse of Oceanside, California, and daughter in law Becky Rush of Houston,

Texas. She adored her grandson, Lias Fletcher Steen and was immensely proud of her six beautiful step-grandchildren, Elizabeth Adee, Stephanie Vermillion, Vanessa Keeling, Richmond Keeling, McKinnon Dziadaszek and Jake Steen. She is also survived by three wonderful step great-grandchildren, Alexandra, Ada, and Callen.

Frines is preceded in death by her loving husband of forty-seven years, Joe and her stepson Tom Keeling, her mother Elena Inetti, her father Pedro Gonzalez, and her sister Olga Ortiz.

A funeral mass in memory of Frines is scheduled for April 17, 2023 at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church at 5356 11th Street in Katy, Texas at 12:00 p.m. Frines will be laid to rest in a private ceremony at Memorial Oaks Cemetery in Houston.

Funeral services held under the direction of:
Schmidt Funeral Home
1508 East Avenue ~ Katy, Texas 77493 ~ (281) 391-2424

Fort Bend County implementing new jury management system

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Fort Bend County district clerk's office will be implementing a new jury management system.

Officials with the district clerk's office said the new system is comprehensive and easy to use in that the system will handle every aspect of the jury process on a single platform. The system enables communication with the public via email, text, and/or phone, while empowering jurors to use the self-serve system which best fits their lifestyle for everything from summons response to juror payment.

"Along with the new jury management system comes a new jury summons format," Beverley McGrew Walker, district clerk, said. According to Walker, citizens will now receive their summons on a postcard as opposed to the long, legal sized, paper juror summons that they have been accustomed to receiving. She said jurors should be aware of this change in the summons format and be on the lookout for this postcard sized jury summons in their



FILE PHOTO

Beverley McGrew Walker

"This system helps reduce the number of summonses that are sent to bad mailing addresses, resulting in less waste and more cost savings to Fort Bend County government and ultimately to the taxpayers of Fort Bend County."

—BEVERLEY MCGREW WALKER, District clerk

U.S. mail.

"This system helps reduce the number of summonses that are sent to bad mailing addresses, resulting in less waste and more cost savings to Fort Bend County government and ultimately to the taxpayers of Fort Bend County," Walker said.

The system brings another benefit, according to Michelle Jochen, chief deputy district clerk.

"This new system will provide meaningful data

regarding jury yield and utilization that will assist the jury management division of the Fort Bend County district clerk's office perform their job with greater accuracy and efficiency," Jochen said.

Courtney Paterson, jury management supervisor, said her jury management staff will be available for assistance if needed during this transition period.

The jury management staff can be reached at 281-344-3900.

The Katy Times

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POSITION 4

from page A1

About you

1. Describe your professional background and how that will help you if elected.

Brettell: My background in governance, business and the non-profit sector would add value to the board and district.

Working in the U.S. Senate in healthcare and education policy, while getting my M.B.A., yielded experience in budgeting, data analysis, advocacy, building consensus and shaping policies.

Since 2014, I helped develop the Lindsay's Light Dating Violence Prevention Program, in honor of my sister. I have spoken to over 6,000 students, parents and educators about avoiding dating violence.

Calhoun: I've held roles in leadership, volunteer service, and community work both in my postgraduate work and at church. I served as an anti-sex trafficking advocate partnering with local outreaches as well as nonprofit organizations in the community. My leadership background, connectivity with the community and being a parent will prove beneficial as a board member.

Taylor: I have been an educator for 25+ years. The depth and breadth of my experiences as a classroom teacher and now as an education senior-level administrator enables me to understand the pain points of the classroom teacher and the constraints of an administrator. With my vast experience in education, I know when to push back, what tough questions to ask, and how to seek stakeholder input and innovation when problem-solving.

2. Do you have children enrolled in Katy ISD schools? If you have children that are not enrolled in Katy ISD schools, where are they enrolled and why not Katy ISD?

Brettell: I currently have four children attending Katy ISD. We never entertained the idea of sending our children anywhere else. We believe in Katy schools, teachers and community.

Calhoun: My children are within the Katy system of schools and attend a local charter school that receives Katy ISD funding. I look forward to leaning in as a school board member to provide my children what I had—a great Katy ISD experience.

Taylor: Both of my children are graduates of Katy ISD schools.

About your positions

3. What would your top three priorities be if elected, and why?

Brettell: My top priority will always be our kids, equipping each of the 93,000+ students in our district with the tools and resources needed to excel.

We also need to find ways to lighten and streamline teachers' workload—improving communication with our educators to ensure we provide what they need.

We need to encourage parents to be engaged and involved, from open communication to volunteer opportunities and easy access to the materials their students are being taught.

Calhoun: First, I look forward to standing in the gap for all Katy ISD families. I want to make sure partnering with parents is more than a statement and that we can collectively work on solutions. Second, I want to drive policies that minimize distractions in the classroom that cause deviation from curriculum delivery. Finally, ensuring the district is providing a safe learning environment for all students and staff is paramount.

Taylor: There are three urgent

needs for Katy ISD. First is teacher recruitment and retention, which includes strong support for our 400+ new-to-the-classroom teachers, increased teacher pay and a strategic plan to incentivize our highest-performing teachers to remain in the classroom. Second is academic performance—especially as we see students nationally as struggling to recover from pandemic-related challenges in math and reading. Third, and related to timing, is our vision for growth, especially given that a bond package will come up for a public vote in November 2023.

4. Did you support the recent Katy ISD tax ratification election? Why or why not?

Brettell: Katy ISD is not immune to inflation. The per child allotment the district receives from the state has been stagnant for years. The TRE would have provided a pay raise for all employees and an additional 10 police officers, while maintaining the existing tax rate.

Calhoun: The voters decided against TRE. I believe in maximizing funding to create the best education outcome for all students and a competitive pay and benefit package for all staff.

Taylor: I support paying our teachers at the highest level possible in Texas—not just local market rate. When considering large teacher increases, I would like to look into our current budget to see what is fiscally responsible, what trade-offs can realistically be made, and how we can ensure the taxpayer is unaffected.

5. What measures would you support to improve teacher retention and recruitment?

Brettell: Outside of pay increases, we can better support our teachers by incentivizing targeted professional development in high demand areas and examining other compensatory measures, like pay structure and benefits.

Our teachers are the experts on what they need because each classroom has its own culture and needs, and they are in the trenches every day.

Calhoun: Teachers and support staff require a healthy, safe and supported work environment. The focus should be on lessening the distractions that impact delivery of the TEKS curriculum while providing the necessary tools to do their job well. A competitive compensation and benefit package is key for retention as well.

No board trustee can make or influence district-wide change alone. My strategy for both retention and recruitment would start with working in collaboration with fellow trustees, district leadership, and teachers. A strong retention strategy would be a multi-pronged effort of listening and responding to what teachers need in the form of support (i.e., access to materials and processes that help them to focus on teaching, removal of distractions, and high quality and differentiated professional development), leveraging the experience of master teachers and financially incentivizing them to stay in the classroom, and strong instructional and classroom support for new to the classroom teachers. Increasing teacher pay is also necessary; however, investing resources for performance-based compensation such as the Teacher Incentive Allotment is also critical.

Taylor: A strong retention strategy must include listening and responding to what teachers need, leveraging the experience of master teachers and providing support for new teachers. In-

creasing teacher pay is also necessary and we must seek innovative and financially responsible ways to do this.

For recruitment, we must continue to develop the "grow your own" programs to support teacher certification. We must tap into our alums, who major in education in college, as a pipeline. Additionally, we must partner with local universities and colleges' teacher prep programs, including those at HBCUs, to identify potential new teacher recruits.

6. Do you support vouchers under consideration by the Legislature? If vouchers are adopted, how would you keep the funding from losing that funding?

Brettell: While I believe parents have the right to choose the best educational environment for their kids, I do not support current proposals. It is important to note, any voucher program would be the responsibility of the state. As a trustee, my obligation is to the public school system.

Calhoun: Vouchers is a legislative decision that board members will have to abide by regardless of opinion. Our job is to follow the law. Striving to make Katy ISD the best choice is the only way we can safeguard our district from losing students to possible voucher and ESA programs.

Taylor: I am not pro-vouchers. If vouchers were adopted Katy ISD must be the district of choice with strong academics and programs that support every child and family.

7. Do you agree with the district's policy on removing certain books from school library shelves? If not, would you repeal the policy, or how would you change it?

Brettell: The current policy includes various points of review and audit, in addition to the option for parents to be notified any time a child checks out a book. The district should always be vigilant about the influences on its students and review policy as needed.

Calhoun: I agree with the revised board policy on instructional and library materials, which is a legal process, intended to remove harmful, age-inappropriate material that does not align with Texas law. Sexually explicit material does not increase student achievement and is beneath the dignity of all children.

Taylor: I do not believe in broad book-banning policies. Katy ISD acknowledges a parent's right to choose for their own child by having notifications and opt-out protocols. There is no need to revise the current policy if used to fidelity.

8. Do you, or would you, accept campaign donations from interest groups from outside the district?

Brettell: No. Coming into office, carrying the agenda of an outside political interest group undermines decision-making, transparency and objectivity.

Calhoun: Special interest groups have not approached my campaign. I have, however, received many verbal endorsements from groups that align with my platform. I am blessed to have generous campaign support from the Katy ISD community at large.

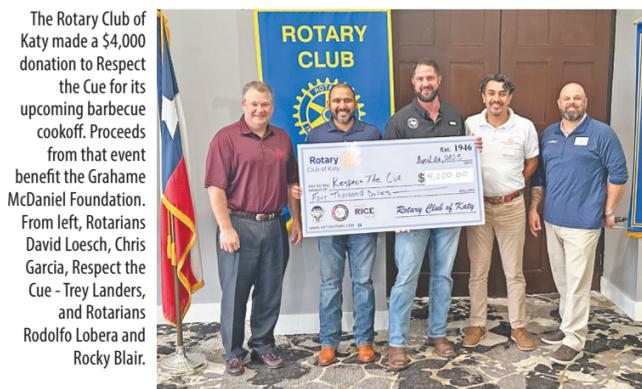
Taylor: I will not accept endorsements or funds from political parties or partisan organizations. I have received funds from Leadership for Educational Equity, a non-partisan organization that works towards ensuring every child has the opportunity to attain an excellent education.

ROTARY CLUB GIVES BACK

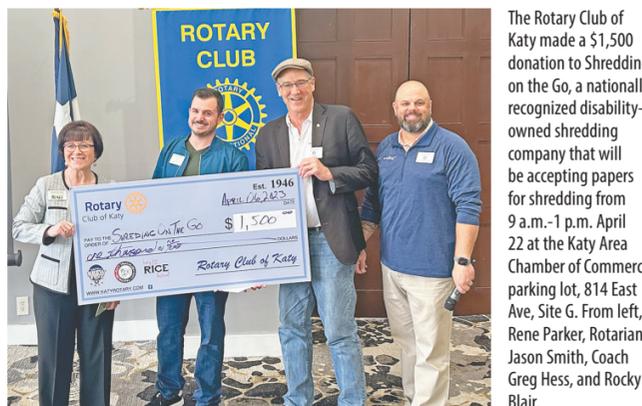


PHOTOS BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER

The Rotary Club of Katy made a \$3,100 donation to Feed the Hunger. From left, Rotarians J.R. Richardson, Vicki Rao, Feed the Hunger - Regina Alexander, and Rotarians Dr. Ralph Brock, Jerry Moye, and Rocky Blair.



The Rotary Club of Katy made a \$4,000 donation to Respect the Cue for its upcoming barbecue cookoff. Proceeds from that event benefit the Grahame McDaniel Foundation. From left, Rotarians David Loesch, Chris Garcia, Respect the Cue - Trey Landers, and Rotarians Rodolfo Lobera and Rocky Blair.



The Rotary Club of Katy made a \$1,500 donation to Shredding on the Go, a nationally recognized disability-owned shredding company that will be accepting papers for shredding from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. April 22 at the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 814 East Ave, Site G. From left, Rene Parker, Rotarians Jason Smith, Coach Greg Hess, and Rocky Blair.



The Rotary Club of Katy made a \$2,000 donation to The Neighborhood Garden Project, which is part of Keep Katy Beautiful. From left, Rotarian Tara Wilson, The Neighborhood Garden Project - Josh Singleton and Jamie Wolman, and Rotarians Carolyn Reeder and Rocky Blair.



The Rotary Club of Katy made a \$500 donation to the Star of Destiny of the Daughters of the American Revolution. From left, Skip Conner, Kenneth Burton, Rocky Blair, Star of Destiny Chapter NSDAR members Susan Creech Stormer, Jaime Pierce, Betsy Hoover, and Ellen Swepston, and Rotarians Stu and Carol Levin, Jerry Moye, George Yeiter and (kneeling) Ron Stefani.

The color(s) of money

BY TIMOTHY GENE SOJKA
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

The most important decision you can make when selling your home can be one of the least expensive.

When people sell their home, they often consider major landscape projects, monumental kitchen remodels or massive bathroom projects. While all these can add value, they often pale in comparison to the oldest remodeler trick in the business: repainting your home.

Last month, we covered decluttering your home, and that remains the most inexpensive project an individual homeowner can complete. Next in line, is selecting an executing a proper paint strategy. The colors you paint your home can make or cost you money. So, let's start there.

1. Stick with neutrals. The hottest colors right now, according to multiple realtor surveys are Sherwin-Williams Agreeable Gray (SW 7029), Sherwin-Williams Alabaster (SW 7008), Benjamin Moore Gray Mist (OC-30), Benjamin Moore Chantilly Lace (OC-65), Sherwin-Williams Snowbound (SW 7004) and Benjamin Moore Stonington Gray (HC-170).

2. While trends come and go, generally speaking, keep ceilings lighter than the walls.

3. Paint last, after everything else is done. A fresh coat of paints hides scuffs and other challenges. Ensure that your crew puts down drop cloths to protect new carpet or flooring. Some people do choose to put in flooring last, but if you painter is competent, painting last is best.

4. Stored paint evaporates while sitting and discolors on the wall due to sunlight. So, avoid touch up paint, it will leave walls looking like a Twister® Board. You can block paint entire walls; people seldom notice slight color changes wall to wall. Still, paint is inexpensive, painting entire rooms is preferable.

So, remember the colors of money and the color strategies to put cash in your pocket. As always, I recommend calling a qualified realtor that has sold hundreds of homes to plan your color scheme. We would be honored for your call.

If you are considering selling and want a free copy of my book *How the Pros Sell Their Homes in 29 Days or Less*, email me at tsojka@seetimsell.com.

Timothy Sojka is the broker of the See TIM Sell Team at Keller Williams. His team has sold over 2,000 homes. Tim is also the author of the Amazon #1 political thrillers Payback Jack, Politickill and the upcoming addition thriller, 39: Your Last Birthday.

BOND

from page A1

schools, Kassman said three would be elementary and the fourth would be a junior high. She said the recommendation is based on demographic assessments of the district's ongoing growth.

Committee members also reviewed campus renovation needs such as chiller, flooring, lighting, mechanical and electrical systems, and plumbing replacements at various campuses.

Committee members also reviewed the district's financial capacity for a new bond, highlighting a desire for any potential bond package to reflect no tax rate increase.

At its first meeting, held March 29, committee members reviewed current and future enrollment projections, long-range facilities plans and the district's financial capacity.

At the meeting, officials from Population and Survey Analysts (PASA), a demographics firm, described the growth in the Katy

area. The growth is mainly in the northwest quadrant of the district, where communities are under development.

Kris Pool, PASA planning director, said moderate growth scenarios project a student enrollment of over 100,000 students by 2027, and nearly 10,000 more students by 2032.

Ted Vierling, the district's chief operating officer, said the district grew by 12,940 students between 2016-21. Of the local and area districts, Lamar CISD had the second-largest student population growth during that same period, with 8,750 new students. Conroe grew by 7,997 and Humble grew by 6,888 students during that time, Vierling said.

Committee members also reviewed Katy ISD's long-range facilities plan which has guided the district through more than nine bonds the Katy community has passed since 1994.

Kassman said the PASA documented every facility in the

district. It also documented the life expectancies for each building's mechanical and plumbing systems, roofs and interior finishes. She said addressing these needs was a priority to maintain building integrity.

Katy voters approved the last bond placed before them, in May 2021, for \$676.2 million.

The bond included the construction of five schools, along with renovations and safety and technology upgrades to other campuses.

Voters approved the previous bond in November 2017 for \$609.2 million. That bond provided for the construction of six new schools, along with renovations and safety and technology upgrades to other campuses.

The committee was scheduled to meet April 12, after press time, to focus on selected projects for a possible bond package. The committee's final meeting is set for April 18.

ROYAL ISD WIND ENSEMBLE EXCELS



The Royal ISD Wind Ensemble received straight 1s (the highest score) in marching, concert and sight reading at the April 4 UIL Band Sight-Reading Instrumentation competition.

SHERREL ROGERS

LEARNING ABOUT THE LAW



Students heard from several presiding judges, County Judge KP George, the district attorney and officials with the Fort Bend County sheriff's office, among others.

KATY ISD



Criminal justice students at the Katy ISD Miller Career and Technology Center visited the Fort Bend County Justice Center on March 9.

KATY ISD

EDUCATORS RECOGNIZED

From left, Royal Junior High principal Marcus McLemore, Royal Elementary principal Ashley Cook and Royal ISD Superintendent Rick Kershner celebrate McLemore and Cook's honors at the Region 4 recognition ceremony, held April 5.



SHERREL ROGERS

DETECTIVE HONORED



Katy ISD Police Detective Frank Muniz has received the Johnny Klevenhagen Award. The award is given to individuals working in the criminal justice system who have made a significant contribution to fighting crime. Klevenhagen, for whom the award is named, was a longtime Harris County Sheriff. Muniz will be honored at the Houston Crime Stoppers 2023 Houston Heroes Banquet, set for 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. April 26 at the Royal Sonesta Houston, 2222 W. Loop South. For more information about the banquet, call Paige Hollek at 832-217-5611 or email her at phollek@crime-stoppers.org.

KATY ISD

25th Edition

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Grundfos wins pollution prevention award from Texas environmental quality group

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Grundfos, a global leader in advanced pump solutions and water technologies, has been named a winner of the 2023 Governor's Texas Environmental Excellence Award in the Pollution Prevention category.

"It is an honor to be recognized by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for Grundfos' commitment to environmental sustainability," Ansell Sims, Grundfos U.S. president, said. "Our mission to provide safe water to every person, everywhere permeates everything we do, from the production of our innovative water pump technology to the design and construction of the buildings we work in and also the organizations we support. We designed the Brookshire building with the hope that it would inspire

other companies to implement sustainability practices into their organizations in whatever way possible."

Celebrating its 30th year, the Texas Environmental Excellence Awards is an annual awards program that recognizes environmental preservation and protection achievements. Since 1993, the program has honored more than 250 successful environmental projects and activities. Through the TEEA, TCEQ hopes to encourage others to initiate like-minded projects and reinforce a spirit of environmental stewardship.

"This year's Texas Environmental Excellence Award winners each exemplify the unique ways they work to protect the Texas environment," Susan Palachek, TEEA program coordinator, said. "We applaud Grundfos for winning the

award in the Pollution Prevention category. The company's investment in the Brookshire building with its energy savings and on-site solar generation, rainwater harvesting, and HVAC condensate capture demonstrate their leadership in sustainable operations and show that protecting the environment is good for business."

Grundfos develops solutions to the world's water and climate challenges and improves the quality of life for people. As a leading global pump and water solutions company, we promise to respect, protect and advance the flow of water by providing energy and water-efficient solutions and systems for a wide range of applications for water utilities, industries, and buildings. For more information, visit the website grundfos.com.

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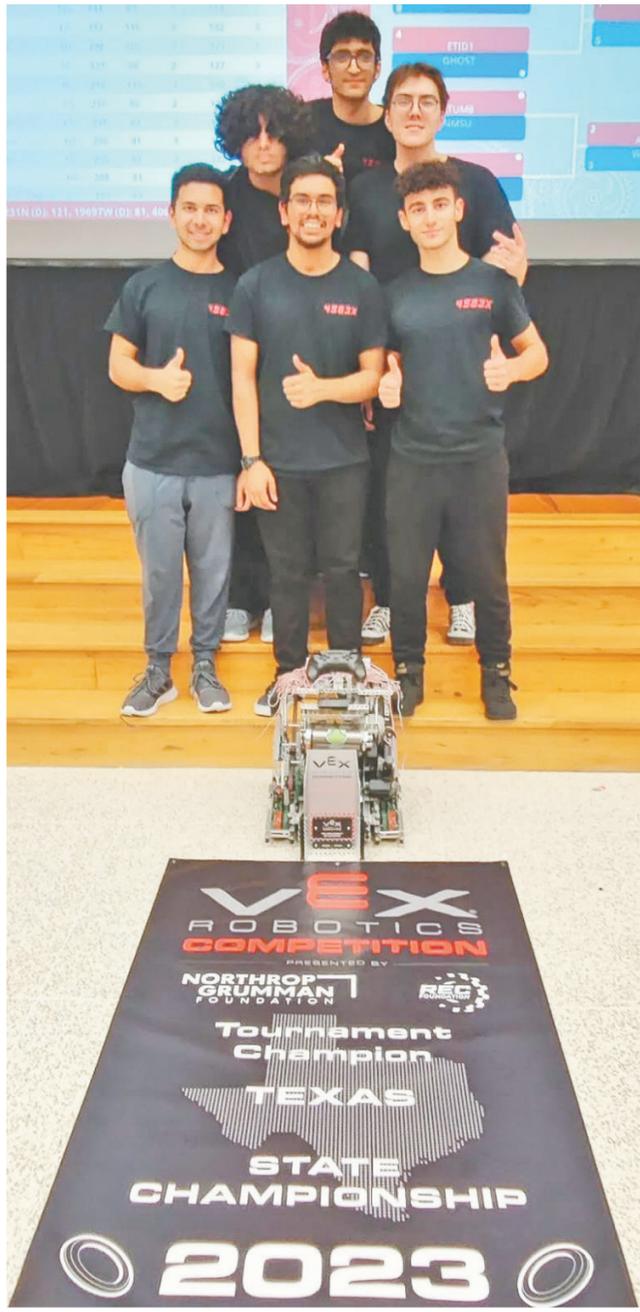
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KATY TIMES

EDUCATION BRIEFS



The Tompkins Sushi Warriors 4583X robotics team, along with the Cinco Ranch Polaris Robotics 24626Z team, will represent Katy ISD at the 2023 VEX Robotics World Championship tournament in Dallas.

Katy ISD Robotics Teams head to world championship tournament

Two Katy ISD robotics teams are gearing up for the 2023 VEX Robotics World Championship tournament taking place at the end of April.

The Cinco Ranch High School Polaris Robotics 24626Z and Tompkins High School Sushi Warriors 4583X will head to Dallas to represent Katy ISD.

There, Katy ISD students will be competing against 800 teams from around the world at one of the largest robotics events this year. Only a handful of those teams will take home coveted world championship titles.

Before advancing to the world tournament, the Tompkins Sushi Warriors 4583X team made a comeback during the state competition, starting in 42nd place and ending with the state championship. The Cinco Ranch Polaris Robotics 24626Z team secured a spot in the world championships after ranking in the top five of the Skills Division at the state competition.

"Both teams have worked extremely hard to sharpen their skills throughout the school year and they should be very proud of participating in this world championship event," Seema Rama, Cinco Ranch Polaris Robotics Club president, said. "Aside from showcasing their work, students will have the opportunity to learn from other participants from around the world. These groups will design, build and program a robot that could quickly and efficiently solve specific challenges."

Tompkins Sushi Warriors 4583X team members include Sanjeev Baskaran, William Ferrer, Omar Jilani, Bilal Mirza, Daniel Niechwiadowicz, and Aadit Sahgal.

Cinco Ranch Polaris Robotics 24626Z team members include: Dimitris Kalafatis, Puneesh Kapoor, Stevie Oberhofer, Angelo Reyes, Arjun Somavarpur and Delaney Tao.

The 2023 VEX Robotics World Championship will be held April 25-27 in Dallas.

Harmony Public Schools awarded \$18 million grant for 'Inspiring Futures Across Texas'

The U.S. Department of Education has granted Texas-based Harmony Public Schools \$18 million for further expansion of its public charter school network throughout the Lone Star State.

The announcement was made April 3 by the department's Office of Elementary & Secondary Education. The grant will further Harmony's current "Inspiring Futures Across Texas" growth initiative, which focuses on offering quality enrollment opportunities to more Texas students at future Harmony campuses. Currently, Harmony has 60 campuses across Texas, and one online-only virtual academy.

"Our new student application numbers are higher than they have ever been, and continue to grow each year," Harmony CEO Fatih Ay said. "All over Texas, families are seeing the opportunity that Harmony Public Schools contributes to their communities, and this grant is proof that the U.S. Department of Education sees the value that Harmony provides, as well."

The award was the latest in multiple major federal grants received by Harmony for its schools and programs. In recent years, Harmony has been awarded more than \$110 million by the Department of Education.

Harmony is accepting applications for students and team members for the 2023-24 school year.

Katy Lions GSA scholarship deadline April 25

The Katy Lions work with the Giving Tree at First Christian Church Katy to fund an annual Gay-Straight Alliance Scholarship to a graduating Katy ISD senior.

The deadline for this year's scholarship application is April 25.

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

Local students named to dean's list at Washington University in St. Louis

Five students from the Katy area have been named to the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester at Washington University in St. Louis.

Washington University in St. Louis draws students to St. Louis from more than 100 countries and all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. The total student body is more than 15,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

The students are:

- Isaac Lendecky Olivares, who is enrolled in the university's Olin Business School.
- Robert Li, who is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.
- Sophia Smilenov, who is enrolled in the university's Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts.
- Shreyas Venkitaraman, who is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.
- Alice Zheng, who is enrolled in the university's College of Arts & Sciences.

Local students make Honor Roll at Oregon State University

Five students from Katy, and a student from Fulshear, have made the Scholastic Honor Roll Winter 2023 at Oregon State University.

A total of 12,307 students earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 6 graded hours of course work.

The student from Fulshear is Elise J. Gannon, a sophomore majoring in Pre-Apparel.

The students from Katy are Tes-sa N. Badger, a senior majoring in fisheries and wildlife sciences; Eric Eaton, a post-baccalaureate majoring in computer science; Dalton Houser, a sophomore majoring in business administration; Hannah Hwang, a freshman majoring in digital communication arts, and Hayley A. Lewis, a senior majoring in marketing.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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SPONSORS



Daniel Ejerenwa shoots during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park.



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Above: Noa Stasic celebrates after a goal during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park. Below: Kortay Koc, Abdullah Soliman and Noa Stasic celebrate after a Koc goal during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park.



Seven Lakes pours on in win over Dobie

Spartans advance to second straight state tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes isn't ready to be done yet. The Spartans' whole year has

been about accomplishing a singular goal, and they're still working towards it.

Other teams are happy with a district title, a regional tournament appearance and a being a regional winner, but for Seven Lakes those are the expectations as they try to meet their main goal that they are hungry for.

That hunger was on display Saturday, as the Spartans turned the Region III 6A Final into a party,

beating Pasadena Dobie 6-0 and advancing to the state tournament for the second straight season.

"It was just a showing of how talented this team is," said junior winger and right back Daniel Ejerenwa. "Every single person on our team played and got time out there, and we just kept scoring goals. It shows what this program is, how we play for each other and how good we are as a team."

Ejerenwa, who normally starts

at right back, got the start in his natural position of right wing on Saturday and was rewarded when he opened the scoring in the 14th minute to give the Spartans the lead. His goal came off a corner where he headed it in, in the same fashion he did last season in the regional final to open the scoring.

"It was an amazing feeling," Ejerenwa said. "We came into the game fired up. We've been here and done it before and to come

in and score, to contribute to the team and get us ahead early was amazing. All of us wanted to win it for our seniors."

Dobie fought to keep the score line that way going into halftime, but in the second half the Seven Lakes offense exploded.

Hunter Merritt was taken down in the box for a penalty in the 54th minute, and after Aidan

See **SPARTANS**, page B7

WEEK OF APRIL 14

SCORES & SCHEDULES

BOYS SOCCER

Scores

REGIONAL FINAL
• Seven Lakes 6, Dobie 0

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS
• Seven Lakes 3, Clear Springs 0
• Dobie 3, Jordan 2

Friday

CLASS 6A STATE SEMIFINAL
• Seven Lakes vs. Garland Sachse, 5 p.m. at Birkelbach Field, Georgetown

SOFTBALL

Friday

• Paetow vs. Cinco Ranch, 6 p.m.
• Jordan vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
• Mayde Creek vs. Taylor, 6 p.m.
• Morton Ranch vs. Tompkins, 6 p.m.

Saturday

• Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, 11:45 a.m.
• Taylor vs. Jordan, 11:45 a.m.
• Seven Lakes vs. Paetow, 11:45 a.m.
• Tompkins vs. Mayde Creek, noon

Tuesday

• Katy vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
• Mayde Creek vs. Morton Ranch, 6 p.m.
• Paetow vs. Taylor, 6 p.m.
• Jordan vs. Tompkins, 6 p.m.

BASEBALL

Thursday

• Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, 6 p.m.
• Mayde Creek vs. Tompkins, 6 p.m.
• Paetow vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
• Jordan vs. Taylor 6 p.m.

Saturday

• Cinco Ranch vs. Katy, noon
• Tompkins vs. Mayde Creek, noon
• Taylor vs. Jordan, 2 p.m.
• Seven Lakes vs. Paetow, 2 p.m.

Tuesday

• Seven Lakes vs. Katy, 6 p.m.
• Taylor vs. Paetow, 6 p.m.
• Morton Ranch vs. Mayde Creek, 6 p.m.
• Tompkins vs. Jordan, 6 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Thursday

• All Katy ISD schools at District 19-6A meet



TYLER TYRE

JuanCarlos Santos kicks a corner during Tuesday's match between Jordan and Cy-Ridge at the Spring Woods football field.

Jordan's Warriors fall to Dobie in hard-fought regional semifinal

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

DEER PARK – Jordan nearly pulled it off again.

The Warriors fought and scraped and clawed their way back into a game — they found a way to tie it going into the final minutes as they tried to keep their season alive.

But this time the Warriors' effort came up short — this time, they weren't able to come away victors.

The Warriors' season ended on Friday in the Class 6A Regional Semifinals with a 3-2

loss to Dobie, as Jordan's playoff run ended in the fourth round with a last minute loss to the Longhorns, where the Warriors fought to the very end of their first season in Class 6A.

"I'm just so proud of what we did this year," said senior center back Ben Bucic. "It was a true team effort, I can't even explain it. This season was amazing and it's all because of this family. I love each and every one of them."

Jordan scored just over 30 seconds into the game, when the Dobie keeper couldn't hang on to a ball in the box and it fell to Aiden Erol,

See **JORDAN**, page B8

Seven Lakes tops Clear Springs, advances to second straight regional final

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

DEER PARK – Seven Lakes had been here before, the Spartans had felt the pressure and knew what they had to do.

The Spartans aren't new to the Regional Tournament like most teams, the core of their team has experienced what the atmosphere at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park was like and they understood the level of play they needed to get back to a regional final.

All of that led to the Spartans never being threatened in a 3-0 win over Clear Springs on Friday, clinching a berth in the regional final for the second straight season behind a strong offensive showing and a dominant display at the back where the Chargers never threatened.

"We know this field," said junior forward Noa Stasic. "We've been here before and we've found ways to win. That gives us confidence and an edge. It was big for us to come in with that confidence and it showed all day."

Seven Lakes dominated from early on, but chances were at a minimum for both teams. The Spartans took the lead in the 14th minute, when Noa Stasic headed in a goal off a cross to give Seven Lakes the advantage. They continued to be on the front foot and create chances, but were unable to get a second before halftime, as they led 1-0 going into the locker room. Aidan Morrison doubled the Spartans' lead as they

See **SOCCER**, page B7

Seven Lakes out to make the most of second state tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes' season has been all about this moment.

Everything for the Spartans has led up to this week. The Spartans set out to get back to the state tournament this year and they've now accomplished it, learning lessons along the way as they cemented their place as one of the top teams in the state.

"There's just so much talent on this team," said senior central midfielder Gabriel Gonzalez said. "Everywhere on the field we have guys who can do whatever is needed and our coaches put us in great position. "It's all been about this, we wanted to be here. It's all about doing what we weren't able to last year and winning the whole things."

Last year's state semifinal loss to Plano is still on the minds of the Spartans. Seven Lakes took a 1-0 lead and dominated the first half, but a 20 minute span in the second half where the Spartans gave up three goals in 17 minutes led to a loss for the Spartans, despite being the dominant side for the majority of the game.

"If you look at last year's state



Noa Stasic, Kortay Koc and Abdullah Soliman celebrate after Stasic scored on a panenka penalty kick during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park.

semifinal, we played extremely well for all but 15 minutes of it," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "Those 15 minutes

were the difference for us. These guys understand that in those moments you can never let up at all. They've experienced it, I as a coach

have experienced what it's like to be there on the sideline. Anytime you've been there with a group, they're ready the next time."

The hunger to get back to state and prove themselves has grown all year for the Spartans. Getting to state has just fueled them even more, and the Spartans want to prove they can not just compete, but win at state.

"Last year we weren't expected to get to state," said junior winger and right back Daniel Ejerenwa. "Getting there was an accomplishment and it showed what we could do as a team. Now we have a target on the back, but we've answered the call every time and we've fought our way back. Now we just have to keep it going and show why we're going back to state."

Seven Lakes will play Garland Sachse in the state semifinal, a tough opponent that comes off a 2-1 win over the Woodlands, the only team that has beaten Seven Lakes this year. The Spartans will take on Sachse at 5 p.m. Friday at Birkelbach Field in Georgetown.

"This is unfinished business," Krueger said. "No boys team from Katy has won a state title yet even though a ton have been there. We're hoping to go out and change that but it's up to us — we have to be prepared and ready for everything that's going to come

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Katy shuts out Paetow for eighth straight district win

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tuesday, April 4th

Katy earned its eighth straight district win on Tuesday, shutting out Paetow in a 7-0 win where the Tigers had complete control from the start, improving to 18-4-3 overall and 8-2 in district.

The win came behind a strong start from Caleb Koger on the mound, as the senior started and went five innings, allowing three hits and striking out five and walking none in the win.

The Tigers jumped ahead in the top of the first when Cole Kasse drove in a run on an RBI double and Katy got another on an error. Brady Englett extended that lead in the second with a two-run single and Katy extended the lead to 5-0 later in the inning when a runner scored on a wild pitch.

Englett drove in another in the fourth inning when he hit a double before he came around to score on an error. Kasse came on in relief and threw the final two innings of the game, not allowing a hit while striking out three and walking one to seal the game.

Anthony Diaz started and went three innings for Paetow in the win, allowing four earned runs on seven hits while striking out two and not walking a batter. The Panthers fell to 7-14 overall and 3-5 in district after the loss.

Seven Lakes downs Mayde Creek behind shutout

Seven Lakes stayed close in the playoff chase on Tuesday, shutting out Mayde Creek in a 11-0 run rule win to move to 15-7 overall and 6-2 in district play, becoming part of a top four in district that has started to separate itself from the pack.

Lawson Moreno pitched four shutout innings in the win, allowing just two hits and striking out three while walking three as well. The Spartans went ahead in the



Katy's Caleb Koger (3) starting pitcher, pitches during the first inning during a Region III-6A Regional Semifinals baseball game between Katy and Strake Jesuit at Mayde Creek High School, Friday, May 27, 2022.

first inning, when Carter Nannini hit a sacrifice fly to drive in one and then got two more off an error later in the inning. Seven Lakes got another on an error in the third

inning before Max Greathouse hit an RBI single and Tyler Berra drove in a run on a single of his own. Ethan Hernandez then hit a one-run double in the same inning

before Taylor Tiedt drove in a run on a double to make things 9-0.

Jake Steffes made it 10-0 in the fourth inning, getting a run around on a double and the Spartans got their final run from a dropped third strike where a runner came from third to home to score. Tyler Welch came in to pitch the final inning, striking out two and not allowing a hit to clinch the win.

Marcus Rodriguez started on the mound and went three innings for the Rams, allowing seven earned runs on eight hits, striking out three and walking two. Mayde Creek fell to 6-15-1 overall and 1-9 in district with the loss.

Taylor run rules Morton Ranch

Taylor got an important win on Friday, run ruling Morton Ranch 15-3 to stay within three games of the playoff spots in district and improving to 15-9-1 overall and 3-5 in district play.

Bryce Krennek had a very good day on the mound for Taylor, allowing one run over his three innings pitched while striking out four and walking one on two hits to get the win. The Mustangs also had five players with two or more RBIs.

The Mustangs got two runs in the first inning off, with Brett Dolejsi driving in one on a double and Adam Fitzgerald bringing in another on a sacrifice fly.

Hunter Ham drove in two more in the second with a single and Taylor got its fifth in the game off an error later in the inning. Morton Ranch got one back in the top of the third from an error, but a run of a fielders choice, two runs off errors and a Davidenko Rodriguez RBI single for Taylor in the bottom of the third made the game 10-1. The Mustangs got two more in the fourth. Morton Ranch got two in the top of the fifth from a Cameron Hudson RBI double and an Isaac Cantu one-run single but Dolejsi increased it to a 10 run lead again in the bottom of the inning on an

RBI single before Adam Fitzgerald hit a two-run home run to end things.

Brandon Hasselbring started and went two innings for Morton Ranch on the mound, allowing eight earned runs on nine hits while striking out two and walking four. The Mavericks fell to 4-19 overall and 1-9 in district play with the loss.

Cinco Ranch stays in first with win over Jordan

Cinco Ranch continued its hot streak in district play with a 14-4 run rule win over Jordan on Thursday, using huge days at the plate from Charlie Atkinson and Gavin Rutherford, who had six and four RBIs respectively, to improve to 21-3 on the year and 9-1 in district play.

Jordan was the one that jumped out to the lead, going ahead when Cole Keppler hit a single to bring in one. Jordan added three more in the second inning, James Lacy hit a solo home run and Keppler drove in two more on a double to make it 4-0.

But Cinco got back into things after that. Charlie Atkinson hit a grand slam in the bottom of the second to tie the game before Gavin Rutherford gave Cinco the lead in the third inning on a solo home run. The Cougars got two more on a wild pitch and a bases loaded walk, getting one more from a passed ball before Brock DeYoung hit a sacrifice fly to bring in one and Rutherford tripled as two more runs scored to make it 12-4. Atkinson then hit a two-run home run in the fourth to increase the Cougars' lead to 10 runs and clinch he run rule.

Marty Bognar started on the mound and went 2.1 innings for Jordan, allowing eight earned runs on three hits while striking out six and walking four. Jordan fell to 8-11 overall and 3-5 in district after the loss.



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SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

Seven Lakes tops Tompkins to move into tie for fourth

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tuesday, April 4th

Seven Lakes moved into a tie for a playoff spot on Tuesday, earning an important win over Tompkins as the Spartans took down the Falcons 8-3 to go to 10-12 on the year and 6-4 in district play and putting the Spartans in a tie with Tompkins for fourth place in district.

Amy Abke kept up her strong stretch, keeping the Tompkins lineup at bay while pitching a complete game, striking out 12 and allowing three runs on nine hits to earn the win.

The Spartans didn't waste time getting ahead, jumping out to a lead in the bottom of the first when Ashley Abel drove in two runs on a single. Kaley Garland then made it a three run game in the second when she drove in a run on a single and Kamryn Wallman got another across in the third on an RBI single of her own.

Tompkins answered in the fourth, getting two runs on an error and a Samantha Crumrin double. But Abke immediately got Seven Lakes back on the board, starting the bottom of the fourth with a solo home run before Abel drove in her third run of the game on another single.

Emily Johnson made it 8-2 Seven Lakes in the sixth inning, driving in two on a single, and Tompkins managed to get one run back in the seventh when Avery Andry drove in a run on a single, but that would be all the Falcons could muster before Seven Lakes sealed the win.

Samantha Crumrin started for Tompkins on the mound and went six innings, allowing six earned runs over six innings while striking out six and walking three. Crumrin and Andry drove in runs for Tompkins. The Falcons fell to 11-8 overall and 6-4 in district.

Katy stays perfect in district with shutout of Mayde Creek

In a hard fought game the Tigers overcame Mayde Creek 2-0 behind a one-hit shutout from Cameryn

Harrison on the mound. The Tigers improved to 24-3 overall and 11-0 in district play with the win.

It was a dominant pitching display on both sides, as Harrison allowed just the one hit while striking out 18 and walking one in the win, while Alyssa Gonzalez allowed just two runs for Mayde Creek and struck out three while walking three and allowing six hits in the loss.

Katy took the lead in the bottom of the second, when Lauryn Soeken hit a solo home run to center field. Montgomery Henderson doubled the Katy lead in the third on an RBI single and that's all the Tigers would need, as the Rams wouldn't be able to get a run across in the game.

Mayde Creek fell to 12-7-1 overall and 7-4 in district play with the loss, falling into third place in District 19-6A after the loss.

Paetow walks off over Jordan

Paetow got back in the win column Tuesday with a big come from behind win, recovering from a five run deficit to beat Jordan 9-8 on a walk off and improving the Panthers' record to 13-16 overall and 3-8 in district play.

Paetow had a very balanced day offensively, with no player getting more than a single hit or RBI, but everyone contributed to the win. Jade Catherwood started on the mound for Paetow and went four innings, allowing four earned runs on eight hits while striking out and walking three.

Jordan jumped ahead early when Ryan McIntosh hit a three-run home run in the first inning, but Paetow tied the game in the second inning, getting three runs off two errors.

Jordan retook the lead in the fourth. Lyra Berry hit an RBI single, Cady Bowyer followed that up with an RBI single of her own and McIntosh hit a two-run home run as Jordan went up 8-3.

Paetow got three back in the fifth, getting one on a Alanna Winters single and two more bases loaded walks. And the Panthers stepped it up in the seventh inning,



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Lauryn Soeken pitches during an area round game between Katy and Cy-Fair at Cy-Lakes last year.

with Madison Mitchell driving in a run on a double, tying the game on a double and Amanda Vasquez ending things when she hit an RBI single to walk it off.

McIntosh pitched a complete game for Jordan, allowing four earned runs on four hits while striking out one and walking nine. Jordan fell to 11-10-1 overall and 3-7 in district play since then.

Cinco Ranch shuts out Morton Ranch

Cinco bounced continued its hot streak with a 7-0 victory over Morton Ranch

Emma Wingate hits during a bi-district round game between Seven Lakes and Ridge Point at the Ridge Point softball field last year.

on Tuesday, improving to 14-8 overall and 8-3 in district and cementing a second spot in district with the win.

Chela Kovar was the driving force in the win for Cinco, pitching a complete game shutout while allowing just two hits, striking out six and walking three.

The Cougars jumped ahead in the first inning

when Kendall Bregenzer drove in a run on a sacrifice fly and Savannah Henningson followed that up with an RBI single. Cinco kept things going with an RBI double in the second inning and Cinco got two more in the fifth inning, one on a solo home run from Gissel Morales and another on a bases loaded walk. Cinco got another bases loaded walk in the sixth

and got their final run on an error in the same inning before Kovar closed things out with a scoreless top of the seventh. Jiselle Lopez started on the mound and went six innings for Morton Ranch, allowing seven earned runs while striking out four and walking six. Morton Ranch fell to 5-13 overall and 0-9 in district play with the loss.



Teacher of the Year 2023

Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union in partnership with the Katy Chamber of Commerce presents:

2023 KATY ISD Teacher of the Year Award Luncheon

Please join us to celebrate and commemorate the 2023 Katy ISD teachers of the year!

Date: April 27, 2023
Time: 11AM - 1:30PM
Location: The Agricultural Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cut-Off Rd Katy, TX 77493
Admission: \$40 per individual; \$300 for reserved table of (8)

For more information please contact:
Name: Vicky Bailey
Email: marketing@bvscu.org
Phone: (281) 644-3650 Office, (346) 479-3117 Cell

FAITH & BUSINESS

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SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2023 9AM TO 2PM

\$600 Per Team (4) - \$150 Individual Shooter \$35 Non-Shooter

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TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Registration & Games Open: 9:00 AM
Safety Briefing: 10:00 AM
Tournament Begins: 10:15 AM
Lunch, Raffles, Auctions & Awards: 12:00 PM

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit (MB) by Burger Don't Lie LLC dba Kowbell Burger, to be located at 23119 Colonial Pkwy Ste B19, Katy, Harris County, Texas. Owner of said corporation is James Son.	

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
PUBLIC NOTICE	
This notice is in regard to the records destruction schedule set by state regulations consistent with the notification requirements set forth in federal (34 CRF 300.624) and state regulations regarding the destruction of confidential records. Katy ISD Special Education records for students with withdrawn or graduated on or before June 30, 2012 will be destroyed January 15, 2023. If you have any questions about this processor about student specific records, you may contact personnel at Katy ISD's Special Education Department at 281-396-2630.	

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO: THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS, WHO RESIDE IN FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2:

The Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 has issued an Order calling for an election to be held on May 6, 2023 from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, at which election all eligible voters residing within the boundaries of FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 will be entitled to vote on the following:

LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX -- Texas Health and Safety Code § 775.0751

FOR The adoption of a local sales and use tax in Fort Bend County Emergency Services District No. 2 at a rate not to exceed two percent (2%) in any location in the District.

AGAINST

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES: Qualified voters residing in FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 may vote in the appropriate polling place designated for the election. The Election Day polling places are described in Attachment 1, below.

Early voting
Early voting shall be conducted by **JOHN OLDHAM**, the Early Voting Clerk, from April 24, 2023 through May 2, 2023. The Early Voting polling places are described in Attachment 2, below.

The Early Voting Clerk's official mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent is Early Voting Clerk, 301 Jackson Street, Richmond, Texas 77469. The phone number for the Early Voting Clerk is (281) 341-8670. The email address for the Early Voting Clerk is john.oldham@fortbendcountytexas.gov. The internet website for the Early Voting Clerk is www.fortbendcountytexas.gov. The location of the main early voting place is 4520 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471. The ballot applications must be received by the Early Voting Clerk no later than April 25, 2023, at 5:00 PM.

FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2
By: /s/ Robert Miller, President
ATTEST: By: /s/ Wes Noonan, Secretary

AVISO DE ELECCIÓN

PARA: LOS VOTANTES CALIFICADOS DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND, TEXAS, QUE RESIDEN EN EL DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND:

La Junta de Comisionados de Servicios de Emergencia del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND ha emitido una Orden que convoca a una elección a realizarse el mayo 6 de 2023 desde las 7:00 AM hasta las 7:00 PM, en la cual todos los votantes elegibles que residen dentro de los límites del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND tendrán derecho a votar por lo siguiente:

IMPUESTO LOCAL A LAS VENTAS Y AL USO -- Código de Salud y Seguridad de Texas § 775.0751

FOR La adopción de un impuesto local sobre ventas y uso en el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 2 del Condado de Fort Bend a una tasa que no exceda del dos por ciento (2%) en cualquier lugar del distrito.

AGAINST

UBACIONES DE LOS LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN: Los votantes calificados que residen en el DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA Nro. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND pueden votar en el lugar de votación que corresponda y haya sido designado para la elección. Los lugares de votación del Día de Elección se describen en el Adjunto 1, más adelante.

Votación anticipada
La votación anticipada estará a cargo de **JOHN OLDHAM**, el Oficial de Votación Anticipada, desde abril 24 de 2023 hasta mayo 2 de 2023. Los lugares de votación de Votación Anticipada se describen en el Adjunto 2, más adelante.

La dirección postal oficial del Oficial de Votación Anticipada a la cual se pueden enviar las solicitudes para boletas de votación y las boletas de votación por correo es Early Voting Clerk, 301 Jackson Street, Richmond, Texas 77469. El número de teléfono de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es (281) 341-8670. La dirección de correo electrónico de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es john.oldham@fortbendcountytexas.gov. El sitio web en internet de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es www.fortbendcountytexas.gov. La ubicación del lugar de votación anticipada principal es 4520 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471. El Oficial de Votación Anticipada debe recibir las solicitudes de boleta de votación antes del abril 25 de 2023, a las 5:00 PM.

DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND
Por: /firma/ Robert Miller, Presidente
ATESTIGUA: Por: /firma/ Wes Noonan, Secretario

ATTACHMENT 1
(Election Day Vote Centers)
(Centros de votación del día de las elecciones)

COUNTYWIDE POLLING PLACE (LUGAR DE VOTACION DEL CONDADO)	ADDRESS (DIRECCION)	CITY (CIUDAD)	ZIP (CODIGO POSTAL)
Beasley City Hall	319 S. Third St	BEASLEY	77417
Bowie Middle School	700 Plantation Dr	RICHMOND	77406
Brazos Bend Baptist Church	22311 FM 762 Rd	NEEDVILLE	77461
Briar Chase Missionary Baptist Church	16000 Blueridge Rd	MISSOURI CITY	77489
Campbell Elementary School	1000 Shadow Bend Dr	SUGAR LAND	77479
Chasewood Clubhouse	7622 Chasewood Dr	MISSOURI CITY	77489
Cinco Ranch Branch Library	2620 Commercial Center Dr	KATY	77494
Clements High School	4200 Elkins Dr	SUGAR LAND	77479
Commonwealth Clubhouse	4330 Knightsbridge Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Crockett Middle School	19001 Beechnut St	RICHMOND	77407
Elkins High School	7007 Knights Ct	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Fairgrounds Bldg D	4310 Highway 36 S	ROSENBERG	77471
Fort Bend ISD Admin Building	16431 Lexington Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Four Corners Community Center	15700 Old Richmond Rd	SUGAR LAND	77498
Fulshear High School	9302 Charger Way	FULSHEAR	77441
Garcia Middle School	18550 Old Richmond Rd	SUGAR LAND	77478
George Bush High School	6707 FM 1464 Rd	RICHMOND	77407
Great Oaks Baptist Church	7101 FM 2759 Rd	RICHMOND	77469
Hightower High School	3333 Hurricane Lane	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Hunters Glen Elementary School	695 Independence Blvd	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Imperial Park Recreation Center	234 Matlage Way	SUGAR LAND	77478
Jacks Conference Center	3232 Austin Parkway	SUGAR LAND	77479
Jones Creek Ranch Park	7714 FM 359 Rd	RICHMOND	77406
Kempner High School	14777 Voss Rd	SUGAR LAND	77498
Kendleton Church of God	619 FM 2919 Rd	KENDLETON	77417
Kroger's Riverstone (Community Room)	18861 University Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Lake Olympia Clubhouse	180 Island Blvd	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Lantern Lane Elementary School	3323 Mission Valley Dr	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Lexington Creek Elementary School	2335 Dulles Ave	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Lindsey Elementary School	2431 Joan Collier Trace	KATY	77494
Living Word Lutheran Church	3700 South Mason Rd	KATY	77450
Lost Creek Conference Center	3703 Lost Creek Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77478
M.R. Massey Admin. Building	1570 W. Sycamore Rd	FRESNO	77545
Maryam Islamic Center	504 Sartartia Rd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Meadows Place City Hall	1 Troyan Dr	MEADOWS PLACE	77477
Mission Bend Branch Library	8421 Addicks Clodine Rd	HOUSTON	77083
Missouri City Baptist Church	16816 Quail Park Dr	MISSOURI CITY	77489
Missouri City Visitors Center	1522 Texas Parkway	MISSOURI CITY	77489
Mustang Community Center	4521 FM 521 Rd	FRESNO	77545
Pinnacle Senior Center	5525 Hobby St	HOUSTON	77053
Quail Valley Elementary School	3500 Quail Village Dr	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Quail Valley Fund Office	3603 Glenn Lakes Ln	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Reese Tech Center	12300 University Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Ridge Point High School	500 Waters Lake Blvd	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Ridgegate Community Association	5855 West Ridgeway Dr	HOUSTON	77489
Ridgemont Early Childhood Center	5353 Ridgeway Circle	HOUSTON	77053
River Park Recreation Center	5875 Summit Creek Dr	SUGAR LAND	77479
Road & Bridge (Needville)	3743 School St	NEEDVILLE	77461
Rosenberg Annex Building	4520 Reading Rd	ROSENBERG	77471
Sartartia Middle School	8125 Homeward Way	SUGAR LAND	77479
Sienna Annex	5855 Sienna Springs Way	MISSOURI CITY	77459
Simonton City Hall	35011 FM 1093	SIMONTON	77476
Stafford City Hall	2610 South Main St	STAFFORD	77477
Sugar Lakes Clubhouse	930 Sugar Lakes Dr	SUGAR LAND	77478
Sugar Land Branch Library	550 Eldridge Rd	SUGAR LAND	77478
Sugar Land Church of God	1715 Eldridge Rd	SUGAR LAND	77478
Thompsons City Hall	520 Thompson Oil Field Rd	THOMPSONS	77481
Townwest Towne Hall	10322 Old Towne Ln	SUGAR LAND	77498
University Branch Library	14010 University Blvd	SUGAR LAND	77479
Westlake Preparatory Academy	23300 Bellaire Blvd	RICHMOND	77406
Williams Elementary School	5111 FM 762 Rd	RICHMOND	77469

ATTACHMENT 2

Early Voting Location (Ubicación de Votación Anticipada)	Hours (Horas)			
	Monday-Friday April 24-28, 2023 (Lunes-Viernes) (24-28 de abril, 2023)	Saturday April 29, 2023 (Sábado) (29 de abril, 2023)	Sunday April 30, 2023 (Domingo) (30 de abril, 2023)	Monday-Tuesday May 1-2, 2023 (Lunes-Martes) (1-2 de mayo, 2023)
Bowie Middle School 700 Plantation Dr, Richmond				
Clements High School 4200 Elkins Road, Sugar Land				
Commonwealth Clubhouse 4330 Knightsbridge Blvd, Sugar Land				
Fort Bend ISD Admin Building 16431 Lexington Blvd, Sugar Land				
Four Corners Community Center 15700 Old Richmond Rd., Sugar Land				
Fulshear High School 9302 Charger Way, Fulshear				
Hightower High School 3333 Hurricane Lane, Missouri City				
Jacks Conference Center 3232 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land				
Jones Creek Ranch Park 7714 FM 359 Rd, Richmond	7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m	8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m	12:00 p.m. To 6:00 p.m	7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m
Kroger's Riverstone 18861 University Blvd, Sugar Land				
Meadows Place City Hall 1 Troyan Dr, Meadows Place				
Missouri City Visitors Center 1522 Texas Pkwy, Missouri City				
Quail Valley Fund Office 3603 Glenn Lakes Ln, Missouri City				
Reese Technical Center 12300 University Dr, Sugar Land				
Ridge Point High School 500 Waters Lake Blvd, Missouri City				
Road & Bridge (Needville) 3742 School St, Needville				
Rosenberg Annex Building 4520 Reading Rd, Rosenberg				
Sienna Annex 5855 Sienna Springs Way, Missouri City				
Chasewood Clubhouse 7622 Chasewood Dr, Missouri City				
Great Oaks Baptist Church 7101 FM 2759 Rd, Richmond	7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m	8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m	CLOSED (Cerrado)	7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m
Lost Creek Conference Center 3703 Lost Creek Blvd, Sugar Land				
Sugar Land Branch Library 550 Eldridge, Sugar Land				
Beasley City Hall 319 S. 3rd Street, Beasley	8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m	8:00 a.m. To 5:00 p.m	CLOSED (Cerrado)	7:00 a.m. To 7:00 p.m
Cinco Ranch Branch Library 2620 Commercial Center Blvd, Katy				
Stafford City Hall 2610 Main Street, Stafford				

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND MOWING “CITY FACILITIES”

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND MOWING OF CITY FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF KATY. CLEARLY-MARKED, SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493, UNTIL 2:15 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. A BID MAY BE AWARDED AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023. EACH PROPOSAL SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CASHIER'S CHECK OR CERTIFIED CHECK DRAWN UPON A NATIONAL OR STATE BANK IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL BID AMOUNT PAYABLE TO CITY OF KATY, OR A BID BOND IN THE SAME AMOUNT FROM A SURETY COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN TEXAS AS A GUARANTEE THAT THE BIDDER WILL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AND EXECUTE BONDS WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER NOTICE OF AWARD.

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING AND TOUR OF WORK LOCATIONS AT 9:00 A.M., TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 STARTING IN THE LOBBY OF KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PACKETS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING 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 ANY BID THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

NOTICE TO BIDDERS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND MOWING “CITY RIGHT-OF-WAYS”

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR GROUNDS MAINTENANCE AND MOWING OF “CITY RIGHT-OF-WAYS” IN THE CITY OF KATY. CLEARLY-MARKED, SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493, UNTIL 2:30 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 16, 2023, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. A BID MAY BE AWARDED AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD AT 6:30 P.M. ON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023. EACH PROPOSAL SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CASHIER'S CHECK OR CERTIFIED CHECK DRAWN UPON A NATIONAL OR STATE BANK IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL BID AMOUNT PAYABLE TO CITY OF KATY, OR A BID BOND IN THE SAME AMOUNT FROM A SURETY COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN TEXAS AS A GUARANTEE THAT THE BIDDER WILL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AND EXECUTE BONDS WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER NOTICE OF AWARD.

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING AND TOUR OF WORK LOCATIONS AT 9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023 STARTING IN THE LOBBY OF KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PACKETS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING 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 ANY BID THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

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.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF WALLER §
CITY OF PATTISON §

TO ALL THE DULY QUALIFIED, RESIDENT ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF PATTISON:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held within and throughout the CITY OF PATTISON (the “City”) on May 6, 2023 (“Election Day”), calling a general election for the purpose of electing Three City Council Members, being those place 3, place 4, and place 5.

SECTION 1: The Elections shall be held on the 6th day of May 2023, which is a uniform election date pursuant to Section 41.00 I, Texas Election Code, for the purpose of electing, Councilmember for Place 3, Councilmember for Place 4, and Councilmember for Place 5.

SECTION 2: The polling place listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., May 6, 2023.

Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department
2950 FM 359 N.
Pattison, TX 77423

SECTION 3: THE MAIN EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACE BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE SHALL BE CONDUCTED EACH WEEKDAY AT AND HOURS OF:

SEE ATTACHED EXHIBIT A

SECTION 4: Applications for ballot by mail may be mailed to early voting clerk at the following address:

Waller County Elections
816 Wilkins
Hempstead, TX 77445
979-826-7643
c.eason@wallercounty.us
vote@wallercounty.us

Application for ballots by mail must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

City of Pattison website: www.pattison.texas.gov

Issued this 3rd day of April 2023.

Mayor Joe Garcia

EXHIBIT “A”

MAY 6, 2023 JOINT GENERAL/SPECIAL ELECTION CITY AND ISD ELECTIONS EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS COMBINED ELECTION DAY LOCATIONS			
CITY OF HEMPSTEAD, HEMPSTEAD ISD, CITY OF PRAIRIE VIEW, CITY OF WALLER, CITY OF PATTISON, CITY OF BROOKSHIRE, ROYAL ISD			
MAIN EARLY VOTING LOCATION – WALLER CO R/B ANNEX EARLY VOTING CLERK – CHRISTY A. EASON, EA. 816 WILKINS ST HEMPSTEAD, TX			
Waller Co Road/Bridge, 775 Hwy 290, Hempstead, Tx	MONDAY	APRIL 24	8 AM – 5 PM
Waller Civic Center, 3007 Waller St., Waller, Tx	TUESDAY	APRIL 25	8 AM – 5 PM
Brookshire Convention Center, 4027 5th St, Brookshire, Tx	WEDNESDAY	APRIL 26	8 AM – 5 PM
	THURSDAY	APRIL 27	8 AM – 5 PM
	FRIDAY	APRIL 28	8 AM – 5 PM
	SATURDAY	APRIL 29	8 AM – 5 PM
	MONDAY	MAY 1	7 AM – 7 PM
	TUESDAY	MAY 2	7 AM – 7 PM
PVAMU Memorial Student Center, Campus, Prairie View, Tx	MONDAY	APRIL 24	8 AM – 5 PM
	TUESDAY	APRIL 25	8 AM – 5 PM
Waller Co Community Center, FM 1098, Prairie View, Tx	WEDNESDAY	APRIL 26	8 AM – 5 PM
	THURSDAY	APRIL 27	8 AM – 5 PM
	FRIDAY	APRIL 28	8 AM – 5 PM
	SATURDAY	APRIL 29	8 AM – 5 PM
	MONDAY	MAY 1	7 AM – 7 PM
	TUESDAY	MAY 2	7 AM – 7 PM

PLEASE CALL 979-826-7643 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS

A VISO DE ELECCIONES

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS §
CONDADO DE WALLER §
CIUDAD DE PATTISON §

A TODOS LOS RESIDENTES ELECTORES DE LA CIUDAD DE PATTISON, QUE ESTEN DEBIDAMENTE CALIFICADOS:

POR LA PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA que se celebrará una elección dentro y en toda la CIUDAD DE PATTISON (la “Ciudad”) el 6 de mayo de 2023 (“Día de la Elección”), convocando a una elección general con el propósito de elegir a Tres Miembros del Concejo Municipal, siendo estos el lugar 3, el lugar 4 y el lugar 5.

SECCIÓN 1: Las Elecciones se llevarán a cabo el 6 de mayo de 2023, que es una fecha de elección uniforme de conformidad con la Sección 41.001 del Código Electoral de Texas, con el propósito de elegir al Concejal del Lugar 3, al Concejal del Lugar 4 y al Concejal del Lugar 5.

SECCIÓN 2: El lugar de votación que se indica a continuación estará abierto de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., el 6 de mayo de 2023.

Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department
2950 FM 359 N.
Pattison, TX 77423

SECCIÓN 3: EL COLEGIO ELECTORAL PRINCIPAL DE VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA POR COMPARECENCIA PERSONAL SE CELEBRARÁ TODOS LOS DÍAS LABORABLES A LAS Y HORAS DE:

VER ANEXO A

SECCIÓN 4: Las solicitudes de voto por correo pueden enviarse al secretario de votación anticipada a la siguiente dirección:

Waller County Elections
816 Wilkins
Hempstead, TX 77445
979-826-7643
c.eason@wallercounty.us
vote@wallercounty.us

Las solicitudes de voto por correo deben recibirse antes de las 17:00 horas del martes 25 de abril de 2023.

Sitio web de la Ciudad de Pattison: www.pattison.texas.gov

Emitido este 3rd día de abril de 2023.

Joe Garcia, Mayor (Alcalde)

ANEXO “A”

MAY 6, 2023 JOINT GENERAL/SPECIAL ELECTION CITY AND ISD ELECTIONS EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS COMBINED ELECTION DAY LOCATIONS			
CITY OF HEMPSTEAD, HEMPSTEAD ISD, CITY OF PRAIRIE VIEW, CITY OF WALLER, CITY OF PATTISON, CITY OF BROOKSHIRE, ROYAL ISD			
MAIN EARLY VOTING LOCATION – WALLER CO R/B ANNEX EARLY VOTING CLERK – CHRISTY A. EASON, EA. 816 WILKINS ST HEMPSTEAD, TX			
Waller Co Road/Bridge, 775 Hwy 290, Hempstead, Tx	MONDAY	APRIL 24	8 AM – 5 PM
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Schultz, Singletary a perfect combo for new QB in Houston

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Texans continued to make strong moves last week, bolstering an offense with the signings of two players that will be a new quarterback's best friend in Dalton Schultz and Devin Singletary.

The signing of the former Cowboy Schultz in particular was a huge one for Houston, as the Texans were able to bring one of the top free agent tight ends and improve a major position of need. Schultz comes off a



PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN
A young Texans fan during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on Jan. 1, 2023 in Houston. The Jaguars won, 31-3.

season where he caught 57 passes for 577 yards and five touchdowns. The 26-year-old has had 17 touchdowns

over the past three years and was the biggest security blanket for Dak Prescott in the Cowboys' offense.

The Texans badly needed an upgrade in that position, as they had lost their tight to tight end from last season in Jordan Akins to the Cleveland Browns, and even then Akins only had 37 catches for 495 yards last year, as Schultz presents a very good alternative.

Joining Schultz on the Texans is Devin Singletary, another strong player that will help out a young quarterback stepping into a new role in the NFL.

Singletary was a very solid contributor to one of the best teams in the NFL in the Buffalo Bills, and he will be a reliable secondary running back next to Dameon Pierce.

Over the past four seasons with the Bills, Singletary had 3,151 yards rushing, averaging 4.7 yards per carry to go with 16 touchdowns. He also caught 145 passes for 971 yards, adding four touchdowns through the air. He adds a little bit of finesse and speed to Pierce's bruising running style.

Schultz already has

shown the ability to elevate a quarterback and the Texans will be looking for him to do the same with whatever rookie they draft in the first round. Singletary will also be a good piece for the pass game as a security blanket. The Texans also resigned left tackle Laremy Tunsil, making him the highest paid left tackle in the NFL by giving him a 3-year extension. The Texans own two first round draft picks as they continue to bolster a roster that has a 11-38-1 record over the last three seasons.

But early signs show a much improved team that is on the rise and can compete in the AFC South this season.

"I believe this organization is going to turn it around quickly," Tunsil said. "This organization is on the rise, especially getting a guy like DeMeco Ryans in this building. He's a young, energy guy, younger coach, and he was actually a player here too. Getting a guy like that coming into the building means a lot. We're trying to get things turned around."



SCOTT W. COLEMAN
Texans running back Dameon Pierce (31) carries the ball during an NFL game between the Texans and the Chargers on Oct. 2, 2022 in Houston. The Chargers won 34-24.



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950 PUBLIC NOTICES 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING SANITARY AND POLLUTION CONTROL OF THE AREAS IN PROXIMITY TO THE DISTRICT'S PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY WELL

TO ALL RESIDENTS OF AND BUILDERS WITHIN HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 136 AND TO ALL OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES:

1. Pursuant to the Texas Water Code, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 136 (the "District") has adopted an Order Establishing Rules and Regulations Regarding Sanitary and Pollution Control of the Areas in Proximity to the District's Public Water Supply Well (the "Rules"), a substantive statement and the penalties for violation of which are as follows:
2. The Rules require the uses and construction of facilities in or on land within one hundred fifty feet (150') of the District's Water Well No. 1 (the "Well"), located at 18322 Harrow Hill Drive, Houston, Texas 77084, for the purposes of preserving the sanitary condition of water controlled by the District, to provide and regulate a safe and adequate fresh water distribution system, to protect the water supply of the District's Well by means of sanitary control, and to enable the District to comply with all applicable state and local regulations.
3. The construction, existence, and/or operation of the following activities within a 150-foot radius of the Well are prohibited: (a) septic tank or sewage treatment perforated drainfields; areas irrigated by low dosage, low angle spray on-site sewage facilities; absorption beds; evapotranspiration beds; abandoned, inoperative or improperly constructed water wells of any depth; underground petroleum and chemical storage tanks or liquid transmission pipelines; sewage treatment plants; sewage wet wells; sewage pumping stations; drainage ditches which contains industrial waste discharges or wastes from sewage treatment systems; animal feed lots; solid waste disposal sites, landfill and dump sites; lands on which sewage plant or septic tank sludge is applied; lands irrigated by sewage plant effluent; military facilities; industrial facilities; wood-treatment facilities; liquid petroleum and petrochemical production, storage, and transmission facilities; Class 1, 2, 3, and 4 injection wells; pesticide storage and mixing facilities; all other constructions or operations that could pollute the groundwater sources of the Well; and (b) the construction, existence and/or operation of tile or concrete sanitary sewers, sewer appurtenances, septic tanks, storm sewers, cemeteries, and/or the existence of livestock in pastures is specifically prohibited within a 50-foot radius of the Well.
4. Persons found to be in violation of the Rules shall be notified by the District in writing. A person who violates any of the provisions of the Rules shall be subject to a penalty of up to \$10,000 for each violation. Each day that a violation of any provisions hereof continues shall be considered a separate violation. Such penalties shall be in addition to any other penalties provided by the laws of the State of Texas and in addition to any other legal rights and remedies of the District as may be allowed by law. A court of competent jurisdiction may enjoy continued violations hereof. Persons found to be in violation of the Rules shall reimburse the District for any and all expenses incurred by the District in the enforcement of the provisions of the Rules, including without limitation reasonable fees for attorneys, expert witnesses, and other costs incurred by the District. No water or sewer tap will be permitted for any tract or parcel of land until such land is in full compliance with the Rules.
5. The full text of all of the District's Rules is on file in an administrative office of the District where they may be read by any interested person. The office is located at Norton Rose Fulbright, 1301 McKinney, Suite 5100, Houston, Texas 77010. You can contact the District through its website, www.hcmud136.org.

CITY OF KATY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL

The City of Katy, Texas Is Accepting Proposals For Contract Delivery Of Unleaded Gasoline And Diesel Fuel. Proposals Will Be Received By The City Secretary At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas, Until 2:00 O'Clock P.M. May 16, 2023. The Envelopes Containing The Proposals Must Be Sealed, Addressed To The City Secretary Of The City Of Katy, And Plainly Marked "Contract Delivery of Unleaded Gasoline And Diesel Fuel". A Bid Opening Will Take Place At 2:00 O'Clock P.M. May 16, 2023, At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. Request For Proposal Packets May Be Obtained By Contacting Bids@cityofkaty.com. City Council Reserves The Right To Reject Any and All Proposals.

City Of Katy

NOTICE

The Zoning Board Of Adjustment Of The City of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct A Public Hearing On **Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 1:00 P.M.** In Council Chambers at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas, On Docket No. 2023-02, The Application Of **Joshua K Pearman**, Present Owner, Under Section 22.5 Of The Zoning Ordinance. Address Of The Lot To Be Affected: **5330 Kyla Circle**, In The "R-1" Single Family District. Property Description: Lot 18, Block 1, Section 5 of Heritage Park West Subdivision, Harris County, Texas.

It Is An Appeal Of An Order And A Determination Made By An Administrative Official In The Enforcement Of The Zoning Ordinance And A Request For A Variance To The Platted Side Building Setback Of Seven And A Half (7.5) Feet For A Residential Addition.

David Minze, Chairman
Zoning Board of Adjustment

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April 6

Puzzle Answers

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

P	E	P	S	I	S	A	M	E	B	A	S		
C	A	B	O	O	S	E	P	E	R	I	L	E	D
A	C	S	A	M	A	R	I	T	A	N	D	E	
R	I	P	E	R	M	A	C	S	A	R	A	N	
A	F	A	R	S	A	T	E	S	L	E	T	O	
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B	M	O	C	E	O	C	E	N	E				
S	T	O	A	S	B	E	R	G	S				
A	R	I	S	E	S	P	L	E	A				
M	I	L	S	A	D	C	U	E	B	E	G		
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V	I	D	A	L	N	B	C	A	B	E	L	E	
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SPARTANS

from page B1

Morrison's initial penalty shot was saved he followed it up on a rebound to double the Spartans lead, four minutes later Kortay Koc added a third when he got past the Dobie defense and put the ball into the back of the net.

Seven Lakes wasn't done there. Noa Stasic scored a fourth for the Spartans in the 61st minute when he drew a penalty which he then converted himself and two minutes later Diego Flamenco curled a shot past the keeper and into the corner of the net to increase the Spartans' lead to five. Then with just a minute left in the game, Sebastian Ranz volleyed in a goal off a cross as the celebrations began early for the Spartans.

"We've always been a goal

scoring team," Gabriel Gonzalez said. "It was only a matter of time before we exploded offensively and it happened today. We trust all of the guys up front to go and get goals — they're all so talented and we know what we can do. Today was just an awesome game."

The Spartans advance to state for the second straight season with the win, but the job isn't finished, and the Spartans are looking to win two more.

"Anytime you've been there with a group, they're ready the next year and we have the benefit of having experienced state," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "These guys have been motivated all year and they're ready. We just want to go there and we want to do Region III proud."



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Top photo: Hunter Merritt goes for a header during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park. Above: Kortay Koc dribbles past an opponent during Saturday's Region III Class 6A Final between Seven Lakes and Dobie at Abshier Stadium in Deer Park.

SOCCER

from page B1

came out of the half in the 48th minute on a 28-yard free kick, giving Seven Lakes some cushion.

It was important for Seven Lakes to come out the way they did, and an improvement after games where they had slow starts and let teams stay in the game.

"What we talked about this week was leaving it all out there and not having any remorse," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "Last week, there was a point where those guys felt some remorse and we do not want to revisit that even if we lose. But our guys competed well and they played right from start to finish — now it's about recovering and being ready for tomorrow."

The Spartans never let their foot off the gas and were rewarded again in the 60th minute as Kortay Koc got a pass in the box, dribbled around a defender and slotted home a goal. With a three-goal cushion the Spartans cruised to the final whistle for the win.

"We have three guys up front in me, Kortay and Hunter (Merritt) that can play all three positions and it just makes us all so hard to guard," Stasic said. "We switch out, we pressure teams and a lot for them just can't deal with that. It's a big benefit for us because I can just go to the left and Kortay can go to the middle and it gives us something different. I don't feel like there's anyone that can really stop that right now."

The Spartans are filled with confidence heading to state.

"We know what works for us and we just have to continue to do that," Stasic said. "It's all about keeping our heads down, putting the work in and coming out the right way for the game tomorrow. That's how we continue to win."

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Katy Times



TYLER TYRE

Marcelo Ojeda makes a pass during a Class 6A Regional Quarterfinal between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

JORDAN

from page B1

who was able to just place it into the back of an empty net.

Jordan kept up the pressure for the first 15 minutes of the match, but Dobie found its way back into the game and started to create its own chances. It paid off for the Longhorns in the 21st minute, when Jordi Garcia scored a tap in off of a cross for Dobie to tie the game, and they kept up the pressure into the second half, getting another goal from a quick free kick that got jumbled into the box and fell to the feet of Alex Escobar, who volleyed it into the back of the net.

“These guys just wanted to compete,” said Jordan head coach Jason Meekins. “They really wanted to play and for it not to end. There was so much pressure, but they thrived in it every step of the way. That’s

what we ended up doing all year. No one expected us to be here, but the coaches and players knew we could get here. We had a mentality that we would earn it. The kids did a great job — they’ve played nine playoff games in two years and not many programs can say that.”

Jordan upped the pressure after that, pushing the Dobie back line and tied the game in the 74th minute on Erol’s second goal of the day. Just two minutes later, Garcia got past the Jordan defense and put in a goal for Dobie as the Longhorns went back ahead, and they were able hang on for the win as Jordan was unable to answer in the final five minutes.

“Those guys — they play so hard and it’s something that’s just been built through offseason and the year,” Meekins said. “They do it

on a day in and day out basis, they play for each other and they hold each other to a higher standard. We have hiccups at times but they always leave everything on the field and they don’t want to let each other down.”

Jordan will graduate 14 seniors this season in their first ever senior class, and those seniors have laid the groundwork for a tremendous program, as they were part of teams that made the state semifinals in Class 5A last season and the regional tournament in Class 6A this season.

“We proved that it’s possible here at Jordan. The path is there — the underclassman just have to take that next step,” Bucic said. “We set a legacy and a standard and hopefully the next guys can carry it forward. I know that they can.”

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