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VOLUME 111, ISSUE 18

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THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2023

## PAC takes aim at 3 KISD trustee candidates



The Houston-based Texans for Education Freedom political action committee has mailed fliers to Katy ISD residents urging support for candidates Amy Thieme, Morgan Calhoun and Mary Ellen Cuzela.



The latest third such flier, being received by voters this week, attacks candidates Bruce Bradford, Cicely Taylor and Shana Peterson as being the "far-left" choices for the school board.

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy ISD Board of Trustees race has become personal, with a PAC-funded political flyer attacking three candidates and comparing them to President Biden and former Texas Democratic gubernatorial candidate Beto O'Rourke.

"Bruce Bradford, Cicely Taylor, and Shana Peterson: The far-left choices for the Katy ISD school board?" the flyer said. "There's no way we can trust Bradford, Taylor and Peterson to keep

radical ideologies out of Katy classrooms."

The Austin-based Texans for Educational Freedom PAC sent the flyer. In addition to attacking Bradford, Taylor and Peterson, the flyer endorses the slate of Amy Thieme, Morgan Calhoun and Mary Ellen Cuzela.

The PAC—or political action committee—has endorsed candidates in two other Houston-area districts, Clear Creek ISD and Spring Branch ISD, as well as other districts across the state.

See **MAILER**, page A3

## Trustee candidates file finance reports

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

Seven of eight candidates for the Katy ISD Board of Trustees filed their campaign finance reports April 28, with the reports showing that four candidates received either political action committee funds or in-kind services.

Shawn Miller, a college professor seeking position 3, did not file a report. The other two position 3 candidates — Bruce Bradford, a mortgage loan originator, and Amy Thieme, a realtor — filed reports.

The three position 4 candidates—Erica Brettell, a stay-at-home mom; Morgan Calhoun, a stay-at-home mom; and Cicely Taylor, an education administrator—filed reports.

The two position 5 candidates — Mary Ellen Cuzela, a Katy ISD substitute teacher, and Shana Peterson, who is retired — filed reports.

Of the four candidates receiving help from political action committees, or PACs, three are receiving in-kind services from Texans for Educational Freedom, which is based in Austin. Texans for Educational Freedom filed a report with the Texas Ethics Commission detailing its contributions to Thieme, Calhoun and Cuzela. According

See **FINANCE**, page A3

**HAVE A NEWS TIP?**

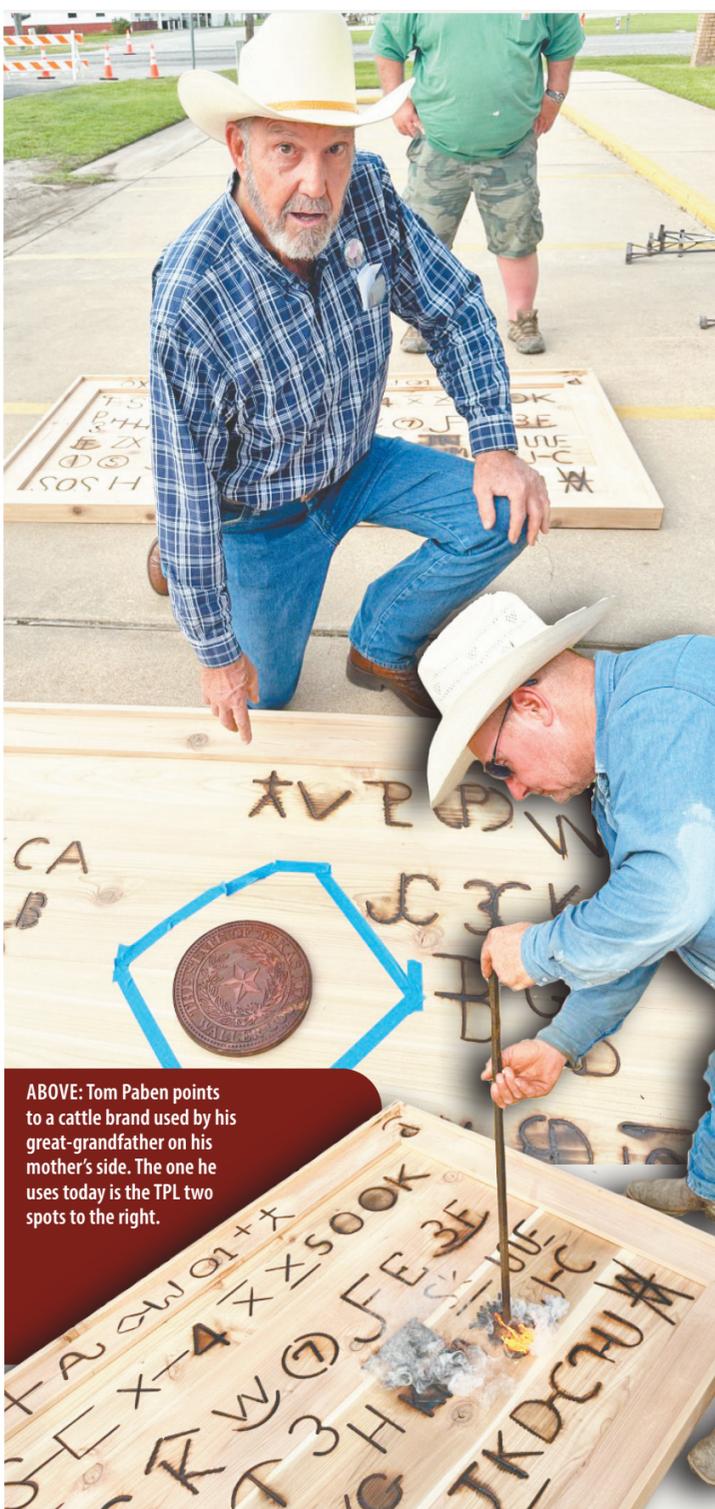
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ABOVE: Tom Paben points to a cattle brand used by his great-grandfather on his mother's side. The one he uses today is the TPL two spots to the right.

## ON BRAND

Pattison puts its brand on things as it celebrates its ranching heritage

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER  
NEWS EDITOR

Waller County this month is celebrating its sesquicentennial—its 150th birthday—with festivities scheduled throughout the county. Even Katy, a part of which is in Waller County, will host local festivities this week.

But leave it to Pattison to leave its own, unique mark on things. Actually, many unique marks.

The Pattison community held a branding party May 1 at the Pattison United Methodist Church, 3711 Ave. H in Pattison. There, a group led by

Kurt Klausmeyer—he's been branding cattle

for 35 years—heated up branding irons from area ranches. They made their

mark, so to speak, on some boards

that are expected to hang in a new

Waller County Courthouse

now being planned in

Hempstead.

Many brands have

historical ties to the

area. One longtime area

rancher, Danny Lang,

Jr., traced his family's

Texas ties to July, 1824,

when Stephen F. Austin

brought the first Anglo

settlers to Texas, then

a part of Mexico. They

settled in San Felipe, which

is about nine miles west

of Pattison on FM 1458. His

family ranch brand, the bar

7C (7C, with a bar above it), is

on the branding board. The C

See **BRAND**, page A3

PHOTOS BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER

LEFT: Kurt Klausmeyer applies a brand to a display that will one day hang in a new Waller County Courthouse in Hempstead. He said if one sees blue smoke when applying the brand, one is done and can proceed to the next branding.

## Briones announces call for partnership projects

CONTRIBUTED AND STAFF REPORTS

For the first time, Harris County Precinct 4 has launched a call for infrastructure partnership projects. Precinct 4 is committed to serving Precinct 4 by leveraging its infrastructure dollars in collaboration with local community organizations. Through these partnerships on projects such as urban planning, drainage and mobility improvements, Precinct 4 will deliver sustainable and resilient infrastructure needed in the fastest growing precinct in Harris County.



LESLEY BRIONES  
Harris County Pct. 4  
Commissioner

ably and sensibly for the residents of Harris County.

"We seek to implement thoughtful solutions through data-driven, evidence-based, and equitable project prioritization,"

Pct. 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones' new initiative, Places 4 People, will leverage public resources strategically, sustainably and sensibly for the residents of Harris County.

Briones said. "The result will be a stronger future for the next generation—my three daughters, and all children—in Harris County."

Eligible applicants include cities, school districts, Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs), Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones (TIRZs), Municipal Management Districts (MMDs), Public Transit Agencies, Economic Development Corporations (EDCs), housing authorities, and other local government corporations.

Funding applications will be considered for projects between \$350,000 and \$20 million. The deadline to submit applications

is June 16.

"We are looking for projects that are in line with values like equity, sustainability, and resiliency," Reynaldo Guerra, chief of infrastructure, said. "We want to ensure all communities across Precinct 4 are receiving infrastructure investments in accordance with their needs. Projects must be adapted to the new climate and economic challenges we're facing in the 21st century and must also have community support and

See **PROJECTS**, page A3

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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Brookshire to celebrate Cinco de Mayo with events May 5-6

The City of Brookshire is celebrating Cinco de Mayo with events set for May 5-6. May 5 events are set for 7-11 p.m. at the Trading Market, 1042 Stalknecht Road in Brookshire. A dinner with music from a mariachi band is set for 7-8 p.m., with a cultural dress contest preceding a dance that will run from 9-11 p.m. May 6 events are set for 9 a.m.-8 p.m. at Hovis Park, 1412 FM 359 in South Brookshire. At 9 a.m. parade participants will gather at the Brookshire Police Department. At 10 a.m., the parade will begin walking to Hovis Park. From 12-8 p.m., the park will host a variety of adult and kids' events, including live music and a soccer tournament. For more information, call Tina Cabrera at 936-448-8208.

### Brookwood Community to hold spring extravaganza May 4-6

Brookwood's Annual Spring Extravaganza is May 4-6 at the Brookwood Community, 1752 FM 1489 in Brookshire. Visitors can shop at Brookwood's retail store filled with the handcrafted products and gorgeous spring flowers for upcoming events such as Mother's Day and graduations. Visitors can enjoy a wine and beer bar in the garden, along with a lunch buffet at Brookwood Café. To make lunch reservations, visit the website [bit.ly/BWSpringExtravaganza](http://bit.ly/BWSpringExtravaganza).

### Local photographer completes fine art portraiture course

Pattison-based photographer Sandy Buller has completed the Fine Art Portraiture course at the Texas School of Professional Photography under the guidance of William Branson, III, a renowned photographer with over 47 years of experience. Buller's passion for photography started early in life, and he has since honed his craft through various workshops and seminars. His completion of the Fine Art Portraiture course marks a significant milestone in his career, as he now possesses advanced skills and techniques needed to create exceptional portraits. "I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to learn from William Branson, III and to be a part of the Texas School of Professional Photography," Buller said. "The course has allowed me to push my boundaries and explore new techniques that I can use to capture the essence and beauty of my subjects." Buller specializes in creating classical and/



Vince Young, former University of Texas quarterback, spoke at the Katy Texas Exes scholarship fundraising dinner, held April 13 at the Club at Falcon Point. Young spoke of how everyone should try to bring more love and positivity into the world before leading a question-and-answer session.

ADRIANNE NORMAN

or contemporary portraits that capture the unique personality and spirit of each subject. For more information, visit the website [bullerphotography.com](http://bullerphotography.com).

### Fulshear Church of Christ invites families to Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity

Fulshear Church of Christ, 9241 Charger Way in Fulshear, is hosting a family event, called Babylon, set for 6-8:30 p.m. June 1-2. Kids ages 3-12 step back in time to Babylon, exploring Daniel's adventures as a captive in a foreign land. Kids participate in a memorable Bible-times marketplace, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, dig into Bible-times snacks, visit Daniel, and collect Bible Memory Makers to remind them of God's Word. Plus, everyone learns to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes at Celebration—a time of upbeat worship that gets everyone involved. For more information, call 281-712-1492.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORT



Pattison-based photographer Sandy Buller, left, has recently finished the Fine Art Portraiture course at the Texas School of Professional Photography under the direction of photographer William Branson, III.

SANDY BULLER

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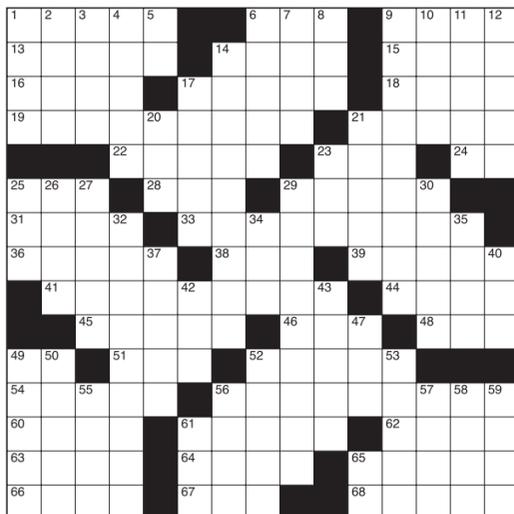
## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### CLUES ACROSS

- Dull and flat
- Baking measurement (abbr.)
- Education-based groups
- Not behind
- Runners run them
- Japanese ankle sock
- Grave
- Japanese industrial city
- People of southern Ghana
- Particular designs
- Device fitted to something
- Infections
- Pirates' preferred alcohol
- Expression of sympathy
- Rock guitarist's tool
- Neither
- Ancient city of Egypt
- You \_\_\_ what you sow
- Ruined
- Narrations
- Body art (slang)
- Fencing sword
- Apartment buildings
- Type of missile
- Fathers
- Extremely high frequency
- Type of school
- Incorrect letters
- Two-year-old sheep
- Nasty manner
- One who accepts a bet
- Indian prince
- Asian country
- Rhythmic patterns in Indian music

### CLUES DOWN

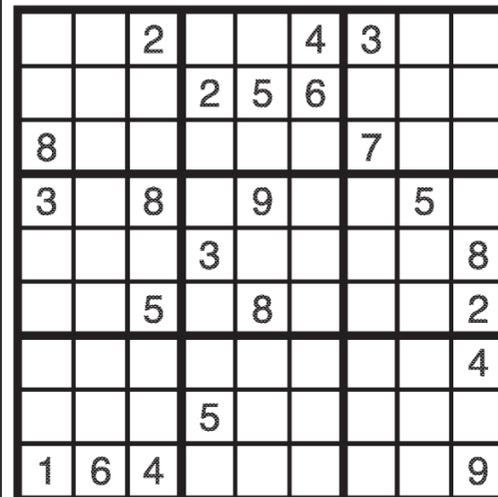
- Actor Damon
- A call used to greet someone
- Part-time employee
- Emaciation
- "Westworld" actor Harris
- Gains possession of
- Relaxing spaces
- 23rd star in a constellation
- Northern grouse
- Monetary unit of Bangladesh
- Manila hemp
- Unites muscle to bone
- Makes deep cuts in
- 18-year period between eclipses
- Member of a people inhabiting southern Benin
- Synthetic rubbers
- Unwelcome rodent
- Expression of creative skill
- Some is red
- Seems less in impressive
- Harry Kane's team
- Gland secretion
- Action of feeling sorrow
- Disallow



- Deceptive movement
- More dried-up
- Crimson
- Actress Ryan
- Adherents of a main branch of Islam
- Accomplished American president
- Side of a landform facing an advancing glacier
- Sheep breed
- Appetizer
- Broadway actress Daisy
- Influential film critic
- NY Giants ownership family
- Type of script
- Assist
- London park
- Bar bill
- In reply indicator

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

## SUDOKU



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.

## FINANCE

from page A1

to this report, the PAC spent \$4,875 in advertising expenses for each candidate. Three payments of \$1,625 were made on April 8, April 10 and April 12 with Axiom Strategies of Kansas City, Mo., for advertising expenses.

According to its [texasforeducationalfreedom.com](http://texasforeducationalfreedom.com) website, the PAC mission "has the sole purpose of electing freedom-minded officials to school boards to ensure the liberties of our citizens."

Yet while Texans for Educational Freedom made and reported the contributions, they were not listed on Thieme, Calhoun or Cuzela's reports.

Meanwhile, Taylor reported that she received a \$2,000 donation from leadership for educational

equity, of Washington, D. C. According to its [educationalequity.org](http://educationalequity.org) website, LEE (as it is known) is a "nonprofit leadership development organization inspiring & supporting a network of civic leaders to end the injustice of educational inequity."

Some candidates are receiving support from incumbent trustees. Trustees Victor Perez and Dawn Champagne have endorsed Thieme, Calhoun and Cuzela. Trustee Ashley Vann has contributed \$200 to both the Bradford and Peterson campaigns.

Vann holds the position 3 seat. She chose not to seek re-election, as did her two fellow incumbents, position 4 trustee Leah Wilson and position 5 trustee Greg Shulte. This year's election is

the first in recent memory in which no incumbent sought re-election.

Bradford reported \$1,400 in contributions and \$3,708.80 in expenditures.

Thieme reported \$1,280 in contributions and \$1,905.87 in expenditures.

Brettell reported \$1,602 in contributions and \$1,506.49 in expenditures.

Calhoun reported \$680 in contributions and \$2,913.51 in expenditures.

Taylor reported \$3,100 in contributions and \$2,358 in expenditures.

Cuzela reported \$1,678.27 in contributions and \$1,882.77 in expenditures.

Peterson reported \$500 in contributions \$2,363.29 in expenditures.

Early voting ended May 2. Election Day is May 6.

## MAILER

from page A1

Its website lists no physical address but its Twitter account says it is based in Houston.

According to its [texasforeducationalfreedom.com](http://texasforeducationalfreedom.com) website, the PAC mission "has the sole purpose of electing freedom-minded officials to school boards to ensure the liberties of our citizens." To do this, the PAC seeks "to create a stronghold of freedom-minded elected officials in the State of Texas that will ensure the liberties of our citizens. We do this by being the most influential and strategic organization that recruits, supports, and elects candidates to fulfill our mission."

The PAC also says if "we do not create a stronghold of freedom-minded elected officials, we will decline into a state of governmental control, where our children will not be free to choose their own destiny."

Bradford, a mortgage loan originator, is running for position 3 against Thieme, a realtor, and Shaun Miller, a professor.

Taylor, an education administrator, is running for position 4 against Calhoun, a stay-at-home mom, and Erica Brettell, a stay-at-home mom.

Peterson, who is retired, is running for position 5 against Cuzela, a Katy ISD substitute teacher.

"I said from the beginning that I was running a clean campaign, and I've kept to that," Peterson said. "This is slander. Maybe they're concerned that I'm winning."

As for the allegation that her views are far to the left, Peterson said she has described herself as a conservative Republican and has been open about that, even with her supporters who are Democrats.

She said this card is the third one she has received, and the first to go negative.

"I can only imagine the amount of money that they're receiving from Texans for Educational Freedom, and what they will owe



AMY THIEME



MARY ELLEN CUZELA



MORGAN CALHOUN



BRUCE BRADFORD



CICELY TAYLOR



SHANA PETERSON

them in return," Peterson said.

Bradford said he was "one of the fortunate few to have the card mailed directly to me." He said the matter was disappointing.

"This is my first political foray," Bradford said. "When people decided to start stretching the truth, altering the truth, or just lying, I think it's an indicator of how somebody might serve in the future. I'm not going to get down into the mud and the muck."

Bradford described his politics as "moderate-conservative," and that he has voted Republican in every presidential election since the late 1970s, when he began voting. Still, he said, he was not going to classify himself by party.

"I wish that people would stay focused on the job at hand for a candidate or board member and that is to serve 93,000-plus children that come from diverse backgrounds," Bradford said. "As a moderate conservative I can talk to people on the left and right, I can communicate and can serve."

Taylor, who is making her second campaign for the board—she lost the position 1 race to Victor Perez last year—said she hasn't seen the card yet, but was aware of it.

"I haven't checked my mailbox," Taylor said. "It

could be in there, or it could not."

Taylor said her politics were middle of the road.

"I'm a fairly conservative liberal," Taylor said, adding that she doesn't vote for the party, but educates herself on policy and votes as it aligns with her beliefs.

She described the situation as sad and very unfortunate.

"But I've got very thick skin and I'm committed to be above-board, all about students and families," Taylor said. "I've been very clear that I'm bipartisan. I've been very clear that I'm for all kids, no matter what political interests you have. People can choose to put out what they put out. I won't unfairly characterize any candidates or board members."

It was not immediately clear whether Thieme, Calhoun and Cuzela, who have often campaigned together and have the endorsements of incumbent trustees Victor Perez and Dawn Champagne, endorse the PAC's positions or the attack strategy it has taken. Efforts to reach Thieme, Calhoun and Cuzela for comment by press time were unsuccessful.

Absentee voting began May 24 and ran through May 2. A candidate only needs a plurality of votes to win the election. Election Day is May 6.

## PROJECTS

from page A1

contribute to building healthy and safe places for people of all ages and abilities."

Places 4 People was born out of successful partnerships Briones has already achieved in her tenure. On April 17, with Northwest Harris County MUD No. 12, Precinct 4 broke ground on the \$6.1 million Westfield Pines and Village Drainage Improvement Project to improve flood resilience in a community heavily impacted by Hurricane Harvey.

"Through innovative partnerships with groups like Northwest Harris County MUD No. 12, we are able to maximize each federal dollar we receive," Briones said. "I feel a deep sense of urgency to build a more resilient Precinct 4, and local

partnerships will ensure a collective rapid response toward achieving this goal."

For more details, including guidelines, detailed instructions, scoring criteria and eligibility, visit [hcp4.net/infrastructure/projects/](http://hcp4.net/infrastructure/projects/).

The call for partnership projects comes as Briones is taking a listening tour of the precinct, in which she is holding open meetings to hear public concerns. Her next such listening tour stop is set for 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road.

For more information about the listening tour event at Bear Creek, visit the website [bit.ly/BearCreekListeningTour](http://bit.ly/BearCreekListeningTour).

## BRAND

from page A1

is for Cooper and the seven, Lang said, was for his grandfather having seven grandchildren.

Lang said his family's ties to the area were such that the City of Brookshire might have been named Cooper had there not already been a post office named Cooper. But Brookshire got its name from Nathen Brookshire, who was part of Austin's fifth colony in 1835, according to the Texas State Historical Association.

Brands can be changed as times change and new generations take over ranching operations. One rancher, Tom Paben, who lives and works near Monaville, pointed to a group of brands that his family has used over the years. The one his family uses now, he said, has his initials, TLP.

Paben's family has been around awhile. He said his son, Wesley, is a sixth-generation rancher on his mother's side of the family. They've been working the land since the 1850s. His father's side of the family is a relative newcomer to the area, he said, coming in 1925 from Nebraska to Texas. Right now, he said, the cattle business in Waller County is doing pretty well.

Paben's wife, Dianne, said brands are registered every 10 years with the county clerk in those counties where the cattle are raised. If, for example, a cattle ranch had operations in Waller and Fort Bend counties, it would register its brand in just those two counties.

The brands, and the memories that



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

The Bar 7C brand used by the Lang family.

come with it, come at a time when the area is facing encroaching development. Much of the land is being sold to developers. But some of the land is also being bought by the Coastal Prairie Conservancy, formerly the Katy Prairie Conservancy. The Pabens' land is right across the street from a subdivision, Paben said.

Dianne Paben said there were so many subdivisions going in now, she estimated that within the next 30-40 years there won't be any farmland left in the area.



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# A taxing 'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day'

"Junior, this year to prepare for 'Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day,' I want to teach you about all the taxes that you'll have to pay as a working adult." "What are taxes, Dad?"

"Taxes are what the government will take out of your paycheck, and will tack onto almost everything you will purchase, to fund lots and lots of programs, Junior—many of which are unnecessary." "Unnecessary, Dad?" "Junior, when our country was founded in 1776, our founders believed in limited government and they knew from history that the bigger and stronger any government gets, the more it inhibits the freedoms of its citizens. The founders worried that our republic, which is governed by the people, would only thrive as long as the people were wise and always concerned about their government getting too big and strong. But too few people today have any such concern. And that is why our country is out of control."

"Out of control, Dad?" "Our national debt has ballooned to \$31 trillion, Junior—and climbing. Since lots of people and their cronies in Washington benefit from reckless spending—and politicians get elected by bribing citizens with their own money—few are serious about reining it in. There are lots of incredible examples of waste."

"Can you share some, Dad?" "Take the Department of Defense, Junior. We all agree that a key role of government is to protect its citizens. However, the DOD is so poorly managed, a recent audit cannot account for 60% of its assets. It looks like we'll spend nearly \$900 billion a year to fund the DOD this year, yet we have little idea where all of that money is going?"

"I am learning from you and Mom to be careful with money." "One of the greatest tragedies in recent years is the \$8 trillion we spent in Iraq and Afghanistan. We lost 7,057 service members and tens of thousands of lives were lost in both countries. So many who served there are forever damaged by their experience. What a tragic waste."

"You are making me feel sad, Dad."

"Well, let's see if I can make you laugh, then, Junior. Readers Digest shares a list of



**TOM PURCELL**  
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

"Well, let's see if I can make you laugh, then, Junior. Readers Digest shares a list of some very silly government-funded activities. Did you know that for more than 20 years, Northwestern University researchers received a total of \$3 million in government funds to inject hamsters with steroids, then watch them fight!"

some very silly government-funded activities. Did you know that for more than 20 years, Northwestern University researchers received a total of \$3 million in government funds to inject hamsters with steroids, then watch them fight!"

"Those poor little hamsters!" "The researchers stopped that study when animal activists learned of it. Here's another one: Every single day the government prints out the Federal Register at a cost of \$1 million a year and delivers it to every member of Congress. But the Federal Register is available online for free."

"That doesn't sound very smart, Dad." "Junior, my heart breaks when I think of the high taxes your generation is going to have to pay to cover all the reckless spending our government is doing now. You are very young, but it's never too early to introduce you to these harsh realities. Next April, I'll introduce you to the cost of onerous government regulations!"

"Great, Dad. I can't wait until next year, when I turn 5!" 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](mailto:Tom@TomPurcell.com).



# Are you singing the seasonal allergies blues?

"An allergy season so bad you don't need allergies to feel miserable," blared the headline in the Wall Street Journal.

My own symptoms are relatively mild, but they do exist. I feel your pain. Especially if we get in a tug-of-war and you pull an entire Costco display of apocalypse-size Kleenex down on top of both of us.

Even though we all know someone gulping down over-the-counter antihistamines or scheduling a doctor's visit, statistics for allergy sufferers are probably vastly understated.

Allergists note that many people never get tested and just tough it out. They ignore their symptoms, depending on their threshold for discomfort. (Threshold for Discomfort. I believe that's also the title of the upcoming first Hallmark horror movie, which lands Lacey Chabert in a quaint village where there WILL be slashing—of prices on overstuffed holiday ornaments, if nothing else.)

Of course, climate change is receiving the lion's share of the blame for allergy seasons starting earlier, hitting harder and hanging around longer. Folks tend to forget the good points of mild winters and increased food production. ("It's still broccoli, and even if my eyes stop itching, I can't see myself eating the junk!")

Tree pollen season (typically early spring) and grass pollen



**DANNY TYREE**  
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

season (late spring and summer) have started catastrophically overlapping. Someone please locate the landscaper who has a fetish for Venn diagrams and put a stop to him!

Even nature lovers are harboring a grudge against the perpetrators. ("Forget manicuring, lawn. I'm thinking amputation.") Joyce Kilmer wrote, "I think that I shall never see a poem lovely as a tree." But under current conditions, the poem is like something you see scrawled on a truck stop restroom wall.

The whole idea of "seasonal" allergies with extended respites may be an outdated concept. It's like Mother Nature has transformed into Mother-in-Law Nature. ("Visit? No, I'm moving in. Be careful not to snot all over my luggage as you tote it in.")

Even though Americans who have never suffered from allergies before are getting them this year, there will still be plenty of insufferable Perfect People who manage to dodge a bullet. In a little over seven months, they will

inevitably mention this in their 10-page Christmas letter.

("Thank goodness we weren't bothered by allergies, or we couldn't have made it to see 12-year-old granddaughter Suzie perform open-heart surgery on the Dalai Lama. And if Frank hadn't had the lung power to perform CPR on Pope Francis, the Vatican would have been sending up puffs of smoke, thus further decreasing air quality. Oh, the real gold embossing on the envelope? Well, we had to splurge on something after we cashed in our Flonase stock.")

I truly hope that my symptoms do not become more severe. I cringe to think about standard advice such as "Squirt saline solution up your nose." My knee-jerk response of "Blow saline solution out your..." is not covered by my health insurance.

I tried turning my healthcare concerns over to an artificial intelligence (AI) program, but I think I'll seek a second opinion after getting a response of "Have a little of the hair of the dog that bit you. Go out and roll in the clover. Die, meat-sack, die! Well, not that all meat-sacks are bad. Dude, do you think you could get Lacey Chabert's algorithm to call my algorithm? Hubba hubba.")

Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at [tyreetyrades@aol.com](mailto:tyreetyrades@aol.com) and visits to his Facebook fan page "Tyree's Tyrades."

## Katy Times

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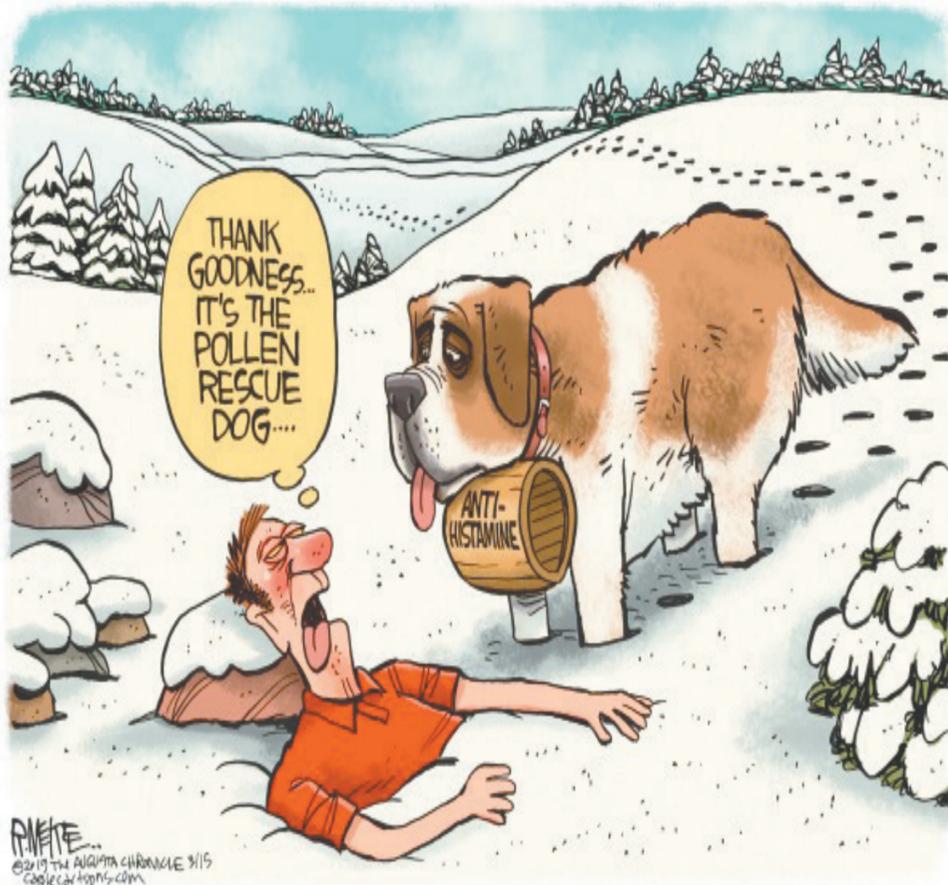
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## TRIBUTES

Harris Cooper Garrett, 94, of Brookshire, passed away at his home on Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Harris was born on February 12, 1929, in Brookshire, Texas, to James Robert and Gladys Mary (Cooper) Garrett. He grew up in Brookshire, graduating from Nolanville High School. Harris furthered his education at Tarleton Jr. College and graduated from Texas A&M with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He proudly served as an engineer in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Harris was an entrepreneur and pursued various business opportunities throughout his life. He was a member of Community Methodist Church. For over 50 years, Harris was a member of the Brookshire Pattison Lion's Club. Harris also volunteered with the Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department. In his spare time, Harris enjoyed traveling, going on adventures, and antiquing with his wife, JoAnn, before she passed.

He is survived by his daughters: Suzanne Garrett-Mullins and husband, Richard, of Brookshire and Paula Jo Tullos and husband, Jack, of Cleveland; son: Robert David Garrett and wife, Suzanne, of Katy; granddaughters: Jennifer Lynn Torres, Adriann Christiansen, Dana Thacker, Sydney Waid, and Alexandra Lumpee; grandsons: Jeffery Pattison, Matt



**HARRIS COOPER GARRETT**  
1929-2023

Janda, Jared Rachal, John Rachal, Walker Ross, William Ross, Ross Tullos, and Justin Garrett; 34 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews and cousins; and many friends.

Harris preceded in death by the love of his life for 68 years, JoAnn Garrett, and his parents, James and Gladys Garrett.

Family was present to receive friends from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at the Schmidt Funeral Home Chapel in Brookshire, Texas.

Funeral Service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at Community Methodist Church in Brookshire, Texas.

Interment followed at Pattison Cemetery in Pattison, Texas.

Pallbearers were Gerald Gassner, Gary Woods, Wayne England, Rick Florek, Tim Redding, and Wes Brown. Honorary pallbearers were Willie Froebel, Samuel Emerson, and Russell Hankins.

Friends who wish may make memorial gifts to the Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Avenue, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Schmidt Funeral Home, PO Box 248, 819 Waller Avenue, Brookshire, Texas, 77423 - (281)934-2424 - www.schmidtfunerals.com.

## SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING COMPETITION



Calvin Nelms Charter School honorable mention honorees at the recent Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition, from left, Kaleb Soto, Emily Velasco, Tristan Plata, Gebmi Awolola, Hannah Harolds, Kaela Jones. Not pictured: Fernanda Aponte and Desiree Juarez.

PHOTOS COURTESY CALVIN NELMS CHARTER SCHOOL



Calvin Nelms Charter School Gold Key honorees at the recent Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition, from left, are Kim Avellaneda and Blanca Vielma. Not pictured: Claire Wheeler.



Calvin Nelms Charter School Silver Key honorees at the recent Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition, from left, Yeatzin Flores and Andrew Hobbs.

## The Katy Times

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Pastors Jason Smith and Daniel Hernandez  
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## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### Morton Ranch High garage sale May 13

The student council and the Future Business Leaders of America chapter at Morton Ranch High will be hosting a garage sale, with the community invited to sell and shop.

The garage sale is from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. May 13 at Morton Ranch High School, 21000 Franz Road. For vendors, check in is from 6:30-7:45 a.m. Clean-up is 1-2 p.m.

Vendor booth rental begins at \$30. Food trucks Wow Wow Hawaiian Lemonade and Truck E Delphia will be serving breakfast and lunch.

For more information about becoming a vendor or about the garage sale itself, email [MRHSGaragesales@gmail.com](mailto:MRHSGaragesales@gmail.com).

### Katy ISD Destination Imagination teams head to Global Finals Competition

Nine Katy ISD Destination Imagination are advancing to the Global Finals Tournament, to be held May 21-23 in Kansas City, Mo., to compete in creative problem-solving challenges.

The following teams will represent Katy ISD at the tournament.

- The Seven Lakes High Crash Test Dummies team is first in Service Learning - High Stakes (Secondary).

- The Exley Elementary Golden Knights team is third in Engineering - Thrill Ride (Elementary).

- The Holland Elementary Space Huskies team is third in Service Learning - High Stakes (Elementary).

- The Seven Lakes Junior High Ultimate Knights team is third in Engineering - Thrill Ride (Middle).

- The Bryant Elementary Puzzlers team is fifth in Technical - Piece by Piece (Elementary).

- The Morton Ranch High Nerd Herd team is fifth in Improvisational - Showdown (Secondary).

- The Alexander Elementary Smart Stars team is sixth in Fine Arts - Flip the Script (Elementary).

- The Tays Junior High Tricky Twix team is ranked sixth in Service Learning - High Stakes (Middle).

- The Seven Lakes High Houston We Have a Problem team is ranked sixth in Fine Arts - Flip the Script (Secondary).

At the recent Lone Star Finals State Tournament, The Nerd Herd from Morton Ranch High and DIdymos from Beck Junior High participated in a special Instant Challenge category and brought home top honors. The Ultimate Knights from Seven Lakes Junior High earned a Renaissance Award.



SHERREL ROGERS

The Royal ISD Education Foundation held its annual Denim & Diamonds gala fundraiser April 28 at Hemi Hideout, 1172 Wilpitz Road in Brookshire. Seth Stokes, left, and Royal ISD board trustee Cori Hillsman Vahalik stand in front of the stage, where the Earl Sanders Jr. Band performed. Jimmy and Doug Sanders stand on the stage behind Stokes and Vahalik.

### Four Katy ISD students receive Ricky Searce Memorial Scholarships

Megan Anton, Marcel Davis, Trevor Horace and Chase Truex have been named winners of the Ricky Searce Memorial Scholarships. Thanks to the generosity of the Katy community and friends of the Searce family, each of these students will be receiving a \$5,000 college scholarship.

The Ricky Searce Memorial Scholarship was created to honor long-time Katy ISD educator and community member, Ricky Searce, and is given to graduating Katy ISD student-athletes each spring. For more information, visit the website [scarescholarship.com](http://scarescholarship.com)

### Nine Katy ISD students receive Coca Cola Scholarships

Nine Katy ISD students have received Coca-Cola Scholarship. Each recipient was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to use towards their education. The Katy ISD Coca-Cola partnership Scholarship is a fund created by a special contract between Katy ISD and the Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company. One \$1,000 scholarship was awarded at each high school.

To apply, students had to be in the top 25% of their graduating class as well as



SUSAN ROVEGNO

The Katy ISD Education Foundation Partners in Education celebrated Katy ISD volunteers at a VIPs (volunteers in public schools) Breakfast of Champions held April 28 at the Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane.



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Katy ISD celebrated its teachers of the year at a luncheon held April 27 at the Gerald D. Young Agriculture Sciences Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cutoff Road. After the luncheon, the teachers, along with school trustees and Superintendent Ken Gregorski, sat for a group photo.

demonstrate good citizenship, leadership, extra-curricular participation, and community service. Winners are:

- Sienna K. Adigun, Morton Ranch High.
- Jasmine V. Benau, Mayde Creek High.
- Ananya S. Bhawsinka, Jordan High.
- Kayla L. Boven, Tompkins High.
- Teodora Delic, Katy High.
- Aayushi A. Gandhi, Seven Lakes High.
- Chidera N Kalu-Uka, Taylor High.
- Elizabeth B. Wojciechowski, Cinco Ranch High.
- Kaitlyn A. Young, Paetow High.

### Katy Summer Academic Team

The 2023 Katy Summer Academic Term (KSAT) is offering for all eligible Katy ISD students grades Pre-K through 12. Programs are available for elementary, junior high and high school students. For more information, visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is [bit.ly/3NyXRdU](http://bit.ly/3NyXRdU).

### North Fort Bend Water Authority holding art contest for middle and high school students

The North Fort Bend Water Authority invites middle school and high school students to submit their artwork focusing

on the importance of water. Six grand prize winners will receive a Visa gift card based on creativity, clarity and understanding of the subject. Please review the guidelines here.

Middle school students can win up to \$200. High school students can win up to \$300.

Deadline for entries is May 31. For more information, visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is [bit.ly/3NunoFc](http://bit.ly/3NunoFc).

### Nine students from Katy earn degrees at TSTC Spring 2023 Commencement in Fort Bend County

Nine students from Katy earned degrees from Texas State Technical College's Fort Bend County campus, celebrating with the TSTS Spring 2023 Commencement held April 26 at the Stafford Centre in Stafford.

The students from Katy earning degrees are:

- Jeffrey Allen, HVAC Technology.
- Cole Campbell, Welding Technology.
- Brendan Glover, Welding Technology.
- Dominic Maya, Welding Technology.
- Cameron Register, Welding Technology.
- Saxon Stares, Industrial Systems.
- James Thomassee, Welding Technology.
- William Thomson, Welding Technology.
- Tuma, Nicholas, Welding Technology.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

# VOTE FOR ROYAL ISD BOND ELECTION

- ✓ Our kids need you to show up and vote for Royal ISD propositions A & B!
- ✓ Recommendations from the Royal Facilities Advisory Committee (FAC), Royal community members like you and me, determined the bond projects.
- ✓ The FAC was a diverse group of local parents, employees, business owners, and taxpayers who met over several months to determine the \$144,410,530 bond package.
- ✓ Royal is growing and a new elementary school campus is needed to alleviate crowding/traffic at the current campus and proactively serve new neighborhoods.
- ✓ Royal ISD has signed a letter of intent on land for a new elementary school in the high growth area of the district.
- ✓ Safety and security upgrades are necessary at all campuses to keep our kids and teachers safe!
- ✓ If passed, these bond dollars stay local in the Royal community.
- ✓ Every campus and every student will benefit from this bond - VOTE FOR RISD PROPOSITIONS A & B!



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE  
SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT  
[WWW.ROYAL-ISD.NET](http://WWW.ROYAL-ISD.NET)

## ELECTION DAY MAY 6, 2023 | 7AM-7PM | VOTE



## Katy completes sweep of Dulles

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy learned an important lesson late in district play.

A late district loss to Taylor showed the Tigers just how important it is to not take any opponent lightly. And since then the team has become more focused, more ready and more understanding of how important each day is when you have big goals in a season.

That approach showed in the bi-district round of the playoffs, as the Tigers completed a sweep of Fort Bend Dulles, beating the Vikings 12-0 on Saturday in the second game of their series after beating them 12-0 on Friday as well.

"I think that game against Taylor really opened our eyes and made the team realize that it doesn't matter who you're up against you have to be ready to play," said Katy head coach Kalum Haack. "Just because we're Katy it doesn't mean that teams are just going to play bad and be scared. Taylor was a perfect example of that, but there's been such a big improvement from us since then. That game made us focused and is something we've used to get better."

Katy got one run in the first inning, when Avery Porter hit a sacrifice fly and a second in the second inning when Lauryn Soeken drove in a run on a single.

But it was the third inning when Katy broke things open. Ashtyn Reichardt got a run in with a double to start things in the inning before Ella-Kate Smith brought home two runs on a single. Hailey Gore then hit a sacrifice fly and Soeken brought in two on a single before Porter got another run in from a single, Reichardt hit an RBI single and Cameryn Harrison hit a two-run home run to make it 12-0. Katy didn't allow a run the rest of the way to secure the win.

"We got the momentum early on today and we kept it going all throughout the first few innings," Reichardt said. "We got runners on and were being disciplined which was big because yesterday, we weren't that disciplined at the plate early on and were swinging

See **KATY**, page B3



Lauryn Soeken pitches during Saturday's bi-district game between Katy and Fort Bend Dulles at the Katy softball field.

TYLER TYRE

### WEEK OF MAY 5

## SCORES & SCHEDULES

### SOFTBALL

#### BI-DISTRICT

- Katy 12, Fort Bend Dulles 0
- Katy 12, Fort Bend Dulles 0
- Cinco Ranch 2, Fort Bend Travis 0
- Cinco Ranch 11, Fort Bend Travis 2
- Ridge Point 16, Tompkins 8
- George Ranch 5, Taylor 0
- George Ranch 5, Taylor 3

#### Schedule

##### AREA

#### Thursday

- One Game Playoff: Katy vs. Bellaire, 6:30 p.m.
- Game 1: Cinco Ranch vs. Heights, 6 p.m. at Delmar

#### Friday

- Game 2: Cinco Ranch vs. Heights, 6 p.m. at Cinco Ranch
- Game 3: Cinco Ranch vs. Heights, 8 p.m. at Cinco Ranch

### BASEBALL

#### Thursday

- Game 1: Cinco Ranch vs. Hightower, 6 p.m.
- Game 1: Tompkins at George Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Game 1: Katy at Fort Bend Austin, 6 p.m.
- Game 1: Seven Lakes at Ridge Point, 7 p.m.

#### Friday

- Game 2: Cinco Ranch at Hightower, 6 p.m.
- Game 2: Tompkins vs. George Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Game 2: Katy vs. Fort Bend Austin, 6 p.m.
- Game 2: Seven Lakes vs. Ridge Point, 7 p.m.

#### Saturday

- Game 3: Seven Lakes at Ridge Point, 1 p.m. (if needed)
- Game 3: Cinco Ranch vs. Hightower, 2 p.m. (if needed)
- Game 3: Tompkins vs. George Ranch, 3 p.m. at Cy-Springs (if needed)
- Game 3: Katy vs. Fort Bend Austin, 3 p.m. at Cy-Lakes (if needed)

## Tompkins, Taylor see seasons end in bi-district

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins and Taylor both fell in the bi-district round of the playoffs, as the two programs' strong seasons came to an end in the first round of the playoffs on Friday.

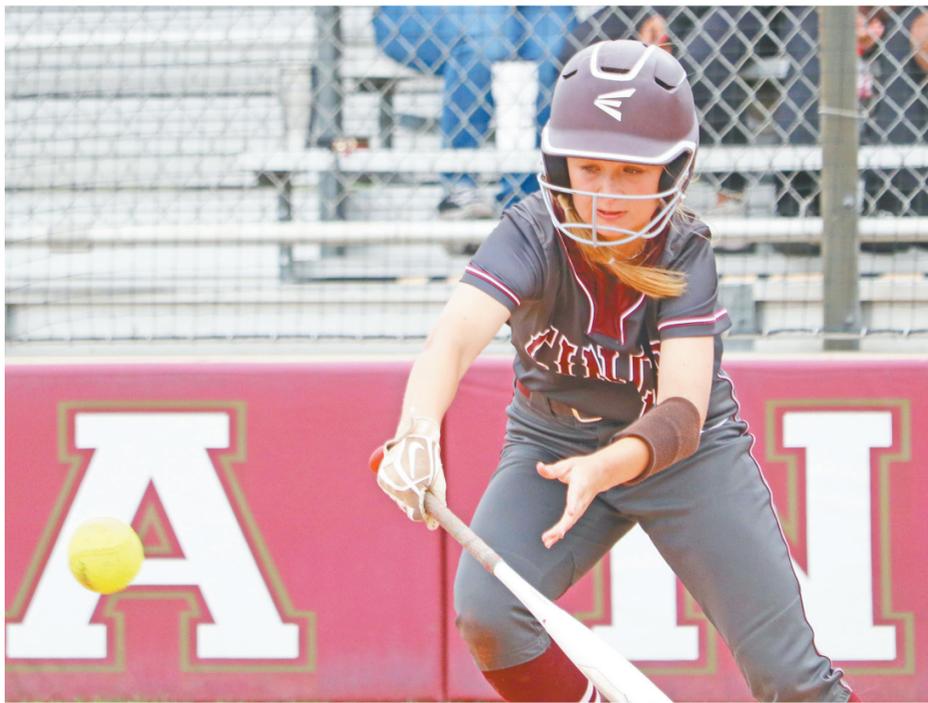
Tompkins lost in a hard fought one-game playoff with Ridge Point, falling 16-8 after a back and forth matchup.

Ridge Point got things going offensively from the start, scoring three runs in the top of the first. Tompkins though came right back with three runs of its own in the bottom of the inning, getting runs

off an error, a bases loaded walk and a Cami Hearn single. Ridge Point went ahead again in the third with a solo home run, but Tompkins answered back tying it when they got a run off an error before Hearn drove in a run on a single and another on a bases loaded walk to go up by two runs.

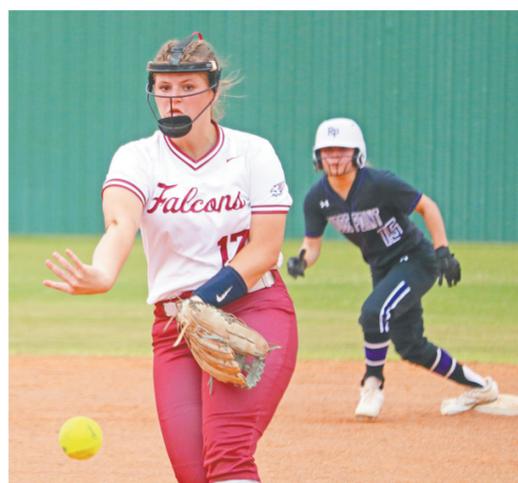
But the Panthers weren't done offensively — they answered back with a five run inning in the fourth before adding another run in the fifth and three more in the sixth. Tompkins tried to mount a comeback, getting runs on a

See **BI-DISTRICT**, page B3



Sophie Hassall bunts during Saturday's bi-district round game between Cinco Ranch and Fort Bend Travis at the Cinco Ranch softball field.

TYLER TYRE



Samantha Crumrin pitches during Friday's bi-district round game between Tompkins and Ridge Point at the Jordan softball field.

TYLER TYRE

## Carter named Athletic Director at Katy ISD

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy ISD officially announced its new Athletic Director on Monday, naming Lance Carter to the role of Executive Athletic Director of the District.

Carter makes the step to athletic director after spending the past eight years as an assistant athletic director in the district, working with Debbie Decker, the current

athletic director who is retiring at the end of the school year.

"Coach Carter's deep understanding of the district's campus athletic departments will provide a seamless transition for our student-athletes and staff," said Dr. Ken Gregorski, Katy ISD Superintendent. "I have no doubt that he will build upon Katy ISD's strong athletic tradition, as well as ensure

See **CARTER**, page B3



Chela Kovar pitches during Saturday's bi-district round game between Cinco Ranch and Fort Bend Travis at the Cinco Ranch softball field.

TYLER TYRE

## Cinco Ranch sweeps past Travis in bi-district round

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch knew exactly what they had to do on Saturday.

The Cougars had seen what Fort Bend Travis was capable of but also knew they had what it took to take down the Tigers and show that they were the stronger team.

The Cougars came out and made a statement, beating Travis 11-2 in game two of their bi-district series after topping Travis 2-0 in the first game of the series.

"We have so much confidence in this group from all through district and what we did last year," said senior outfielder Kendall Bregener. "We just knew what we could go out and take advantage of some things that we saw yesterday. It was just an awesome game from us."

Cinco Ranch had some struggles with their bats in Friday's game, but on Saturday they came out swinging early and often. Travis took a one run lead in the top of the first inning, but Cinco Ranch answered back in the bottom of the inning.

See **CINCO**, page B3

# Cinco Ranch, Tompkins share district title as regular season comes to an end

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The regular season for baseball came to an end last week for Katy ISD and with it came co-champions in District 19-6A, as Cinco Ranch and Tompkins shared the crown this year after both finished district play with a 14-2 record and went 1-1 against each other on the year.

Tompkins closed out district play with 11 straight wins, and finished the regular season with a 22-6-1 record. The district championship was the fifth in six years for the Falcons as they surged the further they got into the season. Tompkins lost a flip with Cinco Ranch and was named the second seed out of district, drawing third seed George Ranch in the first round. The Falcons are looking to go on another postseason run after getting to the regional quarterfinals last year and losing to Ridge Point in two hard fought games. George Ranch finished the season with four straight wins and went 11-5 in district play. The Longhorns will provide a good test for Tompkins in the first round.

The district championship for Cinco Ranch was the first since 2006 and it was behind a superb senior class and senior class. The Cougars ended the regular season with a 27-4 record and doubled opposing teams' runs in district play, scoring 101 and allowing just 50. They closed out district with four straight wins and will draw fourth seeded Hightower in the first round after getting the first seed.



TYLER TYRE

Brayden Hodge pitches during Tuesday's District 19-6A game between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch baseball field.

Cinco narrowly missed out on the playoffs last season — their last playoff appearance was in 2021, when the Cougars advanced to the area round.

Katy finished with the third seed out of district with a 22-6-4 record overall and 12-4 record in district. The

Tigers had a strong year, where they beat Cinco Ranch and played very competitively and well down the stretch after losing their two opening district games against Tompkins. Katy lost their regular season finale against Taylor.

The Tigers will get Fort Bend Austin, the second seed out of District 20-6A, as they finished with a 15-14 record and went 11-5 in district play. The Tigers will be trying to go on another deep playoff run after advancing to the regional semifinals last year before falling to Strake Jesuit in a tough three-game series.

Seven Lakes rounded out the district playoff teams after beating Taylor in a play-in game, finishing the regular season with a 19-12 record and 9-7 district record. The Spartans won their final two games to get in to the playoffs as both were must wins. Seven Lakes gets the No. 4 team in the state in the first round and get a repeat of their bi-district series last year as they will face Ridge Point. The Spartans lost last year's series in two games, as they hung with Ridge Point but were unable to best them in the first round.

Taylor finished the year in fifth play after the play-in loss, having a 21-12-1 record and a 9-7 district record. The Mustangs went on a late run to get to the play in but ultimately came up just short.

Jordan and Paetow were tied for sixth in district with 5-11 records, Jordan went 12-19 overall while Paetow had a record of 9-20. Morton Ranch and Mayde Creek rounded out the district as they were tied for seventh with a 2-14 overall record. Morton Ranch went 5-24 overall and Mayde Creek went 7-20-1 overall.



PHOTO COURTESY INSTAGRAM:@LOUIES.PICS

Seven Lakes players celebrate after winning Monday's District 19-6A play-in game between Seven Lakes and Taylor at the Mayde Creek baseball field.

# Seven Lakes uses offensive spark to down Taylor, clinch playoff berth

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

As soon as Seven Lakes head coach Jeremy Arterburn saw Travis Berra pitch through the first inning on Monday, he knew it was going to be a good day.

Monday was a make or break day for the Spartans' season, as they were in a play in game with Taylor for the fourth and final playoff spot out of District 19-6A. It could have been a nervous moment for any team and any pitcher, but Berra immediately calmed any nerves among the Seven Lakes players and did his thing all night, pitching a one-hit shutout to lead Seven Lakes to an 11-0 run rule win over the Mustangs, giving the Spartans a playoff berth for the second straight season.

"It's been like that all year for us, in big moments, Travis has stepped up," Arterburn said. "He was composed and focused and I could see it from the get go that we was going to have a great day. It was just an awesome performance from Travis and I'm so proud of him."

The Spartans' pitching was hot from the get go and the offense was as well, although it took three innings for the Spartans to get runs across. Seven Lakes loaded the bases in the first and got a runner on again in the second but were unable to get anything out of it. Then, in the third inning the Spartans' offense exploded.

Nate Johnson started things with a long double into the left field gap that plated the Spartans' first run and Carter Nannini kept things going with a single of his own to bring in a second run. Ethan Hernandez drove in two with a single and then Paden Reynolds had an RBI single of his own as Seven Lakes plated five runners in the third inning.

"We just grabbed all that momentum, when we get our leadoff guy on, we just keep going and going and we know what we need to do," said senior



TYLER TYRE

Jake Steffes celebrates after scoring a run during Monday's District 19-6A play-in game between Seven Lakes and Taylor at the Mayde Creek baseball field.

center fielder Taylor Tiedt. "We really embrace small ball and we do all those things to keep runners moving over. Overall we just played amazing and I'm so proud."

The Spartans kept things going in the fourth — they got their first run of the inning off an error and Nannini drove in a run after he was hit by a pitch. Tiedt followed that up with a two-run single before Reynolds brought in two more with a single of his own as Seven Lakes' lead grew to 11. Berra then pitched a clean top half of the fifth to seal the game and give the Spartans the win.

"I just calmed myself before the game and tried to treat it like any other game," Berra said. "I just trusted

my stuff, went out there and dealt. I knew how important this was and it was just amazing to help my team today. There's no better feeling than getting to the playoffs except for winning in the playoffs."

The Spartans advance to play the No. 4 ranked team in the state in Ridge Point in the bi-district round, and while the Spartans may be an underdog, it's a role they're embracing.

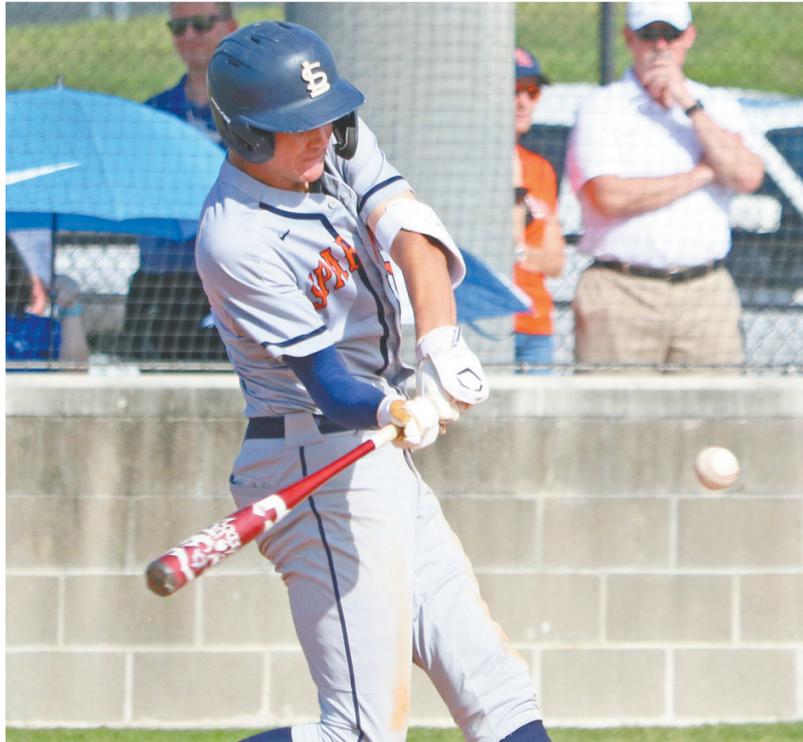
"This is all them," Arterburn said. "You have Coach (Royal) Thomas and he's amazing with the guys. My whole staff is amazing and then the kids stepped up in big moments. I'm just proud of them all. These guys are ready for it and let's go see what happens."

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TYLER TYRE

Nate Johnson hits during Monday's District 19-6A play-in game between Seven Lakes and Taylor at the Mayde Creek baseball field.

## BI-DISTRICT

from page B1

passed ball and a steal of home in the sixth, but they weren't able to do enough in the end as Ridge Point hung on for the win, scoring three more in the seventh to seal things.

Tompkins finishes the season with a record of 15-11.

Taylor fell in two games to George Ranch in their series, as they kept things close but were unable to win in 0-5 and 3-5 losses.

The Mustangs were never able to get anything going in their game 1 loss where they went scoreless. George Ranch got one run in the second and two in the third, but Taylor's lineup only mustered one hit.

In game two, it was a closely fought game. Taylor took the lead in the first when Katherine Brunner hit an RBI double. But George Ranch came back to tie the game in the third inning and then took the lead with two runs in the fifth.

George Ranch added another run in the sixth, but Taylor mounted a comeback, scoring two runs on a Brunner home run in the bottom of the inning. George Ranch though, sealed it with another run in the seventh before hanging on for the win.

Taylor ends the season with a 19-12-1 record and earning the Mustangs' first trip to the playoffs in 12 seasons.



Peyton Ebel celebrates after scoring a run during Friday's bi-district round game between Tompkins and Ridge Point at the Jordan softball field.



Morgan Brown watches a foul ball during Friday's bi-district round game between Tompkins and Ridge Point at the Jordan softball field.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



Cameryn Harrison hits during Saturday's bi-district game between Katy and Fort Bend Dulles at the Katy softball field.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

## KATY

from page B1

at crazy pitches. But today we locked in on the pitch we wanted to see and we were able to hit it."

Soeken started on the mound for Katy and went four innings, allowing just one hit on the day while striking out eight batters. This followed up a day where Smith pitched a no-hitter against Dulles, striking out 12. It gave Harrison two extra days of rest on the mound and also gave two young pitchers valuable innings.

"It was great to get them games under their belt," Haack said. "Usually when they come in it's following Cameryn and they'll maybe get two innings. But giving them five innings like that gives them some stamina and confidence going forward. It was really good to have both of them going like that."

The Tigers advance to play Bellaire in the area round and will look to keep their run going and advance to the regional quarterfinals again.

"We've stepped it up in playoffs and that's what we have to continue to do," Reichardt said. "We know that every practice and every day needs our full focus because how we practice is how we are going to play. We just have to continue getting better and make sure we're locked in heading into next week."



Ella-Kate Smith hits during Saturday's bi-district game between Katy and Fort Bend Dulles at the Katy softball field.

## CINCO

from page B1

Bregenzer started things with a fielders choice before Madison Royse drove in two on a double. Gissel Morales then drove in another with a sacrifice fly. Sophie Hassall brought another in with a single before Faith Piper capped off the inning with a two-run triple as Cinco put up seven runs in the first inning.

"We saw their pitcher yesterday and we were able to come in and make adjustments off of that and it really paid off," Bregenzer said. "She has a really good change but we sat back on it, were patient at the plate and took what she gave us. It was all about recognizing what we needed to change to be successful."

Travis scored a second run in the second but Cinco answered right back. Bregenzer hit an RBI single and Savannah Henningson brought in another with a single before Amanda Croteau hit an RBI single of her own. Bregenzer drove in a third run

in the third inning to cap off the Cougars' offensive performance as they didn't score but didn't allow another run the rest of the way.

"It was really good that we were able to go out and get a lead and some padding early," said Cinco Ranch head coach Suzanne Reeve. "The goal was just to jump out in front of them today and thankfully we were able to do that and get some runs early. Have good pitching and defense and close things out."

The Cougars advance to play Heights in the area round, the same team they faced in the second round last year, which they won 2-1 in a one-game playoff.

"They're a really scrappy and well coached team," Reeve said. "We're going to have to be at our best — we can't give them extra runs, we can't give them extra outs with errors. We're going to have to build on this, have a good week of practice and come out ready to go against them."

## CARTER

from page B1

that our programs continue to reach greater heights."

Carter has worked in Katy ISD for the past 16 years, first as the head football coach and at Mayde Creek from 2007-2014

and then moving to the assistant athletic director role in 2014. He was also an assistant coach of state championship teams in Texas City and La Marque and coached three different teams to state or regional championships in powerlifting. He was named the Texas High School Powerlifting Association's strength coach of the year in 1999 and 2004 and

served as president of the association from 2004-2005.

Carter holds an Associate of Arts degree from Blinn College, a Bachelors of Science degree from East Texas State University and a Masters of Education in Administration from Lamar University.

"It is a tremendous honor to serve Katy ISD, its coaches and athletes. I have had the pleasure to work under Coach Decker for the past 16 years in two different capacities.

The lessons I have learned from her on leading the athletic department, for one of the best school districts in the State of Texas, have been invaluable," said Lance Carter, Executive Director of Athletics at Katy ISD. "Our department will continue to serve and support our coaches so they can continue to make a positive impact in the lives of our 18,000+ student-athletes and their pursuit of excellence."



LANCE CARTER



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Annual tax return for the Morillon Family Foundation (Trustees: William and Marie Anne Morillon) is available for inspection by appointment only through October 15, 2023 at 24822 Lakebriar Drive, Katy, Texas 77494 Phone: 281-395-4316. By Appointment Only.

**Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine & Retailer's Permit (BG) by Yi Liao dba Toyama LLC, to be located at 1433 FM 1463 RD Suite 600, Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas. Owner of said corporation is Yi Liao, and managing members are Mu He and Xin Zhao.**

**April 27 Puzzle Answers**

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950  
PUBLIC NOTICES

**SUMMONS**  
**CASE NO. S1300CV202380004**  
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI Jay Musty Plaintiff(s), v. Brooke Julia Chapas, et al. Defendant(s). To: Brooke Julia Chapas and John Doe Chapas WARNING: THIS AN OFFICIAL DOCUMENT FROM THE COURT THAT AFFECTS YOUR RIGHTS. READ THIS SUMMONS CAREFULLY. IF YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT, CONTACT AN ATTORNEY FOR LEGAL ADVICE. 1. A lawsuit has been filed against you. A copy of the lawsuit and other court papers were served on you with this Summons. 2. If you do not want a judgment taken against you without your input, you must file an Answer in writing with the Court, and you must pay the required filing fee. To file your Answer, take or send the papers to Clerk of the Superior Court, 2840 N. Commonwealth Drive, Camp Verde, Arizona 86322 or electronically file your Answer through one of Arizona's approved electronic filing systems at <http://www.azcourts.gov/efilinginformation>. Mail a copy of the Answer to the other party, the Plaintiff, at the address listed on the top of this Summons. Note: If you do not file electronically you will not have electronic access to the documents in this case. 3. If this Summons and the other court papers were served on you within the State of Arizona, your Answer must be filed within TWENTY (20) CALENDAR DAYS from the date of service, not counting the day of service. If this Summons and the other court papers were served on you outside the State of Arizona, your Answer must be filed within THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS from the date of service, not counting the day of service. Requests for reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities must be made to the court by parties at least 3 working days in advance of a scheduled court proceeding. GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Superior Court of the State of Arizona in and for the County of YAVAPAI SIGNED AND SEALED this Date: January 2, 2023 DONNA McQUALITY Clerk of Superior Court By: MONTIEL Deputy Clerk Requests for an interpreter for persons with limited English proficiency must be made to the division assigned to the case by the party needing the interpreter and/or translator or his/her counsel at least ten (10) judicial days in advance of a scheduled court proceeding. A copy of the Summons and Complaint may be obtained by contacting Plaintiff's attorney, Adam Kwasman, at Wagner & Kwasman P.L.L.C., 4643 N. 24th St, Phoenix, AZ 85016, (602)698-8900X101

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids addressed to Board of Directors Harris County Municipal Utility District 165, will be received, until **10:00 a.m. Local Time, Wednesday, May 31st, 2023**, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for Construction of "Avalon at Cypress West Road & Avalon River Road Softscape" for Harris County Municipal Utility District 165, Harris County, Texas"

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Concrete Trails, grading, sprinkler irrigation, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A NON-MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on Tuesday, May 16th, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID 990 6218 6189 and use Passcode: 761689 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/99062186189?pwd=VkQzT2h6SGVxT0tZVGd5WTNDQ3A4dz09>

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from [www.CivcastUSA.com](http://www.CivcastUSA.com): search SWA project name. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, and associated documents for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

A Bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and bid securities must be submitted through [www.civcastusa.com](http://www.civcastusa.com). Bidder must register on this website in order to submit a Bid and bid security.

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

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

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

HC MUD 165

950  
PUBLIC NOTICES

**KATY ISD Invites Private Non-Profit Schools**  
Private non-profit schools serving students who reside in Katy ISD attendance zones have the option to participate in federal grant programs. If the non-profit school wishes to participate, a consultation meeting can be scheduled to provide an overview of current federal programs (Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV) and other services. Non-profit schools interested in participating in these federal grant programs for the 2023-2024 school year should contact Erin Hyko at 281-396-2243 to schedule a consultation meeting to discuss programs and eligibility requirements.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

99 Cents Only Stores Texas, Inc. invites the community to attend a public meeting:

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Courtyard by Marriott Houston Katy Mills  
25402 Katy Mills Parkway  
Katy, TX 77494  
(281) 665-3189

Purpose: To discuss information specified in 40 CFR Section 68.42(b) with respect to the February 11-12, 2023 ammonia release incident which occurred at the distribution center facility located at 23623 Colonial Parkway in Katy, Texas

If accommodations are needed, please email [inquiry@99only.com](mailto:inquiry@99only.com) or call (800) 971-6823 with specifics.

**AVISO DE JUNTA PÚBLICA**

99 Cents Only Stores Texas, Inc. invita a la comunidad a una reunion pública:

Fecha: martes, 9 de mayo, 2023  
Tiempo: 7:00 p.m.  
Lugar: Courtyard de Marriott Houston Katy Mills  
25402 Katy Mills Parkway  
Katy, TX 77494  
(281) 665-3189

Propósito: Para analizar la información especificada en el 40 CFR Sección 68.42(b) con respecto al incidente de liberación de amoníaco del 11 y 12 de febrero de 2023 que ocurrió en las instalaciones del centro de distribución ubicadas en 23623 Colonial Parkway en Katy, Texas

Si se necesitan adaptaciones, envíe un correo electrónico a [question@99only.com](mailto:question@99only.com) o llame al número (800) 971-6823 con detalles.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 3086** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON APRIL 24, 2023:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, ARTICLE 6.05 "FOOD AND FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS" OF CHAPTER 6, "HEALTH AND SANITATION"; BY REPEALING SECTION 6.05.037 "SALE OF FOOD FROM VEHICLES"; ADDING A NEW DIVISION 3, "MOBILE FOOD VENDORS" AND AMENDING APPENDIX A "FEE SCHEDULE"; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500.00 FOR A VIOLATION, WITH EACH DAY CONSTITUTING A SEPARATE VIOLATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

950  
PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN **ORDINANCE NO. 3085** BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON APRIL 24, 2023:  
  
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF KATY ZONING ORDINANCE 621; BY GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT THAT ALLOWS, A SPECIAL USE, TO WIT: A PRIVATE SCHOOL USE IN A "C-1" DISTRICT LOCATED AT 5506 3RD STREET, LOT 4 & W ½ OF LOT 5, BLOCK 15, KATY TOWNSITE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF MIRUS ACADEMY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY OF UP TO \$2,000 DOLLARS PER DAY FOR A VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THE ORDINANCE.**

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS WALLER COUNTY**

Waller County (County) is seeking to contract with a qualified firm which can provide a wetland determination and delineation to help inform the County's CDBG-DR Diemer Road Project (Contract No. 20-065-062-C180). Please submit one (1) original, three (3) copies, and one (1) electronic response on CD or flash drive. CD or flash drive must contain only one (1) file in PDF format and must match the original and copies of the response identically. Failure to provide proper electronic response may be cause for disqualification. Confidential information is to be placed in a separate envelope denoted as "confidential." A completed Packet shall be submitted to the County no later than 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. Response shall be signed in ink, by a person having the authority to bind the firm in a contract. Complete proposal packets must be remitted to Alan Younts, Waller County Auditor, 836 Austin Street, Suite 221 Hempstead, TX 77445. Please clearly mark the following on the envelope: Project Number: 230503-07 for Wetland Determination and Delineation for Waller County CDBG-DR Diemer Rd. Project. Waller County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Vendors are encouraged to submit proposals. Waller County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

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# Texans select Stroud, Anderson in NFL Draft

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Texans made a splash in the NFL draft on Thursday, drafting Ohio State quarterback CJ Stroud with the second overall pick in the draft, giving the Texans their quarterback of the future early in the first round.

They followed that up with the move of the draft, trading back up to No. 3 in the draft to take Will Anderson, who is considered the best defensive player in the draft. Giving Houston a cornerstone at defensive end/outside linebacker for years to come.

"Houston is bringing in a leader," Stroud said. "I'm somebody who is going to come in, go to work every day and work their tail off. I come from a winning tradition and I want to win — that's all I care about and I want to help Houston do that."

Stroud was a star at Ohio State over the past two years, being a Heisman Finalist both seasons and leading the Buckeyes to the College Football Playoffs in 2022 and putting up a terrific game against one of the best college defenses in history in the Georgia Bulldogs 2022 defense. He completed nearly 70% of his passes over his collegiate career, throwing for over 8,000 yards in two years and throwing 85 touchdowns to six interceptions with a 182.4 qb rating.

"I just am going to come in and be the best teammate in the draft," Stroud said. "I'm going to be the best leader in the draft too. I'm going to do everything I can for these guys and I'm going to be the best quarterback I can be."

Will Anderson was a beast over his three years at Alabama, garnering 34.5 sacks, 58.5 tackles for loss, 204 tackles and an interception over the course of his time with the program. He helped Alabama to a national championship in 2020 and a national championship game appearance in 2021.

"I'm just so blessed to be put in this position," Anderson said. "These Texans fans are getting a complete player and a complete person. I'm going to be a good player and someone who goes out there, does his job and is relentless. I'm going to have a motor and



**"Houston is bringing in a leader. I'm somebody who is going to come in, go to work every day and work their tail off. I come from a winning tradition and I want to win — that's all I care about and I want to help Houston do that."**

—CJ STROUD, Ohio State quarterback

every bit of motivation, support my teammates and be jumping up and down. That's what I'm all about, I'm just ready."

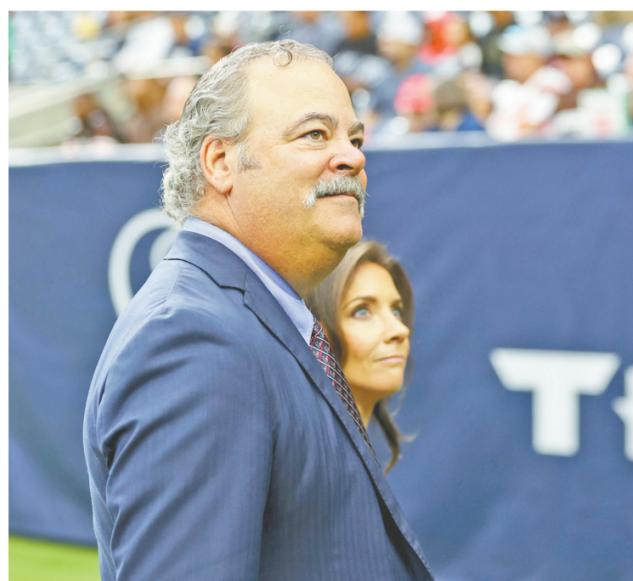
The duo will help make up the new core of the Texans, as they try to come back from three down seasons and become a competitive team again.

The trade was a big one but with the amount of draft picks the Texans have, as they entered draft night with 12 picks. Houston gave up the No. 12 overall pick in the draft as well as the 33rd overall pick, while sending a first and

third round and 2024 to the Cardinals. The Texans brought back the 104th pick in the draft along with the third.

Houston Texans and Seattle Seahawks fans cheer during the first half of an NFL game between the Seahawks and the Texans on December 12, 2021 in Houston, Texas. Houston Texans chairman and CEO Cal McNair on the field before the start of an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 4, 2022, in Houston. The Browns won, 27-14.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN



# Atlanta Falcons draft Texas running back Bijan Robinson



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

The Atlanta Falcons drafted Texas running back Bijan Robinson with the eighth overall pick in the first round of the 2023 NFL Draft on Thursday night.

BY ZACH SMITH  
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Hopefully they like their mustard extra spicy in Atlanta.

The Atlanta Falcons drafted Texas running back Bijan Robinson with the eighth overall pick in the first round of the 2023 NFL Draft on Thursday night.

"Bijan is a really special player," Texas head coach Steve Sarkisian said. "As I've said all along, he's a better human being than football player, which is hard for a lot of guys when you're that talented."

Robinson is the 45th Texas player to be selected in the first round, and the first since Malcolm Brown was picked with the 32nd pick in 2015. He is the first Longhorns running back to be a first-round pick since Cedric Benson in 2005.

He played in 31 games in his three seasons with Texas, ranking fourth in school history with 3,410 rushing yards and 41 total touchdowns (His 33 rushing touchdowns are third-most in program history).

Robinson has 60 receptions for 805 yards and eight touchdowns,

good for third all-time by a Texas running back.

"He checks all the boxes," Sarkisian said. "The Atlanta Falcons are getting a uniquely versatile player. He can run between the tackles, run outside the tackles, make people miss in tight quarters — he's got great contact balance, is an excellent receiver, and has a high football IQ. You name it, he's got it."

Last season, he ranked fifth nationally in rushing touchdowns (18), all-purpose yards (157.83 ypg) and scoring (10.0 ppg), sixth in rushing yards (1,580) and rushing yards per game (131.7) and eighth in total points scored (120), while leading the Big 12 in each category.

Robinson won the Doak Walker Award for the top running back in college football and was a unanimous All-American selection.

"He'll be an awesome teammate, great in their locker room, tremendous in the community and just someone that they'll be so proud of to have in their organization," Sarkisian said. "We absolutely love him so much here and can't wait to watch him in the NFL."

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# Cinco Ranch surges past Seven Lakes, stays tied for district lead

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch has confidence no matter the situation they are in.

The Cougars have found ways to win no matter their circumstances this season — whether it's with pitching, defense, small ball or offensive prowess.

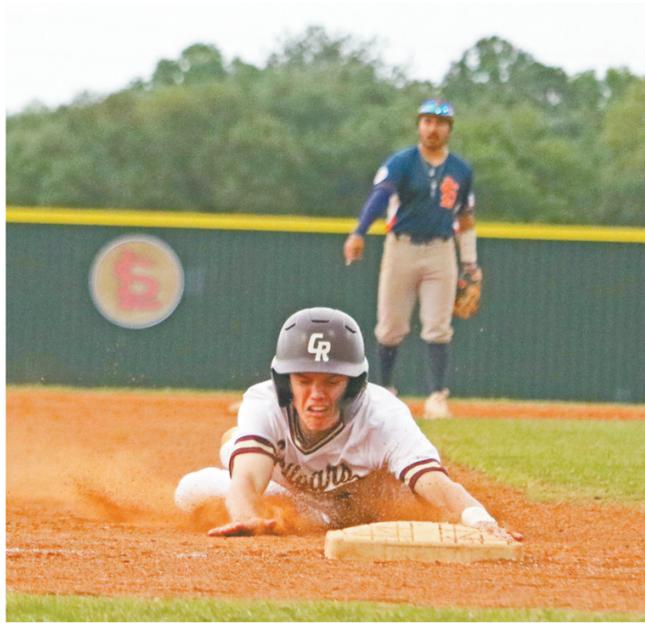
It's made them a tough team to beat and it's shown throughout the season, as the Cougars have garnered a 26-4 record while going 13-2 in District 19-6A play to lead the way in Katy ISD. That confidence and firepower was on full display Tuesday, as the Cougars beat Seven Lakes 11-7 despite not having their best game and stayed atop the district standings along with Tompkins.

"The biggest thing for us is there's always someone who can step up," said senior outfielder Charlie Atkinson. "If someone isn't having their best day, we know that someone else will pick that up and come through. That's why we're such a good team — there's always the next guy and we have a ton of them."

Seven Lakes struck first in the game when Taylor Tiedt drove in a run on a bunt single in the second inning, but Cinco Ranch's bats weren't going to be silenced for long. The Cougars came alive in the bottom of the third and after two runners reached, Gavin Rutherford hit a three-run home run to give the Cougars the lead, and after another runner reached, Atkinson came to the plate and hit a two-run bomb as the Cougars went up 5-1.

Things stayed that way until the fifth inning, when Seven Lakes answered back. The Spartans got a run across on a wild pitch before Paden Reynolds drove in a run on a single. Miguel Acosta brought in two more runs with a single and an error allowed yet another run to come across before Ty Berra capped off the inning with a single, driving in another to make it 7-5 Spartans.

"It was probably the sloppiest



TYLER TYRE

Brock DeYoung slides into third base during Tuesday's District 19-6A game between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at the Cinco Ranch baseball field.

game we played defensively all year, but it wasn't a bad defensive game," said Cinco Ranch head coach Brett Wallace. "Seven Lakes did a great job with small ball tonight and they made hits, but our guys stepped up when they needed to and made sure we came away with the win."

Cinco tied the game in the bottom of the fifth, as Logan Sosolik drove in a run on a single and Ranier Castillo tied it when he was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. The Cougars couldn't get anything more across in the fifth, but they loaded the bases up again in the sixth and Atkinson made Seven Lakes pay by hitting a grand slam, putting the Cougars up by four as they would hold it the rest of the way.

Logan Sosolik earned the win for Cinco Ranch after coming on in relief. He pitched 2.2 innings of

scoreless ball, allowing two hits and striking out one.

"We just have guys that will find a way to win and you have to find a way to win in every aspect of the game," Atkinson said. "We were able to do that tonight with our relief pitching and offensively, but we also have to be able to move runners over and play small ball as well. That's just how we continue to win is by doing it in different ways."

The Cougars closed out district play with a win Friday, clinching a share of the District 19-6A championship along with Tompkins.

"It's huge for us," Atkinson said. "Everyone knows what a district championship would mean for us and that's been our goal. But the most important thing for us is to just win the game that's in front of us every day and go 1-0 every time we go out there. We just have to do that same thing on Friday."



PHOTOS COURTESY KATY ISD

Ananya Sriniketh won a silver medal at the UIL Class 6A State Tennis Tournament.

# Tompkins' Sriniketh takes silver at state tennis tournament

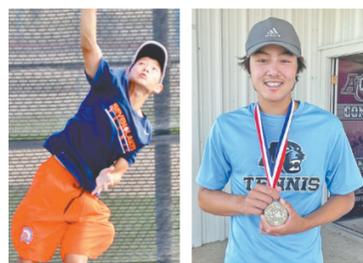
BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins' Ananya Sriniketh made a run all the way to the state final in this week's Class 6A Tennis Tournament.

Sriniketh dominated her way to the state title match, beating her first opponent 6-1, 6-2 before taking down Maya Chen from Edinburg North 6-3, 6-0 in the state semifinals. Her run came to an end in the finals though, falling to Bellaire's Catherine Shen 6-1, 6-2 to give Sriniketh the silver medal from the tournament.

Sriniketh was the only Katy ISD athlete to make it on the girls side but was joined by two players on the boys side.

Allan Xu made state out of the regional tournament and got to experience the opening round before falling to Westwood's Marko Mesarovic 6-2, 6-1. Paetow's Ethan Everk also made the state tournament, but fell in the first round to Harlan's Lathan Skrobarcek 6-3, 6-3.



Allan Xu made the state tennis tournament for Seven Lakes.

Ethan Everk made the state tennis tournament for Paetow.

**Teacher of the Year 2023**

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