

KATY FALLS TO ATASOCITA IN LAST NON-DISTRICT GAME
SPORTS | B1

Katy Times

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VOLUME 111, ISSUE 36

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Students from several area high schools including Katy, Mayde Creek and Cinco Ranch, protested outside Katy ISD's offices at 6301 S. Stadium Drive, Katy, for three afternoons August 30th, August 31st and September 1st. Between 20 and 25 students participated each day, according to organizers.

LGBTQ+ students protest gender policy outside KISD

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Draped in rainbow flags and holding signs, students from several area high schools stood outside Katy ISD headquarters for three afternoons in over 100-degree heat to protest the new "gender fluidity" policy approved by the KISD Board of Trustees at its August 28th meeting.

Between 20 and 25 students participated in the protest each afternoon,

which started around 3:30 p.m. and continued for about two hours. The students stood along FM 1463, chanting and displaying their signs and encouraging passing motorists to honk in support of their cause.

At intervals, the students chanted in unison: "We're here! We're queer! And we won't disappear!"

Organizer Jasey Mouton, a cisgender student at Katy High School, said that she created the event in order to help

people affected by the district's new policy and to give them a place to share their frustrations.

Participant Kadence Carter from Mayde Creek High School, who prefers the pronouns "he/him," said, "This is not as simple as it seems." Carter was one of the speakers during the public comments portion of the August 28th school board meeting, prior to the vote being

See **PROTEST**, page A3

Igloo celebrates new distribution facility opening in Waller County

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Igloo officials and local dignitaries celebrated the opening of Igloo's newest distribution center at 1519 Woods Road, Brookshire, with a ribbon cutting and tour of the building on Tuesday, August 29th.

The new facility will serve as a distribution center where products are housed prior to fulfillment for the company's customers, retailers and wholesalers. Strategically located less than three miles away from Igloo's headquarters in Katy, and with easy access to I-10 for logistical reasons, the two buildings at the new facility equal a combined 1,072,393 square feet.

The Katy Times was unable to confirm by press time the details on the number and kinds of jobs added at the facility.

Local dignitaries attending the ribbon cutting included Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher, who represents Texas's 7th congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives; Dusty Thiele, mayor of the City of Katy; Chris Harris, mayor pro

See **IGLOO**, page A3



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Congresswoman Lizzie Fletcher joins Josh Militello, Igloo's President/Domestic Mobile Cooling, in celebrating the opening of Igloo's newest distribution center in Brookshire.



Igloo officially celebrated the opening of its newest distribution facility at 1519 Woods Road in Brookshire with a ribbon cutting on August 29th.
COURTESY OF IGLOO



PHOTO COURTESY NANCY WALLACE

Elementary school student Annie Wallace started a "little library" at her home in order to provide access to books that are no longer available at her school library.

Student creates "little library" in the wake of KISD book ban

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Ten-year-old Annie Wallace loves to read and looks forward to the school's Texas Bluebonnet book program each year. This year, the Katy ISD school board will not allow her access to these books at school.

"The Bluebonnet books, and all other new books, are in 'book jail' with no clear time for release," said Nancy Wallace, who is Annie's mom. "My daughter decided she wanted to do something about this. She imagined a library at our house where the Bluebonnet books and any

kid books could be shared with friends and kids who want to read."

"She asked me to purchase the books, and she created a shelf for our porch," Wallace continued. "She stocked it with books she's read and

See **LIBRARY**, page A3

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City of Katy pleads for compliance with water restrictions

FROM STAFF REPORTS

As the City of Katy remains in a Level 3 drought situation, city officials pleaded with area residents to conserve water, via a department Facebook post on August 25th.

"COOPERATION IS KEY TO HELP OUR WATER SYSTEM: IT IS CRITICAL FOR EVERYONE to follow your watering schedule," said the post.

The watering schedule may be viewed here: www.cityofkaty.com/water-conservation.

Those NOT in compliance will be sent a notice that could result in a fine or loss of water service, according to the statement on Facebook.

The city asked for help in identifying policy violators; the city may be notified through www.cityofkaty.com/waterviolation or by emailing droughtviolations@cityofkaty.com.

"The City of Katy is beyond grateful for all those doing their



- LACK OF IRRIGATION COMPLIANCE IS PUTTING AN ONGOING STRAIN ON OUR WATER SYSTEMS
- THOSE NOT IN COMPLIANCE WILL BE SUBJECT TO FINE OR LOSS OF WATER SERVICE
- FOLLOW YOUR WATER SCHEDULE/REPORT VIOLATIONS
www.cityofkaty.com/water-conservation for schedule



- IRRIGATION OF LAWNS/LANDSCAPING IS PROHIBITED ON ANY OTHER DAYS.
- COMPLIANCE IS NECESSARY FOR THE HEALTH & SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY.

part, but the continued strain on our water systems from irrigation continues," said the August 25th post on Facebook. "Do your part and be water smart!!"

Mandatory Restrictions for Residents/Businesses:

- Limit landscape watering

to the "Twice Per Week Water Schedule"

- Exception: Foundations, new plantings (first year trees and shrubs) may be watered for up to two hours on any day by a hand-held hose or a soaker hose without restrictions

Two days per week watering schedule

(12 a.m. to 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.)

- Last Digit of Address Allowed Landscape Watering Days:
 - Even Number (0,2,4,6,8)
- Sunday and Thursday
 - Odd Number (1,3,5,7,9)
- Saturday and Wednesday
 - Commercial, HOA, Greenspace, Right-of-Way Tuesday and Friday
 - Monday- No Watering (Storage Recovery Days)
 - Prohibit hosing of paved areas, buildings, windows, and any hard-surfaced areas
 - Prohibit operation of ornamental fountains
 - Prohibit washing or rinsing of vehicles by hose
 - Prohibit using water in such a manner as to allow runoff or other waste
 - Prohibit draining and filling of new and existing pools
 - Prohibit establishment of new landscaping

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sugar Plum Market tickets now on sale

Get ready to kick off the holiday season – and holiday shopping – because tickets for the 2023 Sugar Plum Market are now on sale. The 22nd annual Sugar Plum Market, presented by Fort Bend Junior Service League (FBJSJL) and Title Sponsor Memorial Hermann Sugar Land, will take place November 2nd through 4th, with the special Preview Night held on November 1st. The Sugar Plum Market is the largest, all volunteer and oh so festive holiday shopping extravaganza that features unique items from more than 100 vendors from across Texas. Market days times are Thursday, November 2nd from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, November 3rd from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, November 4th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The extravaganza will take place at the Stafford Center | Performing Arts Theater & Convention Center 10505 Cash Rd in Stafford. For more information, go to sugarplummarket.com/market-days/

Texana Café to host Fall Festival September 9th

Join the team at Texana Café's Fall Festival for food, games and fun from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on September 9th. The café is located at 7440 FM 359 South in Fulshear. Texana Café's mission is to make and serve exceptional food while supporting meaningful employment for neurodiverse individuals. For more information, go to texanacafe.com.

Katy autism therapy center hosts activity day, family resource fair on September 9th

National ABA therapy provider Centria Autism will be hosting an Activity Day & Parent Resource Fair at their Katy Life Skills Autism Academy (LSAA) location on Saturday, September 9th, from 2 to 5 p.m. for local children with autism and their families. LSAA has partnered with local organizations that provide specialized services for children with autism – these organizations will have booths on-



PHOTO COURTESY LACENTERRA

The Car Culture Show featuring exotic, classic and luxury cars will take place September 10 at LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch.

site for parents to learn about what support is available to their child, while their children enjoy playing without judgement through a wide array of sensory-friendly activities, including sensory bins, water tables, a bounce house, trampoline, jungle gym, face painter, balloon artist and much more. LSAA is located at 610 Katy Fort Bend Road in Katy.

Support young entrepreneurs and bring your pet to Katy Family Market Day at MKT on September 9th

Come out and support young entrepreneurs who are just starting their businesses – kids and adults alike – at Katy Family Market Day at MKT Distillery, 5373 First Street, Katy. The outdoor event is from 5 to 9 p.m. and will feature pet nail trims as a fundraiser for Cuddle Buddies Rescue and Mutts and Meows Rescue – pets welcome! For information, contact katyfamilymarket@gmail.com.

Car Culture Show roars into LaCenterra on September 10th

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch

is gearing up to welcome car enthusiasts from across the region at its Car Culture Show happening September 10th. The event will have over 100 exotic, classic and luxury cars on display for community members to check out while enjoying live music from a DJ. Car enthusiasts interested in displaying their cars can register at <https://www.thecarculture.org/pages/the-car-culture-shifted>. First come first serve spots will be available for cars that are not signed up for VIP or that do not want to be locked in during the event. The show will take place from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch near Alamo Draft House, World of Beer and Bar Louie, 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy.

Katy AARP Chapter Meeting September 12th

The Katy chapter of AARP will meet Tuesday, September 12th, at Midway BBQ, 6191 Highway Blvd in Katy. The event will start at 6:30 p.m. with a short meeting and announcements. Afterwards, singer/songwriter Tanya Courey will perform. Tanya, who has performed with various country, bluegrass,

jazz, blues, and R&B groups, now performs solo or with her own band. Visitors are welcome. Allow time to purchase any food before the meeting starts. For more information, please contact Patty Phelps at pbpmd@aol.com.

Photography lighting class to take place on Sept. 18th at Cinco Ranch Library

Fort Bend County Libraries' Cinco Ranch Branch Library will present "Photography 104: Lighting" on Monday, September 18, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, in the Multipurpose Room of the library, located at 2620 Commercial Center Blvd in Katy. During this hands-on workshop for photographers of all skill levels, professional photographer Bryan Bankston will provide a detailed demonstration of lighting techniques for different photographic effects.

Discover how various lighting options – such as professional strobe lights, LED lights, and even unconventional options such as flashlights and glow sticks – can have different effects. The class is free and open to the public. For more information, see Fort Bend

County Libraries' website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us)

"IGNITE" women's conference scheduled for September 23rd

Westland Baptist church will host the IGNITE Women's Conference featuring national author and Christian speaker Robyn Dykstra on September 23rd from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will provide a rich worship experience, refresh the soul, ignite the passion within and generate a belly laugh or two. Tickets are \$70.00. The conference will be held at the Westland Baptist Church location at 1407 W Grand Pkwy South in Katy. To register or for more information, go to <https://westland.breezechms.com/form/8d6070664>.

Clothed by Faith celebrates 10th anniversary with a "Night at the Ballpark"

Local nonprofit Clothed by Faith, which provides gently used clothing to those in need in the Houston area, will celebrate its 10th anniversary with "Hope at the Ballpark" on September 23rd at 6 p.m. Join the group to watch the Space Cowboys play at Constellation Field in Sugar Land at 2023 Constellation Field Drive. Tickets are \$75.00 for the Club Section and there is a \$1500.00 VIP package available. For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/>

Cross Creek West saddles up for Trail of Treats Oct. 21

All Cross Creek West trails will end in fun, sweets and treats during a Western-themed Trail of Treats, 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21. The free event is an opportunity for guests to explore the Fulshear community's trail system and model homes while enjoying a hoedown featuring inflatables, a food truck, photo opportunities and more. Builders will be handing out candy and other treats to young buckaroos at their model homes.

For more information about Cross Creek West, visit www.crosscreekwesttx.com.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Second sight
- Standard electrode potential
- Type of gibbon
- John Joseph __: American industrialist
- Manning and Whitney are two
- Abrupt
- Baroque musical instrument
- Post-burning residue
- When you hope to arrive
- Sign up (Brit. Eng.)
- Sun up in New York
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Where people live
- Method to record an electrogram
- Angry
- No longer living
- Simple
- Swiss river
- Portion of a play
- It's under the tree
- Wood sorrels
- No (Scottish)
- Dialect of English
- Former Steelers' QB
- Popular beer
- It can make you sick

CLUES DOWN

- Tropical tree and fruit
- Company officer
- Contact lens term
- Your consciousness of your own identity
- "Ghetto Superstar" singer
- Piece of turf
- Number of players on each side in a football game
- Containing salt
- Reasoning or knowledge: a __
- Car mechanics group
- Leave a place
- Southern Colombian capital
- Old English letter
- Tide
- Walk heavily
- Chemical compound (abbr.)
- Artificial openings
- Luteinizing hormone
- Unit of energy
- Circular movement of water
- A way of holding
- Popular book of words (abbr.)
- States' group

27. Dashes

28. Body part

29. Electronic countermeasures

31. Consumed

32. Small bird

33. Unhappy

34. Football's big game (abbr.)

35. Valued object offered in good faith

36. Wild goats

37. Precede in place

38. Small edible fish

39. Notice of death

40. Body cavity of a metazoan

44. Partner to cheese

47. Not around

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Protestors lined the intersection of Stadium Drive and FM 1463 and encouraged passing motorists to honk in solidarity with their cause; the protestors were met with support as well as opposition from passersby, said the students.

PROTEST

from page A1

taken on the policy.

"This could take a big step into transgender genocide," he said. Carter said that he had already been affected by the new policy, which requires that he be called by the name on his birth certificate rather than the name he prefers. Carter added that he was thinking of dropping out of KISD because of the policy and its ramifications, and instead finishing his education with a GED from an online school.

Alastair Parker of Cinco Ranch High School also reported already being affected by the new policy, citing an increase in bullying by other students. "I've been called a slur three or four times today in the school hallways, and that's never happened before," Parker said. "It's important for everyone to come out to things like this and support us. A lot of people from my school don't feel safe coming to an event like this."

Duckie Frederickson expressed concerns that the new policy would lead to increased homelessness, suicides and cases of abuse among local LGBTQ students, as well as low self-esteem and other mental health issues.

Katy ISD's police were onsite to ensure the students' safety, protestors said. One



Jacey Mouton, a Katy High School student, said on Friday that she organized the three-day protest to help people affected by KISD's new "gender fluidity" policy and to give them a place to share their frustrations.

student reported that "bullies from Katy High School" had come to the protest on Thursday to try to threaten and intimidate the participants, but that Katy ISD police asked the boys to leave and that they did so.

The "gender fluidity" policy requires that students be addressed by pronouns corresponding to the sex assigned on their birth certificates, rather than pronouns preferred by the student, unless the parent gives written permission. However, teachers and staff do not have to comply with use of the requested pronouns if they choose not to use them, even if the parent has given permission. Per the

policy, parents must also be notified by district personnel if the student has requested being addressed by different pronouns.

The policy also requires that students used the restrooms which are assigned to the biological sex assigned at birth; transgender students are prohibited from competing in sports on a team not corresponding to the biological sex assigned at birth.

The policy also restricts district employees from teaching gender fluidity in the classroom or using instructional materials that relate to gender fluidity.

IGLOO

from page A1

tem for the City of Katy; Angie Thomason, president and CEO of the Katy Area EDC; Vanessa Wheelless of the Katy Area EDC; Paul Kurt, chairman of the Katy Area EDC; Karla DeCuir, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management, University of Houston/Victoria at Katy; and Jay Donnella of Christ Clinic.

Igloo is involved within the local community from schools to children's centers, having recently donated several thousand hydration products to the Upreach Krause's Children's Center and Bryant Elementary School in addition to working with the Dan Pastorini Charity that supports severely disabled children.

LIBRARY

from page A1

wants to share, and we put a post in our neighborhood Facebook page inviting customers. Books are free and we encourage kids to 'take one and share one.'

The Katy Elementary School student started the program on August 29th and so far, the response from the neighborhood in Pine Lakes has been positive, said Wallace.

CORRECTIONS

■ In the August 31st edition of the Katy Times, the photo caption on page A6 incorrectly identified the company represented by Kevin Drury. Drury works for Enerconnex, not Reflective Energy.

■ In the August 31st edition of the Katy Times on page A3, the first reference to the Grapevine-Colleyville ISD was spelled incorrectly.

The Times regrets these errors.



HELPING THE GREATER KATY AREA GROW - CAREFULLY AND RESPONSIBLY

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Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 199 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 10:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	W. Stewart, J. Glazer, M. Junell & P. Huinker
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	M. Wilson

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year*	This Year*
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$ 0.600/\$100</u> Adopted	<u>\$ 0.700/\$100</u> Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	<u>\$0.100 /\$100</u>	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	<u>0.0000%</u>	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 0	\$ 0
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 0	\$ 0
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>\$0.00</u> <u>0.0000%</u>	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

* There were NO residential homesteads for comparison purposes.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 25 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday September 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Administration Building, located at 10347 Clodine Road, Richmond, Texas, 77407. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Glenn Farley, Escoto Thomas, Brain Addicks, Dan Turner, Jeffery Williams
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.87000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.85400 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$-0.01600 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-1.84%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$303,256.00	\$335,897.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$303,256.00	\$335,897.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,638.33	\$2,868.56
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$230.23 8.73%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

Briones, Rosenthal offer legislative update at town hall

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

A crowd of over 60 residents gathered at the Richard and Meg Weekly Community Center on August 22nd to hear an update on the 2023 legislative session from Texas House District 135 Representative Jon Rosenthal and Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones.

Briones spoke first, addressing what she termed a "paradigm shift" in the Precinct 4 commissioner's office. Previously, she said, funds were spent in unincorporated areas of the county rather than in parts of the county that fall within the City of Houston. "My

philosophy is that if you pay taxes, you deserve service," she said. Briones focused on the development of partnership programs between her office and other governmental entities. "Fundamentally, I believe that we are stronger together," she said. The Westpark Tollway expansion project is an example of such a partnership initiative, she said.

Public safety was a top concern, and Briones spoke about the creation of six new additional courts and about the "tele-deputy" program which frees up officers to respond to the most critical incidents. Briones also described the creation of a retention incentive program for detention officers, which



is designed to slow attrition in those positions.

Rosenthal outlined his efforts to draft and pass bills in the 88th legislative session. He was successful in getting HB 1457 passed, which requires military cultural competency training for state grant recipients that provide mental health services to veterans or veterans' families.

He also presented a recap of other bills that passed that he categorized as "good bills" and "bad bills." "Good bills" included two sponsored by Senator Joan Huffman - SB10 which provides



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Jon Rosenthal (left), who represents Texas House District 135, met with constituents in a town hall forum on August 22 for an update on the 2023 legislative session including the impact of several bills becoming effective on September 1st. He was joined by Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones, left.

\$5 billion for a 13th check and a cost-of-living adjustment for retired teachers, and SB379 which exempts family care, maternity, menstrual and postpartum products from taxation. "Bad bills" included SB 15, which bans the participation of transgender athletes from college-level athletic teams and competitions. Rosenthal said that there were only 17 transgender athletes in the entire state of Texas.

Rosenthal noted that there would likely be another special session of the legislature, this time in October, in order to address issues of school finance and other education-related issues. He said that the excess funds in the state budget might be used to increase the basic "per student" allotment for school districts, in order to increase funding.

Rosenthal reminded attendees that the general

election will be November 7th and that the ballot will contain the property tax package which must be approved by voters.

Questions for the elected officials which were posed by the audience including queries on school vouchers, clarification on the proposed property tax and its impact on senior citizens and coordination of flood control efforts, among others.

KATY CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

W. Mark Lanier
FRIDAY SEPT 17 2023
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7 AM at Church on the Rock, 433 Barker Cypress Road, 77094
Register at <https://katychristianchamber.com>

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.430000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Katy.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.430000 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.407102 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.437545 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Katy from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Katy may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Katy is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 25, 2023 AT 6:30 pm AT Katy City Hall.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Katy is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the City Council of City of Katy at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal: Chris Harris, Mayor Pro Tem/Councilmember At-Large
Janet Corte, Councilmember Ward A
Dan Smith, Councilmember Ward A
Gina Hicks, Councilmember Ward B
Rory Robertson, Councilmember Ward B

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: William H. "Dusty" Thiele, Mayor

ABSENT: None

Visit [Texas.gov/Property Taxes](https://www.texas.gov/Property-Taxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Katy last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Katy this year.

	2022	2023	Change
Total Tax Rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.440000	\$0.430000	decrease of -0.010000, or -2.27%
Average homestead taxable value	\$290,161	\$326,738	increase of 36,577, or 12.61%
Tax on average homestead	\$1,276.71	\$1,404.97	increase of 128.26, or 10.05%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$20,696,563	\$22,020,690	increase of 1,324,127, or 6.40%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Katy at 281-341-3710 or FBCTaxInfo@fortbendcountytexas.gov, or visit www.fbctx.gov for more information.

Inaugural Festival of One celebrates debut at Epicenter

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The inaugural Fort Bend County Festival of One took place on Saturday, August 26, at the newly opened Epicenter in Rosenberg, with a turnout of over 2,500 attendees.

The Festival, hosted and organized by Fort Bend County Judge KP George and Fort Bend County District Attorney Brian Middleton's Expose Excellence Youth Program, offered a day of fun-filled activities, live entertainment, and community engagement. "Over 40 vendors signed up to participate in this event. We really tried to look at the services that we could provide that would benefit the community," stated Fort Bend County Judge KP George. "This festival is about unity and community."

The Epicenter, a 230,000-square-foot, state-

of-the-art multiplex, provided the perfect backdrop for this event, which was free and open to the public. Attendees were treated to a wide range of attractions, including health screenings, games, face painting, and live performances that captivated individuals of all ages.

Over 250 health screenings and services were provided by Fort Bend County Clinical Health Services and Social Services. The screenings included chronic disease, blood pressure, A1c checks, nutrition counseling sessions, vaccinations, and dental screenings.

The Festival of One allowed guests to indulge in a variety of entertainment options, including performances by artists such as Jay Xavier, American Asian Leadership Council Fashion Show, Bollywood Dancing Stars Dance Company, Tiger J. Kim's Taekwondo, Tropical

Rhythms, Ny'Aira, The One Dance Studio Houston, and Future Stars of Houston.

A highlight of the event was the talent contest hosted by the Expose Excellence Youth Program, showcasing talented finalists between the ages of 10 and 17. The winners, Serena Nguyen in the 10-13 category and Kayli Martin in the 14-17, category took home the grand prize of \$500 each.

One of the Festival's initiatives was its commitment to the community's well-being. As part of the back-to-school preparations, students were offered complimentary haircuts and hair braiding services in preparation for the school year.

Event sponsors included Stonehenge Holdings, Ibn Sina Foundation, FSG Group, Estrada Hinojosa Investment Bankers, Johnson Development, and Houston Dynamo.



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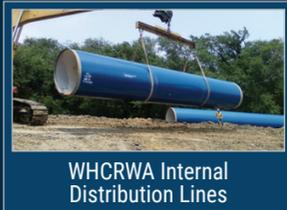
Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion Project



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ADDRESS: P.O. Box 678, Katy, Texas, 77492-0678
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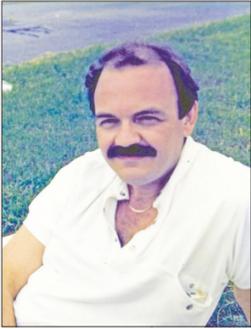
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TRIBUTES



JOHN "LARRY" MOONEYHAN
1954-2023

Larry Mooneyhan passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and friends on Tuesday, August 29, 2023, at St. Joan's Care Home in Cypress, Texas, at the age of 69 years.

Larry Mooneyhan was born on July 27, 1954, in Houston, Mississippi to John Edgar and Lois Elaine (Buchanan) Mooneyhan. He attended school in Pontotoc, Mississippi, graduating from Pontotoc High School in 1972. Larry worked in manufacturing most of his life.

He married the love of his life, Janie, in April 1982. Their life journey took them from Pontotoc and Tupelo, Mississippi, to Conyers, Georgia, then to their adopted

hometown of Katy, Texas, where they have resided for the past 25 years. Larry loved the Texas lifestyle and all that came with it. That included his cows, horses, gardening and many dogs. A master electrician and a talented handyman, Larry could fix almost anything. He was an excellent cook and loved seeing others enjoy the food he prepared.

The family would like to thank the staff at Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital, MD Anderson Cancer Center of Houston, the staff at St. Joan's Care Home and Houston Hospice for the care and compassion given Larry during his illness. An extra special thank you to family

friend Barbara Oswald who helped us through this difficult time.

Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife of 41 years, Janie Mooneyhan of Katy, Texas; three sisters, Betty Jenkins, Linda Bond and Brenda Seal and her husband Riley, all of Pontotoc, Mississippi; a brother, Jimmy Mooneyhan, his wife Jean and son, Jason and wife Jojo of Tupelo, Mississippi; he was a special and much-loved uncle to 6 nieces, 4 nephews, 8 great-nieces and 2 great-nephews; he will also be missed by his loyal canine companion, Max.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents, Ed and Lois Mooney-

han; a brother, Tommy Mooneyhan; a sister, Perla Ferguson; 3 brother-in-laws, JR Ferguson, Mark Bond and Herbert Jenkins; niece, Rita Royce; great-niece, Connie Royce; and nephew, Dr. Nicky Ferguson.

A Celebration of Larry's life will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 6, 2023 in Schmidt Funeral Home Grand Parkway Chapel, in Katy, Texas, with Chaplain Devin Atherstone officiating. A second Celebration of Life will be held in his hometown of Pontotoc, Mississippi, at a later date.

Schmidt Funeral Home
1344 W. Grand Parkway South ~ Katy, Texas 77494 ~ (281) 391-2424

Darlene Alcorn, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2023, at the age of 88. She was born on November 12, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois, to Anthony Paul Demith and Florence Emma Seidler. Sister to Irene, Robert, Raymond, Richard, and Ronald; Darlene grew up in Cook County, Illinois, where she developed the strong values and qualities that would define her life.

On March 8, 1957, Darlene married the love of her life, Lester Alcorn, in Lockport, Illinois. Darlene was a woman of many talents and passions. She was an accomplished crafter, finding joy in crocheting blankets for her family and friends. Her



DARLENE ALCORN
1934-2023

baking was memorable, with her famous banana bread being a favorite. She also had a penchant for old movies and the thrill of the casino.

Darlene had a sweet and thoughtful demeanor,

combined with a strong work ethic that inspired those around her. Her sense of humor could brighten the darkest of days, and her sincerity and consideration for others left an indelible impact on everyone she encountered. Her laughter and smiles were authentic and could light up any room.

After a dedicated 30-year career as a head custodian at Memorial Parkway Elementary in Katy ISD, Darlene retired and transitioned into another meaningful chapter of her life. She spent several years caring for the children of Cornerstone Presbyterian Church, nurturing their growth and sharing her love generously.

Darlene is survived by her

children, William J. Alcorn and his spouse Suzanne, Gerald A. Alcorn and his spouse Monica, and Darlene Ann Alcorn; grandchildren, Jeff, Jerry, Joshua, Brandon, Brent, Heather, and Aaron; and great grandchildren, Anthony, Rilyn, and Kamryn. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were a source of immense joy and pride for her.

She is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Lester Alcorn; and her son, Lester Alcorn Jr.

At this time, no services are scheduled.

Funeral services held under the direction of **Schmidt Funeral Home** 1344 W. Grand Parkway South ~ Katy, Texas 77494 ~ (281) 391-2424

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Cinco Ranch Branch Library announces children's programs

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Libraries' Cinco Ranch Branch Library, 2620 Commercial Center Boulevard in Katy, will present a variety of free children's programs – Family Story Time, Pajama Night Story Time, After-School Breaks, and others – throughout the month of September.

During Family Story Time and Pajama Night Story Time, families with children of all ages will enjoy stories, songs, and action rhymes. Craft packets will be given out at the end of each program, so that children may take them home to enjoy.

Family Story Time takes place on Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning at 10:15 and 11:30 am, in the Meeting Room. Families with children of all ages will enjoy stories, songs, and action rhymes. The

schedule of Family Story Time activities is as follows:

- September 13 and 14 – Space
- September 20 and 21 – Five Senses
- September 27 and 28 – Dance Party

Pajama Night Story Time – an evening alternative for families unable to attend during the day – will take place on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, from 6:00 to 6:30 pm. The program date is September 19, and the theme will be “Five Senses.”

Family Fun Night will take place on the 2nd and 4th Mondays (September 11 and 25), from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, in the Meeting Room. Families with children of all ages are invited to an evening of games, building challenges, and more.

In addition to the family activities for all

ages, the Cinco Ranch Branch Library also offers age-specific programs, with activities specially designed for different ages and stages of development.

- Mother Goose Time -- for pre-walking infants from age 1 month to 12 months – takes place on Tuesdays, from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m. This activity provides caregiver/infant multisensory circle-time activities -- including simple sign language, folksongs and lullabies, and finger plays -- that are especially designed to stimulate babies' social, emotional, and physical development through rhythm and music. Attendance is limited and registration for this event is required.

- “After-School Break: Fossils” will take place on Wednesday, September 20, from 4:30 to 5:00 pm, in Meeting Room 2. This activity is for students in grades 1 through

5. Students will learn about ancient life and fossils. Discover what makes a fossil, how fossilization happens, and dig up some fossils.

- Creative Connections – activities for school-aged children in grades 4 through 8 – will take place on the 1st and 3rd Thursday, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. The schedule of activities is as follows:

- September 7 – Typing Class. This class will take place in the Computer Lab and registration is required.
- September 21 – STEM Challenge.

These programs are free and open to the public. For more information, or to register for the Typing Class, see the Fort Bend County Libraries website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us).

Medical Assistant program appeals to Katy second-career college students

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

HOUSTON — Isaias Fajardo of Katy, a former business manager for his father's headstone business, decided to seek a new profession six months ago. He sought a stable profession that would benefit himself as well as his family members.

“People in my family look to me to be a provider and a helper. Their dependence on me is what motivated me, and it pushes me to keep going,” Fajardo said.

For Fajardo, working as a medical assistant will give him an edge in the job market and prepare him for a nursing career.

“As someone who has no medical experience, I'm taking stepping stones into the medical profession,” Fajardo said. “I'd like to start off as a medical assistant and then enter a bridge program to become a registered nurse.”

He will graduate from HCC Coleman College in May 2024.

Shams Zerín of Katy received a scholarship from Amazon, where she works as an associate and learning ambassador in Inventory Control & Quality Assurance. She chose to invest the funds on a healthcare career and is now a new Medical Assistant student at HCC Coleman College.

“The Medical Assistant program is cost-effective and appeals to individuals who want to enter the healthcare field quickly,” Zerín said. “The work-life balance is also more manageable compared to other healthcare roles that may require longer shifts or irregular hours.”

Zerín intends to continue her education and earn a bachelor's and master's degree in a related health occupation. In the future,



PHOTO COURTESY OF HCC

Medical assistant programs at HCC offer career change options for adult students.

she intends to introduce a “one dollar medi service.”

“My dream is to put together a team that can provide basic healthcare and first aid in communities,” Zerín said. “This timely support can help prevent sudden death and severe illness to people who cannot afford the rising cost of medical care.”

“Healthcare careers, particularly those that involve direct patient care, are always in high demand, especially here in the Texas Medical Center,” said Cynthia Lundgren, Medical Assistant program director at HCC Coleman College. “Most people can complete the Medical Assistant program in a year and start working right away. It's a good path into the healthcare field.”

To learn more about the HCC Medical Assistant program at the Alief Hayes, Missouri City or Coleman campus, visit hccs.edu/Medical-Assistant. To learn more about the full-time and part-time program options, email cynthia.lundgren@hccs.edu.

Teens earn volunteer-service hours at libraries' YA advisory councils

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Teens can earn volunteer-service hours by participating in Fort Bend County Libraries' Young Adult Advisory Councils, where they can express ideas, help organize upcoming activities, and suggest new programs and books that would be of interest to teens at the library.

The September schedule of Young Adult Advisory Council meetings is as follows:

- Cinco Ranch Branch Library – Wednesday, September 20, 4:00-5:00 pm, Conference Room.

In addition to the Young Adult Advisory Council meetings, Fort Bend County Libraries will offer the following programs for the teen community:

- YA Harry Potter Interactive Movie Night – Wednesday, September 27, 5:00-7:00 pm, Mission Bend Branch Library (8421 Addicks Clodine Road).

Celebrate the start of a new school year at Hogwarts! Teens are invited to wear their house colors while immersing

themselves in the world of Harry Potter, with goodies, props, and a trivia challenge during a brief intermission of the movie. The featured film, which is rated PG, is based on the first book in the popular series by J.K. Rowling. Registration required.

Fort Bend County Libraries offers programs specifically designed for high school-aged teens entering grades 9 through 12. The programs provide fun and challenging opportunities for these young adults, who are also encouraged to become active participants in designing and orchestrating new activities for teens in the library system.

The activities are free and open to the public. Some of the activities require registration. To register online at the library's website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), click on “Classes & Events,” select the library, and find the program on the date indicated. For more information, call the Cinco Ranch Branch Library (281-395-1311), the Mission Bend Branch Library (832-471-5900), or FBCL's Communications Office (281-633-4734).

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 57 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 10:00 A.M. at the office of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, STE 2600, Houston TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Bill Lyle, Randy Rodriguez, Gina Babineaux, Steve McConnell
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	Chris Tolle

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.82000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.76800 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.05200 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.34%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$423,931.00	\$470,196.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$423,931.00	\$470,196.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,476.23	\$3,611.11
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$134.87 3.88%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter – approval rate.

The voter approval tax rate is \$ 0.77391 and therefore, notwithstanding the above, no election is required.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

HEART OF KATY Market

KATY-HIGH SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 16TH 10:00AM-5:00PM
SEPTEMBER 17TH 12:00PM-5:00PM

FREE ADMISSION

Over 100 vendors with clothing, food, arts, crafts, treats, and MORE
Have lunch with us to support KBBC!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VENDOR?
PLEASE EMAIL HEARTOFKATYCRAFTSHOW@GMAIL.COM

WILLKOMMEN Y'ALL

OKTOBERFEST KTX 2023

SEPTEMBER 30

TYPHOON TEXAS WATERPARK
(5PM - 10PM)

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

- ▶ VIP PLATZ TICKETS
- ▶ BIER & FOOD
- ▶ CONTESTS/ENTERTAINMENT

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!
WWW.KTXOKTOBERFEST.COM/TICKETS

HCC Katy campus celebrates first anniversary



HCC-Katy President Dr. Zachary Hodges receives a special proclamation from Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele at HCC-Katy's first anniversary celebration.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Houston Community College celebrated the first birthday of their new Katy campus facility on August 29th with festivities held at 22910 Colonial Parkway, Katy. The event was emceed by State Representative Mike Schofield, who read a resolution in honor of the event. Mayor of Katy Dusty Thiele also read a special proclamation in honor of the day, which he presented to Dr. Zachary Hodges, president of HCC-Katy.

According to the college's website, the new year-old Katy campus offers transferable core classes days, evenings, and Saturdays. The state-of-the-art classrooms and labs provide a project-based focus in an innovative learning ecosystem including courses in Art + Design, Engineering, Music, and Studio Art. Katy is home to the Warren Bernard Itz Horticulture, Agriculture, and Environmental Studies program. It also offers workforce training in Cyber Security, Digital Information Systems, and Logistics & Supply Chain Management.

Through HCC's partnership with University of Houston-Victoria (UHV), students can "Start in Katy. Finish in Katy" by earning an associate degree



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MARGARET LANEY

Rep. Mike Schofield, who serves the Katy area in House District 132, emceed HCC-Katy's birthday party.

at HCC and transferring to UHV to earn a bachelor's degree in business, computer science, education, and other high demand fields. The Katy instructional site shared by University of Houston (UH) and UHV is located across the street from the HCC campus. Through the UH/HCC Engineering Academy at Katy, students are co-enrolled at both institutions and are official UH Engineering Cougars from the very first day.

For more information, go to <https://www.hccs.edu/locations/northwest-college/katy-campus/>

University of Houston pilot program aims to address teacher shortage

\$3.5 million grant from Houston Endowment supports training, increased mentoring for new teachers

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

HOUSTON -- Districts across the Gulf Coast had to scramble to fill thousands of teaching vacancies this fall, evidence of a critical problem facing Texas schools — fewer certified teachers are entering the profession, even as retirements and resignations have increased the need.

The College of Education at the University of Houston is launching an innovative solution, using a \$3.5 million grant from Houston Endowment to create a high-quality alternative certification program that combines key components of the college's nationally recognized traditional degree program with a shortened timeframe to get aspiring teachers into classrooms more quickly.

A pilot program began this summer, and the effort is ultimately expected to double the number of certified teachers produced by the College of Education.

"This is a way to fast-track the preparation of people who already hold a college degree, to help them become well-prepared to be in the classroom," said Dean Cathy Horn. "The practical reality is that we have, for the last several years, started the academic year with thousands of classrooms

being taught by long-term substitutes, by uncertified teachers or just empty, with students sent elsewhere. That means kids are starting school without the stability of a qualified teacher to set them up for success."

The teacher shortage is a statewide crisis, but the fast-growing Houston region warrants particular attention as it represents about a quarter of the state's school-age population, according to the Texas Demographic Center. Strengthening public schools is a priority for Houston Endowment.

"Our growing region employs more teachers than some entire states, such as Tennessee, making it critical that we open additional pathways to the profession, and teachers who are better prepared in a high-quality program are more likely to stay in the classroom," said Ann B. Stern, president and CEO of Houston Endowment. "We are proud to support this innovative program from UH, which will strengthen the pipeline of well-prepared and supported teachers and help us more quickly meet the demands of the teacher workforce."

UH's alternative certification program, or ACP, will distinguish itself with a commitment to high-quality, research-based preparation that involves strong partnerships with school districts. Participants, who must have a bachelor's degree, will benefit from intensive upfront training taught by college faculty, on-site coaching and support from an experienced mentor, and professional development

sessions throughout their first year in the classroom.

Jeremy Sapp, assistant director of leadership development in the Fort Bend Independent School District, said the district was pleased to partner with UH on the pilot alternative certification program and praised the focus on increased support for the new teachers.

"We thought it was a way to get quality teacher candidates," Sapp said. "We knew UH runs a quality program and produces quality teachers."

Participants spent three weeks on the UH campus before beginning work as the teacher of record — earning a first-year teacher's salary — in the initial participating districts, Fort Bend ISD and Aldine ISD. Throughout their first year, the group will meet both in person and online to build their teaching skills. A site coordinator will provide formal and informal coaching through frequent classroom visits and meetings. Participants can pursue state certification after their first year on the job.

Amber Thompson, associate chair of the UH teacher education program, and Shea Culpepper, director of the program, said the goal is to translate the tenets of strong teacher preparation to the faster timeline of the alternative certification program. "We know we need multiple pathways into certification to meet the need for teachers," Thompson said. "And we're committed to delivering best-in-class preparation so teacher candidates are classroom ready to help all students succeed."

Katy ISD announces "State of the District" to be held Oct. 20



FROM STAFF REPORTS

On October 20th, Superintendent Ken Gregorski will present Katy ISD's annual "State of the District" update.

The event will be held at the Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Drive in Katy, from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

For more information, please contact CommunityRelations@katyisd.org.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Cinco Municipal Utility District #7 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on September 21, 2023 at 4:30 pm at 2002 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 100, Katy TX 77449. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: Christopher Telschow Greg Nunn
Mark Wrzyszczyński Scott Drawdy

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: David Drake

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.300000/\$100 Adopted	\$0.280000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.020000
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.67%
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$426,106	\$468,836
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled persons exemptions)	\$12,783	\$14,065
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$413,323	\$454,771
Tax on average residence homestead	\$1,239.96	\$1,273.36
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$33.40
and percentage of increase (+/-)		2.69%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Online tool aims to close skills gap, help more Texans plan for future

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Austin, TX – The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has launched My Texas Future, a new digital tool that connects Texans with resources and information about postsecondary opportunities. My Texas Future will help bridge the skills gap and provide support to individuals as they work to further their careers, return to the workforce, or return to higher education.

My Texas Future includes personalized interactive features to help prospective students identify interests and skills, explore careers and programs, plan for school, and navigate financial aid. Visitors can create accounts, save preferences, and request to speak to an advisor.

"The future of Texas prosperity relies on developing our Texas talent. My Texas Future is a one-stop advising shop for Texans to explore the changing landscape of high-demand jobs, understand higher education programs and costs, develop plans, and advance their careers," said Commissioner of Higher Education Harrison Keller.

"This new tool offers resources to help more Texans earn credentials of value so they can participate in our state's dynamic economy."

Users may begin an exploration of professional interests with a career quiz. With information about jobs that might fit their interests, users can compare hundreds of Texas-based careers by local demand, pay, required education, and related skills. They may also compare credential programs by average tuition, location, and salary after graduation.

If students create an account, they can tailor their results from these interactive tools to their learning goals. They can save careers, schools, programs, and resources to their profiles and connect with advisors from partner institutions, receiving support specific to their individualized needs at every stage of their postsecondary journey.

The current release of My Texas Future is designed primarily for working-age Texans. Future releases of My Texas Future will include additional tools for middle and high school students and transfer students.

Visit mytexasfuture.org to learn more.

Forbes names Katy ISD a Top Employer in Texas

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

For the fourth time in the past five years, Katy Independent School District has once again earned a spot in the Forbes List of America's Best Employers in the state of Texas. Katy ISD is one of six school districts in Texas to make this esteemed list alongside organizations such as H-E-B Grocery Company, NASA, Houston Methodist and

many more. The district earned 71st place out of the thousands of organizations across Texas.

"This honor is reflective of the dedication and talent of our teachers, administrators, support staff, and every member of the Katy ISD family who provides unique learning experiences to the more



than 94,000 students we serve," said Ken Gregorski, Superintendent of Schools. "To be honored by Forbes once again is a testament to the outstanding employees in Katy ISD," added Gregorski. Forbes partnered with market research company Statista to develop its list of

America's Best Employers by State 2023. The list is divided into 51 rankings — for each state, plus the District of Columbia — and was compiled by surveying 70,000 Americans working for businesses with at least 500 employees. A total of 1,392 organizations made the national list. To read the full Forbes article visit forbes.com/lists/best-employers-by-state/?sh=2cd558e41983.

Nominations open for H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards

New school counselor category announced

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

(SAN ANTONIO) — H-E-B is accepting nominations for educators to apply for the 2024 H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards, according to an August 29th press release. Each year, these awards highlight Texas educators, administrators, school boards, and early childhood facilities going above and beyond to make a difference in the lives of their students and communities. This year, a new category has been added to highlight school counselors. The counselor category looks at several criteria, including use of the Texas Model for Comprehensive School Counseling and school counseling leadership. The new category will provide an opportunity to recognize elementary and secondary counselors. Ten finalists will receive \$1,000 for themselves and \$1,500 for their school. The winner from each category will receive \$10,000 for themselves and \$15,000 for the school.

"Educators have advocated for the addition of a counselor category because of the vital role they play in the lives of students," said Public Affairs Manager Jill Reynolds. "School counselors are an essential part of the educational ecosystem and we are excited to recognize and award them for the important work they do."

Public school teachers, principals, school counselors, school districts, school boards and private or public early childhood education facilities are all eligible to be nominated. Last year, community members across the state nominated more than 5,000 educators to encourage them to apply for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards.

Nominees are invited to complete an online application asking for written responses about education philosophy, learning experiences, and insights on key issues facing educators today. After completing the application, educators and districts are eligible to win cash prizes and grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000.

Nominations for the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards are being accepted online through October 9, and educators can submit applications until December 4.

In 2023, the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards awarded more than \$775,000 in cash prizes, gift cards and grants to finalists and winners. Since its inception in 2002, the program has awarded more than \$13 million to Texas educators, schools, districts and early childhood centers.

Nominations are not required to apply. Educators may visit H-E-B Excellence in Education to complete an application.

About the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards

H-E-B asks customers, Partners (employ-

ees) and community members to nominate teachers, principals, districts, early childhood facilities and school boards in Texas. Each nominee is sent an invitation to complete an application online and is asked about their professional experiences, educational philosophies and achievements both in and out of the classroom.

A team of judges reviews the applications, narrowing the field to semi-finalists. From that pool, five regional judging panels comprised of former winners, administrators, and university and community leaders not affiliated with H-E-B select 40 teacher and principal finalists. Finalists and their schools receive a cash prize of \$1,000 to \$2,500, depending on category.

Three separate panels select eight school districts and five early childhood facilities as finalists, awarding \$5,000 in cash prizes. Up to five school boards may also be recognized and awarded \$5,000 towards the district they serve. Additionally, one or more school boards may receive a special judge's award totaling up to \$25,000. Site visits are conducted to determine winners.

Teacher, principal and counselor finalists are invited to compete on a statewide level for larger cash prizes totaling more than \$400,000. A statewide panel of judges, not affiliated with H-E-B, conducts a personal interview with each finalist to select winners.

Ten winners — two principals, six teachers and two counselors — are announced along with two school districts, one large and one small, a public-school board and an early childhood facility, at a celebratory dinner.

Each winning principal—one elementary school and one high school—receives \$10,000 in cash for themselves and a \$25,000 grant for their schools. The winning large school district receives a \$100,000 cash prize and the winning small school district receives \$50,000. The winning early childhood facility receives \$25,000 and a school board could be awarded up to \$25,000.

The two winning counselors—one elementary school and one high school—receive \$10,000 in cash for themselves and \$15,000 grant for their school.

The six winning teachers include one elementary and one secondary teacher in each of three categories:

The Rising Star Award — honors exceptionally promising teachers with less than 10 years of experience. These winners will each receive a \$5,000 check for themselves and a \$5,000 grant for their schools.

The Leadership Award — honors teachers with 10 to 20 years in the classroom. These winners will each receive a \$10,000 check for themselves and a \$10,000 grant for their schools.

The Lifetime Achievement Award — salutes teachers with more than 20 years of experience. These teachers will each receive \$25,000 in cash for themselves and a \$25,000 grant for their schools.

Learn more about the awards here: <https://heblovesteachers.com/faq/>.



Harmony School of Innovation, a public charter school serving grades 8-12, is located at 22400 Grand Corner Dr, Katy.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Harmony School of Innovation named Katy's best high school

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

U.S. News & World Report named Harmony School of Innovation - Katy the number one high school in Katy in its highly-anticipated annual rankings of U.S. public schools, according to an August 30th press release. HSI - Katy has a 97% graduation rate and holds a 70.6 score for College Readiness. Harmony School of Innovation - Sugar Land has been named the number one charter high school in Sugar Land.

In determining its top schools, U.S. News & World Report looks at a variety of factors, including college readiness (30%), math and reading proficiency (20%), math and reading performance (20%), under-served student performance (10%), and college curriculum breadth (10%).

Harmony School of Innovation - Katy and Harmony School of Innovation - Sugar Land are part of Harmony Public Schools, a Texas-born, Texas-wide public

charter school system with campuses serving PreK-Grade 12 students in 23 cities across the state. Harmony's curriculum places a heavy focus on STEM skills, character education, project-based learning, and college readiness. The system has a 98 percent graduation rate for its high school seniors and a 100 percent college acceptance rate among its graduating seniors.

In total, Harmony Public Schools had an astounding 23 schools make the U.S. News & World Reports "Best High Schools" rankings for 2022, including schools in Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, El Paso, Laredo, Waco, Katy, Sugar Land, Brownsville, Carrollton, Garland, Euless, and Beaumont.

Harmony Public Schools are tuition-free, open-enrollment public charter schools providing high-quality education with a focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) for students in PreK - Grade 12. Harmony is currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year.

KATY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOND 2023

EARLY VOTING
October 23 - November 3

ELECTION DAY
November 7

PROP A \$722,992,054	4 New Schools, Purchase of School Sites, 26 Renovations & Expansions for Aging Campuses, 85 Safety & Security Upgrades, Buses, 61 Building Component Replacements	
PROP B \$83,567,360	Districtwide Classroom & Campus Technology	
PROP C \$4,195,456	Districtwide Natatorium (Competition Swimming Pools) Component Replacements	
PROP D \$29,875,472	Districtwide Campus Athletic Facilities & Rhodes Stadium Repairs	
TOTAL BOND: \$840.6M ZERO TAX RATE INCREASE		
www.katyisd.org/Bond2023		



PHOTO COURTESY KATY ISD

Miller Career Center's Old Town Bistro to host "pop up" tailgate event

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Old Town Bistro, the culinary program at Katy ISD's Miller Career Center, announced its inaugural pop up tailgate event to be held on September 8th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. at 1734 Katyland Drive, Katy. The an-

nouncement on the school's Facebook page said that the event would feature pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs and the new "Miller Dog."

All items come with a choice of either potato salad or coleslaw, plus a soda, for \$12 (cash or credit).



Mistakes cost Katy in loss to Atascocita

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy kept battling to find ways back into the game on Friday.

The Tigers would rebound from every mistake they made, staying in things and fighting back against a strong Atascocita team but in the end, the mistakes piled on too high, as Katy lost a one-possession game to the Eagles 42-34.

"We played a really good football team tonight and we had an opportunity to win the game," said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. "Atascocita played really well, converted three turnovers into touchdowns and when you're playing a good football team like that, you can't turn the ball over. But our kids fought hard and you can't fault their effort. They'll grow from this. We have a young football team and they've grown up quite a bit in the past two weeks. They've had to and they know now they can play with really good teams."

Katy started the game in strong fashion, stopping Atascocita on its first drive and getting the first score of the game late in the first quarter on a play action pass from 38-yards out from Gunner Nelson to Oliver Ginn.

Atascocita turned things around in the second quarter though, getting a touchdown to tie things on a pass from Zion Brown to Jalani Walker before taking the lead on a Cardae Mack run. Katy briefly tied the game when Jon Artis made a huge play, intercepting a pass and returning it 30-yards for a score, but Atascocita went back down the field and scored a touchdown late in the second quarter to take a 21-14

See KATY, page B7



Cyrus Reyes tries to escape a tackle during Thursday's game between Taylor and George Ranch at Rhodes Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Taylor falls to George Ranch BUT MUSTANGS GROWING WITH DISTRICT ON HORIZON

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Taylor knew their non-district schedule wouldn't be easy.

The Mustangs went through a grueling two game stretch leading into district, playing Cy-Woods and George Ranch. The Mustangs were competitive last week and were again this week before faltering in the second half on Thursday and falling to the Longhorns 41-15, going to 0-2 on the year.

"That was a key for us going into this year, and even though we've had two hard losses we feel we can grow from this" said Taylor head coach Chad Simmons. "You can play teams you feel you match up favorably against, but then that wouldn't challenge you and we wanted that challenge. We were in last week's game until the very end and even though we weren't

with this one, there wasn't any quit with those kids. I think it was really important to play those kind of teams because that's what you face in our district from top to bottom."

Taylor was able to stay in the game throughout the first half. Jackson Waller put the Mustangs ahead by nailing a 22-yard field goal on the teams first drive of the game, but George Ranch came back and took the lead on a 29-yard pass from Deion Drinkard to Kurveon McNeil halfway through the second quarter, before George Ranch scored again just seconds later on an interception return for a touchdown. George Ranch went into halftime with a 14-3 lead.

Taylor got back into things early in the second half. Josiah Rodriguez intercepted a George

See TAYLOR, page B2



Matthais Young makes a catch during Thursday's game between Taylor and George Ranch at Rhodes Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8

SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Scores

- George Ranch 41, Taylor 15
- Klein 45, Seven Lakes 7
- Klein Oak 35, Cinco Ranch 6
- Kingwood Park 35, Morton Ranch 27
- Atascocita 42, Katy 34
- Jordan 51, Kingwood 9
- Cy-Ranch 17, Paetow 0
- Bridgeland 41, Tompkins 35
- Waller 35, Mayde Creek 0

Friday

- Katy vs. Tompkins, Friday, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Cinco Ranch vs. Taylor, 7:15 p.m., Legacy Stadium

Saturday

- Jordan vs. Mayde Creek, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Paetow vs. Morton Ranch, 7:15 p.m., Legacy Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

Friday

- Cinco Ranch vs. Jordan, 4:30 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Morton Ranch, 5:30 p.m.
- Katy vs. Paetow, 5:30 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Mayde Creek, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

- Paetow vs. Cinco Ranch, 5:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Taylor, 5:30 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Tompkins, 5:30 p.m.
- Jordan vs. Seven Lakes, 5:30 p.m.

Mayde Creek unable to keep pace with Waller

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Mayde Creek is learning how to execute at a high level.

The Rams went through week one of the season earning a strong win over Westside, but week two was a different story. The Rams faced adversity against Waller and ended up falling 35-0, as the next step for the Rams is learning how to face that adversity head on.

The Rams' game-plan was solid, but execution waned throughout, as long stretches of good play were negated by mistakes on both sides of the ball. That is the next step for the Rams as focus on continued improvement going into district play.

"Our kids are going to fight — that's not an issue for us and I'm proud of that," said Mayde Creek head coach J Jensen. "But we have to come out and execute better on both



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE
Mayde Creek quarterback Cole Jensen.



Mayde Creek defensive back Elijah Fuller.

Mayde Creek head coach J Jensen. "But we have to come out and execute better on both

WALLER 35, MAYDE CREEK 0

Waller	7	7	0	21	--	35
Mayde Creek	0	0	0	0	--	0

First quarter

W: Alex Barrs 2 run (Jovean Ortiz kick) 9:53

Second quarter

W: Barrs 3 run (Ortiz kick) 8:41

Fourth quarter

W: Curtis Gooden 85 interception return (Ortiz kick) 11:03
W: Jordan Duncan 30 pass to Brandon Stewart (Ortiz kick) 9:24
W: Duncan 4 run (Ortiz kick) 5:34

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Mayde Creek: Christian Bradford, 3-19; Dedric Brown, 3-6; Tavious Mitchell, 5-5; Chad Nelson, 1-5; Cole Jensen, 2-(-9); Waller: Alex Barrs, 27-210-2; Brandon

Stewart, 5-16; Jordan Duncan, 3-5; Passing – Mayde Creek: Cole Jensen, 17-41-115-0-1; Waller: Jordan Duncan, 6-18-1-1 Receiving – Mayde Creek: Daylin Robinson, 7-50; J.J. Graves, 2-21; Chad Nelson, 4-20; Trey Williams, 1-20; Dedric Brown, 1-10; Tavious Mitchell, 1-(-1); Christian Bradford, 1-(-5); Waller: Brandon Stewart, 1-30-1; Jaxon Mercado, 2-17; Landon Seales, 1-9; Alex Barrs, 1-7; Jaden Rogers, 1-5;

Team stats

	WALLER	MAYDE CREEK
First downs	12	14
Yards rushing	36-230	15-40
Yards passing	68	115
Passes	6-18-1-1	17-41-0-1
Punts	2-29	2-49
Fumbles-lost	2-0	3-2
Penalty-yards	6-60	5-35

a few plays but really, the defense fought for a long time and we couldn't help them out. As an offense, we have to execute better on that side of the ball."

Waller went ahead early in the game, as the Bulldogs drove down the field on their first drive with Alex Barrs running in a 2-yard score. Mayde Creek put together

but turned the ball over on downs, ending a promising drive deep in Waller territory.

A muffed punt by Mayde Creek gave Waller good field position early in the second quarter and the Bulldogs capitalized, with Barrs adding a second touchdown

See RAMS, page B7

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TAYLOR

from page B1

Ranch pass on the Longhorns' first possession of the second half and returned it inside the 10-yard line, which Taylor took advantage of with a 3-yard touchdown pass to Dante Archie.

But George Ranch took over from there, scoring two touchdowns on big runs in the third quarter and another on a short run before sealing the game in the fourth with another touchdown run.

"The positive we can take from this game as a defense is we forced a lot of takeaways and we got them off the field on fourth down," said senior safety and team captain Cyrus Reyes. "But that's not good enough — we have to lock in at practice and get better, especially at limiting the big plays. That's something that hurt us tonight and we have to

get better at stopping moving forward."

Bruns, who came in at quarterback in the second half after an injury to starter Joshua Higginbotham, was able to settle in down the stretch and got a second touchdown midway through the fourth quarter for the Mustangs' third score of the game. Taylor fought until the final whistle and even shorthanded never gave George Ranch anything.

"This really prepared us and now it's up to us to take these losses, learn from them and get better," Reyes said. "That's the goal, we can't dwell on the losses or be down on ourselves — we have to be ready and continue to get better."

Taylor will face off against Cinco Ranch to start district play. The Mustangs already are dealing with bumps and bruises

and will have to have a next man up mentality going into the week, but that is something that has already been instilled in the program since Simmons got there, and he knows the players are up to the task.

"One of the things we talked about after the game is that we know there's some guys out right now and we have to compensate for it," Simmons said. "The next guys have to step up and we can't let that or these losses define our season and our team. These guys are fighters and they're going to work to define themselves and make it a message of getting back on track after these two games. We didn't like these two games, but the next one is when they count. It's all about learning from these two weeks and being ready for next week against Cinco."

GEORGE RANCH 41, TAYLOR 15

George Ranch 0 14 20 7 -- 41
Taylor 3 0 6 6 -- 15

First quarter

T: Jackson Waller 22 field goal, 8:56

Second quarter

GR: Deion Drinkard 29 pass to Kurveon McNeil (Josh Matula kick) 5:15
GR Cade Marino 34 interception return (Matula kick) 4:58

Third quarter

T: Daniel Bruns 3 pass to Dante Archie, 7:19
GR: Jaden Shelton 69 run (Matula kick) 7:03
GR: Shelton 40 run (Matula kick) 3:58
GR: Drinkard 2 run, 1:58

Fourth quarter

GR: Hayden Drinkard 12 run (Matula kick) 11:01
T: Daniel Bruns 4 run, 6:56

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Taylor: Ethan Jacobson, 16-64; Dante Archie, 3-36; Josh Jacobson, 7-3; Joshua Hugginbotham, 1-0; Joe Praise

Adeyemi, 2-(-1); Daniel Bruns, 3-(-16)-1; George Ranch: Jaden Shelton, 14-149-2; Hayden Drinkard, 10-48-1; Deion Drinkard, 5-19; Dylan Smith, 2-3;

Passing — Taylor: Joshua Higginbotham, 8-17-41-0-1; Daniel Bruns, 6-15-57-1-0; George Ranch: Deion Drinkard, 7-10-81-1-1;

Receiving — Taylor: Ethan Jacobson, 3-37; Cyrus Reyes, 2-20; Matthais Young, 2-17; Dante Archie, 2-9; Tristen Chambers, 1-8; Josh Jacobson, 4-7; George Ranch: Kurveon McNeil, 4-54-1; Hayden Drinkard, 2-13; Desi Drinkard, 1-11; Julius Carter, 1-3;

Team stats

	G. RANCH	TAYLOR
First downs	10	11
Yards rushing	32-206	32-86
Yards passing	81	98
Passes	7-10-1-1	14-32-1-1
Punts	2-34	5-28
Fumbles-lost	1-1	2-1
Penalty-yards	5-55	5-40

**Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate**

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 for Defined Area No. 1, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 11:00 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: J. Mann, L. Hitchcock & A. Clark

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: D. Smith & J. Jordan

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$ 0.720 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$ 0.710 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.010 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-1.39%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$589,849	\$645,790
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$589,849	\$645,790
Tax on average residence homestead	\$4,246.91	\$4,585.11
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$338.20 7.9634%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

Property that is located inside Defined Area No. 1 of Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130 is also subject to the tax rate levied on all property within the district. A separate Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate is being published for such tax rate in the amount of \$.42 per \$100 of taxable value, resulting in a total tax rate of \$1.13 per \$100 of taxable value on property located inside Defined Area No. 1.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state..

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

**Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate**

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 130, will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: J. Mann, L. Hitchcock & A. Clark

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: D. Smith & J. Jordan

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$ 0.450 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$ 0.420 /\$100 Proposed
Tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.030 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.6667%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$496,362	\$548,863
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$496,362	\$548,863
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 2,233.63	\$2,305.22
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$71.59 3.2051%	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.



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Week 3 Katy ISD Previews

Katy, Tompkins face off in huge district matchup

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

ALL GAMES DISTRICT 19-6A

Friday

Katy (1-1) vs. Tompkins (1-1), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Katy 14, Tompkins 13
• District 19-6A play kicks off with one of the most anticipated and best games we might see all year. Katy and Tompkins will meet in first district game of the season in what could be a matchup with far reaching implications.

Both teams come off of losses to very strong teams in week two and both will be hoping to take lessons into this week and their first game of district play.

Katy narrowly lost to Atascocita last week in a matchup of two top ten ranked teams in the state. Katy found success on both sides of the ball, but the most important thing for the Tigers will be correcting mistakes that cost them in a game that was winnable.

Rommel Jordan had 82 yards rushing in the game while Tremayne Hill had 60 yards on the ground. Gunner Nelson threw for 143 yards. The Tigers struggled against the run in the game on defense, allowing 249 yards.

Tompkins comes off a thrilling overtime game against Bridgeland, where they lost 41-35 but took many positives.

Caleb Blocker was terrific in his first game of the year, rushing for 216 yards and four touchdowns while catching four passes for 15 yards and another touchdown. The team played backup quarterback Justin Thierheimer in the matchup after Wyatt Young re-aggravated a hamstring injury in week one, and Thierheimer impressed, completing 18 of 26 passes for 153 yards and a touchdown. Where Tompkins will need to improve going forward is with their pass defense. The Falcons allowed 254 yards through the air in the game, including 136 yards to wide receiver Oscar Nnanna. The Falcons' run defense was very solid, but a fumble in overtime cost Tompkins as Bridgeland was able to score a touchdown and win the game off of this.

It will be a battle of two heavyweights and the winner will probably come from the team that corrects mistakes the most going into this week. Katy will need to be better at not turning the ball over and will have to shore up their run defense against a team that has one of the best running attacks in the area, while Tompkins will hope their stout run defense keeps up while they will need to be strong against the play action pass. It should be just as good as last year's game with two teams that are fighting for top spots in district.

Cinco Ranch (1-1) vs. Taylor (0-2), 7:15 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

Last year: Cinco Ranch 49, Taylor 28
• In a game that is extremely important for both teams as they hope to battle for playoff spots, Cinco Ranch will take on Taylor on Friday. Both teams come off of losses in their last non-district games and both will be trying to regroup and be ready for an important game.

Cinco Ranch comes off a 35-6 loss to Klein Oak, where they struggled to get things going through the air and were unable to stop the Klein Oak offense. The run game worked for Cinco; they got 79 yards out of sophomore running back Marcus Gadlin and 56 yards and a touchdown from Tessaiah Young, but the pass game was not nearly as



Katy's Oliver Ginn runs down the sideline as Katy head coach Gary Joseph looks on during a game between Katy and Tompkins at Legacy Stadium last year.



Tompkins' Chris Gilbert Jr. throws a touchdown during a game between Katy and Tompkins at Legacy Stadium last year.

effective.

Charlie Adamoli completed four of 13 passes for 24 yards, while Connor Brock completed seven of 13 passes for 95 yards. Drew Tureau caught three passes for 59 yards and Scott Eckel caught five passes for 49 yards to lead Cinco.

Taylor also comes off a loss, 41-15 to George Ranch, in what was a game where Taylor was able to stay close in the first half before George Ranch pulled away in the second half. Ethan Jacobson was a bright spot for Taylor, rushing for 64 yards and catching three passes for 37 yards, while Daniel Bruns threw for 57 after coming on in the second half. Where the Mustangs struggled is in run defense, where they allowed 206 yards.

The difference in this game may be which team defends the run better. Both teams will want to lean on their strong run games and will want to be better defensively as they try to start district with a win.

Saturday

Jordan (2-0) vs. Mayde Creek (1-1), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Jordan 42, Mayde Creek 15
• Jordan and Mayde Creek come into this

week on opposite ends of the spectrum, with the Warriors coming off a huge win while the Rams come off a loss they will need to rebound from. The good thing for the Rams is that the loss came before district and gives them time to correct things before going up against Jordan. Cole Jensen threw for 115 yards in the loss, with Daylin Robinson catching seven passes for 50 yards to lead the Rams. Where the Rams struggled offensively was with the run, as they garnered just 40 yards in total. Defensively, Mayde Creek allowed over 230 yards on the ground, which will need to be better against Jordan.

The Warriors, meanwhile, won big against Kingwood. Colin Willetts was exceptional, throwing for 403 yards in just one half of action to go with five touchdowns.

Andrew Marsh led the Warriors' receivers, catching six passes for 142 yards and a touchdown, while Zechariah Sample had three catches for 80 yards and a score, Chad Gasper had two catches for 62 yards and a touchdown, Van Keith Brown had a catch for 54 yards and Deacon Stanfield had a catch for 47 yards. Defensively the Warriors only allowed 58 yards passing and 86 yards receiving in a dominant win.

Jordan will look to continue their strong play and start to build a running game, while

Mayde Creek will try to reset and take a step forward as both try to start district in the right way.

Paetow (0-2) vs. Morton Ranch (0-2), 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

Last year: Paetow 34, Morton Ranch 29
• Last year's matchup between Paetow and Morton Ranch was an important one and it could be the same this year as both teams try to start out district on the right note and earn a win that could boost their playoff chances down the road.

Both teams will also be searching for their first win of the season, as both showed some good signs but went 0-2 in non-district play.

Paetow comes off a 17-0 loss to Cy-Ranch this week, where the team struggled to get things going offensively.

Brock Nichols was efficient in the pass game, completing nine of 13 attempts, but managed 61 yards and threw an interception. Javaughnn Waldron led the team in rushing, with 27 yards and Camelleon Hawkins had 30 yards receiving, good for tops on the team.

The offense struggled throughout the game, but the Paetow defense stepped up to only allow 17 points, and although that wasn't enough for the win, it showed positive growth for the team following the first week.

Morton Ranch comes off a very close loss to Kingwood Park, as they fell 35-27.

The Mavericks' run game was very successful. Senior running back Ryan Hall ran for 165 yards and two touchdowns on 23 carries, while Mike Gerald had 84 rushing yards and a score. In the pass game, Markel McNeal was the biggest presence, catching six passes for 118 yards and a score. Gerald and Treylin Dixon split time at quarterback, with Gerald throwing for 99 yards and a score along with an interception, while Dixon completed three of five passes for 55 yards. Morton Ranch did struggle to stop the pass game of Kingwood Park, however, allowing Jaxon Sims to complete 17 of 22 passes for 195 yards and a score.

Saturday's game between the two teams will be all about the teams' two strengths, as Paetow prides itself on stopping opposing teams' run games, while Morton Ranch's goal is to pound the run and build off of that every game. It could be a game of which side wears down first as both look to start district off with a win.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The HARRIS-WALLER COUNTIES MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 1:30P.M. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Tony Bonaventure, Monica Luedecke, Jennifer White, Steve Dornak, Valerie Davis
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.93000/\$100 Adopted	\$0.88000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.05000 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-5.38%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$549,538.00	\$615,496.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$61,505.00	\$59,261.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$488,033.00	\$556,235.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$4,538.71	\$4,894.87
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$356.16 7.85%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

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Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and Floodway

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals.

This is to give notice that the City of Katy has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program administered by the Texas General Land Office - Disaster Recovery program (GLO DR)# 20-065-137-C503 / B-17-DM-48-0001 and Katy - 20-065-137-C503 - Street-Bridge-EA, is located in the 100-year floodplain and floodway, and the City of Katy will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain and floodway from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management.

Project Location:

All work will occur within the City of Katy's limits or extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), Waller County, Texas in the following locations:

Detention Pond:

- Pitts Road Detention Pond - Area East of Pitts Road and North of Morton Road (29.820445, -95.83901)

Street/Bridge:

- 10th St. - Bartlett Street to the Waller County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

The project is located in two (2) separate areas of the City. The new Detention Pond will be constructed in a developed part of the community on disturbed property that is currently considered vacant undeveloped. The area is relatively flat and appeared to have recent groundwork as only scattered native grasses existed and small piles of dirt were present. An existing detention pond exists within a few feet northeast of the proposed project site and the proposed site, at a two-lane paved roadway, borders the west side of the property and similar vacant undeveloped land exists to the south. Residential neighborhoods exist within a few hundred feet of the property in all directions. Overhead utilities exist. The bridge/street improvements will occur along a paved, two-lane roadway in a developed, residential area of the City. The roadway crosses a waterway and is bordered by fairly dense residential neighborhoods with scattered trees. Three detention ponds exist within a few feet to the north of the project area and both overhead and underground utilities exist. Bar ditches also exist along both sides of the roadway.

Description:

Flood and Drainage Facilities

Detention Pond:

Subrecipient shall create a detention pond, and shall complete all associated appurtenances.

Street/Bridge:

Subrecipient shall replace storm sewer culverts, regrade roadside ditches, install outfall ditches with associated pavement repair, replace and elevate an existing bridge, and shall complete all associated appurtenances. According to FEMA floodplain map #48473C0375E (Effective Date 2/18/09), portions of the project will occur within a 500-year floodplain (Zone X), 100-year floodplain (AE) and a Regulated Floodway.

The portions of the project in the 100-year floodplain and 500-year floodplain (AE):

- Detention Pond: Pitts Road Detention Pond - Area East of Pitts Road and North of Morton

Aviso temprano y revisión pública de una propuesta Actividad en una llanura aluvial y un canal de inundación de 100 años

A: Todas las Agencias, Grupos e Individuos interesados.

Esto es para dar aviso de que el ciudad de katy ha determinado que la siguiente acción propuesta bajo la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario - Programa de Recuperación de Desastres administrado por la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas - Programa de Recuperación de Desastres (GLO DR)# 20-065-137-C503 / B-17-DM-48-0001 y Katy - 20-065-137-C503 - Calle-Puente-EA, está ubicado en la llanura aluvial y el cauce de inundación de 100 años, y el ciudad de katy identificará y evaluará alternativas practicables para ubicar la acción en la llanura aluvial y los impactos potenciales en la llanura aluvial y el cauce aluvial de la acción propuesta, según lo exige la Orden Ejecutiva 11988, de acuerdo con las regulaciones del HUD en 24 CFR 55.20 Subparte C Procedimientos para tomar determinaciones sobre gestión de llanuras aluviales.

Localización del proyecto:

Todo el trabajo se realizará dentro de la ciudad de Katy. Jurisdicción extraterritorial (ETJ), Condado de Waller, Texas, en las siguientes ubicaciones:

Estanque de detención:

- Estanque de detención de Pitts Road: área al este de Pitts Road y al norte de Morton Road (29.820445, -95.83901)

Calle/Puente:

- 10th St. - Calle Bartlett hasta Waller Línea del condado (29.794843, -95.829851)

El proyecto está ubicado en dos (2) áreas separadas de la Ciudad. El nuevo estanque de detención se construirá en una parte desarrollada de la comunidad en una propiedad perturbada que actualmente se considera vacía y no desarrollada. El área es relativamente plana y parecía tener trabajos preliminares recientes, ya que solo existían pastos nativos dispersos y pequeños montones de tierra. Existe un estanque de detención a unos pocos pies al noreste del sitio del proyecto propuesto y del sitio propuesto. En una carretera pavimentada de dos carriles, bordea el nosotroscalle lado de la propiedad y existe terreno baldío no desarrollado similar al sur. Existen vecindarios residenciales a unos pocos cientos de pies de la propiedad en todas direcciones. Existen utilidades superiores. Las mejoras del puente/calle se realizarán a lo largo de una carretera pavimentada de dos carriles en una zona residencial desarrollada de la ciudad. La carretera cruza un canal y está bordeada por barrios residenciales bastante densos con árboles dispersos. Existen tres estanques de detención a unos pocos pies al norte del área del proyecto y existen servicios públicos aéreos y subterráneos. También existen zanjas de barras a ambos lados de la carretera.

Descripción:

Instalaciones de inundación y drenaje

Estanque de detención:

El subreceptor creará un estanque de detención y completará todos los accesorios asociados.

Calle/Puente:

El subreceptor reemplazará las alcantarillas pluviales, renivelará las zanjas al borde de las carreteras, instalará zanjas de desagüe con la reparación asociada del pavimento, reemplazar y elevar un puente existente, y deberá completar todos los accesorios asociados. Según el mapa de llanura aluvial de FEMA #48473C0375E (fecha de entrada en vigor 18/02/09), partes del proyecto se llevarán a cabo dentro de una llanura aluvial de 500 años (Zona X), una llanura aluvial de 100 años (AE) y un cauce de inundación regulado.

Las partes del proyecto en la llanura aluvial de 100 años y la llanura aluvial de 500 años (AE):

- Estanque de detención: Estanque de detención de Pitts Road: área al este de Pitts Road y al

Road (29.820445, -95.83901)

- Street/Bridge: 10th St. - Bartlett Street to County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

Area of 100-year floodplain disturbance; 8 acres

Area of 500-year floodplain disturbance; 7 acres

The portions of the project in the floodway:

- Bridge: 10th St. - Bartlett Street to County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

Area of Floodway Disturbance: 5.8 acres

The drainage improvements and bridge replacement are considered functionally dependent activities and will occur within the floodway and extend out of the floodway to meet the roadway in Zone AE. This will allow the road improvements to transition the roadway in order to accommodate the bridge elevation, which is being increased. According to the project engineer, only bridgework will occur within the floodway and street transition work will occur outside the floodway. It should be noted that the USACE Wetlands map indicated that a portion of the project would cross a Riverine Wetland. However, after conducting a Wetland Delineation, it was concluded that no such wetland exists, and therefore, no disturbance to the wetland would occur.

Natural and beneficial values potentially adversely affected by the activity:

- The natural resources of the floodplain include water, biological, and societal resources. The proposed project will have minimal adverse impacts to the floodplain and floodway as the total area of disturbance within these areas is minimal.
- After reviewing a Threatened and Endangered Species survey of the project area, it was concluded that the construction of the facilities will have no quantifiable impact on plant and animal life. All areas are previously disturbed sites and the improvements will as stated above have a positive impact on water quality and soil which in turn will provide a cleaner and safer habitat for all species, endangered or other.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains and floodways and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain and floodway, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains and floodways can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains and floodways, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk. Written comments must be received by the City of Katy at the following address on or before **September 25, 2023, City of Katy, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493 and (281) 391-4800, Attention: Byron J. Hebert, City Administrator.** A full description of the project may also be reviewed from **9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.** at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C Katy, Texas 77493. Comments may also be submitted via email at lkerr@cityofkaty.com.

Publication Date: September 7, 2023

norte de Morton Road (29.820445, -95.83901)

- Calle/Puente: 10th St. - Bartlett Street hasta la línea del condado (29.794843, -95.829851)

Área de perturbación de la llanura aluvial durante 100 años; 8 acres

Área de perturbación de la llanura aluvial de 500 años: 7 acres

Las partes del proyecto en el cauce de inundación:

- Puente: 10th St. - Bartlett Street hasta la línea del condado (29.794843, -95.829851)

Área de perturbación del cauce de inundación: 5,8 acres

Las mejoras al drenaje y el reemplazo del puente se consideran actividades funcionalmente dependientes y ocurrirán dentro del cauce de inundación y se extenderán fuera del cauce de inundación para encontrarse con la carretera en la Zona AE. Esto permitirá que las mejoras de la carretera hagan la transición para dar cabida a la elevación del puente, que se está aumentando. Según el ingeniero del proyecto, solo se realizarán obras de puentes dentro del cauce y los trabajos de transición de calles se realizarán fuera del cauce. Cabe señalar que el mapa de Humedales del USACE indicaba que una parte del proyecto cruzaría un Humedal Ribereño. Sin embargo, después de realizar una Delineación de Humedal, se llegó a la conclusión de que no existe tal humedal y, por lo tanto, no se produciría ninguna perturbación al humedal.

Valores naturales y beneficiosos potencialmente afectados negativamente por la actividad:

- Los recursos naturales de la llanura aluvial incluyen recursos hídricos, biológicos y sociales. El proyecto propuesto tendrá impactos adversos mínimos en la llanura aluvial y el cauce de inundación ya que el área total de perturbación dentro de estas áreas es mínima.
- Después de revisar un estudio de especies amenazadas y en peligro de extinción del área del proyecto, se concluyó que la construcción de las instalaciones no tendrá un impacto cuantificable en la vida vegetal y animal. Todas las áreas son sitios previamente perturbados y las mejoras, como se indicó anteriormente, tendrán un impacto positivo en la calidad del agua y el suelo, lo que a su vez proporcionará un hábitat más limpio y seguro para todas las especies, en peligro de extinción o de otro tipo.

Hay tres propósitos principales para este aviso. En primer lugar, se debe dar a las personas que puedan verse afectadas por las actividades en llanuras y cauces de inundación y a aquellos que tengan interés en la protección del medio ambiente natural la oportunidad de expresar sus preocupaciones y proporcionar información sobre estas áreas. Se anima a los comentaristas a ofrecer sitios alternativos fuera de la llanura aluvial y el cauce de inundación, métodos alternativos para cumplir el mismo propósito del proyecto y métodos para minimizar y mitigar los impactos. En segundo lugar, un programa adecuado de avisos públicos puede ser una importante herramienta educativa pública. La difusión de información y la solicitud de comentarios públicos sobre llanuras aluviales y cauces de inundación pueden facilitar y mejorar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos e impactos asociados con la ocupación y modificación de estas áreas especiales. En tercer lugar, por una cuestión de justicia, cuando el gobierno federal determina que participará en acciones que se llevan a cabo en llanuras aluviales y canales de inundación, debe informar a quienes puedan estar expuestos a un riesgo mayor o continuo. Los comentarios escritos deben ser recibidos por el **ciudad de katy** en la siguiente dirección en o antes **25 de septiembre de 2023, Ciudad de Katy, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493 y (281) 391-4800, Atención: Byron J. Hebert, administrador de la ciudad.** También se puede revisar una descripción completa del proyecto desde **9:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. en Ayuntamiento de Katy, 901 Avenida C Katy, Texas 77493.** Los comentarios también pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a lkerr@cityofkaty.com.

Fecha de publicación: 7 de septiembre de 2023

Six Katy ISD athletes named to Touchdown Club of Houston Preseason Football Team

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Six Katy ISD football players were named to the 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason team, as the school district was well represented at the event.

Katy's Coen Echols, Tompkins' Ashton Funk, Taylor's Ian Flynt and Jordan's Andrew Marsh were all named to the team on offense, while Tompkins' Eduwa Okundaye and Katy's Dakys Brinkley were named to the team on defense.

Echols and Funk, both A&M commits, were named to the team as offensive linemen going into their senior years. Flynt, a Nebraska commit, joined as one of only two tight ends. Okundaye, an Arizona commit, joined as a defensive lineman and Brinkley, who is committed to Kansas, was named to the team as a linebacker.

Marsh was named to the team as a wide receiver and his big honor was being the only junior named to the team this year.

Following is the full 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston Preseason Team

Offense

Woodlands QB Mabrey Mettauer
Cy-Fair QB Trey Owens
Klein Collins QB Tucker Parks
Oak Ridge RB Frankie Arthur
Summer Creek RB Lloyd Avant
Hightower RB Jeremy Payne
Ridge Point WR Ashton Bethel-Roman
Lamar WR Tristen Brown
Ridge Point WR Mason Dossett
Hightower WR Zion Kearney
2025 Katy Jordan WR Andrew Marsh
Katy Taylor TE Ian Flynt
Langham Creek TE Jordan Washington
Westfield OL Ray'Quan Bell
Katy OL Coen Echols
Katy Tompkins OL Ashton Funk
Clear Springs OL Blake Ivy
Heights OL Frank Moss
Klein Cain OL Gibson Pyle

Defense

Oak Ridge DL Joseph Jonah-Ajonye
Katy Tompkins DL Eduwa Okundaye
Pearland Dawson DL Edward Smith
Shadow Creek DL Zion Taylor
Deer Park DL Luke Webb
Summer Creek LB Xavier Atkins
Manvel LB Kaleb Blanton
Katy LB Dakys Brinkley
Oak Ridge LB Justin Williams
Dickinson DB Rodney Bimage



Coen Echols and Dakys Brinkley proudly display their 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason Team plaques.



Andrew Marsh poses with his 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason Team plaque.

Atascocita DB Braylon Conley
Pearland DB Ashton Hampton
North Shore DB LaVonte Johnson
Fort Bend Marshall DB Joshua Lair
Clear Lake DB Damani Maxson
Shadow Creek DB Maurice Williams



Ian Flynt receives his 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason Team plaque.

PHOTOS COURTESY KATY ISD

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 151 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., at Inframark Water & Infrastructure Services, 2002 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 100, Katy, TX 77449. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: K. Gier, N. Shipley, L. James & C. McFarland
AGAINST the proposal: (none)
PRESENT and not voting: (none)
ABSENT: J. Ciarella

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year \$ 0.850 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$ 0.820 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)		
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.030 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-3.5294%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$421,951	\$470,327
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$421,951	\$470,327
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 3,586.58	\$ 3,856.68
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$270.10 7.5308%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.



Eduwa Okundaye receives his 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason Team plaque.



Ashton Funk receives his 2023 Touchdown Club of Houston High School Preseason Team plaque.

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Texans ready to show improvement in 2023



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Texans want to prove themselves. With a new coach, a new quarterback and improvements on both sides of the ball, Houston is prepared and ready to step up this season. The front and center of that change is CJ Stroud. The No. 2 pick of the draft will take over as the starting quarterback for the Texans and is the face of the rebuild. He'll be helped on offense by a strong offensive line — Dameon Pierce at running back and weapons at receiver that include Nico Collins, Robert Woods, John Metchie III and Dalton Schultz will be a big factor in the pass game as well. "Through everything in preseason and training camp CJ has really shown us the complete product," said Texans head coach DeMeco Ryans. "CJ's desire to continue to get better is exactly what we've wanted to see. Our whole team has to continue to get better and having that mindset is big. We think he's ready for it. He's done a really good job and has progressed each week. The offensive line has continued to get better and is giving him

time — that's where it all starts." Defensively, Houston should be improved as well. The addition of the No. 3 pick of the draft, Will Anderson, will help on the defensive line and will be helped by Jerry Hughes, while the team's linebackers and secondary are in a better situation under the current defense than what they were in last year. "With our defense, I feel like we have a very versatile group, especially with that back seven," Ryans said. "We have a lot of guys who can do multiple things and cover for us in multiple ways. We're going to see how it turns out but we're excited." The Texans start the year with a big test on Sunday, as they will face off against the Ravens at noon in Baltimore. But it's an opportunity for the team to continue to prove itself as well and the biggest goal is to make sure — win or lose — it's a competitive matchup against one of the best teams in the NFL. "The biggest thing for me and the guys is I have to and we have to go out there and get better this week and be ready for Baltimore," Stroud said. "I'm going to work hard to better myself and be the best I can be when I go and line up against those guys."



Above right: Houston Texans linebacker Jake Hansen (35) tackles Miami Dolphins running back Salvon Ahmed (26) during an NFL preseason game between the Texans and the Dolphins on August 19, 2023 in Houston. Above left: Houston Texans tight end Dalton Schultz (83) is tackled by a group of Dolphins defenders during an NFL preseason game between the Texans and the Dolphins on August 19, 2023 in Houston. Left: Houston Texans quarterback C.J. Stroud (7) hands the ball off to running back Dameon Pierce (31) during an NFL preseason game between the Texans and the Dolphins on August 19, 2023 in Houston.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

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August 31 Puzzle Answers

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NOTICE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN ORDINANCE NO. 3102 BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON AUGUST 28, 2023:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KATY BY AMENDING SECTION 21.4-1 "SIGNS ON GENERAL RIGHTS-OF-WAY" ADDING REGULATIONS FOR COMMUNITY SIGNAGE FOR INTEGRATED BUSINESSES; PROVIDING A PENALTY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,000.00 FOR EACH DAY OF VIOLATION OF ANY PROVISION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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INVITATION TO BIDDERS
SEALED PROPOSALS addressed to City of Pattison for construction of the City Hall Renovations, LJA Job No. 1817-0001, will be received at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, until 3:00 p.m., Thursday, September 21, 2023, and then publicly opened and read aloud.

Scope of Work includes but is not limited to the demolition of existing walls, electrical, and plumbing and construction of new walls, flooring, electrical, and plumbing inside the existing City Hall

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

City of Pattison will hold a non-mandatory pre-bid conference at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, September 7, 2023. An additional non-mandatory pre-bid conference and site visit will be held at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2023. No additional site visits to City Hall will be granted outside of the two pre-bids. City of Pattison reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Successful Bidder, if any, is the Bidder offering the best value for the Owner based on the published criteria provided in the bid documents and on its evaluation. (Texas Local Government Code 252.043 and 271.116)

Bid security in the form of bid bond or cashier's check payable to City of Pattison in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid submitted, must accompany each Bid.

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

Bidder/Contractor declares that it has not received from a governmental body a notice of non-compliance with a provision of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, or, if such notice has been received, bidder/contractor has taken adequate steps to ensure future compliance with such subchapter and has provided or upon request will provide documentation of same.

Dates of Advertisement: 08/31/23; 09/07/23

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

APPLICATION: Laura Angela Frayre and Misael Frayre-Sierra, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise Lot 5, Block 1, Shiloh Subdivision. The revision will subdivide 1 residential lot to create 3 residential lots. These newly configured lots would consist of 1.5773 acres of land. Shiloh Subdivision is situated in the S. P. Railroad Company Survey, Section 3, Abstract No. 262, Waller County, Texas recorded in Volume 297, Page 220, in the Deed Records of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on September 20, 2023, at 9:00 A.M. at the Waller County Courthouse, 836 Austin St., Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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ATASCOCITA 42, KATY 34

Katy 7 7 7 13 -- 34
Atascocita 0 21 6 15 -- 42

First quarter

K: Gunner Nelson 38 pass to Oliver Ginn (Hunter Ondrush kick) 0:07

Second quarter

A: Zion Brown 28 pass to Jelani Walkins (Parker Cushing kick) 8:01

A: Cardae Mack 18 run (Cushing kick) 4:58

K: Jon Artis 30 interception return (Ondrush kick)

A: Brown 1 run (Cushing kick) 0:55

Third quarter

A: Hunter Sewell 15 fumble return (Ondrush kick) 5:07

K: Nelson 4 pass to Luke Carter (Ondrush kick) 0:19

Fourth quarter

A: Mack 4 run (Brown pass to Brodrick Malone) 8:17

K: Tremayne Hill 54 run, 7:22

A: Mack 24 run (Cushing kick) 5:30

K: Tremayne Hill 2 run (Ondrush kick) 3:34

Team stats

	KATY	ATASCOCITA
First downs	15	22
Yards rushing	30-145	35-249
Yards passing	188	180
Passes	11-20-2-1	12-24-1-1
Punts	4-43	3-38
Fumbles-lost	1-1	2-2
Penalty-yards	1-5	1-5

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Katy: Romel Jordan, 20-82; Tremayne Hill, 4-60-2; Chase Johnsey, 2-4; Gunner Nelson, 4(-1); Atascocita: Cardae Mack, 14-167-3; Tory Blaylock, 14-81; Zion Brown, 7-1;

Passing – Katy: Gunner Nelson, 10-19-143-2-1; Israel Olotu-Judah, 1-1-45; Atascocita: Zion Brown, 12-24-1-1;

Receiving – Katy: Chase Johnsey, 3-71; Oliver Ginn, 3-60-1; Israel Olotu-Judah, 2-30; Luke Carter, 2-19-1; Cade McCall, 1-8; Atascocita: Cameron Glenn, 3-83; Jelani Walkins, 2-38-1; Kyran Lee, 4-25; Justin Montgomery, 2-25; Tory Blaylock, 1-9;



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Dakyus Brinkley celebrates after a pass breakup during a game between Katy and Clear Springs at Rhodes Stadium.

KATY

from page B1

lead into halftime.

“We have to come in with a better mindset today is the biggest thing I think,” said senior offensive lineman and captain Coen Echols. “They beat us mentally and physically and we have to learn from that. We made a lot of mistakes that need to be fixed and that’s what we have to focus on.”

The second half is where mistakes started to mount for Katy. The Tigers’ defense made a big stand early in the third quarter, but the offense gifted the Eagles a touchdown just after Atascocita forced a fumble, which Hunter Sewell returned from 15 yards out. Katy trimmed the deficit to one score when Nelson completed a 4-yard touchdown pass

to Luke Carter, as Katy trailed 27-21 heading into the final quarter.

The Katy defense again came up with a big stop early in the fourth, but Gunner Nelson threw a costly interception that was returned to the Tigers’ four yard line, where the Eagles got another touchdown. Katy again made it a one-score game when Tremayne Hill took his first carry of the game 54 yards for a touchdown, but Atascocita answered one again with a touchdown of their own. Hill scored once more with just over three minutes left in the game and it looked like Katy would have a chance at a final drive to tie things, but the nail in the coffin was a fumble on a punt return by the

Tigers, which let Atascocita get the ball back and run out the clock.

“We have to be able to overcome this and continue to get better,” Joseph said. “Some of our young kids have to step up — we have to do a better job of tackling consistently and we have to continue to get better conditioned. It will happen — it’s just all part of what you go through at the beginning of the year.”

The loss was the Tigers’ first ever to Atascocita as the all-time record now sits in favor of Katy five to one, but the important game is the one ahead of the Tigers.

Katy will open district next week against Tompkins. It will be a matchup that could decide a lot in the district even with it happening in the first week of District 19-6A play.

“They’ve grown up and the important thing is we can’t get down on ourselves about the loss,” Joseph said. “It should sting and hurt, but it’s not something you can’t overcome. That’s what the message was in there. They competed and you can’t fault their effort — we just have to continue to get better with the execution. But we’re going to keep getting better and be ready.”

RAMS

from page B1

on a 3-yard score. The Rams had another good drive going before halftime, but a fumble ended it and Mayde Creek went into the locker room down 14-0.

Neither team could get anything going in the third quarter before Waller pulled away in the fourth. The Bulldogs scored quick

back-to-back touchdowns early in the fourth before sealing things midway through the final quarter on the game on a Jordan Duncan 4-yard run. Anthony Aileru made a big play late in the game, making an interception for the Rams, putting a bright spot on the day in the loss.

“Defensively we were able to slow down their pass game and that’s a good thing, but we still have to be better,” said senior defensive back Elijah Fuller. “We have to be better at flying around and staying locked in as well. The whole week we have to be locked in and ready — there can’t be a day

off if we’re going to be ready for games. I think that’s something we have to realize and work on.”

The Rams will face Jordan next for the start of District 19-6A play. It will be an important week for Mayde Creek and they will push to continue to be better.

“We have to have a great week

of practice,” said junior quarterback Cole Jensen. “We have to be focused as a team and come together. We do a great job of communicating and we have to continue that and not get down on ourselves. The good thing is that this happened this week and we can correct things going into district.”

**Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate**

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 161 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	C. Kight, K. Scully, J. Schubert, J. Kaiser & M. Harris
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	(none)

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.8300 /\$100	\$ 0.8000 /\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.030 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-3.6145%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$680,570	\$755,256
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	-\$34,029	-\$75,526
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$646,542	\$679,730
Tax on average residence homestead	\$5,366.29	\$5,437.84
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$71.55 1.3333%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

**Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate**

The Brookshire-Katy Drainage District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the year 2023-2024 on September 11, 2023 at 7:00 PM at 1111 Kenney Street, Brookshire, Texas 77423.

Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	ARNOLD ENGLAND, PAT KEELING, DAVID WELCH, BLAKE BECKENDORFF, JOHN CHISUM
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	0.065430 /\$100	0.060420 /\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$ -0.0050 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-7.66 %
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 392,034	\$ 458,428
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 329,034	\$ 458,428
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 256.51	\$ 276.98
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted and percentage of decrease	\$ 20.47	7.98 %

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS’ RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

UH's Freeman recognized among nation's top centers



COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ATHLETICS

Jack Freeman prepares to snap the ball during a game against East Carolina University.

STAFF REPORT

University of Houston senior Jack Freeman, who has appeared in 42 games including making 25 starts, has been recognized on the 2023 Rimington Trophy Watchlist, celebrating the nation's top 40 centers, the school announced Friday.

The Midlothian, Texas, native is among a national-leading eight Big 12 Conference centers on the watch list. The Athlon Sports Preseason All-Big 12 honoree allowed just one sack in his final 12 games a season ago (539 opportunities) and ranked third in The American in run block grade (71.6) among centers per Pro Football Focus while paving

the way for Houston to average 36.1 points per game (16th nationally).

This season, the Rimington Trophy committee worked with PFF to narrow down its list to 40 centers. PFF grades every player on every play of every game on how well they execute their given assignment. That play-by-play grading allowed the trophy committee to create a watchlist based both on nominations from the schools and data provided by PFF.

The accolade is the fifth during the pre-season for Freeman, who was also recognized for his efforts off the field, appearing on the Wuerffel Trophy watch list and as a Allstate AFCA Goodworks Team nominee.

The Rimington Trophy is presented annually to the most outstanding center in NCAA Division I College Football. Since its inception, the award has raised over \$5 million for the Boomer Esiason Foundation which raises money, awareness, and support for the cystic fibrosis community. Dave Rimington, the award's namesake, was a consensus first-team All-America center at the University of Nebraska in 1981 and 1982, during which time he became the John Outland Trophy's only two-time winner as the nation's finest college interior lineman. For more on the Rimington Trophy, visit www.rimington-trophy.com

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