

KATY DOWNS TOMPKINS IN DOMINANT DISTRICT OPENER  
SPORTS | B1

# Katy Times

*Autumn Acres*  
Gerald D. Young Facility  
September 22-23  
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VOLUME 111, ISSUE 37

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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

## Katy man sentenced in motel shooting

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

A Katy man was sentenced to 35 years in prison late Thursday for shooting a driver outside a motel near Highway 290 and Tidwell, Harris County District Attorney Kim Ogg announced.

"When people show up with a plan to start shooting and someone gets killed, that is murder," Ogg said. "Gun violence leads to more gun violence, and the consequences for using guns to settle a score usually means decades in prison."

Ramon Carlos Hernandez, 42, was sentenced by the Harris County jury that convicted him of murder in the fatal shooting of 26-year-old Darren Price just after midnight on April 11, 2020.

Hernandez was part of a group of armed men who went to a three-story extended-stay motel within the 5900 block of Guhn Road because of an argument between guests.

A shoot-out erupted on the third floor of the motel, which had open-air walkways along the exterior of the building. When the shots rang out, a man who was one of the intended targets fled on foot, leaping from the second floor to the ground parking lot.

That man's friend was downstairs in his Toyota Corolla sedan and started driving away from the scene, along with several other people who had heard the gunshots.

Hernandez, also fleeing the third-floor shoot-out, continued to fire as he made his way downstairs. He jumped into his friend's tow truck and fired his pistol at the back of Price's fleeing Corolla, shattering the back windshield and hitting Price in the back of the head, killing him.

Assistant District Attorney Ryan Volkmer, who is a chief in the DA's Organized Crime Division, prosecuted the case in a 10-day trial. He said Hernandez, who was in one moving vehicle, admitted firing a shot at another moving vehicle, shown at trial to be about 200 feet away, headed in the other direction.

See **SENTENCING**, page A3

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September 14, 2023  
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SUSAN ROVEGNO

In commemoration of the 236th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, members of the Katy Star of Destiny Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution received the Proclamation for Constitution Week, September 17-23, 2023 presented by Mayor Dusty Thiele at Monday's City Council meeting. Pictured (left to right): Susan Stormer, Brenda Henning, Laurel Cull, Mayor Thiele, Katy Sheffield, Donna McGee, Stephanie Kinghorn, Jaime Pierce, Jan Vance, Kathy Smith and Claudia Stokes.

## Katy city council approves purchase of new vehicles to replace aging fleet

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

Monday night's City of Katy council meeting began with Mayor Dusty Thiele's moving tribute to 9/11 and a moment of silence, following his thanks to all first responders. "We will never forget," said the mayor.

The mayor also declared September 17-23rd as Constitution Week and presented that proclamation to the Star of Destiny Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Thiele urged students to read and study the Constitution.

Council members unanimously authorized the

purchase of new fleet vehicles and equipment, funded through a surplus of funds in the FY2023 budget. Councilmember Dan Smith noted that some of the current city vehicles were as old as 2004 and 2011. Planned purchases include:

- Four new police patrol cars
  - One new stormwater vacuum truck
  - Replacement bus for seniors at Fussell Senior Center
  - Twelve other pieces of equipment for the Street/Public Works/Wastewater Department
- Additionally, a public

See **COUNCIL**, page A3



Mayor Dusty Thiele, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris and Councilmember Janet Corte attended a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at the VFW on Monday. A sculpture commemorating the raising of the flag at Ground Zero at the World Trade Center in New York City was displayed.

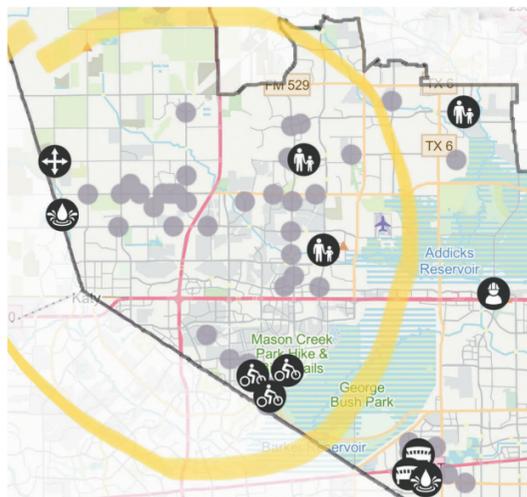
PHOTO COURTESY OF JANET CORTE

Legend

Places 4 People 2023

- Hike & Bike
- Park
- Sidewalk
- Drainage
- Various
- Road
- Intersection

All Other Capital Projects



COURTESY OF HARRIS COUNTY PRECINCT 4

## Briones leverages \$170 million for sustainable infrastructure projects

32 projects across Precinct 4 will move forward because of Places 4 People

FROM STAFF REPORTS

On September 6th, Harris County Commissioner Lesley Briones announced a \$170 million dollar invest-

ment in sustainable infrastructure projects. These projects will improve access to parks, alleviate flooding,

See **PROJECTS**, page A3

## Fort Bend Co. detectives make arrests in human smuggling case

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Sheriff's detectives arrested Jose Jose Aguirre, 24, Jose Aguirre Martin, 22, and Orlando Noe Betancur Flores, 21, in connection with a kidnapping and human smuggling scheme.

On August 30, 2023, at approximately 12:00 p.m., Fort Bend County Sheriff's deputies responded to a check welfare call leading to an investigation at the 12000 block of Meadow Hollow Drive, Meadows Place in Fort Bend County. The initial investigation led to human smuggling, with several immigrants allegedly held captive against their will.

As investigators of the Human Traf-

See **ARRESTS**, page A3

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Mattress sale fundraiser on Sept. 16th to benefit Katy High, Woodcreek JHS, Haskett JHS and West Memorial JHS

The Katy High School, Woodcreek Junior High School, Haskett Junior High School, and West Memorial Junior High School Choir Mattress Fundraiser is back! Do you deserve a better night's sleep? Come to Katy High School, 6331 Highway Blvd. in Katy on Saturday, September 16th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to try out over 25 different styles. You'll save money. You'll sleep better. You'll support Katy High School, Woodcreek Junior High, Haskett Junior High, and West Memorial Junior High Choir. The event is conducted by Custom Fundraising Solutions Houston West. For more information, go to the event's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/830348225345115/?ref=newsfeed>.

### Neighborhood Kidz Club to hold gala September 28th at Westland Baptist Church

"Lights! Camera! Action!" will be the theme of the September 28th gala benefiting Neighborhood Kidz Club, an organization that brings the Gospel to local neighborhoods while meeting practical needs such as providing food essentials as well as backpacks and school supplies. The event will take place at Westland Baptist Church, 1407 West Grand Parkway South in Katy. Tickets are \$150.00 per person. For more information, email [nkcgala@gmail.com](mailto:nkcgala@gmail.com) or call 281-676-8436.

### Pregnancy Help Center schedules gala for October 5th at Beckendorff Farms

The Pregnancy Help Center will hold its

annual gala on October 5th at Beckendorff Farms, 28533 Morton Rd., Katy. For more information, email [info@phckaty.org](mailto:info@phckaty.org) or call 281-578-0078. The Pregnancy Help Center is dedicated to meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of anyone affected by an unplanned pregnancy. As a resource to the community, the Center presents alternatives to elective abortion, offers Christ-centered counseling, and educates on sexual responsibility.

### Cinco Ranch Rotary's Katy Wine Fest returns on October 6th

The Cinco Ranch Rotary will host its 18th annual Katy Wine Fest on Friday, October 6, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. with proceeds benefiting The Brookwood Community and other select Katy-area charities. The event, presented by Texas Capital, will return to Palacio Maria Banquet Hall, 21718 Highland Knolls Drive, Katy, and will highlight a wide selection of wines from the Southern Hemisphere, specifically Australia, South Africa and South America. Cinco Ranch Rotary invites all wine lovers for an evening of wine tasting, live musical entertainment, and exciting live and silent auctions. Craft beer and lite bites also available. For more information, go to [katywinefest.com](http://katywinefest.com).

### Katy Christian Ministries brings back Kids Fishing Tournament for second year

On October 7th, Katy Christian Ministries will host its second annual Fishing Tournament, for kids 17 years and younger, at Mary Jo Peckham Park. The activities, featuring fishing, lawn games, archery, and a fishing class, will take place from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and will conclude with an awards

ceremony. Lunch and an Italian ice snack are also included. The event will benefit KCM programs and operations, including the food pantry, social services, the crisis center and counseling. Admission is \$20.00 per participant, with discounts for additional children. For more information, or to register, go to <https://kcm.org/fishing/>.

### Ballard House celebrates tenth anniversary with community open house on October 7th

In celebration of their 10-year anniversary, the Ballard House is inviting the Katy community to a "come and go" open house at their facility at 21421 Cinco Park Rd. in Katy. The October 7th free event will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. and will feature music, food, a caricature artist, a surprise gift raffle and more. Funded by Cinco Charities, The Ballard House offers a "home away from home" for patients experiencing serious medical issues and undergoing treatment in the Houston area. For more information, go to [theballardhouse.org](http://theballardhouse.org) or call 281-717-4670.

### Bill Nash hosts golf fundraiser October 9th featuring celebrity guests

Grammy award-winning country artist Bill Nash will be hosting his annual golf classic event at Top Golf on October 9th from 2 to 6 p.m. The fundraiser, in partnership with the Fulshear Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, will benefit Champions Kids Camp, which was established in 2001 by Nash and his wife Kim to nurture children who have survived a traumatic injury, illness, or personal loss, such as the loss of a parent or sibling. There will be a special presentation honoring Rudy Tomjanovich,



**BILL NASH**

a five-time all star and coach, who led the Houston Rockets to two NBA championships. Other celebrity guests expected to attend include former Houston Oilers quarterback Dan Pastorini, Houston Astros pitcher and

manager of the year Larry Dierker and boxer Termit Watkins. TopGolf is located at 1030 Memorial Brook Blvd., Houston 77084. Individual golfers can play for \$150.00 and spectator tickets are available at \$40.00. For more information, go to [championskidscamp.org/golf](http://championskidscamp.org/golf) or call 832-600-3221.

### Katy Area Community Band kicks off 31st season in October

The Lone Star Symphonic Band begins its 31st Concert Season on October 8th with "It's Fall, Y'all!" The concert is at 4 p.m. at Holy Covenant United Methodist Church at 22111 Morton Road, Katy. Tickets for this performance may be purchased online at <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=189776> The Lone Star Symphonic Band is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to bringing performances of artistic merit to the Houston metropolitan area. Founded in 1993 as the West Houston Concert Band, the band is comprised of musicians from all walks of life and instills the value that music is a life-long event, continuing well beyond high school and college.

## BRANDT 1910 EVENTS

Brandt 1910, a newly renovated historical event venue tucked away at 6503 Commerce in Wallis, has some exciting events coming up that are open to the public.

Built in 1910 by F.D. Brandt, the "Coca-Cola" building was originally constructed as a general store. The building was purchased by Joshua and Natalie DeJong of Katy and renovated into a sophisticated event venue.

For more information, please call (979) 217-1772, email [info@brandt1910.com](mailto:info@brandt1910.com) or visit the website at [brandt1910.com](http://brandt1910.com).

### Fulshear Moms Wine Tasting

- Thursday, September 21, 7-9 p.m. Come enjoy a night out tasting wines with sommelier, Hermen Key, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and music.
- All proceeds will benefit Society Prosper, and help end the cycle of child abuse. Tickets are \$30.00.

### Pop Up Lunch and Shop

- Tuesday, September 26, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Join Salt and Sugar and Cobblestone Cottage for a delicious lunch and fabulous

shopping. A selection of sandwich lunches and small desserts available for purchase while supplies last.

Preordering is recommended - contact [Jennifer@saltandsugartexas.com](mailto:Jennifer@saltandsugartexas.com) to pre-order.

### Fulshear-Katy Area Chamber of Commerce Spooky Speakeasy

- Saturday, October 21, 6 p.m. -10 p.m. Live Music - Local Food - Alcohol Tastings - Networking - Costume Contest Tickets are \$30. For information on

this event, please contact the Chamber at [fulshearkaty.com](http://fulshearkaty.com).

### Thanksgiving Lunch - Food with Gratitude

- Thursday, November 23, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Ensuring everyone receives a meal on Thanksgiving Day. Join Brandt 1910's Thanksgiving "Food with Gratitude" in partnership with PowerHouse Church Katy and the Wallis Police Department. Free to those who need a meal and place to go on Thanksgiving Day.

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## CROSSWORD PUZZLE

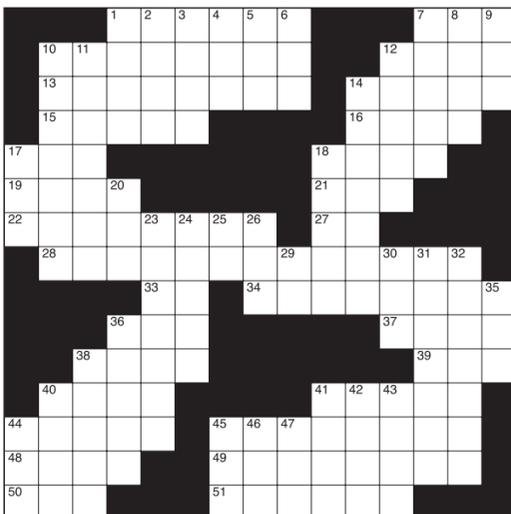
### CLUES ACROSS

- Type of crayon
- Fashion accessory
- Most cerebral
- Incline from vertical
- Dependent on
- Broken in
- Strongly desires
- Mounted soldier
- Ad \_\_: when necessary
- Cattle
- Ottoman military commanders
- \_\_ student, learns healing
- Composed in poetic meter
- Promotional material
- Where people live
- Sodium
- Embarrassing
- Medical man
- Mother of Hermes
- One who saves the day
- Tooth caregiver
- Not clothed
- Slot covered with loose stones
- Used to cook
- Praises enthusiastically
- Rooney is a famous one

- Beekeeper
- Pigpen
- Potato chip brand

### CLUES DOWN

- Living quarters
- Horizontal passage
- Attacks
- Vietnamese offensive
- Midway between east and southeast
- Confined (abbr.)
- Book of Esther antagonist
- Port in Yemen
- CNN's founder
- Type of bulb
- Prepare
- Promoted
- Dinner jackets
- Partner to cheese
- Nebraska city
- Human gene
- Pays no attention to
- Lowland South American plain
- Blood group
- Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano
- Atomic #37



- Unit of electrical resistance
- Jeweled crowns
- Nastiest
- Traditional cars need it
- Bowler hat
- Robust
- Not straight
- Stony waste matter
- Have an interest in
- Jacob \_\_, journalist
- Maintains possession of
- Swiss river
- Average cost of market goods
- Spanish soldier: El \_\_

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

### Fun By The Numbers

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### 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.



**JOSE JOSE AGUIRRE**



**JOSE AGUIRRE MARTIN**



**ORLANDO NOE BETANCUR FLORES**

## ARRESTS

from page A1

ficking Unit responded, the investigation led to information regarding kidnapping and human smuggling of immigrants, five of whom were recovered at a residence. The immigrants were allegedly illegally smuggled from Mexico. The five victims were being held captive in a locked un-air-conditioned garage at the location pending payment of additional money.

The smuggling incident led to charges against three individuals for Smuggling of Persons. Jose Aguirre, Jose Martin, and Orlando Flores

were each charged with this offense, and bond was set at \$500,000 for Martin and \$500,000 for Flores. Jose Aguirre was also charged with Aggravated Kidnapping. His bond is currently pending.

"We are dedicated to keeping our community safe while combating heinous crimes such as these, and we are working tirelessly to bring perpetrators to justice," said Sheriff Eric Fagan. "While arrests have been made, this investigation continues in order to ensure all involved are held accountable."

## SENTENCING

from page A1

"It was a confrontation that had been brewing all day between at least six people that ended up becoming a shoot-out turned into a deadly car getaway," Volkmer said. "The defendant made a decision to fire at people, hotel rooms, and then vehicles, eventually killing the victim,

who was not part of the shoot-out."

Volkmer noted that officers with the Houston Police Department responded to the chaotic scene at the motel and the murder scene on the road nearby and were able to piece together what happened in order to solve the murder.

## PROJECTS

from page A1

close critical connectivity gaps, and increase public safety.

Through her Precinct's Places 4 People initiative, Commissioner Lesley Briones will invest \$88 million in Precinct funding and will leverage \$82 million in partners' funding, to deliver a \$170 million investment into her precinct. By forging partnerships with organizations such as METRO, Houston Parks Board, Energy Corridor District, Westchase District, various MUDs, and other entities, Precinct 4 is multiplying the infusion of capital to more rapidly drive progress.

"High-quality infrastructure is critical to our quality of life and safety, and is at the heart of thriving communities," Commissioner Briones said. "I am committed to getting more done for the people of Harris County by being proactive about collaboration. Through these strategic partnerships, we will be able to deliver more—and better—projects across Precinct 4, and this collaboration will help us build a brighter, more resilient future for our children."

Local organizations submitted projects to be considered for funding. After a rigorous review process, Precinct 4 selected 32 projects, including:

- Approximately 200 METRO bus shelters

### SEVEN PROJECTS HAPPENING IN THE KATY AREA

Name	Type	Description
Cane Island Branch Drainage	Drainage	Improvements to the Cane Island Branch of Buffalo Bayou to mitigate flood hazard conditions
Greenbelt Park and Trail	Hike & Bike	Trail connections to Greenbelt Park along South Fry, Westgreen and Highland Knolls
Kieth Harrow	Sidewalk	New sidewalk connecting Westfield Village Drive to Sheridan Elementary School
Mayde Creek Sidewalk Network	Sidewalk	1.6 miles of new sidewalks and sidepaths providing safe access to and from neighborhoods, schools, parks, and trails around the Mayde Creek school complex
Memorial MUD Pedestrian Bridge	Hike & Bike	Pedestrian bridge and recreational trails at Willow Fork Drainage District
Pitts Road Intersections	Intersection	Intersection improvements on Pitts Road, from Clay to Beckendorf
South Fry Undercrossing	Hike & Bike	1.9 miles of new 10' wide trail connecting Mason and George Bush Park. Includes an undercrossing at South Fry

- 14 trail connection projects
  - 8 street intersection and sidewalk projects
  - 6 roadway drainage projects
  - 8 Brays Bayou under crossings
  - 3 community parks
  - 2 SPARK parks
  - 1 pedestrian promenade
- Between October 2023 and September 2024, 11 projects will begin moving through the final design, permitting, and construction process, and are anticipated to break ground in 2024.

"Places 4 People is an example of how county government can collaborate with local organizations to achieve more for our residents," Commissioner Briones said. "By pooling our resources and expertise, we will drive dozens of innovative projects across the finish line."

For more details on upcoming projects visit: [hcp4.net/infrastructure/projects/](http://hcp4.net/infrastructure/projects/)

## COUNCIL

from page A1

hearing was set for Tax Rate Reduction, to be held on Monday, September 25 at 630 p.m. at City Hall, 901 Avenue C.

In other action, council:

- Authorized the issuance of unlimited tax road bonds for Fort Bend-Waller Counties MUD No. 3, not to exceed \$9,500,000.00 (Young Ranch area)
- Authorized the mayor to sign and LED street light installation agreement with CenterPoint to purchase and install LED luminaires and new photo-electric relays for all streetlights within the city. Kevin Browne of the city's parks department, along with Keep

Katy Beautiful, will work with CenterPoint in determining which lights and how many will be replaced. Browne said that he would also work with the utility to keep the same aesthetics as the current lights and to monitor the "warmth" of the new lights to keep them as close to the "warmth" of the current lights as possible.

Council member reports:

- Chris Harris noted that September 12th is National Policewomen's Day and commended the 18 female officers working for the City of Katy.
- Janet Corte described the 9/11 ceremony she attended at the VFW along with Thiele and Harris; she also

called for volunteers to help with the Rice Harvest Festival in October.

- Gina Hicks reminded attendees that the Rice Harvest Festival Parade will be October 7th.
  - Dan Smith announced that the Katy Police Department would be holding "National Night Out" on October 3rd from 5 to 8 p.m. He also said that the city parks department would be holding a series of fall camps.
  - Rory Robertson noted that Katy Market Day would be held in downtown Katy on September 18th.
- The next regular meeting of city council will be October 9th at 6:30 p.m. at city hall.

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LOOKING FOR A PET, A HOME OR A JOB?  
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# Katy's First United Methodist Church celebrates 125 years

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

Katy First United Methodist Church will celebrate 125 years of serving the Katy community, with a special service on September 24th at 11 a.m. Bishop Cynthia Fierro Harvey will officiate and a banquet will follow at noon where a special proclamation will be read. The church is located at 5601 5th St, Katy.

The theme of the months-long celebration is "From Tradition to Trailblazers," recognizing both the rich tradition of the early settlers to Katy - many of whom were members of the church - as well as the legacy of service to the community, especially to its schools.

According to a clipping from an article in the April 8, 2011, edition of the Katy News, provided to the Katy Times by the church, the congregation was founded in 1898 when a group of Baptists, Disciples of Christ, Presbyterians, Quakers and Methodists organized a union Sunday school in the home of William James. Some time around 1900, the article continues, the Methodists formed their own fellowship. The Reverend M. Lindsey, who was the first pastor, also served as a "circuit rider," serving other churches in the area in addition to Katy. He was assisted by several of the early families of the church, including W. P. Bowers, J. E. Cabiness, E.M. Morton and T. G. Roberts. Lay members sometimes held worship services when the minister could not attend every Sunday.

In 1903, according to the article, land was secured from W. E. and R. M. Cash and from L. C. Luekel and a foundation for a frame church building was laid. The sanctuary was



KATY HERITAGE SOCIETY



SUSAN ROVEGNO

The current church building and sanctuary at 5601 5th St, Katy, was completed in 1961. The church's original sanctuary was completed in 1904 and was the first church building constructed in the town of Katy, at the corner of Avenue A and Fifth Street.

completed in 1904 and was the first church building constructed in the town of Katy, at the corner of Avenue A and Fifth Street. It served the congregation until 1938 when a new sanctuary was built. The current structure at 5601 5th St, Katy, was completed in 1961. The Family Life Center was built in 1998 - 1999.

Around 2008 the church went through a lengthy process to determine whether it should relocate, renovate or rebuild the church facilities. A Discernment Task Force and churchwide vote determined that the church should remain in its current location and make the facilities more effective for future ministry. In 2012 the Connection Center was built in order to expand the Welcoming ministry. The project updated technology, video, sound, and lighting as well as making the building more accessible and welcoming.

"Throughout its history, the First United Methodist Church of Katy has provided significant service and leadership to the community," said the 2011 article, and that legacy continues to this day. Ministries of outreach to the community include:

- Home Delivered Meals started in 1983; by 2010 the church was serving 80 to 90 people in the community who were disabled, homebound, or seriously ill.

- Katy Christian Ministries formed in 1984- One of nine local churches that formed KCM food pantry in Katy. The pantry operated out of the basement of Katy First United Methodist Church. Still today the church supports KCM with food drives, Special events: Santa Sleigh, its annual gala and other projects.

- GriefShare -support group for people in grief.

- Thanksgiving Day Community Lunch, joining with Antioch Baptist Church when the lunch outgrew their facilities. With other local churches, the congregations fed around 1000 meals on Thanksgiving Day 2022.

- Host Daybreak to minister to people who are primary caregivers of people with dementia and to the people they care for.

- Prayer blankets.
- Harley's Helpers Angel Ministry - providing support and encouragement to families of children with cancer.

- Stephen Ministry providing encouragement to people recovering from crisis.

- Forever Friends for young adults with learning disabilities.

- Blood Drives and flu shots.
- Joyful Noisemakers - older adult ministry to nursing homes.

- Parkinson's Therapy.
- English as a Second Language.
- Adopt-a-highway clean up.

- Team of volunteers doing minor repairs for elderly and low-income residents.

- Angel Tree - Christmas gifts for children of incarcerated parents.

- Musical Monday Funday.

But the role of the church and its members' activities in the Katy community doesn't stop there. The church partners with three elementary schools in the area - Katy, Lindsey and Hutsell - with mentorship programs, shared parking facilities and more. "We are a church that serves with its hands and feet in the community," said Senior Pastor Mark Kimbrough. "We have a heartbeat for our schools, and there is such a great need in our community."

Congregation members have long had an active role in the greater Katy area's educational scene, from founding schools and implementing art programs to serving as teachers, volunteers and administrators. More than 15 current Katy ISD facilities are named for members of Katy's First United Methodist Church, including teachers, librarians, administrators, athletic directors, volunteers and even a superintendent.

Mentioned in the church's YouTube video ([youtu.be/gC\\_thB4uf80](https://youtu.be/gC_thB4uf80)) are Stockdick Junior High, Jordan High School, Betty Sue Creech Elementary, Morton Ranch Elementary and Morton Ranch High School (named for Elbert and Margaret Morton), Beckendorff Junior High, Jeanette Hayes Elementary, Jean and Betty Schmalz Elementary, Jack and Sharon Rhoads Elementary, Martha Lopez Aki Early Childhood Intervention Center, Zelma Hutsell Elementary, Garland McMeans Junior High, James E. Taylor High School, Robert Wright Rylander Elementary, James E. Williams Elementary, Cardiff Junior High and Franz Elementary.

Like all congregations in the Katy area, First United Methodist has experienced challenges - from COVID to the explosive growth of the area. "We are a church that began as a congregation serving a small rural farming community," said Kimbrough. "Everybody knew everybody." Now, he said, Katy is a part of suburban Houston with a more transient type of resident. "We are learning to embrace our history while also embracing the hardship of this transition."

What will the next 125 years bring? Kimbrough says that the church will remain where it is. "Location matters," he said. And the congregation will continue to serve the Katy area for as long as it is in existence. "This is a church that loves to meet the needs of this community. For the next 125 years, it will do what it is compelled to do. We have learned to love and embrace the diversity of our community. We are ready to be grateful and thankful. Now it is our turn with the Katy we have today. Our best days are ahead of us."

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 163 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 9:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Brazos Room, Houston, Texas. 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://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.

<b>FOR</b> the proposal:	J. Hundl, O. Cabello & A. Zepeda
<b>AGAINST</b> the proposal:	(none)
<b>PRESENT</b> and not voting:	(none)
<b>ABSENT:</b>	R. Patrick & J. Ring

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.

	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>This Year</b>
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$ 0.820 /\$100</u> Adopted	<u>\$ 0.765 /\$100</u> Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		<u>-\$0.055 /\$100</u>
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		<u>-6.7073%</u>
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$676,355</u>	<u>\$748,113</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$676,355</u>	<u>\$748,113</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$5,546.11</u>	<u>\$5,723.06</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>\$176.95</u> <u>3.1905%</u>	

### 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.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Woodcreek Reserve Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 4:00 p.m., at the Katy Civic Center, 910 Ave. C, Katy, Texas 77493. 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://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.

<b>FOR</b> the proposal:	C. Foster, C. Caruthers, D. Cresap, M. Sheahan & J. Perkins
<b>AGAINST</b> the proposal:	(none)
<b>PRESENT</b> and not voting:	(none)
<b>ABSENT:</b>	(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.

	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>This Year</b>
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	<u>\$ 0.530 /\$100</u> Adopted	<u>\$ 0.450 /\$100</u> Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		<u>-\$0.080 /\$100</u>
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		<u>-15.0943%</u>
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$502,569</u>	<u>\$557,065</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	<u>-\$50,257</u>	<u>-\$83,560</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$452,312</u>	<u>\$473,505</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$ 2,397.25</u>	<u>\$ 2,130.77</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	<u>-\$266.48</u> <u>-11.1161%</u>	

### 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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## Prostate Cancer Awareness Month: Tips for Prostate Health

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, a crucial time for men to educate themselves about this common cancer. About one man in eight will develop prostate cancer during his lifetime. To help spread awareness, Dr. David Mobley, a urologist with Houston Methodist West Hospital, gives his top five tips to promote prostate health:

1. **Understand Your Risk Factors** “Knowing your risk factors is the first step in proactive prostate health management,” says Mobley. “Age, family history and race can all affect your risk of prostate cancer, along with

your diet and lifestyle. Speak with a urologist to understand your individual risk and determine the best course of action.”

2. **Prioritize Regular Screening**

“Early detection is the best defense we have against treating prostate cancer,” says Mobley. Consult with your healthcare provider to establish when you should begin



**DR. DAVID MOBLEY**  
Urologist, Houston Methodist West Hospital

screenings and understand the importance of PSA tests and digital rectal exams (DRE) in the screening process.

3. **Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle**

Mobley emphasizes, “Your lifestyle choices play a significant role in prostate health.” Prioritize a balanced diet, regular exercise, and limit your consumption of red meat and high-fat dairy products to reduce your risk.

4. **Know the Symptoms**

Recognizing potential symptoms and taking prompt action is crucial. “Be vigilant about symptoms like urinary changes or persistent pain,” says Mobley. These changes include frequency, urgency or weak stream;

blood in urine or semen; and persistent pain in the back, hips, or pelvis. Consult a urologist immediately if you experience any of these symptoms.

5. **Spread Awareness** “Spread awareness about prostate health,” Mobley urges. “Stay informed about the latest advancement, treatments and support options. Remember to encourage your loved ones to prioritize their prostate health.”

“By following these tips and seeking guidance from a urologist, you can take proactive steps towards maintaining a healthy prostate and reduce the impact of prostate cancer,” concluded Mobley.

## Katy High junior named to American Battlefield Trust Youth Leadership team

Tanisha Parikh will dedicate the next year advocating for historic preservation and education, both locally and nationally

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

School is back in session, but for local student Tanisha Parikh, a junior at Katy High School, the learning started early, as she underwent a two-day training as a member of the American Battlefield Trust’s Youth Leadership Team (YLT). Along with nine other passionate young people from across the nation, she will spend the next year engaged in advocacy efforts to

bring historic preservation, history education and heritage tourism initiatives to her community.

The American Battlefield Trust has protected more than 57,000 acres of Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War battlefields. At the same time, its education programs have provided resources to thousands of classrooms and have brought more than 40,000 students to historic sites through the History Field Trip Grant Program.

Over the next year, Parikh will pursue a project to educate those in her community about lesser-known Civil War battles. She plans to create presentations and hold educational sessions, conduct interviews with educators, and arrange a trip to the Civil War Battle of Galveston site. Additionally, she

envisions using her abilities as a violinist to compose pieces that evoke wartime feelings, and later sharing them to YouTube. With this multi-faceted project, Parikh hopes to provide a glimpse of the valuable history that battlefields hold.

“I’m excited to be a part of this program because of the opportunity to make a difference in my community,” said Parikh. To her, historic preservation is a way to give back: “[It] is a means to secure the future for generations to come. By preserving battlefields, we are ensuring a future where individuals can understand their legacy and cherish their heritage.”

The full roster of the 2023-24 Youth Leadership Team includes: Maurya Bonu, 17, of Buffalo Grove, Ill.; Alex Chayriques, 16, of

Concord, Mass.; Daniel Gleason, 17, of West Suffield, Conn.; Isabella Hernandez, 15, of Eastvale, Calif.; Nathan Mercer, 17, of Macon, Ga.; Wynton Nama, 17, of The Woodlands, Texas; Tanisha Parikh, 16, of Katy; Lila Phipps, 15, of Scottsdale, Ariz.; Leo Tadikonda, 16, of Rhinebeck, N.Y.; and Yujin Wu, 16, of Flushing, N.Y.

The American Battlefield Trust is dedicated to preserving America’s hallowed battlegrounds and educating the public about what happened there and why it matters today. The nonprofit, nonpartisan organization has protected more than 57,000 acres associated with the Revolutionary War, War of 1812 and Civil War across 155 sites in 25 states. Learn more at [www.battlefields.org](http://www.battlefields.org).

### TRIBUTE

**MARIAN HELEN KAPLITA**  
1928 – 2023

Marian Helen Kaplita of Katy, Texas, passed away peacefully in her sleep July 14, 2023.

She was born July 26, 1928, to Julius and Era Barnett in Mineola, Texas.

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PASTOR RICHARD DEVOST

# Rotary Club of Katy awards over \$40,000 to charitable causes



The Read to Me Foundation received a \$500.00 check, which will be used to educate children in Alabama and to expose them to reading at an early age. Pictured (left to right): Greg Hess, Alvin Gullette, Walthena Gullette, Gennell Cullette-Crump, and Rotary President Jaime Corona.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

**BY SUSAN ROVEGNO**  
PUBLISHER

At the September 7th meeting of the Rotary Club of Katy, the organization awarded \$40,770 in donations to charitable causes, ranging from local nonprofits to a reading program in Alabama to a hospital in South

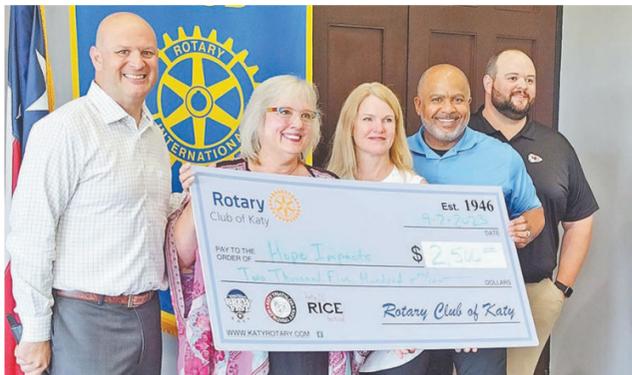
America. The presentations took place at the Club at Falcon Point, 24503 Falcon Point Dr., Katy, under the direction of club president Jaime Corona.

The grants are funded from the proceeds of the club's annual events, which include Wild West Brew Fest, the Katy Triathlon and other fundraisers.

The Boy Scouts were awarded \$1500.00, which will be used to give financial aid to area students who may wish to join the organization. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Jonathan Monk, Aaron Voges, Freddy Frederick, and Graydon Rochelle.



A grant of \$15,000.00 will be used by Katy ISD's FFA programs to help kids who wish to raise animals but who are financially unable to do so. Pictured along with District Governor Heather Rimato is the Rotary Club of Katy's buying group, which annually purchases animals at auction and then donates the meat to Katy Christian Ministries.



Displaying their gift of \$2500.00 is Hope Impacts, an organization that helps the homeless in the Katy area. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Tina Hatcher, Lyl Rymmer, Dr. Ralph Brock and Graydon Rochelle.



A grant of \$5000.00 will be used by the ARC of Katy to further its work with young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Fred Shafer, Jennifer Royo, Rocky Blair, and Graydon Rochelle.



Receiving \$2275.00 is the Hospital La Vega, a medical facility in South America. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Don Becker, George Yeiter, Beverly Becker and Dr. Ralph Brock.



Katy Christian Ministries, which provides social services, a food pantry and a domestic crisis center serving the Katy area, received a grant for \$1000.00. Pictured (left to right): Jeannette Trejo, Alfred Castillo, Penny Whited, Gloria Castillo, J. R. Richardson, Chris Harris and Jaime Corona.



The \$5000.00 check awarded to the YMCA will be used to expand water safety programs, especially to area apartments. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Collin Johnson, Joseph Churbe, Jerry Moye, J.R. Richardson and Jay Donnella.



Receiving a \$5000.00 grant is Keep Katy Beautiful, which will use the funds for additional beautification projects in the City of Katy. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, City Administrator Byron Hebert, former Katy Mayor Skip Connor, Lindsay Kerr, Mayor Dusty Thiele, and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris.



Operation Turkey will use its \$5000.00 grant to deliver Thanksgiving meals to area veterans. Pictured (left to right): Jaime Corona, Bob Gebhard (past Rotary district governor), Heather Rimato (Rotary District Governor), Paul Kurt and Jason Sanders.

## Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Katy West Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, September 28, 2023 at 12:00 noon, 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: S. Corbin, G. Whitt, C. Davis & S. Gilligan  
**AGAINST** the proposal: (none)  
**PRESENT** and not voting: (none)  
**ABSENT:** L. Lindley

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)	\$ 0.800/\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.800/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.000 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.0000%
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 (+/-)		\$0.00 0.0000%

### 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.

# OKTOBERFEST KTX<sup>2023</sup>

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5PM - 10PM

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**EXPLANATORY STATEMENTS FOR THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION**

**Proposition Number 1  
(HJR 126)**

**HJR 126** proposes a constitutional amendment to protect a person’s right to engage in generally accepted farm, ranch, timber production, horticulture, or wildlife management practices on real property that the person owns or leases. The proposed amendment would not affect the authority of the legislature to authorize the regulation of these practices by: (1) a state agency or political subdivision as necessary to protect the public health and safety from imminent danger; (2) a state agency to prevent a danger to animal health or crop production; or (3) a state agency or political subdivision to preserve or conserve the natural resources of the state under the Texas Constitution. Additionally, the proposed amendment would not affect the legislature’s authority to authorize the use or acquisition of property for a public use, including the development of natural resources under the Texas Constitution.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment protecting the right to engage in farming, ranching, timber production, horticulture, and wildlife management.”**

**Proposition Number 2  
(SJR 64)**

**SJR 64** proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the governing body of a county or municipality to exempt from property taxation all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility. The proposed amendment would authorize the governing body to adopt the exemption as a percentage of the appraised value of the property, but that percentage could not be less than 50% of the appraised value of the property. The proposed amendment also would allow the legislature to define the term “child-care facility” and to establish additional eligibility requirements to receive the property tax exemption.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility.”**

**Proposition Number 3  
(HJR 132)**

**HJR 132** proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax based on the wealth or net worth of an individual or family. The proposed amendment also would prohibit the legislature from imposing a tax based on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of an individual wealth or net worth tax, including a tax on the difference between the assets and liabilities of an individual or family.”**

**Proposition Number 4  
(HJR 2- Second Special Session)**

**HJR 2** proposes a constitutional amendment to modify certain provisions of the Texas Constitution related to property taxes. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to temporarily limit the maximum appraised value of real property for property tax purposes in a tax year. The proposed amendment also would increase the mandatory homestead exemption for school district property taxation from \$40,000 to \$100,000. The proposed amendment would require the legislature to provide for a reduction in the amount of the limitation on school district property taxes imposed on the residence homestead of the elderly or disabled. Additionally, the amendment would exempt appropriations not dedicated by the Texas Constitution and used for property tax relief from being considered as appropriations when determining whether the rate of growth of appropriations in a biennium has exceeded the constitutional tax spending limit. The proposed amendment would further authorize the legislature to provide that members serving on an appraisal board in a county with a population of at least 75,000 serve terms not to exceed four years.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to establish a temporary limit on the maximum appraised value of real property other than a residence homestead for ad valorem tax purposes; to increase the amount of the exemption**

**from ad valorem taxation by a school district applicable to residence homesteads from \$40,000 to \$100,000; to adjust the amount of the limitation on school district ad valorem taxes imposed on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect increases in certain exemption amounts; to except certain appropriations to pay for ad valorem tax relief from the constitutional limitation on the rate of growth of appropriations; and to authorize the legislature to provide for a four-year term of office for a member of the board of directors of certain appraisal districts.”**

**Proposition Number 5  
(HJR 3)**

**HJR 3** proposes a constitutional amendment to redesignate the national research university fund as the Texas University Fund (TUF), and to appropriate funds from the economic stabilization fund to the TUF. The proposed amendment would appropriate to the TUF an amount equal to the interest income, dividends, and investment earnings attributable to the economic stabilization fund for the preceding state fiscal year. The appropriation amount could not exceed \$100 million for the state fiscal year beginning September 1, 2023, or an amount adjusted for the increase in the general price index, not to exceed two percent, in subsequent state fiscal years. The proposed amendment also would prohibit any state university that is entitled to participate in dedicated funding provided by Article VII, Section 18 of the Texas Constitution from receiving money from the TUF.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas University Fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy.”**

**Proposition Number 6  
(SJR 75)**

**SJR 75** proposes a constitutional amendment to create the Texas water fund. The Texas water fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) or its successor to assist in financing water projects in the state. The proposed amendment would direct the Texas water fund administrator to use the fund only to transfer money to other TWDB funds or accounts. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to appropriate money for deposit to the water fund to be available for permitted transfers. No further legislative appropriation would be required for the water fund administrator to transfer money from or restore money to the fund, including the transfer of money to or the restoration of money from certain designated TWDB funds and accounts. The water fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by general law; (2) other revenue that the legislature by statute dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts credited to the fund; (4) money from gifts, grants, and donations to the fund; and (5) money returned from any authorized transfer. The proposed amendment would require the legislature, by general law, to provide for the manner in which money from the Texas water fund may be used. The proposed amendment also would require that at least 25% of the money initially appropriated to the Texas water fund be transferred to the New Water Supply for Texas Fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment creating the Texas water fund to assist in financing water projects in this state.”**

**Proposition Number 7  
(SJR 93)**

**SJR 93** proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the Texas energy fund. The Texas energy fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) or its successor. Money in the Texas energy fund could be used, without further appropriation, only by PUC or its successor to provide loans and grants to finance or incentivize the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities necessary to ensure the reliability or adequacy of an electric power grid in the state. The proposed amendment would require PUC to allocate money from

the fund for loans and grants to eligible projects for electric generating facilities that serve as backup power sources and in each region of the state that is part of an electric power grid in proportion to that region’s load share. The Texas energy fund would consist of: (1) money credited, appropriated, or transferred to the fund by or as authorized by the legislature; (2) revenue that the legislature dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) the returns received from the investment of the money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations contributed to the fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities.”**

**Proposition Number 8  
(HJR 125)**

**HJR 125** proposes a constitutional amendment to create the broadband infrastructure fund. The broadband infrastructure fund would be a special fund in the state treasury outside the general revenue fund, administered by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (Comptroller). Money from the fund could be used, without further appropriation, only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would consist of: (1) money transferred or deposited to the fund by the Texas Constitution, general law, or the General Appropriations Act; (2) revenue that the legislature by general law dedicates for deposit to the fund; (3) investment earnings and interest earned on money in the fund; and (4) gifts, grants, and donations to the fund. The proposed amendment would authorize the Comptroller to transfer money from the broadband infrastructure fund to another fund as provided by general law, and the state agency that administers the fund to which any money is transferred could use the money without further appropriation only for the expansion of access to and adoption of broadband and telecommunications services. The broadband infrastructure fund would expire on September 1, 2035, unless extended by adoption of a joint resolution of the legislature. Immediately before the expiration of the fund, the Comptroller would be required to transfer any unexpended and unobligated balance remaining in the broadband infrastructure fund to the general revenue fund.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects.”**

**Proposition Number 9  
(HJR 2)**

**HJR 2** proposes a constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to eligible annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS). The proposed amendment also would authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the general revenue fund to the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to pay the cost-of-living adjustment.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment authorizing the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.”**

**Proposition Number 10  
(SJR 87)**

**SJR 87** proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the legislature to exempt from property taxation tangible personal property held by a medical or biomedical manufacturer as a finished good or used in the manufacturing or processing of medical or biomedical products.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation equipment or inventory held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen our medical supply chain.”**

**Proposition Number 11  
(SJR 32)**

**SJR 32** proposes a constitutional amendment to expand the authority of the legislature with regard to conservation and

reclamation districts in El Paso County. The Texas Constitution permits conservation and reclamation districts in certain counties across the state to issue bonds to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities but does not currently provide this authority to El Paso County. The proposed amendment would add conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to those districts currently allowed, if authorized by general law, to issue bonds supported by property taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities. The proposed amendment would not limit the powers of the legislature or of a conservation and reclamation district with respect to parks and recreational facilities as those powers currently exist.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities.”**

**Proposition Number 12  
(HJR 134)**

**HJR 134** proposes a constitutional amendment to abolish the office of County Treasurer in Galveston County. The amendment would authorize the Galveston County Commissioners Court to employ or contract with a qualified person or designate another county officer to perform any functions that would have been performed by the County Treasurer. The proposed amendment would take effect only if a majority of the voters of Galveston County voting on the proposition favor the amendment.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment providing for the abolition of the office of county treasurer in Galveston County.”**

**Proposition Number 13  
(HJR 107)**

**HJR 107** proposes a constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory retirement age for state justices and judges. Currently, the Texas Constitution establishes that justices and judges of the appellate courts, district courts, and criminal district courts must retire on the expiration of the term during which they reach the age of 75 years or an earlier age, not less than 70 years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment would change the mandatory retirement age for justices and judges of the appellate courts, district courts, and criminal district courts to 79 years or an earlier age, not less than 75 years, as the legislature may prescribe. The proposed amendment also would remove the provision stating that justices and judges may only serve until December 31 of their fourth year in office if they reach the age of 75 years in the first four years of a six-year term.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment to increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges.”**

**Proposition Number 14  
(SJR 74)**

**SJR 74** proposes a constitutional amendment to establish the centennial parks conservation fund as a trust fund outside the state treasury. The fund could be used, in accordance with general law, only for the creation and improvement of state parks. The centennial parks conservation fund would consist of: (1) money appropriated, credited, or transferred to the fund by the legislature; (2) gifts, grants, and donations received by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) or its successor for a purpose for which money in the fund may be used; and (3) investment earnings and interest earned on amounts credited to the fund. The proposed amendment would authorize the legislature to appropriate money from the centennial parks conservation fund to TPWD or its successor for the creation and improvement of state parks.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **“The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks.”**

## Local scholar completes prestigious Carnegie Mellon University program

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Henry Liu, a rising senior at James E. Taylor High School, recently participated in the Summer Academy for Math and Science (SAMS) at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. Henry is currently valedictorian of his class and the founder and leader of the environmental organization NoPlanetB, which has raised over \$1375 for local environmental charities. He hopes to major in environmental science or cell biology.



Henry Liu

SAMS is a rigorous summer residential experience designed to increase the number of outstanding high school students who have access to math and science education. The program prepares them to pursue degrees in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines at the nation's top colleges and universities.

Rising high school seniors across the U.S. apply to the highly competitive national program, which provides students an opportunity to take courses and complete hands-on research projects with Carnegie Mellon faculty members. In addition, students participate in skill building workshops focused on the college application process. The university provides the program at no cost to all selected participants; in the past 15 years, 1,400 students from 45 states, Puerto Rico and U.S. territories have traveled to Pittsburgh for the prestigious program.

About 75% of SAMS participants go on to pursue a degree

at a highly selective university and nearly 40% pursue undergraduate degrees in STEM fields. For those who enroll at Carnegie Mellon, an impressive 70% pursue STEM majors. Students from any background are welcome in the program and SAMS staff members actively recruit participants from across the U.S. from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in math, science and engineering fields.

Carnegie Mellon recently announced a \$3 million grant from the PNC Foundation in 2022, of which \$2.5 million provides sustaining support for 75 students annually to participate in the SAMS program and facilitates financial education programming to students and families.

More information about SAMS can be found at [www.cmu.edu/pre-college/academic-programs/sams.html](http://www.cmu.edu/pre-college/academic-programs/sams.html) or by contacting M. Shernell Smith, Associate Dean & Executive Director of Center for Student Diversity & Inclusion, [cmu-sams@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:cmu-sams@andrew.cmu.edu) or 412-268-2150.



HARMONY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Harmony School of Excellence (PK-6) is located at 22855 Elyson Falls in Katy.

## Harmony Public Schools teachers to receive 7.5 million in bonuses

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Harmony Public Schools presented \$7.5 million in bonuses to its teachers through the Texas Education Agency's Teacher Incentive Allotment program. Roughly 833 teachers across 62 campuses and six districts have been awarded. There are three designations a teacher can receive including recognized, exemplary, and master. From the designations, Harmony received 318 recognized teachers, 354 exemplary, and 161 master designations overall.

The Teacher Incentive Allotment was introduced in June of 2019 in Texas. Teacher designations from TEA generate additional teacher-focused allotment funding for districts and campuses to reward and retain their most effective teachers. The funding prioritizes high needs and rural campuses. Harmony Public Schools was one of the first school systems to be named into the program.

Harmony Public Schools is a Texas-born, Texas-wide public charter school system with campuses serving PreK-Grade 12 students in 23 cities across the state, including Greater Houston (including Katy and Sugar Land), Dallas-Fort Worth, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso, Waco, Lubbock, Odessa, Bryan, Beaumont, and the Rio Grande Valley.



Locations in the Katy area include:

- Harmony Science Academy West Houston Elementary School, 22400 Grand Corner Dr., Katy
- Harmony School of Innovation (K-12), 22400 C Grand Corner Drive, Katy
- Harmony School of Excellence (PK-6), 22855 Elyson Falls, Katy

Harmony's curriculum places a heavy focus on STEM skills, Character Education, project-based learning, and college readiness.

Harmony Public Schools is currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 school year for both students and team members.



## 2023 Fort Bend County Fair Entertainment Lineup September 29 - October 8



Sept 29 - Josh Ward



Sept 30 - Josh Abbott Band



Oct 1 - La Energia Nortena



Oct 4 - Braxton Keith



Oct 6 - Southall



Oct 7 - Tracy Byrd

2023 Fort Bend County Fair  
PRCA Rodeo

Oct 6-Oct 8

2023 Fort Bend County Fair  
4310 Highway 36 S.  
Rosenberg, TX 77471  
[info@fbcfa.org](mailto:info@fbcfa.org)



Oct 8 - Asleep at the Wheel

2023 Fort Bend County Fair  
Auction Dates

- Sept 30 - Replacement Heifer Auction - 1 pm
- Sept 30 - Art Auction 5 pm
- Oct 5 - Jr. Livestock Auction - A.P. George Pavilion - 7 pm
- Oct 7 - Freezer Sale - 12 pm
- Oct 7 - Last Draw Art Sale

Visit [www.fortbendcountyfair.com](http://www.fortbendcountyfair.com)





## BOUNCE BACK

**KATY DOWNS TOMPKINS  
IN DOMINANT DISTRICT OPENER**

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

There was a hunger at Katy this week. The Tigers were not happy with their performance against Atascocita last week. With a big district game against Tompkins next on the schedule, they were motivated and wanted to make a statement about who still stands at the top of District 19-6A.

The Tigers (2-1, 1-0) did just that, following up a strong week of practice by beating the Falcons (1-2, 0-1) 41-7, behind an improved run defense and a balanced offense that excelled both on the ground and through the air.

"Last week wasn't us — we couldn't be ok with what happened" said Katy senior tight end and captain Luke Carter. "This week was about making a statement across this district. Last week had some people doubting us and that's

not ok. We came, executed like we knew we should and it got us the victory."

It was a dominant performance from the Tigers, who outgained Tompkins 454 yards to 184 and scored seven unanswered touchdowns in the win.

The game started on a positive note for Tompkins. The Falcons forced a turnover on downs and then drove down the field, getting a big run from Wyatt Young before scoring on a 1-yard pass from Young to Caleb Blocker. But from that moment on it was all Katy.

The Tigers got the ball back and tied things up early in the first quarter, with Romel Jordan running in a 12-yard score and Gunner Nelson gave Katy the lead on a 4-yard pass to Luke Carter. Nelson added another before halftime, finding Colton Sanders wide open down the seam for a 35-yard score as

See **KATY**, page B3



Top: Caleb Blocker is wrapped up by the Katy defense during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium. Above: Gary Joseph celebrates after a touchdown during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium. Left: Oliver Ginn runs downfield after making a catch during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



Katy Superintendent Ken Gregorski was honored at Rhodes Stadium on Friday as part of the College Football Playoff Foundation's Extra Yard for Teachers program.

COURTESY KATY ISD

## Katy ISD superintendent Gregorski honored at Katy-Tompkins game

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy ISD Superintendent Ken Gregorski was honored by the College Football Playoff Foundation on Friday.

Gregorski was recognized as part of the CFP Foundation's program, Extra Yard for Teachers, which aims to elevate the teaching profession by inspiring and empowering teachers. The program works with institutions to support educators and improve U.S. student

outcomes in hopes of supporting PK-12 education across the country. Extra Yard for Teachers is dedicated to elevating the teaching profession by inspiring and empowering teachers in resources, recognition, professional development, recruitment and retention.

Gregorski was recognized after Katy ISD was named one of the top places to work in Texas by Forbes, the fourth time in the past five years the school district has earned the honor. The district earned the 71st place in the state of Texas.

## Motivated Jordan team tops Mayde Creek to stay unbeaten

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan has a goal this season. The Warriors have been motivated since the end of last year by one thing, and it's pushed

the team to improve, as all anyone on the team can think about is making the playoffs. That has showed in the teams early season performance. Jordan (3-0, 1-0) is the last unbeaten team remaining

in District 19-6A and they opened district play on Saturday with a dominating win, beating Mayde Creek (1-2, 0-1) 42-7.

See **JORDAN**, page B6

## SCORES & SCHEDULES WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15

### FOOTBALL

**Scores**

- Katy 41, Tompkins 7
- Taylor 11, Cinco Ranch 7
- Jordan 42, Mayde Creek 7
- Morton Ranch 22, Paetow 21

**Friday**

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

**Saturday**

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

### VOLLEYBALL

**Friday**

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

**Tuesday**

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

### TENNIS

**Friday**

- Jordan vs. Houston Lamar, 3 p.m.
- Katy at Cy-Woods, 3 p.m.
- Tompkins at Bridgeland, 3 p.m.

**Tuesday**

- Mayde Creek vs. Taylor, 2:30 p.m.
- Paetow vs. Cinco Ranch, 3 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Jordan, 3 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Tompkins, 3 p.m.

### CROSS COUNTRY

**Friday**

- Cinco Ranch and Paetow at Spring Branch Park meet, 7 a.m.

**Saturday**

- Tompkins at Lovejoy CC Invitational, 7 a.m.
- Mayde Creek and Taylor at Mayde Creek Invitational, 7:30 a.m.

- Morton Ranch at Spring Branch Invitational, 7:30 a.m.
- Jordan and Seven Lakes at Texas A&M Corpus Christi meet, 8 a.m.
- Katy at Andy Wells Invitational, 8 a.m.

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# Week 4 Katy ISD Previews

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

ALL GAMES DISTRICT 19-6A

**Friday**

**Taylor (1-3, 1-0) vs. Seven Lakes (1-1), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium**

Last year: Taylor 35, Seven Lakes 28

• Taylor and Seven Lakes meet on Friday in a huge game for both teams which have playoff aspirations.

Taylor earned an important win last week despite being shorthanded, topping Cinco Ranch 11-7 and will be trying to do it again this week. It was a defensive battle in their win. Ethan Jacobson led the Mustangs in rushing yards with 41, adding 35 yards receiving and the teams only touchdown while Oluwatosin Adeyemi had 51 yards receiving. Daniel Bruns threw for 90 yards in the win, throwing one touchdown and one interception. The biggest thing for Taylor was the defense, as they allowed just one touchdown while forcing Cinco into three interceptions and limiting the Cougars to just 115 yards through the air and 40 yards on the ground.

Seven Lakes comes off a bye week and will have a chance to get very prepared and rested for this game. The Spartans' last game was a hard loss to Klein and they will be looking to bounce back after it. Shaan Patel has continued to impress as a sophomore and in the game against Klein completed 12 of 16 passes for 116 yards and a touchdown. The Seven Lakes run game struggled in the matchup, with Barrett Hudson rushing for 31 yards and Jake Farris running for 33, while Davis Yates caught six passes for 60 yards and a touchdown to lead the Spartans in the pass game. But the Spartans struggled on defense, allowing over 270 yards on the ground and 180 yards through the

DISTRICT 19-6A STANDINGS						
Team	W	L	District W	District L	District PF	District PA
1* Jordan	3	0	1	0	42	7
1* Katy	2	1	1	0	41	7
1* Taylor	1	2	1	0	11	7
1* Morton Ranch	1	2	1	0	22	21
5 Seven Lakes	1	1	0	0	0	0
6* Cinco Ranch	1	2	0	1	7	11
6* Tompkins	1	2	0	1	7	41
6* Mayde Creek	1	2	0	1	7	42
6* Paetow	0	3	0	1	21	22

air.

The game will come down to how much Seven Lakes offense can push across against a very strong defense and if Taylor can get any healthier on the offensive end going into the matchup. The Mustangs will look to shut down the run game and make things hard on Patel, while Seven Lakes will be working on improving their defensive performance, especially against the run.

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

Last year: Cinco Ranch 42, Tompkins 14

• Tompkins and Cinco will face off on Friday in a matchup where both teams are trying to bounce back and get their first district wins of the season, and both are trying to heal up from early season injuries.

Tompkins lost to Katy in the team's district opener and will be trying for a bounce back performance. The Falcons struggled to get things going on either side of the ball. Offensively, Caleb Blocker ran for 79 yards on 20 carries and Wyatt Young ran for 64 yards on four carries, and in the pass game, the Falcons managed just 34 yards overall. The Tompkins defense allowed nearly 300 yards through the air in the loss which is also something they will need to improve.

Cinco was in a very close game last week which they lost by one score to Taylor. The Cougars' defense played

well in the game, but the offense struggled. Cinco ground attack did not with Marcus Gadlin accounting for 53 yards on the ground. The pass game also wasn't able to make a big impact, with Cinco gaining 115 yards through the air and in total throwing three interceptions. Gavin Beavers led the way receiving with 56 yards on five catches, while Scott Eckel had 38 yards on seven catches, including a touchdown.

Defensively, the Cougars only allowed 93 yards through the air and 90 on the ground.

This will be a game of two teams that will be determined to get back on track defensively and lots will be determined by which team is able to establish a strong run game and defense.

**Saturday**

**Morton Ranch (1-2, 1-0) vs. Katy (2-1, 1-0), 6:30 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium**

Last year: Katy 41, Morton Ranch 20

• Morton Ranch and Katy will battle it out in the only matchup this week that includes two teams coming off district wins, as Katy looks to continue their hot play and Morton Ranch tries to find an upset.

Morton Ranch comes into the game after the closest game of the week, narrowly beating Paetow 22-21 and giving themselves an important game to start district play. Ryan Hall was huge for the team in the win, rushing for 151 yards on 29 carries, while quarterback

Treylin Dixon threw for 23 yards and ran for 41 yards and a touchdown. Mike Gerald led the way receiving wise with three catches for 19 yards.

Defensively, Morton Ranch was able to shut down the Paetow run game and do a decent job against the pass to go to 1-0 in district play.

For Katy, the Tigers come off a huge win against Tompkins in what was easily the Tigers' best performance of the season. The pass game was perfection for Katy in the win, with none of Katy's three quarterbacks throwing an incompletion. Gunner Nelson went 10-10 with 192 yards passing and three touchdowns to lead the way, with Oliver Ginn having over 100 yards receiving and Cade McCall and Colton Sanders going over 50 yards receiving. Romel Jordan had 111 yards and two touchdowns on the ground while Tremayne Hill added 42 yards and two touchdowns as well. The Katy defense also held Tompkins to under 200 yards of total offense.

It's a matchup in which Katy will be heavily favored coming in and for Morton Ranch, it will come down to how well they can slow down a Katy offense that looked balanced and strong last week. Katy's main focus meanwhile will be slowing down a very good Morton Ranch running attack.

**Mayde Creek (1-2, 0-1) vs. Paetow, (0-3, 0-1), 7:15 p.m. at Legacy Stadium**

Last year: Paetow 42,

solid against the run, only allowing 87.

Paetow head into Saturday's game against each other with both looking for some positive signs and an important first district win after coming off losses.

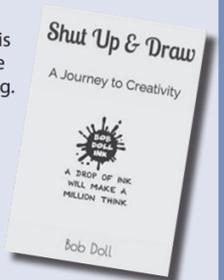
Mayde Creek struggled mightily against Jordan in the first week of district and will be looking to improve heading into the team's meeting with Paetow. The Rams couldn't get much going on offense in the game. One bright spot in the offense was Christian Bradford, who ran for 72 yards and a touchdown. Tavious Mitchell added 12 rushing yards while Cole Jensen threw for 118 yards with Trey Williams leading the way receiving with 36 yards. Defensively, the Rams couldn't stop the pass, allowing nearly 300 yards through the air, but were

Paetow meanwhile, came very close to taking its game against Morton Ranch but fell just short. The Panthers were solid throwing the ball, with Brock Nichols completing 12 of 28 passes for 122 yards, and Jabari Bush catching four passes for 71 yards, but struggled running the ball, only managing 57 yards. The Panthers held Morton Ranch well in the passing game, but allowed 192 yards on the ground in the loss.

This game will be about how each team improves heading into the week. Paetow will need to slow down the ground attack better than it did last week, and will need to run the ball well, while Mayde Creek will need to be able to move the ball through the air and limit Paetow's success passing as well.

## LOCAL AUTHOR BOB DOLL COACHES ON CREATIVITY

First published in 2021, *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity* is a book about how anyone can be creative in whatever they're doing. You don't have to be an artist. The book tells a story about how drawing is just one way to explore one's own creative endeavors with information about:



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- How looking at things differently can reveal hidden treasures
- The creativeness of journaling
- How you're not locked into a mindset
- and more

The book is loaded with the author's own humorous illustrations to enhance your reading experience. Bob represents himself as an artist/writer who emphasizes creativity is for everyone regardless of your stage in life.

Available on Amazon: *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity*

For more information, contact Bob at [bob@bobdoll.com](mailto:bob@bobdoll.com)



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**VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING WITH IN-PERSON OPEN HOUSE**

**SH 99: From Highland Knolls/Bay Hill Boulevard to South Fry Road**

Control Section Job: 3510-04-066, etc.



**Virtual:**

Available starting on Tuesday, Oct. 3, 2023 by 5 p.m.  
[www.fortbendcountytexas.gov](http://www.fortbendcountytexas.gov) (keyword search "SH 99")

**In-Person Open House:**  
Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Cinco Ranch 9th Grade Center  
23440 Cinco Ranch Boulevard  
Katy, Texas 77494



ALL COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POSTMARKED BY MONDAY, OCT. 23, 2023

Fort Bend County, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, is proposing improvements along State Highway (SH) 99 between Highland Knolls/Bay Hill Boulevard and South Fry Road in Fort Bend County, Texas. This notice advises the public that the project team will be conducting an on-line virtual public meeting on the proposed project with an in-person open house. The public meeting will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components.

The public meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you free of charge. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation

services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the public meeting, please contact Gabriel Adame, NEPA public engagement corridor, at (713) 802-5199 or [Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov](mailto:Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov) no later than 4 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 28, 2023. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange.

**To submit comments:**

**Mail:** Matt Billiot, P.E.  
Project Manager  
Binkley & Barfield | DCCM  
1710 Seamist Drive, Houston, Texas 77008  
**Email:** [sh99fr@binkleybarfield.com](mailto:sh99fr@binkleybarfield.com)

**Questions**

• Matt Billiot, P.E.  
• (713) 869-3433  
• [sh99fr@binkleybarfield.com](mailto:sh99fr@binkleybarfield.com)



PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Above: Tremayne Hill fights for yardage during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium. Right: Romel Jordan is brought down by a Tompkins defender during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium.

**KATY**

from page B1

Katy went into the locker room leading 21-7. Nelson finished the day a perfect 10 for 10, throwing for 192 yards and two touchdowns while no Katy quarterback threw an incomplete pass in the win.

"It's a step by step process with him and he improved this week," said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. "Hopefully that continues because we can't afford to have him not improving. The kids are gaining confidence around Gunner and he's gaining confidence in him and he's gaining confidence in what he is doing and in our offense. As long as that's the case, he's going to keep getting better."

Katy didn't let its foot off the gas in the second half. Jordan ran in another touchdown before Tremayne Hill kept things going offensively in the fourth quarter with two touchdowns of his own on two and six yard runs. Jordan ended the day with 111 yards on 22 carries, his second 100 yard game of the season, and Hill had 42 yards on

the ground on nine carries.

But the biggest difference on the night was the Tigers' defense. In Katy's loss to Atascocita, the Tigers allowed 249 yards on the ground, but on Friday against a very good Tompkins rushing attack, Katy limited the Falcons to 150 yards with only one run of 20 yards or more.

"We were pumped up for this game," said senior safety Noah Coughran. "Last week, we felt good, but we didn't execute the way we could have. This week we maintained the energy throughout, and we tackled the way we should."

Katy continues district play against Morton Ranch, as the Tigers look to continue an 18 game district win streak.

"We didn't lose energy after that loss — if anything it fueled us and we came out with more energy this week in practice and for this game," Nelson said. "This was a statement game for us and we made a statement this week — now we have to keep it going."



**KATY 41, TOMPKINS 7**

Tompkins	7	0	0	0	--	7
Katy	0	21	7	13	--	41

**First quarter**

T: Wyatt Young 1 pass to Caleb Blocker (Erben Birkhoff kick) 2:17

**Second quarter**

K: Romel Jordan 12 run (Hunter Ondrush kick) 11:22  
K: Gunner Nelson 4 pass to Luke Carter (Ondrush kick) 6:45  
K: Nelson 35 pass to Colton Sanders (Ondrush kick) 2:04

**Third quarter**

K: Jordan 3 run (Ondrush kick) 5:00

**Fourth quarter**

K: Tremayne Hill 2 run (Ondrush kick) 10:38  
K: Hill 6 run, 7:15

**Individual Statistics**

Rushing – Katy: Romel Jordan, 22-111-2;

Tremayne Hill, 9-42-2; Tadi Zambe, 5-13; Gunner Nelson, 1-(-4); Tompkins: Caleb Blocker, 20-79; Wyatt Young, 4-64; Ronnie Quinn, 3-7;  
Passing – Katy: Gunner Nelson, 10-10-192-2-0; Jackson Franklin, 3-3-79-0-0; Connor Morales, 1-1-21-0-0; Tompkins: Justin Thierheimer, 3-7-28-0-0; Wyatt Young, 2-10-0-0;  
Receiving – Katy: Oliver Ginn, 4-110; Cade McCall, 2-52; Colton Sanders, 2-50; Chase Johnsey, 3-31-1; Luke Carter, 2-28-1; Brody Worster, 1-21; Tompkins: Dylan Rodriguez, 1-19; Etoro Bassey, 1-9; Rhys Phillips, 1-5; Caleb Blocker, 1-1; Adebisi Bello, 1-0;

**Team stats**

	TOMPKINS	KATY
First downs	12	23
Yards rushing	27-150	37-162
Yards passing	34	292
Passes	5-17-0-0	14-14-2-0
Punts	6-41	N/A
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-0
Penalty-yards	4-39	2-20

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**DEADLINE: Friday, September 29**

Contact: Susan Rovegno, Publisher, Katy Times  
cell 914-522-4612 or susan.rovegno@katytimes.com

## Katy Times

**KATY INDEPENDENT *A+* SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# BOND 2023

**EARLY VOTING**  
October 23 - November 3

**ELECTION DAY**  
November 7

**PROP A**  
\$722,992,054

**PROP B**  
\$83,567,360

**PROP C**  
\$4,195,456

**PROP D**  
\$29,875,472

4 New Schools, Purchase of School Sites, 26 Renovations & Expansions for Aging Campuses, 85 Safety & Security Upgrades, Buses, 61 Building Component Replacements

Districtwide Classroom & Campus Technology

Districtwide Natatorium (Competition Swimming Pools) Component Replacements

Districtwide Campus Athletic Facilities & Rhodes Stadium Repairs

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<p>Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a New MB, and a New MB/FB by Petronella Craig LLC dba Scholars and Scoundrels Bar and Grill, to be located at 25140 Kingsland Blvd. Suite 1000, Katy, Fort Bend, TX, 77494. Officers of said Corporation Petronella Craig LLC are Kalpesh Patel-member, Chad Craig-member, Anthony Petronella-member</p>				

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.

Sale to be held ONLINE at [StorageTreasures.com](http://StorageTreasures.com)

The facility is 8900 Emnora Lane Houston, Texas 77080. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on September 18th, 2023, and end at 12:00 pm on September 25th, 2023. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Glen Underwood, Juan Enrique, Jose Garcia, Daniel Rodriguez, Antonio Ruiz Gonzales, Selena Garza, Jose Naverrette, Jim Sands.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice Is Hereby Given That The Building And Standards Commission Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Hold A Public Hearing On **Wednesday, September 27, 2023, At 4:00 P.M.**, In Council Chambers At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C. Said Hearing Is To Hear And Discuss Final Corrective Action For The Removal Or Demolition Of An Abandoned And Substandard Structure. **Legal Description: 6019 4th Street, Katy Townsite (Blocks 1-32), Block 10, Lots 5 & 6, In Waller County.** Property Owner Of Record Is **Rose Wilshire**. All Other Vested Interests In The Property Are Hereby Notified.

The Building And Standards Commission Will Allow For Public Comment On This Matter.

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Katy Times

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**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 478, will be **electronically** received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, October 17, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for construction of Jubilee **Phase 2 Detention and Model Home Park Landscape** for Harris County Municipal Utility District 478, Harris County, Texas.

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

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. To join via Zoom call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 939 4808 9889 and use Passcode: 441407 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/93948089889?pwd=ZmJDNc8xRVVsUVQyeHFQcRlRpYjB5Zz09>

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

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on **Monday, September 25, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.** Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 992 3331 3434 and use Passcode: 951946 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/99233313434?pwd=OEw5K1ZWtWtiY05qaTJCS9xNE9odz09>

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the *original* certified or cashier's check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening.

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

Bidder submitting electronic Bids through Civcast must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through [www.CivcastUSA.com](http://www.CivcastUSA.com). Bidder must register on this website to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website.

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

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

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

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids addressed to Katy Development Authority, Attention Mr. Jonas W. Conner, President, Board of Directors, will be received at City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, until 3:00 p.m. local time, **Thursday, October 5, 2023, and then publicly opened and read for "Pitts Road Boulevard Expansion Cane Island to Morton Road"** for Katy Development Authority, of Harris County, Texas.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the construction of the additional lanes to complete the boulevard section of Pitts Road from Cane Island Parkway to Morton Road. The total roadway length is approximately 3,700 linear feet. The project involves completing the boulevard section by constructing the other two travel lanes, associated turn lanes, median cuts and installation of drainage inlets.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **NON-MANDATORY VIRTUAL** pre-bid conference will be held on **Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. local time via Zoom.us**. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **NOT MANDATORY**.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:

**Join Zoom Meeting:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83181235143>  
Meeting ID: 831 8123 5143  
**Dial In:** +13462487799,,83181235143# US (Houston)

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

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

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

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

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 478, will be **electronically** received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for construction of Jubilee **Jubilee Haven Blvd. I Landscape** for Harris County Municipal Utility District 478, Harris County, Texas.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: light pole foundations, grading, sprinkler irrigation, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance.

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. To join via Zoom call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 943 8467 6094 and use Passcode: 534793 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/94384676094?pwd=dFZaRlNkQ1lKd2RoQzlpZDZ2bGdFQT09>

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

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on **Monday, September 25, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.** Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 992 3331 3434 and use Passcode: 951946 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/99233313434?pwd=OEw5K1ZWtWtiY05qaTJCS9xNE9odz09>

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the *original* certified or cashier's check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening.

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

Bidder submitting electronic Bids through Civcast must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through [www.CivcastUSA.com](http://www.CivcastUSA.com). Bidder must register on this website to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website.

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

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

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

**Notice of Applications for Permits to Drill and Produce Groundwater in Waller County**

Utilities Investment Company, Inc., whose address is P.O. Box 279, New Waverly, Texas 77358, filed applications with the Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") seeking permits to drill 2 wells in Waller County to produce from the wells an aggregated maximum amount of one hundred and seventy million gallons annually (approximately 522 acre-feet per annum). The Applicant intends to apply the produced water to beneficial, non-wasteful use for municipal purposes within the District. Each of the wells would be 10 inches in diameter and drilled to depths of approximately 570 feet below the surface with casing to at least 510 feet from the surface down hole. The wells would be completed in the Evangeline Aquifer. Production from the wells would be managed in a manner designed to minimize any interference with any neighboring wells completed in the same aquifer. The wells will be located on property in Waller County. The proposed Waller County wells are generally located approximately 1,600 ft southwest of the intersection of Wilson Road and Sunset Lane, Brookshire, TX 77423. The coordinates for proposed locations of the wells are as follows on Wilson Rd:

Well No.	Latitude	Longitude	Formation/Aquifer	County
BWLL-0158A	29°52'20.96"N	95°58'13.86"W	Evangeline	Waller
BWLL-0158B	29°52'19.70"N	95°58'13.93"W	Evangeline	Waller

The Board of Directors of the District may grant a contested case hearing on the applications if a written hearing request is filed within 20 days after the publication date of this notice. To request a contested case hearing, you must submit the following in writing: (1) your name (or for a group or association, a representative), mailing address, daytime telephone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be affected by the application in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the proposed activity; and, (6) for a party desiring for the hearing to be conducted by the State.

Office of Administrative Hearings the request must include the statement: "[I/we] request that the State Office of Administrative Hearings conduct the hearing." Note that a party requesting that the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) conduct the hearing shall pay all costs associated with the contract for a SOAH hearing and will be required to deposit with the District an amount determined by the District to pay the SOAH contract amount.

You may also file written comments within 20 days after the publication date of this notice without requesting a contested case hearing.

Comments or requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing and mailed to Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District, P.O. Box 269 Navasota Texas 77868-0269, or faxed to 936-825-7331, or emailed to [BGCD@bluebonnetgroundwater.org](mailto:BGCD@bluebonnetgroundwater.org).

The applications are available for review at the District Offices, 1903 Dove Crossing Lane, Suite A, Navasota, Texas 77868 or on the District's website at [www.bluebonnetgroundwater.org](http://www.bluebonnetgroundwater.org).

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES    950 PUBLIC NOTICES



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the City of Pattison will hold a Public Hearing on the proposed FY-23-24 Budget. The Public Hearing will be held Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 6 p.m.

The Public Hearing will be held at 3414 North Street, Pattison, Texas 77466.

The proposed budget is posted on the website: <https://pattison.texas.gov/financial-transparency/>.

Contact the City Secretary at 281-934-3715 or via email at [citysecretary@pattison.texas.gov](mailto:citysecretary@pattison.texas.gov) with any questions.

Any person may attend and may participate in the public hearing.

### NOTICE

The Zoning Board Of Adjustment Of The City of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct A Public Hearing On **Wednesday, September 27, 2023**, at **1:00 P.M.** In Council Chambers at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas, On Docket No. 2023-07, The Application Of **Home Depot U.S.A., Inc.**, Present Owner, Under Section 22.5 Of The Zoning Ordinance. Address Of The Lot To Be Affected: **133 Cane Island Parkway**, In The "C-2" General Business District. Property Description: Lot 1, Block 1 of the Cane Island Home Depot Subdivision, Fort Bend County, Texas.

It Is A Request For A Variance To The Height and Size Maximum For A Freestanding Community Sign As Required Under Chapter 21.4-1.b of the Zoning Ordinance.

David Minze, Chairman  
Zoning Board of Adjustment

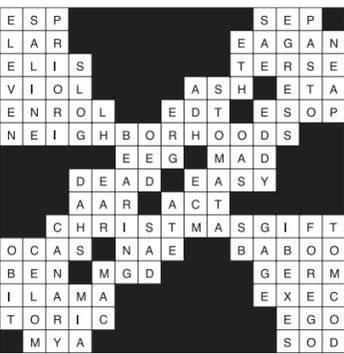
### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**Notice Is Hereby Given** That The Building And Standards Commission Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Hold A Public Hearing On **Wednesday, September 27, 2023**, At **4:00 P.M.**, In Council Chambers At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C. Said Hearing Is To Hear And Discuss The Adoption Of The 2021 Editions of the International, Standard, and National Codes, Including Local Amendments, That Will Go Into Effect January 1, 2024. The City Will Be Adopting The 2021 Editions of the International Building Code, International Existing Building Code; International Residential Code; International Fire Code; International Fuel And Gas Code; International Property Maintenance Code; International Plumbing Code; International Mechanical Code; International Energy Code; International Swimming Pool & Spa Code; NFPA 101 Life Safety Code; The 2023 Edition Of The National Electrical Code; And Any Local Amendments Thereto.

The Building And Standards Commission Will Allow For Public Comment On This Matter.

## September 7 Puzzle Answers

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



### NOTICE

The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct A Public Hearing On The Proposed 2023-2024 Budget At The Regular City Council Meeting, Monday, September 25, 2023, at 6:30 P.M., Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas. This Budget Will Raise More Total Property Taxes Than Last Year's Budget By An Amount of \$3,721,600 Or 19.4%, And Of That Amount \$298,593 Is Tax Revenue To Be Raised From New Property Added To The Tax Roll This Year. The Proposed Budget Is On File With The City Secretary For Public Inspection.

City of Katy, Texas  
901 Avenue C  
Katy, Texas 77493

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS WALLER COUNTY

Waller County (County) is seeking to contract with a qualified moving company to assist with its upcoming Courthouse move. Please submit one (1) original, three (3) copies, and one (1) electronic response on CD or flash drive. CD or flash drive must contain only one (1) file in PDF format and must match the original and copies of the response identically. Failure to provide proper electronic response may be cause for disqualification. Confidential information is to be placed in a separate envelope denoted as "confidential." Proposals shall be submitted to the County no later than 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Response shall be signed in ink, by a person having the authority to bind the firm in a contract. Complete Proposal packets must be remitted to Alan Younts, Waller County Auditor, 836 Austin Street, Suite 221 Hempstead, TX 77445. Please clearly mark the following on the envelope: RFP Project Number: 230913-25 for Courthouse Moving Services. Waller County reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals. Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Vendors are encouraged to submit proposals. Waller County is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

### INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed BIDS, in duplicate, addressed to Quiddity Engineering, LLC, Attention Brian T. Geier PE, will be received until **2:00 p.m. Local Time, Thursday, September 28, 2023** and then publicly opened and read at 6330 West Loop South, Suite 150, Bellaire, Texas 77401 for "Construction of Drainage Improvements on Goya Road for Waller County".

### INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 478, will be **electronically** received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Thursday, October 12, 2023, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for construction of Jubilee **Jubilee Haven Blvd. II Landscape** for Harris County Municipal Utility District 478, Harris County, Texas.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: pavements, seatwalls, furnishings, grading, sprinkler irrigation, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance.

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. To join via Zoom call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 969 9202 5648 and use Passcode: 440765 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/96992025648?pwd=OWM3ZUo0ZDJMNS9iS1BsaDVGUk1Zz09>

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

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on **Monday, September 25, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.** Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 992 3331 3434 and use Passcode: 951946 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/99233313434?pwd=OEw5K1ZWtWtiY05qaTJCS9xNE9odz09>

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the *original* certified or cashier's check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening.

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

Bidder submitting electronic Bids through Civcast must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through [www.CivcastUSA.com](http://www.CivcastUSA.com). Bidder must register on this website to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website.

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

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

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

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In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Microsoft Teams. To join via Microsoft Teams, the number for this call is: 1-832-3756. Enter access code 594-290-822# when prompted.

Scope of work of the Contract includes the following: installation of 5'x3' RCB storm sewer, 48" HDPE storm sewer, outfall to the Willow Fork of Buffalo Bayou, and pavement restoration on Cardiff Road.

BIDS received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time, via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-3756. Enter access code 263-400-796# when prompted.

Each BID shall be accompanied by a bid security, in the form of a Bid Bond or Cashier's Check, in an amount not less than 5 percent of the total amount bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into a proper Contract and execute Bonds and Guaranty on the forms provided within 10 days after the date CONTRACT DOCUMENTS are received by the CONTRACTOR. A certified check or bank draft payable to Waller County or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond. Bid securities will be returned to all but the three most qualified, responsible bidders within 7 calendar days after opening of BIDS, and the latter's bid securities will be returned after complete execution of the contract.

**This project is subject to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). All contractors and/or subcontractors who are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project.**

The Contractor is required to adhere to the prevailing David Bacon Related Acts (DBRA) wage rates specified in the Contract Documents. These rates are minimums to be paid during the life of the contract, therefore responsibility of the Bidder understand and meet these labor conditions.

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

A bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2371 Electronic Bidding rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through [www.CivcastUSA.com](http://www.CivcastUSA.com). Bidder must register on this website in order to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all BIDS and to waive technical defects in bidding. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating the prices in the BID, the OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof or to reject the BID.

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DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Ronnie Quinn runs downfield during Friday's game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium.

# Katy ranked in top 10 in state football poll

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy was ranked in the top 10 of this week's Dave Campbell's Texas Football state rankings.

The Tigers were ranked No. 9 in the state after a big win over Tompkins in the first week of District 19-6A play.

The Tigers moved up one spot in the rankings from last week after their bounce back win, moving to 2-1 on the year and starting district off with a win. Katy will play Morton Ranch this week as they look to build on that No. 9 spot.

Duncanville was ranked No.1 in the poll, while North Shore was ranked second, DeSoto was ranked third, Westlake was ranked fourth and Vandegrift was ranked fifth.

Atascocita, the only team to beat Katy this year, was ranked seventh. Other Houston area teams were Summer Creek at No. 12, Shadow Creek at No. 17, Hightower at No. 18, Lamar at No. 19, Dickinson at No. 21, Tomball Memorial at No. 24 and C.E. King at No. 25

### CLASS 6A STATE RANKINGS

Rank	School	(Record)	Week 3	Prv rank
1	Duncanville	(2-0)	Idle	1
2	Galena Park N. Shore	(3-0)	W	2
3	DeSoto	(2-0)	W	3
4	Austin Westlake	(3-0)	W	4
5	Austin Vandegrift	(3-0)	W	5
6	Southlake Carroll	(3-0)	W	6
7	Humble Atascocita	(3-0)	W	7
8	Lake Travis	(3-0)	W	8
9	Katy	(2-1)	W	10
10	Denton Guyer	(2-1)	W	11
11	North Crowley	(3-0)	W	12
12	Humble Summer Creek	(3-0)	W	14
13	Cibolo Steele	(2-1)	W	15
14	McKinney	(3-0)	W	16
15	Northwest Nelson	(3-0)	W	17
16	Pflugerville Weiss	(3-0)	W	18
17	Alvin Shadow Creek	(3-0)	W	19
18	Fort Bend Hightower	(3-0)	W	20
19	Houston Lamar	(3-0)	W	21
20	Midland Legacy	(3-0)	W	25
21	Dickinson	(2-1)	W	NR
22	Willis	(3-0)	W	NR
23	SA Reagan	(3-0)	W	NR
24	Tomball Memorial	(3-0)	W	NR
25	Sheldon King	(3-0)	W	NR



Jordan's Zechariah Sample cuts upfield on a punt return as Zion Jones makes a block during a game between Jordan and Aldine Davis last year.

KELLY RICHMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

## JORDAN

from page B1

"It's pushed us all offseason and that's the goal and expectation," said senior quarterback Colin Willetts. "That was a tough loss for us last year and we were so close to making the playoffs. But we have the talent to make the playoffs this year and we're looking forward to it."

Jordan came out of the gates swinging in their district opener. It took until the end of the first quarter for them to score, but when they did, it opened the floodgates. Colin Willetts started things with a 12-yard touchdown to Zechariah Sample with just 23 seconds left in the first quarter. Willetts added to that on the Warriors' next drive with a 26-yard touchdown to Andrew Marsh and then with two minutes left in the second quarter, Willetts found Sample for another score on a 26-yard pass. The Warriors capped off the half with that connection one more time, as Willetts threw a screen pass to Sample, who took it 65 yards through the defense to give Jordan a 28-0 halftime lead.

"This was a great win for us," Sample said. "We're the only undefeated team in the district right now so that's what we're trying to keep going. We want to be the best."

Jordan continued its dominance into the third quarter. Chad Gasper scored the team's first rushing touchdown on an eight yard run before Christian Bradford got Mayde Creek on the board with a 15-yard score. Willetts added a fifth touchdown pass on the day with no time left in the third quarter with a 2-yard pass to Van Keith Brown and Jordan held Mayde creek at bay the rest of the way to secure the win.

Willetts threw for 256 yards in the win, with both Sample and Marsh ending the day with over 100 yards receiving, while Jordan held Mayde Creek to 214 yards of total offense.

"The biggest thing for us tonight was the defense," said Jordan head coach Mike Rabe. "They've come in and stepped into their roles well. They're getting better each week and I expect to keep seeing that. We've got a good bunch with some big linebackers, a good defensive line and our secondary is continuing to improve. It's just exciting to watch them get better."

The Warriors will have a bye next week while Mayde Creek will take on Paetow in an

important game for both teams.

"It was great to come in here and do what we're supposed to do," Marsh said. "We want to keep stepping up and prove that we're here to compete this year. We have something to prove and that's going to keep going."

### JORDAN 42, MAYDE CREEK 7

Mayde Creek	0	0	7	0	--	7
Jordan	7	21	14	0	--	42

#### First quarter

J: Colin Willetts 12 pass to Zechariah Sample (Wilson Kalvass kick) 0:23

#### Second quarter

J: Willetts 23 pass to Andrew Marsh (Kalvass kick) 8:09  
J: Willetts 26 pass to Sample (Kalvass kick) 2:19  
J: Willetts 65 pass to Sample (Kalvass kick) 0:22

#### Third quarter

J: Chad Gasper 8 run (Kalvass kick) 7:59  
MC: Christian Bradford 15 un (Michael Garcia kick) 4:23  
J: Willetts 2 pass to Van Keith Brown (Kalvass kick) 0:00

#### Team stats

	MAYDE CREEK	JORDAN
First downs	8	14
Yards rushing	30-96	23-87
Yards passing	118	275
Passes	10-19-0-0	14-19-5-0
Punts	4-16	1-25
Fumbles-lost	1-1	1-1
Penalty-yards	3-37	10-105

#### Individual Statistics

Rushing – Jordan: Chad Gasper, 15-59-1; Tanner West, 5-32; Ifeanyi Monye, 2-4; Colin Willetts, 1-(8) Mayde Creek: Christian Bradford, 16-72; Tavious Mitchell, 6-12; Ismael Doboyou, 2-4;

Passing – Jordan: Colin Willetts, 13-17-256-5-0; Domenic Cangolosi, 1-2-19-0-0; Mayde Creek: Cole Jensen, 10-19-118-0-0;

Receiving – Jordan: Zechariah Sample, 4-140-3; Andrew Marsh, 6-100-1; Van Keith Brown, 2-18-1; Tanner West, 1-11; Chad Gasper, 1-6; Mayde Creek: Tavious Mitchell, 1-38; Trey Williams, 4-36; J.J. Graves, 1-32; Chad Nelson, 2-9; Isaiah Hodge, 1-6; Daylin Robinson, 1-(3);



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Houston Texans running back Dameon Pierce (31) is tackled on a carry during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Cleveland Browns on Dec. 4, 2022, in Houston. The Browns won, 27-14.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN



Texans safety Jalen Pitre (5) reacts after a defensive play during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on Jan. 1, 2023 in Houston. The Jaguars won, 31-3.



Houston Texans quarterback C.J. Stroud (7) looks up at the video board while talking to tight end Dalton Schultz (83) after an unsuccessful third down attempt during an NFL preseason game between the Texans and the Dolphins Jaguars on August 19, 2023 in Houston.

# Texans aim for bounce back against Colts

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Houston didn't come away with what they wanted in week one.

Despite being heavy underdogs to the Ravens, the Texans were confident they could come away with a result in Baltimore, but eventually ended up falling 25-9 in their season opener.

"We hurt ourselves a lot in the game," said Texans head coach DeMeco Ryans. "You can't hurt yourself like that against a good team. That's a good team, they played really good ball, you can't help a team like that and that's what we did. We helped a good team and you're not going to win games in this league like that."

Despite the loss though, there were positive takeaways. Houston's defense showed up to the occasion and did very well against a team with some of the most prolific offensive talent in the league. Houston held Baltimore to just 265 yards of total offense in the matchup, with the Texans gaining more yards, but they struggled defensively to hold the Ravens in the red zone.

"Our defense had a good start, but not good enough," Ryans said. "The game is about getting stops and we have to get those stops in the redzone. We gave up too many points and have to get better there."

Offensively, the Texans have a lot of injuries on the line and it affected both the run and pass game. CJ Stroud had trouble getting enough time to find receivers in the game and Dameon Pierce had a hard time finding running room as well, with the Texans only gaining 72 rushing yards.

"We can't have our quarterback hit as much and we have to be better as a group in protection," Ryans said. "It's about how we're helping — we had some really good snaps and pro-



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 Jaguars on August 19, 2023 in Houston.

ected well at times, but we have to be more consistent in our protection and our pickups. We need to continue to improve our running game as well. We can run it more and we can be more effective at it."

The Texans hope to have an improved performance this week when they go up against the Colts at noon Sunday at NRG Stadium.

Indianapolis comes off a 31-21 loss to Jacksonville, where the Colts moved the ball effectively but couldn't stop the Jaguars' offense. For Houston, it's an opportunity to get into the win column against a team that is not at the top of the NFL pack and maybe will give a chance to allow the Houston offense to improve. The Texans will

have to slow down Anthony Richardson defensively, as he comes off a performance where he threw for 223 yards and rushed for 40 yards in his first NFL game.

It's also a matchup between the second and fourth picks of the draft, Stroud and Richardson, both will be motivated and ready to go and it should be a fun game.

"The biggest thing is I expect the guys around our quarterback to play better as well," Ryans said. "We want to run the ball more effectively to open up the pass and I'd like to see CJ doing the pre snap stuff quicker. He did a great job for his first game but we just want to continue to see improvement from everyone."

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cell 914-522-4612 or susan.rovegno@katytimes.com

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# UH earns highest volleyball ranking in school history

## STAFF REPORT

The University of Houston Volleyball team landed its highest ranking in program history in the AVCA Coaches' Poll at No. 13.

Houston rose six spots from the preseason poll after taking down then-No. 22 USC, 3-1, on the season's opening night. The Cougars went on to top both Southern Miss, 3-1, and McNeese, 3-0, to close out the Flo Hyman Collegiate Cup. The Cougars currently sit at 4-1 after a loss to Texas State, the team's first of the season.

Houston was the third highest riser in the week one poll by moving from No. 19 to No. 13, behind Georgia Tech (nine spots) and BYU (eight spots). The Cougars are also the third highest team in the Big 12 Conference and one of five in the league in the poll, joining No. 7 Texas, No. 9 BYU, No. 16 Baylor and No. 23 Kansas.

The previous best ranking in team history was No. 17, which the team attained three times (Nov. 8, 1994, the 1994 final poll, and the 2022 final poll).



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Above: Houston setter Morgan Janda (1) sets the ball during an NCAA volleyball match between Houston and Southern Miss on August 26, 2023 in Houston. Left: The Houston Cougars celebrate a point during an NCAA volleyball match between Houston and Southern Miss on August 26, 2023 in Houston.

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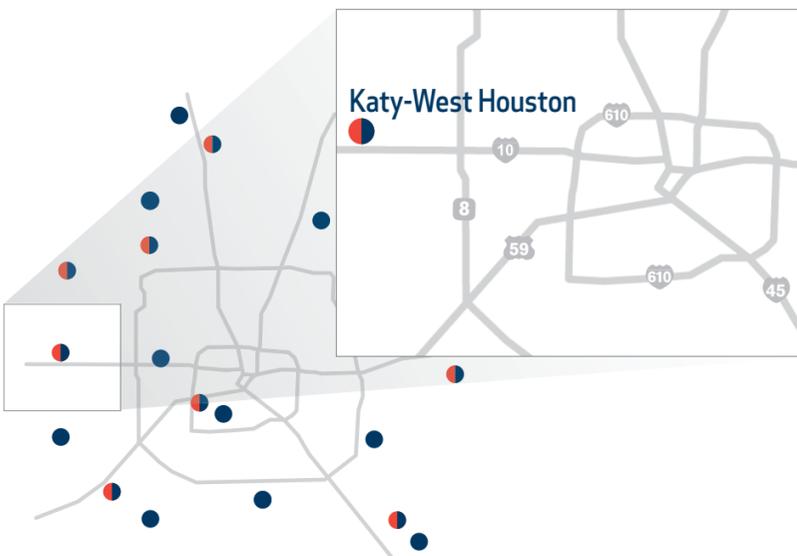


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