

JORDAN CLINCHES FINAL PLAYOFF SPOT IN DISTRICT 19-6A.
SPORTS | B1

Katy Times



VOLUME 111, ISSUE 45

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2023



EARLY ELECTION RETURNS

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

As of 12:01 a.m. on Wednesday, the following election results had been recorded:

KATY ISD BOND ISSUE

*** PROPOSITION A** – 4 new schools, purchase of school sites, 26 renovations and expansions for aging campuses, 85 safety and security upgrades, buses, 61 building component replacements
For: 57.87%
Against: 42.13%

*** PROPOSITION B** – District-wide classroom and campus technology
For: 55.12%
Against: 44.88%

*** PROPOSITION C** – Existing districtwide natatorium component replacements
For: 44.22%
Against: 55.78%

*** PROPOSITION D** – District-wide campus athletic facilities and Rhodes Stadium repairs
For: 41.77%
Against: 58.23%

FORT BEND MOBILITY AND PARKS BOND ISSUE

*** PROPOSITION A** – Mobility Bond
For: 65%
Against: 35%

*** PROPOSITION B** -- Parks Bond
For: 52%
Against: 48%

HARRIS COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOND ISSUE

Rebuilding and upgrading of several hospital district facilities, including an expansion of Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital
For: 72.32%
Against: 27.68%

WALLER COUNTY MOBILITY BOND ISSUE

For: 66%
Against: 34%

Sources: www.harrisvotes.com/election-results, click2houston.com, ABC Channel 13

HAVE A NEWS TIP?

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November 9, 2023
16 pages | \$1



Well-wishers congratulate Nico Reyes for completing the Katy Triathlon on October 29th – the first child in the world with Down Syndrome to complete a triathlon in the sprint category at just 11 years of age. Right: After completing the triathlon, Nico is embraced by his father, Christian Reyes.
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAUL KURT

HE DID IT!

Down syndrome triathlete achieves Guinness Book of World Records goal

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Katy Triathlon co-chair Paul Kurt confirmed that local triathlete Nico Reyes achieved his goal in the 30th annual Katy Triathlon, held at

Cane Island on October 29th. Haskett Junior High student athlete Nico Reyes realized his dream of being the first child in the world with Down Syndrome

See **RECORD**, page A3



Members of the Freeman family listen attentively as the history of their family is read to the school board at Monday night's meeting.
SUSAN ROVEGNO

Board receives recommendation for naming of high school #10

FROM STAFF REPORTS

During the Katy Independent School District (Katy ISD) November Board meet-

ing on Monday, the Naming Advisory Committee for High School #10 recommended to the Board of Trustees that the new school be named after

the Freeman family, who have a 125-year history in Katy that spans six generations.

See **SCHOOLS**, page A4

Beckendorff-Sword Home Place honored with the Family Land Heritage Award

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A small ranch inside the City of Katy city limits was awarded the Family Land Heritage Award by the Texas Department of Agriculture in Austin on October 18th. The property, owned by Kay Beckendorff Sword and her husband Perry Sword, was the only farm or ranch land within Harris County to be recognized with this honor. "This is quite a rare event, and I am very proud," said Kay Sword. Requirements for the award include 100 years owned by the same family, never leased



Shown is the resolution read in the Texas House of Representatives by Representative Mike Schofield, along with the Family Land Heritage Certificate of Honor presented to the Beckendorff-Sword Home Place by Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller. The commemorative program for the event is on the right.

See **HERITAGE**, page A3

Briones, staff hear feedback, talk projects for Precinct 4

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Over 100 Katy-area residents attended the Katy stop of Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones' "Listening Tour" Saturday at Houston Community College, 22910 Colonial Parkway. Many of the attendees were members of local homeowners associations (HOAs) or municipal utility districts (MUDs).

After "welcome" messages from Mayor of Katy Dusty Thiele and HCC President Zachary Hodges and following her opening remarks, Briones and her staff solicited feedback from attendees in four key areas: transportation, health, public safety and flooding. Discussion stations manned by a Precinct 4 staff member were set up for each topic, with participants' comments captured on paper. Attendees were allotted two 15-minute opportunities to give their feedback in these key areas. The "flooding" station appeared to draw the most interest. The commissioner also took questions and feedback from the audience, on matters ranging from dumping sites to transportation issues.

Flooding concerns were addressed by Jesal Shah, chief delivery officer for the Harris County Flood Control District, who outlined key projects for flood mitigation in the area. Shah said that his philosophy was to reduce use of "impervious surfaces" such as concrete and to use more nature-based

See **BRIONES**, page A3



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Entries due November 10th in the Fussell Senior Center's Pie Contest

Got a "knock-your-socks-off" pie recipe? Enter your pie in the Pie Contest at Fussell Senior Center, 5370 E. Fifth Street in Katy, sponsored by Three Oaks Hospice. But hurry - entries are due Friday, November 10th. The contest will take place on November 17th, with pie drop off between 12:30 and 1:30 p.m. Judging starts at 2 p.m. For more information, call Paula Jones at 832-437-2089 or Amanda Di Dio at 281-391-4837.

Help low-income families during Waxing the City's holiday hygiene drive

Did you know that 1 in 3 (34%) of low-income families find it difficult to afford basic household necessities? Nearly 3 out of 4 (73%) low-income families cut back on food to afford household goods and of these, one in four (24%) report doing so each month. To help those in need look and feel their best through self-care this holiday season, Waxing The City®, a leading wax and beauty franchise brand under Self Esteem Brands with five locations in the greater Houston area, is encouraging guests to give back and get smooth this winter in benefit of United Way of Greater Houston. Guests who donate an unopened and in-package razor will receive \$10 off select waxing services at participating locations nationwide from November 1 - December 31. Waxing the City's Katy locations is at 4747 FM 1463 Road Suite 600 Katy, TX 77494.

San Felipe de Austin historical site observes 200th birthday

On Saturday, Nov. 11 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of the town that was once the social, economic and political center of American immigration to Texas. Visitors will travel back in time to experience what life was like in San Felipe de Austin in the early 1800's with a variety of interactive living history demonstrations. Historians will portray daily activities from the time such as cooking, baking, sewing and woodworking. Attendees will also have the opportunity to meet with the alcalde in the courthouse, observe militia drills colonists underwent to prepare for defending the town and discover the origins of the Texas Rangers and their equipment. They can then explore what the printing process entailed, as one of the earliest newspapers in Texas, the "Texas Gazette," originated in San Felipe de Austin. To round out their day, guests are invited to learn about the process early settlers



COURTESY OF TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Travel back in time on Saturday at San Felipe de Austin's 200th anniversary celebration. The historic park is located at 220 2nd St. in San Felipe, between Katy and Sealy.

followed to join the community and will have the unique opportunity of "becoming a colonist" by setting out on a quest and collecting a variety of documents to present to Stephen F. Austin for final approval. The historic park is located at 220 2nd St. in San Felipe, between Katy and Sealy.

Carrabba's offers specials for veterans on Veterans Day

Honoring Veterans Day on Saturday, November 11, Carrabba's Italian Grill is offering a complimentary dine-in appetizer or dessert paired with a soft beverage for veterans and active-duty military with show of ID. Available all day, no purchase required. Year round, Carrabba's offers a Heroes Discount providing 10% off to all service members, veterans and first responders. Need a holiday gift idea? Starting Nov. 7 through Dec. 31, when guests purchase \$50 in Carrabba's gift cards, they receive a \$10 bonus card to use towards a future dining visit. For more information, please visit carrabbas.com.

Free Veterans Day concert at Central Green in LaCenterra

Put on your patriotic gear and celebrate your veteran at Cinco Ranch's LaCenterra Central Green Park with a Willie Nelson Tribute Band. The concert is from 7 to 9 p.m. and admission is free. Central Green Park is located within LaCenterra at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy. For more information, go to centralgreenpark.com.

Magical Winter Lights comes to Katy Mills Mall starting November 17th

Magical Winter Lights has announced

that their Magical Winter Lights Festival will be illuminating Katy Mills, 5000 Katy Mills Circle in Katy, from November 17th to January 7th. The dazzling spectacle features thousands of intricately designed lanterns in various themes, shapes and sizes. It is a winter wonderland display that is sure to capture the essence of the festive season. Guests can walk through illuminated tunnels, admire towering sculptures and even take part in interactive exhibits. With music and entertainment through the show, the experience is truly memorable for people of all ages. For hours and ticket information, go to magicalwinterlights.com.

Find a few of your favorite things at St. Faustina's Mistletoe Market on November 18th

The Women of Mercy at St. Faustina's Catholic Church in Fulshear will host their seventh annual Mistletoe Market. on November 18th, starting at 9 a.m. Santa will visit and door prizes will be awarded. Enjoy hot chocolate and tasty baked goods while you shop. The event will be held in the CEC Building of the church, located at 28102 FM 1093 in Fulshear. Entry is a suggested \$2.00 donation at the door.

November programs announced at Cinco Ranch Branch Library

Fort Bend County Libraries' Cinco Ranch Branch Library, 2620 Commercial Center Blvd in Katy, presents a variety of free children's programs, adult computer classes, book clubs, and special programs for people of all ages each month. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, see the FBCL website (www.fortbend.

lib.tx.us), or call the Cinco Ranch Branch Library (281-395-1311) or the library system's Communications Office (281-633-4734).

- Pajama Night Story Time - Tuesday, November 21, 6-6:30 pm - gives families with children of all ages an evening option for some activities presented during the daytime. The themes are the same as those for Family Story Time.

- Family Fun Night - Mondays, November 13 and 27, 6-7 p.m., Meeting Room. Families with children of all ages are invited to an evening of games, building challenges, and more.

- After-School Break: Chess & Go - Wednesday, November 15, 4:30-5 p.m., Meeting Room 2. This program is for school-aged children in grades 1 through 5. Students will learn how to play the games of Chess and Go.

- Creative Connections - activities for school-aged children in grades 4 through 8 - takes place on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, from 4:30 to 5 p.m. The schedule of activities is as follows:

- November 16 - 3D Puzzle & Painting. Students will create fall decorations for the Youth Services department.

- Craft Club - Tuesdays, November 14 and 28, 2-4 p.m., Conference Classroom. Craft enthusiasts of all experience levels - from beginners to advanced - who enjoy any type of crafting are invited to attend to get other crafters' perspectives, critiques, and suggestions. Chat and network with other crafters who enjoy anything from art and needlework to woodwork and much more! Those attending should bring their projects and their own crafting supplies. Samples of the library's instructional books, magazines, and websites on various crafts will be available. Crafters are invited to come and go as time permits.

- Live Online: FBCL Living Sustainably Club - "Living Sustainably 101" - Monday, November 20, 6-7:00 p.m. FBCL's Living Sustainably Club meetings will be livestreamed through Webex so that readers can participate virtually and interact with others in real time; this monthly club is an online one by choice -- a conscious effort to minimize the carbon footprint by reducing the use of fossil fuels. Guest speakers will share information on various topics that focus on discussing, educating, and demonstrating how everyone -- from individuals to businesses -- can live sustainably within a budget. The topic for November is "Living Sustainably 101." Learn about things one can do to use less resources, create less waste, reduce excessive consumption, and help the ecosystem. Registration required; call 281-633-4726.

CLEARLY, YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

MEET TOOTS!
Looking for a smaller dog? Here's Toots, the small dog with the big heart. Toots is a 3-year old mixed breed.

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specialpals.org

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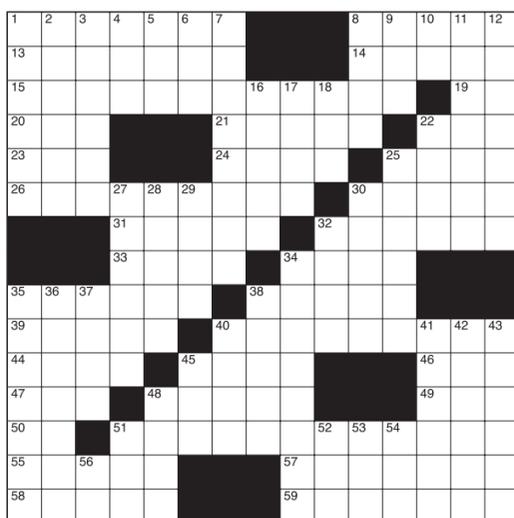
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Happen again
- Large flightless birds
- A type of account
- Beyond what is natural
- Beloved comfort food
- Rural delivery
- Belonging to us
- Typical
- Pie ___ mode
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Not us
- Discharge
- Made empty
- Fishing net
- Fast-moving, harmless snake
- Analyzed into its parts
- In a way, chilled
- Hindu queen
- Circles around the sun
- Used for emphasis
- Reactive structures
- Recommendations
- Feel intense anger
- Puke
- Rural Northern Ireland community
- Naturally occurring solid material
- British watch brand

CLUES DOWN

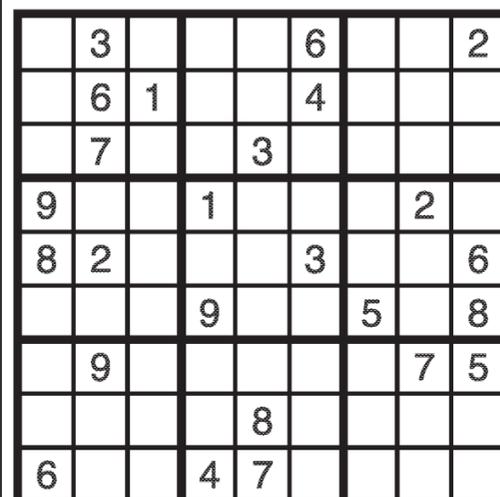
- Vital public document
- Disinter
- Musical performances
- After B
- Every body has one (abbr.)
- Utilize
- In a way, disproved
- Fisherman's tool
- Of she
- Trauma center
- Commercial flyer
- Administered medicine to calm
- Popular R&B performer
- Regretted
- Leg (slang)
- "Night Train" author
- More supernatural
- Baltimore ballplayer
- Shoe parts
- Scores perfectly
- More lucid



- Trim by cutting
- Disreputable people
- Dramatic behaviors
- Disorder
- Private box in a theater
- More dried-up
- Raw
- In operation
- Pillager
- Butterflies with brown wings
- Disallow
- Own up
- Hungarian city
- A way to condemn
- Tax collector
- Lease
- Not out

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

Here's How It Works:

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

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

BRIONES

from page A1

solutions (such as native plants and grasses which absorb and trap more storm water). The Flood Control District's key projects underway are the rehabilitation of channels upstream of both the Barker Reservoir and the Addicks Reservoir, he said. Shah also updated the status of the "tunnel study," a project building a system of tunnels that would store and remove excess water from the area. He said the study is still in the investigative stages and that the implementation cost would likely be in the billions – but that other solutions would likely be in the billions as well. He said that other future projects under consideration included the deepening of both the Addicks and Barker reservoirs to remove excess silt and to increase storage capacity.

Infrastructure updates were provided by Dan Dymytryshyn, director of engineering and construction for Precinct 4, and Jessica Cohen. Dymytryshyn described two studies currently underway in the Katy area – one focused on mass transit and the other on potential mobility improvements in the east part of Katy:

• **West Harris County Transit Demand Study, expected to be completed by the end of 2023:**

- Assessing public transit demand in Precinct 4 corridors.
- Identifying capital improvements to make existing road and pedestrian infrastructure transit supportive.
- Evaluating potential transit service types and routes to match demand.

• **Katy East Community Plan & Mobility Study, projected to be**

completed by June 2024:

- Examine existing community characteristics and complete a review of mobility needs.
 - Identify infrastructure improvements that support the community, foster multimodal connectivity, diverse housing options, a mix of land uses, and a sense of place.
 - Provide recommendations for future infrastructure improvements.
- He also reviewed the status of current projects under construction in the Katy area:

• **Clay Road, a \$13.3 million investment by Precinct 4 which is in two phases:**

- Peek Road to Ventana Prairie Drive, which has been fully reopened to four lane traffic; there is minor clean up work to be completed in next several weeks.
- Porter Road to Ventana Prairie Drive, estimated to be completed in March 2024: Two lane traffic moved to new roadway and the storm sewer installation has been completed.

• **Clay Road / Katy Hockley Road intersection, a \$1.1 million investment by Precinct 4 with anticipated completion in the second quarter of 2024.**

- Widen roadway to add left turn bays in all four directions and install traffic signal.
- Earthwork and drainage box pipe structure extensions in progress.

• **Clay Road / Katy Hockley Cut Off Road intersection, a \$1.3 million investment by Precinct 4 with work to be completed by the end of November 2023.**

- Widen roadway to add left turn

bays in all four directions and install traffic signal.

- Traffic signals energized on September 29.
- Project substantially complete, minor clean up items remain.

• **Traffic Signals:**

- Peek Road / Castello Lakes Drive: Design commences Q4 2023 and anticipated construction completion Q1 2025.
 - Peek Road / Grand Ventana Drive / Ginosa Trail: Traffic signal hardware on order, delivery by end of 2023; anticipated construction completion is April 2024.
 - Peek Road / Elyson Falls Drive: Traffic signal hardware on order, delivery Q2 2024 and anticipated construction completion is Q3 2024.
- The infrastructure team also outlined future projects planned for the Katy area:

• **Katy Area intersection upgrades, a \$4.7 million investment by Precinct 4 consisting of upgrades at six existing signalized intersections within the Katy area.**

- Extended or widened left turn bays, right turn bay upgrades and signal improvements.
- Construction start is scheduled for Q1 2024 with construction complete in Q3 2024.

• **North Katy area intersection upgrades, a \$12+ million investment by Precinct 4 involving eight intersection upgrades and traffic signal installations at key locations north of Katy.**

- Widen roadway to add left turn bays in all four directions and install traffic signal if warranted.

◦ All intersection upgrades to be completed by the end of 2025 (Depending on Traffic Study results).

• **Peek Road four lane widening north of Grand Parkway to south of Clay Road, a \$1.4 million investment by Precinct 4.**

- New road includes curbs, concrete pavement, and underground drainage.
- Land acquisition in progress, with an expected finish Q4 2023 with construction start in Q2 2024 and completion in Q1 2025.

• **Porter Road four lane widening and reconstruction from Morton Ranch Road to Clay Road, a \$4.5 million investment by Precinct 4.**

- New road includes curbs, concrete pavement, and underground drainage.
- Land acquisition in progress, finish Q4 2024, with construction start in Q2 2025 and completion in Q1 2026.

• **Roland Road drainage improvements to mitigate flooding issues on properties adjacent to Roland Road and in Katy Pointe neighborhood, a \$27.8 million investment by Precinct 4.**

- Land acquisition currently in progress, projected finish Q1 2024.
- Utility relocations scheduled for Q3 2024 with construction start in Q4 2024 and completion in Q4 2025.

• **Clay Road, a \$40+ million investment by Precinct 4 with a new road including curbs, concrete pavement, 6' wide sidewalk and storm drainage.**

- Design in progress, finish Q3

2024.

- Utility relocations to begin in Q3 2024 with construction start in Q2 2025 and completion in Q3 2026.

The team also listed projects being done by the City of Katy:

- Katy Hockley Road – Morton Road to Clay Road: four lane widening and reconstruction; drainage improvements. Anticipated construction to start Q2 2024.

- Morton Road – Katy Hockley Road to Pitts Road: four lane widening and reconstruction; drainage improvements. Anticipated construction to start Q3/Q4 2025 (after Katy Hockley Road is complete).

- Katy Hockley Cut Off Road – H-E-B Access to Clay Road: four lane widening and reconstruction; drainage improvements. Anticipated construction to start late 2024 or early 2025.

Four other projects are slated to begin in the next two years, staff said. These new roads would include curbs, concrete pavement, sidewalks and/or shared use paths and underground drainage. Design start is planned for Q1 2024 with construction start in 2026 or later. Timing of construction is dependent upon funding availability, they said.

- Clay Road – Katy Hockley Road to Katy Hockley Cut Off Road.

- Porter Road – Clay Road to Stockdick School Road.

- Stockdick School Road – Porter Road to Peek Road.
- Peek Road – Stockdick School Road to Beckendorff Road.

Briones will conduct a final "listening tour" in Hockley on Saturday, December 2nd at 10 a.m. at the Hockley Community Center, 28515 Old Washington Road in Hockley.

HERITAGE

from page A1

out, and in continual agricultural production.

The rare event prompted a day-long celebration and awards ceremony at the State Capitol in Austin, which was "fun and very humbling," said Kay Beckendorff Sword. "Our House Representative Mike Schofield spent the day with us."

The family was also joined by Sid Miller, Texas Agriculture

Commissioner, for the ceremony, which included a resolution read in the House of Representatives.

Kay Beckendorff Sword said that this property has been continuously owned by women, for all but 9 of its 101-year history. "The original land bought by my great-grandmother [in 1922] was a 320-acre tract, and I traded my father, Richard Beckendorff for this land 9 years later," she said.



Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller (left) presents the Family Land Heritage Certificate of Honor to Kay Beckendorff Sword and her husband Perry Sword in Austin on October 18th, as State Representative Mike Schofield looks on.

COURTESY OF KAY BECKENDORFF SWORD

RECORD

from page A1

to complete a triathlon in the sprint category at just 11 years of age – setting the world record as recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records, Kurt said.

According to an earlier statement by Nico's father, Christian Reyes, Nico's next challenge will be the National Triathlon Championship in Omaha, Nebraska, in 2024.

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10 JINGLE TREE

10TH ANNIVERSARY

Jingle Tree features a showcase of beautifully decorated trees and décor, up for bid in a week-long, online silent auction.

Proceeds support the Museum's daily operations, expand access to underserved communities and support innovative sensory-friendly programming.

NOVEMBER 10

TREE LIGHTING

10:00AM

NOVEMBER 13 & 14

VIP EXPERIENCE

11:00AM – 5:00PM

NOVEMBER 16

FESTIVE FINALE

6:00PM – 9:00PM

SCAN FOR TICKETS AND INFO

Fort Bend County announces 'Thank A Veteran' program

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Fort Bend County Clerk, Honorable Laura Richard, will be launching the "More Than Words - Thank a Veteran" program on Thursday, November 9th, in order to honor the over 27,000 veterans located in the county.

The Fort Bend County Clerk's "Thank a Veteran Program" is a partnership with local merchants to show appreciation to those men and women who have bravely served the country.

When veterans file their DD-214 discharge documents at the County Clerk's office, they will be

provided with a free ID card that will allow them to receive discounts with participating merchants.

"The chances are high that you know someone who has served in the military. It may be a family member, neighbor, friend, or a co-worker," said Richard. "I am

proud to provide free and discounted services in my office and facilitate local businesses to offer their own special services to those who have served so selflessly today and in the past."

Businesses interested in joining the program are encouraged to visit the County Clerk's Thank a

Veteran Program website at www.fbctx.gov/morethanwords for more information, forms, and to view the list of participating businesses.

The County Clerk's office will be closed in observance of Veteran's Day on Friday, November 10th, 2023.



The new Funbox bounce park at Katy Mills Mall offers ten zones of fun.
COURTESY OF FUNBOX

Bounce park opens in Katy Mills Mall

FUNBOX — a unique entertainment and amusement experience consisting of 25,000 square feet of inflatable fun — debuted in the Houston area on October 20th at Katy Mills, 5000 Katy Mills Circle in Katy.

The FUNBOX bounce park is filled with ten thrilling play zones including the Tumble Temple, Marshmallow Mountain, Gumball's Gallop and an obstacle course that exceeds all expectations.

"I am looking forward to bringing this fun and entertaining concept to Houston for the first time," said Haroon Saleemi, owner, FUNBOX Katy. "FUNBOX promises family fun for all

ages to get kids out, active and off the screens. We can't wait to welcome local families into this one-of-a-kind experience."

Funbox is committed to giving back to its community, according to the organization's press release. For its grand opening weekend at Katy Mills October 20-22, FUNBOX offered 90-minute jumps for just \$11 with part of the proceeds benefiting both Credence Village and Foster Village Houston. Foster Village Houston creates opportunities for the community to be a "village" of support to these vulnerable and underserved children and families.

The vision of Credence

Village is to ensure safe refuge to every child that enters their program by providing holistic faith center therapeutic services and to create awareness, opportunities, and support to children and families as they begin to heal from the effects of trauma due to abuse and neglect.

FUNBOX offers jumping opportunities for all ages. FUNBOX will offer 90-minute jumps for \$19 on Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Ages two and under and 65 and older have free admission.

To buy tickets and share in the FUNBOX experience, please visit: funbox.com/houston.

PetSuites of America opens in Fulshear, adding 12th location in the Greater Houston region

Residents from Fulshear and the surrounding community invited to Nov. 10th ribbon cutting

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

PetSuites of America, leaders of the pack in pet resorts offering exceptional one-stop care for dogs and cats with more than 75 locations throughout the United States, officially opened PetSuites Fulshear on Tuesday, October 31. The new facility is PetSuites' 12th location within the greater Houston area, providing pets from surrounding communities with loving and compassionate boarding, daycare, grooming, and training services.

An official ribbon cutting ceremony featuring the Fulshear-Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, will take place on November 10th at 11:00 a.m. The Fulshear community is invited to visit the new facility, enjoy light refreshments, and meet the team of pet professionals. To celebrate the official launch of PetSuites Fulshear, new customers are encouraged to contact the resort for details about enjoying one

month of unlimited daycare for only \$99.

The 11,000 square foot space will feature premium amenities including spacious, luxury indoor and outdoor Terrace Suites, state-of-the-art play structures, and secure indoor and outdoor play yards. In addition to daycare, grooming services, and boarding, PetSuites Fulshear will also offer customizable training for dogs. Pet Parents will also enjoy access to webcams and 24/7 booking options through an online and mobile Pet Parent portal.

"Our trained and attentive Pet Pros are passionate about providing the best experience possible for all breeds of our four-legged guests," said Audra Estrada, General Manager of PetSuites Fulshear. "We are excited to be a part of the Fulshear community and can't wait to meet our neighbors and their pets."

Located at 28530 FM 1093, Fulshear, Texas, 77441, PetSuites Fulshear will be open seven days a week with extended hours from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and no late check-out charges. Visitors can stop by anytime, no appointment needed, for a free behavioral evaluation to begin booking. To learn more about PetSuites Fulshear, visit - <https://fulshear.petsuitesofamerica.com>, Facebook, Instagram, or call 281.344.5400.

"We are excited to be a part of the Fulshear community and can't wait to meet our neighbors and their pets."

—AUDRA ESTRADA,
General manager of PetSuites Fulshear



School board members Morgan Calhoun (second from left) and Amy Thieme (fourth from left) visit with members of the Nelson family at Monday night's board meeting.
SUSAN ROVEGNO

SCHOOLS

from page A1

According to a Katy ISD press release, the Freeman family members have held positions such as mayor, city council member, and served on the volunteer fire department and the school board. They have also supported many service groups such as the Katy Literary Club, Katy Heritage Society, and Keep Katy Beautiful Board, among others. Their impact on Katy can be viewed in a dedicated section in the Johnny Nelson Katy Heritage Museum.

In addition to their civic service contributions, the Freeman family have been deeply rooted in agriculture and education. W.E. and Mae Belle Freeman, the first generation of Freemans who settled in Katy in the late 19th century, understood the importance of a strong education and sacrificed so their children could attend school. Their children, Mae, Jesse and Dick finished the eighth grade at South Mayde Creek — the highest level offered at the time. Two of their other children, Bill and Buck, later graduated from Katy High School. Five generations of Freemans have graduated from Katy ISD schools and members of the sixth generation are currently enrolled in the district's schools.

During the public comments portion of the board meeting, two members of the

Nelson family spoke in favor of naming the school after their family, and described their rich history and contributions to the Katy community. During discussion of the naming recommendation, board member Rebecca Fox, who along with Dawn Champagne was a board liaison member of the naming committee, described how difficult the naming decision was and how carefully the committee proceeded. Fox recommended that the new junior high school, which is adjacent to the new high school number 10, be named for the Nelson family.

A public forum to provide input regarding the proposed name was scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 8 at the Katy ISD Education Support Complex, after the Katy Times went to press for this issue.

The board will vote on the naming recommendation at its next meeting November 13th.

High School #10 will be located at 7800 Katy Hockley Road, Katy, Texas 77493. This high school will provide enrollment relief to the neighboring campuses of Katy High School and Paetow High School in the northwest quadrant of the district which is experiencing rapid growth.

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Sharing and Caring: Members Choice Credit Union hosts Fall Food Drive

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Now through Nov. 17, the public can make the Thanksgiving holiday a little brighter for those less fortunate in the Katy community by participating in the Members Choice Credit Union (MCCU) Fall Food Drive. Three MCCU

locations are now accepting non-perishable food donations benefiting Target Hunger:

- Katy Freeway branch location: 18211 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX 77094
- N. Fry Road branch location: 3770 N. Fry Road Katy, TX 77449
- Grand Parkway branch location: 401 West Grand Parkway South Katy, TX 77450

Or, participate in MCCU's virtual food drive to help families and senior citizens in need by going to targethunger.networkforgood.com. For more information on these programs, visit www.mccu.com.

TRIBUTE

Phyllis Galye (Kirven) Martinez, 61, of Brookshire, passed away in Katy, Texas, on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

She was born on January 29, 1962, to Charles and Viola (Rucker) Kirven in Columbia, South Carolina. She grew up in Charleston, South Carolina, before moving to Katy, Texas, where she graduated from Katy High School. Phyllis furthered her education, receiving her RN from Memorial Hermann's Nursing Program. On April 17, 1981, Phyllis was united in marriage to the love of her life, Raul Martinez, at Kingsland Baptist Church in Katy, Texas. Their union was blessed with a son, Ryan, and two daughters, Tara and Vena. Phyllis dedicated her life to her husband and children,



PHYLLIS GALYE (KIRVEN) MARTINEZ
1962-2023

bringing bright life into their hearts with her profound love. Phyllis and her family have resided in Katy, Wyoming, and Houston before making their home in Brookshire for the last five years. She enjoyed cap-

turing memories through photo albums, planning family events, and spending time with loved ones. She showed the love of God to all who knew her.

Phyllis is survived by her husband: Raul Martinez; daughters: Tara Rodriguez and husband, Roy, of North Houston, and Dr. Vena K. Martinez of Connecticut; son: Ryan Martinez and wife, Cecily, of Caldwell; grandchildren: Adrien Rodriguez, Cora Martinez, Ryson Martinez, and Rucker Martinez; mother: Viola Kirven of Katy; sister: Cynthia Harmond of Houston; sister-in-law: Laurie Kirven of Austin; and numerous family and friends.

She was preceded in death by her father: Charles Cecil Kirven; brother: Wayne Kirven, and brother-in-law:

Gary Harmond.

Family was present to receive friends from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, at the First Baptist Church of Brookshire, Texas.

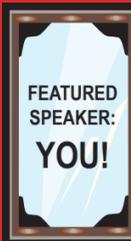
Funeral Service was held at 3 p.m. on Monday, November 6, 2023, also at the First Baptist Church of Brookshire, Texas.

Interment followed at Katy Magnolia Cemetery in Katy, Texas.

Pallbearers were Ryan Martinez, Adam Clear, Eric Mitchell, Roy Rodriguez, Adrien Rodriguez, and Allen Kirven.

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

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Amazing Place building second campus, located in Katy



Officials break ground for the new campus of Amazing Place, a facility designed to help families of patients with dementia and Alzheimer's.

SUSAN ROVEGNO

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Amazing Place, the area's non-profit focused exclusively on helping families with the challenges of dementia and Alzheimer's, broke ground on its second campus on Thursday, November 2nd. The facility, slated to open in 2025, is located at 621 Dematel Drive, Houston, 77094, near the intersection of Kingsland and S. Fry Road and adjacent to Houston Methodist's Continuing Care Hospital.

"The Katy community is part of Amazing Place's heritage—its founder Rev. Dean Robinson grew up in the area and the organization has been offering programming from the Hub in downtown Katy for several years," said Helen Vollmer Caudle, interim communications director. "So, in a sense, this is a real homecoming for Amazing Place."

"We are all very excited about our plans to support more families with brain health education, a day program for those with mild to moderate dementia and Alzheimer's, and tons of caregiver classes, counseling and connections," Vollmer added.

City of Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele and Council member Janet Corte attended the ceremony, along with other dignitaries.

Cheba Hut opening in Katy Nov. 13

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Cheba Hut — the cannabis-themed restaurant and bar — is eagerly anticipating its opening and can't wait to light the joint up, and be the undisputed neighborhood hangout for curing cottonmouth and the munchies, said company officials in a press release.

Raj and Ashley Gandhi, already well-established Cheba Hut owners and representatives of the brand, are opening their second Texas Cheba Hut location at 4846 FM 1463 STE 100 in Katy, on Monday, November 13th. The couple stated, "We can't wait to spread good vibes to the community and really 'wow' a whole new set of customers who've likely never heard of or tried Cheba Hut before! We opened our first shop in April of 2022 near downtown Houston in Sawyer Yards. The way the community and city as a whole have welcomed us has been incredible, and it's so gratifying to see the shop flourish."

Not only will the new Texas location offer a variety of over 30 signature "toasted" subs, fluffy pretzel nugs, and gooey Krispy

treats, but customers twenty-one and up can enjoy delicious signature cocktails and local brews from their full bar.

As owners who have rapidly asserted themselves into the Cheba Hut lifestyle, the Gandhis believe it is important to maintain the beauty of what makes their "toasted" subs brand a destination. One prime example would be the incorporation of art with unique murals individual to each location. Ashley Gandhi explained, "We are so excited to work again with our favorite local artist, Gelson Lemus, and watch him bring his ideas to life with a dope new mural that ties in the history of the M-K-T railroad with a 'Cheba-fied' trippy feel."

Similar to the incorporation of art inside every shop, the duo also understands the importance of maintaining Cheba Hut's Core Values (The Hustle, Show Respect, Own It, Pay It forward, Keep It Real). Raj and Ashley Gandhi stated, "Being brand new to the [Katy] area, we want to focus on keeping it real and showing people what we are all about! Good food, chill vibes, and giving back to the community."

Love Always hosts grand opening

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Love Always, a new women's clothing boutique, will host its grand opening on Nov. 11th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., bringing edgy and stylish looks to the Katy fashion scene. Guests will find classy styles in a chic environment, with giveaways, interactive discounts, and champagne.

"I've been obsessed with fashion for as long as I can remember," said Angela Childs, owner of Love Always. "Wearing a great outfit has always given me confidence and made me feel more like 'me.' By opening this boutique, I want to help other women find themselves and embrace who they are."

Love Always has operated solely online for the past year but with consumer behaviors slowly reverting back to pre-COVID habits, Childs quickly realized it was time for a change—especially when her online clients started showing up for in-person fittings at her house. With the grand opening of her brick-and-mortar location the women of Katy will have access to truly unique fashion. Ranging from workwear favorites to girls' night out



COURTESY OF LOVE ALWAYS

Love Always will open its brick-and-mortar store offering unique clothing for the woman who wants to stand out.

showstoppers, Love Always offers an array of options for the woman looking to stand out. Blending masculine and feminine aesthetics, Childs brings her own unique style to the store that encourages shoppers to pair unexpected pieces for memorable outfits.

"I created Love Always because it's important that we all lead with love, love ourselves, and of course, 'love always' what you're wearing," chimes Childs.

"The old saying is true: If you look good, you feel good."

Love Always is located at 801 FM 1463, Suite 350, Katy. The store's loyalty program and online shopping options may be found at lovealwaysbtq.com. Love Always is open Monday through Wednesday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Thursday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.



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Katy Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy (near I-10 and FM 1463)

Coffee Fellows opens first drive-thru location in Katy

Coffee Fellows expands in US market and launches breakfast program

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Coffee Fellows has reached a milestone in the company's 24-year history with the opening of its first drive-thru location at their second US-based store, at 3329 Grand Parkway N. Suite 700 in Katy on Nov 1st. The second store of the robust planned North American expansion introduces the first-ever drive-thru location for a company with over 275 locations worldwide which has traditionally served its customers via counter-service.

The store hosted a public Grand Opening event on November 6th.

Coffee Fellows Katy welcomes guests into the cozy European coffee house experience featuring lovingly hand-crafted, sustainably sourced coffees, teas, bowls, breakfast offerings, salads, fresh bagel sandwiches, pastries and the newly introduced breakfast sandwich program, available only

at Coffee Fellows North America.

"We are thrilled to open the first ever drive-thru location in Katy, Texas," said Daniel Ogbonna, CEO of Coffee Fellows North America Corp. "We understand that in less walkable areas convenience is key and that is what Coffee Fellows North America is working to offer with the addition of drive-thru locations, the Coffee Fellows app and rewards for customers through the Coffee Fellows Rewards program. The addition of breakfast sandwiches to the Coffee Fellows menu is also something we felt customers in North America would enjoy starting their day. We are ecstatic to be a convenient stop for the mom or teacher on the go, person on their lunch break and guests looking for a place to work over a cup of coffee," he said.

Coffee Fellows' ambitious growth plan include 15 - 30 additional locations in Houston, Austin, Dallas and San Antonio in 2024 and 2025, with continued rollout beyond Texas to follow.

Coffee Fellows was founded by Kathrin and Stefan Tewes in Munich in 1999. Coffee Fellows currently operates over 275 stores in Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Coffee Fellows Katy's hours of operation will run daily from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Kohl's opens new Katy location

Kohl's has come to Katy! The store, located at 25735 Nelson Way Katy, opened to the public on November 3rd. The 55,000-square foot store follows Kohl's new refreshed, modernized design which will deliver discovery, inspiration and convenience to customers.

It features a Sephora at

highlighting national brand favorites like Nike, Champion, Under Armour, and Adidas. It will also include bright, open aisles for easy navigation, and customer conveniences to make the shopping experience even easier, including self-checkout,

self-pick up for online orders and Amazon Returns. The new location will also carry brands Kohl's shoppers know and love such as private brands including Sonoma Goods for Life, LC by Lauren Conrad, and more, as well as national favorites such as Levi's.

Harmony Public School staffers receive raise

Student applications now being accepted for the 2024-2025 school year

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

To kick off the unofficial "Season of Thanks," Harmony Public Schools began November with a special surprise for its roughly 5,000 staff members across Texas. On Wednesday, November 1st, the Texas-born, Texas-wide public

charter school system announced a 5 percent "Season of Thanks" appreciation bonus to be paid to all full-time staff the week before Thanksgiving.

That means all Harmony teachers will receive a minimum of \$2,700, with many receiving more based on their step levels.

A \$300 flat amount will be paid to all eligible temp workers, including interns, tutors and crossing guards. To be eligible, employees must have received a paycheck at the end of October and remain actively employed as of November 10th. Substitutes are not eligible for this bonus.

The bonus was approved by the Harmony Public Schools Board of Directors and totals a roughly \$13.5 million investment.

"I commend our Board and administrators for being outstanding stewards of our finances and allowing us to show our gratitude to our dedicated staff in this special way," Harmony Chief Executive Officer Fatih Ay said.

Harmony Public Schools also is currently accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year for students and team members.

Families new to Harmony can apply for enrollment at Harmony-TX.org/Apply or at their nearest

Harmony campus. (To find a school, visit HarmonyTX.org/Schools)

Any Harmony campus that receives more applications than there are seats available will randomize all applications and select students via blind lottery. Each campus will set a date for their lottery within two weeks of the application deadline. Parents will be notified in the spring if their students have been selected for enrollment or placed on a waiting list.

Harmony Public Schools is a free, open enrollment public charter school system with

campuses serving PreK-Grade 12 students in 23 cities across the state, including Greater Houston, Katy, Sugar Land, Cypress, DFW, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso, Waco, Lubbock, Odessa, Bryan, Beaumont, and the Rio Grande Valley. Harmony also has one online-only campus: Harmony Virtual Academy.

Additionally, Harmony will be debuting its first Midland, Texas campus in 2024-24: Harmony Science Academy-Midland. Harmony's curriculum places a heavy focus on STEM skills, Character Education, project-based learning, and college readiness.

Katy ISD hosting Teacher Job Fair on November 16

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy ISD invites all passionate and qualified educators who are interested in joining the Katy ISD family to its fall Teacher Job Fair on Thursday, November 16th. The event will be held at Tompkins High School, 4400 Falcon Landing Blvd. in Katy from 4 to 6 p.m.

The Teacher Job Fair provides a unique opportunity for prospective candidates to connect with administrators from elementary and secondary campuses, officials said. Application re-

views and on-site interviews will also be conducted.

"Katy ISD is a premier school district, and we hire dedicated and passionate educators who provide unparalleled learning experiences to our vast community of over 95,000 students," said Brian Schuss, Chief Human Resources Officer at Katy ISD. "We value the hard work from our teachers and staff, and we find ourselves, yet again, among the esteemed names on Forbes' List of America's Best Employers in Texas. This recognition speaks to the culture of our

community as we prioritize the recruitment, training and retention of world-class educators," added Schuss.

No pre-registration or fee is required. However, participants must show proof of certification, TEA/SBEC content exam scores and/or Statement of Eligibility (SOE). It's recommended that candidates complete an application on the Katy ISD website in advance and bring enough resumes to share at the fair. For more information, visit the Katy ISD Human Resources Job Fair webpage.

KISD POLICE FORCE ADDS NEW OFFICER



New KISD officer Xoco Thomas (center) is sworn in during the October 30th school board meeting.

SUSAN ROVEGNO

Vehicular accident delays King Elementary dismissal on Halloween

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Shortly before dismissal on October 31st, a vehicle struck Robert E. King Elementary while traveling at a slow speed. There was no report of injuries and there is no structural damage to the

school, officials said.

Out of an abundance of caution, the school delayed their dismissal while Katy ISD police cleared the scene. Once the area was clear, the school proceeded with after-school dismissal. King Elementary is located at 1901 Charlton House Ln, Katy.

HONORING VETERANS



COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Veterans Day is a very special day at Nottingham Country Elementary and students and staff honored and recognized veterans for their sacrifice and service, using the Wall of Honor. The Wall of Honor will be displayed in the school's main hallway for the month of November for the school's students and visitors to see and appreciate. The photos were gathered via forms sent home with students and from emails sent to parents. Nottingham Country Elementary is located at 20500 Kingsland Blvd. in Katy.

Katy ISD's rapid growth includes expansive language groups

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy ISD is the fastest growing school district by student population in the Greater Houston area, welcoming over 2,000 new students and families each school year, according to district officials. According to demographers, Katy ISD's enrollment will exceed 100,000 students by 2027. With this growth, 30% of new enrollees are considered emergent bilingual — a learner whose native language is something other than English and is in the process of developing English proficiency.

During the October Board meeting, Linda Shepard, Director of Katy ISD's ESL and Bilingual Programs, delivered an update on this growing population of Katy ISD students and plans for ensuring all students continue to thrive amongst the district's changing demographics. "The Office of Other Languages has created a Parent & Family Empowerment Amid Community Engagement (PEACE) network team to create opportunities for parents and families to engage in community events that support their child's education, as well as help them connect and share their talents," said Shepard.

Among the supports Katy ISD provides to emergent bilingual students and their families are science, technology, engineering, arts, and math programs hosted at the district's STEAM Center, and information sessions focused on course selection and applying for post-secondary education.

More than 25% of Katy ISD's current student population are emergent bilingual learners who are in the process of acquiring English. Many of these students receive lan-



COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Parents attend English classes and learn how they can volunteer in their child's school.

guage supports, bilingual dual-language and English as a second language services that help facilitate the acquisition of English and learning. Currently, a fully comprehensive bilingual dual-language education program is available in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade to Kay ISD's native Spanish speakers who represent the district's largest emergent bilingual group.

The district is also ensuring instructional staff are prepared to serve its growing emergent bilingual population. "Beyond ESL certification opportunities, the district provides a comprehensive professional development plan to support teachers with the tools to address the varying proficiency levels of their students," said Shepard. "Components of the plan address students' affective, linguistic, and cognitive development, as well as the positive contributing factors of parent, family and community engagement in a child's education," she added.

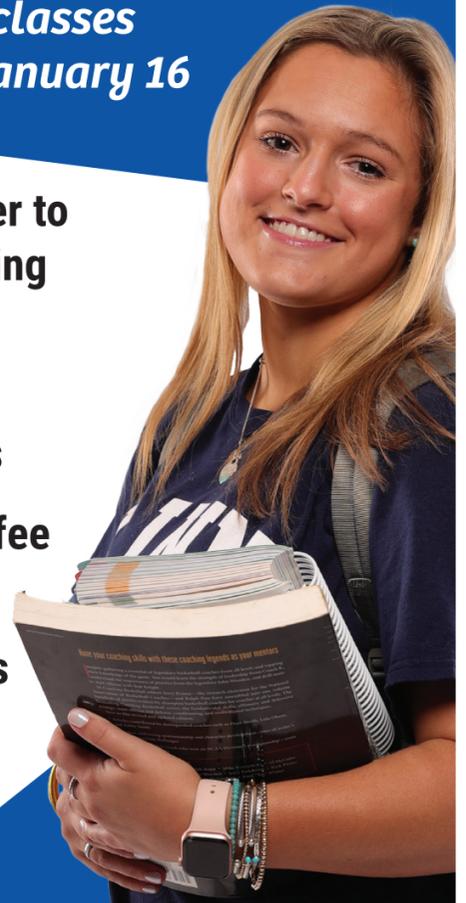
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Katy ISD collects 20 boxes of prescription medication on DEA Take Back Day

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On Saturday, October 28, the Katy ISD Police Department hosted the biannual National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event at the district's Law Enforcement Center, 20370 Franz Road in Katy. Community members were encouraged to actively participate in drug prevention by taking advantage of a convenient service to safely dispose of prescription medications that were potentially dangerous, expired, unused, or unwanted. Over 200 people dropped off medication at the event and the Katy ISD Police Department collected a total of 20 boxes of prescription medication from the community.

"We are deeply grateful to our community for their support and participation in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event," said Henry Gaw, Chief of Police at Katy ISD. "Their commitment to the safety and well-being of our community is truly commendable," he added.

The DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day event demon-



COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Katy ISD police representatives receive unwanted prescription drugs during the department's "Take Back" program on October 28th.

strates Katy ISD's commitment to reduce and prevent substance abuse in the community. Through public information campaigns on topics like fentanyl awareness and

hosting informative Legacy Parent Academy sessions, the district prioritizes student well-being, education and the strong partnership within the community.

Wilson named Katy ISD elementary principal

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

LaTwanda Wilson has been appointed as the new principal of Robert E. King Elementary, Katy ISD officials announced on October 30th. Wilson's official start date will be Monday, November 27th.

With a Master of Science in Educational Management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake, and an 18-year tenure in public education, Wilson brings a wealth of experience and passion to her role. She has served as a classroom teacher, an instructional coordinator, an assistant principal and summer school principal with Katy ISD. Wilson has successfully established effective school practices around instruction, school climate

and community involvement while prioritizing support for teachers and staff.

Throughout her career, Wilson has achieved numerous recognitions, including the 2013 Teacher of the Year Award.



LATWANDA WILSON

"We are thrilled to introduce LaTwanda Wilson as the incoming principal of Robert E. King Elementary," said Ken Gregorski, superintendent of schools at Katy ISD. "Her extensive experience, strong leadership and

unwavering dedication to achieving excellence will unquestionably elevate the educational experience of our students and contribute to the school's overall success."

Wilson is eager to collaborate with the entire King family.

"I am deeply honored to have been chosen as the new principal of Robert E. King Elementary. It is a privilege to lead and serve the dedicated staff, talented students and their families in our shared pursuit of educational excellence," said Wilson. "I am committed to fostering an environment that nurtures growth, innovation, and a strong sense of community, and I look forward to working collaboratively with the King community for many years to come."

RHS UIL Academics at the Waller Boo-Vitational

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Royal High School UIL Academics team traveled to their first invitational of the year on October 27th and 28th, competing at the Waller Boo-vitational at Waller High School along with over 20 other schools, predominantly 5A and 6A. All schools were grouped together with places going from 1st place to 10th place.

Students competing included:

- Congress-Debate**
- Elyssa Pruner, 8th place
 - Jaylyn Danz, 9th place
 - Gabriel Velasquez

- Ready Writing**
- Eleanor Recinos, 8th place
 - Persuasive Extemporaneous
 - Isaac Martinez

- Current Issues & Events**
- Asahn Antonio
 - Rebeca Arvizo
 - Jennifer Hernandez
 - Isaac Martinez

- Number Sense**
- Frankie Foller
 - Kandace Miller
 - Alejandro Rodriguez
 - Calculator Applications
 - Monica Aguinaga, 9th place
 - Roberto Montalvo, 10th place
- Science**
- Asahn Antonio
 - Sherissa Pierre

- Accounting**
- Paola Gonzalez, 11th overall
 - Monica Aguinaga
 - Roberto Montalvo

- Spelling & Vocabulary**
- Trevor Davis, 9th overall
 - Kandace Miller

- Social Studies**
- Jennifer Hernandez, 3rd place

Mathematics

- Monica Aguinaga
- Paola Gonzalez
- Joshua Kosmalski
- Roberto Montalvo
- Alejandro Rodriguez
- Gabriel Velasquez

Literary Criticism - 2nd Place Team

- Eleanor Recinos, 3rd place
- Alexcia Garcia, 7th place
- Kelsey Jung
- Kimberly Pedraza

Journalism, 1st Place Team

- Copy Editing**
- Asahn Antonio
 - Rebeca Arvizo
 - Jennifer Hernandez
 - Isaac Martinez

News Writing

- Eleanor Recinos, 1st place
- Alexcia Garcia, 3rd place
- Danahe Alcantar, 7th place

Feature Writing

- Alexcia Garcia, 3rd place
- Danahe Alcantar, 10th place

Editorial Writing

- Eleanor Recinos, 1st place
- Alexcia Garcia, 2nd place
- Danahe Alcantar, 8th place

Headline Writing

- Isaac Martinez, 1st place
- Danahe Alcantar
- Rebeca Arvizo

As a holiday-themed invitational, RISD students and one of their coaches, Nicholas Mojaver, came in costume. Seniors Kandace Miller and Trevor Davis won the costume contest as Blue and Steve from Blue's Clues.

The Boo-vitational Escape Room winners were Monica Aguinaga, Mr. Junior McKay, Ms. Laray Odum, and Roberto Montalvo.

The next competition will be Saturday, November 11th at the 2nd Annual Math and Science Navarro Invitational.

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Playoff matchups set for Katy ISD

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The playoff field out of District 19-6A is set after Friday's last set of regular season games.

There will be a number of great games in the bi-district round featuring Katy ISD teams with strong teams coming from districts 19 and 20.

Katy (9-1) finished the year as the district champions and will have the first seed of the Division I bracket — for the team's efforts they will get Fort Bend Travis in the first round of the playoffs. The Tigers finished the regular season 7-3 and 5-3 in district play and took the second seed in Division I, finishing fourth in district. They come into the playoffs on a one game win streak after ending the regular season with a win over Fort Bend Bush.

Tompkins (7-3) finished as runners up in district and took the second seed out of Division I. The Falcons ended district on a tear to earn that matchup, winning their final six games of the season to earn a matchup with Ridge Point (8-2). The Panthers went undefeated in district play and won District 20-6A to earn the first seed out of Division I. They come into the matchup having won eight straight

See **PLAYOFFS**, page B3



Andrew Marsh leaps to make a catch during Thursday's game between Jordan and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.
DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Last-second field goal lifts Jordan to playoffs for first time

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Wilson Kalvass stepped up and took a deep breath.

Legacy Stadium was silent and everything was on the line. But none of it fazed Kalvass — he was in his element and calm. It didn't matter the situation or what was on the line.

The senior kicker made school history for Jordan (7-3) on Thursday after that moment, nailing a 19-yard field goal and sending the Warriors to their first ever playoff appearance with a 52-49 win over Morton Ranch (2-8) at Legacy Stadium.

"It's nothing I haven't prepared for in

See **JORDAN**, page B3



Andrew Marsh and Zion Jones celebrate after beating Morton Ranch on Thursday at Legacy Stadium.
DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

WEEK OF AUGUST 10

SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

- Katy 49, Taylor 3
- Tompkins 17, Paetow 7
- Jordan 52, Morton Ranch 49
- Cinco Ranch 40, Seven Lakes 36

BI-DISTRICT

Friday

CLASS 6A DIVISION I

- Katy vs. Fort Bend Travis, 6:30 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Tompkins vs. Ridge Point, 7 p.m., Hall Stadium

CLASS 6A DIVISION II

- Jordan vs. Hightower, 7 p.m., Mercer Stadium

Saturday

CLASS 6A-DIVISION II

- Taylor vs. George Ranch, 2 p.m., Mercer Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

AREA

- Cinco Ranch 3, Jersey Village 0
- Tompkins 3, Cy-Ridge 0
- Seven Lakes 3, Straiford 2

REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS

- Cinco Ranch 3, Cy-Fair 1
- Tompkins 1, Seven Lakes 3

REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

Friday

- Cinco Ranch vs. Pearland Dawson, 5 p.m., Delmar Fieldhouse
- Seven Lakes vs. Deer Park, 7 p.m., Delmar Fieldhouse

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Thursday-Saturday

- Cinco Ranch and Tompkins at Conroe Tournament
- Jordan, Katy, Morton Ranch, Seven Lakes and Taylor at LCISD Tournament

Monday

- Seven Lakes at Clear Springs, 7 p.m.

Tuesday

- Paetow at Waller, 6:30 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Fort Bend Bush, 7 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch at Fort Bend Travis, 7 p.m.
- Katy vs. Magnolia West, 7 p.m.

Katy claims unbeaten district title in win over Taylor

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy checked the first goal off its box on Friday.

The Tigers' first big goal heading into every season is to win a district championship. They had that wrapped up heading into the final week of the season, but there was one part of it that wasn't finished heading into the last week of the regular season that Katy wanted to make sure it took care of.

Katy was out to clinch an undefeated district title on Friday and did just that, beating Taylor 49-3 to improve to 9-1 on the year and end District 19-6A play with a 8-0 record.

"It feels good to get that accomplishment," said senior linebacker Noah Coughran. "It was great to come out here and clinch it and go through district undefeated. We're having fun every day and working hard. That leads to good things."

Katy dominated the game



The Katy football team poses for a photo after beating Taylor.

from the start and never looked back. Tremayne Hill ran in a 76-yard touchdown on the Tigers' first offensive play and Romel Jordan added a 2-yard touch-

down in the first quarter as Katy went up 14-0. Jordan kept going in the second quarter, adding two touchdown runs of six and three yards before Gunner Nel-

son threw a 5-yard touchdown to Chase Johnsey late in the first half as Katy went into the locker

See **KATY**, page B3

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Seven Lakes downs Tompkins for trip to regionals

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes wanted another shot at Tompkins. The teams had already faced off three times this season, with the Falcons winning all three, but the Spartans had come close to beating Tompkins multiple times, only falling by one set in non-district play and in the teams' second meeting of the season. The Spartans got their shot at revenge on Tuesday in the regional quarterfinals and they didn't let it go to waste, beating the Falcons three sets to one (21-25, 25-22, 25-17, 26-24) despite losing the first set and advancing to the regional tournament for the first time since 2020.

"We really wanted this," said sophomore libero Megan Chapman. "This meant a lot to us and we knew what we would get out of this win too. So we rallied and fought and we came out fired up for this one." Seven Lakes had to overcome a hot start from Tompkins in the matchup, as the Falcons came out strong and didn't allow the Spartans to get too close in the first set. But the Spartans turned it up in the second set. Seven Lakes jumped out to a lead and held off a Tompkins run to take the second set in close fashion, before dominating the third set to take a big lead.



Seven Lakes players celebrate after winning a set during Tuesday's match between Seven Lakes and Tompkins at the Merrell Center.

"I was so proud of everything we did tonight," said Seven Lakes head coach Amy Cataline. "We didn't pass well but we were still able to make smart decisions and do the things with the ball we needed to. Even when we didn't do things right, we were able to come together and make a play and play really good defense."

The final set was showstopper where both teams threw haymakers at each other until the end. Tompkins led late but the Spartans tied the match at 24 before taking the last two points of the match and securing the win.

"We've played this team so many

times and in the end I think we just wanted it more," said senior outside hitter Sameena Burns. "We knew what they wanted to do and we just attacked the gameplan because we wanted this win so bad. We knew what we had to do to win today."

Seven Lakes advances to the regional semifinals where the Spartans will face off against Deer Park (35-10) at 7 p.m. Friday at Delmar Field House.

"I'm so ready," Burns said. "I've been there before when I was a freshman, but I didn't realize how special the regional tournament is and how special state is. I was glad to be there and glad to win."



Seven Lakes' Megan Chapman watches the ball after a dig during Tuesday's match between Seven Lakes and Tompkins at the Merrell Center.

But I was surrounded by a lot of really great role models and now I want to be that role model and that senior leader. I want to help my team get there, I want this for this program so badly."



Emily Killam spikes the ball during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Cy-Fair at the Merrell Center.

Cinco Ranch surges past Cy-Fair and into the regional tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch is on a mission. The Cougars have just a singular goal in mind and they aren't letting anyone get in their way as they try to accomplish that.

Cinco wants to get to Garland. That's the driving factor and the Cougars were not going to let any team get in the way of them making their next step and reaching the regional tournament.

The Cougars came out dominant winners on Tuesday in the regional quarterfinals, topping Cy-Fair three sets to one (25-23, 25-14, 23-25, 25-19), getting past the Bobcats and advancing to their second straight regional tournament.

"We just have an energy this year," said junior outside hitter Gabi Martinez. "We have a lot of energy and support one another and we just want to push through. That's how we approach every game and we know that as long as we fight we're going to have the opportunity to keep going."

Cinco Ranch had to withstand a barrage from Cy-Fair to start. The two teams traded leads and went back and forth before Cinco took the lead for good late and held on to take it 25-23. The Cougars settled into the game heading into the second set after that and dominated, winning it 25-14 to take a commanding lead.

"We talked about how there was going to be some long rallies in this game and you have to go earn it," said Cinco Ranch head coach Danielle Wells. "That's a great defensive team and they fought the whole time. We had to play for every point and everyone had to be ready to go. The girls did a great job of that tonight."

Cy-Fair wouldn't go down without a



Kassie O'Brien sets the ball during Tuesday's match between Cinco Ranch and Cy-Fair at the Merrell Center.

fight and took the third set in very close fashion, but Cinco came back and closed things out with a 25-19 win in the fourth set to seal the win.

"We just have a lot of weapons and it's amazing because no team can defend them all," Martine said. "You can't just stop one thing and they don't know what's coming. It just makes us even stronger as a team."

With the win, Cinco Ranch clinched a spot in the regional semifinals as they try to get back to the regional final for the second straight season. Cinco

Ranch will play Pearland Dawson (38-9) at 5 p.m. Friday at Delmar Fieldhouse as both try to reach the regional final.

"Getting to where we did last year and having the experience of the regional tournament has made them hungry," Wells said. "We have a lot of returners and they know what it feels like to be there and what it takes. They had the expectation of that and they're working towards one common goal right now. Anytime you have that as a team it makes it even better."

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JORDAN

from page B1

practice and it's nothing I haven't worked on," Kalvass said. "It's something I've done over and over again and at that point it's all mental, doesn't matter what the situation is. We've fought for months from the offseason to now to get to this point and to see it all pay off and for this school to get into the playoffs for the first time is everything."

Kalvass' kick was the ending of a wild night of football that saw the fate of Jordan's season hanging in the balance, but ultimately going the way of the Warriors in the end. The Warriors needed some heroics throughout the game though and got it from a number of places. One of the biggest though was Andrew Marsh — the junior wide receiver had one of the best games of his career to help lead Jordan to the playoffs, catching eight passes for 240 yards and five touchdowns, including touchdowns of 45, 49 and 70 yards when the Warriors needed it the most. Senior quarterback Colin Willetts also came up huge, throwing for 380 yards and five touchdowns in the win.

"I wanted this bad," Marsh said. "Me and the guys have been dreaming about this for a long time, really since we opened the school. This is what we've been working on for the past four years and it's a great feeling."

The game was back and forth from start to finish and had nine lead changes and four ties. Morton Ranch came out and took the lead early behind a strong run game and Jordan didn't get ahead until midway through the second quarter. It continued through the first half and the second as both sides scores and the lead. No team led by more than seven in the whole game. Morton Ranch took a touchdown lead with three minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, but just as soon as they got the lead Jordan answered back, as Marsh caught a screen pass, made the cornerback miss and sped past everyone for a 49-yard touchdown to tie the game.

"Andrew is just everything — I can't put in to words everything he can do," Willetts said. "We have four guys that are great, but Andrew just did it all himself today. It proves that he is one of the best in the nation and I'm just glad to have him on my team."

Jordan's defense came up big after that, making an important stop with just over a minute left and the offense did the rest from there. Zechariah Sample got the Warriors within field goal range with a big 33 yard catch and then drew a pass interference penalty that got Jordan the ball inside the 10-yard line. Kalvass took care of the rest, nailing the field goal and sending Jordan to the playoffs, despite a tremendous effort from Morton Ranch where they gave everything they had.

The win ended a two game skid for the Warriors and secured them the second seed in Class 6A-Division II out of District 19-6A in the playoffs. Jordan will face Hightower (9-1) in the bi-district round 7 p.m. Friday at Mercer



Andrew Marsh leaps to make a catch during Thursday's game between Jordan and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

JORDAN 52, MORTON RANCH 49

Morton Ranch	16	13	0	20	--	49
Jordan	13	14	7	18	--	52

First quarter
MR: Ryan Hall 3 run (Kason Martinez kick) 10:22
J: Colin Willetts 45 pass to Andrew Marsh (Wilson Kalvass kick) 9:59
MR: Mike Gerald 14 pass to Tyler Williams (Martinez kick) 7:18
J: Willetts 9 pass to Marsh, 1:35
MR: Jermaine Martin extra point block return, 1:35

Second quarter
J: Chad Gasper 10 run (Kalvass kick) 9:09
MR: Hall 26 run (Martinez kick) 6:00
J: Willetts 19 pass to Andrew Marsh (Kalvass kick) 4:39
MR: Gerald 7 pass to Markel McNeal, 0:17

Third quarter
J: Willetts 70 pass to Marsh (Kalvass kick) 5:50

Fourth quarter
MR: Gerald 25 run, 11:51
J: Gasper 16 run (Willetts pass to Marsh) 7:56
MR: Martavian Hill 42 run (Martinez kick) 6:05

MR: Gerald 20 run (Martinez kick) 3:16
J: Willetts 49 pass to Marsh (Kalvass kick) 2:29
J: Kalvass 19 field goal, 0:00

Team stats

	M. RANCH	
TOMPKINS		
First downs	18	23
Yards rushing	45-356	33-151
Yards passing	54	380
Passes	5-12-2-1	18-25-5-1
Punts	2-46	N/A
Fumbles-lost	0-0	2-1
Penalty-yards	3-40	5-55

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Jordan: Chad Gasper, 26-140-2; Van Keith Brown, 1-9; Tanner West, 3-6; Colin Willetts, 2-6; Morton Ranch: Ryan Hall, 26-181-2; Martavian Hill, 12-103-1; Mike Gerald, 7-72-2; Passing — Jordan: Colin Willetts, 18-25-380-5-1; Morton Ranch: Mike Gerald, 5-12-54-2-1; Receiving — Jordan: Andrew Marsh, 8-240-5; Zechariah Sample, 4-88; Tanner West, 2-20; Van Keith Brown, 2-19; Chad Gasper, 2-13; Morton Ranch: Martavian Hill, 2-26; Markel McNeal, 2-14-1; Tyler Williams, 1-14-1;

Stadium. It will be a huge test as they try to continue to make school history, but for now, the Warriors are going to savor the moment.

"We're going to enjoy this one," said Jordan head coach Mike Rabe.

"This is school history for us and these guys deserved it. We'll start focusing on Hightower this weekend — we know how good of an opponent they are. But for now these guys deserve to celebrate."



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Jeremy McCullough makes a catch during a game between Tompkins and Taylor at Legacy Stadium.

PLAYOFFS

from page B1

games and have outscored their opponents mightily, scoring 50.1 points per game compared to giving up 16.7 points per game.

On the Division II bracket side, Taylor (5-5) took the No. 1 seed out of district after finishing third overall. The Mustangs earned some big wins down the stretch, including over Jordan to earn the first seed out of Division II. The Mustangs have lost two straight heading into the playoffs and will be looking to turn that around in a rematch from earlier this season against George Ranch (8-2). The Longhorns finished the season third in district and took the second seed in Division II. George Ranch and Taylor faced off earlier this year, with the Longhorns taking a 41-15 win in the matchup. Taylor suffered injuries in the game and took a huge step forward after that and the Mustangs will be looking for revenge in the matchup.

Jordan (7-3) got the second seed out of Division II and the fourth seed out of the district, clinching the schools first playoff appearance in the process. The Warriors will have a bi-district matchup against Hightower for their first ever playoff game, a team that comes off a very good regular season. The Hurricanes finished the year 9-1 and 7-1 in district to finish second in District 20-6A. Hightower finished the regular season on a seven game win streak to earn the first seed out of Division II.



Chase Johnsey runs into the endzone during a game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



TYLER TYRE

Luke Carter lifts the district championship trophy after Katy beat Taylor.

KATY

from page B1

room with a 35-0 lead.

Katy's defense stepped up in the game and limited Taylor throughout. The Tigers held Taylor to just 19 yards in the first half and 149 yards overall.

"We had to put a lot of work in defensively and the tackling has gotten a lot better throughout the year," said Katy head coach Gary Joseph. "They've responded, but now we have to continue getting better. We have to make those one on one tackles because we are going to see some really good football players from here on out. We can get them in position but they have to make plays and that's what's important."

Katy added a touchdown from Chase Johnsey early in the third quarter and Romel Jordan had his fourth touchdown of the night on a 4-yard run early in the fourth quarter. Taylor got a field goal late to prevent the shutout but Katy walked away with a dominant win.

Tremayne Hill finished the night with 183 yards while Romel Jordan added 94 and four touchdowns, as Katy ran for 333 yards as a team.

"I just try to run with violence," Jordan said. That's how I can assert my will on teams and that's how I can change the game. My goal is to come out and be aggressive every game against every team. I think it helps my guys out there when I do that."

Katy will take on Fort Bend Travis (7-3) in the bi-district round. The Tigers know they will need to continue to improve through the playoffs if they want to make a deep run.

"The biggest thing is we

KATY 49, TAYLOR 3

Taylor	0	0	0	3	--	3
Katy	14	21	7	7	--	49

First quarter
K: Tremayne Hill 76 run (Hunter Ondrush kick) 10:50
K: Romel Jordan 2 run (Ondrush kick) 4:50

Second quarter
K: Jordan 6 run (Ondrush kick) 11:10
K: Jordan 3 run (Ondrush kick) 4:20
K: Gunner Nelson 5 pass to Chase Johnsey (Ondrush kick) 0:20

Third quarter
K: Chase Johnsey 3 run (Ondrush kick) 7:16

Fourth quarter
K: Jordan 4 run (Ondrush kick) 11:11
T: Jackson Waller 37 field goal (Ondrush kick) 8:02

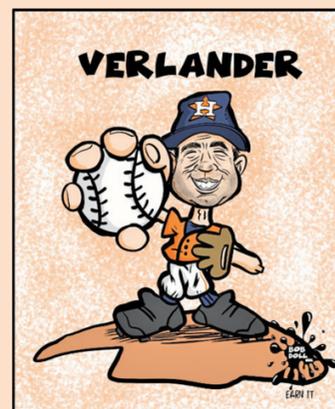
Team stats

	TAYLOR	KATY
First downs	4	18
Yards rushing	17-108	49-333
Yards passing	41	62
Passes	6-19-0-1	8-14-1-0
Punts	4-34	1-25
Fumbles-lost	0-0	0-0
Penalty-yards	1-5	2-20

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Katy: Tremayne Hill, 20-183-1; Romel Jordan, 18-94-4; Charles Davis, 3-32; Chase Johnsey, 4-11; Brody Worster, 1-5; Jackson Franklin, 1-3; Taylor: Ethan Jacobson, 7-58; Josh Jacobson, 1-58; Joe Praise-Adeyemi, 1-6; Javion Garrett, 1-0; Dante Archie, 6-(-5); Daniel Bruns, 1-(-9); Passing — Katy: Gunner Nelson, 5-9-39-1-0; Jackson Franklin, 3-5-12-0-0; Taylor: Daniel Bruns, 6-19-88-0-1; Receiving — Katy: Ryan Carbone, 2-20; Oliver Ginn, 2-19; Chase Johnsey, 3-18-1; Israel Olotu-Judah, 1-5; Taylor: Josh Jacobson, 1-27; Dante Archie, 4-52;

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050 GARAGE SALES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES							
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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage license by Palinuro Italian Cuisine FGB to be located at 27131 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Suite 900 Katy, TX 77494. The officer of said corporation is Gabriele Stabile, owner.

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Katy Times

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the partial replatting of 0.53 acre right-of-way of "Sol Vida Drive" and "Harbor Ridge Drive" within Sunterra Sec 29 as recorded in C.C.F. No. 2212972. The revision will be changing the street name "Sol Vida Drive" to "Apple Rose Lane" and "Harbor Ridge Drive" to "Golden Dust Drive". Sunterra Sec 29 is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Survey Section 121, A-201 Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2212972 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on *November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m.* at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, **425 FM 1488**, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the partial replatting of 0.04 acre right-of-way of "Sunset Gables Drive" within Sunterra Sec 16. The revision will change the street name "Sunset Gables Drive" to "Sunrise Gables Drive". Sunterra Sec 16 is situated in the J. W. McCutcheon Survey Section 130, A-308 Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2206154 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on *November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m.* at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, **425 FM 1488**, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the 26.73 acres of Sunterra Sec 24. The revision will be for the purpose of creating 112 Lots, 4 Reserves, and 2 Blocks. Sunterra Sec 24 is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Company Survey Section 121, A-201, Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2208261 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on *November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m.* at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, **425 FM 1488**, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Sale to be held ONLINE at StorageTreasures.com

The facility is Langham Creek Mini Storage 18619 FM 529 RD. Cypress, TX 77433 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on November 10, 2023, and end at 10:00 Am on November 17, 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: Tom Brewer, Ronald Henderson, Tatiana Valencia, Gustavo Ocampo Rodriquez, Mardia Victor, Sharon Boone, Linda Garcia, Dorothy Simon Rosvold, Kearra Blue, Lason Hood, Patrick O McGuire, Samantha Montgomery, Aliyah Peck.

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Katy ISD Provides Evaluations for Students with Suspected Disabilities

The Katy Independent School District Department of Special Education provides evaluations for students with suspected disabilities to identify every student with a disability living within the district's boundaries. These evaluations are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education or Section 504 program.

Students with all categories of disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their success in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Special Education services are also available to children who are visually and/or auditory impaired starting at birth.

If you are aware of a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Katy ISD Department of Special Education at 281-396-2066. The Department of Special Education will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to obtain academic and non-academic benefit. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.

Katy Independent School District
6301 South Stadium Lane
Katy, TX 77494

Katy Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees, and its agents, officers, and staff members shall not discriminate based on gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.

Invitation for Bids

Waller County will receive bids for Highway Construction Activities related to the road realignment for Diemer Road in Hempstead, Texas under the Texas General Land Office (GLO) Hurricane Harvey CDBG-DR Street Improvements Contract No. 20-065-062-C180 until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 electronically via Civcast or hard copy submittal to 2322 West Grand Pkwy North, Suite 150, Katy, TX 77449. Bids must be addressed to Matt Breazeale. The bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 in Commissioners' Court at Waller County Swing Space located at 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, TX 77445.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

Reroute a section of Diemer Road with use of excavation, road base, and application of roadway surfacing and complete associated appurtenances.

Plans, specifications, and bidding documents are available at www.civcastusa.com.

There will be a pre-bid conference at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 2322 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 150, Katy, TX 77449, with a virtual option. To join via Microsoft Teams, the number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 495215434# when prompted. Attendance is not mandatory.

A bid bond in the amount of five (5) percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid. 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.

The project to be constructed will be financed with assistance from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program and is subject to all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the federally determined prevailing Davis-Bacon and Related Acts wage rate, as issued by the United States Department of Labor and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin. Adherence to Waller County Section 3 Policy is required for contracts and subcontracts in excess of \$100,000.00.

All contractors and subcontractors must be cleared (i.e., not suspended or debarred) prior to any formal action authorizing the award of a contract to the contractor. Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises, Women Business Enterprises, Section 3 Businesses, and labor surplus area firms are encouraged to submit bids.

Waller County reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding. Bids may be held by Waller County for a period not to exceed 90 days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids, in duplicate, addressed to Memorial Municipal Utility District will be received in the office of Costello, LLC, 2107 CityWest Blvd, 3rd Floor, Houston, Texas 77042 until 10:00 a.m. local time, Friday, November 17, 2023 and then publicly opened and read for the **MEMORIAL MUD WATER PLANT No. 2 - GST AND HPT REPAIRS**. Proposals received after closing will be returned unopened.

A pre-bid conference will not be held.

Each **PROPOSAL** shall be accompanied by a Bid Bond, the "bid security", in an amount not less than ten 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 five days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. Bid sureties will be returned to all but the three lowest acceptable bidders the day of opening of **PROPOSALS**, and the remaining bid sureties will be returned after execution of the Contract.

The successful bidder must furnish **PERFORMANCE, PAYMENT, and MAINTENANCE BONDS** on the forms furnished with the **PROPOSAL**, in the amount of one hundred percent of the total Contract price, from a surety company acceptable to the Owner.

Plans, specifications and bid documents may be viewed and downloaded free of charge (with the option to purchase hard copies) at the CivCastUSA Website (www.CivCastUSA.com). Reproduction charges will apply according to CivCastUSA rates.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all **PROPOSALS** and to waive irregularities in the bidding. In case of ambiguity or lack of clearness in stating the prices in the **PROPOSAL**, the Owner reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof or to reject the **PROPOSAL**.

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BASEBALL
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November 2 Puzzle Answers

1	6	2	3	7	8	9	5	4
8	9	3	5	1	4	2	7	6
5	4	7	2	9	6	3	1	8
2	7	1	9	4	3	6	8	5
3	5	4	8	6	7	1	9	2
6	8	9	1	2	5	4	3	7
7	3	6	4	5	1	8	2	9
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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed electronic bids, addressed to Memorial MUD, will be electronically received on the CivCastUSA Website until 10:00 a.m. local time, Monday, November 27, 2023 and the Apparent Low Bidders will be automatically generated and posted on the CivCastUSA Website for Proposed Generator Addition For Memorial MUD Water Plant No. 1. A pre-bid conference will NOT be held. Plans, specifications and bid documents may also be viewed and downloaded free of charge (with the option to purchase hard copies) at the CivCastUSA Website (www.CivCastUSA.com). Reproduction charges will apply according to CivCastUSA rates.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Sale to be held ONLINE AUCTION storagetreasures.com

The facility is at FRY ROAD MINI STORAGE. 20150 Park Row, Katy, TX 77449 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on November 11, 2023 and end at 12:00 pm on November 16, 2023. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Tahisha Bates, Judith Howard, Timothy Mitchell, Miguel Machado, Beatriz Ordonez, Denise Stingley, Allison King, Sherrick & Temeka Bellard, Juan Ramirez, Ashley Harden, Latera Dandridge, Corey Farrow, Sierra Mothershed.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: Urban Twinwood, LP, owners, are requesting to be allowed to revise Reserve 15, Block 1, Twinwood Commerce Center. The revision will create 3 separate commercial reserves. These newly configured reserve would consist of 3 separate commercial reserves. Twinwood Commerce Center is situated in the Nathan Brookshire League, Abstract no. 16, Waller County, Texas recorded in Instrument No. 2302041, in the Official Public Records of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on December 13, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the **Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.**

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the partial replatting of 0.63 acre right-of-way of "Myrtle Glass Drive (PVT)" within Sunterra Sec 31 as recorded in C.C.F. No. 2212974. The revision will be changing the street name "Myrtle Glass Drive (PVT)" to "Stingray Cove Drive (PVT)". Sunterra Sec 31 is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Survey Section 121, A-201 Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2212974 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the partial replatting of 0.32 acre right-of-way of "Seawest Lake Drive" within Sunterra Sec 30 as recorded in C.C.F. No. 2212973. The revision will be changing the street name "Seawest Lake Drive" to "Sorrento Hill Drive". Sunterra Sec 30 is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Survey Section 121, A-201 Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2212973 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to allow the partial replating of 0.04 acre right-of-way of "Sunray Beach Drive (Pvt.)" within Sunterra Shores Drive Street Dedication and Lift Station No 4. The revision will be for the purpose of changing the street name "Sunray Beach Drive" to "Malibu Glen Drive". Sunterra Shores Drive Street Dedication and Lift Station No 4. is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Company Survey Section 121, A-201, Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2113487 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: Astro Sunterra, LP, a Delaware Limited Partnership, owner(s), are requesting to be allowed to revise the partial replatting of 0.10 acre right-of-way of "Sunset Gables Drive" within Sunterra Sec 14 as recorded in C.C.F. No. 22076154. The revision will changing the street name "Sunset Gables Drive" to "Sunrise Gables Drive". Sunterra Sec 14 is situated in the J. W. McCutcheon Survey Section 130, A-308 Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2206152 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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

APPLICATION: BC Sunterra, LLC, a Texas Limited Liability Company, owner(s), are requesting to to allow the partial replating of 1.59 acres of the right of way of "Sunray Beach Drive (PVT)", "Sunlight Meadows Way (PVT)", a portion of Reserve "A" Block 1 and Reserve "E" Block 3 within Sunterra Sec 25. The revision will be for the purpose of changing the street name "Sunray Beach Drive" to "Malibu Glen Drive (PVT)", reconfigure entry on "Sunlight Meadows Way (PVT)" and to reconfigure Reserve "A" Block 1 and Reserve "E" Block 3.. Sunterra Sec 25 is situated in the H. & T. C. Railroad Company Survey Section 121, A-201, Waller County, Texas recorded in C. C. F. No. 2210839 of Waller County, Texas.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on November 29, 2023 at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse Annex, 425 FM 1488, Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to **Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171**, will be electronically received, until **10 a.m. Local Time, Thursday, December 7, 2023** and then publicly opened and read at the offices of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for "**Elyson Section 51 and Basin A5 Landscape**", Harris County, Texas. In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>.

Scope of Work for the Contract includes, but is not limited to, the construction of pedestrian trail, sprinkler irrigation, grading, grassing, planting, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 10:15 a.m.** Local Time, via ZOOM. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search **NWCt306**. 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.

A bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through www.CivcastUSA.com. 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.

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

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

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to **Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171**, will be electronically received, until **10 a.m. Local Time, Tuesday, December 5, 2023** and then publicly opened and read at the offices of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for "**Elyson Basin D Trail Landscape**", Harris County, Texas. In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>.

Scope of Work for the Contract includes, but is not limited to, the construction of pedestrian trail, sprinkler irrigation, grading, grassing, planting, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.** Local Time, via ZOOM. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search **NWCt207**. 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.

A bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through www.CivcastUSA.com. 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.

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

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

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

KATY ISD BI-DISTRICT PREVIEWS

Great matchups in first round of playoffs

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Friday

CLASS 6A DIVISION I

Katy (9-1) vs. Fort Bend Travis (7-3), 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

• Katy comes into the playoffs hot and will try and continue that against Travis on Friday, as Katy comes into the matchup as the top seed out of Division I in District 19-6A while Travis is the bottom seed in Division I in District 20-6A.

The Tigers come are riding an eight game win streak as they enter the playoffs and will try to continue what they have been doing. Katy comes off a big win over Taylor where the Tigers dominated on both sides of the ball. Katy's run game continued to be huge in the win. Tremayne Hill had a big day, rushing for 183 yards and a score, while Romel Jordan looked as healthy as ever, rushing for 94 yards and four touchdowns. The defense was just as big, holding Taylor under 150 yards of total offense.

Now Katy will have to deal with a Travis squad that has had an up and down season while making the playoffs. Travis comes into the matchup after earning a win over Bush where they had a strong day, earning a shutout in the process. Travis has averaged 25 points per game through the regular season while giving up 19 points per game. Katy's plan will be simple — to continue to do the same things where they've had success and keep their winning streak going while trying to bounce back in the pass game after a couple of down weeks through the air.

Tompkins (7-3) vs. Ridge Point (8-2), 7 p.m. at Hall Stadium

Last year: Ridge Point, Tompkins 33 (OT)
• Tompkins will have a rematch of their bi-district matchup last year when they play Ridge Point on Friday.

Last year's game was one of the best of the year in all of high school football and had both teams played exceptional football and had to go to overtime before Ridge Point won it on a failed two-point conversion attempt by Tompkins that sent Ridge Point to the area round.

That game has stuck with Tompkins through the season and the players can't wait to get back out there and have a second chance at this game. It will be a strength on strength matchup. Tompkins is led by Wyatt Young, Caleb Blocker and a strong offensive line up front, but they will go up against a Ridge Point side that has the size and athletes to be able to handle that test. Tompkins won 17-7 over Paetow last week and will look to extend what has become a six game win streak. But Ridge Point is a very



Wyatt Young stiff arms a defender during a game between Tompkins and Mayde Creek at Rhodes Stadium.



Taylor's Joe Praise Adeyemi is brought down by Patrick Miller during Thursday's game between Tompkins and Taylor at Legacy Stadium.

strong team in its own right. The Panthers are on an eight game win streak and won the District 20-6A title while being dominant on offense and defense. Austin Carlisle has been great at quarterback for Ridge Point, throwing for 2538 yards this season with 30 touchdowns compared to just four interceptions, while adding 33 yards and eight touchdowns on the ground. Westley Drummer has been the team's top rusher with 451 yards and 12 touchdowns, while Ashton Bethel-Roman and Dane Jones are a great one-two punch at receiver, with Bethel Roman having 766 yards receiving and seven touchdowns on the year while Jones has 708 yards and 12 touchdowns. Ridge Point's defense has been excellent as well, and has only given up 17 points per game.

It looks like it could be just as good of a matchup as it was last year with both teams looking equally strong and it is shaping up to be one of the best games of the bi-district round.

CLASS 6A DIVISION II

Jordan (7-3) vs. Hightower (9-1)

• Jordan will be up against Hightower in the

bi-district round in the Warriors' first-ever playoff game in what will be a very difficult matchup but one that Warriors are embracing.

Jordan comes off a last second win over Morton Ranch to clinch the playoff appearance and will be looking to continue to improve as they go against Hightower.

Colin Willetts had a big game against Morton Ranch, throwing for 380 yards and five touchdowns while Andrew Marsh had eight catches for 240 yards and five touchdowns and Chad Gasper ran for 140 yards and two touchdowns. But Jordan did struggle against the Morton Ranch offense, allowing 356 yards on the ground and the Mavericks took the Warriors to the final whistle.

Jordan will be looking to clean some of that up against Hightower. The Hurricanes are led by a very strong rush game to go with a good pass game. The Hightower defense has also had a great season and has only given up 14 points per game over the course of the year.

Jordan is determined to make a game of it and shock some people and to do that they will have to continue to have a strong offense while the run defense will need to

be improved heading into the most important game of the team's history.

Saturday

Taylor (5-5) vs. George Ranch (8-2), 2 p.m. at Mercer Stadium

Last Matchup: George Ranch 41, Taylor 15

• Taylor and George Ranch will have a rematch of their game earlier this season on Saturday as the two meet in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

Taylor comes off a loss to Katy and has lost two straight, but this will be a good reset week for them as they try to get back in the win column and go on a run in the playoffs.

The Mustangs have weapons on the offensive side of the ball that they can use. Dante Archie and Ian Flynt have both been huge assets in the pass game while Archie is also a huge part of the run game. But the Taylor defense has been what sets them apart, as the group that includes Cyrus Reyes and Ashton Coker have limited teams all year.

George Ranch ran away with it in the second half the last time these two teams met but Taylor has grown to a much better team since that point. Deion Drinkard has been strong for George Ranch and has thrown for 1003 yards and 11 touchdowns while adding 168 yards and four touchdowns on the ground. The run game is where George Ranch thrives and Jaden Shelton has had a big year, running for 1247 yards and 11 touchdowns to lead the way, while George Ranch has given up 25 points per game so far this year.

Taylor will feel confident heading into the matchup and will have to pay to their strengths of running the ball and stopping the run in the game. Overall it looks like it will be a very close matchup.

Houston ranked at No. 7 in AP preseason poll

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Houston earned a top 10 ranking in the Associated Press Preseason Top 25 poll, which was released last week as the Cougars earned a preseason ranking for the fourth straight season.

Houston came in at No. 7 in the poll, receiving 1,117 points to place in the top 10 and be among the top teams in the nation. This is the 22nd straight poll that has included Houston in the top 10 and the 65th consecutive week they have been in at least one national poll.

Houston brings back six letterman and two starters from last year, while also bringing in big transfers, including senior guard and Morton Ranch graduate LJ Cryer, who transferred from Baylor.

Houston was the No. 2 ranked team out of the Big 12, only behind Kansas, who was ranked No. 1 in the preseason poll. Overall, four Big 12 teams were ranked in the preseason poll, with the other two teams also being from the state of Texas. The University of Texas came in ranked No. 18 while Baylor was ranked No. 20.

The Cougars were also picked to finish second in the Big 12 behind Kansas. They collected 153 points in the Big 12 Conference Preseason Coaches Poll and two first place votes. It's the fifth straight season that Houston was picked first or second in its preseason conference poll.

Houston will open the season with an exhibition against UNC Pembroke, Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson's alma mater, on Saturday, Oct. 28 at the Fertitta Center. The team's regular season opener is scheduled for Nov. 6 when they will play the University of Louisiana Monroe at home.



Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson during an NCAA college basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Mar. 2, 2023, in Houston.

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Publishing 12/7/2023

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DEADLINE: Thursday, November 30

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will be closed Thursday, November 23 in observance of

Thanksgiving

Deadline for all advertising in November 23rd issue is Wednesday, November 15 at 4 p.m.

We will also close at 1 p.m. on Friday, November 24. Deadline for display advertising in November 30th issue is Friday, November 24 at Noon.

Best Wishes to all for a Happy Thanksgiving!

Stroud leads Texans past Bucs in dramatic win

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

CJ Stroud and the Texans offense had enough of the lackluster performances.

After three games where the Houston offense didn't excel, they went back to the basics and they were determined to turn things around and get back to winning.

It took a whole game and a lot of adversity, but the Texans did just that behind a huge game from Stroud and the offense, beating the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 39-37 behind a last second touchdown drive where the Texans took the lead with just six seconds left in the game.

"Man this was just an exciting, tremendous game," Stroud said. "A hue credit goes to Jimmy Ward because we've lost some one-score games and this week he had us go through two-minutes an extra time to get it down and that was the game. We did it twice and he was the one that led that. You have to be able to win in two minute games and that's what we were able to do today."

Stroud broke the single game record for most passing yards by a rookie in NFL history in the matchup and also threw for the third most yards in Texans single game history, throwing for 470 yards and five touchdowns without throwing an interception in the matchup.

"It was a gutsy performance from CJ," said Texas head coach DeMeco Ryans. "It wasn't all clean, but he gutted it out and made some huge plays and throws. It was a great game all over by the quarterback and receivers and just a really gutsy game for CJ."

The Texans fell behind and it took the team a while to get into things.

Houston started with the ball but coughed up a fumble on its first drive, giving Tampa Bay a short field which they took advantage of with a 35-yard field goal. Houston came back with a seven play, 75-yard



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Texans tight end Dalton Schultz (86) celebrates with Texans wide receiver Tank Dell (3) after scoring on a 9-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter of an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on November 5, 2023 in Houston.

drive which was capped off with a 15-yard touchdown pass from CJ Stroud to Nico Collins but the Buccaneers responded with a touchdown of their own on a 3-yard pass from Baker Mayfield to Cade Otton.

Tampa Bay increased their lead to two scores early in the second quarter with another touchdown on a 1-yard run by Rachaad White before the Texans made a field goal to trim the deficit to one score. Houston got another big stop before halftime, but the offense wasn't able to make anything of

it with Houston going into the locker room down 17-10.

Houston came to life in the second half of the game though and looked like a different team.

Tampa Bay started the third quarter by getting a field goal, but the Texans responded just one play after, with Stroud throwing a 75-yard touchdown to Noah Brown on the team's first play from scrimmage in the second half. The Buccaneers got the ball to midfield again and had to settle for a long

field goal before the Texans came back with another touchdown drive capped off by a 29-yard pass from Stroud to Tank Dell. That made things a one-point game after a failed two point conversion which was necessary after Texans kicker Ka'imi Fairbairn went down with an injury.

Houston kept its offensive improvements going and took the lead early in the fourth quarter when Stroud found Dalton Schultz for a 9-yard touchdown on a fourth and goal, with Stroud punching in a two-point conversion to make it a seven-point lead. But Tampa Bay came right back to score a touchdown and tie things up. The Texans defense stepped up once again to stop a Buccaneers drive before Houston drove down the field and backup running back Dare Ogunbowae stepped up to kick a 29-yard field goal and put the Texans back in front. But the Houston defense faltered on the Buccaneers' final drive of the game, allowing Tampa Bay to convert a first down when the team had a third and 23 before Mayfield found Otton for the second time in the game and Tampa Bay went ahead with just 46 seconds left in the game. But Houston came back with their biggest drive of the game, going 75 yards in six plays and only needing 40 seconds to get down the field and score on a 9-yard pass from Stroud to Dell with just six seconds left in the game to give the Texans their fourth win of the year and get Houston back to .500.

The win puts Houston two games back of Jacksonville in the AFC South standings. The Texans will be on the road next week as they take on the Cincinnati Bengals in a very tough matchup.

"We just gained that confidence this week through practice and we have to keep that going," Stroud said. "It's all about that trust in the offense and we had that. We knew we should have done better against the Panthers and we fixed some things. We just have to keep that going."



Calling All Jr. High School Students!

Share your ideas and show off your civics skills in the National Civics Bee.

About the Bee

The National Civics Bee is an annual competition that encourages young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities.

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If you are a 6th, 7th, or 8th grade student with an idea about using civics to solve a problem in your community, review the rules and guidelines on this page:

www.katychamber.com/national-civics-bee

Essay portal open November 13th and must be received by January 8, 2024.

For More Information

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce
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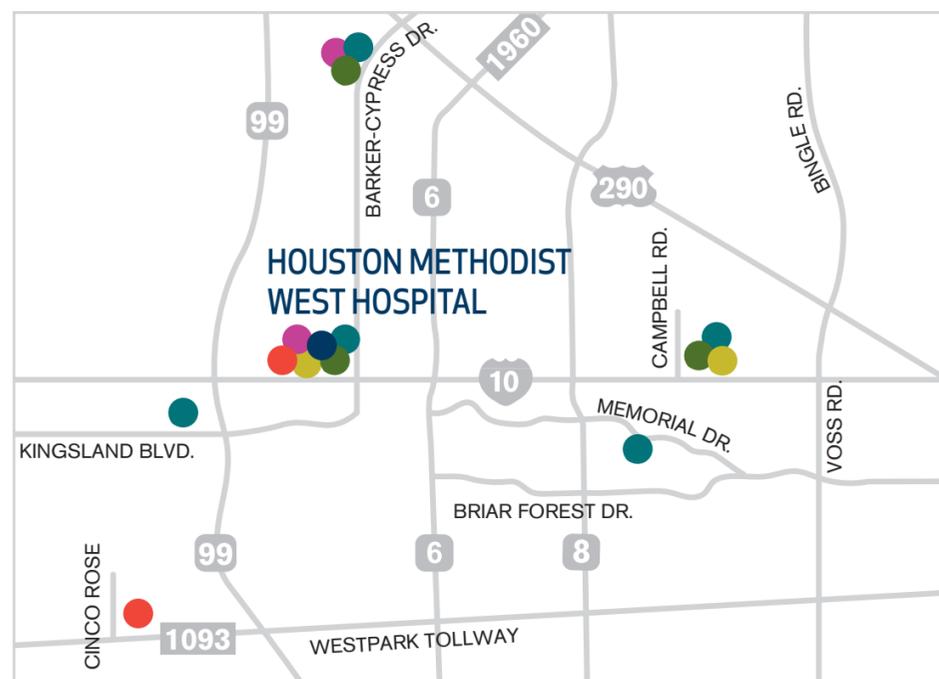


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