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THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

Incumbents retain positions on Katy ISD school board

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

On Monday, May 6, Katy ISD released the "unofficial" voting results for the May 2024 Katy ISD Board of Trustees Election, as follows:

Position 6 Candidates:

- Rebecca Fox (incumbent)

Unofficial Voting Total: 9,228 votes (56.51%)

- Donovan Campbell
Unofficial Voting Total: 7,102 votes (43.49%)

Position 7 Candidates:

- David Olson
Unofficial Voting Total: 7,154 votes (43.77%)

- Dawn Champagne (incumbent)
Unofficial Voting Total: 9,189 votes (56.23%)

According to the unofficial results, a total of 16,379 votes were cast in the May 2024 election – reflecting almost seven per cent of the 236,070 registered voters,

See **ELECTION**, page A3



Rebecca Fox (left) and Dawn Champagne celebrate their victories in the 2024 Katy ISD school board race at a watch party at Champagne's home on Saturday, May 4.

COURTESY OF DAWN CHAMPAGNE

School board hears plans for renovations at Pattison Elementary

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

At Monday's work-study meeting of the Katy ISD board of trustees, board members heard a scheduled budget update from district CFO Chris Smith, considered renovations to several facilities and heard a request for additional staffing.

Tempers flared several times during the evening, resulting in spirited exchanges between board members on the dais and audience members and among the board members. During public comments made by Lisa Lister-Browne, board president Victor Perez admonished her several times to keep her remarks to the agenda item she had signed up to speak about. Following adjournment for a closed session meeting, an argument about a remark allegedly overheard by trustee Morgan Calhoun who was still on the dais and former trustee Bill Lacy (seated in the audience) erupted, resulting in Calhoun telling Lacy, "There's the door – leave."

CFO Smith presented an updated budget projection showing a deficit of \$7.9 million for the district for the 2024-2025 school year. The district is forecasting slower growth in enrollment of about 1.4

See **KISD**, page A3

HAVE A NEWS TIP?

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May 9, 2024
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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OFFICE OF KP GEORGE

A panel featuring (left to right) Houston Galveston Area Council CEO Chuck Wemple, CEO/Founder and President of The Signorelli Company Danny Signorelli, County Judge KP George, and Fort Bend County Engineer Stacy Slawinski explored future real estate developments in Fort Bend County during the judge's April 30 "State of the County" event.

Fort Bend County Judge KP George delivers 'State of the County' address

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Judge KP George delivered the annual "State of the County" address to a packed audience at the Marriott Sugar Land Hotel on Tuesday, April 30. Hosted by the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce and the Central Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce, the event also showcased participants from his esteemed Youth Leadership Program.

During his address, Judge George highlighted the unprecedented population growth Fort Bend County has experienced. The latest United States census data reveals a population exceeding 945,000 residents and a staggering 41% growth over the last decade. Fort Bend has also earned accolades, ranking as the second Most Diverse County in Texas and the fifth Most Diverse County in the nation. With over 100 foreign languages spoken and more than 30% of residents representing internationally diverse backgrounds, Fort Bend epitomizes inclusivity and cultural richness.

Judge George outlined a comprehensive plan for the County's future, with a primary focus on infrastructure and mobility that includes projects presented by the Houston-Galveston Areas Council's groundbreaking \$18.76 billion funding plan for transportation infrastructure from 2025 to 2028, the passage of last year's groundbreaking \$712 million mobility bond to fund current and future mobility and infrastructure projects, and the allocation of over \$38,492,516 from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) to pursue evacuation route and erosion repair projects.

Furthermore, Judge George highlighted the County's investment in economic development, citing the establishment of The Fort Bend County Economic Opportunity & Development Department in 2022. Under the leadership of Carlos Guzman, the department has spearheaded initiatives to streamline processes, foster growth, and create sustainable opportunities for all residents. Notable

See **COUNTY**, page A3

Cimarron subdivision drainage project completed

Neighborhood severely impacted by Hurricane Harvey gets \$13.5 million in infrastructure upgrades to mitigate flooding

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Marking the next step in improving street drainage and reducing flood risk for Harris County residents, Commissioner Lesley Briones hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 1 to celebrate the completion of a \$13.5 million drainage project in Cimarron subdivision.

During Hurricane Harvey, 162 single-family homes flooded in the Cimarron subdivision. The new drainage improvements will lower flood risk for more than 250 structures, 77 of which will no longer be in the 100-year floodplain. Improvements include larger drainage pipes, increased capacity of inlets along curbs, and adjustments of waterlines and sanitary sewer lines.

The Cimarron neighborhood is located in unincorporated Harris County, east of the Grand Parkway and south of Kingsland Drive in the greater Katy area. It was built in the 1970s under less stringent drainage standards than currently exist. During heavy downpours and tropical events, rainfall amounts routinely exceeded the capacity of the local storm drainage system leading to flooded homes, streets, and road closures.

See **DRAINAGE**, page A3

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office announces new mobile app

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

In a press conference on April 29, the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office unveiled its innovative mobile application, poised to redefine the way residents interact with law enforcement and access critical resources within the community.

Embodying the values of transparency, accessibility, and proactive communication, the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office introduces this customized smartphone app to serve as a centralized platform for informa-

tion, services, and updates pertinent to the Sheriff's Office and public safety in the region, the department said in a subsequent press release.

Key features of the app include:

- Real-Time Alerts and Blog Posts: Receive instant notifications and stay informed about news, emergency alerts, and community events through real-time push notifications and regularly updated blog posts.
- Jail Inquiry: Access the database for current inmate information, enabling users to search for individuals in custody, along with

their booking status and charges.

- Inmate Resources: Find comprehensive information and resources for inmates and their loved ones, including details on commissary, visitation, and approved bonding companies, fostering a supportive environment for incarcerated individuals.
- Community Outreach Programs: Explore a wide range of free community outreach programs offered by the Sheriff's Office, promoting engagement, education, and collaboration within the community.
- Non-Emergency Reporting:

Report non-emergency incidents directly through the app, providing users with a convenient and efficient means of communication with law enforcement.

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office encourages all residents to download the app, now available for free on both iOS and Android devices, and to take advantage of its myriad features to stay connected and informed, the press release said.

"Our mobile app represents a significant milestone in our ongo-

See **APP**, page A3

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Library hosts May 11th program for first time pet owners

Are you thinking of adding a pet to your life? Fort Bend County Libraries' Cinco Ranch Branch Library will host a program for first-time pet owners on Saturday, May 11, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., in the Multipurpose Room of the library, located at 2620 Commercial Center Blvd in Katy. Learn about responsible pet ownership and choosing the right animal for one's family and circumstances. Hear about different types of pets, their traits and characteristics, and their level of care. Costs for having a pet - including materials, supplies, food, medical care, and training - will also be discussed. Discover ways of buying or adopting a pet. This program is free and open to the public. For more information, see the Fort Bend County Libraries website fortbend.lib.tx.us.

Carriage Inn to hold Italian-themed Open House on May 11

Join the team at Carriage Inn, 1400 Katy-Flewellen Road in Katy from 1 to 3 p.m. on

May 11th for an Italian-themed open house where you can meet the residents and tour the property while enjoying refreshments. Each guest will receive ingredients for a spaghetti dinner as they visit different areas of the community. To RSVP, call 281-769-5586 or email Rebecca at rborrello@cardinalbay.org.

Katy Library announces May programs

The Katy Branch Library at 5414 Franz Road in Katy, a part of the Harris County

Public Library System, invites area residents to join these free activities:

- Story Time May 14 from 6 to 7 p.m.: at Mary Jo Peckham Park, 5597 Gardenia in Katy Join the Katy Library and Precinct 4 at Mary Jo Peckham Park every second Tuesday at 6 p.m. for an evening story time and craft!
- Knotty & Nice, May 15 and May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m.: Knit, crochet, craft, or just come and socialize! Knotty & Nice will take place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (5373 Franz Rd) on May 22.
- ESL Book Club and Conversation Circle, May 15 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.: This program is for informal English conversation on any topic; participants are encouraged to read a book together to learn English.
- Book & Bite Club, May 23rd from 2 to 3 p.m.: Stop by the library to check out the book we are consuming this month. This month, this program will take place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (5373 Franz Rd). For more information call (281) 391-3509.

Maud Marks Branch Library schedules May offerings

- The following free programs will take place in person at the Maud Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen in Katy, during the month of May. Please call 832-927-7860 for further information.
- DIY Workshop, Plaster of Paris-dipped flowers, May 14, at 2 p.m.: Join us as we create beautiful plaster of Paris-dipped flowers for decorating your home or gifting to loved ones. Registration is required for this event and seating is limited.
 - Teen Anime Club, May 14, 4:30 to 6 p.m.: Calling all anime and manga fans ages 11 to 18 -- hang out with your fellow anime fans as we watch anime shows, discuss manga, and make anime-themed crafts. Snacks provided.
 - Timeless Travelers, Bayou

Bend Collection and Gardens, May 14: Seniors 55+ are invited to join the Maud Marks Library's Timeless Travelers program for a trip to visit the Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens. The house is situated on 14 acres of organically maintained gardens that you can stroll through in Houston's historic River Oaks neighborhood.

• After School Game Day, May 16, 4:30 p.m.: Teens, tweens, and elementary-aged kids can drop in and play all the games! We will have a wide variety of tabletop and card games available. Warning: there will be laughs!

Have a smokin' good time at the Smokin' Savvy Brisket Workshop on May 18

May is National Beef Month and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension of Fort Bend County wants to celebrate! The group has announced a collaborative effort between Fort Bend County's Livestock Coordinator, Kally Felcman, and the County Extension Agent for Family and Community Health, Nisa Khan. Together, they're hosting an engaging workshop on May 18th at 10 a.m. to delve into the art of smoking brisket, its nutritional benefits, and understanding how the cattle industry contributes to society. The "Smoking Savvy" workshop is just \$25.00 and open to all who register in advance: fortbend.agrilife.org/fch/healthy-eating/smokin-savvy/ But hurry... space is limited! Participants will discover the secrets of beef brisket and its nutritional value in a relaxed and informative setting. Lunch and lots of healthy protein samples will be offered. The event takes place at the Fort Bend County Extension Office's Education Center (behind main building), 1402 Band Rd., Rosenberg For more information, contact Amy L. Ressler at amy.ressler@ag.tamu.edu.

Comcast RISE program to distribute 100 grants to support small businesses

Business support to include a total of \$500,000 in grants plus computer equipment, advertising and business consulting and education

- Monetary grant - \$5,000 monetary grant.
- Creative production and media - Turnkey production of a 30-second TV commercial, plus a media strategy consultation and 180-day media placement schedule. (Taxes and other fees may apply for production and media services.)
- Comcast business technology makeover - Computer equipment, Internet, voice and cybersecurity services for 12 months. (Taxes and other fees may apply for tech makeover services.)

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On April 9th Comcast announced Houston would be one of five cities from which eligible small businesses can apply to its nationally recognized Comcast RISE program for the opportunity to receive business support grants. The program will provide a total of \$500,000 in grants plus technology make-overs, marketing support, media schedules, coaching sessions and education support.

"Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and are essential to building strong and thriving local communities," said Loren Hudson, SVP and Chief Diversity Officer at Comcast. "Comcast RISE is proud to help strengthen and empower these businesses and entrepreneurs to expand and grow."

Beginning on May 1 through May 31, eligible businesses in Houston; Atlanta, GA; Southern Colorado; Jacksonville, FL and Richmond, VA can apply for a chance to receive a grant package at www.ComcastRISE.com. One hundred businesses per city, 500 in total, will be awarded business support grants that will include:

- Coaching sessions - General business assessment and coaching that provides business owners with recommendations on how to grow their businesses.
- Education resources - 12-month access to online entrepreneurship courses, learning modules and resources for small business owners.

Past Houston area Comcast RISE recipients include Mala Sichuan Bistro, which has a location in Katy Asian Town; LAMIK Beauty; and 132 Design. "Comcast RISE came in with support at the perfect time. We didn't just expand our office and reach; we were instantly plugged into a community of support," said Ashley Gomez, co-founder of 132 Design. "Being part of the Comcast RISE family truly opened the floodgates to new opportunities. Now we are helping to lift other businesses here in the city we love."

Comcast RISE is part of Project UP, the company's comprehensive initiative to advance digital equity through programs and partnerships that connect people to the Internet, advance economic mobility and open doors for the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, storytellers and creators.

Now in its fourth year, Comcast RISE has nationally awarded 13,500 small businesses over \$125 million in monetary, marketing, and technology grants. More information and the applications to apply are available at www.ComcastRISE.com.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Volcanic crater
- Long times
- Swedish rock group
- Having the means to do something
- Rods or spindles
- La __ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- Missing soldiers
- Measuring instrument
- All of the components considered individually
- Play " __ Irish Rose"
- Gene
- Barrels
- London-based soccer team
- Feline
- Breed of sheep
- Body part
- Doctors' group
- One who follows the rules
- Cigarette residue
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Polish yeast cakes
- Promotional materials
- Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- Completed perfectly
- Photo
- A peninsula in SW Asia
- The common gibbon
- Disfigure
- Ribonucleic acid
- Japanese honorific
- Pieces of music
- Expressed pleasure
- Having ten

CLUES DOWN

- Mother
- Jewish calendar month
- Jai __, sport
- Establish again
- Swiss river
- Racetrack wager
- __ but goodie
- Closeness
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- At right angles to a ship's length
- Women's undergarments
- Mountain stream
- Expresses pleasure
- Painful places on the body
- Automobile
- Scandinavian god of battle
- Expresses surprise
- Secret political clique
- Yields manila hemp
- River in central Italy
- Brain injury science acronym
- Mental illness
- A person from Asia
- Father

37. General's assistant (abbr.)
38. Cooked or prepared in a specified style
40. Large terrier
41. Hillside
43. Golf score
44. Not or
46. Type of student
47. Flower cluster
49. Closes tightly

50. Saudi Arabian desert
51. Famed vaccine developer
52. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
53. Actress Jessica
54. Pay attention to
57. Beloved big screen pig
58. __ Clapton, musician
59. Take a chance
61. Cost per mille
62. Helps little firms

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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.

KISD

from page A1

per cent and employment growth of 131 campus positions and 186 non-campus positions. Smith said there would be no increase in health insurance costs for employees. The budget draft which was presented did not include raises for KISD employees. Trustee Rebecca Fox questioned the lack of a placeholder for raises, which she said had been the practice in prior years. Fox asked Superintendent Ken Gregorski what he felt the budget could tolerate; he replied the district could afford a modest raise of around two per cent raise, which would still put the district at a deficit. Smith said that each one per cent increase in salaries created an additional cost of \$7.3 million per year.

Fox asked Perez about adding the discussion about salary increases to the agenda for the next regular board meeting on May 13, stating that teachers are concerned about contract renewals and are now in the process of making decisions about where they will work for the next school year. After a lively exchange with Fox, Perez said that, in all likelihood, the matter would be on the agenda for that meeting.

Lisa Kassman, executive director of the district's Facilities, Planning and Construction Department along with a representative from VLK Architects, presented a design for the expansion of Pattison Elementary. The campus, located at 19910 Stonelodge Dr. in Katy, currently has ten portable



COURTESY OF KATY ISD

A proclamation recognizing the first week in May as "Teacher Appreciation Week" was read by City of Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele at Monday night's school board work study meeting held at the Education Support Complex, 6301 S. Stadium Lane. From left to right: trustee Rebecca Fox, City of Katy Councilmember Rory Robertson, trustee Morgan Calhoun, board vice president Amy Thieme, Thiele, board president Victor Perez, KISD superintendent Ken Gregorski, board secretary Dawn Champagne, City of Katy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris, trustee Mary Ellen Cuzela and trustee Lance Redmon.

buildings. Enrollment at the school is now around 1300 and according to demographic projections from PASA, is expected to remain around 1370 for the next ten years. Kassman also presented information on planned renovations for Bear Creek Elementary as well as for the Franz Road Storage Building where the district will store and secure the district's Chromebooks which will be used in the "1:1" device distribution program.

Brian Schuss, Katy ISD chief human resources officer, presented a request for ten additional positions for

the coming year, including two human resource positions and several security officers.

City of Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele, accompanied by Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris and Councilmember Rory Robertson, read a proclamation declaring May 6-10 as Teacher Appreciation Week. Thiele said that his parents were educators; Robertson and his wife teach in Katy ISD, as does the wife of Harris.

The next meeting of the board will be Monday, May 13th, which will be a regular board meeting.

DRAINAGE

from page A1

"Creating a safer Harris County means taking decisive action to mitigate the risk of future floods. Together with our partners, we are improving flood resilience in Precinct 4 and are strengthening protections for our residents," said Commissioner Briones.

In August 2018, one year after Hurricane Harvey devastated Harris County, voters overwhelmingly approved a \$2.5 billion bond measure to finance a variety of flood control projects.

The 2018 Harris County Flood Bond funded approximately \$6.88 million, MUD 81 contributed approximately \$6.35 million and Cornerstones MUD contributed \$270,000 to the project.

"This project is about delivering flood resilience for our community. Our collaboration with the Harris County Engineering Department, alongside funding from MUD 81 and Cornerstones MUD, exemplifies a powerful partnership to maximize the impact and efficiency of our flood mitigation efforts," said Dr. Tina Petersen, Executive Director, Harris County Flood Control District. "By pooling nearly \$7 million from the 2018 Flood Control District bond program, we're demonstrating the strength of collaboration in deploying strategies that are sustainable, comprehensive, and supported by the community."

"MUD 81 is proud to have partially funded this project to ensure our residents and drainage systems remain safe during storm events. We are thankful for the partnership of Commissioner Lesley Briones, the Harris County Precinct 4 team, and all the other partners who helped to make this project a reality," said Patrick Cathcart, MUD 81 President.

"Cornerstones was very proud to be a part of this project. Cornerstones is happy to play a part in the greater Katy area and also do whatever we can to help our neighboring communities and other people that are impacted by flooding," said Morgan Stagg, Cornerstones MUD President.

The Harris County Engineering Department led construction of the Cimarron drainage project which began in January 2023 and concluded in March 2024.

"As a recognized infrastructure leader in the community, we strive to continuously improve the quality of life for our residents while delivering innovative infrastructure solutions. The Cimarron Subdivision Drainage Improvements project reflects Harris County's vision and mission by reducing flooding for 77 homes out of a subdivision of 250 homes for a 100-year flood event," said Dr. Milton Rahman, Harris County Engineer.

"In Harris County, we know it isn't a question of if there will be another big storm. It is simply a question of when. By leveraging partnerships and resources, we are building stronger communities that will be able to better withstand the threat of repeat flood events for years to come," Commissioner Briones said.

Harris County Precinct 4 is committed to being there for its residents before, during, and after storms, said the Commissioner's office in a press release. For service requests, residents may contact 832-927-4444 or service@hcp4.net.

ELECTION

from page A1

according to the Katy ISD website. Almost 11,500 of those votes were cast during early voting. This compares to 11,044 total ballots cast in the May 2023 election - about five per cent of the 220,666 registered voters at that time. Of those votes, about 7941 were cast during the early voting period.

Fox thanked her opponent Donovan Campbell via a Facebook message on Sunday, May 5. "Thank you to my opponent, Donovan Campbell," said the post. "Entering into a political campaign is not easy and I appreci-

ate his willingness to make himself available to serve. I am grateful for his military service to our country. Thank you!"

Champagne also used Facebook to thank her opponent, David Olsen, for running.

Campbell thanked his supporters in a Facebook message on Sunday, saying, "Thanks to all who helped me and @olson4katyisd in this incredible journey! It was such an honor to have an opportunity to serve the Katy community, and I'm so grateful for the

experience and for all of the wonderful people I met along the way. I wish Mrs. Fox all the best as she continues her record of service to the district, and I'll be praying for her and the rest of the ISD leadership as they face the future!"

The Katy Times reached out to both Campbell and Olson for statements on Monday. Olsen declined any further comments or future interviews, simply saying, "I am returning to my life as a private citizen, husband, and father." As of press time on Tuesday, Campbell had not yet responded.

COUNTY

from page A1

achievements include the creation of three new Tax Increment Reinvestment Zones throughout the county and a focus on transforming prime industrial sites into vibrant employment hubs. With 60% of the county's land still undeveloped, these initiatives are crucial for fostering economic growth and revitalization.

Addressing housing initiatives and the integration of AI into county services, Judge George emphasized the county's dedication to innovation and efficiency in serving its

residents. The event concluded with a panel discussion featuring Houston Galveston Area Council CEO Chuck Wemple; Fort Bend County Engineer Stacy Slawinski; and CEO, Founder, and President of The Signorelli Company, Danny Signorelli. The panel explored critical topics such as development along the Brazos River, erosion protection, the impact of the Fort Bend Parkway extension on future development, and the prospects of the Signorelli-backed 4,700 sq. ft. Austin Point Development.

APP

from page A1

ing efforts to engage with residents, promote transparency, and enhance public safety," said Sheriff Fagan. "By harnessing the power of technology, we aim to empower our community with the tools and information necessary to actively contribute to the safety and well-being of Fort Bend County."

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office app was developed by TheSheriffApp.com, a brand of OCV, LLC., which specializes in mobile app development for sheriffs' offices and public safety organizations across the country.

"Over 80 percent of people in the United

States own and use smartphones as their primary means of communication," OCV Partner and CRO Kevin Cummings said. "Mobile apps offer agencies a better way to alert, inform and prepare the public. Apps allow public safety agencies the ability to reach and serve their citizens where they are: their smartphones."

The app is now available to download for free in the App Store and Google Play by searching "Fort Bend County Sheriff, TX" or by going to apps.myocv.com/share/a108377469.

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Ochoa Energy Storage is a proposed 250-megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project that can bring sustainable, reliable energy to support the Texas grid. This project would be located adjacent to a major electrical corridor in Katy, TX, on privately owned land, creating a new, long-term source of funding for the community.



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Who We Are

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Nearly 200 volunteers contribute over 500 hours to commemorate 6th annual month of service



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KATY STAKE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Volunteers dive into their efforts to contain invasive species with The Coastal Prairie Conservancy during one of the April "Month of Service" projects undertaken by the Katy Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Over the weekend of April 20-21, the Katy Texas Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints proudly marked its sixth annual month of service with a resounding display of community solidarity. Nearly 200 volunteers from various walks of life contributed over 500 man-hours to support three vital organizations: The Coastal Prairie Conservancy, the Brookwood Community and Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Highlights of this year's service projects include:

- The Coastal Prairie Conservancy: A dedicated team of 45 volunteers worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance the natural beauty of the coastal prairie ecosystem. Their efforts included trail maintenance, restoration of native plants, and litter cleanup, contributing to the sustainability and resilience

of this vital ecological resource.

- The Brookwood Community: Thirty-five volunteers rallied to support the Brookwood Community by replacing on parts of two of their 48 greenhouses, repotting over 800 plants, and assisting in the completion of a fence in the back of one of their community buildings. This hands-on assistance plays a crucial role in maintaining and improving the facilities that support individuals with disabilities.

- Sleep in Heavenly Peace: Approximately 120 volunteers collaborated to assemble 55 beds and deliver 48 beds to deserving children in the Houston area. This effort provided essential comfort and security to those in need, ensuring a good night's sleep for children who otherwise might go without.

The tradition of the annual month of service was born out of the aftermath of Hurricane

Harvey in 2017, when members of the Church who were affected by the storm received overwhelming support from the community. In a gesture of gratitude and solidarity, the Katy Stake initiated this tradition the following year, aiming to give back to the community that had shown such immense kindness, organizers said.

The Katy Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints encompasses approximately 4,000 members in the Katy area, with congregations that convene in English, Spanish, and Mandarin.

For more information about the Katy Texas Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and their community initiatives, please contact Kat Curtis, Stake Media Specialist for the Katy Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, at (214) 842-2577 or Kat.curtis@gmail.com.

KCM partners with letter carriers in May 11th food drive

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy Christian Ministries, based at 3506 Porter Road in Katy, has announced a "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive on May 11th in partnership with the United States Postal Service.

"It's an incredible initiative where our dedicated mail carriers collect non-perishable food donations from your mailbox to help those in need," according to a statement on the KCM Facebook page. "These donations go directly to the KCM Food Pantry right here in Katy, ensuring our community members have access to essential resources."

"Let's come together to make a difference and stamp out hunger!" the post continued.

According to the USPS website, every second Saturday in May, letter carriers in more than 10,000 cities and towns across America participate in the NALC Stamp Out Hunger National Food Drive — the largest one-day food drive in the nation. Carriers

collect non-perishable food donations left by mailboxes and in post offices and deliver them to local community food banks, pantries and shelters.

Led by letter carriers represented by the National Association of Letter Carriers (AFL-CIO), with help from rural letter carriers, other postal employees and other volunteers, the drive has delivered more than 1.82 billion pounds of food the past 30 years.

"One in ten Americans face[s] hunger every day in America," according to the US Postal Service website. "This drive is one way you can help those in your own city or town who need help."

To donate, just place a box or can of non-perishable food next to your mailbox before your letter carrier delivers mail on the second Saturday in May. The carrier will do the rest. The food is sorted, and delivered to an area food bank or pantry, where it is available for needy families.

For more information, go to <https://kcm.org/.../letter-carriers-stamp-out-hunger.../>

CHILI COOK-OFF



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLY RICHMOND, A LIFETIME OF CLICKS

Seven Lakes High School was awarded first place overall at the April 20th Chili Cook-off by the panel of judges, as well as being named the fan favorite, and the team also nabbed the honors for best decorated booth. The sixth annual competition was hosted by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce in the parking lot of American Furniture Warehouse, 500 Pin Oak in Katy. "We were able to donate \$10,000 to the KISD FFA and had approximately 300+ in attendance," said Ashley DeWispelare, events manager for the chamber.

RIBBON CUTTING



SUSAN ROVEGNO

During the April 17th ribbon cutting for Casa Azul, Director of Business Development Saul Gauthier (left) and administrator Kara Garman (center) were presented with a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from the office of Troy Nehls, U.S. House of Representatives District 22 by Katy Area Chamber of Commerce Vice President/Business Development Stacy Jacobs. Casa Azul, located at 1480 Katy Flewellen Road in Katy at the site of the former Spanish Meadows, is a rehabilitation facility and nursing home specializing in respiratory therapy.



Limited time offer!

SIZZLING SUMMER SPECIAL

Where Every Day Feels Like a Vacation!

Take advantage of our best offer yet for new independent living move-ins - a \$12,000 credit that you can apply to your monthly rent, community fee, and relocation services, as per your preference. Enjoy a luxurious retirement in our vibrant community and save big at the same time!

This offer is valid for select apartments. So hurry and take advantage of this limited-time offer before it's too late!

For details call **281-769-5586**, or email Rebecca at rborrello@cardinalbay.org.

Katy Times

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Carriage Inn

1400 Katy-Flewellen Rd | Katy, TX 77494
281-769-5586 | cardinalbay.org

A Cardinal Bay community



Offer details: This offer includes all Independent Living apartments and cottages. \$12,000 credit may be applied to community fee, monthly rent, and/or relocation services at the resident's discretion. Community Fee - Entire amount of the community fee can be credited at move-in. Monthly rate discount is capped at a maximum of \$1000 per month and cannot be combined with any other discount. Relocation expenses limit is capped at \$1000 in the form of rate discount. The monthly rate reverts to the prevailing market rate at the end of the 12-month period or at the time the \$12,000 credit is achieved. Outside of the community fee, the maximum discount provided cannot exceed \$1000/month. **NOTE: Only one discount per month will be allowed.**

TRIBUTE

Craig Allen Battle, a devoted husband, father, and friend, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones. Born in Detroit, Michigan on December 6, 1957, to Sam A. Battle and Doris Patricia Keeler Battle, Craig spent his formative years in Plymouth before relocating to Texas in 1980 following a job transfer. A talented horticultural and landscape designer, Craig's passion for nature was evident in every aspect of his life.

On May 24, 1985, Craig married the love of his life, Linda Mae Streeter Geldersma, in Houston, Texas. Together, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and countless projects that turned their house into a home. Craig's ability to fix, improve, or build just about anything made him the go-to guy in the neighborhood for advice and help.

A true fan of the Houston Astros and the Texans, Craig rarely missed a game. He found relaxation and joy in listening to AM radio talk shows and spending evenings outside, grilling an array of foods on his beloved grill, proclaiming that if it fit on the grill, it was meant to be cooked.



CRAIG ALLEN BATTLE
1957-2024

Craig was a man of integrity and meticulousness, known for his loyalty and old-school values. He could often be found chatting over the fence with neighbors or sitting in his chair outside the garage, a testament to his open, welcoming nature.

Active in his church and community, Craig's faith and compassion touched many lives. His projects, from the greenhouse to the fishpond, were not just hobbies but reflections of his love for life and active engagement with the world around him.

Craig is survived by his wife of 38 years Linda Geldersma; their children, Steven Geldersma and his wife Renee, and

Stewart Geldersma; 4 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; his mother, Doris Patricia Van Vuren; siblings, Mark Battle and his wife Donna, Sharon Rice and her husband David, Michael Battle, and Katherine Battle and her husband Larry Cole; his faithful dog, Delta; and a community of friends and neighbors who were fortunate to know him. His legacy of kindness, dedication, and creativity will continue to inspire those who knew him.

He was preceded in death by father, Sam A. Battle; grandparents, Sam and Rose Battle and Eugene and Corinne Keeler.

The family received friends from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday, May 4, 2024, in Memorial Lutheran Church where a funeral service was held at 12:00 p.m. with Rev. John F. Davis, Jr. officiating.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to CAP (Citizens for Animal Protection) at www.cap-4pets.org, a cause close to Craig's heart.

Funeral services held under the direction of

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

Walmart holds re-grand opening for renovated store

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Walmart at 1313 N Fry Rd. in Katy held a "re-grand opening" on May 3 to show off its new format. The newly renovated store now offers a state-of-the-art vision center and updated online, pickup and delivery section. Guests will now also find an expanded selection of apparel options that now include popular brands like Nike, Reebok and U.S. Polo. Additional store upgrades include:

- Open, customer-centric floor plan
 - New front-end grab and go section
 - Upgraded signage and video signage throughout the store
 - Enhanced store mannequins and furniture displays
 - Additional check-out lanes
- During the ceremony, a celebratory ribbon-cutting and community event took place, and also included the presentation of \$12,000 in grants to community organizations, including:
- Back to Blue: \$3,000
 - Terachyi Foundation: \$3,000



Store manager Michael Ochoa (left) presents a \$3000.00 donation to Danny Ybarra (far right) of Back the Blue during the re-grand opening of the Walmart at 1313 N. Fry in Katy.

- Amazing Soldiers: \$3,000
 - Tcam Outreach: \$3,000
- Additionally, Walmart managers honored over 62 store employees who had been at the store for more than 20 years, including three who had been there for over 30 years.

KATY CHRISTIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FRIDAY
MAY
17
2024

Christian Collins

President and Founder, Texas Youth Summit

Networking Event!
Everyone Welcome!

7 AM at Copenhagen European Kitchen & Bakery, 981 S. Mason Rd. Register at <https://katychristianchamber.com>

The Katy Times

Directory of Local Churches & Houses of Worship

<p style="text-align: center;">Schmidt FUNERAL HOME</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Serving Katy and West Houston since 1945</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(281) 391-2424</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1508 East Avenue • Katy, Texas 77493 Mailing Address: 1415 East Avenue, Suite B • Katy, Texas 77493</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">Katy Hardware</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Your Hometown Hardware Store</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Kay & Mickey Powers, Owners</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">559 Pin Oak Rd. Katy, TX 77494</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">281-391-3437 • Fax 281-391-6922 www.katyhardware.com</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">Katy Veterinary Clinic</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Serving the Greater Katy Area Since 1964</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Kari Cleavinger, D.V.M. • Lori Smith, D.V.M. Hillary Barra, D.V.M. • Catherine Berry, DVM Jessica Machala, DVM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">What every pet deserves.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">27227 Hwy. Blvd., Katy Open M-F 7-6 • Sat 8-12 281-391-3169 • www.katyvetclinic.com</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">TRUE FIX</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 12px;">A/C & Heating</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Quality Service for over 42 Years Living in KATY, Working in KATY & KATY Proud "We're in Your Neighborhood and We'll Be Here When You Need Us"</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18px;">281-392-9334</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.truefix.com</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">Katy Christian</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 10px;">Chamber of Commerce</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 14px;">Networking, Upcoming Events, & More Info</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Where Christian Businesses Meet</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">KCM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">KATY CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Help our ministry transform lives. Give now by scanning the QR Code.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18px;">ktcm.org</p> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">KEVIN DRURY Your Electricity Guy 281-630-5895 kevind@power2price.com</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">POWER 2 PRICE Residential * Commercial</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">Your Ad Here!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 12px;">Call Debbie for more information</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 18px;">281-391-3141</p> <hr/> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 14px;">RESURRECTION CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">IT'S GOOD TO BELONG! Meeting at Katy High School, 6331 Hwy Blvd Sundays 10 AM (English) 11:30 AM (Spanish) Pastors Jason Smith and Daniel Hernandez resurrectionkaty.org 281-407-8716</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ASSEMBLY OF GOD EL SHADDAI ASAMBLEA DE DIOS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5610 LILAC STREET • 281-391-8339 PASTORS, PETER & ESTELA PINON</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">FAMILY LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">24911 ROESNER ROAD • 281-392-0637 ALBERT CORTEZ, PASTOR • WWW.FLAG.CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">RIVERS OF OIL CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">541 PIN OAK ROAD, KATY • 832-782-7370 LEAD PASTOR: MR. HERNAN CASTANO WWW.RIOSDEACEITE.COM • SUNDAY SERVICE 9 A.M.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">BAPTIST ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">655 DANOVER • 281-391-2263 TYRONE FREEMAN, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">BRIDGEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">FRANZ ELEMENTARY • 2751 WESTGREEN BLVD. • 281-578-0970 MICHAEL THOMPSON, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH MAYDE CREEK</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2855 GREENHOUSE ROAD • 281-492-2689 LARRY MADDOX, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">KATY'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">600 PIN OAK • 281-391-1100 • KATYSFIRST.ORG DR. ROB LYERLY, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GOOD NEWS BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOUSTON</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2502 KATY HOCKLEY CUT-OFF • 281-391-9199 VIRGIL YEHNERT, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">KINGSLAND BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">20555 KINGSLAND BLVD. • 281-492-0785 PASTOR RYAN RUSH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">PARKWAY FELLOWSHIP</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">27043 FM 1093 • 281-391-6673 • WWW.PARKWAYFELLOWSHIP.COM PASTOR: MIKE MCGOWN</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">PARKWAY FELLOWSHIP</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5819 10TH ST. • KATY, TX 77493 • 832-222-9282</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">REDEEMER COMMUNITY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">24201 CINCO RANCH BLVD. • 281-371-2156 MITCH MAHER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">RIVER BEND BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">26700 FM 1093. • 281-346-2279 • WWW.RIVERBEND.ORG JOHN C. CROWE, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH, West Campus</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">19449 KATY FREEWAY • 713-465-3408 DR. ED YOUNG, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">TRI-COUNTY BAPTIST</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5715 PEEK ROAD • 281-371-3900 RICK SHRADER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">10000 SPRING GREEN BLVD. • KATY, TX 77494 281-579-6724 • TRINITYKATY.ORG PASTOR JOSH GUAJARDO</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">WESTLAND BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1407 GRAND PARKWAY SOUTH • 281-392-5099 ROY MEADOWS, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH & ACADEMY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">3883 LAKES OF BRIDGEWATER DR • 281-492-3448 REV. RICHARD D. BUTTS, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ANGLICAN THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHIAS DIOCESE OF MID AMERICA</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">4142 DAYFLOWER • 281-463-2304</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GRACE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">24968 KATY RANCH ROAD, KATY, TEXAS 77494 281-769-5544 • WWW.GRACEANGLICANKATY.COM RECTOR: ROBERT HENSON</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CATHOLIC EPIPHANY OF THE LORD CATHOLIC</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1530 NORWALK DR. (NOTTINGHAM) • 281-578-0707 FR. TOM LAM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ST. BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5356 ELEVENTH ST. • 281-391-4758 FR. CHRISTOPHER PLANT, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ST. EDITH STEIN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">3311 N. FRY ROAD • 281-492-7500 REV. 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GRAND PARKWAY SOUTH • 281-392-3310</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1936 DREXEL, KATY • 281-391-2785 REV. MARK WILKINSON</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">LUTHERAN CROSSROAD CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">700 S. WESTGREEN • 281-398-6464 • CROSSROADKATY.ORG PAUL GOEKE & MIKE WEIDER, LEAD PASTORS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">LIVING WORD</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">3700 SOUTH MASON ROAD • 281-392-2300</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">MEMORIAL LUTHERAN MISSOURI-SYNOD</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">3RD ST. & AVE. D, KATY • 281-391-0171 JOHN DAVIS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">VICTORY OF THE LAMB - WISCONSIN SYNOD</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">23051 CINCO RANCH BLVD. @ PEEK RD. 281-395-0544 • NATHAN BUEGE, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">METHODIST KATY FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5601 FIFTH STREET • 281-391-2121 • KATYFIRST.ORG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GRACE FELLOWSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2655 S. MASON ROAD (NEXT TO GREAT S.W. EQUESTRIAN CENTER) 281-646-1903 • JIM LEGGETT, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">HOLY COVENANT UNITED METHODIST</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">22111 MORTON ROAD (AT MASON) • 281-579-1200 FRED WILLIS, SENIOR PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">RESURRECTION CHURCH A GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">KATY HIGH SCHOOL 6331 HWY. BLVD., KATY 281-407-8716 • RESURRECTIONKATY.ORG PASTORS: JASON SMITH (ENGLISH) • DANIEL HERNANDEZ (SPANISH)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ST. PETER'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">20775 KINGSLAND BLVD. • 281-492-8031 DR. PAT SPARKS, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">MORMON CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1928 DREXEL • 281-391-0687 • 281-391-5439</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1603 Norwalk • 281-578-8934 BISHOP SCOTT BAUER</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">NOTTINGHAM COUNTRY WARD</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">281-578-8930</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">9950 SOUTH MASON 281-398-7796</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">NAZARENE WESTSIDE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">3434 FRY ROAD • 281-492-0234 REV. KENT SCHWAMBERGER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHURCH OF THE KING</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1507 KATY FLEWELLEN RD, KATY, TX • 281-769-4090 HTTP://WWW.COTK.ORG/</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CHURCH ON THE ROCK</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">433 S. BARKER CYPRESS • 281-599-9777 JORGE H. CARDENAS, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CREEKSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">MEETING @ WOODCREEK JHS • 713-705-4878</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CROSSINGS COMMUNITY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">26100 CINCO RANCH BLVD. • KATY, TX 77494 WWW.CROSSINGSCOMMUNITYCHURCH.ORG MEETS AT 10:40 AM AT KILPATRICK ELEMENTARY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE DOOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1837 N. MASON RD. • 713-325-3061</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE EMPOWERMENT CENTER</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">20910 PARK ROW • 281-578-3535 DAVID ROBERSON, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">FAITH MANGER CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">20701 KINGSLAND BLVD. @ DOMINION • 281-578-2550 DAVID L. BROWN, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">FAITH WEST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2225 PORTER ROAD • 281-391-LIFE GARY KERR, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE FELLOWSHIP</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">22765 WESTHEIMER PARKWAY • 281-395-3950 WWW.THEFELLOWSHIP.ORG • JERRY EDMONSON, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GATEWAY CHURCH HOUSTON</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">25024 KATY MILLS DRIVE KATY, TX 77494 MEETS EVERY SUNDAY • 9 AND 11 A.M. (713) 280-3636 • GATEWAYHOME.COM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GREENHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2425 N. GREENHOUSE SUN 9:30 & 11 AM • GREENHOUSECMA.ORG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">HOSANNA!</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">17700 CLAY RD. • 281-345-1182 • JAMES P. BELL, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">IGLESIA CRISTIANA EN KATY FUENTE DE DIOS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">906 AVENUE A, KATY • 281-222-4404</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">KATY BIBLE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2500 AVENUE D • 281-391-7284 • 281-391-6855 MATT MANCINI, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">KATY COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">24102 KINGSLAND BOULEVARD • 281-391-0099 TIM BARKER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">LIFE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">26189 WESTHEIMER PARKWAY • 281-395-5433 SAM RUDD, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">LIVING STONES CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">MEETING AT TOMKINS HIGH SCHOOL, 4400 FALCON LANDING 346-704-1542</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">NORTHWEST BELIEVERS CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5423 E FIFTH STREET • 281-829-8985 LARRY CONNER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">POWERHOUSE CHRISTIAN CENTER</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1818 KATYLAND ROAD • 281-391-0095 G. F. WATKINS, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD/THE KING'S PALACE</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5371 E 5TH ST, KATY • 281-391-7224 HTTPS://RCCGTHEKINGSPALACE.ORG/</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">VENTURE CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">25133 LAKECREST MANOR DR, KATY (346) 327-6362 • VENTUREKATY.COM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE VINEYARD CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">SUNDAYS 10:00 AM • THE ARK EVENT CENTER 21402 MERCHANTS WAY, KATY • 832-276-0600 • KATYVINEYARD.ORG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE WATERS CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">WE HAVE MOVED! BE OUR GUEST IN PERSON OR ONLINE @ 10AM 21728 HIGHLAND KNOLLS DR • INSIDE OF PALACIO MARIA (281) 398-4030</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">PENTECOSTAL HERITAGE FAMILY CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">2120 KATY HOCKLEY CUTOFF • 281-391-1010 MICHAEL FILLMER, PASTOR WWW.HERITAGEFAMILYKATY.ORG SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 11 AM • SUNDAY SERVICE @ 12 PM TUESDAY PRAYER @ 6 PM • THURSDAY BIBLE @ 7:30 PM</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">THE PENTECOSTALS OF KATY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1941 WESTBOROUGH • 281-829-1175 ROB MCKEE, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">TRINITY FAITH CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">10TH & AVE. D • 281-391-3310 HAL HALTOM, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">PRESBYTERIAN CHRIST CHURCH PCA</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">10818 GASTON ROAD 281-392-0002 REV. FRED GRECO, SENIOR PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CORNERSTONE EVANGELICAL-PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1351 S. MASON RD. • 281-579-1080 REV. CARTER SANGER, PASTOR</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GRAND LAKES PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">6035 S. FRY RD. REV. DEAN POGUE, PASTOR 281-646-7500</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">NEW HOPE PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1350 N. MASON ROAD • 281-492-8520 REV. BRIAN LONG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">YE DARM PRESBYTERIAN</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">19946 SAUMS RD • 713-461-0709 YDPCH.ORG</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">1913 EAST AVENUE • 281-398-1301 PASTOR RICHARD DEVOST</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CHRISTIAN ORTHODOX ST. PAUL ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">Western Rite 1717 KATY GAP RD. • KATY, TX 77494 • 281-201-6439 FATHER SYMEON KEES • ADMIN@STPAULKATY.COMCASTBIZ.NET</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">CHURCH OF CHRIST CHURCH OF CHRIST - KATY</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 8px;">5438 E. 5TH STREET • 281-391-7606</p>
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Texas education professionals compete for \$480,000 from H-E-B

Tompkins choir director receives \$10,000 and \$10,000 grant

FROM STAFF REPORTS

H-E-B announced the statewide winners of the 2024 Excellence in Education Awards during a special dinner and ceremony at the Marriott Marquis, 1777 Walker in Houston on Sunday, May 5. This year – the twenty second year of the awards -- a new school counselor or category was added to recognize the contributions of elementary and secondary public school counselors.

During the awards ceremony, \$480,000 in cash awards and grants were awarded to six teachers, two counselors, two principals, one early childhood facility, two school districts, and a public-school board for being among the best in



Christian De La Cruz, choir director at Tompkins High School, was awarded the "Leadership Secondary" award, along with \$10,000.00 and a \$10,000.00 grant, at Sunday's H-E-B Excellence in Education awards at the Marriott Marquis at 1777 Walker in Houston.

Texas. Since its inception in 2002, the program has awarded more than \$13 million in cash and grants to Texas teachers and schools. Emcees said that the program is the largest monetary donation program in Texas, and one of the largest in the nation.

The winner of the "Leadership Secondary" award – chosen from five finalists

-- was Christian De La Cruz of Obra D. Tompkins High School in Katy ISD, who will receive \$10,000.00 and a \$10,000 grant. According to tompkinschoir.com, De La Cruz is in his thirteenth year of teaching and his first year as head choir director at Tompkins. He graduated from Texas State University with a bachelor's in music education and a minor in mathematics. The site said that choirs under his direction have earned consistent Superior ratings at UIL Concert & Sightreading and have consistently had multiple students earn a spot in the Texas All-State Choirs. In 2017 he helped direct and lead his former choir program to win the State Championship for choir with American Classic Texas Madrigal. De La Cruz has conducted and toured with his choirs in Peru, South Africa, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Italy. In 2019 he directed a high school choir that was crowned Champion of Leonardo Da Vinci

International Choral Festival in Florence, Italy, competing against choirs from Spain, Denmark, Bulgaria, the Philippines, Indonesia, Costa Rica, and China.

De La Cruz is a member of TMEA, TCDA, TMAA, Mu Phi Epsilon, and has served on the Advisory Board for the Terry Foundation as one of its youngest members at the time, according to tompkinschoir.com. He immigrated from the Philippines at age 3 and credits finding his passion for choral music through the McAllen ISD choral programs.

"To my students – this is for you," said De La Cruz in accepting the award.

J.J. Watt delivered the keynote address to a ballroom packed with hundreds of educators, community leaders and H-E-B employees. Watt, a Pewaukee native, was the number 11 Overall Pick in the 2011 National Football League (NFL) Draft by the Houston Texans, and was named the NFL Defensive Player of the Year

three times. Off the field, as president and founder of the Justin J. Watt Foundation, he provides after-school athletic opportunities for children. The foundation has distributed over \$7 million in 40 states since its inception, he said. In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Watt launched one of the largest crowdsourcing fundraisers in history, raising \$41.6 million to aid Houstonians affected by the storm.

The school district, school board and early childhood facility winners are as follows:

- Large School District (\$100,000 grant) was captured by Galena Park ISD; other nominees included Allen ISD, Klein ISD, Pasadena ISD and Wylie ISD.
- Small School District

(\$50,000 grant) was awarded to Gregory-Portland ISD; other nominees were Angleton ISD and La Porte ISD.

• School Board Award (\$25,000 grant) went to Plainview ISD; other contenders were Corpus Christi ISD, Donna ISD, Garland ISD and Sharyland ISD.

• Early Childhood Facilities (\$25,000 grant) was won by the Early Childhood Academy in Donna; other finalists were Central Texas 4C, Inc., Del Valle ISD, Childhood Development Center Central, Melinda Webb School and M. Rivas Primary Discovery Academy.

H-E-B is now accepting nominations for the 2025 awards. To nominate an educator, or to learn more about the awards, go to heblovesteachers.com.

Katy ISD names three new principals

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On May 1 Katy ISD announced the names of three new principals, including new leaders at Tompkins High School, McRoberts Elementary, and Jenks Elementary.

Brodt announced as new Principal at Tompkins

Elisabeth Brodt was named as the new principal of Obra D. Tompkins High School. Ms. Brodt will officially assume her role on Monday, June 3, 2024.

A dedicated, student-centered educator with twenty-five successful years in education, Brodt has held key leadership positions, including principal, associate principal, and assistant principal at the secondary level. Brodt holds a Master of Science in Educational Mid-Management from the University of Houston-Clear Lake and a Bachelor of Science in Instrumental Music Education from Oklahoma City University. She is a certified Principal EC-12 and Music Education PK-12.

In her most recent role as principal of Adams Junior High, Brodt successfully established the school as its inaugural principal, overseeing the campus's vision, mission, and collaborative leadership team. She managed bond funds, collaborated with the PTSA board, and led the campus through student population growth and the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout her career, Brodt has been recognized for her outstanding contributions to education. Notable honors include being named Secondary Principal of the Year, participating in the Katy ISD Foundation

Grant program, and serving on various district committees and councils.

"I am thrilled to join the Obra D. Tompkins High School community and to work alongside our outstanding students, educators, staff, and families," said Brodt. "Together, we will continue to uphold the school's tradition of excellence and empower every student to reach their full potential."

Finley named as new principal at McRoberts Elementary

Eric Finley was appointed as the new principal of McRoberts Elementary and will officially assume his role on Monday, June 3, 2024. An accomplished educational leader with more than two decades of experience, Finley brings a wealth of expertise in increasing student achievement and fostering inclusive learning environments. He holds a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from Stephen F. Austin State University and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Midland Lutheran College. He is certified as a K-12 principal by the Texas State Board of Education, and also holds a 1-8 Teacher and ESL Certifications.

Throughout his career, Finley has served in roles such as KSAT principal, assistant principal, instructional coordinator, and teacher within the Katy ISD, where he played a key role in enhancing student achievement and implementing innovative educational strategies.

"I am honored and excited to join the McRoberts Elementary community," said Eric Finley. "I am com-



ELISABETH BRODT



ERIC FINLEY



RENEE CANALES

mitted to working collaboratively with all stakeholders to ensure that every student receives a high-quality education and has the opportunity to reach their full potential."

Canales appointed as new principal at Jenks Elementary

Renee Canales will serve as the new principal of Jenks Elementary beginning on July 1, 2024.

With extensive skills in evaluation, data analytics, communication, and instructional best practices, Canales has demonstrated her ability to drive positive change and create sustainable systems and structures in her previous roles. She holds a Master of Education degree from Stephen F. Austin State University and a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from Texas A&M University.

Most recently, Canales served as principal of Heflin Elementary, where she conducted comprehensive assessments to evaluate the school climate, systems, and academic achievement. Her strategic collaboration with campus leadership, district leaders and the school community resulted in the development and implementation of a campus action plan focused on prioritizing high-leverage strategies to achieve measurable milestones.

Prior to her role at Heflin Elementary, Canales served as principal of Best Elementary, where she led the campus to achieve a MET STANDARD rating within three years and earned Dis-

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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MAY 28th, 2024

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REMEMBER AND HONOR

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Katy Times

will be closed on

Monday, May 27, 2024

in observance of

Memorial Day

Deadline for advertising and editorial copy for
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Honoring Their Sacrifice.
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TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Savannah Henningson pitches during Saturday's area round game between Cinco Ranch and Bellaire at the Cy-Lakes baseball field.
TYLER TYRE

Cinco Ranch headed back to regional quarters

Cougars advance for second time in three years

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Savannah Henningson knew she could gut it out one more day.

The Cinco Ranch sophomore had pitched 12 innings in two days, but she knew she was needed for one more game on Saturday as Cinco Ranch went up against Bellaire in a winner take all game three of the area round.

Henningson stepped up and put together a gem of a game, throwing four shutout innings in a

4-0 win over Bellaire, helping lead the Cougars to the third round of the playoffs for the second time in three years by striking out two, walking one and only allowing three hits through her four innings. As Henningson allowed just one earned run over 16 innings and

See **CINCO**, page B3

HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL

Nelson gem lifts Katy into area round

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy is comfortable in the playoffs.

The Tigers get into a routine, work all week to improve, scout their opponent and set themselves up for success.

That routine paid dividends for the Tigers last year and the process is already showing up for the Tigers this postseason, with Katy earning a sweep over Travis, taking game one 4-1 before closing things out on Friday with a 1-0 win over Travis.

"We just are able to get into more of a routine that we are able to in district the way we can use the early week for practice heading into games," said Katy head coach Wes Hearne. "It lets us put it all together and we had a great week of practice this week — that just helps us go into games playing the right way."

It was a terrific day for Cade Nelson on the mound for the Tigers, as the junior pitched

six innings and allowed just two hits while striking out six in the shutout. Nelson hadn't taken the mound for Katy in a couple of weeks, but when his name was called he stepped up his game and put together a complete performance, which Aaron Brashear capped off with a strong seventh inning.

"Cade was phenomenal, especially considering the amount of time it's been since he last pitched," Hearne said. "He threw strikes and commanded the zone today. We needed him so it was great to see the way he pitched today. It's a great feeling knowing we have the arms that we do in the rotation."

Katy only had five hits all day and only needed one run, which they got in the bottom of the fifth. Aiden Barrientes led the inning off with a bunt and Jeremy Mazariegos moved the runner over with a sacrifice bunt. Ashten Ballew then drove

See **KATY**, page B3



TYLER TYRE

Cade Nelson hits during Friday's bi-district round game between Katy and Fort Bend Travis at the Cy-Park baseball field.

WEEK OF MAY 10

SCORES & SCHEDULES

SOFTBALL

Scores

AREA

- Heights 2, Taylor 0
- Katy 15, Chavez 0
- Katy 10, Chavez 0
- Memorial 7, Tompkins 3
- Memorial 6, Tompkins 0
- Cinco Ranch 1, Bellaire 2
- Cinco Ranch 8, Bellaire 1
- Cinco Ranch 4, Bellaire 0

REGIONAL QUARTERFINALS

Thursday

- One Game Playoff: Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, 6:30 p.m. at Tompkins

BASEBALL

Scores

BI-DISTRICT

- Cinco Ranch 4, Elkins 0
- Cinco Ranch 12, Elkins 3
- Katy 4, Travis 1
- Katy 1, Travis 0
- Tompkins 8, George Ranch 11
- Tompkins 13, George Ranch 1
- Tompkins 6, George Ranch 5
- Ridge Point 6, Taylor 5
- Taylor 3, Ridge Point 1

AREA

Thursday

- Game 1: Cinco Ranch vs. Stratford, 6 p.m. at Cy-Lakes
- Game 1: Tompkins vs. Cy-Fair, 6:30 p.m.
- Game 1: Katy vs. Jersey Village, 7 p.m. at Cy-Falls

Friday

- Game 2: Cinco Ranch vs. Stratford, 6 p.m. at Cy-Lakes
- Game 2: Tompkins vs. Cy-Fair, 6:30 p.m.
- Game 2: Katy vs. Jersey Village, 7 p.m. at Cy-Falls

Saturday

- Game 3: Cinco Ranch vs. Stratford, 1 p.m. at Cy-Lakes (if necessary)
- Game 3: Tompkins vs. Cy-Fair, 1 p.m. at Langham Creek (if necessary)
- Game 3: Katy vs. Jersey Village, 1 p.m. at Cy-Falls (if necessary)



Above: Katelyn Wentzler hits during Friday's area round game between Taylor and the Heights at Cy-Park. Right: Kaelyn Lerma throws a ball to first base during Friday's area round game between Taylor and the Heights at Cy-Park.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



Taylor falls to Heights, ending program's best season in 12 years

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Taylor made the breakthrough this year. This year's group wanted to make history for the program — they didn't only want to make the playoffs, but they wanted to win and advance, something no Mustangs team had done since 2011.

The Mustangs accomplished their goal and had their sights set even further, but Taylor wasn't able to keep its season going this week, falling in a one-game area round playoff to Houston Heights 2-0 behind two late runs, as Taylors season came to an end in the area round.

"It's hard to say anything negative about this season at all," said Taylor head coach Billie Powell. "I really feel like we didn't have our best game today, but a lot of that is down to Heights being a really good team that did what they were supposed to do. I talked to them after the game about looking at the big picture and what they did was huge. Getting back here after 12 years is a huge thing and it's a huge credit to everyone who was a part of it."

It was a game that was decided in the final inning, with Taylor fighting to stay in a pitchers duel. Neither team could break through until the top of the seventh inning. Heights got two runners on with two outs on a single and a walk and Laila Robins drove both of them in on a double before Taylor got out of the inning. The Mustangs tried to get back into it, but three pop ups ended a game in which the Taylor only managed two hits against a very tough pitcher.

"We had a plan of laying off the rise ball, but when its coming at you it looks like such a fat pitch and it's hard for them to realize it's out of the zone," Powell said. "It's a credit to Haylie (Jaimie), she did a great job for them of mixing her stuff up, hitting us with a change up and never letting our hitters get in a rhythm. She played a big part in why we couldn't get going offensively."

See **TAYLOR**, page B3

Tompkins unable to overcome Memorial in area round

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

A loss is always hard, but if there were ever a loss that a team could take confidence from, it was Tompkins on Thursday.

The Falcons took a tough 7-3 loss in the first game of their three-game area round matchup against Memorial, but the score line was misleading to how close the game was, as the Falcons out hit the Mustangs and had huge chances throughout the game that they weren't able to take advantage of.

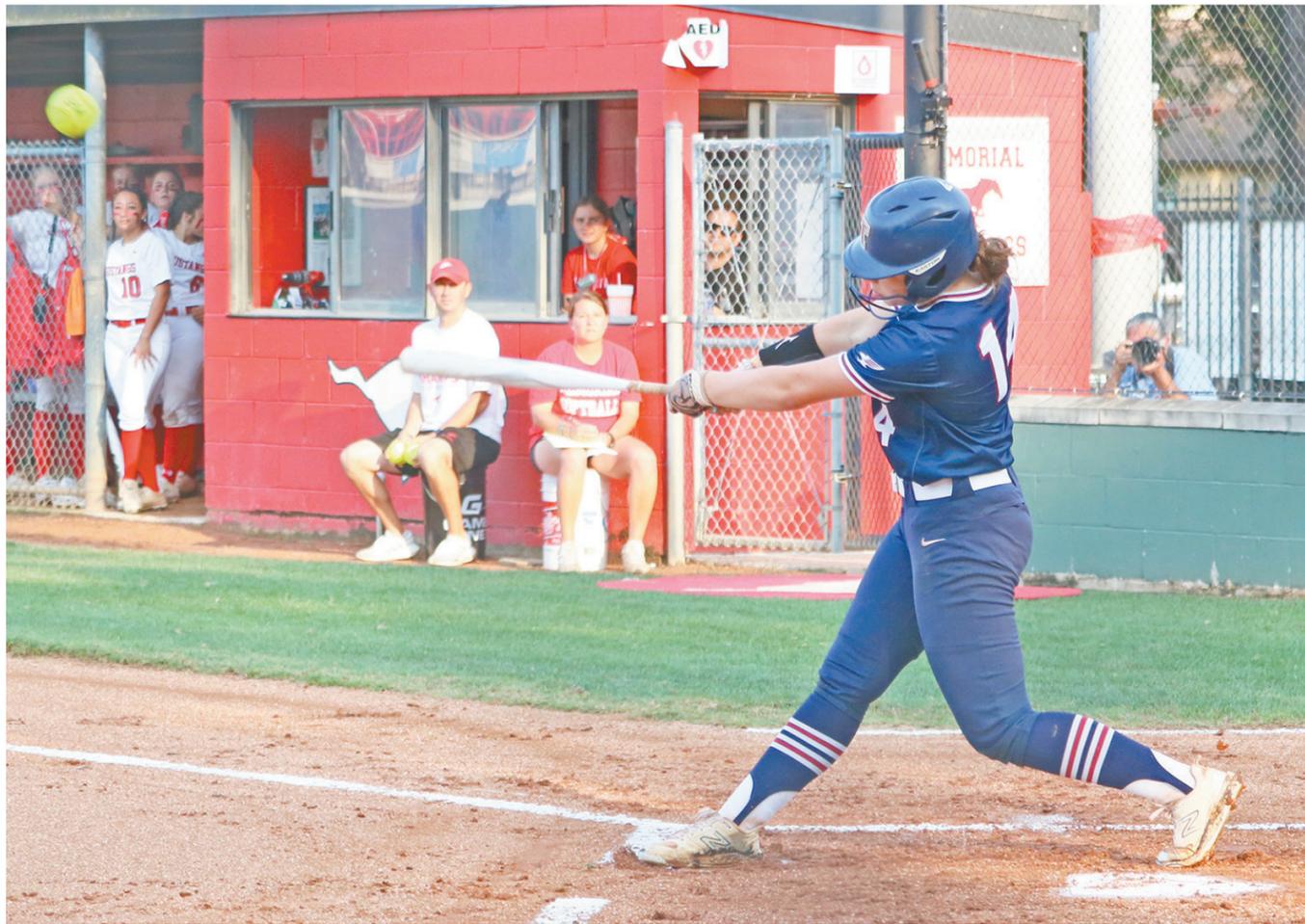
"There's still a lot to be positive about; once we settled into this game we were very good," said senior pitcher Samantha Crumrin. "We just have to bring our bats tomorrow and keep playing. Things didn't fall our way today but we can't sit around and complain about that."

The Falcons out hit Memorial 12-10 and left 15 runners on base throughout the game getting in good positions but not being able to cash in.

Memorial jumped ahead in the second and third innings. The Mustangs got a three-run home run from Brooke Kearns in the bottom of the second, but Tompkins came back and made it a two-run game when Kaylee Segura drove in a run on a single in the top of the third, before Tompkins left two runners on base in the inning.

Memorial added on in the third. Isabella Borego drove in a run on a single and both Campbell Zahn and Emma Alford tacked on RBI singles of their own. Riley Cannizaro then hit a sacrifice fly to make it a six-run game.

"There were just some nerves in the first few innings," said Tompkins



TYLER TYRE

Leah Gershman hits during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Memorial at the Memorial softball field.

head coach Shay Orsak. "We kind of swung for the fences early but they locked in and played to get one hit at a time. We just have to do that all game."

Tompkins nearly got back into the game in the fifth inning. The Falcons got the bases loaded and Kima Sepic hit a single that drove in two, the Falcons got runners on second and third but again left two on, which they also did in both the

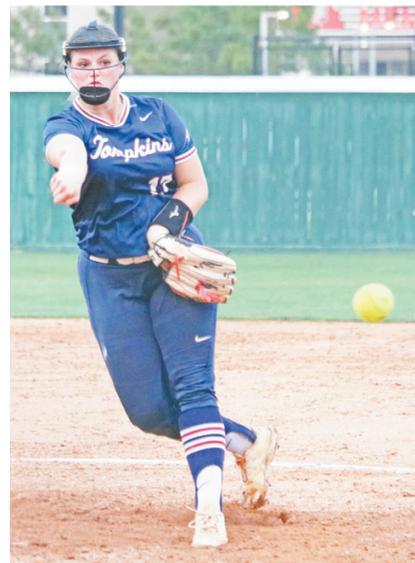
sixth and seventh innings as Tompkins came close but wasn't able to get back into the game.

"We left runners on and that sucks, but we had runners on every single inning. We know we can compete with and beat this team. We just have to get runners on again and we know we will take care of it," Crumrin said. "That's a good thing coming into tomorrow — we have that confidence and know what we have to do."

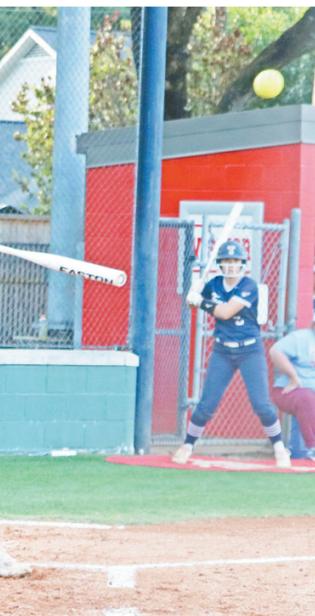
Tompkins was unable to keep things going in the second game of the area round, falling 0-6 to Memorial to end their season.



TYLER TYRE

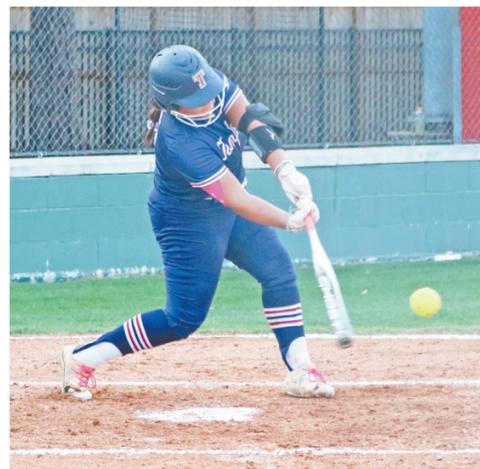


Samantha Crumrin pitches during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Memorial at the Memorial softball field.



TYLER TYRE

Leah Gershman pitches during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Memorial at the Memorial softball field.

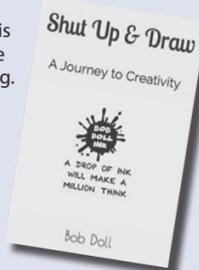


PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Above: Lex Cebrero hits during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Memorial at the Memorial softball field. Left: Kaylee Segura hits during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Memorial at the Memorial softball field.

LOCAL AUTHOR BOB DOLL COACHES ON CREATIVITY

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



- How upbringing can influence your creativity
- How challenging long held traditions can be beneficial to your creativity
- How looking at things differently can reveal hidden treasures
- The creativeness of journaling
- How you're not locked into a mindset
- and more

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

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

For more information, contact Bob at bob@bobdoll.com

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Above: AJ Atkinson hits during Friday's bi-district round game between Katy and Fort Bend Travis at the Cy-Park baseball field. Right: Carlos Morales throws to first during Friday's bi-district round game between Katy and Fort Bend Travis at the Cy-Park baseball field.



TYLER TYRE

KATY

from page B1

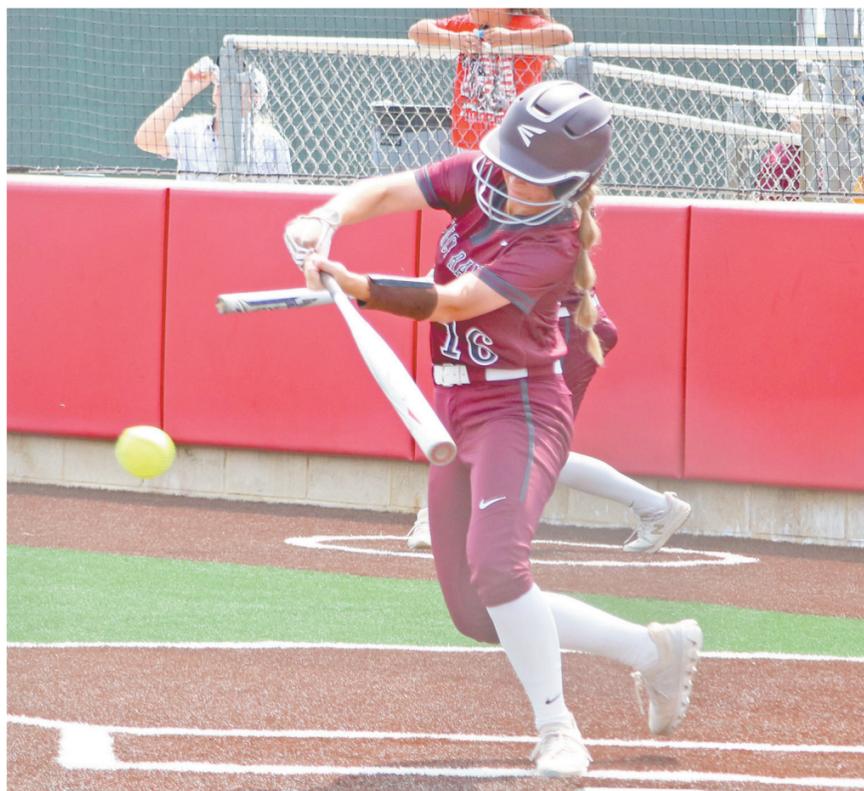
in the games only run with a single that brought Barrientes home.

"They finally hung a breaking ball to me and I was just able to work with it and put it in a gap," Ballew said. "We didn't see a lot of fastballs today or in this series so I had to adjust in the box. I made that adjustment, waited on it and was just able to take advantage of the pitch to get the run across. It was a good feeling."

Katy advances to face the winner of Lamar and Jersey Village in the second round. The Tigers are pre-

pared, and they only plan to keep improving with the extra week.

"We are approaching things the right way and we just have to keep doing the same thing and grinding," Ballew said. "It's the same adjustments, same approach that we've had the last few weeks. We know if we stay off breaking balls in early counts and wait for fastballs that we can make teams pay and score runs, and our pitching staff always gets it done. If we scratch off runs we are going to find a way to win."



TYLER TYRE

Faith Piper hits during Saturday's area round game between Cinco Ranch and Bellaire at the Cy-Lakes baseball field.

CINCO

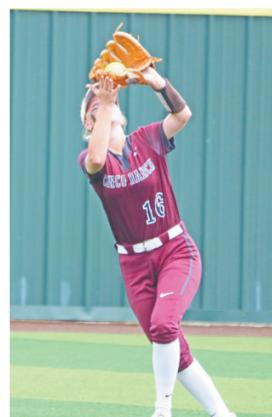
from page B1

three games against Bellaire in the area round.

"I've just found someone to play for and for me that's my teammates," Henningson said. "I want to stay and play with my team and keep going another week. I pushed through because I want to play with my team a little bit longer. It was so fun to see how we rallied this week — every single player was a part of it and it means so much to all of us. We just want to keep going."

Cinco got a huge boost in the top of the first inning. The Cougars loaded the bases on two singles and a walk before Katie Schmidt Pena drew a walk that gave Cinco the lead. Henningson then hit a pop up sky high in the infield and it was misplayed by the Bellaire defense and two more runs came in to score off the error.

"It was huge for us to get that early lead," said Cinco Ranch head coach Suzanne Reeve. "They made some mistakes and fortunately we were able to capitalize on it. Our defense played very well today, it proves that we can



TYLER TYRE

Sophie Hassall catches a fly ball during Saturday's area round game between Cinco Ranch and Bellaire at the Cy-Lakes baseball field.

allowing the runner to cross home plate. Gaby Perez then came in and pitched a strong final three innings, allowing just one hit while striking out three and walking two to help clinch the series for Cinco.

"These girls play for each other and every time Gaby comes in she says she's going to close it out for Savannah," Reeve said. "That's the mindset in the program — they are all playing for someone else and that's what has carried us through the playoffs."

Up next for the Cougars it will be a District 19-6A battle in the regional quarterfinals. Cinco will take on Katy, time and dates to be determined with the winner advancing to the regional semifinals.

"I think we're ready, we've been ready for it I think," Henningson said. "We know how good they are but we are going to go in there confident and play our game. We are playing good softball right now so we are going to go in there and keep doing that and play for each other."

play on this level and I think we're peaking at the right moment."

Henningson held Bellaire at bay and Cinco scored a fourth run in the fifth inning when they got a runner on third and then after an infield fly Bellaire committed a throwing error,



TYLER TYRE

Bethany Fan hits during Friday's area round game between Taylor and the Height at Cy-Park.

TAYLOR

from page B1

Taylor has continued to get better each of the past three seasons and this year's success was due in no small part to the team's five seniors. The five led the way for a young team, setting the right example, helping underclassman by putting them in the right positions and keeping everyone focused and being voices in game and in practice whether the seniors were getting playing time or not.

"I love all five of them — those girls are not defined by softball, they're better kids off the field than they even are on," Powell said. "I can't wait to see what they do because I know those are special kids. I'm going to miss them. Their character was the backbone of this team and they did a really good job

of holding people accountable and leading by example."

Taylor will return plenty of talent next season, including a group of seven junior starters. The goal now is to build on the foundation that has been set, grow into leaders themselves and make the next year a special one.

"These girls have gotten better every year and they have a chance to take a step again," Powell said. "It will be interesting to see who steps up and becomes those leaders that we need because they have seen that from the upperclassman before them and now it's on them to replicate it. There's a chance for a special season next year — we're still hurting right now, but I'm confident these girls will continue to get better."

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PUBLIC NOTICES

KATY ISD Invites Private Non-Profit Schools

Private non-profit schools serving students who reside in Katy ISD attendance zones have the option to participate in federal grant programs. If the non-profit school wishes to participate, a consultation meeting can be scheduled to provide an overview of current federal programs (Title I, Title II, Title III, and Title IV) and other services. Non-profit schools interested in participating in these federal grant programs for the 2024-2025 school year should contact Erin Hyko at 281-396-2243 to schedule a consultation meeting to discuss programs and eligibility requirements.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed electronic bids, addressed to **Synova Ph. 1 Bid Package 1A** will be received through email, at the address: mminer@half.com, until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May 16, 2024, at which time all bids will be opened and publicly read at the offices of **Half** (14800 St Marys Ln #160, Houston, TX 77079) for the furnishing of material, equipment, labor and supervision necessary or incidental to the Construction of Synova Ph. 1 Bid Package 1A. Proposals tendered after closing will not be opened. Scope of Project: 1. Concrete Flatwork, 2. Landscaping, 3. Irrigation, 4. Minor Site Grading and Preparation, 5. SWPPP Maintenance & Removal, 6. Select Clearing. Bid documents to be provided to interested bidders, upon request, at the email provided above. The successful bidder may be required to provide a performance bond, payment bond, and a maintenance bond as provided for in the bid documents, for the full amount of the contract. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to provisions of Occupations Code 2303 this is notice to the owner and lien holder of the following item/vehicle to reclaim the items within 30 days and pay all fees or your failure to do so shall be a waiver of all your rights, title, or interest in item/vehicle/personal property and your consent to sell the item /vehicle at public sale.

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10 LEXS LL 2T2BK1BA7AC038908 Total \$637.45

22 POLARIS RANGER 4XATAE999N8002788 Total \$687.10

Total charges cannot be computed until item/vehicle is claimed. Storage charges will accrue daily until item/vehicle is released.

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 **2 p.m. Local Time, Thursday, May 16, 2024** 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?omn=99438048425>; Meeting ID: 840 864 4870.

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 **Friday, May 10, 2024, at 10 a.m.** Local Time, via ZOOM. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870?omn=93284123480>; Meeting ID: 840 864 4870. 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 **NWC1207**. 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.

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Notices – Civil Rights

For Katy, Texas

Policy of Non-discrimination on the Basis of Disability

The City of Katy does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities. The Executive Assistant has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR Part 8).

Citizen Participation & Grievance Procedures Notice

The City of Katy has adopted complaint and grievance procedures regarding its Community Development Block Grant Programs (CDBG). Citizens may obtain a copy of these written procedures at Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, TX 77493 between regular business hours. Citizens may also request the procedures be mailed to them by calling Katy City Hall, at (281) 391-4800. These procedures outline the steps for a citizen to follow if s/he wishes to file a complaint or grievance about CDBG activities.

A person who has a complaint or grievance about any services or activities with respect to the CDBG project, may during regular business hours submit such complaint or grievance, in writing to the Executive Assistant, at P.O. Box 617 Katy, Texas 77492 or may call (281) 391-4800. The City of Katy will make every effort to respond fully to such complaints within fifteen (15) working days where practicable.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

The City of Katy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

Fair Housing Public Service Announcement

Public Service Announcement: Fair Housing, It's the Law

To promote fair housing practices, the City of Katy encourages potential homeowners and renters to be aware of their rights under the National Fair Housing Law.

Title VIII of the Civil Rights Acts of 1968, as amended, prohibits discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin in the sale or rental of units in the housing market. For more information on fair housing or to report possible fair housing discrimination, call the Texas Workforce Commission at (888) 452-4778 or (512) 463-2642 TTY: 512-371-7473

Avisos – Derechos Civiles

Para Katy, Texas

Política de no discriminación por motivos de discapacidad

La ciudad de Katy no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad en la admisión, el acceso o el empleo en sus programas de asistencia federal o actividades. El Asistente Ejecutivo ha sido designado para coordinar el cumplimiento de los requisitos de los requisitos de no discriminación contenidos en las regulaciones del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD) que implementan la Sección 504 (24 CFR Parte 8).

Aviso de participación ciudadana y procedimientos de quejas

La ciudad de Katy ha adoptado procedimientos de quejas y quejas con respecto a sus Programas de subvenciones en bloque para el desarrollo comunitario (CDBG). Los ciudadanos pueden obtener una copia de estos procedimientos escritos en Katy City Hall, 901 Avenida C, Katy, TX 77493 entre el horario comercial habitual. Los ciudadanos también pueden solicitar que se les envíen los procedimientos por correo llamando al Ayuntamiento de Katy, al (281) 391-4800. Estos procedimientos describen los pasos que debe seguir un ciudadano si desea presentar una queja o queja sobre las actividades de CDBG.

Una persona que tenga una queja o queja sobre cualquier servicio o actividad con respecto al proyecto CDBG, puede durante el horario comercial regular presentar dicha queja o queja, por escrito al Asistente Ejecutivo, a CORREOS, Caja 617 Katy, Texas 77492 o puede llamar al (281) 391-4800. La Ciudad de Katy hará todo lo posible para responder completamente a dichas quejas dentro de quince (15) días hábiles cuando sea posible.

Declaración de igualdad de oportunidades laborales

La ciudad de Katy no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, orientación sexual, identidad de género u origen nacional.

Anuncio de servicio público de vivienda justa

Anuncio de servicio público: Vivienda justa, es la ley

Para promover prácticas de vivienda justa, la ciudad de Katy alienta a los posibles propietarios e inquilinos a conocer sus derechos según la Ley Nacional de Vivienda Justa.

El Título VIII de las Leyes de Derechos Civiles de 1968, según enmendada, prohíbe la discriminación contra cualquier persona por motivos de raza, color, religión, sexo, discapacidad, estado familiar u origen nacional en la venta o alquiler de unidades en el mercado inmobiliario. Para obtener más información sobre vivienda justa o para denunciar una posible discriminación en materia de vivienda justa, llame a la Comisión de la Fuerza Laboral de Texas al (888) 452-4778 o (512) 463-2642 TTY: 512-371-7473

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COURTESY KATY ISD
Jordan sophomore Cole Pregler shot a hole in one at the Class 6A State Golf Tournament at White Wing Golf Club.

Jordan's Pregler finishes in top half at Class 6A state championship

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan sophomore Cole Pregler had a good week at the Class 6A State Golf Tournament and was in contention going into day two. Pregler was Katy ISD's one entry into the boys state tournament and he finished tied for 31st overall, putting up a good showing over the course of two days. The Jordan sophomore started the tournament with an amazing first round, shooting 68 and tied for second place in

the tournament, just two shots off the lead, before shooting 80 on the second day of the tournament to finish tied for 31st in Class 6A with a total score of 148. Pregler also accomplished the rarest feat in golf during the tournament, shooting a hole in one on the first day of the tournament on the par three 172 yard 16th hole at White Wing Golf Club. The Woodlands' Cooper Paul won the tournament by shooting 138 over two days. Lake Travis took the first place in the tournament as a team by shooting 570 overall.

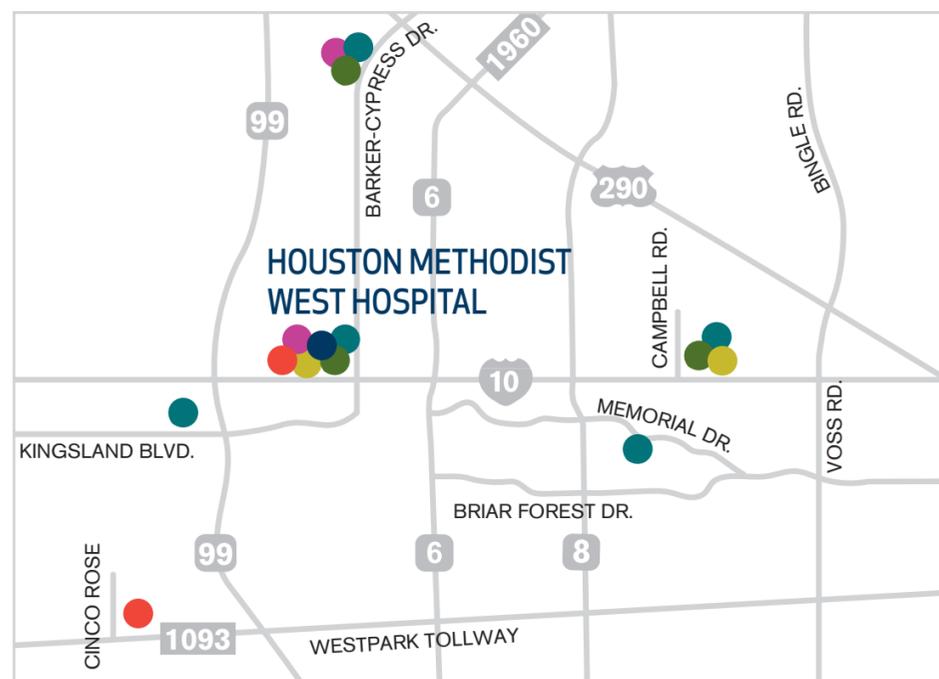


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