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SPORTS | A8



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## Coastal Prairie Conservancy event funds conservation programs

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Coastal Prairie Conservancy raised over \$200,000 at its annual gala in early May to fund the preservation of vital lands in southeast Texas. The gala, titled “Colors of Conservation,” also honored Phil Bedient and the SSPEED Center at Rice University, a research and education center working to better address severe storm prediction and its impact on the Gulf Coast region.

In his remarks, Bedient stressed the importance of coastal prairie conservation to help address the challenges of extreme weather. He has been at the forefront of Houston’s response to such weather events and a champion for natural solutions to environmental challenges. His work has provided credibility and scientific rigor to the analysis showing that coastal prairie absorbs, stores, and slows down floodwaters. Following his remarks, Bedient took questions from the audience on topics like flooding and community resilience.

The gala brought together hundreds of community members who support the Coastal Prairie Conservancy’s mission to preserve coastal prairies, wetlands, farms and ranches to benefit people and wildlife forever. Sam Hix, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Conservancy, thanked those in attendance for the important role they play in coastal prairie conservation. “You are the reason the Coastal Prairie Conservancy can do this work. You have funded critical land conservation projects, habitat restoration, and outreach programs that inspire the next generation of conservationists. As volunteers, you have helped to maintain trails, monitor wildlife, grow native plants, and raise awareness about the importance of this unique ecosystem. You help provide the resources we need to continue this work in perpetuity. Thank you to each of you!”

The funds raised will support programs, such as the preservation of open lands,

See **CONSERVATION**, page A3

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May 23, 2024  
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7 86037 40051 7



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Broken and sagging utility poles at the intersection of FM 529 and Katy Hockley Cut-off Road contributed to ongoing area power outages in the northwest quadrant of the greater Katy area.

## Unexpected storms disrupt power to greater Katy area, close schools

CenterPoint estimates full power restoration within days

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A severe weather event created havoc throughout the greater Katy area on May 16, leaving many local households without power for days. The northwest quadrant of the Katy area had the longest delays in resuming power.

**CenterPoint**

As of Tuesday, May 21, as the Katy Times went to press for this issue, homes in the northwest Katy area, including Sunterra and Freeman Ranch and other nearby subdivisions, were still without power, according to CenterPoint’s outage tracker. The company’s outage tracker was not working properly over the weekend, making it difficult to assess the full extent of power outages in the Katy area, or the progress being made in power restoration. “The company is experiencing slower-than-normal system performance from the Outage Tracker tool on its website. CenterPoint will continue to share updates on its Power Alert System and on X at @CenterPoint as the information becomes available,” the company said Saturday in a press release on its website.

The storm system caused extensive damage to CenterPoint’s transmission and distribution electric systems, the company said in a statement on its website. Wind gusts between 65-85 mph and sustained winds equivalent to a tropical storm, or a Category 1 Hurricane, were seen downtown and eastward toward northern Galveston Bay. The hardest-hit area was likely over the 290 corridor from Jersey Village to Waller where there was strong evidence of a tornado based on Doppler radar data, the company said. Restoration work was expected to continue through the weekend and into this week. Information on particular areas will

See **STORMS**, page A3



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Utility trucks were staged at Katy Mills Mall as restoration efforts progressed throughout the greater Katy area.

## FEMA disaster assistance available for Texans following severe storms

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

AUSTIN — Texans who sustained damage from the recent severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding that began April 26 may be eligible for disaster assistance under FEMA’s Individuals and Households Program.

Currently, residents living in Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker counties may be eligible for disaster assistance.

FEMA’s disaster assistance offers new benefits that provide flexible funding directly to survivors when needed the most. In addition, a simplified process and expanded eligibility allows Texans access to a wider range of assistance and immediate funds for serious needs.

**New Benefits for Immediate Funds**

- Serious Needs Assistance, a \$750 payment for households for essential items will now be provided in all disasters receiving Individual Assistance to help people make ends meet.
  - Displacement Assistance, a new benefit that will provide people with up-front funds to assist with immediate housing options of their choice, to keep people housed.
- Serious Needs Assistance and Displacement Assistance are both funded after a completed inspection confirms eligibility.
- Survivors can apply to FEMA in several ways including online at

See **AID**, page A3



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

## Harris County Sheriff’s Office launches DWI initiative ahead of Memorial Day weekend

FROM STAFF REPORTS

In a combined effort to ensure road safety during the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend, Sheriff Ed Gonzalez and the Harris County Sheriff’s Office, along with

partner agencies, will be teaming up to intensify efforts to combat impaired driving throughout Harris County.

The exact details of the project will be announced in joint press conference at 10 a.m. on May 23 at Houston TranStar, 6922 Old Katy Rd. Houston.



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# American Idol finalist headlines Typhoon Texas’ welcome back bash

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Mackenzie Sol, who wow’d the nation while finishing among the top 14 contestants on this year’s American Idol, will headline Typhoon Texas’ Welcome Back Beach Bash, May 25 – 27, the waterpark’s three-day kick-off to summer featuring giveaways, live music and family activities, said Typhoon Texas in a May 14 press release.

Mackenzie will appear at the Typhoon Texas wave pool stage on Saturday, May 25 from 1 – 4 p.m. when he’s expected to deliver a mesmerizing performance that’s certain to captivate all ages, organizers said.

While the British-born social media sensation burst onto the national scene during his electrifying performances on American Idol, where he was coached by Katie Perry and mentored by artists Jelly Roll and Teddy Swims, Mackenzie has been making music, acting and dancing since childhood. At the age of five, he appeared on the X-Factor, the British reality television music competition.

“Bringing Mackenzie Sol to Typhoon Texas is a thrilling opportunity for us,” says John Pham, director of marketing for Typhoon Texas. “His electrifying performances on American Idol thrilled audiences nationwide, and we’re excited for him to deliver

a show that sets the stage for a fantastic summer ahead.”

Consistently ranked as one of North America’s top-attended waterparks, Typhoon Texas returns with more than a mile of winding, twisting slide paths, Texas-size wave pool, and lazy river the length of more than five football fields.

Typhoon Texas also features Typhoon Jr. offering junior-sized versions of the waterpark’s most popular slides, each carefully crafted to ensure safety and excitement for children up to 54 inches tall.

Season passes, any-day admission tickets, and choose-your-day admission tickets are available at typhoontexas.com. Season passes and any-day admission tickets also can be purchased at the Typhoon Texas ticket window. Access to Typhoon Junior is included in both day tickets and season passes.

Typhoon Texas is located at 555 Katy Fort Bend Rd. next to Katy Mills Mall, 1.5 miles west of the Grand Parkway. Free onsite parking, free tubes and free life jackets are available.

The Texas-themed waterpark will be open 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. during all three days of the Welcome Back Beach Bash. After Memorial Day weekend, Typhoon Texas will open daily.

Go to typhoontexas.com for attraction information, to plan your visit and to purchase tickets and season passes.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Rock out to Bon Jovi  
music on June 7

Come to Central Green Park at LaCenterra and rock out to some Bon Jovi. The park will feature free live music from 8 to 9:30 p.m. performed by Let It Rock. LaCenterra is located near the Grand Parkway at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy.

‘Luke Day’ returns on June 8-9

Join NextHome Realty and the Fort Bend West Houston Lions Club on June 8-9 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., for “Luke Day.” The event, held at Anodyne Pain and Health Group at 23519 Katy Freeway near Costco, will feature crafts, vendors and food and drink. B12 shots will be available and a voter registration drive will take place. For more information, go to luke.beagreatlion.org. Over 88 per cent of vendor registrations will benefit the Katy Police Department’s K9 Handlers in caring for the K9 units, with the remaining 12 per cent going to the Fort Bend County West Lions Club’s outreach.

Katy Cares to conduct  
‘Essential Parenting Program’  
beginning in June

Katy Cares, a Katy-based non-profit that assists single-parent families who are victims of trauma due to a life-altering events, will launch a seven-session “Essential Parenting Program” beginning on June 10. The course is tailored for single parents seeking effective parenting skills and principles and will feature discussions and proven strategies that resonate with real-life experiences, organizers say. Held Mondays from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. at The Tree House Academy of Katy at 21930 Chesterwick Drive in Katy, the classes are free but prior enrollment is required. Family dinner and childcare are included. To register, go to katycares.org/registration-form/. For more information, call 832-517-9252.

**Learn how to attract butterflies  
to your garden at June 13th  
seminar at Enchanted Gardens**  
Come learn from Lorenzo, the



PHOTO COURTESY OF CENTRAL GREEN PARK

Brenda & The Guys will perform your favorite R&B sounds in a free concert at Central Green Park at LaCenterra, 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd., on June 15th.

staff entomologist at Enchanted Gardens Nursery, who is passionate about not only bugs, but perennials and native plants. In a seminar to be held June 13th from 10 to 11:30 a.m., he will teach you how to create a pollinator-friendly garden at home. Learn how to incorporate native plants into your landscape and garden to attract these wonderful creatures! Lorenzo will share his favorite host and nectar plants as well as other tips to bring pollinators to your home. For questions or to reserve your spot, please call 281-341-1206. Enchanted Gardens is located at 6420 FM 359 in Richmond.

Harris County Master  
Gardeners announces June  
classes

Harris County Master Gardeners will host the following classes in the Katy area in June:

- Composting by Harris County Master Gardeners. Thursday, June 13th at 1 p.m.
- Katy Branch Library, 5414 Franz Rd. Katy. Learn best practices and techniques to make your own compost. Free and open to the public. hcmga.tamu.edu
- Residential Rainwater Harvesting by Harris County Master Gardeners. Wednesday, June 20th

at 10 a.m. Glazier Senior Ed Center, 16600 Pine Forest Lane, Houston. Rain is the best water for your gardens. Learn to capture some of it to help you save money and be prepared during droughts. Free and open to the public. hcmga.tamu.edu

- Composting by Harris County Master Gardeners. Tuesday, June 25th at 10 a.m. Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Rd. Houston. Learn best practices and techniques to make your own compost. Free and open to the public. hcmga.tamu.edu.

Travel back through time with  
Brenda & The Guys on June  
15th

Get ready to groove with Brenda & The Guys party band as they take you on a nostalgic journey through the timeless rhythms of old-school rhythm and blues! From slow, soulful melodies to irresistibly upbeat grooves, Brenda & The Guys have perfected their craft, captivating audiences of all ages with their infectious energy. Their music isn’t just entertainment—it’s a soulful experience that soothes the spirit and warms the heart. So get ready to groove at Central Green Park at La Centerra, 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy on June 15th from 8 to 9:30 p.m. Free.

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**LOCAL AUTHOR BOB DOLL COACHES ON CREATIVITY**

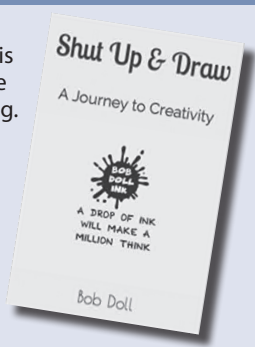
First published in 2021, *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity* is a book about how anyone can be creative in whatever they’re doing. You don’t have to be an artist. The book tells a story about how drawing is just one way to explore one’s own creative endeavors with information about:

- 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](mailto:bob@bobdoll.com)



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**CLUES ACROSS**

- One who manufactures
- Science degree
- Database management system
- Desert
- Inventor Musk
- Welsh valley
- Round Dutch cheese
- Saying
- Comedian and TV host
- Uppermost portions of the brain
- City in Transylvania
- Where astronauts go
- Men’s hairstyle
- Indicates position
- One point east of due south
- Businessmen may have one
- Grass part
- Running back Gurley
- Unwavering
- Options
- Annoy
- Greek mountain
- Pastas
- Fishes
- Wrap
- Potentially a criminal (slang)
- Seize
- The Constitution State
- Upset
- 1991 men’s Wimbledon champ
- Central Chinese province
- Predisposition

**CLUES DOWN**

- Millisecond
- Acts as military assistant
- Knot in a tree
- Husband-and-wife industrial designers
- The Ocean State
- Point the finger at
- Parts in a machine
- Midway between northeast and east
- Portray precisely
- Blisters
- Mental illness
- Nose of an animal
- What students receive
- Semitic peoples
- Beats per minute
- Family of drugs
- Atrocious
- Type of microscope (abbr.)
- \_\_\_ or bust
- Icelandic poems
- A citizen of Pakistan
- Very pale

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Notice of someone’s death
- One-time Kentucky Rep.
- Swiss river
- Dried-up
- Finger millet
- \_\_\_ Allan Poe
- German river
- Brew
- Kenyan river

**CLUES DOWN**

- Metric linear unit
- Sea eagle
- Biblical judge of Israel
- Isaac’s mother (Bib.)
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Cool!
- Large hotel room
- Type of boat (abbr.)
- Picked
- Type of hookah
- Attack
- Directs
- Belgian WWII resistance fighter
- Finished negotiation
- Heroic tale
- Middle Eastern country
- Protein-rich liquids
- Malaysian Isthmus
- Spielberg’s alien

Answers will be provided in next week’s edition.

# SUDOKU

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



CONSERVATION

from page A1

the restoration of critical homes for wildlife, and the enhancement of walking trails and preserves for the public to enjoy.

About the Coastal Prairie Conservancy

The Coastal Prairie Conservancy is a nonprofit land trust formed in 1992 to conserve the coastal prairie for people and wildlife before it disappears. CPC is a nationally accredited, community supported nonprofit and a registered 501(c)(3) organization. The organization has conserved more than 31,000 acres of coastal prairie in nine Texas counties, including a large, protected area called the Katy Prairie Preserve located just outside Houston. To learn more about Coastal Prairie Conservancy’s conservation efforts, visit [coastalprairieconservancy.org](http://coastalprairieconservancy.org).



Dr. Phil Bedient with his wife Cindy and CPC’s President and CEO Mary Anne Piacentini.

STORMS

from page A1

be provided to customers. See more at: <https://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/corporate/about-us/news/1743#sthash.NbwA28MH.dpuf>.

Katy ISD and Royal ISD

Due to power outages caused by the weather, Royal ISD closed all five of its campuses. In Katy, the Katy Independent School District (Katy ISD) closed 23 of its 76 campuses on Friday, May 17. Students, staff, and families assigned to these schools or student support facilities were told not to report to the buildings, although later in the day, teachers were in some cases asked to report to open campuses. Maintenance crews will be on-site to continue assessing and addressing the damage at these locations, the district said in an email. Campuses which were closed included:

- Bear Creek Elementary
- Cardiff Junior High
- Cimarron Elementary
- Fielder Elementary
- Franz Elementary
- Hayes Elementary
- Hutsell Elementary
- Katy Elementary
- Katy Junior High
- Katy High School
- Nottingham Country Elementary
- McElwain Elementary
- Memorial Parkway Elementary
- Memorial Parkway Junior High
- Raines Academy
- Miller Career & Tech Center
- Opportunity Awareness Center
- Rhoads Elementary
- Taylor High School
- West Memorial Elementary
- West Memorial Junior High
- Winborn Elementary
- Youngblood Elementary

All Katy ISD campuses and offices reopened on Monday.

Graduation ceremonies for Katy ISD high schools continued as scheduled, with the exception of the one for Paetow High School, which was moved Saturday morning, May 18, at 9:00 a.m. The Paetow HS commencement, originally scheduled for Thursday, May 16, was the district’s only Saturday morning graduation. “To ensure our Paetow Panthers have the same memorable experience as graduating seniors at other Katy ISD campuses, the district will stage the customary 45-second firework display at the conclusion of the ceremony,” said the district in an email.

Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management

The Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HCOHSEM) moved Saturday to Level 2 - High Readiness in response to the May Severe Winds and Tornadoes incident, continuing to support and coordinate recovery efforts following the severe weather. On May 17, 2024, President Joe Biden signed a disaster declaration for the State of Texas, allowing FEMA to provide Individual Assis-

tance to those impacted by severe storms, straight-line winds, tornadoes, and flooding.

Harris County Precinct 4

In response to Thursday’s devastating storm, Commissioner Lesley Briones opened four Harris County Precinct 4 community centers on Saturday, May 18, as places of refuge for any resident in need. Precinct 4’s storm recovery efforts included two types of centers: cooling centers provide fruit, snacks, and water to keep people refreshed as well as cellphone charging; and distribution centers offering disaster boxes, fruit, water, and cleaning supplies to aid in recovery.

Two of those centers – both of which were drive-up distribution centers – were located in the greater Katy area and were open on Sunday, May 19 as well. Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road, Houston, provided water, ice and food distribution; the Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Road, Cypress, distributed food and water. An estimated 1500-1800 cars went through the Radack Center on Saturday, with 460 cars going through the Weekley Center that day, Precinct 4 said in a Sunday press release.

Additionally, Precinct 4 staff remain available to answer questions about disaster recovery resources. To learn more about these resources, go to [cp4.harriscountytexas.gov](http://cp4.harriscountytexas.gov) or call 832-927-4444 or email [service@hcp4.net](mailto:service@hcp4.net).

Harris County Library System cooling center

To help alleviate the needs of residents without power, the Harris County Public Library opened several on Sunday, May 19, to operate as Cooling Centers from 1-7pm, including the Katherine Tyra Branch Library at 16719 Clay Road in Houston.

Small Business Administration

Harris County residents impacted by the April and May severe weather, flooding, and tornadoes are also eligible to apply for U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loans. The SBA offers disaster assistance in the form of low-interest loans to businesses, nonprofit organizations, homeowners, and renters located in regions affected by declared disasters. SBA also provides eligible small businesses and nonprofit organizations with working capital to help overcome the economic injury of a declared disaster.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information, and download applications at [disasterloanassistance.sba.gov](http://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov). Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov) for more information on SBA disaster assistance. For people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services. The deadline to apply for loans to repair property damage is Tuesday, July 16, 2024, and economic injury is Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

TRIBUTE

James Russell “Rusty” West, 67, passed away in La Grange, Texas, on May 9, 2024 after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. Rusty was surrounded by his family at his passing.

Rusty was born on November 21, 1956, to Robert and Shirley West in Houston, TX. Rusty attended high school at both Cy-Fair and Katy and graduated from Temple High School.

Rusty began his career working for Daniel Industries where he became a certified welder working on projects for the Alyeska Pipeline. He later went to work for Katy Independent School District in 1985, starting as a groundskeeper and rising to a Team Supervisor. Rusty left KISD in 2008 to work at Rockwall as the Assistant Director of Maintenance. Rusty moved to LaGrange with his wife Pam in 2015 to be closer to his family where he worked as Director of Maintenance for LGISD. He later worked at both Bastrop and Elgin school districts.

On October 23, 1984, Rusty made the commitment to sobriety and celebrated 39 years of sobriety before his death. Rusty’s commitment to sobriety included sponsoring and counseling others as well as serving God and his fellow man. Rusty welcomed a son in 1989 in Katy. Rusty married his wife Pam West in Ponca City, OK, in November 2004.

During his fifty plus years of work experience, Rusty became an expert at HVAC, plumbing, electrical work, welding,



JAMES RUSSEL  
"RUSTY" WEST  
1956-2024

carpentry, auto repair and much more. Everyone always said he could fix anything. After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Rusty retired and spent his remaining years working on projects in his shop and generously giving of his time to help neighbors, family, and community.

Rusty was preceded in death by his parents, Robert and Shirley West, as well as brother Gary West.

Rusty is survived by his devoted wife Pam Newman West; son

Jeremy West and wife Karen of Tomball, Tx; grandchildren Juliet Rose and August James West; sister Cathy West and wife Michele of Katy; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Bethany and Brian Fredricks of Ponca City, OK; niece Jennifer Self and husband Johnny of Katy; nephew Gary West and wife Karie of Waller; nephew B. J. Fredricks of Ponca City, Ok.; and great nephews Walker, Wacey, and Wiley West of Waller.

A “Celebration of Life” memorial service will be held on June 1, 2024, at the Historic Casino Hall at 254 N Jefferson St, La Grange, TX, beginning at 11 a.m. followed by a reception.

The family would like to thank all the wonderful caregivers at Hospice Brazos Valley who cared for him with love and dignity, especially Amanda, Hope, Virginia, and Margie. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Hospice Brazos Valley at [www.hospicebv.org](http://www.hospicebv.org).

AID

from page A1

DisasterAssistance.gov, downloading the FEMA App for mobile devices, or calling the FEMA Helpline at 800-621-3362.

If you currently reside in Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, Polk, San Jacinto, Trinity and Walker counties and suffered damage to your primary residence, FEMA may be able to provide rent for a temporary place to live while you are displaced. Rental assistance is intended to cover monthly rent, security deposit and cost of essential utilities such as electricity and water.

FEMA’s Individuals and Household Program assistance is intended to help jumpstart your recovery.

Home Repair Assistance may be provided to homeowners to repair the structural parts of your home. This includes windows, doors, floors, walls, ceilings, cabinets, heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system (HVAC), utilities (electrical, plumbing and gas systems) and entrance ways. FEMA may also reimburse for the actual cost to repair or replace your furnace, private well and septic system that was damaged or destroyed by the disaster.

For the latest information visit [fema.gov/disaster/4781](http://fema.gov/disaster/4781). Follow FEMA Region 6 on Twitter at [twitter.com/FEMARegion6](https://twitter.com/FEMARegion6) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/FEMARegion6/](https://facebook.com/FEMARegion6/).

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For details call **281-769-5586**, or email Rebecca at [rborrello@cardinalbay.org](mailto:rborrello@cardinalbay.org).

*Carriage Inn*

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# SECURING THE TEXAS GRID, POWERING KATY’S FUTURE

- ▶ Millions of dollars generated to support schools, infrastructure, and local government
- ▶ Affordable and reliable power stored to avoid potential blackouts, price spikes, and supply shortfalls
- ▶ Supports American energy independence and Texas’ all-of-the-above approach to energy

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.



# Earth Day project brings family, friends together at Carriage Inn

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Carriage Inn residents, family members, staff, and members of the local community came together for a special gardening and beautification project, Monday, April 22. The project was part of the Katy senior living community's celebratory Earth Day efforts to enhance residents' outdoor spaces and garden beds.

In the fall, the community's raised planter boxes were repaired and updated with the help of Boy Scout Troop #209 of Katy, which prepared them for easy and accessible spring planting. With warmer weather now here, members of the community took full advantage of the Earth Day call to action, sharing time, energy, and resources to ensure a clean and beautiful courtyard space for memory care residents.

Family members Scott Griffin and Maggie Conn

were thrilled to be part of the project and excited to see the finished space. "The flowers have already added so much color to the patio," shared Griffin.

"Everyone had a great time planting," said Carriage Inn driver, Tony Conde. "The flowers are awesome and Carriage Inn residents did most of the work. It was really a great idea."

With 37 bags of garden soil, the community planted a few favorite vegetables, herbs, and annuals, including sweet banana peppers, basil, bell peppers, rosemary, cherry tomatoes, petunias, vincas, periwinkles, and marigolds.

Resident Beverly Harri-man was delighted. "The flowers are beautiful."

"The weather was great; it was a great day to do something like this," said resident, Bob Hodge.

Residents will have opportunities for tending to the garden beds in the



Carriage Inn residents Judy Barnett and Mary Perry with Carriage Inn Executive Director Tony Rivas and resident Denise Panepinto.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CARRIAGE INN

coming weeks and sharing the harvest with Carriage Inn Chef Amanda Garrison, who often incorporates fresh garden produce on the menu whenever possible, especially in the summer months.

"We are grateful for the many helping hands who came together to help with this project and look forward to enjoying this space in the weeks to come," said Carriage Inn Executive Director Tony Rivas.

Carriage Inn Katy offers independent living, assisted living, and memory care options for older adults to

live life to the fullest in a manner that best suits their interests and desires. The community is located at 1400 Katy-Flewellen Road, Katy, TX. For more information about senior living options and life at Carriage Inn Katy, visit us at [www.cardinalbay.org](http://www.cardinalbay.org) or contact Tony Rivas at 281-392-2800 or [trivas@cardinalbay.org](mailto:trivas@cardinalbay.org). Locally owned, Carriage Inn is a Cardinal Bay community managed by The Long Hill Company, a subsidiary of United Methodist Homes, a non-profit senior living provider organization with a 150-year history of caring.

# Pitch 25 beer garden plans spring opening

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Kirby Group co-founders Andy Aweida and Jeff Barati -- alongside former Dynamo soccer legend Brian Ching -- announced May 14 that they would open a second location of Houston's popular entertainment complex and beer garden, Pitch 25. The second location plans to open late spring 2025 at 22838 Grand Circle Blvd in Katy. Additionally, plans are in the works to expand even more and bring the concept to San Antonio.

Just in time for 2026 FIFA World Cup, Greater Houston-area residents will enjoy another premier entertainment destination spanning three acres in this prime part of Katy - near Tiger Woods PopStroke, Nolan Ryan's Home Run Dugout, and Andretti's. The new location will offer 25,000 square feet entertainment, three fields, an outdoor pavilion, special events and games such as Bubble Soccer, Axe Throwing and much more. Pitch 25's first location opened in East Downtown (Eado) in 2018 and quickly became the premier sports hub and beer park in Houston, company representatives said in a press release.

"It is the go-to destination where locals and visitors alike can experience the perfect blend of a lively sports environment, a wide selection of meticulously crafted beers and a full chef-driven menu made from scratch," said a company spokesperson.

For more information, visit [www.pitch-25.com](http://www.pitch-25.com).



PHOTO COURTESY OF PITCH 25

# Houston TX Hot Chicken spices things up with new location set to open in Katy

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Houston TX Hot Chicken -- which bills itself as an industry leader in quality, never-frozen fried chicken -- is expanding its stores throughout the state of Texas. On June 15, the restaurant chain is opening its second Texas location at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd in Katy -- the brand's 15th location nationwide.

The Katy community is invited to join the new restaurant's Grand Opening community event from noon to 3 p.m. for a chance to enjoy the tastiest hot chicken Houston has to offer. The community event full of

spicy fun will include:

- Complimentary Original Hot Chicken Sandwiches and beverages.
- \$1,000 "Houston, We Have a Problem" (HWHAP) Spice Challenge Contest\* (waiver required).
- A display of supercars & exotic cars.

With a menu that includes hot chicken sandwiches, tenders and more, HHC offers fresh (never frozen), organic, cage-free, antibiotic-free and hormone-free food alongside an exciting and elevated service standard. HHC will serve a full menu of delicious offerings, such as their House Favorite, Cheesy

Hot Chicken Sandwich, Texas Caesar Salad, Fusion Fries, and Tenders with Slaw, among other dishes. Houston TX Hot Chicken's success lies in its featured ingredient: chicken! With unwavering high standards, HHC ensures that each chicken served is fresh (never frozen), organic, cage-free, antibiotic-free and hormone-free. The tasty menu features signature items such as the Original Hot Chicken Sandwich, Tenders & Waffle, Fusions Fries and more.

The store will have a soft opening beginning June 1. Hours of operation are 10:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday

through Thursday and 10:30 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

**About Houston TX Hot Chicken**

Houston TX Hot Chicken (HHC) prides itself on

serving all- natural and never frozen chicken to its guests. With a menu that features hot chicken in the form of sandwiches, tenders and more, HHC offers high quality food alongside an exciting and elevated service standard. In recent years,

the restaurant group has experienced rapid growth with locations nationwide in Arizona, California, Nevada, Washington, Texas, Utah, Idaho, Michigan and has plans to continue opening new locations across the country in 2024 and beyond.

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TRIBUTE

Doris Gail Reynolds, 80, of Chanute, Kansas, passed away May 12, 2024, at Neosho Memorial Regional Medical Center in Chanute, Kansas. Gail was born on December 19, 1943, to father Oscar Louis McCormack and mother Jessie Corine Richards. Gail, a native of Rogers, New Mexico, lived in various locations throughout her life as she proudly stood by her husband's side during his service in the Air Force.

Gail graduated from Lubbock Christian College with a degree in secondary education and later earned a Masters+ degree when she was working as a second-grade teacher for Albuquerque Public Schools. She loved bowling, especially in leagues with the other teachers. Gail was very creative and artistic, and enjoyed drawing and taking photographs. She cherished any opportunity to be able to spend time with friends and family. Gail was active in her church and particularly enjoyed regular outings with the church's 39ers club. Gail was a current member of the Church of Christ in Katy, Texas, and previously Netherwood Park Church of Christ in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Gail was a kind and gentle woman and always enjoyed spending time with loved ones.

Gail is survived by daughters Scharon Reynolds, Shawna Wright and her husband Doug, and Donna Reynolds;



DORIS GAIL REYNOLDS  
1943-2024

sisters JoAnn Blakey, Nina Fondy, Kary Love; brother Louis McCormack and his wife Kay; grandchildren Jalen, Jesse, Stark, Michael, Marie, Ashley, and Troy and numerous nieces and nephews.

Gail is preceded in death by her husband Michael Reynolds, father Oscar Louis McCormack, mother Jessie Corine (Richards) McCormack and brother Edward "Eddie" McCormack. A graveside service will be held at Holdenville Cemetery in Holdenville, Oklahoma, at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 24, 2024. Memorials can be made to the New Mexico Childrens Christian Home and may left with or mailed to Countryside Funeral Home-Johnson Chapel, 101 N. Highland St., Chanute, KS 66720. Services are under the guidance of Countryside Funeral Home-Johnson Chapel.

Local resident to again lead sorority

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy resident Alice White has again been elected to lead the Houston Council of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for the 2024-2025 year. White, a member of Epsilon Phi Master Chapter, was installed as president along with Vice President Joyce Worthington of Xi Beta Kappa Chapter, Recording Secretary Bobbie Lechliden of Epsilon Omega Master Chapter, Corresponding Secretary Sharon Dueweke of Torchbearer Omega Chapter, Treasurer Carolyn Brassard of Epsilon Phi Master Chapter and Parliamentarian Carolyn Kares of Torchbearer Tau Chapter at the sorority's annual Founder's Day Luncheon April 27. Participating in the installation was Kerry Bost of Laureate

Eta Nu as torchbearer and Charlene Sawyer of Torchbearer Tau as officiant.

The sorority luncheon was held in celebration of Beta Sigma Phi celebrating 93 years and the Houston Council celebrating 89 years. A highlight of the luncheon, held at the Embassy Suites, Katy/Park Ten at 16435 Katy Freeway in Houston, was a presentation showcasing the council's history. Sorority members achieving 50 plus years were also recognized with two members -- Johnnie Horn and Beverly Fritz of Torchbearer Tau Chapter achieving 65 years.

Beta Sigma Phi is a women's international social and cultural sorority open to women of all ages and enables women of all walks of life to come together in friendship. For membership information, call 281-493-4678.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLYN KARES, HCC-BETA SIGMA PHI

Katy resident Alice White of Epsilon Phi Master Chapter will lead Houston Council of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority for 2024-2025 year.

Atria resident enjoys gardening for mental health

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time for all to evaluate their mental health -- and at Atria Cinco Ranch, a senior living community in Katy at 24001 Cinco Village Center Boulevard, one resident is focusing on a unique way to promote positive mental health: gardening.

Atria Cinco Ranch resident Mary Pickens, 88, gardens to keep her mind active, and created a garden at her Atria community for all residents to enjoy. The repetitive task of tending to the

garden, along with the beauty of the flowers it produces, is an immensely powerful mental health tool.

"I think that when you garden, all you can think about is the task that you are doing whether it is fertilizing, rearranging, repotting, or whatever that's all you're thinking about," said Pickens. "You're not thinking about that you have left your house or your loss. You're not thinking about anything else, except the task at hand. I think it is very good for one's mental health."



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## May 16 Puzzle Answers

T	H	E	N			T	E	L			E	P	I		
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2	9	1	3	5	4	7	6	8
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Sealed bids addressed to **Scotts Bend – Sec. 1 Landscape Improvements** will be received at the office of Half (14800 St. Mary's Lane, Suite 160, Houston, TX 77079) or digitally through CivCast until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, June 13, 2024, at which time all bids will be opened and publicly read in Suite 160 for the furnishing of material, equipment, labor and supervision necessary or incidental to the Construction of Scotts Bend – Sec. 1 Landscape Improvements. 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 coordination & removal. Bid documents in digital format will be available through CivCast. A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on at the offices of Half on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. Questions submitted within 72 hours of bid opening may not be addressed. 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.

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Sealed bids addressed to **Pelly Place – Sec. 1 Landscape Improvements** will be received at the office of Half (14800 St. Mary's Lane, Suite 160, Houston, TX 77079) or digitally through CivCast until 2:30 p.m. Thursday, June 13, 2024, at which time all bids will be opened and publicly read in Suite 160 for the furnishing of material, equipment, labor and supervision necessary or incidental to the Construction of Pelly Place – Sec. 1 Landscape Improvements. 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. Site furnishings, 6. Playground fall surfacing & drainage, 7. SWPPP coordination & removal. Bid documents in digital format will be available through CivCast. A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on at the offices of Half on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. Questions submitted within 72 hours of bid opening may not be addressed. 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.

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# After two-day delay, Katy clinches spot in Regional Final

**BY TYLER TYRE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

It was a weird set of circumstances for Katy this week.

An series that started a day earlier than normal, a two-day rain delay and going against one of the toughest teams that the Tigers have faced all year threw adversity Katy's way, but the team was able to overcome that and earn a sweep over Brazoswood in two games, beating the Buccaneers 3-1, 2-1 in two games to advance to the Region III-6A Final.

"It was a little tough having to leave and wait so long to play again," said senior center fielder Ashtyn Reichardt. "But we came back and we were really focused going into today. We came to play today and as soon as we got here you could see how bad everyone wanted it. It was just a mindset thing and everyone was ready to go and get this win."

Katy jumped ahead early in game two. Reichardt walked to open the game and then got bunted over by Hailey Gore. Montgomery Henderson then started the scoring with a single that drove in Reichardt. Avery Porter then led off the second inning with a triple and she was driven in by Lexie Waugh, who hit a sacrifice bunt. The game was delayed with the Tigers leading 2-0 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning and when it was picked back up on Saturday, Ella-Kate Smith kept her performance going on the mound, getting up to 12 batters in a row retired going into the sixth inning. Brazoswood scored and trimmed Katy's lead to one in the bottom of the sixth and Katy brought on Harrison, who closed things out by not allowing a hit over the final 1.1 innings, striking out two and sealing the win for the Tigers. Smith pitched 5.2



Cameryn Harrison celebrates after getting out of the sixth inning of Saturday's Region III-6A Semifinal game between Katy and Brazoswood at Iowa Colony.

innings and allowed just the one run on three hits while striking out seven and walking two.

"I was just excited to have a chance and help my team, because that's my goal and I'll do it any way that I can," Smith said. "It felt great to be back out there this weekend and even better to get the win."

Offensively, Henderson and Waugh

drove in runs while Reichardt and Avery Porter scored them. Katy only had three hits, but that's all they needed and they hope going against such a tough pitcher and team will help them going into later rounds.

"I think this was the perfect series to get us ready for the rest of the way,"

See **SOFTBALL**, page A9



TYLER TYRE

Sutton Hull turns a double play during Saturday's Region III-6A Quarterfinal game between Katy and Cy-Fair at Langham Creek.

# Katy baseball falls to Cy-Fair in three games

**BY TYLER TYRE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy fought until the end.

The Tigers overcame a four run deficit, battled in 90 degree heat for six hours and threw everything they could into this week's regional quarterfinal series against Cy-Fair.

But no matter what the Tigers tried, no matter how they battled, the bounces wouldn't go their way on Friday, and the Tigers' season came to an end with a 7-5 loss to Cy-Fair in game three of their regional quarterfinal series after losing game two 4-2.

"That was just a really tough team to play against," said senior second baseman Sutton Hull. "I've never seen a team hit our pitching the way they did and they just attacked one through nine. Their pitchers competed and threw strikes and at the end of the day the ball just fell for them more times than it did for us today unfortunately."

See **BASEBALL**, page A9

WEEK OF MAY 24

SCORES & SCHEDULES

SOFTBALL

Scores

REGION III-6A SEMIFINALS

Katy 3, Brazoswood 1  
Katy 2, Brazoswood 1

Schedule

REGION III-6A FINAL

Thursday

• Game 1: Katy "at" Kingwood, 7 p.m

Friday

• Game 2: Katy vs. Kingwood, 7 p.m

Saturday

• Game 3: Katy "at" Kingwood, 7 p.m.  
(if needed)

BASEBALL

Scores

REGION III-6A QUARTERFINALS

• Katy 2, Cy-Fair 1  
• Katy 2, Cy-Fair 4  
• Katy 5, Cy-Fair 7  
• Cinco Ranch 3, Memorial 7  
• Cinco Ranch 3, Memorial 1  
• Cinco Ranch 2, Memorial 11

# Cinco Ranch's season ends in regional quarterfinals



TYLER TYRE

Zach Franco hits during Saturday's area round game between Cinco Ranch and Stratford at Cy-Lakes.

**BY TYLER TYRE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch's season came to an end on Saturday, as the Cougars fell to Memorial in a three game series 3-7, 3-1, 2-11 to Memorial in the regional quarterfinals, bouncing back from a game one loss before falling in game three.

Cinco found itself in an early hole in game one, which they lost 7-3. Cinco fell behind by two in the top of the first after Memorial got a runner in scoring position which Jackson Van Wie drove in on a single before Van Wie was driven in by another single. The Cougars got a run back in the bottom of the inning, Brock DeYoung started the inning with a double and then came around to score on an error by the catcher. Things stayed that way until the top of the sixth, when Memorial added three more runs in the sixth and two more in the seventh to make it 7-1. The Cougars got two back in the bottom of the seventh on

a Lucas Franco single and a wild pitch, but a ground out ended the game and put the Cougars in a hole heading into game two.

Cinco bounced back in game two with a very strong performance behind a complete game on the mound from Brayden Hodge, winning 3-1 as Hodge allowed just one run on three hits while striking out three and walking two.

Memorial took the lead in the bottom of the first on a sacrifice fly, but Cinco battled back to get the lead in the top of the third. Brock DeYoung and Lucas Franco both reached base to start the inning and Zach Franco drove in DeYoung on a sacrifice fly before Connor Ficarra hit a sacrifice grounder to give the Cougars the lead. Cinco added a third in the fifth inning on a Ficarra sacrifice fly and the Cinco defense and pitching staff did the rest to seal the win.

The Cougars forced a game

See **CINCO**, page A9





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BASEBALL

from page A8

Katy fell into a 4-0 hole after two innings in game three, giving up two runs in both the first two innings, but Katy didn't mope or give up — they found a way back into the game in the bottom of the second. Katy loaded the bases and a Jeremy Mazariegos single got the Tigers on the board. Ashten Ballew and Hull added RBI singles and a bases loaded walk to Connor Udland tied the game before AJ Atkinson hit a sacrifice fly that gave Katy the lead.

"I just am proud of the way they battled back in fought all the way through," said Katy head coach Wes Hearne. "We kept getting runners on but couldn't get a timely hit — it's eluded us at times this year and it did again today. It was just tough but I'm proud of the way the guys battled."

Cy-Fair battled back and scored three in the top of the third and with a two run lead that is all the Bobcats needed. Katy fought, but stranded runners in scoring position in the fourth, fifth and sixth innings, as they couldn't get the breakthrough to bring in those runners.

"I'm proud of the way we fought," Hull said. "We didn't win but when we go home we can look ourselves in the mirror and know that we left everything on the field. This team gave it our all and that's all that you can ask for. It sucks but at least we know



TYLER TYRE

AJ Atkinson hits during Saturday's Region III-6A Quarterfinal game between Katy and Cy-Fair at Langham Creek.

that."

The Tigers will graduate 11 seniors on the team, including captains in Hull and Atkinson as well as starters in Blake Davila and Jeremy Mazariegos and important pieces of the pitching staff in Aaron Brashear and Ar-

vey Huerta. Those seniors were a huge part in building the culture at Katy and it means everything to the players and coaching staff.

"This place has meant so much to me and to my family," Atkinson said. "It's meant the world to me and I couldn't have asked for a better place to have my high school career. Everyone in that dugout is my family and that's for life. Nothing can take that away, I love those guys and I couldn't have asked for a better team to end my high school career with."

Katy will return plenty of talent next year, but filling those seniors shoes will be a big task.

"They have raised the bar," Hearne said. "The expectation is set that year in year out we are going to be fighting to get to the regional tournament. The seniors were a huge part of that. They were such a great group of leaders, from the offseason, through district and playoffs, these seniors were always there to set the example and lead the way. It's going to be hard to replace, but we have a good group going back and hopefully they can continue to raise that bar."

Clutch sixth inning gives Katy one game lead over Cy-Fair

Katy took a one game lead over Cy-Fair

in the team's regional quarterfinal series on Friday, beating the Bobcats 2-1 behind a strong pitching performance and some clutch hitting.

It was a pitcher's duel and it took five innings for either to get on the board. Cy-Fair took the lead in the bottom of the fifth, getting a runner on with a hit by pitch before Jordan Schoenvogel drove in the run with Cy-Fair's only hit of the game, hitting a double to give the Bobcats the lead.

Katy answered right back in the top of the sixth, Sutton Hull reached on an error and Connor Udland hit a double to put both himself and Hull in scoring position. Cy-Fair intentionally walked AJ Atkinson to load the bases and Cade Nelson tied it on a sacrifice fly before Cy-Fair got called for a balk, giving Katy the lead for good. The Tigers only allowed one base runner in the final two innings as they secured the win and improved to 25-10.

Nelson had a big day, pitching 5.1 innings and allowing just the one hit and one run while striking out five and walking two. Arvey Huerta closed out the game with 1.2 innings of work striking out two. Nelson had one hit and one RBI on offense, while Udland had two hits, including his double, Bryce Bowman hit a double and AJ Atkinson had a base hit.



TYLER TYRE

Left: Cameryn Harrison pitches during Saturday's Region III-6A Semifinal game between Katy and Brazoswood at Iowa Colony. Above: Katy assistant coach Meghan Burrell reacts to a downpour of rain during Thursday's Region III-6A Semifinal game between Katy and Brazoswood at Iowa Colony.

SOFTBALL

from page A8

Reichardt said. "There's no more easy games and having to play two close ones I think we got the nerves out. We were relaxed towards the end but focused and I think that going through this series is just going to help us."

The regional final appearance is the first for Katy since 2019, when they went on to win the Class 6A state title. This team is out to try and do the same and they will do anything to keep this special season going, as Katy goes against Kingwood in the regional final.

"These girls are on a mission and they've just been bringing it day in and day out," said Katy head coach Kalum Haack. "Cameryn is the leader of that, making sure everyone's ready to play, making sure they prepare and everyone else is stepping to the plate and

doing their part."

Katy takes one game lead over Brazoswood

Katy took an important game one over Brazoswood on Wednesday, beating the Buccaneers 3-1 behind a big performance from Cameryn Harrison on the mound and an Ella Kate-Smith two run game winning double.

Brazoswood struck first in the first inning, getting a runner in scoring position that Ali Rios drove in on a single, but that would be the Buccaneers only run of the game.

Cameryn Harrison immediately tied things up in the bottom of the inning by hitting a solo home run and then got out of jams in the top of the second inning and top of the fifth inning.

The score stayed tied until the bottom of the sixth when the Tigers broke the deadlock. Ashtyn Reichardt hit a single to lead off the inning and was put in scoring position on a sacrifice bunt by Hailey Gore, Cameryn Harrison drew a walk and both runners moved over on a wild pitch. Kate-Smith then stepped to the plate and hit a two run double that ended up being the game winner. Harrison closed out the game with two strikeouts and a line out in the top of the seventh.

Harrison had a huge day on the mound, pitching a complete game and allowing the one unearned run on five hits while striking out nine and walking two. Harrison also provided a run and RBI on her home run while Kate-Smith had two RBIs on her double as Katy improved to 38-1-1 overall.



TYLER TYRE

Karsten Kleiweg throws to first base during Saturday's area round game between Cinco Ranch and Stratford at Cy-Lakes.

CINCO

from page A8

three but were unable to keep things going, falling 11-2 behind a huge second inning from Memorial. Memorial opened the scoring in the top of the first on a Jackson Van Wie RBI double, but Cinco came back to tie the game in the bottom of the first on a bases loaded walk. Memorial though exploded in the second inning — they started with two runs off an error and another on a fielders choice. A passed ball brought in Memorial's fifth run of the game and two more runs came in on a double. Memorial added an eighth run

on a sacrifice fly in the fifth inning but Cinco tried to battle back, getting a second run on a Paul Acosta RBI single in the bottom of the sixth. Memorial's offense kept going though, scoring three runs in the top of the seventh to seal the win and the series.

Cinco's season comes to an end with a record of 27-8-4, as the Cougars reached the third round for the second straight year. The team will graduate 14 seniors, including some key starters, but will have plenty of talent returning as Cinco will try to defend its district title.

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**Katy Times**



# Seven Lakes’ Xu wins gold at state tournament

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes’ Allan Xu capped off a dominant weekend at the Class 6A State Tennis Tournament with a gold medal, taking first place in the boys singles with a strong effort in the final.

Xu earned the top singles honors while Taylor’s Ally Lin took home the silver in the girls singles and Aidan Xu finished with the bronze in boys singles.

Allan Xu only went to three sets once in his run to the state title, beating Plano’s Dmitri Goubin in the quarterfinals 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 before going on to beat College Park’s Juno Pethe



PHOTO COURTESY KATY ISD

Seven Lake’s Allan Xu won a state title in the boys singles and Aidan Xu came in third at the Class 6A Tennis Tournament.

7-5, 6-2 in the semifinals. Xu capped it off with a 6-3, 6-3 win over Luke Riezebeek from Westlake in the final.

Aidan Xu took down his quarterfinal opponent Dallas Jesuit’s Connor Cole, in three sets 6-4, 6-7, 6-3 in the quarterfinals,

but fell in three sets in the semifinals to Riezebeek 6-4, 0-6, 3-6, still going on to take the bronze with a win over Pethe in the third place match.

On the girls side, Lin beat Edinburg North’s Maya Chen 6-4, 6-1 before going on to beat Coppell’s Alexandra Patton 6-3, 6-2 in the semifinals. Lin’s run came to an end with a silver medal as she fell to Memorial’s Michelle Li in the state final 1-6, 3-6.

Allen’s Chelsi Son and Saheba Singh won the girls doubles title, Round Rock Westwood’s Danny Zhang and Leon Chen won the boys doubles title and Plano West’s Gopal Koduri and Cody Huang won the mixed doubles title.

# Seven Lakes sends brother duo to state tournament; Taylor's Lin clinches spot at state

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes had two boys qualify for the Class 6A State Tennis Tournament, as the brother duo of Allan and Aidan Xu clinched spots at the tournament in Austin after a terrific regional tournament and Taylor’s Ally Lin joined by clinching a spot on the girls side.

Allan Xu took gold at the regional tournament in boys singles, while Aidan took silver. Allan defeat Zachary Hazel of Heights in the quarterfinals 6-0, 6-0 before beating Liam Collins of Strat-

ford 6-1, 6-1 in the semifinals. Aidan Xu topped Dulles’ Satya Srinivas Anandh 6-2, 6-3 in the quarterfinals and went on to beat Clear Springs’ Roshin Kamath 7-6, 7-6 in the semifinals. Aidan Xu pulled out of the final to claim silver.

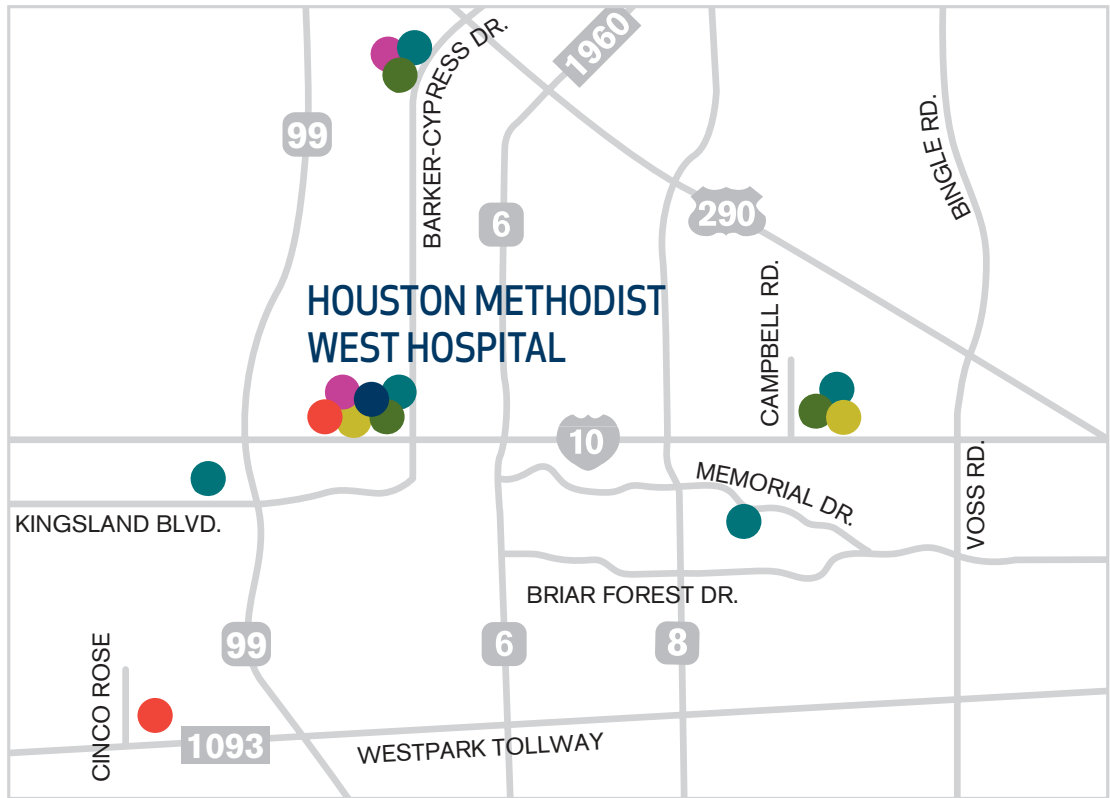
On the girls side, Taylor’s Ally Lin took silver to advance to the state tournament after a strong regional tournament. Lin defeated Memorial’s Eva Brytik 6-1, 6-0 in the quarterfinals and beat Clear Springs’ Erica Jessel in the semifinals 6-7, 6-4, 6-3, Lin was forced to pull out of the final after falling behind 1-0 to claim second place.

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