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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024

## District fires Tompkins teacher accused of possession of child pornography

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

The Board of Trustees of the Katy Independent School District held a special board meeting on Monday night, resulting in the termination of Tompkins High School social studies teacher James Stone for cause. The board directed Superintendent Ken Gregorski to send written notice to Stone of his termination.

Stone was arrested early on the morning of May 13th at his Katy area residence on nine counts of possession of child pornography, according to Wesley Wittig, second district attorney for Fort Bend County in an email sent to the Katy Times

that day.

In other action – following a closed meeting and consultation with the board's attorney -- the trustees also discussed the district's capital project procurement process. Micki Morris, a partner in the law firm of Rogers, Morris & Grover L.L.P., whose firm does work for Katy ISD, conducted a special training session for the board, explaining the Texas state laws governing the construction bidding process for school districts. Morris is a graduate of Taylor High School and has worked with KISD for over 15 years, she said. She praised KISD as the "gold standard" and called the district

See **KISD**, page A3



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Attorney Micki Morris of Rogers, Morris & Grover, L. L. P., speaks to the Katy ISD board of trustees at Monday night's special board meeting, explaining the legalities and procedures for construction bidding by school districts.



FORT BEND COUNTY

## Adopt A Family program relaunched

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Judge KP George along with the Department of Health and Human Services held a press conference on May 23 to announce the relaunch of the Adopt A Family Initiative, a community-driven program designed to provide financial support and assistance to families in need. This event took place at the Historic Fort Bend County Courthouse, 401 Jackson St., Richmond,

The Adopt A Family initiative is an important program that invites individuals, organizations, and businesses to make donations to help alleviate the financial burdens faced by families currently receiving assistance from the Department of Social Services, which operates under the County Health and Human Services Department, said the judge's office in a press release. The current goal is to raise \$10,000 to support these families in need.

County Judge George and program coordinators provided an overview of the initiative and its impact on the community. Speakers included a family who has been a beneficiary of the program, who shared their experience and the significance of the support provided.



SUSAN ROVEGNO

The Bluestem development in Brookshire -- near the intersection of FM 365 and FM 529 -- will ultimately have 1,300 single-family homes.

## Bluestem development in Brookshire opens home sales

New 356-acre master planned development will add 1,300 homes to Waller County

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Signorelli Company, one of Texas' largest privately held real estate develop-

ment companies, announced on May 28 the start of home sales at Bluestem, a 356-acre master-planned community in Waller County. Prospective buyers are invited to view the first model homes from nationally acclaimed Castlerock and First America Homes. Legend Homes plans to open their new model this summer. Each homebuilder offers a diverse selection of floor plans and home designs, with prices starting in the mid-\$200s.

Located in Brookshire near the intersection of FM 365 and FM 529, about 20 min-

utes northwest of Katy, this development is expected to accommodate 1,300 single-family homes, with phase one including 40- 45- and 50-foot homesites. Named for local prairie grasses, Bluestem is surrounded by acres of preserved green space, including miles of sidewalks connecting neighbors with pocket parks every quarter of a mile and plans for a playground and covered pavilion.

"Waller County is a desired destination because of its blend of privacy and accessi-

See **DEVELOPMENT**, page A3

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## FEMA offering assistance for residents suffering storm aftermath

FROM STAFF REPORTS

FEMA disaster assistance may provide funds for basic home repairs, rental of temporary housing and other uninsured expenses resulting from the storms and flooding that began April 26 in Texas. FEMA assistance is not a replacement for insurance.

### Housing assistance

- Home repair or replacement: Money to help you repair or replace your home damaged by the disaster. For example, this may include addressing mold caused by the disaster, or money for hazard mitigation measures. Mitigation measures are actions you can take when making repairs that will help reduce the amount of damage to your home in future disasters. The money can also help with pre-existing damage to parts of your home where the disaster caused further damage.
- Accessibility needs: Money to help survivors with a disability with specific repairs to make sure their home is accessible, such as an exterior ramp, grab bars, and paved path to the home

entrance. Repairs can be made when these items are damaged. Improvements can be made when those features were not present prior to the disaster, and they are needed due to a pre-existing disability, or a disability caused by the disaster.

- Privately-owned roads, bridges, docks: Money for survivors whose only access to their home has been damaged by the disaster.
- Rental assistance: Money you can use to rent housing if you are displaced from your home because of the disaster.

### Sheltering assistance

- Transitional sheltering assistance (TSA): FEMA pays the cost of room, taxes and non-refundable pet fees directly to participating hotels and motels. Pet fees will only be paid up to the approved limit of assistance for individual rooms. TSA may be available if you cannot return to your disaster-damaged home and your housing needs cannot be met by insurance, shelters or rental assistance provided by FEMA or another agency.

See **ASSISTANCE**, page A3

## Early voting in progress for Harris Central Appraisal District Board of Directors runoff

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Harris County Clerk Teneshia Hudspeth announced May 31 that early voting for the June 15 Uniform Runoff Election began on Monday, June 3, and runs through Tuesday, June 11. During early voting, 26 vote centers will open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Tuesday, except Sunday noon to 7 p.m. On Election Day, Saturday, June 15, vote centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The location nearest the greater Katy area is the Steve Radack Community Center – Conference Room, 18650 Clay Road, Houston, TX 77084.

In two of the three Harris Central Appraisal District (HCAD) Board of Directors contests on the May 4 Uniform Election ballot, no candidate received the required fifty percent plus one vote to win. As a result, the June 15 Uniform Runoff Election will feature the top two

See **RUNOFF**, page A3



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

For one night, it's 'adults only' at Typhoon Texas

Waterpark hosts return of "Grown-Up Getaway" Friday, June 7

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

While Typhoon Texas loves kids, the west Houston waterpark will open exclusively for those 21+ on Friday, June 7 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. as Typhoon Texas hosts the return of its popular "Grown-Up Getaway."

For one night, the popular family destination will transform into a vibrant nightlife experience featuring all the waterpark's popular attractions, specialty drinks, fun music and more, the company said in a May 31 press release.

Tickets are \$32.99 and can be purchased online at TyphoonTexas.com or at the waterpark's ticket windows. A government-issued ID is required at entry. Tickets are limited.

Like all Typhoon Texas events, "Grown-Up Getaway" is free for 2024 season pass holders 21+.

Typhoon Texas is located in Katy 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.

**Special Pals offers low-cost vaccination clinic on June 7**

Do Fido and Fluffy need their shots but your wallet needs an injection of cash? Take your pets to Special Pals' low-cost vaccination clinic at 11 a.m. on June 7th. The animal rescue shelter is located at 3830 Greenhouse Road in Houston. For more information, call 281-579-7387.

**Conjure up an evening of fun on June 7-8**

The Conjuror – billed as an intimate magical experience – will be at the Brandt 1910 Center, 6503 Commerce St. Wallis, for two nights June 7 and 8. The performance offers two shows each day – at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Amazing magic, clean comedy, audience interaction, theatrical lighting, music and video are combined in a beautiful vintage magic theater atmosphere. You'll witness World-Class sleight-of-hand magic in an immersive intimate setting that will transport you into another world as incredible feats of magic are performed right before your eyes. The show is highly interactive and includes an incredible trick you will perform yourself. Seating is limited to just 36 seats to insure intimacy and visibility. "The Conjuror" is 100% clean and "family-friendly" but is geared toward adults so it is generally recommended that attendees be at least 12. For more information, go to brandt1910.com.

**'Women of Katy' quarterly event returns on June 18th**

Join the Katy Business Association and the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce for an empowering morning at the Women of Katy Synergy Networking Event from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. on June 18. Your ticket includes admission to the exclusive networking event where you'll connect with dynamic women from the Katy area. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and freshly brewed coffee as you expand your network, exchange ideas, and forge valuable connections. Don't miss this opportunity to grow personally and professionally in a supportive and inspiring environment at Venue 116, at 907 Bains Street in Brookshire. To register, go to business.katychamber.com/chamber-calendar/Details/women-of-katy-synergy-1116414?sourceType=EmailInvitation

**Katy Pride first birthday on June 20th**

Katy Pride, the vibrant heartbeat of the LGBTQ community, is gearing up to celebrate its first year with a FREE birthday bash in collaboration with The Greater Houston LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce. Join this celebration presented by The American Silver Museum and TLN Consulting Group on Thursday, June 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the upstairs venue of Park Place at the Boardwalk, 25551 Kingsland Blvd C102, in Katy.

This event will feature a live DJ spinning beats, a dance floor, memorable photo ops, an open appetizer spread for all guests to enjoy along with food and drink specials, and exciting raffle items and door prizes.

Square at Avenue C and Second Street from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 22nd. Escape the summer heat and indulge in a delightful array of frosty treats, from refreshing snow cones to tantalizing Italian ice and creamy ice cream. There's something to satisfy every craving, whether you're a fan of classic flavors or seeking something new and exciting. Plus, what better way to beat the heat than with your favorite popsicle in hand? While you're here, take a leisurely stroll around the square and discover the treasures our incredible shops have to offer. And when hunger strikes, be sure to swing by Southern Dough for a delicious bite to eat. But the fun doesn't stop there! Join us in chilling with esteemed council members, dedicated City employees, and fellow members of the Katy community. Free family-friendly event hosted by the City of Katy Parks & Recreation Department.

**Imagine the fun you'll have at ImagineNation Expo June 22-23**

Step into a World of Wonder with LEGO®, superheroes, princesses, comics, funkopops, gourmet-themed foods and more at The ImagineNation Expo. The event will take place at the Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy, on June 22 and 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Whether you want to pose with your favorite characters, show off your brick-building skills, or just have fun, this is the event for you. Tickets are now available and you may reserve your VIP Pass at <https://imaginationexpo.com/tickets>.

**Katy area chamber to host economic summit on June 28**

The Katy Area Economic Outlook Summit, set for June 28 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy, highlights one of the West Houston region's major communities. This year's event will provide economic updates from state leaders, explore how water infrastructure remains as important as ever, stories and opportunities from retired military leaders on crisis management within our communities, and hear updates on how the oil and natural gas industry has given back to the state's economy. To register or for more information, go to [business.katychamber.com/chamber-calendar/Details/economic-outlook-summit-1105734?sourceType=Hub](https://business.katychamber.com/chamber-calendar/Details/economic-outlook-summit-1105734?sourceType=Hub).

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**AARP scheduled monthly meeting on June 11**

The Katy chapter of AARP will meet

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# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Ocean surface indicator (abbr.)
- American time
- Satisfaction
- Diving duck
- Very small amount
- Metrical units
- An ignorant or foolish person
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- It may sting you
- Turn outward
- Perform on stage
- "CSI" actor George
- Localities
- Make a choice
- Indicates position
- One of Thor's names
- Indian musical rhythmic pattern
- "The Raven" author
- Take in solid food
- Legendary QB
- Sorrels
- Organization of nations
- Texas pharmaceutical company
- Mathematical term
- Expression of disappointment

**CLUES DOWN**

- Make unhappy
- Heard the confession of
- Capital of Taiwan
- Fiddler crab
- Brazilian dances
- Fit with device to assist breathing
- Brother or sister
- Pastries
- "Lone Survivor" director Peter
- Boat type (abbr.)
- Apertures (biology)
- Suffix
- Creative endeavor
- Icelandic poem
- Spanish dances
- Town in Central Italy
- Cars need it
- Mimics

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Abba \_\_, Israeli politician
- Hide away
- Salad restaurant
- Daughters of Boreas (mythology)
- Men's fashion accessory
- Political action committee
- Unhappy

**CLUES DOWN**

- Rocky peak
- Cigarette (slang)
- One point south of due east
- Soap actress Braun
- Large domesticated wild ox
- Island nation
- Appear
- Addictive practices
- Loss of control of one's body
- Type of poster
- Greek mountain
- Funny person
- One and only
- Pouch

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

# SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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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.



## DEVELOPMENT

from page A1

bility, which prompted us to create Bluestem,” said Jeff Dewese, senior vice president of land division for The Signorelli Company. “Not only does this community offer a serene environment to escape the frenzy of everyday life, but it also has great amenities and access to excellent schools. We’re excited to be a part of Waller County and look forward to welcoming families to Bluestem, where the wonders of nature are just outside your door.”

Homebuilders CastleRock, First America Homes and Legend Homes each offer eight or more floor plans at Bluestem. CastleRock homes range in size from 1,300 to 2,500 square feet, with two to four bedrooms and design elements such as nine-foot ceilings, island kitchens, luxury master bathrooms, game rooms, and covered patios. Prices start from the \$239,000s to the \$346,000s.

First America Homes, the award-winning home-building division of The Signorelli Company, offers homes ranging in size from 1,300 to 2,400 square feet, with two to five bedrooms and elegant design features that include expansive family rooms, signature tray ceilings, game rooms and walk-in closets. Prices start from the \$219,000s to the \$274,000s.

“We’re thrilled to be a part of this beautiful masterplan in Waller County,” said Derrick Carlson, Vice President of Sales for First America Homes. “The local area provides a small town charm while still being able to get to top-notch conveniences within a few minutes. This Grand Opening is an excellent opportunity for potential homebuyers to see the amazing homes we have planned for Bluestem and experience what life could be like in a First America community.”

Legend Homes offer homes ranging from 1,900 to 2,700 square feet, with two to five bedrooms and design features including island kitchens, open floor plans, game rooms, covered patios, and flex spaces that can be used for a study or an additional bedroom. Prices range from the upper \$200,000s to the \$300,00s.

Students residing in Bluestem are zoned to the rapidly growing Royal Independent School District, which offers a free Early College High School Program allowing students to complete an associate degree by graduation.

More information about Bluestem community and available homesites is found at [www.bluestemtx.com](http://www.bluestemtx.com)

The Signorelli Company currently builds and develops successful master-planned and mixed-use communities across all nine counties in the Greater Houston area, including Montgomery County where Cielo, a new 256-acre development, is currently open for home sales. The company recently began land preparation for Austin Point, a 4,700-acre regionally transformative, mixed-use development in Fort Bend County, with home sales scheduled to begin there in Spring 2025.

For more information, visit [www.signorellicompany.com](http://www.signorellicompany.com).

## KISD

from page A1

“an attractive owner” for architects, contractors and subcontractors, stating that the district has never had a construction-related lawsuit nor a formal bid protest – unlike most districts with whom her firm works.

Because this was deemed a “special meeting,” the public comments portion of the meeting was limited to discussion of posted agenda items only, with no discussion of non-agenda items. There were no public comments speakers.

Future board meetings include:

- Work study meeting on June 17.
- Regular board meeting on June 24.



## RUNOFF

from page A1

candidates from the May 4 Uniform Election for HCAD Board of Directors, Place 2 and Place 3.

“The Harris Central Appraisal District is the largest appraisal district in Texas and one of the largest appraisal districts in the United States,” said Clerk Hudspeth, the county’s chief election official. “If you own property in Harris County, this election will impact you.”

Although the HCAD Board of Directors is not directly responsible for assessing property values, the newly elected members will have significant administrative responsibilities. Their role includes hiring the chief appraiser, appointing members to the appraisal review board, setting the district’s budget, and communicating with external stakeholders. The winner of each contest will assume office on July 1, 2024, and serve until

December 31, 2026.

“Every election is important, and I hope Harris County voters keep up the vote during the June 15 Runoff Election,” added Clerk Hudspeth. “Even if you did not vote in the May 4 Uniform Election, you still have an opportunity to ensure your voice is represented.”

Additional election information is available on [www.HarrisVotes.com](http://www.HarrisVotes.com).

## ASSISTANCE

from page A1

### Other needs assistance

- Serious needs: Money to help you pay for life-saving and life-sustaining items, including water, food, first aid, prescriptions, infant formula, breastfeeding supplies, diapers, consumable medical supplies, durable medical equipment, personal hygiene items and fuel for transportation.
- Displacement: Money to help with immediate housing needs if you cannot return to your home because of the disaster. The money can be used to stay in a hotel, with family and friends or for other options while you look for temporary housing.
- Personal property: Money to help you repair or replace appliances, room furnishings, a personal or family computer damaged by the disaster, books, uniforms, tools, additional computers and other items required for school or work, including self-employment.
- Medical/dental: Money to help you pay for medical expenses because the disaster caused an injury or illness. This money can also be used to help replace medical/dental equipment, breastfeeding equipment, or prescribed medicine damaged or lost because of the disaster.
- Funeral: Money to help you pay for funeral or reburial expenses caused by the disaster.
- Child care: Money to help you pay for increased or new child care expenses caused by the disaster.
- Assistance for miscellaneous items: Money to help you pay for specific items, (such as a generator, dehumidifier, chainsaw, etc.) that you purchased or rented after the disaster to assist with recovery. The miscellaneous items may be used for gaining access to your property or for cleaning efforts caused by the disaster.
- Transportation: Money to help you repair or replace a vehicle damaged by the disaster when you don’t have another vehicle you can use.
- Moving and storage expenses: Money to help you move and store personal property from your home to prevent additional damage, usually while you are making repairs to your home or moving to a new place due to the disaster.
- Group flood insurance policy: If your home is in a Special Flood Hazard Area and you have flood damage caused by the disaster, FEMA may purchase a Group Flood Insurance Policy on your behalf that gives you three years of coverage.
- Clean and sanitize: Money to help you pay for minor damage caused by the disaster to prevent additional loss and potential health or safety concerns.

### APPLYING FOR ASSISTANCE

- Texans have several ways to apply for FEMA assistance:
- Go online to [disasterassistance.gov/](http://disasterassistance.gov/).
  - Download the FEMA App for mobile devices.
  - Call the FEMA helpline at 800-621-3362 any day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. Help is available in most languages. If you use a relay service, such as video relay (VRS), captioned telephone or other service, give FEMA your number for that service.
  - Visit any Disaster Recovery Center. For operating hours and addresses, go online to [fema.gov/drc](http://fema.gov/drc).

This money is only available in certain disasters if you had property damage but were not eligible for Home Repair or Replacement Assistance because FEMA determined you could still live safely in your home.

### Citizenship and FEMA eligibility

FEMA is committed to helping all eligible Texas households recover from the storms and flooding that began April 26, including U.S. citizens, non-citizen national or qualified non-citizen to apply. Families with diverse immigration status, including adults who are undocumented, can apply as long as at least one family member is a citizen, non-U.S. citizen national or qualified non-citizen. For instance, if you are undocumented and have a child under 18 who is a U.S. citizen and lived in the household during the time of the disaster, you can apply for FEMA assistance.

A qualified non-citizen includes:

- Legal permanent resident (“green card” holder)
- An asylee, refugee, or a non-citizen whose deportation is being withheld
- Non-citizen paroled into the U.S. for at least one year
- Non-citizen granted conditional entry (per law in effect prior to April 1, 1980)
- Cuban/Haitian entrant
- Certain non-citizens subjected to extreme cruelty or who have been a victim of a severe form of human trafficking, including people with a “T” or “U” visa.

For adults who apply on behalf of a minor child, the child must have a Social Security number and live with the parent or guardian who applies. The parent or guardian will not have to provide any information on their own immigration status or sign any documents regarding their status.

The minor child must be under age 18 as of the first day of the disaster incident period, April 26, 2024.

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90

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Use a broom to clear away debris, instead of using the hose.

**WHCRWA.COM**



# Storm aftermath lingers, hurting local nonprofit

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

Those who help others are now themselves in need of help.  
Both of the Hope Chest resale stores – including the Katy location at 6545 Stockdick School Road near FM 529 – suffered significant damage from the late May storms that blew through the area. Along with the location in Cypress, the Katy resale store is operated by Cy-Hope, a nonprofit that began in Cypress in 2010 to serve underprivileged students in CyFair ISD and which expanded to Katy in 2023 in order to serve students in Katy.

“One little storm did a lot to set us back,” said Gayla Peterek, community outreach coordinator for the Katy location.

“Unfortunately, both of our Hope Chest locations were hit -- Cypress being the worst,” said Peterek. “We are facing a lot of unexpected, out of pocket expenses to repair both locations. Aside from building damage, we lost donations, due to water damage -- most especially furniture, our most impactful items to sell. Losing good quality donations is such a punch in the gut, especially furniture items, as they bring in the biggest funds to benefit our programs.”

The stores had to close for multiple days for clean-up and repairs, losing sales, losing donation in-take and losing of some donations already on the sales floor -- plus out of pocket repair fees, Peterek said.

“We are in true need of our community stepping up to help us restore our lost merchandise,” she continued. “As a non-profit, all donations are tax deductible. We are all about neighbors helping neighbors -- donations of all sizes help us help more students.”

Currently, the Cypress location is also working in a hotter than normal stuffy warehouse because of the damaged areas being boarded up, not allowing for air circulation.

But the charity perseveres.  
“We have added a round up option at our registers to help with storm damage costs,” Peterek said. “We have a box truck for each store. Furniture donation pick-ups can be scheduled online. Our partnership with a recycling company allows us to also benefit from donated items too worn to sell in our stores. Your stained/torn clothes, shoes, linens, etc. can help students, while staying out of the trash.”

On May 29th the charity officially expanded into Waller with a ribbon cutting for a location to serve more local students in that community. Cy-Hope also recently held a ground-breaking for new baseball fields as part of the Dierker's Champs program, which works with disadvantaged youth to develop champions on and off the field. Under the direction of former Houston Astros All-Star pitcher, announcer and manager, Larry Dierker, its mission is to provide the best athletic instruction possible in a family friendly, positive environment, according to the program website.

Both of these were already in the works, before the storms, Peterek said.

“We will continue to stay on our mission to make the lives of kids better, regardless of any storms we face,” said Peterek. “All storms run out of rain, and we know perseverance will prevail! Cy-Hope.org has students to serve in Katy, Waller and Cy-Fair ISD.”

In 2010, Dr. Godfrey Hubert, then Senior Pastor of Foundry United Methodist Church Foundry birthed Cy-Hope as a separate 501(c)3 to rally the community around the 118,000 students in Cy-Fair Independent School District, of which over 60% are economically disadvantaged, according to the Cy-Hope website. To learn more about the organization's programs for underserved students, visit [www.Cy-Hope.org](http://www.Cy-Hope.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE HOPE CHEST KATY

The Hope Chest resale store at 6545 Stockdick School Road suffered significant damage in the late May storms, including damage to the warehouse doors and to contents of the store. The charity, operated by Cy-Hope, is seeking donations for the resale store in order to raise funds



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Sponsors of the June 3 Grand Baby project at Casa Azul, 1480 Katy Flewellen Road in Katy, included (left to right) Roya Ghoreishi of Trinity Hospice; Ingrid Maldonado of Homewatch Caregivers of Katy; Mandi Schexnayder of PAM Voyages of Sugar Land; Shalen Martinez of Vantage Hospice; Kayte Reaves of Amedisys Hospice; Emanah Rony of Willow Fork Alzheimer's Special Care Center; Maggie Chen of Evergreen Health Group; Saul Gauthier of Casa Azul and Bailey Oshiyama of Casa Azul.

## The Grand Baby Project Bringing comfort, companionship to dementia patients

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Grand Baby Project, a pioneering nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of individuals living with dementia, recently announced its upcoming series of Baby Shower events across the Houston marketplace and surrounding areas – including a visit to Casa Azul in Katy on June 3.

Casa Azul is the first and only skilled nursing home in Katy and the immediate surrounding area to host such an event in collaboration with the Grand Baby Project, said a company representative. Together Casa Azul and The Grandbaby Project aim to distribute dementia therapy dolls to residents in need.

Founded by Houston native Tonja Moon, The Grand Baby Project was inspired by a baby doll's profound impact on her grand-



Saul Gauthier of Casa Azul visits with resident Mr. Wilson during the June 3 "grandbaby" baby shower at the Katy rehabilitation facility.

mother, Ruby, who faced the challenges of dementia with bravery and grace. The therapy dolls provided by The Grand Baby Project offer a nonpharmacologic approach to dementia care, promoting comfort, companionship, and a sense of purpose for individuals navigating the complexities of this condition, according to the organization. Research

supports the effectiveness of Dementia Doll Therapy as an innovative method to improve the quality of life for those with dementia.

By simulating a companion's presence, these dolls can help alleviate feelings of loneliness and anxiety, while encouraging positive social interactions and engagement in daily activities. The upcoming Baby Shower

events are not only an opportunity to distribute these invaluable therapy dolls but also to train staff and caregivers on various engagement techniques and to celebrate the community's commitment to supporting individuals with dementia and their families.

"A diagnosis of dementia does not take away the power of purpose. We believe that everyone deserves to feel loved, valued, and connected, regardless of the cognitive challenges they face," said Tonja Moon, founder of The Grand Baby Project. "These Baby Shower events are a testament to our community's dedication to making a difference in the lives of those living with dementia. We invite everyone to participate with us in this meaningful cause."

For more information about The Grand Baby Project, please visit [www.thegrandbabypoint.org](http://www.thegrandbabypoint.org).

## Libraries offering amnesty for overdue items during June

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Libraries will offer an amnesty period from June 1 through June 30, the system announced in a press release. Fines for overdue items that are returned — during this period only — will be waived.


Fines on overdue items returned prior to this amnesty period, fees for items not returned, and fees for damaged items will not be waived.

Outstanding fees that were assessed for items previously thought to be lost, but which have been found, will be waived if the item is returned to the library – either inside or in the outside book drop.

Amnesty does not apply to electronic devices checked out from the library.

The regular overdue-fine schedule will resume on Monday, July 1.

For more information, see the Fort Bend County Libraries website ([fortbend.lib.tx.us](http://fortbend.lib.tx.us)) or call the library system's Communications Office (281-633-4734).




OCHOA ENERGY STORAGE

## Ochoa Energy Storage Open House


Ochoa Energy Storage is a proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project that can bring up to 500 megawatts of 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.

**Are you interested in learning more about the Ochoa Energy Storage project?**


Join us at the upcoming Ochoa Energy Storage Open House! Our team will be there to answer your questions and provide you with project information. A buffet meal will be provided. We hope to see you there!



**DATE**  
Thursday, June 13, 2024



**TIME**  
6:30 - 8:00 p.m. *Stop by anytime!*



**ADDRESS**  
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TRIBUTES

Marshall Wayne Beeson passed away unexpectedly of a heart condition at 47 years old on Monday, May 27, 2024, near his home in Katy, Texas.

Born on April 28, 1977, in Salt Lake City, Utah as the third child to Wayne Beeson and Vickie Davis Beeson, Marshall grew up with his family in Layton, Utah; Farmington, Utah; Las Vegas, Nevada; Sammamish, Washington; Seattle, Washington and Provo, Utah. He made many friends everywhere and prioritized spending time with his older sisters Laura and Allison and his younger brother Nathan.

Marshall was a lifelong, dedicated member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

From 1996 to 1998 he served as a full-time missionary for the church in the Russia Samara Mission. At the time of his passing, he was serving as an early-morning seminary teacher, teaching the Scriptures to high school students before school each day.

After his mission Marshall attended Ricks College, and then pursued work opportunities in Boston and then Utah.

It was in Utah that Marshall met Melissa Prince, the love of his life. Marshall and Melissa were married in the Salt Lake Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on July 27, 2007. They welcomed their first child, Katherine Ann Beeson, in 2009. In 2011, Marshall and Melissa



MARSHALL WAYNE BEESON  
1977-2024

moved their young family to Katy, Texas, and began the next phase of their lives together. While living in

Katy, the family welcomed three additional daughters: Olivia Jean in 2012, Vickie Rose in 2014, and Caroline Beth in 2017.

Marshall worked throughout his life as a talented salesman and, at the time of his passing, had been working for 12 years as a sales manager for Constellation Energy in Houston.

Marshall was an avid sports fan, loved music, exercise, movies, joking, laughing, serving and being with people. He leaves a giant hole in our hearts that can never be filled.

He was predeceased in death by his mother Vickie and his sister Laura. He is survived by his wife Melissa, his daughters Kate, Olivia, Rose and Caroline, his

father Wayne, his sister Allison, his brother Nathan and many, many in-laws, nephews, nieces, cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

The family received friends on Monday, June 3, 2024, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Schmidt Funeral Home Grand Parkway Chapel, in Katy, Texas. A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Katy, Texas, with Bishop McClain officiating.

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

Eric Jensen was born on December 12, 1965, in Big Spring, Texas, to Lana Jo Clark and Harold Laurance Jensen. In 1966 the family moved to Houston and then to Katy, Texas, in 1975.

Growing up in Katy, he was able to spend quality time with his grandmothers in Houston and Dallas, as well as his cousins in the Houston and Austin area.

Eric graduated from Katy High School in 1984 where he earned multiple letters in cross country and track and field. He attended Blinn College and earned an Associate of Arts Degree from The Art Institute of



ERIC JENSEN  
1965-2024

Houston. After working at Foley's, Neiman Marcus, and McDonald Paint, he

became an independent courier for over 20 years. He lived most of his life in Houston and returned to Katy in 2018.

Eric was an avid follower of baseball and player statistics. He listened to a variety of music. He described himself as an audiophile and owned an extensive collection of music, which included classical, jazz, and rock and roll. Eric also enjoyed film noir movies and history.

Eric died May 24, 2024, at the age of 58 of heart failure at Memorial Hermann Hospital in Katy, Texas. He was preceded in death by his

grandparents; his mother, Lana Jo Clark Jensen; uncles and aunts, Roy T. Jensen, Merle R. Jensen, Charles and JoDell Clark, Al Genzer; and cousins, Ted Jensen, Martin Clark, and Braxton LeCour.

He is survived by his father, Laurance Jensen; his sister and brother-in-law, Amy and Chris Davis; nephews, Collin Davis and Griffin Davis; niece, Kathleen Davis; uncles and aunts, Hans and Marie Jensen, Charlotte Jensen, Dolores House, Larry and Carol Clark, Margaret Genzer; former wife, Eva Jensen; and numerous cousins.

Visitation will be held on June 7, 2024, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Schmidt Funeral Home Grand Parkway Chapel in Katy. A family funeral service will be held on June 8, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Living Word Lutheran Church. He will be buried privately at Katy Magnolia Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the charity of your choice.

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Twenty-three Katy ISD graduates were awarded more than \$126,000.00 in scholarships by the Rotary Club of Katy at a banquet at Beckendorff Farms on May 30th. (Left to right) Bottom row: Alexis Roberts, Alexa Reid, Samantha Skinner, Gia Orlando, Maria Mendez, Anh Ngo and Claire Butler. Second row: Jhoselyn Rios, Avery Hodge, Amber Hall, Ashlyn McGuire, Samari Vizcarrondo, Rodrigo, Aguilar, and Kaylee Brown. Back row: Lyra Berry, Gabriel Rangel-Orozio, Melissa Edwards, Ainslie Ferguson, Stephanie Williams, Landry Wells and Seth Janak. Not pictured: Lexi Frausto and Alexander Davis.

# Rotary Club of Katy awards \$126,000 in scholarships to 23 KISD seniors

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

At the picturesque Beckendorff Farms event venue at 28533 Morton Road in Katy on May 30, the Rotary Club of Katy – through its affiliated nonprofit Rotary Foundation – distributed \$126,000.00 in scholarships to 23 deserving high school seniors graduating from Katy ISD schools.

Jeff Thompson, president of the Rotary Foundation, a 501-c-3 nonprofit, made the presentations.

Recipients included:

- Alexis Roberts, Taylor High School
- Alexa Reid, Jordan High School
- Samantha Skinner, Jordan High School
- Gia Orlando, Jordan High School
- Maria Mendez, Paetow High School
- Anh Ngo, Morton Ranch High School
- Claire Butler, Taylor High School
- Jhoselyn Rios, Morton Ranch High School

- Avery Hodge, Jordan High School
- Amber Hall, Katy High School
- Ashlyn McGuire, Jordan High School
- Samari Vizcarrondo, Jordan High School
- Rodrigo Aguilar, Jordan High School
- Kaylee Brown, Katy High School
- Lyra Berry, Jordan High School
- Gabriel Rangel-Orozio, Cinco Ranch High School
- Melissa Edwards, Cinco Ranch High School
- Ainslie Ferguson, Cinco Ranch High School
- Stephanie Williams, Seven Lakes High School
- Landry Wells, Cinco Ranch High School
- Seth Janak, Taylor High School
- Lexi Frausto (not present, school unknown)
- Alexander Davis (not present, school unknown).

Additionally, two students received additional scholarships:

ships:

- Kaylee Brown received the Todd Levin Memorial scholarship, which is granted annually to a band student by Rotarians Stu and Carol Levin in honor of their late son
- Alexis Roberts received a \$10,000 award, the largest scholarship at the event

The decision process for the awarding of the scholarships is a rigorous one, according to Thompson and is “character-based” in addition to consideration of academic performance. Scholarship recipients must meet certain academic criteria:

- Minimum GPA of 3.5
- GPA exception for students meeting ACT/SAT minimum

Scholarship candidates must also demonstrate an understanding of commitment to “service above self.”

- Essay on what “service above self” means to them
- Interview process

Recipients must also

demonstrate financial need:

- Essay on why they need the scholarship and their goals for their continuing education
- Interview process

The Rotary Club of Katy funds the scholarships through three major events each year: Wild West Brewfest which is held in March, the Katy Triathlon in September and the Katy Rice Harvest Festival which is hosted in conjunction with the City of Katy in October.

The service organization has awarded 199 scholarships totaling over \$636,500 since 2013, Thompson said. This year’s total of \$126,000.00 in awards slightly exceeded last year’s grants of \$125,000.00.

For more information, please go to [katyrotary.com](http://katyrotary.com).

## St. John XXIII announces its class valedictorian, salutatorian for 2024

FROM STAFF REPORTS

St. John XXIII College Preparatory High School, located at 1800 Grand Parkway North in Katy, announced its top scholars for the Class of 2024 on May 29th.

Valedictorian Rebecca Sandweg will attend the University of Texas at Austin with plans to study psychology and finance as a double major. At SJ23, she is a member of the National Honor Society, the National Hispanic Honor Society, and the National Science Honor Society. She is a Lion Ambassador and played basketball as a freshman. Sandweg participates in the Spanish Club, the Earth Club, and the Treat People with Kindness Club and is a summer math tutor.

When she is not on campus, Sandweg volunteers for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the Brookwood Community, St. Faustina Catholic Church VBS, and the Houston Food Bank. She has several academic achievements, including the College Board’s National Hispanic Recognition Award as a sophomore, and was named a College Board National AP Scholar with Distinction as a junior.

Salutatorian Ana Granados will attend the University of Notre Dame and plans to study architecture. As an SJ23 sophomore student, Granados served as president of the National Honor Society,

co-president of the Art Club, and secretary of the National Spanish Honor Society. She is also a member of the National Science Honor Society, a Lion Ambassador, and a member of various school clubs. As a junior, she played golf.

Off-campus, Granados volunteers for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Child Advocates of Ft. Bend, The Lord’s Kitchen, and the Parks Youth Ranch. She is a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church and attended St. Theresa Catholic School in Sugarland. Some of her many achievements include participation in the Rice Architecture Summer Immersion Program and attendance at Camp ARCH, a construction science camp at Texas A&M University. She also received the College Board’s National Hispanic Recognition Award and was named an AP Scholar with Distinction.

Founded in 2004, St. John XXIII College Preparatory is an accredited, competitive, coeducational college preparatory school of 430 students located in Katy. Its mission is to form the hearts and minds of young men and women in a Christ-centered community dedicated to academic excellence, the pursuit of virtue, and service to others in the Tradition of the Catholic Church. Thirty-six teaching faculty are employed, and over half hold master’s degrees or higher.

## IT summer camps to help cultivate next generation of young tech pioneers

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

A series of HCC summer camps in June and July seeks to introduce middle and high school students to the latest technologies and areas of IT studies. Houston Community College announced the camps on May 29.

The camps will be offered at four HCC campuses – Katy, North Forest, Eastside and Missouri City – with topics covering graphic design and AI-generated arts, coding with AI and robotics, and cybersecurity.

“Artificial intelligence has really exploded on the scene and there’s a big job market

emerging from AI,” said Raymond Keller, HCC computer networking instructor. “The camps will be highlighting some of these new and expanding areas.”

The weeklong camps include:

- June 10 – 14 at HCC Katy campus, 22910 Colonial Parkway in Katy, on graphic design and AI-generated arts.
- June 24 – 28 at HCC North Forest campus, 6010 Little York Road, on coding with AI and robotics.
- July 8 – 12 at HCC Eastside campus, 6815 Rustic St., on cybersecurity.
- July 22 – 26 at HCC Missouri City campus, 1600

Texas Parkway in Missouri City, on cybersecurity.

“These camps will open a window to the STEM knowledge and skills in high demand by companies and industries for the students,” said Madeline Burillo-Hopkins, Ed.D., president of HCC Southwest and vice chancellor of Workforce Instruction for the HCC system. “We hope to inspire them to soon set foot on an educational journey to fulfilling tech careers in the future.”

Students will earn continuing education credits for completing the camps. For registration and details, visit [hccs.edu/STEM-camps2024](http://hccs.edu/STEM-camps2024) or call 713.718.7857.



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PHOTO BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN



PHOTO BY TYLER TYRE

Above: Naomi Medeiros tries to get around a defender during Thursday's area round game between Tompkins and Stratford at Tully Stadium. Right: Alex Ledbetter dribbles up the field during Tuesday's bi-district game between Jordan and Elkins at the Jordan athletic field. Left: Prosper midfielder Olivia Hess (8) and Seven Lakes midfielder Wagoner Towsen (10) meet in the air during the Class 6A girls state soccer semifinal between Prosper and Seven Lakes on April 12, 2024 in Georgetown. Prosper won 3-0.



PHOTO BY TYLER TYRE

# Lambert caps high school career with District MVP honors

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Madison Lambert picked up a big honor on Wednesday, capping off her senior season by being named the District 19-6A MVP after a terrific year. Lambert helped Jordan clinch its first ever district title and led the Warriors to the Region III-6A Final where they took Seven Lakes to extra time.

The superlatives were split by six different teams with no team doubling up on players. Katy's Baylee Corcoran was named the district's forward of the year after helping the Tigers to a fourth-place finish and bi-district appearance. Taylor's Kendall Hemperly was named the midfielder of the year in the district after helping the Mustangs to a fifth-place finish and an 9-6-1 record in district. Seven Lakes' Kennedy Reed was named the district's defender of the year after helping the Spartans to a district championship that they shared with Jordan before the Spartans went on to go all the way to the state semifinals. Cinco



TYLER TYRE

Kennedy Reed shoots during Friday's bi-district game between Seven Lakes and George Ranch at Legacy Stadium.

Ranch's Sierra McCluer earned goalie of the year honors after the Cougars only gave up 16 goals all year and Tompkins' Naomi Medeiros was named the district newcomer of the year after helping the Falcons finish third in district with Tompkins going on to reach the second round of the playoffs.

Seven Lakes and Jordan led the way on the first team. Seven Lakes had Wagoner Towsen, Olivia Orellana, Anu Aalona and Valarie Trinh. Jordan had Alex Ledbetter, Lilah Katz and Grace Robertson all were named to the first team. Tompkins and Katy each had three on the first team, Tompkins with Rhegan Coombs, Makena Zukeran and Audrina Johnson making it and Katy with Hannah Phillips, Aliah Stevens and Atiana Lara being named first team. Cinco Ranch's Emmy Finnegan and Brooklyn York were first teamers as well as Taylor's Samantha Rank and Camila Riebeling. Paetow's Arantxa Varela, Mayde Creek's Brooklyn Weiss and Morton Ranch's Jacqueline Quintanilla rounded out the first team selections.

Anu Aalona tries to shoot past Sierra McCluer during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch at Cinco Ranch High School.

TYLER TYRE

Jordan placed four on the second team in Kayleigh Pino, Helly Gorman, Lila Bailey Campbell and Julia Cleary, while Seven Lakes had three in Vicky Ott, Camryn Lumpkin and Sydney Hill, and Tompkins had three in Hayden Lasida, Paula Fuentes and Ari Weiss. Taylor placed Regan Arney and Federica Vives on the second team, Cinco Ranch placed Mia Cox and Breanna Borresen on the second team, Katy's Kendall Gussert and Addyson Cosold were named to the second team. Morton Ranch's Chassity Mandley and Jhoselyn Rios placed second team, Paetow's Kaylen Alvarez and Juliana Crespo were named to the second team and Mayde Creek's Samantha Rodriguez rounded out the second team selections.

Tompkins' Ellie Castillo, Tessa Sprayberry and Jenna Wentland were named honorable mention along with Taylor's Jenna Rodgers, Dileen Ismail and Zoe Jolley, Seven Lakes' Chloe Callahan, Maddie Hoand and Maria Castro, Paetow's Cecilia Mendoza, Lleana Mazareigos and Kamryn Williams, Morton Ranch's Ariena Dame, Brooklynn Bradley and Adalina Salizar, Mayde Creek's Xania Mondragon, Sydney Tellez and Miley Gonzalez, Katy's Hailey St. John and Madisen D'Shields, Jordan's Camila Luna and Taylor Thompson and Cinco Ranch's Erin Alanis and Olivia Peters to complete the all-district selections.

Madison Lambert takes a corner kick during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Jordan and Brazoswood in Deer Park.

TYLER TYRE



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# Carlton named All-State; Katy ISD places four on All-Region Team

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Justice Carlton capped off her senior year with another award, being named to the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Class 6A All-State Team after a season where she helped Seven Lakes go deep in the playoffs. Carlton, a University of Texas signee, was one of 20 players from Class 6A selected to the team and one of four players from the Houston

area selected to the All-State team. She earned the honors after helping the Spartans win a share of the District 19-6A title and reach the regional tournament for the second time in three years. Carlton was joined by her sister, sophomore post Madison Carlton, on the Region III team, as Madison Carlton was also a huge part of the Spartans' success and helped keep the team stay near the top of the district standings while Justice was out injured

early in the season. Cinco Ranch's Aniya Foy also earned a spot on the regional team. The junior guard earned a spot on the team after helping Cinco Ranch get back to the playoffs, Cinco Ranch made the bi-district round and nearly pulled off a huge upset, taking Hightower, a team that reached the regional final, to overtime before losing by 4. The fourth and final player to be named to the regional team was Taylor's

Timya Grice. Grice helped the Mustangs reach the playoffs for the first time since 2019, as Taylor went 28-7 on the season with a 12-4 record in district play. The Arizona State University signee also earned newcomer of the year honors in district.

Justice Carlton dribbles up the court during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Seven Lakes and Summer Creek at the Campbell Center in Aldine.  
DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



Houston Texans mascot Toro sits with fans during an NFL Wild Card playoff game between the Texans and the Cleveland Browns on January 13, 2024 in Houston. The Texans won, 45-14.

## TEXANS

from page B1

The biggest game of the regular season for the Texans may come on Christmas Day, Houston will host the Baltimore Ravens in a game that will only air on Netflix in a rematch of last season's AFC Divisional Round playoff game where Houston's season came to an end.

Other big big games for the Texans come in week 16 when they will play the Kansas City Chiefs on Dec. 21, Week 15 in a matchup against the Dolphins, week 10 against the Lions and week 7 against the Green Bay Packers in what will be a challenging but action packed schedule for Houston.

Houston's preseason will start Aug. 1 when they travel to Chicago to take on the Bears in the Hall of Fame Game. Houston will then be on the road against the Steelers on Aug. 9 before closing the preseason against the New York Giants on Aug. 17 at home.



Texans linebacker Christian Harris (48) reacts after a defensive play during an NFL Wild Card playoff game between the Houston Texans and the Cleveland Browns on January 13, 2024 in Houston.

**"I know this team next year is going to be just as good and I'm so excited for them. It made me think long and hard. I kept thinking, 'Maybe one more year, could I do one more year?'"**

—KALUM HAACK, Retiring Katy softball coach

## HAACK

from page B1

Burrell. "He has played such an integral part in me understanding the game, how it's properly played, how to respect it and my expectations for everyone around me. Coach Haack is literally one of the best. It shows in his resume but it's so much more than that, his impact around here will be felt for a long time."

That impact is apparent. Katy will be jam packed with talent returning next year, which made the decision even harder for Haack. But the more he thought about it, the more he knew the time was right.

"I know this team next year is going to be just as good and I'm so excited for them. It made me think long and hard," Haack said. "I kept thinking, 'maybe one more year, could I do one more year?' But I'm ready, I want to babysit my grandbabies, spend time with my family, relaxing a bit more sounds pretty good."

## LOCAL AUTHOR BOB DOLL COACHES ON CREATIVITY

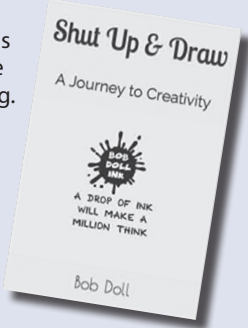
First published in 2021, *Shut Up and Draw: A Journey to Creativity* is a book about how anyone can be creative in whatever they're doing. You don't have to be an artist. The book tells a story about how drawing is just one way to explore one's own creative endeavors with information about:

- 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)



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The Katy Times will be closed on  
**Thursday, July 4, 2024**  
in observance of Independence Day.

Have a safe and happy holiday from  
The Katy Times staff!

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<p>Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate (BG) by Lekki Island Bar and Grill LLC dba Lekki Island Bar and Grill to be located at 25757 Westheimer Pkwy, Suite 200, Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas 77494. Robert Ngabesong owner and manager.</p>		<p><b>NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY INTO THE CITY OF KATY</b></p> <p>The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct a Public Hearing To Be Held At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.</p> <p><u><b>CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING</b></u> 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 24, 2024</p> <p>The Hearing Is Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On The Annexation Of A Property Described As Approximately 1.82 Acres Of Land In The James Conner Survey, Abstract 157, Fort Bend County, TX And The Annexation Of Approximately 0.983 Acres Of Land Being A Portion Of Katy-Flewellen Road In Accordance With Section 43.10671 Of The Texas Local Government Code.</p>	<p><b>NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY INTO THE CITY OF KATY</b></p> <p>The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct a Public Hearing To Be Held At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.</p> <p><u><b>CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING</b></u> 6:30 p.m., Monday, June 24, 2024</p> <p>The Hearing Is Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On The Annexation Of A Property Described As Approximately 0.71 Acres Of Land In The James Conner Survey, Abstract 157, Fort Bend County, TX And The Annexation Of Approximately 0.47 Acres Of Land Being A Portion Of Katy-Flewellen Road In Accordance With Section 43.10671 Of The Texas Local Government Code.</p>

May 30  
Puzzle Answers

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



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INVITATION TO BIDDERS
<p>Sealed bids addressed to <b>Scotts Bend – Sec. 2 &amp; 5 Landscape Improvements</b> will be received at the office of Halff (14800 St. Mary's Lane, Suite 160, Houston, TX 77079) or digitally through CivCast until <b>2:00 p.m. Thursday, June 27, 2024</b>, 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. 2 &amp; 5 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 &amp; removal. Bid documents in digital format will be available through CivCast. A <b>MANDATORY</b> pre-bid conference will be held on at the offices of Halff on <b>Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.</b> 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.</p>

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
<p>Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for the <b>Estate of Robert E. Krauss, Deceased</b>, were issued on <b>May 20, 2024</b>, under Docket No. 24-CPR-040734, in the County Court at Law No. Five (5) of Fort Bend County, Texas to: <b>Cathy L. Krauss</b>, Independent Executor. The residence of Cathy L. Krauss is in Fort Bend County, Texas, and her address is c/o <b>NICOLE E. PIERCE, COVELER &amp; PEELER, P.C.</b>, 820 Gessner, Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024.</p> <p>All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.</p> <p>Dated the 30th day of May, 2024.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">/s/ Nicole E. Pierce <b>COVELER &amp; PEELER, P.C.</b> Two Memorial City Plaza 820 Gessner, Suite 1710 Houston, Texas 77024 Telephone: (713) 984-8222 Facsimile: (713) 984-0670</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE OF ROBERT E. KRAUSS, DECEASED</b></p>

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Legal Notice

Notification is hereby given that JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., 1111 Polaris Parkway, Columbus, Ohio 43240 has filed an application with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (the "OCC") on or about June 6, 2024, as specified in 12 CFR Part 5, for permission to establish a domestic branch at the northeast corner of the intersection of Katy Hockley Cut Off Road and Morton Road, Katy, Harris County, TX 77493. If you have any additional comments, you can send them to the Director for Large Bank Licensing, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 7 Times Square, 10th Floor Mailroom, New York, New York 10036 or [LicensingPublicComments@occ.treas.gov](mailto:LicensingPublicComments@occ.treas.gov), within 30 days of the date of this publication. The public portion of the filing is available upon request from the OCC. The public may find information about the filing (including the closing date of the comment period) in the OCC's Weekly Bulletin available at [www.occ.gov](http://www.occ.gov).

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**Farm & Estate Auction** Thurs., June 13, 2024, Onsite & Online, starts @ 9:37 a.m. 32806 West Liberty Rd, Quinton, OK. Tractors, vehicles, trailers, hay equip., mowers, portable building, welders, guns and rifles, cattle chutes and panels and more. More Info: [www.chuppsauction.com](http://www.chuppsauction.com).

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Layla Anderson will continue her athletic and academic career at the University of St. Thomas.

# Royal student-athletes sign to the next level

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

A trio of Royal High School seniors signed to play sports and continue their education at the next level last week, with Layla Anderson, Kevin Martinez and Adrianna Prophet-Smith all signing national letters of intent at the Royal High School gym.

Anderson, a senior who was named to the District 25-

4A first team, will continue her basketball career at the University of St. Thomas. Anderson helped Royal to a fifth-place finish in district.

Kevin Martinez, a senior cross-country runner, will continue his career at Angelo State University. Martinez qualified to state this year and finished in the top half of runners in Class 4A.

Adrianna Prophet-Smith signed to continue her track and field career at Lamar

University after a medal filled high school career. Prophet-Smith capped off her high school career at the Class 4A state meet, where she was part of a relay team that finished second in the 400-meter relay and came in fifth in the 100-meter dash.

The trio were joined by Royal senior athletic trainer Kyla Thomas, who will go to the University of Texas at San Antonio to continue her academic career.



Adrianna Prophet-Smith will continue her athletic and academic career at Lamar University.

PHOTOS COURTESY SHERREL ROGERS



Kevin Martinez will continue his athletic and academic career at Angelo State University.



Kyla Thomas celebrated her acceptance to UTSA, where she will study Kinesiology.

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## KATY AMERICAN ROCKIES WIN LITTLE LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

The Katy American Rockies defeated the Mariners in back to back games on May 23 to win the Katy Little League U-9 tournament. The team went 7-1 overall in the tournament with Elliott Grade and Sebastian Nguyen winning co-MVPs of the championship game, Carter Mendiola earning the win as starting pitcher and Barrett King earning the save. Members of the team left to right: Cooper Stoll (Bat boy) Callan Stoll (2B) Max Ownby (P) Barrett King (SS) Carter Mendiola (C) Sebastian Nguyen (LF) Aimen Sowers (1B) Rashaan Kotaru (C) Tyler Key (CF) Elliott Grade (3B) Rhett Rathje (RF). The team's head coach is Brian Grade.

PHOTO BY ROBERT RATHJE

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