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SPORTS | B1

KatyTimes



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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2024



KP George

Fort Bend County judge indicted

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Fort Bend County Judge KP George was indicted by the Fort Bend Grand Jury on September 26 on a single misdemeanor charge of

misrepresenting identity as a candidate in 2022, according to multiple print and broadcast new sources across the Houston area. According to Click2Houston, George was booked into jail that day and bond

was set at \$1000.00. He was later released.

George is alleged to have conspired with former chief of staff Taral Patel in a social media hoax, which involved the set-up of fake profile

accounts which posted racist attacks against George during his reelection campaign. In that election, George defeated challenger Trevor Nehls

See **JUDGE**, page A3



Rice Harvest Festival opens on Saturday

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Presented by the City of Katy and the Rotary Club of Katy, the annual Rice Harvest Festival returns to Katy's historic downtown square at Second Street and Avenue C for two days, October 12-13.

Saturday features a full day of great craft vendors, live music, food trucks and much more, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., including a kids/teen zone, craft beer, and expanded food area. Free shuttle service to and from the Merrell Center at 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy is available all day.

New this year on Saturday is the Rice Cooking contest, where local chefs of all ages can show off their best rice dishes for a chance to win first, second or third place prizes or the People's Choice award. Dishes must include rice as the main ingredient, and entries will be judged on taste, texture, creativity and overall impression. The contest tent will be set up near KT Antiques at 5614 Second Street, just off the square. Entry deadline was October 2.

The fun continues on Sunday, October 13, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. with more time to shop, eat and enjoy live music. Free shuttle service to and from the Merrell Center at 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy is available all day.

Admission per day is \$10 for

See **FESTIVAL**, page A3

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October 3, 2024
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PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

A crowd of dignitaries assembled on Katy's town square on the west side of the base of the water tower for the September 26 ribbon cutting which officially unveiled the four murals created by local artist Tyler Kay.

City unveils long-awaited murals in Katy's downtown square



Mural artist Tyler Kay (left) and her assistant Andrea Gilson pose in front of the mural they created for the east side of the water tower base in Katy's downtown square.



Above: The mural on the south side of the water tower base pays tribute to Katy's rice farming and oil and gas history.



Scenes from the mural on the north side of the water tower base reflect Katy's community, from churches to FFA to rodeos and more.

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Now, there's even more of a reason to visit Katy's historic downtown square at Avenue C and Second Street.

The square's highly-anticipated murals – positioned at the base of the square's iconic water tower -- were unveiled on September 26 at an official ribbon cutting ceremony with Mayor Dusty Thiele presiding.

A collaboration between Keep Katy Beautiful and the city's tourism board, the four murals are designed to "foster a sense of pride and history among residents and those who visit," said J. R. Richardson of the convention and tourism board. Keep Katy Beautiful chair Carrie Singletary said that KKB first envisioned the project over three years ago as a way to draw more visitors to the square, starting the murals project after the group's initial success in beautifying traffic boxes around the city.

KKB commissioned the artist they wanted – Tyler Kay, a 2011 graduate of Cinco Ranch High School -- "to create something that would resonate with each of you," Singletary said at the ceremony.

Kay, with her assistant Andrea Gilson, worked for months on the project, drawing on Kay's own roots and history in the community. "I want my art to be accessible – a piece that tells a story, and that story is Katy."

Tragedies unfold on Katy freeway on Sept. 27

Family pleads for information

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Two separate events along Interstate 10 in Katy – one at the Grand Parkway and one near Westgreen Blvd. – resulted in two deaths.

In the first incident, which reported took place on Friday morning, a woman parked her Mercedes on the flyover bridge connecting the Grand Parkway to Interstate 10, and then jumped off the structure. She was taken by LifeFlight in critical condition to but did not survive, according to a Facebook post from Sheriff Ed Gonzalez. The woman has not been identified.

In the second, Harris County deputies responded to reports of a shooting in the 23600 block of the Katy Freeway, according to a Facebook post from Sheriff Ed Gonzales. A young man who sustained a gunshot wound was transported to a medical facility by LifeFlight but was pronounced dead on arrival. Three lanes of the westbound feeder road were temporarily closed.

Although officials did not identify the victim in the second incidence, the family of Cody Johnson, represented by father Mike Johnson, posted the following statement on Facebook: "WE NEED YOUR HELP! It is with an extremely heavy heart that I am having to make this post. Our family is going through a tragedy that I pray none of you will have to endure. On Friday evening, September 27, 2024, my son, Cody, was murdered on I-10... apparently shot in a road rage incident. We are seeking any and all information that anyone may have. It happened between 7:35 p.m. and 8:05 p.m. on I-10 westbound between Beltway 8 and 99. If you have ANY information, please contact Harris County Sheriff's Office to help bring the person or persons responsible to justice. Please share this with everyone you know to help us find some form of justice for my son. Thank you for helping our family in this tragic time."

State rep Rosenthal, Harris County commissioner Briones hold 'town hall'

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Hosting a crowd of over sixty constituents on September 24, State Representative Jon Rosenthal, who represents District 135 in the Texas

House, was joined by Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones in providing updates on current projects and a forecast of the forthcoming meeting of the state

See **TOWN HALL**, page A3



PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

State Representative Jon Rosenthal and Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones listen attentively to questions from the audience during a September 24 "town hall."

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Shop for crafts at St. Paul's 2024 fall festival and craft show on October 5

Come out to St. Paul's 13th Annual Fall Festival & Craft Show on October 5 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is a great time to get a head start on Christmas shopping, enjoy exciting children's activities, and eat delicious BBQ sandwiches. This year, Katy Elks Lodge is preparing and selling food including hot dogs and pork or brisket sandwiches from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit vendors selling a wide range of fares and an expanded FREE children's area with the return of the train and other fun activities. St. Paul's Episcopal Church is located at 5373 Franz Rd, Katy.

Celebrate fall on October 5 at the Pumpkin House at Enchanted Gardens

Celebrate fall with Enchanted Gardens at the Pumpkin House at 6420 FM 359 in Richmond While you're here, you and your family can enjoy picking your favorite fall pumpkins. They come in all shapes, sizes, and colors to celebrate our favorite time of year. There will be crafts and face painting for the kids from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dress in your fall colors—there will be plenty of photo opportunities, too. Free.



METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

Looking to get rid of your unwanted and outdated documents? Two separate community shredding events are on offer this month.

Katy Beer Garden celebrates grand opening with Oktoberfest on October 5

Oktoberfest is coming to Katy Beer Garden on October 5 from 12 p.m. on October 5 to 2 a.m. on October 6. As the family-friendly venue celebrates its official Grand Opening, enjoy a full day of excitement with classic Oktoberfest festivities. Show your strength with stein-holding contests or rock your leihderhosenn for a chance to win "Best Dressed." There will be prizes, games, and raffles to win, all day long. Gather your friends, family, and furry pals for a day of live music, brews, and memories at 5345 E. Third in Katy near the historic rice dryers.



KTX Market Day to be held at No Label on October 5

Join this family-friendly event on October 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. with local vendors, local music and local food trucks, located at No Label Brewery at 5351 First Street in Katy. This is the last night market until summer 2025, organizers said.

AARP meet set for October 8

The Katy chapter of AARP will meet Tuesday, October 8th, at Midway BBQ, 6191 Highway Blvd in Katy. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with a short meeting and announcements. Afterwards, entertainment will be provided by Larry Glass, who performs a variety of the most requested from country to pop/rock classics from the 30's to the 70's. Visitors are welcome. Allow time to purchase any food before the meeting starts.

Stellar Bank hosts 'Community Shred Day' on October 12

Bring all those unwanted and outdated documents to



Stellar Bank, 722 Pin Oak in Katy, on October 12 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free shredding while you wait!

Energy Capital Credit Union offers first-ever 'Community Shred Day' on October 12

Join Energy Capital Credit Union as they host their first-ever "Community Shred Day" at 3211 Peek Road in Katy from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This free public event features free giveaways and a coffee cart catered by Ella Coffee. Drop off your documents, grab your free giveaways and grab a coffee to go!

Chappell Hill Scarecrow Festival returns on October 12-13

This festival in the scenic town of Chappell Hill boasts more than 250 juried exhibitors (home, decor, gardening, artists, craftsmen, jewelry, clothing, etc.) delicious country-style food, live entertainment and music, and tours of the historic community. The festival is hosted by the Chappell Hill Historical Society, a non-profit volunteer origination dedicated to the preservation of the community's history and historical buildings. The Society's goal is to stage a high-quality, fun show in the downtown National Historic District. The festival area consists of Main Street, Poplar Street, and the property behind the Visitor's Center. There are NO admission fees. There is a \$10 parking fee. The parking lot is located on FM 1155 a short distance north of the intersection of Hwy 290 and FM 1155. NO STREET PARKING ALLOWED. On Saturday, October 12, the festival will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Fort Bend County West Lions Club holds monthly education night on October 15



Learn about indigenous people in politics as well as eyesight and eye health at the Fort Bend County West Lions Club monthly Education night. The meeting will take place at the Katy Crossing Icehouse at 5733 Second Street in Katy from 6 to 8 p.m. Free event.

Vital 2 Life Ministries stages 'Fun-Raiser' at Andretti Karting on October 18

Get ready to race and play at Andretti Indoor Karting at Games as Vital 2 Life Ministries hosts its annual fundraiser... or fun-raiser. Enjoy dinner, non-alcoholic drinks and a live and silent auction as well as a three-hour play card for non-prize arcade games. Each guest will also receive a gift bag. The fun starts at 5:30 p.m. at 1230 Grand West Blvd. in Katy. For tickets or more information, go to vital2life.org or call 832-736-0270.



3rd Annual Spaghetti Lunch and Community Craft Fair
October 12, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Presale tickets \$10 per plate
Plate includes:
Spaghetti with meat sauce, Salad, Bread, Dessert, Drink
Tickets at the door: \$15 per plate
R.S.V.P.: hmcconnell@brookshirepattisonlions.org
cell: 713-594-9297
(presale tickets encouraged in order to know how many are coming)
All Proceeds to Benefit the Brookshire-Pattison Lions Club Charities and Local Community
Drawing for Rifle to be held at 2:30 p.m.

Pattison Area Volunteer Fire Department
2950 FM 359, Pattison, TX 77423





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This spunky 3 1/2-month-old lab mix is bursting with energy and charm, and he's ready to steal your heart! Cooper loves to play, explore, and make new friends. If you're looking for a fun-loving companion to brighten your days, he's the pup for you! Come meet Cooper and see if he's the perfect addition to your family.



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Let's help you with your garden
Fort Bend County Master Gardeners

Annual Fall Vegetable, Herb Plants Sale
Saturday, Oct. 12
9 a.m.-noon or until sold out
at Fort Bend AgriLife Extension Education Center (Range),
1402 Band Road, Rosenberg

All FBMG fundraisers, courses and events are brought to the community by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Fort Bend County.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Midway between east and southeast

4. Sun up in New York

7. Japanese honorific

8. Czech name for Prague

10. Ochocinco's first name

12. Steep cliffs (Hawaiian)

13. Scots word for "home"

14. Upper class young woman (abbr.)

16. Monetary unit of Albania

17. Raise

19. Drain of resources

20. Uncultured, clumsy persons

21. Hikers use them

25. Retrospective analysis (military)

26. Tibetan form of chanting

27. Influential European statesman

29. Soluble ribonucleic acid

30. Monetary unit of Romania

31. Round green vegetable

32. Well acquainted with

39. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

41. Basics

42. "The Godfather" actress Keaton

43. Snake-like fish
44. Tall deciduous tree

45. Russian river

46. Long Balkans river

48. Ancient Greek coin

49. Senegal's capital

50. Unwell

51. Snout

52. Low bank or reef of coral
- CLUES DOWN

1. Abstain from

2. Vast desert in North Africa

3. Cover the crown of a tooth

4. A major division of geological time

5. Urban center

6. Crook

8. Parts per billion (abbr.)

9. Questions

11. A pack of 52 playing cards

14. Recording of sound

15. Pithy saying

18. Atomic #22

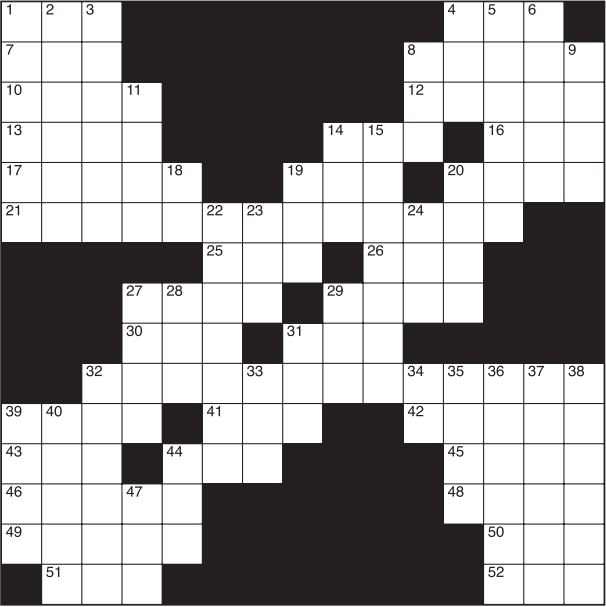
19. Soviet Socialist Republic

20. Plant with ridged seedpods

22. Innate

23. Investigative body for Congress (abbr.)

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.



24. Soda receptacle

27. Spanish stew: ___ podrida

28. Viet Cong offensive

29. Large body of water

31. Beginning military rank

32. Dissimilar

33. Counteroffensive system (abbr.)

34. Shows who you are
35. Chinese dynasty

36. Type of verse

37. African nation

38. Quite

39. Former Bucks star Michael

40. Showed again

44. Body part

47. Steal

SUDOKU

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

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.

TOWN HALL

from page A1

legislature. The pair spoke at a joint “town hall” held September 24 at the Weekly Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Road in Cypress.

Rosenthal’s district covers a portion of Katy north of Clay Road on the east side of the Grand Parkway and west of Highway 6. Harris County Precinct 4, headed by Briones, covers the western quarter of the county and includes much of the greater Katy area as well as Cypress and Tomball, among other areas.

Briones focused her presentation on infrastructure projects in or near the immediate area, including the “All in 4 Katy East” study currently underway, \$6.1 million in flood resilience projects, drainage improvement projects in the Addicks watershed, widening of multiple roads from two to four lanes and a West Harris County Transit study. She also reviewed development of education and economic opportunities, public health initiatives, and justice and safety initiatives, all of which have previously been reported in the Katy Times.

Briones also provided an update on the “Sidewalks 4 Precinct 4” project

which is completing 50 miles of sidewalks across the precinct in 2024 and 2025. In the Cy-Fair ISD area, the sidewalk near Postma Elementary on West Road has been completed and sidewalks are under construction at Kahla Middle School on West Little York, near Watkins Middle School in the Kieth Harrow-Highway 6 area, along Longenbaugh near Andre Elementary School, near West Little York and Greenhouse near Jowell and Hoover Elementary Schools, and in the Villages of Bear Creek near Sheridan Elementary, Thornton Middle School and Cypress Lakes High School.

Stating that “Democracy is not a spectator sport,” Briones reminded attendees that election day is November 5 and that early voting will be conducted October 21 through November 1. Nine voting locations are available at Precinct 4 parks and community centers, she said. She also urged support for the Harris County Flood Control District’s proposed tax rate which will appear on the November ballot. Funds from the new tax rate will provide improvements to the county’s aging flood

control infrastructure, she said. Since 2000, the county’s flood control assets have doubled, she said. “We need to maintain our current assets at a rate that is safe and effective,” she said.

Rosenthal, who is running unopposed in the November election, serves on the county affairs and agriculture and livestock committees in the Texas House. He focused his remarks on funding for public education, which he noted is required by the Texas Constitution.

“Schools are the central issue,” he said, “and they are struggling.” His other top two priorities are health care and “combatting bigotry,” he said. Rosenthal said that not only is there a movement in the state legislature called “alien land laws” which are designed to prevent citizens from other countries from owning land in Texas. but there is also a push to prohibit these individuals from holding certain jobs. “That’s not the American way of life,” Rosenthal said.

Questions from the audience included questions on school funding, flood control, and matters related to municipal utility districts.

JUDGE

from page A1

with 51 per cent of the vote.

The incident drew reactions from Fort Bend County officials, many of whom called for George to resign.

Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Commissioner Andy Meyers, whose seat is being challenged by Patel, said in an email to the Katy Times: “The recent revelations reported by the Houston media are deeply disturbing. If these allegations are accurate, I call on Judge KP George to immediately resign as County Judge and for Taral Patel to withdraw from the Commissioner’s race. Such divisive and criminal actions have no place in Fort Bend County, the most diverse county in the United States.”

Fort Bend County Treasurer Bill Rickert said in an email to the Katy Times: “As a resident of Fort Bend County and County Treasurer, I am deeply concerned about the ‘fake racism’ scandal and indictments of County Judge KP George and his former Chief of Staff, Taral Patel, who is running for Commissioner of Precinct 3. While everyone deserves a fair trial, the documented actions of these individuals have been deceptive and divisive, undermining the trust of our residents and damaging our county’s global reputation. At a time when we need to attract commercial and industrial development to alleviate the property tax burden on our community, this scandal is hindering that progress.”

“Rather than providing transparency, both individuals have chosen to hire lawyers and remain silent, allowing the cloud of this controversy to linger over our county indefinitely,” Rickert said. “Our global reputation cannot be restored while KP George remains in office. I call for his immediate resignation and the reimbursement of taxpayer funds used for a security detail based on what we now know were fabricated allegations of racist threats.”

Via Facebook, Fort Bend County Precinct 1 Commissioner Vincent Morales said: “I remain extremely concerned about the business of our county government through this disturbing turn of events. And as a county commissioner - I have many questions as to the circumstances of this indictment. Specifically, how this relates to the county judge’s practice of using public funds for a security detail. I am also seeking additional information from the State of Texas about how this impacts the county judge’s role as a sworn member of the judiciary, as well as the statutory authority of the county judge as the head of our county’s emergency management. The safety of our citizens is a foremost priority for all members of our commissioners court. For these reasons, for my duty to provide resources for the safety of my constituents, and for my own concerns as a Fort Bend County resident - I hereby call for County Judge KP George to resign his office and to allow our commissioners court to peacefully continue the service and protection of our citizens.”



PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Jasek Farms, one of the last remaining rice farms in the Katy area, exhibited samples of Katy’s premier crop at the 2023 Rice Harvest Festival.

FESTIVAL

from page A1

adults; children 12 and under are admitted free.

All net proceeds from the Katy Rice Harvest Festival will benefit The Rotary Club of Katy fund for scholarships and donations to the local Katy community.

RICE HARVEST FESTIVAL ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP

10/12 12:30 – 2:15 P.M.
MAX FLINN MUSIC

Born and raised in Houston, Flinn released his debut album "Meant to Be" in 2021 and has opened for acts like the Eli Young Band and Robert Earl Keen.

10/12 3 – 4:45 P.M.
BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY’S

A Houston based variety band of six, playing music from the 60’s, 70’s, 80’s, Latin, pop, rock, country, and today’s top hits.

10/12 5:30 – 7:15 P.M.
WILL CARTER

Emerging from Houston’s vibrant music scene, Will Carter and his band’s debut track, "Wrong Side of Town" paves the way for their upcoming album "Had It All Wrong," set for release in 2024.

10/12 8 P.M.
LITTLE TEXAS

Known for their multi-Grammy nominations and ACM, CMA, and CMT Awards, this band has three consecutive No. 1 singles and a dozen Top 10 hits, including the iconic "God Blessed Texas."

10/13 12:00 – 1:30 P.M.
SCOTTY ALEXANDER

Based just south of Austin, this singer, songwriter, and musician launched his solo career four years ago, with solo albums, "Guilty" (2019) and "Road We're On" (2021), featuring hits like "Cowboy's Daughter." His 2022 release, "Herb's Hat Shop," received critical acclaim

10/13 2:15 – 3:45 P.M.
HAYDEN BAKER

Katy native Hayden Baker has released three independent projects, garnering over a million streams and charting two singles in the Top 40 on the Texas Regional Radio Report. Following the success of his 2023 EP Growing Pains, Hayden released his first full-length album since 2020, titled "Barely Gettin' By," on April 12, 2024.

10/13 4:30 P.M.
STONEY LARUE

LaRue is an American Texas country/Red dirt artist who has released several albums and singles since 2002 including "Downtown," "The Red Dirt Album" and Live at Billy Bob's Texas."

CORRECTION

On September 26, the Katy Times published a story featuring David Bryson and his Eagle Scout project, which contained several errors. David is not yet an Eagle Scout, as stated in the story, but is working toward that goal. David’s father, Joe, was incorrectly identified as “Joel.” David’s activities at Tompkins High School, also include band, which was omitted from the story. The Times regrets the errors.

Leading Medicine in WEST HOUSTON

Houston Methodist Welcomes Ramsha Haider, MD

Ramsha Haider, MD, is an internal medicine physician who approaches complex health issues by applying the latest medical data to the diagnosis and treatment of her patients. She forms lasting relationships with patients and their families while being a strong advocate for their health.

She joins Houston Methodist Primary Care Group in West Houston, where she will be seeing new and existing patients in person and virtually.

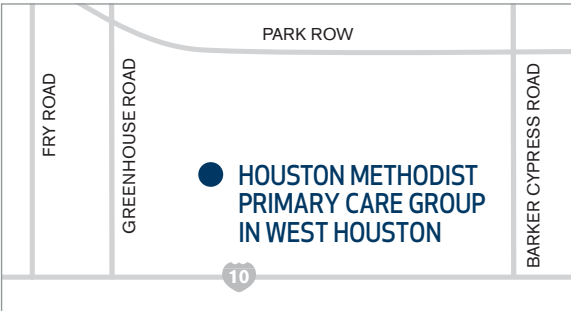
Dr. Haider's expertise includes:

- Acute and chronic care
- Anxiety and depression
- Diabetes
- Health screenings
- High blood pressure
- High cholesterol
- Men’s health
- Preventive care
- Smoking cessation
- Weight management
- Women’s health



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Ramsha Haider, MD
Internal Medicine

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18700 Katy Fwy.
Medical Office Building 3, Suite 403
Houston, TX 77094

Carriage Inn to host annual cake auction to benefit the Alzheimer’s Association

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Members of the local Katy community are invited to support the Alzheimer’s Association at Carriage Inn Katy senior living community’s upcoming Annual Cake Auction on Wednesday, October 30th from 4 to 6 p.m. Bidding will begin at 5 p.m. and will be live on the community’s Facebook page and in-person at the community’s location at 1400 Katy-Flewellen Road in Katy. A variety of cakes, pies, and specialty baked goods will be available for bidding.

Donations of baked goods are needed and will be accepted at the community until October 30 at 2 p.m. Individuals or groups interested in donating may contact Kalye Rodriguez at Krodriguez@cardinalbay.org or

281-392-2800. Any baked goods are welcome -- the spookier the better!

“It’s always exciting to host this annual event at Carriage Inn,” said Kalye Rodriguez, Senior Director of Sales and Marketing. “This year, the auction will have a Halloween theme, which should be even more fun! We look forward to welcoming family and friends and a few fantastic community volunteers to facilitate the bidding.”

The community is hoping to raise over \$1,000 for their walking team participating in the Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Those looking for more information about the event or interested in attending the auction can contact Kalye Rodriguez at krodriguez@cardinalbay.org or at 281-392-2800. RSVPs are encouraged but not required.

The Alzheimer’s Association

Houston and Southeast Texas serves the Greater Houston Metro Area and Southeast Texas, including Galveston and the Bay Area, Beaumont, Lufkin, Nacogdoches, and the Brazos Valley. Currently, more than 400,000 Texans are living with Alzheimer’s disease, and over 1,000,000 family and friends are providing care.

Carriage Inn Katy offers independent living, assisted living, and memory care options 1400 Katy-Flewellen Road, Katy, TX. For more information, visit www.cardinalbay.org or contact Tony Rivas at 281-392-2800 or 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 nonprofit senior living provider organization with a 150-year history of caring.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chamber hosts energy experts at luncheon

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce hosted a “lunch and learn” session at its offices at 814 East Street in Katy on September 26, featuring two speakers representing new energy technologies.

Alex Rohr, manager for community for Vesper Energy, presented his company’s plan for a battery energy storage system (BESS) which is planned for the Katy area. Ochoa Energy, a division of Vesper, is seeking local approval to build their battery storage facility at 27051 Highway Blvd, in Katy. The 24-acre facility would house up to 200 modules similar to shipping containers holding lithium-ion batteries, which Rohr said would store excess energy and then release it back onto ERCOT’s power grid when demand is high. When completed, the

500 MW system will provide enough to power about 60,000 homes for two hours, according to the company’s presentation. The project is expected to create two to four jobs locally.

Rohr said that ERCOT projects a need for 72 percent more energy in the next five years. BESS sites are becoming more common, especially in the Houston area, Rohr said. The Katy site is one of three being launched by Vesper; another is in Angleton and a third is in Galveston County.

According to research by the Katy Times, another BESS site, to be operated by different company -- Peregrine Energy -- was recently approved by the League City city council in a 6-2 vote, according to video of the council meeting. Earlier this year, GridStor, a developer and operator of utility-scale battery energy storage systems, announced that it has acquired an up to 450 MW /

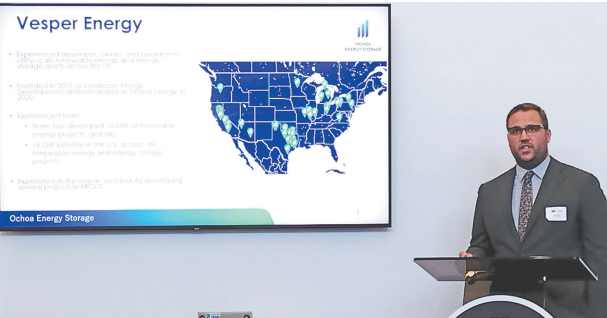


PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Alex Rohr, community affairs manager for Vesper Energy, shares plans for the company’s proposed Ochoa battery energy storage system (BESS) at a “lunch and learn” meeting of the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce on September 26.

900 MWh project in Galveston County from Balanced Rock Power. The Evelyn Battery Energy Storage project, which is slated to begin construction in summer 2024, has an anticipated online date of spring 2025.

Approval from the Katy City Council for the Ochoa project was delayed until the October 14 meeting, when the matter will be reconsidered.

Ramanan Krishnamoorti, a professor with University of Houston Cullen College of Energy, emphasized that future energy solutions need to meet all three of the following criteria: reliable, affordable

and sustainable, saying that many initiatives meet only two of the three. He said that the oil and gas industry is seeking solutions to deal with emissions through the development of technology such as catalytic converters and systems for removing carbon dioxide from the air through carbon capture. He also spoke about hydrogen fuels and electric vehicles, and the challenges created by the heavy weight of those vehicles.

K9 hero ‘Hero’ retires from KPD

FROM STAFF REPORTS

One of Katy Police Department’s finest officers is ready to enjoy a long and happy retirement full of naps, tennis balls and more naps, the department announced in a September 19 Facebook post.

K9 officer Hero became a member of the Katy Police Department in February 2016 and was assigned to Sgt. Robert McQuirter as his handler.

“We extend our deepest gratitude to K9 Hero and Sgt. McQuirter for their unwavering service and dedication,” KPD said in the post. “Their hard work and bravery have been instrumental in keeping our community safe. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement, Hero! Good boy!!!”

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Ricewood Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on October 15, 2024 at 12:00 PM at 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 2500, Houston, TX 77056. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: Carrie Prudhomme Elaine Mundy
Shelli Flores
Stephen Marcum

AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT:

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.3400 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.3400 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.0000 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$262,583	\$285,474
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$262,583	\$285,474
Tax on average residence homestead	\$892.78	\$970.61
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$77.83 8.72%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An Election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The voter-approval tax rate is 0.345 and therefore, notwithstanding the above, no election is required.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.



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TRIBUTE

Darlene Johnson, a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend, passed away peacefully on September 21, 2024, at the age of 91.

From the moment she entered this world, Darlene Johnson ("Grammy") was a spirited adventurer. Her love of life was infectious, touching everyone she met. Born on May 8, 1933, in Roswell, New Mexico, to Howard and Charlie B. Graves, she was raised as a farmer's daughter. The values of hard work and resilience she learned from an early age were the guiding principles of her life.

Darlene attended Roswell High School, where she tolerated academics but enjoyed sports and her friends. After high school, she continued at New Mexico State University, studying business management. There, she met her husband, Raymond Johnson, and they welcomed their daughter, Raylene, into the world. Darlene dedicated over 40 years of her career to being a legal secretary where she was known for her professionalism and strong work ethic. After retirement, she opened her own gift shop which she ran for many years.



DARLENE JOHNSON
1933-2024

Darlene loved to sing, and her beautiful voice was often heard while working in the fields on the farm as a girl. She also loved to travel and create lasting memories with her family. She was vivacious and playful and loved to include her mother, daughter, and grandchildren in the mischief. She enjoyed camping trips and water skiing and even had the thrill of racing cars. She was also a member of a motorcycle club. In spite of her "wicked ways," she loved the Lord with all her heart. For many years, she served as vice president of her Sunday school class, sang in the church choir, and per-

formed for residents at local nursing homes, sharing her joy and talent with others.

Darlene is survived by her daughter, Raylene Barton, and son-in-law, Bill Barton; her brother, Lynn Graves; granddaughter Stacey Jones and son-in-law Curtis Jones; granddaughter-in-law Tiffany Barton; and great-grandchildren Rebecca Barton, Nathan Barton, Allison Jones, Keith Jones and numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, her ex-husband Raymond Johnson, and her cherished grandson, Ryan Barton.

A celebration of Darlene's life will be scheduled for a future date. For those who wish to share their happy memories, a Virtual Video Tribute is available at Schmidt Funeral Home at <https://www.schmidtfuneralhome.net/obituary/tommie-johnson>.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your favorite charity or sharing a happy memory on her virtual memory page for the family. Darlene will be deeply missed, but her love and laughter will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

AMERICAN LEGION HOLDS OPEN HOUSE
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PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

Past Commander Post 164 Ernie Cormier (left), centenarian and World War II Navy Veteran Aaron Mendoza Jr. and Phil Malsbary celebrate Mendoza's 100th birthday during the September 14 grand re-opening at the American Legion Post 164 at 22125 Kingsland Drive in Katy.

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Rotary Club of Katy
awards community grants

FROM STAFF REPORTS

At its September 26 meeting, the Rotary Club of Katy awarded over \$71,000 grants to ten area nonprofits including Christ Clinic and the YMCA, according to the club's website. Displaying the \$2500.00 mock check for the YMCA are Rotary

President Graydon Rochelle, Jerry Moye, Jay Donnella of Christ Clinic, Fred Greer and J. R. Richardson. Christ Clinic's grant will go towards the charity clinic's operational costs, while the grant for the Mark A. Chapman YMCA at 1350 Main Street in Katy and the Monty Ballard YMCA at

22807 Westheimer Parkway in Katy will be used to implement the YMCA of Greater Houston - Safety Around Water program, an education program designed to prevent drownings in pools. Names of other beneficiaries and the amounts of their grants was not available to the Katy Times by press time.

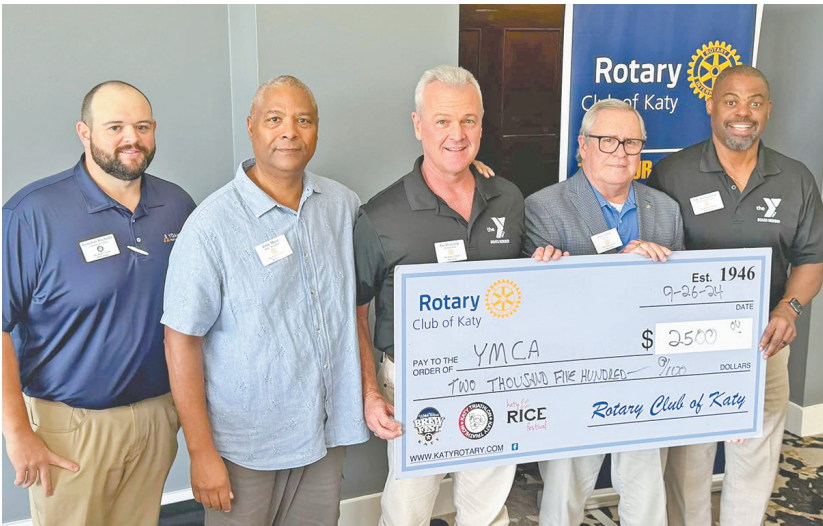


PHOTO COURTESY OF JAY DONNELLA

'Wolf Pack' athletes walk the red carpet at 25th anniversary celebration

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Katy Wolf Pack celebrated their 25th anniversary on September 28 at its annual banquet, held this year at Tompkins High School in the Main Commons at 4400 Falcon Landing Blvd. in Katy. The red carpet event was filled with paparazzi, music, dancing and food as over 100 Special Olympic athletes and their 350 guests came together to honor all the hard work the athletes have put in over this past year, according to organizers. Special recognitions were awarded to a few of the group's founders, including Sandi Dancel, Robin Judman and the Wolf Pack's namesake, Don Wolf. Plaques were also distributed to the sponsors "that have helped the Wolf Pack fulfill their dreams," said organizer Sue LaPrade in an interview with the Katy Times.

The Wolf Pack was founded in the spring of 1999 by parents Robin Judman and Patsy Hopkins, who had tirelessly requested for Katy ISD to create a Special Olympic Delegation for their sons and others, said LaPrade. They were finally given the green light, and with the help of Kathryn McClintock, the KISD Special Education Director at the time, an arrangement was made for a contingent of eight KISD Special Athletes to practice and participate in track with the "Alief Superstars," a Special Olympic team within the Alief School District. Katy ISD only needed to provide a coach and a coaching assistant. McClintock reached out to Don Wolf, a KISD Special Education teacher to see if he would be willing to be the needed coach and he did not hesitate. He was joined by his teaching assistant, Farrah Murray and together the two



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEMORIES BY MICHELE PHOTOGRAPHY

Original athletes and founders of Katy's Wolf Pack celebrate the organization's 25th anniversary at their September 28 gala. Left to right: front row, Sean Rudder, Sandi Dancel, Robin Judman, Jordan Judman; back row, Will Lawrence, Alex Castillo, Don Wolf.

worked countless hours to prepare their athletes. The season was successful and culminated with the 1999 Special Olympic Summer Games at Rice University where the "Katy Contingent" became bearers of numerous medals. It was so successful, said LaPrade, that Wolf was determined to form a non-school affiliated team so that all Special Athletes regardless of age or ability could participate in a competitive sport environment. So, with the help of the parents and volunteers, the "Katy Stampede" was born. At this time, Sandi Dancel, a Katy ISD paraprofessional, heeded the call for needed volunteers and stepped up to the plate. With addition of Dancel, the new delegation started to flourish. "After just a few seasons of hard work and growth, the parents and volunteers felt it was time to honor Don for all that he has done for the Katy Special Needs Community and a unanimous decision was made to rename the delegation," said LaPrade.

"The 'Katy Wolf Pack' was born. Don Wolf, Sandi Dancel and Robin Judman have continued to nurture the Wolf Pack over the years and their compassion and hard work -- along with other key volunteers -- are what has provided the foundation that this team continues to thrive on." Over the last 25 years, the program has grown. "We started with eight athletes and participated in one sport and now we have over 175 athletes and participate in eight sports," said LaPrade. "We were constantly surprised at how, given the opportunity, how much these athletes have accomplished. We have seen athletes gain confidence and pride in their abilities. Isolation has dissipated as they have developed lifelong bonds and friendships with their peers. They have in turn taught the volunteers and coaches to never set limits and to expect the unexpected." What is the Wolf Pack looking forward to in the next 25 years?

"We would love to see more community volunteers and support. More sponsorships to help our program," said LaPrade. "These are vital for our continued growth and our goal to serve as many athletes as we possibly can."

Learn how to avoid scammers at free library program Oct. 5

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Libraries' Mission Bend Branch Library will present "Avoiding Scams" on Saturday, October 5, from 2 to 3 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the library, located at 8421 Addicks Clodine Road, in northeast Fort Bend County. Erica Knighton, from the Prairie View A&M Extension Office in Fort Bend County, will talk about the ways con artists use the Internet, cellphones, and email to target unsuspecting victims. Learn about some of the most common scams, as well as the psychology behind the most effective scams. Those attending will get tips on ways to protect themselves and their family members from becoming the next victim. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, see the Fort Bend County Libraries website (fortbend.lib.tx.us).

Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate

The Harris County Utility District No. 6 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., at the Jackrabbit Road Public Utility District Wastewater Treatment Plant, 16720 Pine Forest Lane, Houston, TX 77084. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners. Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

Table with 2 columns: Proposal Status and Names. Rows include FOR the proposal (R. Watkins, J. J. Sugg, D. Durgin, A. Grzanka & R. W. Schmitz), AGAINST the proposal (none), PRESENT and not voting (none), and ABSENT (none).

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Table with 3 columns: Category, Last Year, and This Year. Rows include Total tax rate (per \$100 of value), Difference in rates per \$100 of value, Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-), Average appraised residence homestead value, General homestead exemptions available, Average residence homestead taxable value, Tax on average residence homestead, and Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-).

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. The purpose for the tax increase is to pay debt service requirements and operations and maintenance of the utility district. The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state. Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Advertisement for Texas Renaissance Festival 50th Anniversary. Features a man and a woman in Renaissance costumes holding a glass. Text includes: Texas Renaissance Festival, 50th Anniversary, Saturdays, Sundays, and Thanksgiving Friday, October 12th - December 1st, To purchase tickets and for more information, scan the QR code, TexRenFest.com.

Harmony Public School teacher named to cohort of rising school leaders

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Quiana Toliver, Dean of College and Career at the Harmony School of Innovation–Katy has been named to a cohort of rising school leaders by Teach Plus, according to a September press release from Harmony Public Schools. Harmony School of Innovation Katy is a public charter school serving grades 8-12 located at 22400 Grand Corner Drive in Katy.

Toliver is among 20 effective school leaders from seven school districts across Texas for its first Harmony Public Schools Leader Advisory Cabinet by Teach Plus, a national nonprofit that empowers teachers to lead student-centered improvements in educational policy and instructional practice. The 2024-25 cabinet will work on such issues as leadership teams, leader resilience, school culture, and improved systems to ensure Harmony Public Schools (HPS) are effective and are focused on achievement and opportunities for students, according to the press release. The cabinet will present its solutions to policy-makers at the end of the school year.

The members of the Harmony School Leader Advisory Cabinet represent all regions of HPS and include district coaches, deans, principals, and assistant area superintendents. The cabinet members’ years of service in the Harmony system range from two to 17 years. Each cabinet member was chosen based on their strong commitment to equity, their ability to articulate the needs of their school communities, and their pursuit of excellence and innovation in their leadership.

Throughout the program, cabinet members will be trained in policy, advocacy, research, and communications, honing skills necessary to advocate for changes for HPS students and communities.

“Growing our next generation of Harmony leaders is critical to our long-term success as an organization and our students’ long-term success as learners. Strong leaders are able to create a clear vision and strategic direction for their campuses which allow student achievement to flourish. We are proud to partner with Teach Plus to empower our next generations of Harmony leaders,” said Har-

mony Public Schools CEO Fatih Ay. “School leaders, in collaboration with teacher leaders in their buildings, play a crucial role in addressing the unique needs of their school communities and growing opportunities and outcomes for students. Through our partnership with Harmony Public Schools, we are empowering extraordinary school leaders to create the conditions for the teachers and students in the Harmony network to thrive,” said Teach Plus CEO Kira Orange Jones.

The Harmony School Leader Advisory Cabinet builds on the success of the Teacher Advisory Cabinet, which Teach Plus launched in collaboration with HPS in 2017 to focus on the twin priorities of teacher leadership and student achievement. Between 2017-18 and 2023-24 school year, the Teacher Advisory Cabinet’s accomplishments have included:

- Additional training and support for campus and district leaders on distributed leadership
- Compensation for teacher leaders who hold multiple leadership roles
- Streamlining of the lesson planning and preparation process
- Professional development agenda adjustments to include time for teacher preparation and practice
- Improved implementation plans for student and staff emotional well-being
- Additional training and resources to support instructional improvement plans

Harmony Public Schools is a Texas-born, Texas-wide public charter school system with more than 60 campuses serving PreK-Grade 12 students in 23 cities across the state, including Greater Houston, DFW, San Antonio, Austin, El Paso, Waco, Lubbock, Midland-Odessa, Bryan, Beaumont, and the Rio Grande Valley. Harmony’s curriculum places a heavy focus on STEM skills, character education, project-based learning, and college readiness.

Teach Plus is entering into its seventh year of partnering with Harmony, working alongside its executive leadership team to develop systems of feedback that elevate teacher voice and support principals so that distributed leadership can thrive.

Katy ISD to host operations job fair on October 19

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy ISD is inviting experienced professionals to its upcoming Operations Job Fair, to be held Saturday, October 19 at Morton Ranch High School, 21000 Franz Road in Katy, from 9-11 a.m.

Several department representatives will be in attendance to discuss available positions, including:

- Bus drivers
- Nutrition and food service staff
- Grounds crew
- Custodial staff

- General maintenance staff
 - Security guards
- Benefits include competitive salaries, health insurance options and flexible hours for full and part-time positions.
- “We are always looking to grow our team here in Katy ISD, and our Operations staff is vital to making our District run smoothly,” said Ted Vierling, Chief Operations Officer in Katy ISD.
- Visit the Katy ISD Human Resources webpage at tx50010808.schoolwires.net/Page/7470 to learn more about the district.

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Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 538 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Monday, October 28, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, 3200 Southwest Freeway, STE 2600, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	William Jordan, RC Simmons, Matt Bennett, Katherine Carmichael	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	Michael Autenreith Sr.	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$1.33000 /\$100 Adopted	\$1.33000 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00000 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$422,061.00	\$416,946.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$422,061.00	\$416,946.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$5,613.41	\$5,545.38
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$-68.03 -1.21%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The HARRIS-WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 12 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 12:00 P.M. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Justin Klump, Geneva van Zijll, Joan Leiber Ryman, Donald Hayter, Matthew O'Neill	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.99000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.99000 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00000 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	** \$0.00	\$367,176.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$0.00	\$367,176.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$0.00	\$3,635.04
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$3,635.04 0.00%	

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 8 percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

** There were no residential homesteads on either January 1, 2023 or January 1, 2024 therefore the tax that would have been imposed on a residential homestead is \$0.00. Due to this the tax election rate is not applicable for the 2024 tax year.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Should you have any questions concerning this notice, please contact the tax office at 281-482-0216.



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
Preparing for the September 26 ribbon cutting at the newly renovated campus of Hutsell Elementary at 5630 Franz Road in Katy are (left to right) State Representative Mike Schofield, Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele, Katy ISD Superintendent Ken Gregorski, Hutsell Principal Shaunta Smith, and Katy ISD Assistant Superintendent for Elementary School Leadership Supervision Kristin Harper.

Hutsell Elementary School unveils campus renovations

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Hutsell Hive was all abuzz as Katy ISD held a ribbon cutting ceremony and celebration at the elementary school at 5630 Franz in Katy, on September 26, showcasing the recent improvements to the aging facility. The campus was extensively renovated as part of Katy ISD's 2021 bond package, including mechanical, electrical, and plumbing renovations and architectural improvements to learning spaces.

A capacity crowd of parents, current students, former students and staff, KISD administrators, and public officials attended the event, which featured Hutsell's choir and representatives from the school's diverse community, dressed in costumes representing their native lands.



The Hutsell Elementary choir welcomed visitors inside the school's recently renovated building at 5630 Franz Road in Katy, during a special open house and ribbon cutting ceremony on September 26.

Hutsell opened in 1978 and is named for Zelma Hutsell, who served as a dedicated teacher and administrator in Katy ISD for more than 20 years. She began teaching in

Katy ISD in 1943 and retired in 1967, after serving as principal of Katy Elementary. The school's mascot is the Hornet and Shaunta Smith is the current principal.

Katy ISD music ensembles named to national honors list

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fourteen Katy ISD ensembles have earned the 2024 Mark of Excellence recognition from The Foundation for Music Education, Katy ISD announced on September 26. "These groups represent the very best of middle and high school musicianship, continuing the district's stellar reputation in fine arts," said a district spokesperson.

The Mark of Excellence recognizes outstanding performance by middle and high school bands, choirs and orchestras, and the Citation of Excellence recognizes high achievement by non-varsity middle and high school bands and orchestras. The top 25% of entrants are marked "National Winner" and "Citation Winner," respectively, and the second 25% of entrants are named "Commended Winner."

"Katy ISD continues to shine in fine arts, having fourteen ensembles honored among this year's winners," said Damon Archer, Executive Director of Fine Arts. "This national recognition further illustrates the high quality of fine arts education, as well as the quality of our fine arts directors."

The Foundation for Music Education exists to support and advance music education. Visit foundationformusiceducation.org to learn more about the organization.

Katy ISD's 2024 awardees include the following ensembles:



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATY ISD
Pictured are orchestras from Beckendorff Junior High.

Distinction	Category	Ensemble
National Winner	High School Full Orchestra	Jordan High School
National Winner	High School Full Orchestra	Seven Lakes High School
National Winner	High School String Orchestra	Jordan High School
National Winner	High School String Orchestra	Seven Lakes Junior High
National Winner	Middle School String	Beckendorff Junior High
Commended Winner	Middle School Treble Choir	McMeans Junior High
Commended Winner	Middle School Treble Choir	Seven Lakes Junior High
Commended Winner	High School String Orchestra	Taylor High School
Commended Winner	Middle S. String Orchestra	Cinco Ranch Junior High
Citation of Excellence	Band Class AA	Adams Junior High
Citation of Excellence	High School String Orchestra	Jordan High School
Citation of Excellence	Middle S. String Orchestra	Cinco Ranch Junior High
Commended Winner	Band Class AAAAAA	Seven Lakes High School
Citation of Excellence	High School String Orchestra	Seven Lakes High School
Commended Winner		



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Katy ISD announces partnership with local K9 organization to enhance campus safety

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Beginning the week of September 25, the Katy ISD Police Department is partnering with Covenant K9 Detection Services to provide another layer of security to district schools, the district said in a post on its Facebook page. According to the post, Covenant K9 Detection Services specializes in training canines and handlers and providing weapons and narcotics detection support for schools and

other industries.

Through the collaboration, a team consisting of a Katy ISD police officer, a K9 handler, and a trained canine will work alongside designated school safety personnel and administrators to conduct random sweeps of secondary campuses and parking lots throughout the year, the post said.

"We are committed to using all available tools to keep our students and staff safe," said Katy ISD Police Chief Henry Gaw in the post. "These

K9 teams will enhance and strengthen our already robust safety measures across the district."

According to the post, the new partnership extends the capabilities of the Katy ISD Police force, which has previously employed K9 units as part of its security teams. "The district will now outsource the training and management of the canines, adopting a cost-effective approach while still delivering a comprehensive safety and security strategy," the post said.

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whcrwa.com/projects

Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project

Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion Project

Week 6 Katy ISD Football Previews

Teams try to gain edge in playoff picture

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

All Games District 19-6A

THURSDAY

Paetow (3-1, 2-0) vs. Morton Ranch (0-5, 0-3), 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

Last year: Morton Ranch 22, Paetow 21
• Paetow and Morton Ranch meet to kick off week six of district play, with the Panthers looking to keep up an unbeaten start to district and Morton Ranch trying to get into the win column for the first time this year.

Paetow comes off a big win over Mayde Creek where the defense was superb and the offense came alive in the second half to seal the victory. The Panthers' defense allowed less than 200 yards of total offense and shut out the Rams, winning the turnover battle as well as the Panthers moved to 2-0 in district play and put themselves in good position to battle for a playoff spot. Terrence Johnson continued his hot streak, running for 171 yards and Jackson Farrar threw for 140 yards in the win.

Morton Ranch comes off a hard loss to Jordan in its third district game, falling to 0-5 on the season with the loss. The Mavericks allowed 271 yards passing and 186 yards rushing in the loss, not being able to stop Jordan's offense, while the Morton Ranch offense struggled as well. Tyler Gilmore kept up his strong play though, rushing for two touchdowns from 56 and four yards out during the game.

Paetow comes into this matchup with all the momentum while Morton Ranch hasn't been able to build any so far and is looking for some positive things after its loss. The Panthers are looking for their fourth straight win as they try to continue to string things together.

Tompkins (1-3, 0-2) vs. Mayde Creek (3-2, 1-2), 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Tompkins 45, Mayde Creek 16
• Tompkins and Mayde Creek are searching for bounce backs early in district play and both need them as they try to stay in the playoff race as things tighten up.

The Falcons come off their bye week and will be hungry after an 0-2 start in the district schedule, using the bye week to try and be ready for a big challenge against the Rams. The Falcons weren't able to stay with Paetow last time they took the field as the team's defense struggled in the loss, allowing 361 yards on the ground. The Falcons ran for 177 yards in the game but only threw for 92. They know there's improvements to be made and will hope they came with the week off.

Mayde Creek also comes off a game against Paetow, where they stayed with the Panthers for the first half before Paetow pulled away in the second half as the Rams couldn't find an offense down the stretch. The Rams only rushed for 53 yards in the game, but threw for 126 and found a way to move the ball in the air at times. Ethan Lopez threw for 87 yards and rushed for 32, while Daylin Robinson had 62 yards receiving to lead the way for Mayde Creek in the loss.



Ethan Lopez runs the ball as Carmello Brooks tries to make a tackle during Friday's game between Paetow and Mayde Creek at Legacy Stadium.



Marcus Gadlin celebrates with Scott Eckel after a touchdown during a game between Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes at Rhodes Stadium.

This is a make or break game for both teams. For both, a third district loss this early in the schedule would be very hard to come back from if they want to battle for a playoff loss and both will bring everything they have to battle for a win.

FRIDAY

Cinco Ranch (2-3, 2-1) vs. Jordan (5-0, 3-0), 6:30 p.m. at Legacy Stadium

Last year: Jordan 48, Cinco Ranch 21
• Jordan and Cinco Ranch meet on Friday in what has the making for a thrilling shootout between two teams vying for playoff contention in district with both programs coming off of strong weeks.

The Cougars come off of arguably their best performance of the season after their win over Taylor. Cinco's offense exploded on the day, Charlie Adamoli threw for 290 yards and four touchdowns while only playing in the first half, while Scott Eckel had 179 yards receiving on 10 catches, Jacob Chevez had 103 yards and two touchdowns on three catches and Marcus Gadlin ran for 61 yards and two touchdowns in the win. Defensively, the Cougars limited Taylor to under 250 yards and forced three turnovers.

Jordan continued its hot start to the season and remained undefeated after a win over Morton Ranch. Beau Bryant

started and used his first game as the full time starter for Jordan to put up good numbers. The junior threw for 184 yards on 11 of 16 passes, throwing for a touchdown, while rushing for 93 yards and another score. Zion Jones added 53 yards and two touchdowns on the ground. Andrew Marsh had 109 yards and a touchdown on five catches while Tanner West caught two passes for 103 yards and a touchdown.

It will be a battle of whose defense can step up the most. Both offenses can be high flying and put up points and it will be up to the defenses to try and slow them down.

Taylor (2-3, 1-2) vs. Seven Lakes (2-2, 0-2), 7 p.m. at Rhodes Stadium

Last year: Taylor 31, Seven Lakes 10
• Taylor and Seven Lakes come into this week trying to bounce back after a struggling week, with Taylor trying to earn its second district win and Seven Lakes needing to get a win on the board to break a two-game win streak.

Taylor comes off a loss to Cinco Ranch in its third district game where the Mustangs weren't able to keep pace with a Cougars team that attacked the Taylor secondary in the pass game. The Mustangs struggled offensively, only throwing for 63 yards, but did find some success in the run game, where they had 170 yards, including 116 yards and two touchdowns from Xavier Haynes and 38 yards from Javion Garrett. The Mustangs had two interceptions in the air though and could not get anything going when they tried to pass the ball, while they allowed 427 yards through he air to Cinco Ranch.

Seven Lakes had the same struggles in its game against Katy in a loss. The Spartans could not stop the run or the pass game in the matchup and offensively were shutout, being unable to get anything going in the game.

It'll be a battle of two strong defenses and run games in the matchup. Both teams will try to use the run game to get the defenses to bite down before trying to hit play actions over the top, but at the same time, both teams have very strong run defenses as well.



Katy wide receiver Israel Olotu-Judah (1) carries the ball through contact with Cinco Ranch safety Andrew Reagan (5) during a high school football game between Katy and Cinco Ranch on September 20, 2024 in Katy, Texas.

Katy stays at 13, Jordan improves one spot in Dave Campbell's football rankings

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy stayed at No. 13 in the state while Jordan jumped one spot to No. 23 in this week's Dave Campbell's Texas Football rankings.

Katy remained at No. 13 in the Class 6A rankings after a 49-0 win over Seven Lakes in which the Tigers pulled away and never let the Spartans get close. Katy improved to 4-1 in with the win and remained tied for the lead in district with Jordan before heading into a bye week this week.

The Warriors improved one spot after a 50-14 win, jumping from No. 24 to 23 while improving to 5-0 overall and 3-0 in district, staying tied for the District 19-6A lead after a big week. The Warriors will play Cinco Ranch this week in a big district matchup.

Jordan jumped over Northwestern Nelson, who fell out of the rankings this week. The top five remained the same as Duncanville, North Shore, North Crowley, DeSoto and Summer Creek remained one through five.

Table with 6 columns: Rank, School, (Record), Week 5, Prv rank. It lists the top 25 teams in Class 6A, including Duncanville, Galena Park N. Shore, North Crowley, DeSoto, Humble Summer Creek, Southlake Carroll, Lake Travis, Humble Atascocita, Allen, Coppell, Lamar Fulshear, Austin Westlake, Katy, Fort Bend Ridge Point, Prosper, Willis, The Woodlands, Fort Bend Hightower, Bridgeland, Denton Guyer, Cibolo Steele, Cypress Springs, Katy Jordan, SA Northside Brennan, and Euless Trinity.

Table with 8 columns: Team, W, L, District W, District L, District PF, District PA. It shows the District 19-6A Standings for teams including Katy, Jordan, Paetow, Cinco Ranch, Mayde Creek, Taylor, Tompkins, Seven Lakes, and Morton Ranch.



Zion Jones runs up the field during a game between Jordan and Tompkins at Legacy Stadium.



Advertisement for Katy Elite Suites Workspace/Suites. The ad features a logo, a QR code, and several sections describing the benefits of the workspace: 'SOLUTIONS FOR MODERN BUSINESS' (diverse coworking solutions), 'VIRTUAL OFFICE SOLUTIONS' (secure location with mail services), 'REACHING NEW HEIGHTS' (premium business solutions for remote workers), 'IMPRESSIVE AMENITIES' (dedicated community managers), 'MEETING AND PODCAST ROOMS' (convenient location for client meetings), and 'FIND THE IDEAL OFFICE SPACE FOR YOU starting at just \$600 per month'.

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Last-minute touchdown leads Texans past Jaguars

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Sunday was a lesson in overcoming adversity for the Houston Texans.

The game didn't go how Houston wanted. There were muffed punts, lots of drive stalling penalties, different sides of the ball struggling in different halves and having to rely on just one thing with the team's offense.

But despite all of those things going wrong, the Texans (3-1) found a way. Down the stretch the team did what it had to do and the most important mission was accomplished — they came away with a win, topping the Jacksonville Jaguars (0-4) to stay in first place in the AFC South and bounce back from the previous week's loss to the Minnesota Vikings.

"I'm very proud of our guys, because this is never going to be easy," said Texans head coach DeMeco Ryans. "We talked last night about whatever it takes — however long, however messy — we just have to find a way to win and finish out the first month of the season strong, so I'm proud of all the guys for finishing the right way."

CJ Stroud and Nico Collins were exceptional once again. The second-year quarterback threw for 345 yards and two touchdowns on 27 of 40 passing while Collins had 12 catches for 151 yards and a touchdown. Collins is on pace to go over 2,000 yards this season and has been on fire through four games.

"I'm just finding ways to be available and trying to help the team any way in which my number is called," Collins said. "I'm going to do whatever I can to make a lay for my team — I'm going out there with my brothers and fighting every week and there's no better feeling. We just have to continue to build, continue to get better and push each other and that's all of our mindsets right now."

For the second straight week, the Texans shot themselves in the foot right at the beginning of the game. After forcing a punt from Jacksonville on its opening drive, Steven Sims muffed a punt at the Texans goal line which was recovered by the Jaguars at the Texans 2-yard line. Trevor Lawrence made Houston pay on the very next play, throwing a 2-yard touchdown pass to Brian Thomas Jr. that gave Jacksonville an early lead.

The Texans' offense answered back with a strong first drive that was capped off by a 6-yard touchdown run from Stefon Diggs and after a Jacksonville field goal, the Texans retook the lead early in the second half by putting together a 12-play 74 yard

drive that was finished off by a 3-yard pass from Stroud to Nico Collins.

The Texans' defense limited Jacksonville to another field goal with just under four minutes remaining in the half and then the Houston offense drove the length of the field again before settling for a 30-yard field goal from Ka'imi Fairbairn right before time expired in the second quarter that put Houston up 17-13 at halftime.

Houston was unable to put points on the board in the third quarter and meanwhile the Jaguars moved the ball well and took the lead midway through the third when Lawrence through an eight yard touchdown pass to Christian Kirk. The Jaguars drove the ball all the way down the field again late in the quarter, but on the first play of the fourth, Houston's defense stepped up and stopped a fourth and two at the goal line that kept Houston within three points.

The Texans' defense continued to come up big while the Texans' offense continued to falter all throughout the fourth quarter until the Texans' final drive of the game, where they went 69-yards in nine plays and with just 22 seconds left found the game winning touchdown on a 1-yard pass from Stroud to Dare Ogunbowale, as the Texans escaped with an important win.

"We just started clicking on that last drive — I don't know what was different but we just started to do the right things," Stroud said. "We stopped moving backwards, we were efficient and moved the ball and we did a good job of taking what we were given. Our defense did such a god job and kept us in the game. They gave us a final shot and we needed that, I love those guys they really stepped up today. Any time we have a bad day on offense they always have our back and vice versa."

Next week will be a big test for Houston as the undefeated Bills come to town. There will be things to continue to clean up and fix, especially with penalties, which the Texans had 12 of that cost the team 93 yards in total. That will be a big talking point as Houston tries to get ready for a challenging opponent.

"We have a lot of things to clean up — these penalties, it seems like were trying to break the record for the most penalties in the league. This is our third straight game with over 10 penalties and that isn't nearly good enough," Ryans said. "We have to find guys who will do the right thing all the time and play clean football. But I'm very proud of the effort from all of our guys and finding a way to win when we had to."



Above: Texans wide receiver Stefon Diggs (1) gestures after scoring his first career rushing touchdown on a 6-yard carry during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on August 24, 2024 in Houston. The Texans won, 24-20. Left: Texans quarterback C.J. Stroud (7) is brought down in the backfield during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on August 24, 2024 in Houston. Below (left): Texans running back Cam Akers (22) carries the ball during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on August 24, 2024 in Houston. Below (right): Texans quarterback C.J. Stroud (7) passes the ball to running back Dare Ogunbowale (33) during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Jacksonville Jaguars on August 24, 2024 in Houston.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

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PAETOW 28, MAYDE CREEK 0

Table with 2 rows and 10 columns showing scores for Paetow and Mayde Creek.

Third quarter

P: Terrence Johnson 19 run (Omar Yaghi kick) 4:45

P: Johnson 4 run (Yaghi kick) 1:33

Fourth quarter

P: Johnson 31 run (Yaghi kick) 8:15

P: Jaidyon Bernard 3 run (Yaghi kick) 0:41

Team stats

Table with 3 columns: Stat, PAETOW, MAYDE CREEK. Rows include First downs, Yards rushing, Yards passing, Passes, Punts, Fumbles-lost, and Penalty-yards.

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Paetow: Terrence Johnson, 25-171-3; Curtis Zeno, 1-11; Jaidyon Bernard, 1-3-1; Jordan Bedford, 2-7; Jackson Farrar, 4-(-3) Mayde Creek: Ethan Lopez, 9-32; Ansel Carter, 4-16; Christian Bradford, 4-8; Michael Shifatu, 3-4; Chad Nelson, 2-1; Cole Jensen, 1-(-3); Kosi Okpala, 1-(-5);

Passing – Paetow: Jackson Farrar, 14-24-140-0-0; Mayde Creek: Ethan Lopez, 12-26-87-0-1; Cole Jensen, 4-9-41-0-0;

Receiving – Paetow: Ikenna Nwobu, 11-102; Terrence Johnson, 2-30; Jeremy McCullough, 1-8; Mayde Creek: Daylin Robinon, 7-62; Chad Nelson, 4-32; Christian Bradford, 1-19; David Matthews Jr., 1-14; Ansel Carter, 2-8;



Chad Nelson turns up field with the ball during Friday's game between Paetow and Mayde Creek at Legacy Stadium.

PAETOW

from page B1

in the second half and never looked back.”

Johnson has exploded onto the scene in the past two weeks. The senior ran for over 300 yards in the Panthers' district opening win over Tompkins and followed it up with another exceptional performance on Friday, rushing the ball 25 times for 171 yards and three touchdowns to help lead the Panthers to the win.

“It’s all credit to the work Terrence put in all offseason to get to this point,” said Paetow head coach David Hicks Sr. “As soon as the season ended, he was just laser focused and he’s never stopped working. I don’t think there’s any pressure on him because he has already put in the work to succeed and it’s all just coming naturally for him. It’s awesome to see.”

It was a scoreless first half between the two teams, with both moving the ball somewhat but never getting into a threatening position. But all of that changed in the second half when Paetow found its breakthrough, driving down the field and scoring on a 19-yard run from Johnson, who added another later in the quarter on a three-yard run. Johnson sealed the game early in the fourth with a 31-yard touchdown run and Jaidyon Bernard added a 3-yard touchdown with under a minute remaining for the cherry on top.

Through all of this the Paetow defense stifled everything from Mayde Creek, limiting the Rams to under 200 yards of total offense in the shutout win. Every time the Rams would move the ball Paetow would have the answer, repeatedly putting Paetow’s offense in good field position throughout the night.

“I think our defense just keeps getting better and we’re just a bunch fo guys who want to go out and make plays,” said senior safety Deyjhon Pettaway. “Coach (Charlie) Ayro is doing such a great job with us, he knows his players, he’s put



Jackson Farrar stiff arms Johnaton Haywood during Friday's game between Paetow and Mayde Creek at Legacy Stadium.



Above (left) Ikenna Nwobu catches a pass during Friday's game between Paetow and Mayde Creek at Legacy Stadium. Above (right) Terrence Johnson turns up field during Friday's game between Paetow and Mayde Creek at Legacy Stadium.



us in a great scheme, and we all fit into the system. We really changed our mindset this year. We want to be a defense with attitude. Coach Ayro puts us in positions to succeed and we just trust the man, go out there and make plays. That’s all it takes. Everyone is doing their job and it’s just working really well.”

Paetow has put itself in a great position early in the district schedule with its 2-0 start in district. The Panthers sit third in district and have a chance to keep up their three-game win streak next week when they take on Morton Ranch.

“Our focus is just on what is ahead of us that week,” Hicks

said. “I always talk to them about being calm and while we are going to celebrate this one and take 24 hours, I always come back to the Kobe Bryant quote, ‘jobs not finished.’ It’s on to Morton Ranch for us. They have our full attention and we’re looking forward to putting together another really good week.”

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 287 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 12:00 noon, at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, San Jacinto Room, Houston, TX 77027 Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: F. Sheehy, S. Sloan, A. Juarez, A. Secor & D. Fontaine

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: (none)

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Table with 3 columns: Description, Last Year, This Year. Rows include Total tax rate, Difference in rates, Percentage increase/decrease, Average appraised residence homestead value, General homestead exemptions, Average residence homestead taxable value, Tax on average residence homestead, and Annual increase/decrease in taxes.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Nottingham Country Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 11:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Blanco Conference Room, Houston, TX. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal: R. Hudson, V. Brown, A. Wiggins & S. Motyka

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: W. Skelton

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Table with 3 columns: Description, Last Year, This Year. Rows include Total tax rate, Difference in rates, Percentage increase/decrease, Average appraised residence homestead value, General homestead exemptions, Average residence homestead taxable value, Tax on average residence homestead, Annual increase/decrease in taxes, and NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

Notwithstanding the above, the Water Code permits the district to include any unused increment rate in calculating the maximum rate allowed without an election. After including the unused increment rate that maximum rate is \$0.275 and, therefore, no election is required.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Questions regarding this notice can be directed to the tax office at (281) 499-1223.

CINCO

from page B1

Cinco though came right back with two more touchdowns before the end of the half, on a 5-yard touchdown run from Gadlin and a 73-yard pass from Adamoli to freshman receiver Jacob Chevez, who went 73 yards for a score to make it 41-7 Cinco heading into the half.

“The coaches put us in a great position, and it was just a great game plan today,” said senior wide receiver Scott Eckel. “We have the great coaches and they put us in position to make plays. It’s been a huge part of the program for years and it’s just awesome to always be put in the right positions like that.”

The second strike for Cinco came in in the second half and things didn’t slow down. Davis Roup threw for two touchowns, a five yarder to Tureau and a 31 yarder to Chevez as Taylor was able to muster two touchdowns in the second half on a 69-yard run from Xavier Haynes and a 42-yard touchdown pass from Scott Lewis to Chanze Harris.

It was a big day for the Cinco defense. The Cougars forced three turnovers and limited Taylor to under 240 yards of total offense, including just 63 yards through the air. The three turnovers put Cinco into the positive in turnover differential this year and it was a huge part of helping the team get out to a huge lead in the first half.

“Our team goal each week is to create three takeaways and it’s always big when you do that and put yourself in a position to succeed,” said Cinco Ranch head coach Chris Dudley. “If you win the turnover battle, especially by two or more, then your chances of winning drastically go up. We don’t just hope for takeaways, we preach on creating them and how to do that on defense. That was huge for us tonight and hopefully we can keep doing that going forward.”

Cinco will hope to carry this



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Connor Brock makes a catch during a game between Cinco Ranch and The Woodlands at Rhodes Stadium.

momentum into next week, when they face one of their biggest tests so far against Jordan. The Cougars though are focused on themselves, continuing to improve and putting the best product on the field that they can.

“The goal is just to continue to improve every week and I think we have

done that so far,” said senior linebacker Luke Mathiasmeier. “I think we had our best week of practice this week and we just have to keep improving on that, keep pushing and being more physical than teams and focus on what we can control. We’re excited for every game that is in front of us.”

CINCO RANCH 55, TAYLOR 21

Taylor	0	7	7	7	--	21
Cinco Ranch	28	13	7	7	--	55

First quarter

CR: Marcus Gadlin 10 run (Andrew Reagan kick) 10:54
CR: Charlie Adamoli 10 pass to Drew Tureau (Reagan kick) 7:18
CR: Adamoli 35 pass to Matthew Courtois (Reagan kick) 6:05
CR: Adamoli 21 pass to Drew Tureau (Reagan kick) 2:47

Second quarter

T: Xavier Haynes 4 run (Moaz Sabek kick) 10:48
CR: Gadlin 5 run (Reagan kick) 5:34
CR: Adamoli 73 pass to Jacob Chevez (Reagan kick) 52:07

Third quarter

CR: Davis Roup 5 pass to Drew Tureau (Reagan kick) 3:22
T: Haynes 69 run (Sabek kick) 11:34

Fourth quarter

CR: Roup 31 pass to Chevez (Jesus Bravo kick) 6:16
T: Scott Lewis 42 pass to Chanze Harris (Sabek kick) 0:42

Team stats

	TAYLOR	CINCO RANCH
First downs	8	17
Yards rushing	33-170	20-77
Yards passing	63	427
Passes	4-20-1-2	24-28-6-0
Punts	5-22	3-34
Fumbles-lost	1-1	1-0
Penalty-yards	5-63	6-53

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Cinco Ranch: Marcus Gadlin, 11-61-2; Charlie Adamoli, 2-10; Brayden Gonzalez, 4-7; Brian McRay, 2-0; Taylor: Xavier Haynes, 18-116-2; Javion Garrett, 9-38; Derek Story, 2-23; Jack Sarubbi, 4-(-7);
Passing – Cinco Ranch: Charlie Adamoli, 13-16-290-4-0; Davis Roup, 11-12-137-2-0; Taylor: Jack Sarubbi, 2-12-13-0-2; Scott Lewis, 2-8-50-1-0
Receiving – Cinco Ranch: Scott Eckel, 10-179; Jacob Chevez, 3-103-2; Matthew Courtois, 3-54-1; Drew Tureau, 3-36-3; Connor Brock, 1-26; Luke Wolskij, 3-19; Rex Rivera, 1-10; Taylor: Chanze Harris, 1-42-1; Will Dyson, 2-14; Josh Jacobson, 1-7;

DEFENSE

from page B1

to rest on the bench in between series, controlling the clock and keep their time of possession up compared to opponents.

“We preach every day about creating takeaways and putting ourselves in winning positions, the kids

have really done a great job of that this year,” Hicks said. “Our biggest focuses are winning on third down, dominating the line of scrimmage, not turning the ball over and creating those turnovers for us on the defensive end. We made that a fo-

cus and the kids completely bought it, have risen up and performed.”

The Panthers have put themselves in the driver’s seat for a playoff spot early in district play but there is still plenty of work to be done for the Panthers to reach

their goals. They have started well, with wins over Tompkins and Mayde Creek, but still have battles ahead against plenty of playoff contenders. While there’s time to celebrate the day and the win, but the Panthers are focused on

improving and making sure those goals are achieved.

“I always show them the Kobe Bryant clip, that’s what we will go back too right now,” Hicks said. “We have 24 hours to be happy, but like Kobe said, ‘job’s not finished.’”

WATER DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON TAX RATE

The MAYDE CREEK M.U.D. will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on October 28, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Mayde Creek Event Center, 19600 Misty Cove, Katy, TX 77449. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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FOR the proposal:	Cyrus Dumas, Betty Alvarenga, Jessica Graham, Lee Crenshaw and Erwin Sanchez	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.69000/\$100 Adopted	\$.68000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$.01000/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-1.44%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 236,349	\$ 257,190
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 236,349	\$ 257,190
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,630.80	\$ 1,748.89
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 118.09 7.24%	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the mandatory election tax rate. The mandatory election tax rate is \$0.68411 and therefore, notwithstanding the above, no election is required. The board of directors proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of rehabilitation of aging infrastructure.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

WATER DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

ON TAX RATE

The MEMORIAL M.U.D. will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on October 28, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. at 805 Hidden Canyon, Katy, Texas 77450. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes. including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

FOR the proposal:	Timothy C. Miller, Miguel G. Hull, W.F. Trotter, Jr., Crystal Sampson	
AGAINST the proposal:	None	
PRESENT and not voting:	None	
ABSENT:	Thomas H. Williams	

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.32500/\$100 Adopted	\$.30000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$.02500/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	-7.69%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 304,758	\$ 333,075
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 304,758	\$ 333,075
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 990.46	\$ 999.22
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 8.76 .88%	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011



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