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SPORTS | B1

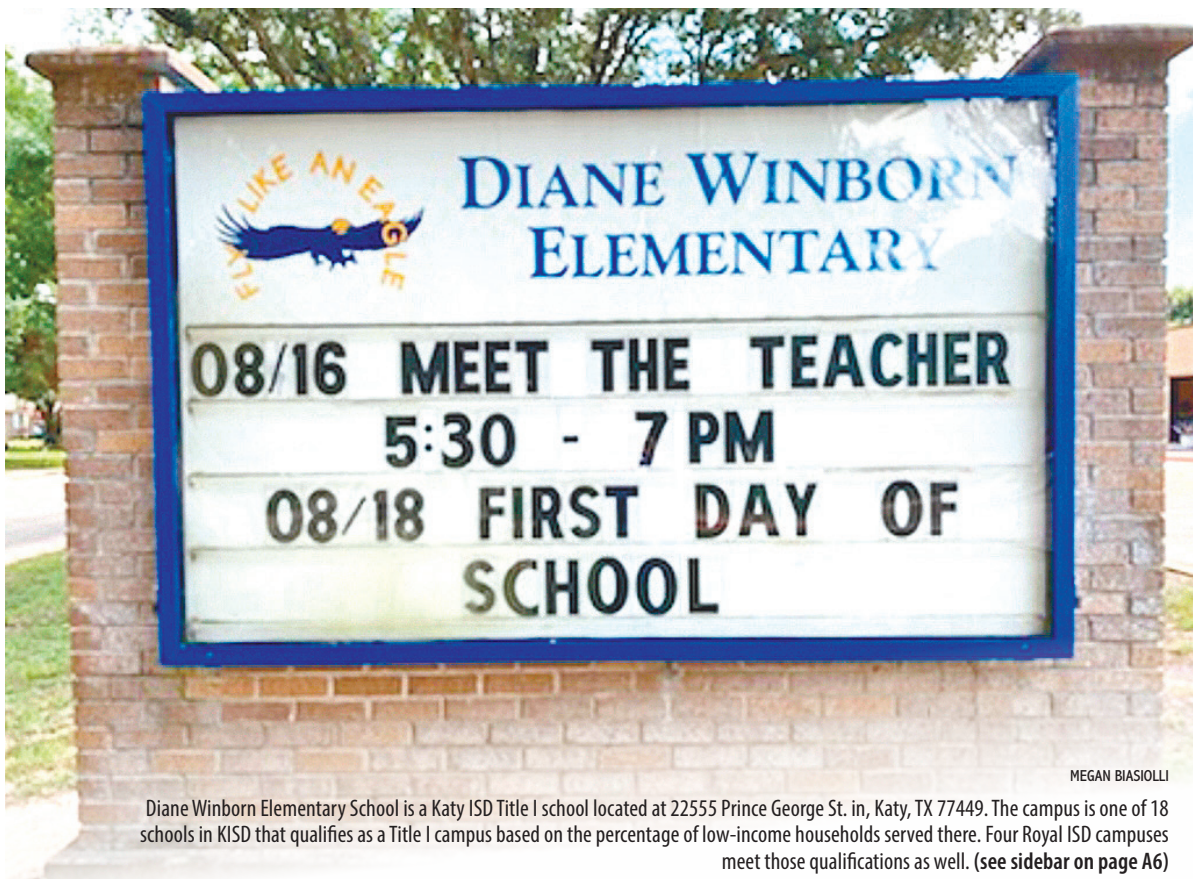
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021



MEGAN BIASIOLLI

Diane Winborn Elementary School is a Katy ISD Title I school located at 22555 Prince George St. in, Katy, TX 77449. The campus is one of 18 schools in KISD that qualifies as a Title I campus based on the percentage of low-income households served there. Four Royal ISD campuses meet those qualifications as well. (see sidebar on page A6)

Addressing the need

Area school districts tackle Title I challenges amid pandemic

BY MEGAN BIASIOLLI
EDITORIAL INTERN

Title I schools are institutions that receive funding for additional educational resources for schools that have an increased number of students from low-income families. Both Royal ISD and Katy ISD are preparing for students to come back to school and setting up the programs to be implemented for the students who need it.

According to a Texas Education Agency spokesperson, Title I, Part A of the Texas Education Code provides additional resources for schools with higher numbers of low-income students to ensure those students' economic barriers to education are mitigated and to ensure the campus meets state performance standards.

The TEA provides different kinds of resources to Title I schools including material resources and services along with funding. Their resources include print resources, statewide training and technical assistance through the regional Education Service Centers, according to the agency's website. Last school year the TEA distributed just under \$1.5 million to Title I schools statewide.

Katy ISD

Forty percent of students from KISD Title I schools are economically disadvantaged, said KISD Director of Federal Programs and External

Funding Nakia Coy. These schools complete a needs assessment to decide how funds will be spent through a campus improvement plan. The campus improvement plan includes reform strategies for the school as a whole, possible tutoring programs and a family engagement plan. KISD concentrates on giving funds to elementaries to help younger students, Coy said.

KISD uses its funding from the government on resources students need to succeed. Title I money goes toward books, teaching aids and technology to help students succeed. These funds are also used for professional development and to have more intervention teachers on hand, Coy said. Intervention teachers provide knowledge and support for students who have behavioral, social and educational challenges.

To keep parents engaged, the district focuses on communication by providing parents with materials to ensure they are aware of what is being taught to encourage them to engage with the schools.

"This effort is to support communication between home and school and help support education at home," said Coy.

The 2020-21 school year was a challenge due to virtual learning students had to endure during the pandemic. Students in KISD Title I campuses historically perform higher than students state-

See **TITLE I**, page A6

Morton Ranch HS mariachi celebrates diverse student body

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Morton Ranch High School Director of Orchestras Gabriel Katz is excited to have finally begun a mariachi group for the Mavericks.

"I've been wanting to start a mariachi group for the last couple years," Katz said. "I approached (Morton Ranch High School Principal Julie Hinson) about it and she was just super excited."

Katz said the group had a bit of a false start during the 2019-20 school year due to the pandemic and virtual schooling that faded out as virtual learning took over. However, during the summer, he worked with Hinson to develop a plan and get the group underway. After a student-interest meeting to gauge excitement for a mariachi program, Katz said about 30 students showed

See **MARIACHI**, page A3



COURTESY KATY ISD

(From left to right) Morton Ranch High School Principal Julie Hinson, mariachi players Evelyn Garcia and Pedro Barrera and Director of Orchestras Gabriel Katz pose for a photo on Aug. 27. Garcia and Barrera pose in new mariachi uniforms provided by Hinson for the school's latest music project which endeavors to celebrate the campus's diverse student body.

UHV-Katy staffer earns national Latino leadership award

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Karla DeCuir, University of Houston-Victoria Katy senior director of enrollment management and external affairs, is one of 26 people across the nation as a National Latino Leader, according to a UHV-Katy press release.

"I am extremely honored to be recognized as one of the Latino Leaders this year," DeCuir said. "It is a privilege to be among so many great leaders from different areas of business in the country, and I love helping other Latinos achieve success in their fields."

See **AWARD**, page A3

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Relay for Life Katy set to fight cancer on Oct. 23

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Relay for Life Katy is coming to kick cancer's backside out of Katy on Saturday, Oct. 23 at Katy City Park according to Brenda Martin, one of the event's organizers.

"It's an actual whole experience," Martin said. "Originally, it started in 1985 when a doctor walked for 24 hours to raise money and awareness for cancer. From there, it started every year. In the past, we've had it all night and the theory is that you have a team and someone from your team is walking the track the entire time."

Martin said the walking portion of the event isn't policed and the event has really become a festival to celebrate victories over cancer, whether those victories are personal recoveries or research advancements. Participants form teams to raise awareness and fundraise for the American Cancer Society. Each team solicits donations through networking from the time they sign up - registrations are currently open at <https://bit.ly/3jRUmQT> - until

the event in October.

During the event, each team has a camp or tent to hang out at between laps and cancer survivors, caregivers and those who just want to make a difference in the fight against the disease walk laps around the Katy City Park at 5720 Franz Road in Katy in a relay-inspired health walk.

"The first lap is the survivor lap - it's just very moving," said Martin. "And then the caregivers join the next lap and then people who are walking to support the cause. There's bounce houses and activities for the kids. There's entertainment going the whole time."

Relay for Life Katy is also a good way for the community to get together

See **RELAY**, page A3

COURTESY RELAY FOR LIFE KATY/BRENDA MARTIN

Brenda Martin (left) poses with her daughter Lyn Sullivan (right) and friends at the 2018 Relay for Life Katy event. The annual walking relay is part relay, part carnival and part awareness campaign in the fight against cancer.



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Breakfast for a Blessing set for Oct. 8

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Christ Clinic Katy is finalizing details for this year's Breakfast for a Blessing fundraiser on Oct. 8 from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Christ Clinic Executive Director Lara Hamilton said this year's event – the tenth annual observance – is one of the nonprofit medical provider's largest funding opportunities of the year. However, she said the event is also about having fun while educating and inspiring the community.

"We are going to have French Cajun-inspired food and decorations," Hamilton said. "We're going to have a horse and carriage there. ... We're pretty excited about the theme and we're thinking that it will show through. We're working hard to make it that way."

Hamilton said volunteers and staff are working to finalize booking musical entertainment with a New Orleans jazz vibe to it as well. This year's financial

goal is \$100,000, she said, but in the face of exacerbated need caused by the pandemic, she's hoping for more. Fundraising through the event has just started, Hamilton said. The clinic is still asking for sponsorships as well and tickets are still available for the event at <https://christclimickaty.org/bfab2021>. Individual tickets are \$75 and sponsorships are available in a range of values from \$500 to \$15,000. However, those who cannot attend or may not be able to afford larger donations may also donate through the site.

Christ Clinic Volunteer Outreach Coordinator Daniel Trejo said the donations and sponsorships don't just cover the cost for planning and putting on the Breakfast for a Blessing event, they also pay for direct services to the patients the clinic provides care for. Trejo said educating attendees on the clinic's mission is a big part of the event as well. Christ Clinic provides low-cost medical care to area residents regardless of race, creed or faith, he said.



COURTESY CHRIST CLINIC

Members of the Katy community attend the 2018 Breakfast for a Blessing event hosted by Christ Clinic. The annual fundraiser is in its tenth year and organizers are hoping to raise \$100,000 or more to help patients in the community better manage their health care through the nonprofit medical provider.

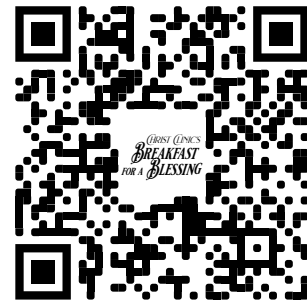
"That's something that we experience at the clinic, in the front desk area a lot, is people come in and a lot of the times the question is, 'Can I be seen if I'm not a Christian?' So, they do ask if they can be seen there for whatever reason and we have to tell them, 'Yeah. Of course. We don't discriminate against you for anything. Jesus loves all people,'" Trejo said.

The keynote speaker for this year's event will be Julia Aftab, Hamilton said. Aftab is an immigrant to the U.S. who was persecuted for her Christian faith. That persecution extended to a lack of access to health care and

Aftab will address what it means to show people how Jesus's love extends through health care regardless of the patient's religious beliefs, Hamilton said.

"It's important that (non-Christians) in our community know that they have a place to go," Hamilton said.

Services at the clinic have been in high demand since the pandemic began last year, Hamilton said. As COVID-19 ramped up, the economic impact and health concerns for patients have intensified. Some clients have avoided preventive care appointments out of fear of COVID-19 exposure. As a result, patients' health conditions such as diabetes and other chronic conditions have gone unmanaged as people balance financial needs and other health risks, she said. With those issues



For more information on Christ Clinic's Breakfast for a Blessing, use your smartphone's camera to scan the QR code above and click the resulting link.

slowly settling out, she is hopeful for clients to be able to improve their health situations.

In the long run, Hamilton said, the Breakfast for a Blessing is about fundraising, but just as importantly,

it is about educating the community about the needs of the community and the opportunities to help neighbors in need. Whether that's connecting the clinic to volunteers or long-term sponsors or making potential clients aware of the services the clinic has – it's all important, she said.

"I think one specific ask is to please consider doing a table sponsorship," Hamilton said. "And then use your table sponsorship to reach out to your network and invite people that you think would be interested in participating or becoming a partner with an organization like Christ Clinic. That's really what the breakfast is for ... it's to make connections with like-minded people that have a passion for health care for the underserved and showing Jesus's love through health care."

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CLUES ACROSS

- It governs Federer and Nadal's sport
- Golden apple tree
- Central Mexican river
- Horn
- Egg-shaped
- With tooth
- French modernist painter
- Disprove
- Painful intestinal obstruction
- Baby shoes
- Make the grade
- Type of screen
- Christian fraternal organization (abbr.)
- Computer giant
- When you hope to get there
- Corporate executive title (abbr.)
- Shout of welcome or farewell
- Imaginary awards for good deeds
- A citizen of Iran
- It can be sounded
- Making dirty
- Romanian city
- Baking ingredient
- Share a common boundary with
- Succulent plants
- Penny
- Jr. U.S. Senator Paul
- "Laurie Partridge" actress Susan

CLUES DOWN

- A type of bomb
- Pacific island country
- Earth is one
- A place to gather around
- Expressed opposite views
- Group that lives near Siberia
- Ore deposit
- Language related to Eskimo
- Narrative piece of music
- The distance covered by normal stride
- Glycoprotein hormone (abbr.)
- Mathematical term (abbr.)
- Popular beer
- Jabbing
- Historic Swedish castle
- Humorous expressions
- Christmas and New Year's Day each have one
- Filled up
- Nerve that serves the forearm (abbr.)
- One of British descent
- A way to get at
- Food-related allergic reaction
- Group of arteries near the pelvis
- Being three in one
- Obscene
- Dravidian language
- Growl

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

Bank robbery suspect arrested

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office announced that a multi-agency pursuit of a bank robbery suspect led to the arrest of one suspect after a chase along I-10 on Monday, Sept. 7. Deputies had

responded to a report of an aggravated robbery at a katy area bank.

"The pursuit ended once the suspect wrecked their motorcycle on I-10 near Mason Road," a brief announcement said. "No citizens were injured during the pursuit and one suspect is in custody at this

time."

Harris County Sheriff's Office deputies assisted in the pursuit as the suspect moved through multiple jurisdictions, the announcement said.

Additional details were not available at press time due to an ongoing investigation.

Mail theft suspect arrested

BY R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Harris County Constable for Precinct 5 Ted Heap's office announced the arrest of Rhys Aeron Phillips, 27, in connection with a felony mail theft case.

Deputies had received a report of a man stealing mail from mailboxes in West Houston in the Emerald Court and Westside Forest neighborhoods

while driving a silver Honda. The vehicle was found in the 19900 block of I-10 and stolen mail belonging to 17 different people as found inside.

As of press time Wednesday morning, Phillips was still in custody at the Harris County Jail. It is unknown what charges or bond situation he was being held on, but the USPS Postal Inspector has been provided with information with which to investigate the incident.

RELAY

from page A1

after the difficulties of the past 18 months and more facing the COVID-19 pandemic, Martin said. The event provides a sense of community.

For Martin, finding that sense of community started when her late husband, Tal Martin, had been diagnosed with cancer nine years ago, she said. She was at the MD Anderson Cancer Center waiting for him to finish treatment when she noticed some materials related to the Relay for Life national event. At first, she dismissed it because of the term "relay," she said. But as she got bored, she picked up the flyer and realized that it wasn't really a running event, but rather an awareness carnival that involved a walking relay.

"It's just something totally different than what I expected," Martin said. "So we formed a team immediately. (Tal) was even in it even though he'd just started treatment (in February) and the relay was in April. That was our first year to have a team and it was just amazing. It was just really different than what I thought."

Martin is hopeful that this year will be amazing as well. With the opportunity to have an event outside with fresh air in a park where pandemic risks can be mitigated, she hopes to see hundreds of people show up like they do for the Katy Rice Festival and enjoy a sense of community while feeling empowered in the fight against cancer.

"Every single person that I know has been touched by cancer in some way, shape or form," Martin said. "If it's not actually having lost a family member, or coworker or neighbor - someone was diagnosed and survived. So, it's really the one thing that's touched everybody. (Relay for Life Katy) is just a really cool experience. I just can't say enough about it."



COURTESY RELAY FOR LIFE KATY/BRENDA MARTIN

Two participants in Relay for Life Katy take a lap during a prior year's event. Laps around the various relay locations are made in honor of survivors, caregivers, supporters, those who lost their lives to cancer - or sometimes, just as an excuse to wear a silly hat and have fun while supporting a good cause.

DISCLOSURE AND INVITATION

The Katy Times has formed a team for this year's Relay for Life Katy and we invite you to join us by forming your own team or joining ours or one of the many other teams out there. This year, our team is called "Julia's Journalists" in honor of our news editor, R. Hans Miller's, late mother-in-law who lost her life to breast cancer. Whether you can join the event or not, we strongly encourage our readers to get screened regularly for cancers they are high risk for and to practice preventive measures as recommended by their physicians.

AWARD

from page A1

DeCuir will be presented with the award during the sixth annual National Latino leadership Conference which will be held virtually Sept. 14 and 15. The event is hosted by the Council for Latino Workplace Equity, a national organization promoting workplace opportunities for Latinx people. The National Latino Leader award is given to professionals who have succeeded personally while advancing opportunities for Hispanics. Each awardee demonstrates leadership excellence and an effort to be visible in the Latino community and maintain a record of professional accomplishments.

DeCuir began with the University of Houston-Victoria in 2016 and currently oversees the university's transfer student recruitment program. She also manages external relations and strategic partnerships for UHV-Katy near Katy Asian Town. Additionally, she has 17 years of business development, management, marketing and public relations experience.

In 2020, DeCuir earned her Doctor of Education in professional leadership with an emphasis in special populations from the University of Houston. She also holds a Master of Business Administration with a minor in human resources management from the University of Phoenix and a Bachelor of Science in marketing from the University of New Orleans. Capping off her education



COURTESY UHV-KATY

Karla DeCuir has earned recognition with the Top Latino Leader Award from the Council for Latino Workplace Equity. She currently serves at the University of Houston-Victoria Katy senior director of enrollment management and external affairs at the local UHV campus. She holds several degrees and serves in a variety of roles to promote success for Latinos and Latinas.

is the completion of the Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Business Institute and UH Women in Leadership programs.

UHV Vice President for Enrollment Management Jose Cantu said DeCuir is a role model for other staff.

"Karla has been a tremendous Latina role model and advocate, and her pride in her culture exudes from

her on a daily basis," Cantu said. "She works to contribute back to her community, and many people look up to her and appreciate her support. In Texas, we have a large Latino population, and she represents women leading in the industry."

DeCuir has served as a member of the Gulf Coast chapter of the Texas Diversity Council for five years and serves on that body's education committee as a former vice president and now as president. She is also on the board of Archway Academy and is the president of the Katy Technology Education Foundation along with service on various committees. She has also served on the UHV Latino Faculty and Staff Association as a board member.

Most recently, DeCuir has formed a UH System Latina-focused group called Unidas in the UHS. The group works to help Latinas in the University of Houston System become leaders through mentorship.

DeCuir said she has found Latinas sometimes will be quiet in the workplace and not speak up which can be mistaken for a lack of passion or not being considered leadership material, so she is working to help young Latina leaders grow.

"I am passionate about helping Latina leaders take a seat at the table without losing our culture and values that make us who we are," she said.

WHAT IS MARIACHI?

According to New Mexico State University, mariachi is a centuries-old style of Mexican music that celebrates the joys, struggles and triumphs of the Mexican people. Mariachi began to form as a cohesive genre of music in the 1800s in the Mexican state of Jalisco, though in other areas of the country it evolved differently. The music features the cocula, vihuela, violins and guitarron as the instruments of choice. Over time, additional instruments have been added such as trumpets and other horns as the genre continues to evolve.

MARIACHI

from page A1

up and committed to the program.

Two of those students are Pedro Barrera and Evelyn Garcia.

Serendipity pulled Garcia into the program, she said. She hadn't planned on joining the mariachi group, but she'd stayed after school one day and saw the number of people attending the student-interest meeting. She thought about it and decided it would be a good way to meet new people, learn about music and get in touch with her family's roots.

Barrera said mariachi has been a love for a long time. Growing up, his family had always enjoyed it as a preferred musical genre and he's played violin for years now. After finding out Katz was going to start a mariachi group, Barrera said he got very excited.

"I was so happy to join," Barrera said. "Especially because, when you join, like, all these other people who love mariachi and you get to make new friends doing the things that you love."

Katz said he's excited to have the opportunity to let students play a style of music that isn't as formal as an orchestra-style band group. Mariachi, in a way, he said, has similarities to jazz in that there is improvisation and an art to it that isn't as formal.

"That is what I'm enjoying a lot because instead of orchestra where it's a lot more technical and having to match with everyone else, mariachi actually has its own feeling to it," Garcia said. "It's a different vibe altogether and it's more like you get to be free and have fun and play the way you feel like it matches with the style of the mariachi."

Barrera agreed and said he has enjoyed how a wider variety of instruments come

together to make up the traditional Hispanic music the Maverick mariachi group plays than in a traditional band.

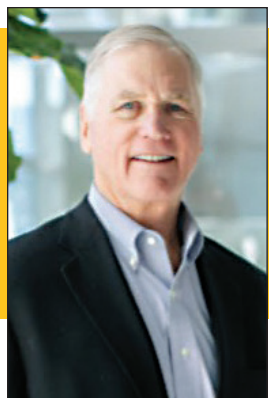
Hinson said she was happy to have been able to support the new group which helps represent the diverse student body at Morton Ranch High.

"My favorite thing about our student body is the diversity," Hinson said. "And just being able to implement and support something that celebrates that diversity and that culture - it's a very predominant culture here at Morton Ranch - how would I say no to that?"

Support for the new group is ongoing, Katz said. He is currently working with the district's finance department to obtain funding for mariachi clinicians to come in and help students improve their skills in preparation for state-level competitions. Those musical meets are overseen by the University Interscholastic League, much like sports teams across the state, and Katz is hoping the students can compete and represent the Mavericks and KISD well at the state level - especially since the Morton Ranch team is the first mariachi group in the district.

For now, though, the focus will be on helping the students improve their skills and learn more about mariachi as a style of playing and preparing for some spring semester shows Katz said he's hoping to put on.

"Marching band season's running right now," Katz said. "And so, we're going to be working with some students and then as (marching band) kind of ends, then we'll bring everyone in. But it's going to kind of start off slow and then hopefully build up so we'll have some performances in the spring semester hopefully."



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Tim Davis is a member of *Syndicated Columnists*, a national organization committed to a fully transparent approach to safe money strategies for retirement.

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Honoring Suicide Prevention Month

The first time I thought about killing myself, I was in the fourth grade.

A group of girls in my class had decided I needed a good bullying and, while redheads may be popular now, we were considered gross at the time. Not sure why. "South Park's" Gingervitis episode hadn't even come out yet. These girls would walk by during recess and ask if I'd be their boyfriend and I'd say no. In response, they'd say something along the lines of "Good, because you're just a nasty redhead."

Add to that the German boy in my class who somehow had been around enough English

folks to learn the use of the term "ginger" as a pejorative and the subsequent playground beatings I got from him and life was pretty rough for me in Clinton, Montana in 1984. We won't even talk about how math was just the worst...

Those issues and several others took me to a very dark place that nobody, especially a child in the fourth grade, should ever have to face. But I did.

And - I know many people reading did too - and some probably are now.

Since that first time I faced suicidal thoughts, I've had a long and twisted relationship with depression and anxiety. A relationship I still work with today with the support of a loving wife, family and friends. I see my psychologist regularly, take my meds and have tools from years of counseling that help me manage when things look bleak.

Recently, a close family member attempted suicide. He tried jumping out of a window but, fortunately, someone who cared about him interceded. Additionally, a friend of my wife's from high school died from suicide in early August and multiple friends have spoken about their depression recently, including some facing suicidal ideation.

As a veteran I have known several of those I served with who have died at their own hands after fighting Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other mental health challenges after facing combat.

As a nation, the U.S. has a



R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

worsening suicide problem according to the United Health Foundation's 2020 Annual Report. In 2009, the suicide rate was 12 per 100,000 people. In 2018, that number had increased to 14.8 per 100,000.

Texas ranked second in the number of deaths by suicide in the U.S. in 2019 with 3,891

Texans losing the fight with depression and hopelessness, per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which monitors that data nationally.

That was about 13.4 deaths per 100,000 people.

In Greater Houston, that statistic is a bit better at 10.6 suicides per 100,000 from 2017-19, according to Houstonstateofhealth.com. That's an increase of about 0.4 per 100,000 compared to the previous two-year measurement.

With the pandemic, economic hardships and the ever-changing atmosphere of living in an area that grows rapidly and consistently, observing Suicide Prevention Month is an important thing for the Katy area to do as a community.

I don't feel any shame in my depression or past fights with suicide. I've won every battle in the war for more than 30 years now, so I take that as a point of pride. I am proud to have walked through those fires and made it through.

I invite anyone facing those same troubles to stand beside me with that same pride. We're strong as hell and we've faced our demons. If your depression is attacking you, speak with someone and ask for help. Family, friends, doctors, counselors, pastors, rabbis, imams and a million others will happily raise you up and help you keep moving forward and find happiness again.

There's no shame in asking for the help you need. Ever. For anything.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 800-273-8255
Local Hotline: 281-201-4430
Teens: 832-416-1199
Texting for Teens: 281-201-4430
www.crisishotline.org



Looking back at 9/11/2001 twenty years later

September 11, 2001, was a pleasant day on the East Coast. The weather was perfect.

My wife and I were preparing to host the wedding of our youngest daughter in just four days. Over 150 guests were expected with the first of those guests arriving later that day. As we talked over coffee about what chores needed to be done, the serene anticipation of the day was shattered as we learned that the United States was brutally attacked by Islamic terrorists, resulting in the deaths of just under 3,000 Americans. In the subsequent years, thousands more would perish from the conflict that followed.

For me, a proud former resident of the New York City area, then residing in the outskirts of Washington, D.C., the attack was too close and horrific to be minimized or forgotten. I will never forget the images of our citizens covered in ash as they wandered near Wall Street dazed and frightened; nor the first pictures of the Pentagon burning and noting people running to help wounded comrades. I can only imagine the horror of a planeload of citizens marshalling the strength to fight back hijackers resulting in their own deaths in a Pennsylvania field.

The story of 9/11 should be a source of pride, as we recount the brave and innocent people that perished that day. To those angels of mercy who risked all to help those in need that morning. To those guardians of the gates of freedom who have gone overseas time and time again to confront the monsters that waged war on our civilization. To the survivors who stoically live out each day deprived of the company of their loved ones who did not come home.



MIKE MASTRANGELO
FORMER COMMANDER KATY VFW POST 9182

9/11 should inspire all of us. Every school child should know about the courage, the love of fellow man, and the dedication that swept the country that day. We said repeatedly, "WE WILL NEVER FORGET!"

But I submit, our people have forgotten 9/11.

The story of 9/11 should be a clarion call to awaken us to what is at stake today. Yet the wave of anti-patriotic sentiment on the part of celebrities, athletes, and even elected officials, has resulted in a huge negative effect among us. The racial hatred spewed is dividing us and creating a tribal mindset that threatens our future as a nation. Scam artists posing as social justice warriors are poisoning the minds of our young and calls into question their willingness to fight for their country if and when their D-Day comes.

Ask yourself, why would any person who has been so indoctrinated since school age to believe this country is so awful be willing to fight and sacrifice for it.

The legacy of decency and sacrifice that has always inspired us, and witnessed at the Kabul airport the week before last, cannot be held hostage to hate mongers. We must stop cowering for fear of being labeled, canceled, or ostracized. Patriotism gave us the will and the focus to overcome the shock of

9/11.

A deep-seated belief that the United States is special and perhaps the greatest human experiment of government through the ages, grew after the attacks. Two days later, you could not find a store that had an American flag in stock. Everyone wanted to fly the flag. Today, that symbol of our national character is often dragged through the mud in displays of stomach-turning disrespect. Sadly, we seemed to have lost our way, as we cheer a person who openly mocks the very symbols of the nation. Then we are shocked when a young lady, an Olympic champion from Katy, reminds us what an honor it is to represent the U.S. on a global stage.

Looking at the flag-draped coffins of the 13 service members killed at the Kabul airport in late August, it all comes back to why it is so special to live in this country. Know that the spirit of sacrifice and love that kept this country together still exists with us today. Further, we still have a commitment to make this nation better for our next generation. A true reading of our history will demonstrate that we have moved in a positive direction of "that more perfect union" spoken at our founding.

My fellow citizens, let me end by saying that this anniversary is bittersweet. There are many strong emotions at play now. But within my core, I believe that we were tested before, and likely will be again. Yet if we remember what we have in common and how far we have come, we will overcome those challenges. In so doing, those who have worn the uniform will never cease to tell the majestic story of this country and its people.

Katy Times

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
The Katy Times (ISSN 067-180) is published on Thursday. Subscriptions are available for \$35 per year in Harris, Waller and Fort Bend counties and \$45 elsewhere. Subscribe at www.katytimes.com or by mailing payment and delivery information to Katy Times, P.O. Box 678, Katy, TX 77492-0678. Periodical-rate postage paid at Katy, Texas 77494.

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CIRCULATION:
Address billing inquiries at 281-391-3141.

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to The Katy Times, P.O. Box 678, Katy, Texas, 77492-0678.

ABOUT OUR NEWSPAPER:
The Katy Times is a member of the Texas Press Association. The weekly newspaper is published every Thursday. Visit our Web site 24 hours a day, seven days a week at www.katytimes.com for more news and information.

In Memoriam

September 11, 2001

20 years

TRIBUTES

Phyllis Arlene Garner, 83, passed away peacefully at Memorial West Continuing Care Hospital on August 28, 2021. She had just celebrated her 83rd birthday.

She was born June 29, 1938 in Houston, Texas to Otto Earl Dampier and Angel (May) Dampier. Phyllis met the love of her life, David Clayton "Red" Garner, at The Winkler Drive In, Houston, Texas. Shortly thereafter, they began their long, loving life together when they married at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Park Place in Houston, Texas on April 26, 1956. Together, they enjoyed a wonderful marriage of 65 years.

She attended Greek School as a young girl as well as Deede Middle School and



PHYLLIS ARLENE GARNER
1938-2021

graduated from Milby High School in 1956. Phyllis was born and raised in Houston. Phyllis worked various jobs throughout her young life. She worked at First National Bank as the bank secretary in

Houston, and was a book-keeper for John Deere in Katy, Texas, but her favorite job was always being a devoted wife and Mom.

She also had a flair for entertaining and cooking. Her favorite times to entertain were the holidays. She also enjoyed spending her summers as a team mom for the local little leagues. Phyllis was a dedicated wife and mother first and foremost. She treasured her husband and children and embraced every moment with them. She especially loved her role as Meme. She looked forward to reading the Calico Cat and the Duel to both her granddaughters. She never smiled brighter than when she was greeted by one of her grandchildren walking

through the door.

At their home in Katy, she played endless games of cards, hosted several breakfast get-togethers after the Knights of Columbus dances, attended countless school performances, ceremonies and dance recitals, hosted Easter Egg Hunts in her front yard and the family's annual New Year's and Thanksgiving dinners. She made sure that all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren knew they were loved deeply and unconditionally.

She was an avid reader and she really enjoyed playing cards at the Senior Citizens Place. She loved traveling to various places with the family; especially, cruising to various ports. She loved the trips with Happy Hearts

to the casinos in Louisiana. She also loved gardening with Dad and planting her mint to cook with. She had a vivacious personality and always made people around her laugh.

Phyllis is survived by her husband, David "Red" Garner, of Katy; son, David Wayne Garner and wife Sharon of Lake Charles, Louisiana; daughter, Wendy Gail Hankins and husband Kurt of Sweeny, Texas; she was the adored Meme of Kendy Hope Hankins, and Cindy Garner Fullerton and two great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and her sister, Gail Gaidosek. Family and friends are invited to attend her viewing on Sunday, September 5th from 5:00

p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Schmidt Funeral Home at 1344 W. Grand Parkway South, Katy, Texas 77494.

Her Celebration of Life Service (funeral) will follow on Tuesday, September 7 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church; 5373 Franz Road, Katy, Texas 77493.

Immediately following the service, we will travel to South Park Funeral Home in Pearland where Interment will start at 11:00 am. Pallbearers will be David Garner, Kurt Hankins, Larry Gaidosek, Johnny Gaidosek, Doug Loy and Mike Pilcik.

Final arrangements will be made at Schmidt Funeral Home, (281)391-2424. You can send online condolences to the family at www.schmidtfuneralhome.net.

Clyde Evans Richerson Jr., age 75, passed away on Tuesday, August 31, 2021 in Katy, TX.

Clyde was born in Rosebud, TX to Irene Lemmons & Clyde Evans Richerson Sr. on November 7, 1945. He attended Killeen High School and graduated in 1964. He played basketball and football for the Killeen Kangaroos. As a teen he loved to work on cars and drag race. He had many professions throughout his life. He was a real estate agent, mortgage banker, business owner and piping designer. He recently retired as a Piping Designer for Optimized Process Designs, LLC in December 2020. He enjoyed many hobbies like hunting, fishing, breeding and showing horses, making BBQ for family and friends, and collecting vintage cars. He loved all animals, especially his two Maltese dogs Bigun and Buddy along with his cats Pepper and Precious. They would all find love and attention on



CLYDE EVANS RICHERSON JR.
1945-2021

Clyde's lap.

He was married to Lani Richerson on September 1, 2012 in Brenham TX. Together they enjoyed gardening, fishing, pontoon rides and attending vintage car shows. Previously he was married to Kathryn Styles Richerson, they had three children together Suzanne Rene, Sean and Laura.

Clyde is preceded in death by his son Sean Richerson, his daughter Suzanne Rene Richerson, his sister

Kay Steffey, and parents Irene Lemmons & Clyde Evans Richerson Sr.

Clyde is survived by his wife Lani Richerson; his children Laura & Glen Williams, Tommie Richerson, Tiffany & Bill Hinds, Steffany & Cameron Fines; his sister Janice & Clarence Meiske; grandchildren Stephanie Richerson and Cole Williams, Wade, Travis and Trent Richerson, Jesse, Hazel, Josh & London Hinds, Eva & Trevor Kirby, Paige, Reid and Brock Fines; great-grandchildren, Abbie Richerson, Adelynn and Carson Hinds.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to The Fellowship church in Katy, TX.

The Fellowship
22765 Westheimer Parkway
Katy, TX 77450

Clyde's family wishes to extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Andy Shen of Medical Colleagues of Texas, staff at Memorial Hermann-Katy, Vantage Hospice, Pastor Robert Jackman and The Fellowship church family.

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MELANI ALANIS

Royal High School, one of Royal ISD's four Title 1 schools, also includes an early college program for students, who may earn college credit while still attending high school. The district is focusing on helping students in its campuses recover from learning losses suffered during the 2020-21 school year due to forced virtual learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

TITLE I

from page A1

wide in reading and math each year, Coy said.

While statewide data shows Katy students did slip, district students did continue to outperform districts statewide.

During the past academic school year "Katy ISD Title I students performed 5% higher than all students in the state in achieving the state standard for success on the reading STAAR test and 3% higher on the math STAAR test," said Coy.

Royal ISD

Royal ISD has a total of four main campuses - of which all are designated Title 1.

RISD provides Title I resources for its students, said RISD Associate Superintendent Kendra Strange. The district has an early childhood center that consists of pre-kindergarten to first grade, an elementary school that serves from second grade to fifth grade, a junior high school starting from 6th grade to 8th grade, and a high school starting from ninth grade to twelfth grade. There is also an early college high school within Royal High School.

RISD already used technology to educate their students, so when the pandemic kept students at home, the schools were not rushing to find a way to teach students from their computers, Strange said. The biggest adjustment was finding a way for students to have access to technology at home. Royal students were allowed to use either their personal devices or check a computer out from the district. Pre-K students used iPads while other students use Chromebooks.

RISD focuses on teaching with the best instructional practices during the school day rather than through after-school programs, Strange said. However, the district does provide those programs when needed. Strange said the student-to-teacher ratio is below the state average which helps with the quality of instruction.

"We purposefully staff to be well below the state average for student-to-teacher ratio," said Strange.

RISD receives state and federal funding, including State Compensatory Education funds. Federal grants have been released to the district through pandemic-based legislation. These grants are being used to help students recuperate from pandemic-based learning losses, Strange said.

RISD is working to add additional learning spaces. Their goal is to create a secure outdoor learning area for their students. This outdoor learning area will allow teachers to be able to teach students outside effectively

KATY AREA TITLE I CAMPUSES	
District/Campus	Low Income Population
KATY ISD	
Wolfe Elementary	56.91%
West Memorial Elementary	54.86%
Memorial Parkway Elementary	62.32%
Hutsell Elementary	67.82%
Bear Creek Elementary	79.37%
Cimarron Elementary	47.35%
Winborn Elementary	50.07%
Sundown Elementary	78.34%
Mayde Creek Elementary	70.46%
Golbow Elementary	60.69%
McRoberts Elementary	68.70%
King Elementary	54.68%
Schmalz Elementary	64.25%
Rhoads Elementary	69.66%
Franz Elementary	68.96%
Stephens Elementary	72.25%
Morton Ranch Elementary	61.73%
Leonard Elementary	53.45%
ROYAL ISD	
Royal High School	80.38%
Royal Jr. High	86.06%
Royal Elementary	83.89%
Royal Early Childhood Ctr.	73.24%

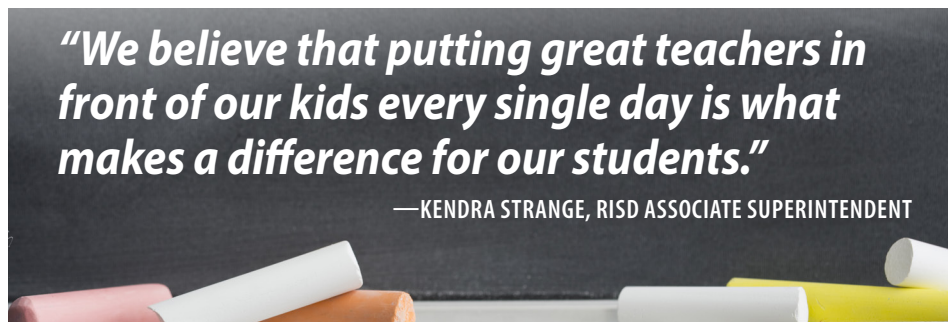
SOURCE: TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
*As of Sept. 18, 2020

and reduce the risk of having to go virtual because of improved social distancing. Keeping instruction in-person is anticipated to improve student outcomes, Strange said.

In the previous school year, the district saw a smaller drop in student test scores than the state average, said Strange. Their technological foundation helped them to not struggle as much academically.

RISD focuses on best instructional practices over programs for their students. They focus on the human element of education instead of relying on a specific program to be the solution to all concerns. Strange said RISD focuses on hiring high-quality educators to help all of the district's students excel regardless of income.

"We believe that putting great teachers in front of our kids every single day is what makes a difference for our students," said Strange.



KISD's Nauman recognized for risk management excellence

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy ISD's District Risk Management Director Lance Nauman has earned the 2021 Texas Association of School Boards' Risk Management Fund Excellence Award in recognition for efforts he and his department put forth in facing challenges related to COVID-19.



LANCE NAUMAN
KISD Director of Risk Management

"The driving force behind this program was to mitigate COVID-19 and provide medical care that was effective," Nauman said. "The most gratifying aspect of this effort was that lives were saved through this process."

After the district had decided to resume

in-person learning during the 2021-22 school year, Nauman's department focused on the goal of establishing a safe return to campuses with four goals in mind:

1. KISD students must continue to learn despite COVID-19 obstacles.
2. Health and safety of students must be protected.
3. Cost savings through utilization of virtual medicine, stand-alone emergency rooms and other lower-cost, lower-exposure options were prioritized.
4. Quickly evaluating and clearing staff who were COVID-19 negative was vital to managing substitute personnel costs.

Up to 10 TASB members are recognized with a \$1,000 honorarium which their districts can use toward continued safety and risk mitigation efforts. Entries were evaluated on effectiveness, efficiency, impact and innovation.

**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 2021 on Monday, September 20, 2021 at 12:00 noon, at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 7702 *(Members of the public may attend the hearing in person. Due to the COVID-19 virus epidemic emergency and the high threat level warnings issue by various governments and agencies, members of the public may also attend this hearing by telephone at 1-877-336-1839, Access Code: 3973612.) 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.

FOR the proposal:	F. Sheehy, A. Secor, C. Pacioni & A. Juarez
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	D. Ho

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)	\$ 1.140 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 1.090 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.050 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-4.3860%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$211,321	\$227,574
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$211,321	\$227,574
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,409.06	\$2,480.56
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$71.50 2.9680%

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 eight 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.

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



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TX abortion law goes into effect as SCOTUS takes no action

NEELAM BOHRA
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

One of the nation's most restrictive abortion bills — which bans abortions as early as six weeks into pregnancy — took effect at midnight after the U.S. Supreme Court did not take action on an emergency appeal by Texas abortion providers Tuesday.

The law prohibits abortions whenever an ultrasound can detect what lawmakers defined as a fetal “heartbeat,” though medical and legal experts say this term is misleading because embryos don’t possess a heart at that developmental stage.

Providers and abortion rights advocacy groups say this would affect at least 85% of the abortions taking place in the state. Many people don’t know they are pregnant within the first six weeks.

But the state wouldn’t enforce the law. SB 8 instead provides enforcement only by private citizens who would sue abortion providers and anyone involved in aiding or abetting an abortion after a “heartbeat” is detected.

This mechanism could allow SB 8 to skirt Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion, within some limits.

Attorneys from Planned Parenthood Federation of America and Whole Woman’s Health, another abortion provider involved in the case, said the uncertainty around the law has created “chaos on the ground.”

Doctors and providers planned to remain at Whole Woman’s Health clinics in Texas until 11:59 p.m. Tuesday to provide abortions before the law took effect and the clinics’ waiting rooms were “filled with patients and their loved ones,” the organization said on Twitter.

Whole Women’s Health argued to the justices in a court filing that SB 8 “unquestionably contravenes this Court’s precedent and will cause clear harm beginning at midnight tonight, with abortions after six weeks banned throughout Texas — something that has never been allowed to occur in any other state of the nation in the decades since Roe.

“Through no fault of their own, thousands of pregnant Texans will lose constitutionally protected access to abortion in mere hours unless this Court acts,” the group added. “Applicants and their patients urgently need relief.”

President Joe Biden denounced the implementation of SB 8 Wednesday morning. “My administration is deeply committed

to the constitutional right established in Roe v. Wade nearly five decades ago and will protect and defend that right,” Biden said, but did not clarify any course of action.

Planned Parenthood will try to keep clinics open, staff attorney Julie Murray said. But there is a chance that some abortion clinics will begin closing, said Helene Krasnoff, vice president of public policy litigation and law.

Marva Sadler, senior director of clinical services at Whole Woman’s Health, said the clinics will have to start turning patients away on Wednesday.

Sadler said the organization has also struggled to hire and retain employees as the future of abortion in Texas became murky.

On Tuesday morning, Sadler said she was “engulfed” with helping to treat over 100 patients at the organization’s clinic in Fort Worth as Texans scrambled to undergo abortions on what many feared was the last day the procedure would be legal.

In the meantime, Travis County District Judge Amy Clark Meachum issued a temporary restraining order in a separate case, barring the anti-abortion organization Texas Right To Life; John Seago, its legislative director; and others from “organizing, encouraging and filing lawsuits” against a Dallas attorney and nonprofit organization.

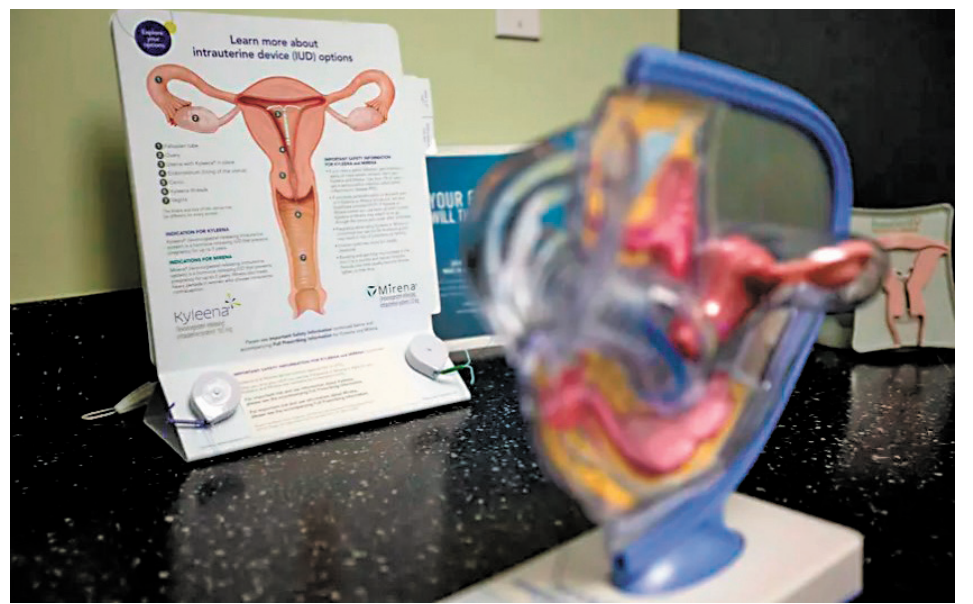
But the scope of the ruling was narrow, and Seago said it was “unnecessary” because he had no plans to sue the plaintiffs.

But Seago and Texas Right to Life, the biggest anti-abortion organization in the state, do plan to start suing those they believe violate SB 8. The organization has even set up a whistleblower website, where anyone can file anonymous tips about illegal abortions.

In August, a viral tweet brought attention to the website, leading thousands of people from around the world to flood it with fraudulent tips. Seago said the website is still up, but he “appreciated the publicity” the website received from the tweet.

Even if the Supreme Court were to block the law after Sept. 1, Seago said abortion providers could still be held “legally accountable” for abortions performed after the law took effect but before the high court acted.

Providers and doctors also worry about frivolous lawsuits that could financially ruin them and their employees. Individuals who file lawsuits under SB 8 don’t have to provide a personal connection to whomever they sue. Seago said Texas Right to Life does not plan on filing frivolous lawsuits.



EDDIE GASPAR/THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Senate Bill 8 prohibits abortions as early as six weeks into pregnancy, whenever an ultrasound can detect cardiac activity. One abortion provider said it was “engulfed” in treating more than 100 patients at one clinic before the law took effect Sept. 1.

Over the past decade, the Texas Legislature has attempted similar “big swings” to eliminate access to abortion, said Kari White, a professor of social work at the University of Texas at Austin and investigator for the Texas Policy Evaluation Project.

House Bill 2, a 2013 measure that was eventually struck down by the Supreme Court, required abortion clinics to meet specific, hospital standards and shrunk the number of abortion clinics in Texas from more than 40 to 19 by 2016.

When the pandemic began, Gov. Greg Abbott’s executive order banning all non-medically necessary surgeries effectively banned abortion and was the subject of litigation for weeks. During that time, there was a 12-factor increase in the number of patients seen at the Colorado Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, one of the nearest abortion clinics outside of Texas.

A separate bill currently under consideration by state lawmakers, Senate Bill 4, would prevent physicians or providers from giving abortion-inducing medication to patients who are more than seven weeks pregnant.

The implementation of SB 8 would “shoot a large hole in the protection offered by Roe v. Wade,” said Lawrence Gostin, a professor of constitutional law at Georgetown University.

“Most women in Texas who can afford it will get their abortions out of state,” Gostin

said. “But for poor and rural women, the effects on their physical and mental health could be devastating.”

One woman, Elise, who asked that her last name be withheld because she fears harassment, said she was a graduate student at the University of Texas when she received an abortion four years ago and was six weeks pregnant. She said if SB 8 had been in place then, she might not have been able to have the procedure.

“It would have changed the entire trajectory of my life, and I wouldn’t be where I am,” she said.

Disclosure: Planned Parenthood and the University of Texas have been financial supporters of The Texas Tribune, a nonprofit, nonpartisan news organization that is funded in part by donations from members, foundations and corporate sponsors. Financial supporters play no role in the Tribune’s journalism.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/08/31/texas-abortion-law-supreme-court/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy.

Learn more at texastribune.org.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 57 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Monday, September 27th, 2021 at 10:00a.m. at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, STE 2400, Houston, Texas 77027. Members of the public may attend the hearing in person. Due to the COVID-19 virus epidemic emergency and the high threat level warnings issued by various governments and agencies, members of the public may also attend this hearing by telephone at 1-866-899-4679, Access Code: 133-917-893. 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.

FOR the proposal: Bill Lyle, Randy Rodriguez, Chris Tolle, Gina Babineaux, Steve McConnell
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 Adopted	This Year Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.89000 /\$100	\$0.89000 /\$100
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.00000 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$379,145.00	\$380,390.00
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	\$379,145.00	\$380,390.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,374.39	\$3,385.47
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)		\$11.08
and percentage of increase (+/-)		0.33%

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.

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

NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$0.604632 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Waller County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.604632 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.604632 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.640787 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2021 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Waller County from the same properties in both the 2020 tax year and the 2021 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Waller County may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Waller County is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2021 tax year.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 15, 2021 AT 9:00 am at the Waller County Courthouse at 836 Austin Street, Room 201, Hempstead, Texas 77445.

The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Waller County is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of Waller County at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:
AGAINST the proposal:
PRESENT and not voting:
ABSENT:

The 86th 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.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County this year.

	2020	2021	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.616662	\$0.604632	decrease of -0.012030, or -1.95%
Average homestead taxable value	\$181,921	\$194,991	increase of 13,070, or 7.18%
Tax on average homestead	\$1,121.84	\$1,178.98	increase of 57.14, or 5.09%
Total tax levy on all properties	\$38,067,662	\$41,920,744	increase of 3,853,082, or 10.12%

Indigent Defense Compensation Expenditures

The Waller County spent \$524,334 from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to provide appointed counsel for indigent individuals in criminal or civil proceedings in accordance with the schedule of fees adopted under Article 26.05, Code of Criminal Procedure, less the amount of state grants received. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year’s indigent defense compensation expenditures is \$11,518. This increased the no-new-revenue tax rate by \$0.000185/\$100.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Waller County at 979-826-7620 or e.shelburne@wallercounty.us, or visit www.co.waller.tx.us for more information.

At least 45 Texas school districts shut down in-person classes due to COVID-19 cases

More than 40,000 students impacted

BY ALLYSON WALLER, KALLEY HUANG AND MANDI CAI

THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

At least 45 small school districts across Texas have been forced to temporarily stop offering in-person classes as a result of COVID-19 cases in the first few weeks of the new school year, according to the Texas Education Agency.

The shutdowns, which affected about 42,000 students as of Thursday, come as cases caused by the highly contagious delta variant have plagued administrators who hoped for a normal return to the school year.

Caseloads have left districts scrambling when many have said they have fewer tools at their disposal to combat the spread of the virus and have had to come up with their own strategies that can differ from district to district. Administrators are tasked with protecting students' and staff members' health, providing a quality education and staying open enough days to avoid tacking on extra days at the end of the school year.

"By far this is worse in terms of planning than last year," said Tim Savoy, spokesperson for Hays Consolidated Independent School District, which closed some classrooms. "There's no question about it. Last year we had a lot of tools at our disposal: We could require masks, and we could provide a virtual option that was funded. ... [Then], the delta variant really kind of appeared and just exploded on us."

State data about the number of coronavirus cases in districts that have closed at least once during the school year thus far is incomplete — 19 have not reported any cases in students or staff to the state, while case totals in 22 districts have been suppressed by the state due to privacy policies. The list of public school closures in Texas is also incomplete, according to TEA. The agency is tracking closures informally based on media and district reports since districts are not required to report

closures to TEA, said Frank Ward, an agency spokesperson.

From Aug. 23-29, there were 27,353 new positive COVID-19 cases among students in Texas public schools, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services, making it the biggest one-week increase in the entire pandemic. The state reports 51,904 cases among students and 13,026 among staff since the school year began. That's about 1% of the 5.3 million students enrolled in the state as of January.

Children's hospitals, which have been inundated with COVID-19 patients at levels never seen before during the pandemic, have also seen an uptick in patients as the school year is underway, said Dr. Corwin Warmink, medical director of emergency services for Cook Children's Health Care System in Fort Worth.

"Every year when school starts, we expect a bump in volume [in our emergency room] — we planned for it, we scheduled for it," Warmink said at a news conference Wednesday. "In the regular year we'll see about 300 kids a day during this time. On Monday, we saw 601, an all-time record. ... At 600, we're physically unable to care for kids in a timely fashion."

Districts handle closures as a result of COVID-19 differently: Smaller ones tend to temporarily close all campuses, and larger ones close classrooms, grade levels and individual schools.

"Each week that the kids have been back, we've just seen those numbers increase dramatically, and that has been very stressful and very concerning to me," said Phil Edwards, superintendent of Angleton ISD, which has almost 7,000 students.

On Aug. 31, Angleton announced it would close its campuses through next Tuesday, while still allowing extracurricular activities to proceed, and it is not requiring students to work remotely. Angleton ISD reported that as of Thursday, the district has more than 200 positive COVID-19 cases among students, employees and staff thus far this school year.

There are a number of factors at play that led to the district closing, Edwards said, such as staffing levels and the

number of students who have quarantined due to COVID-19 exposure.

In Hays Consolidated ISD, 10% of the students in a group such as a class, grade level or school testing positive within one week triggers remote conferencing, a state-sanctioned form of temporary remote learning, for up to 10 days, Savoy said. Recently, five classrooms within the district closed down.

Under remote conferencing, schools are still able to count attendance, which the state uses to determine district funding. But the program isn't the same as a full-time virtual option, Savoy said. Senate Bill 15, which is headed to Gov. Greg Abbott's desk, would fund virtual learning until September 2023 and give school districts the option to set up their own virtual programs. However, the legislation comes with a slew of caveats which could exclude many students of color.

Another tool districts relied on last year — the ability to require students to wear masks — is caught in back-and-forth legal battles after Abbott issued an order banning mask mandates in schools.

"Last school year, people had accepted that we were in a pandemic situation, and it was stressful, but everybody had the patience and understanding of the seriousness of it," Savoy said. "This year, because we were coming out of the pandemic and then it suddenly came back on us, people are tired and they're frustrated, and rightfully so, they're exhausted. And so people are more upset this year about the provisions that we are or are not implementing."

Despite receiving a recommendation from its local health authority to close all of its campuses, Leander ISD decided to stick with a group-centered approach in how it handles COVID-19 clusters. As of Friday, the district had more than 900 COVID-19 cases among students and staff and has moved about 20 elementary school classes and sixth graders at three schools to remote conferencing, said Corey Ryan, a district spokesperson. Ryan said that at the moment, it seems like the best option,

See **DISTRICT CLOSURES**, page A9

IMPACTED DISTRICTS

As of Sept. 2, just weeks into the new school year, at least 45 school districts in Texas have entirely shut down, affecting about 42,000 students.

District	Enrollment	Closure Dates
Alto	607	Sept. 2-3
Angleton	6,780	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Axtell	799	Sept. 3
Baird	283	Sept. 1-8
Benavides	248	Aug. 11-13
Bloomburg	251	Aug. 16-20
Brackett	508	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Connally	2,308	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Cumby	420	Sept. 1-3
Cushing	554	Sept. 1-10
Danbury	700	Sept. 1-3
Etolle	85	Aug. 27 – Sept. 3
Frankston	756	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Fruitvale	427	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Garrison	687	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Gladewater	1,750	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Groveton	758	Aug. 28 – Sept. 3
Hemphill	883	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Hughes Springs	1,169	Aug. 24 – 27
Iraan-Sheffield	336	Aug. 16-27
Kemp	1,630	Aug. 25-27
Kennard	231	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Latexo	452	Aug. 20
Leakey	285	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Legacy Preparatory	1,535	Aug. 19 – 27
Leveretts Chapel	237	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Livingston	3,789	Sept. 7 – 10
Lumberton	3,927	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Malakoff	1,346	Sept. 3
Martinsville	346	Aug. 25 – Sept. 3
McLeod	392	Sept. 2 – 3
Medina	259	Aug. 27 – Sept. 3
Morgan Mill	132	Aug. 17 – 19
Murchison	166	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
North Hopkins	559	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Oakwood	195	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Onalaska	1,155	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Rains	1,671	Sept. 2 – 3
Trinity	1,126	Sept. 1 – 10
Trivium Academy	584	Aug. 27 – Sept. 3
Wells	242	Aug. 25 – Sept. 3
West Sabine	561	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3
Woden	746	Aug. 25 – 27
Yantis	356	Aug. 31 – Sept. 3
Zavalla	308	Sept. 1 – 3

SOURCE: Texas EDUCATION AGENCY.
NOTE: District enrollment numbers are from Jan. 2021.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 124 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Friday, September 24, 2021 at 12:00 PM at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP located at 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, TX 77027. * **Members of the public may attend the hearing in person. Due to the COVID-19 virus epidemic emergency and the high threat level warnings issued by various governments and agencies, members of the public may also attend this hearing by telephone at (888) 636-3807, Access Code: 4238443.** 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.

FOR the proposal: Paula Bays, John Bastawrous, Jarrett Simpson, Luther Jack Moller

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT: Michelle O'Neil

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 \$0.86000 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$0.86000 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.86000 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.86000 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00000 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$294,307.00	\$294,004.00
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	\$294,307.00	\$294,004.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,531.04	\$2,528.43
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$-2.61 -0.10%

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.

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 Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 199 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, 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.

FOR the proposal: M. Wilson, B. Stewart, B. Ashby & P. Huinker

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: J. Hammonds

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* \$ 0.600/\$100 Adopted	This Year* \$ 0.600/\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.600/\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.600/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.000 /\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.0000%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 0	\$ 0
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 0	\$ 0
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 0	\$ 0
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$0.00 0.0000%

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 eight 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 for comparison purposes.**

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.

DISTRICT CLOSURES

from page A8

as some schools in the district have seen very few or no cases, many students rely on services and protection at school that they can't access at home, and the district has staffing shortages.

"It's honestly a really tough balancing act for schools to do," Ryan said about deciding whether or not to shut down an entire district.

Teachers dying due to complications from COVID-19 is also a sobering reality for some districts. In Connally ISD, two teachers died in late August from COVID-19 within less than a week of each other. The deaths and an upswing in

COVID-19 cases on campuses prompted the district to shut down all its campuses, said Jill Bottelberghe, the district's assistant superintendent of human resources.

"We are seeing people who have just one symptom and who are coming up positive, and it can be as simple as a runny nose, and then we have even had some who have been asymptomatic, and they come up positive but yet they have the ability to spread it to people who it may very much impact," Bottelberghe said.

The district is planning to resume classes Tuesday. Bottelberghe said the district

is consulting with the local district attorney to see what the repercussions would be if it were to require masks and go against Abbott's order.

"Every day it seems like there's something new and a new challenge to overcome," Bottelberghe said.

This article originally appeared in The Texas Tribune at <https://www.texastribune.org/2021/09/03/texas-covid-school-districts-shut-down/>. The Texas Tribune is a member-supported, nonpartisan newsroom informing and engaging Texans on state politics and policy. Learn more at [texastribune.org](https://www.texastribune.org).



JORDAN VONDERHAAR FOR THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

Just weeks into the school year, dozens of Texas school districts have had to close due to COVID-19 cases. Caseloads have left districts scrambling when many have said they have fewer tools at their disposal to combat the spread of the virus.

HOUSTON METHODIST in Katy and West Houston

EMERGENCY CARE

HOUSTON METHODIST WEST HOSPITAL

WEST HOUSTON

KATY

MEMORIAL CITY

MEMORIAL GREEN

MEMORIAL

CINCO RANCH

PRIMARY CARE

PRIMARY AND SPECIALTY CARE

EMERGENCY CARE

Convenient Locations — Close to Home

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UPCOMING LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEETINGS CALENDAR

The Katy area consists of three counties, two school districts, four cities and two water authorities. Each of these municipalities holds regularly-scheduled public meetings. The meetings below are subject to change and readers are encouraged to visit each government body's website to verify meeting information prior to attending.

Fort Bend County

Fort Bend County commissioners meet the first, second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Fort Bend County Courthouse at 401 Jackson Street in Richmond. Agendas may be reviewed at <https://bit.ly/3n8NjoX> and meetings may be viewed online at <https://bit.ly/38lbpOV>. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Harris County

The Harris County Commissioners Court meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. Meetings are held at 1001 Preston Street, Ste. 934 in Houston. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for Sept. 14 and 28. Meetings may be attended virtually at <https://www.harriscountytx.gov>.

[gov/Government/Court-Agenda/Court-Videos](https://www.harriscountytx.gov/Government/Court-Agenda/Court-Videos) and agendas may be reviewed at <https://harriscountytx.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Waller County

The Waller County Commissioners Court meets each Wednesday at 9 a.m. at the Waller County Courthouse located at 836 Austin Street in Hempstead. Agendas and meeting information may be found at www.co.waller.tx.us/page/PublicNotices. (click on the event and select agenda to download each week's agenda or click on "watch here" in order to view the streamed meeting.) Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Brookshire City Council

Alderspersons for the city of Brookshire meet the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Brookshire Municipal Building at 4029 Fifth Street in Brookshire. Agendas are posted for each meeting at www.brookshiretexas.org/meetings. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Fulshear City Council

Fulshear City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at the Irene Stern Community Center located at 6920 Katy Fulshear Road in Fulshear at 7 p.m. The next meetings are scheduled for Sept. 21 and Oct. 5. Meeting agendas may be found at <https://bit.ly/3haQSad> and meetings may be watched online at <https://bit.ly/38J8mmp>. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Katy City Council

Councilmembers for the city of Katy meet the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Katy City Hall. Council chambers are located on the first floor at 901 Avenue C in Katy. The next meetings for Katy City Council are Sept. 6 and 27 and Oct. 11. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Pattison City Council

Councilmembers for the city of Pattison meet the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Royal ISD Administration Building located at 3714 FM 359 in Pattison. The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for Oct. 4.

Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

Katy ISD

The Board of Trustees for the Katy Independent School District generally meets the fourth Monday of each month at 5 p.m. at the KISD Education Support Complex at 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy. Those wishing to speak during the meeting's open comments period must register via email at publicrecords@katyisd.org by 2 p.m. the day of the meeting to speak during the open forum. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 27.

Royal ISD

The RISD Board of Trustees meets the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 13. While board meetings usually occur at the RISD Administration Building, they are currently being held at the Royal High School theater located on the east side of the main campus building at 34499 Royal Road in Pattison (GPS may indicate this is in Brookshire). Thirty minutes of each meeting are designated for public comments which are limited to five minutes for each speaker. Speakers should complete a public comments form prior to the

meeting. The form may be found at: <https://www.royal-isd.net/page/board-meeting-information>.

West Harris County Regional Water Authority

The WHCRWA meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. Meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Houston West located at 13210 I-10, Houston at 6 p.m. In-person attendance is limited to 70 people due to facility capacity. Register to attend in-person at <https://bit.ly/2WIFEYR>. Meetings can be viewed online by registering at: <https://whcrwa.net/register>. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

North Fort Bend Water Authority

The NFBWA meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Sept. 22 at 5 p.m. A location has not yet been determined for the meeting as of press time, but may be found at www.nfbwa.com/news-and-meetings at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Registration may be required. Public comments are permitted during the meeting and each speaker has a limited amount of time to speak.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Explanatory Statements for the November 2, 2021 Constitutional Amendment Election

Proposition Number 1 (HJR 143)

HJR 143 proposes a constitutional amendment expanding the circumstances in which a professional sports team charitable foundation may conduct raffles to raise money for the foundation's charitable purposes. The proposed amendment would allow professional sports team charitable foundations of organizations sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association or the Women's Professional Rodeo Association to hold charitable raffles at rodeo events.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the professional sports team charitable foundations of organizations sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association or the Women's Professional Rodeo Association to conduct charitable raffles at rodeo venues."**

Proposition Number 2 (HJR 99)

HJR 99 proposes a constitutional amendment allowing the legislature to authorize a county to issue bonds or notes to finance the development or redevelopment of an unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted area within the county and to pledge for repayment of those bonds or notes increases in property tax revenues imposed on property in the area by the county. The Texas Constitution gives the legislature the power to authorize an incorporated city or town to issue such bonds or notes but does not expressly give the legislature the power to grant that same authority to counties. The proposed amendment also provides that a county that issues bonds or notes for transportation improvements may not pledge for the repayment of those bonds or notes more than 65 percent of the increases in ad valorem tax revenues each year, and a county may not use proceeds from the bonds or notes to finance the construction, operation, maintenance, or acquisition of rights-of-way of a toll road.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing a county to finance the development or redevelopment of transportation or infrastructure in unproductive, underdeveloped, or blighted areas in the county."**

Proposition Number 3 (SJR 27)

SJR 27 proposes a constitutional amendment barring the State of Texas or a political subdivision from enacting, adopting, or issuing a statute, order, proclamation, decision, or rule that prohibits or limits religious services. The proposed amendment would apply to religious services, including those conducted in churches, congregations, and places of worship, in the state by a religious organization established to support and serve the propaga-

tion of a sincerely held religious belief.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to prohibit this state or a political subdivision of this state from prohibiting or limiting religious services of religious organizations."**

Proposition Number 4 (SJR 47)

SJR 47 proposes a constitutional amendment changing certain eligibility requirements for a justice of the Supreme Court, a judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge. The proposed amendment provides that a person is eligible to serve on the Supreme Court if the person, among other qualifications, is licensed to practice law in Texas; is a resident of Texas at the time of election; has been either a practicing lawyer licensed in Texas for at least ten years or a practicing lawyer licensed in Texas and a judge of a state court or county court established by the legislature for a combined total of at least ten years; and during that time has not had the person's license to practice law revoked, suspended, or subject to a probated suspension. The same eligibility requirements would apply to a judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals and to a justice of a court of appeals. The proposed amendment further provides that to be eligible for appointment or election as a district judge, a person must be a resident of Texas; be licensed to practice law in Texas; and have been a practicing lawyer or a judge of a court in Texas, or both combined, for eight years preceding the person's election, during which time the person's license to practice law has not been revoked, suspended, or subject to a probated suspension.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment changing the eligibility requirements for a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of criminal appeals, a justice of a court of appeals, and a district judge."**

Proposition Number 5 (HJR 165)

HJR 165 proposes a constitutional amendment allowing the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) to accept complaints or reports, conduct investigations, and take any other authorized action with respect to a candidate for a state judicial office. Currently, the Texas Constitution only permits the SCJC to take such actions as to persons holding a judicial office.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment providing additional powers to the State Commission on Judicial Conduct with respect to candidates for judicial office."**

Proposition Number 6 (SJR 19)

SJR 19 proposes a constitutional amendment establishing that residents of certain facilities have the right to designate an essential caregiver with whom the facility may not prohibit in-person visitation. The proposed amendment would apply to a nursing facility, assisted living facility, intermediate care facility for individuals with an intellectual disability, residence providing home and community-based services, or state supported living center. The proposed amendment also would authorize the legislature to provide guidelines for these facilities to follow in establishing essential caregiver visitation policies and procedures.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment establishing a right for residents of certain facilities to designate an essential caregiver for in-person visitation."**

Proposition Number 7 (HJR 125)

HJR 125 proposes a constitutional amendment permitting a person who is 55 years of age or older at the time of death of their spouse who is receiving a limitation on school district property taxes on their residence homestead on the basis of a disability to continue receiving the limitation while the property remains the surviving spouse's residence homestead.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment to allow the surviving spouse of a person who is disabled to receive a limitation on the school district ad valorem taxes on the spouse's residence homestead if the spouse is 55 years of age or older at the time of the person's death."**

Proposition Number 8 (SJR 35)

SJR 35 proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the United States armed services who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty. The Texas Constitution provides a property tax exemption to the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services who is killed in action, but the current exemption does not include members of the military who die during their service due to injuries sustained that are not combat-related.

The proposed amendment will appear on the ballot as follows: **"The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States who is killed or fatally injured in the line of duty."**



Katy uses strong second half to rout Cy-Woods

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

Seth Davis has taken a step up this year. The Katy running back knew he would be needed more this year and would be

the No. 1 back for the Tigers, but he has taken it in stride, as the junior has assumed the role and has run with it. But if you ask Davis, all the credit goes to his

See **KATY**, page B9

WEEK TWO SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Thursday, Sept. 2

- Mayde Creek 35, Cy-Lakes 14
- Klein 30, Seven Lakes 0

Friday, Sept. 3

- Tompkins 53, Clear Springs 43
- Paetow 43, Morton Ranch 14
- Jordan 57, Danbury 0
- East Chambers 52, Royal 14

Saturday, Sept. 4

- Katy 42, Cy-Woods 7
- Cinco Ranch 20, Aldine Davis 15
- George Ranch 48, Taylor 13

Thursday, Sept. 9

- Morton Ranch vs. Hastings, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Jordan vs. L.C.M., 7 p.m., Rhodes
- Mayde Creek at Nimitz, 6 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 10

- Cinco Ranch vs. Brazoswood, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Seven Lakes vs. Aldine Davis, 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Katy at Dickinson, 7 p.m.
- Paetow at Richmond Foster, 7 p.m., Traylor Stadium
- Royal at Northeast Early College, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 11

- Tompkins vs. Klein Collins, 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium
- Taylor at Cy-Fair, 6 p.m., at Pidgeon Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

Friday, Sept. 10

- District 19-6A*
- Tompkins vs. Cinco Ranch, 5:30 p.m.
 - Seven Lakes vs. Katy, 5:30 p.m.
 - Morton Ranch vs. Taylor, 5:30 p.m.

District 19-5A

- Jordan at Magnolia, 6 p.m.
- Paetow at Magnolia West, 6 p.m.



R. HANS MILLER

Kentrell Webb celebrates after intercepting a pass during the second quarter of a game against Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium on Friday.

PANTHERS ROLL

PAETOW TOPS MORTON RANCH, CONTINUES HOT START TO SEASON

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Paetow's goal is to be a great team this season.

The Panthers know there is one big difference between good teams and those that reach an elite level.

Getting better every week. "That's what our coach preaches every day," said senior safety Kentrell Webb. "That's our motto is to be consistent and keep getting better. We know if we want to compete against the best that's what we have to do. We're united as one and if we continue to be consistent, show up to practice and do what we need to do, no one is going to beat us."

After getting to the Class 5A, Div. I area round last season, Paetow is looking for another step up this season and has started off on the right foot.

Paetow (2-0) started off the season strong against Barbers Hill with a 41-20 win and wanted to keep that going



R. HANS MILLER

Paetow lines up to run a play against Morton Ranch during a game on Friday at Legacy Stadium.

in week two when they faced Katy ISD foe Morton Ranch.

The Panthers did just that, rattling off 389 yards of offense in a 43-14 win over the Mavericks (1-1) to continue their unbeaten start to the season.

"We challenged them at the end

of last week to keep getting better," Paetow head coach B.J. Gotte said. "Good teams continue get better week after week and we told them 'you need to be better next week than you were

See **PANTHERS**, page B4

Houston falters in second half, fumbles opener to Texas Tech

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars tight end Parker Eichenberger (89) and tight end Shane Creamer (88) celebrate a play during an NCAA football game between Houston and Texas Tech on September 4, 2021 in Houston, Texas.



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

For the first half of the University of Houston's season opener, it seemed like everything that could go the Cougars way did.

But football is a 60-minute game, and as right as things went in the first 30 minutes for the Cougars, the second half was the opposite.

The Cougars had no answer for Texas Tech, as the Red Raiders reeled off 31 unanswered points in the second half to take a 38-21 victory as Houston started the season with a loss Saturday at NRG Stadium.

"We didn't do a very good job in the second half from an offensive perspective," Houston coach Dana Holgorsen said. "That's one of the worst halves I've ever been a part of. I admit that, I own that and we'll work hard on trying to fix that."

Texas Tech trimmed Houston's lead to seven on its opening drive of the third quarter as Tyler Shough ran in a touchdown from eight yards out. On the first play of the ensuing drive, Riko Jeffers intercepted Clayton Tune and returned it 13 yards for a touchdown to tie the game.

After another Tune interception, the Red Raiders took the lead on a 34-yard field goal by Jonathan Garibay.

Texas Tech put things away in the fourth quarter on an eight play, 71-yard drive that ended with a Shough pass to Xavier White from three yards out.

"I think they just wore just out," Holgerson said. "They wore us out."

Tune had a strong start to the game, as he led Houston on an eight-minute, 16 play, 75-yard drive to start the game, culminating in a 1-yard quarterback sneak for a touchdown.

See **COUGARS**, page B8



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Culley, Texans ready for opener against Jaguars

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

The Houston Texans are ready to get out on the field.

After an offseason of change and uncertainty, the team is ready to let its play do the talking.

"I'm looking forward to this team," said Texans head coach David Culley. "I like what this team has done during training camp and during the preseason games. Other than the last game where we turned the ball over so much, I've really felt good about this football team."

Culley and the Texans will finally have a chance play an official NFL game on Sunday, when the team takes on the Jacksonville Jaguars at noon on Sunday at NRG Stadium to open the 2021-22 NFL season.

It's a battle of two new look teams as Houston and Jacksonville meet, as both teams have new faces at head coach and at quarterback.

The Texans' new quarterback this year is Tyrod Taylor, who completed 12-18 passes for 81 yards in the preseason. Taylor has already started to gel with his teammates and wide receiver Brandin Cooks praised the quarterback.

"It's been huge for all of the pass catchers. Not just the receivers but the tight ends and running backs," Cooks said. "The camp we had, how many practices we've been out there, we continued to show that trust and camaraderie, that chemistry every single day."

It will be a running back by committee approach for the Texans against the Jaguars and throughout the season, as the group includes Mark Ingram, Phillip Lindsay, David Johnson and Rex Burkhead.

Culley, who had been the offensive coordinator for the Baltimore Ravens last year, is expected to lean heavily on the run game. The Ravens ran the ball 55% of the time last year under his direction.

Ingram feels the unit has improved throughout the preseason, but knows they need to reach a different level if they want to be successful.

"We made good some strides in our run game; we almost ran for over 200 yards in our last preseason game," Ingram said. "Obviously, we didn't keep the ball moving like we wanted; we didn't punch the ball in the end



Houston Texans quarterback Tyrod Taylor (5) at the line of scrimmage during a preseason game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on August 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

"The consistent play of our up-front people has been great for us. It's been that way because of the competition. We feel like we have six or seven guys up there that can play for us and we are going to use all of them. You have to do that over the course of a 17-game season and we are fortunate enough to have the depth to do that."

—DAVID CULLEY, TEXANS HEAD COACH

zone and we turned the ball over, and those are things that can keep you from winning football games. Those are things you can improve on and the execution of every single play. We just have to continue to work on that heading into week 1."

The Jaguars and this year's No. 1 overall pick Trevor Lawrence will be trying to start the season, but will be tested by what has been a strong Houston defense through the preseason.

The Texans forced 10 turnovers in their three preseason games, with five interceptions and five fumbles recovered, both tied for the best in the league over this year's preseason.

A big part of that has come from the work of the defensive line according to Culley; he likes what he has seen out of the group throughout training camp and feels confident not just in the starters, but also the backups and their ability to be difference makers.

"The consistent play of our up-front people has been great for us," Culley said. "It's been that way because of the competition. We feel like we have six or seven guys up there that can play for us and we are going to use all of them. You have to do that over the course of a 17-game season and we are fortunate enough to have the depth to do that."



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Texans running back David Johnson (31) carries the ball during a preseason game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on August 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas.


KATY AREA CHAMBER

UPCOMING EVENT

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WEEK THREE

KATY ISD

PREVIEWS

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Thursday

NON-DISTRICT

Morton Ranch (1-1) vs. Hastings (0-2), 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium

• Morton Ranch comes off a huge loss to Paetow in which it allowed 40 points before its first points of the ball game. The Mavericks will look to bounce back against a Hastings team that also comes off a big loss, 45-6 against Cypress Falls. The game will be a good chance for Josh Johnson to continue his development at the quarterback position. Johnson threw for 134 yards and had a good second half against Paetow and against a weaker Hastings team may be able to put up better numbers both in the air and on the ground.

Jordan (1-1) vs. L.C.M. (1-1), 7 p.m., Rhodes

• Jordan got its first ever varsity victory last week against Danbury and will look to follow that up with another win over L.C.M. The team from Orange comes off a loss to West Orange-Stark and will be looking to bounce back against the Warriors. It was a strong display from Jordan in its first home game, winning 57-0, led by Ifeanyi Monye who rushed for 124 yards on 14 carries. The game against L.C.M. will be a good chance to see the continued improvement of Colin Willetts and Deuce Barrington as the quarterbacks continue their sophomore season.

Mayde Creek (1-1) at Nimitz (0-2), 6 p.m.

• J Jensen picked up his first victory as a head coach last week against Cypress Lakes and will have a good chance to pick up victory No. 2 against a struggling Nimitz side. The Rams played well last week as sophomore quarterback Jaylen Bragg went 12-17 for 137 yards and three touchdowns and four different Mayde Creek receivers had multiple catches. Nimitz meanwhile fell to 0-2 after a 52-0 loss to Tomball where the team barely had over 100 yards of offense. Mayde Creek's secondary should have a good game against a side that threw two interceptions last week, but the front seven will have to hold the Nimitz run game in check.

Friday

NON-DISTRICT

Cinco Ranch (2-0) vs. Brazoswood (2-0), 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium

• Cinco Ranch has looked like a strong football team so far this year as Gavin Rutherford and his receiving core have looked strong, but so has the Cougar's defense. After going off in the teams opening win, Rutherford threw for 138 yards but the defense stepped up to help Cinco Ranch to a win. This week they will be up against an undefeated Brazoswood team that comes off a 20-19 victory over Sterling. Cinco's defense will need to be strong again as Isaac Ponce threw for 321 yards on 20-31 passing while also rushing for 53 yards in the win.

Seven Lakes (1-1) vs. Aldine Davis (0-2), 7 p.m., Rhodes Stadium

• Seven Lakes is in need of a bounce back after last week's loss to Klein. The Spartans offense put up only 148 yards of offense in the game and struggled both in



COLE MCNANNA | FILE PHOTO
Cinco Ranch's Gavin Rutherford tries to escape pressure from Katy's Judson Ceyanes during the first half of a district between the Tigers and Cougars at Legacy Stadium last season.

the air and on the ground. The defense didn't fare much better as it allowed over 200 yards on the ground and allowed 171 yards through the air on just four completions from Klein. Seven Lakes has a good chance to get back in the win column against Aldine Davis this week as the team has struggled so far in 2021.

Katy (2-0) at Dickinson (1-1), 7 p.m.

• Katy has had a calm start to the season and will in for its first real test this season when they face off against Dickinson this week. The Tigers' defense looked strong last week against Cy-Woods but did struggle at times with their pass defense in the intermediate areas, especially late in the second quarter. Dickinson has played in two very close games, beating Manvel and coming up short against Ridge Point last week. The offense was strong for defense last week, but the defense allowed 376 yards on the ground and 169 yards through the air, which bodes well for the Tigers' offense.

DISTRICT 10-5A, DIV. I

Paetow (2-0) at Richmond Foster (1-1), 7 p.m., Traylor Stadium

• Paetow opens district Friday against Richmond Foster in the quest for the team's first ever district championship. The Panthers looked very strong against Mayde Creek as CJ Dumas, Jacob Brown and company looked tremendous against Morton Ranch in their final tune-up before district play. Foster bounced back from a season opening loss to Lamar Consolidated by beating Fort Bend Travis and will be confident heading into this week, especially with their passing game, as JT Fayard passed for 321 yards and three touchdowns in the

win and Kendal Stewart had over 200 yards receiving. Paetow's defense will need to be on top of its game once again to come away with the victory.

Saturday

NON-DISTRICT

Tompkins (2-0) vs. Klein Collins (0-2), 6 p.m., Legacy Stadium

• Tompkins was part of a very entertaining game last week against Clear Springs as the Falcons had to battle from behind to come away with a win. Cole Francis has 575 yards passing and six touchdowns through two games and has looked strong so far while Collin Marshall has solidified himself as a good option in the backfield. Klein Collins has lost to Atascocita and North Shore so far and that tough schedule will continue with Tompkins, Collins has a sophomore quarterback in Tucker Parks and Tompkins defense will try to make things hard for the Collins offense.

Taylor (1-1) at Cy-Fair (0-1), 6 p.m., at Pridgeon Stadium

• Taylor's defense struggled mightily against George Ranch as the Mustangs gave up 48 points in the loss and Taylor will get an angry Cy-Fair team this week as the Bobcats come off a loss as well. Taylor allowed nearly 400 yards on the ground as well as five touchdowns while George Ranch quarterback Cole Murphy also passed for 114 yards as the Longhorns rolled to a win. Taylor's offense struggled, only putting up 13 points and they will look for a better performance this week. Taylor will look to run the ball as Cy-Fair gave up 509 yards on the ground and five touchdowns in its loss.

Katy tops Houston area media poll for second straight week

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

For the second straight week, Katy topped the Houston Media High School Football poll after its week one win over Clear Springs. The Tigers garnered four more first place votes with 11 total, North Shore came in second place in the poll and had one first place vote, while Bridgeland also received one first place vote.

Tompkins was ranked No. 6 in Class 6A, dropping one spot after its win over Magnolia. Taylor and Cinco Ranch both received votes but did not

crack the top 20.

In Class 5A, Paetow was ranked No. 2 and received one first place vote after a win over Barbers Hill, Fort Bend Marshall was ranked No. 1 while Manvel was ranked No. 3.

El Campo led the way in the small school poll, while East Bernard dropped to No. 5 after its opening week loss to Edna. Kinkaid jumped up to No. 1 in the private school after its opening week win over Second Baptist, Second Baptist dropped to No. 2.

Following is the full poll. (The poll was conducted before last week's games)

WEEK TWO MEDIA POLL

CLASS 6A

1. Katy (11 first-place votes)

Record: 1-0; Points: 256; Previous Rank: 1; Last Week: Beat Clear Springs, 40-7.

2. North Shore (1)

Record: 1-0; Points: 247; Previous Rank: 2; Last Week: Beat Shadow Creek, 33-10.

3. Atascocita

Record: 1-0; Points: 225; Previous Rank: 3; Last Week: Beat Klein Collins, 48-7.

4. Spring

Record: 1-0; Points: 216; Previous Rank: 4; Last Week: Beat Travis, 38-17.

5. Bridgeland (1)

Record: 1-0; Points: 213; Previous Rank: 6; Last Week: Beat Klein Cain, 54-14.

6. Tompkins

Record: 1-0; Points: 194; Previous Rank: 5; Last Week: Beat Magnolia, 18-6.

7. Westfield

Record: 1-0; Points: 170; Previous

Rank: 7; Last Week: Beat Strake Jesuit, 37-10.

8. Dickinson

Record: 1-0; Points: 153; Previous Rank: 10; Last Week: Beat Manvel, 45-42.

9. Ridge Point

Record: 1-0; Points: 144; Previous Rank: 12; Last Week: Beat Pearland, 41-13.

10. C.E. King

Record: 1-0; Points: 142; Previous

See POLL, page B4

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POLL

from page B3

- Rank: 11; Last Week: Beat Cypress Falls, 53-0.
- Tomball Memorial**
Record: 1-0; Points: 119; Previous Rank: 15; Last Week: Beat Nimitz, 54-10.
 - The Woodlands**
Record: 1-0; Points: 101; Previous Rank: 16; Last Week: Beat Langham Creek, 48-42.
 - Shadow Creek**
Record: 0-1; Points: 84; Previous Rank: 9; Last Week: Lost to North Shore, 33-10.
 - Cypress Ranch***
Record: 0-0; Points: 78; Previous Rank: 20; Last Week: NC vs. Cy-Fair (weather cancellation).
 - Dobie**
Record: 1-0; Points: 78; Previous Rank: 17; Last Week: Beat Elsik, 55-0.
 - Cypress Park**
Record: 1-0; Points: 70; Previous Rank: 18; Last Week: Beat Cypress Ridge, 68-14.
 - Clear Falls**
Record: 1-0; Points: 65; Previous Rank: NR; Last Week: Beat Dawson, 31-7.
 - Cy-Fair**
Record: 0-0; Points: 62; Previous Rank: 8; Last Week: NC vs. Cypress Ranch (weather cancellation).
 - Klein Cain**
Record: 0-1; Points: 43; Previous Rank: 13; Last Week: Lost to Bridgeland, 54-14.
 - George Ranch**
Record: 1-0; Points: 19; Previous Rank: NR; Last Week: Beat Lamar, 38-33.
Also receiving votes: Dawson 14, Klein Oak 12, Katy Taylor 8, Tomball 4, College Park 3, Pearl and 3, Cinco Ranch 2, Langham Creek 2, Summer Creek 2, Klein 1.
*—tiebreaker vs. Dobie

CLASS 5A

- Fort Bend Marshall (10 first-place votes)**
Record: 1-0; Points: 126; Previous Rank: 2; Last Week: Beat Eisenhower, 68-34.
- Paetow (1)**
Record: 1-0; Points: 110; Previous Rank: 3; Last Week: Beat Barbers Hill, 41-20.
- Manvel (2)**
Record: 0-1; Points: 107; Previous Rank: 1; Last Week: Lost to Dickinson, 45-42.
- Crosby**
Record: 0-1; Points: 78; Previous Rank: 4; Last Week: Lost to Carthage, 27-24.
- Huntsville**
Record: 0-0; Points: 72; Previous Rank: 5; Last Week: Game vs. Worthing canceled.
- Hightower**

- Record: 1-0; Points: 68; Previous Rank: 8; Last Week: Beat Bush, 26-0.
- Montgomery**
Record: 1-0; Points: 47; Previous Rank: 10; Last Week: Beat Porter, 27-9.
 - Magnolia**
Record: 0-1; Points: 35; Previous Rank: 7; Last Week: Lost to Tompkins, 18-6.
 - Magnolia West**
Record: 1-0; Points: 22; Previous Rank: NR; Last Week: Beat Brenham, 45-21.
 - New Caney**
Record: 1-0; Points: 19; Previous Rank: NR; Last Week: Beat Marshall, 23-7.
Also receiving votes: Foster 12, Lamar Consolidated 8, Barbers Hill 3, Baytown Lee 3, Friendswood 2, Montgomery Lake Creek 2.

CLASS 4A/SMALL SCHOOLS

- El Campo (10 first-place votes)**
Record: 1-0; Points: 50; Previous Rank: 1; Last Week: Beat Gonzales, 56-34.
- Huffman-Hargrave**
Record: 1-0; Points: 37; Previous Rank: 3; Last Week: Beat Liberty, 28-0.
- Bellville**
Record: 1-0; Points: 32; Previous Rank: 4; Last Week: Beat Giddings, 49-0.
- Sealy**
Record: 1-0; Points: 16; Previous Rank: 5; Last Week: Beat Brazosport, 43-13.
- East Bernard**
Record: 0-1; Points: 7; Previous Rank: 2; Last Week: Lost to Edna, 24-7.
Also receiving votes: Stafford 4, Navasota 2, Brookshire Royal 1, Livingston 1.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- Kinkaid (8 first-place votes)**
Record: 1-0; Points: 40; Previous Rank: 2; Last Week: Beat Second Baptist, 21-14.
- Second Baptist**
Record: 0-1; Points: 25; Previous Rank: 1; Last Week: Lost to Kinkaid, 21-14.
- Cypress Christian**
Record: 1-0; Points: 24; Previous Rank: 3; Last Week: Beat Fort Worth Christian, 23-8.
- St. Thomas**
Record: 1-0; Points: 20; Previous Rank: 5; Last Week: Beat Needville, 35-28.
- Episcopal**
Record: 0-1; Points: 5; Previous Rank: 4; Last Week: Lost to Parish Episcopal, 34-14.
Also receiving votes: Fort Bend Christian 4, St. John's 1, The Woodlands Christian 1.

PANTHERS

from page B1

last week. I felt like we did that and so that was good to see. We were able to match their (Morton Ranch's) intensity early and it was really good. I was glad to see them come out and continue to improve."

It didn't take long for Paetow to get rolling. The Panthers forced a three-and-out on Morton Ranch's first drive and then on the Panther's first play from scrimmage, Jacob Brown took a handoff and broke a run 65 yards for a touchdown less than two minutes into the game.

Five minutes later Brown added to his tally with a 3-yard touchdown and he was at it again in the second quarter as he broke off another long run, this one for 56 yards and his third touchdown of the night.

"I just wanted to show the talent that I have and how great these offensive linemen really are," Brown said. "I couldn't have done it without those guys or without CJ (Dumas), he did a great job of calling the reads. I was just listening to what coach preached all week, which is reading our keys. I read that and the lineman opened it up for me, the holes were there."

Paetow scored twice more in the second quarter off of two passes from CJ Dumas, one 18 yards to Justin Stevenson and one to Kole Wilson for 25 yards as the Panthers went into the locker room with a 33-0 lead.

Morton Ranch struggled to create any kind of offense in the first half, but started to find more of a rhythm in the third quarter as Josh Johnsons settled into the game.

Morton Ranch picked up three first downs on their first drive of the second half and although the Mavericks didn't come away with points on the possession, they found success through the air after a first half where they could not get anything going on the ground.

After another Paetow touchdown on a pass from Dumas to Stevenson,

Morton Ranch was finally able to get on the board, driving the ball down the field and getting a touchdown on a 17-yard pass from Johnson to Karsten Christopher Jr.

Paetow got a field goal in the fourth quarter and with the backups in, Mike Gerald threw a touchdown pass to Santana Scott for Morton Ranch's second score of the game before the Panthers ran time out.

Gotte liked what he saw from his team but also knew there was room to improve for next week.

"We were more consistent up front with our offensive line and defensively we did a good job with our fits on run plays while the back end guys stay on top of routes," Gotte said. "We just need to do a better job with pre snap penalties on offense, that's something I challenged them with at the end of the game. Defensively we also lost our edge a little bit there to start the second half. It's like I told them, you don't ever take wins for granted, enjoy them, but we also have to understand we have a lot of room to grow."

Morton Ranch will be up against Alief Hastings next week while Paetow will start District 10-5A, Div. I play against Richmond Foster.

Just like last week, the Panthers will enjoy the victory, but they're focused on bigger goals.

"This is a special group," Webb said. "I think we are going to be the best team to come through Paetow, offensively and defensively. We have to be ready for district but if we keep getting better we can get to Dallas, that's what we preach, we're going to Dallas."

Paetow 43, Morton Ranch 14

M. Ranch	0	0	7	7	--	14
Paetow	14	19	7	3	--	43

First quarter

Paetow: Jacob Brown 65 run (Anthony Fuentes kick) 10:18

Paetow: Brown 3 run (Fuentes Kick), 5:35

Second quarter
Paetow: Brown 56 run (Fuentes Kick), 5:53

Paetow: CJ Dumas 18 pass to Justin Stevenson, 2:55

Paetow: Dumas 25 pass to Kole Wilson, 1:34

Third quarter
Paetow: Dumas 24 pass to Stevenson (Fuentes kick), 8:56

Morton Ranch: Josh Johnson 17 pass to Karsten Christopher Jr. (Juan Arriaga kick), 2:28

Fourth quarter
Paetow: Fuentes 39 field goal, 9:14

Morton Ranch: Mike Gerald 9 pass to Santana Scott, (Arriaga kick) 4:06

Team stats

	M. Ranch	Paetow
First downs	9	17
Yards rushing	32-66	31-240
Yards passing	143	149
Passes	12-20-2-1	9-13-3-1
Punts	5.31	1.31
Fumbles-lost	0-0	1-1
Penalty-yards	6-66	8-59

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Paetow: Jacob Brown, 16-184-3; Bryan Del Cid, 2-15; D.J. Johnson, 1-13; Jalyn Richardson, 7-31; Damiyon Phillips, 3-7; Gene Kendall 1-0; John Helton, 1-(-10); Morton Ranch: Karsten Christopher Jr., 12-11; Santana Scott, 7-16; Josh Johnson, 9-1; Mike Gerald, 1-3;

Passing — Paetow: CJ Dumas, 9-12-149-3-; Morton Ranch: Josh Johnson, 11-18-134-1-1; Mike Gerald, 1-2-9-1-0;

Receiving — Paetow: Justin Stevenson, 3-52-2; Kole Wilson, 1-25-1; Brandon Shanks 1-36; Jason Blue, 3-35; Dez Myers, 1-1; Morton Ranch: Karsten Christopher Jr. 4-31-1; Santana Scott, 3-31-1; Kaden Sadler, 2-40; Josiah Mills, 1-29; Camerson Hudson, 2-12.

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You are cordially invited to our September 21st General Assembly Meeting and Business Opportunity Conference. Networking will begin at 8 a.m. with the meeting starting promptly at 8:15 a.m.

What:
Katy Area EDC September General Assembly Meeting and Business Opportunity Conference, including panel discussions and Q/A on Minority Business Development, Supplier Diversity and Procurement

When:
Tuesday, Sept. 21st • 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
(Networking from 8-8:15 a.m., EDC Business from 8:15-8:25 a.m.; Conference to follow GA Mtg)

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OTHER SPEAKERS TO BE ANNOUNCED!

THIS BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY CONFERENCE IS A PROJECT OF THE KATY AREA EDC DIVERSITY COMMITTEE. MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE KATY AREA BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY CENTER WEBSITE.
www.katyareabusinessopportunitycenter.com





Austin FC supporters cheer during an MLS match between Austin FC and FC Dallas on August 29, 2021 in Austin, Texas. SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Djitte ready to make an impact with Austin FC

BY ZACH SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

It took Moussa Djitte nearly two months to finally get to Austin, but now that he's here, he's not expected to leave the field anytime soon.

The 21-year-old Senegalese striker signed with Austin FC back in June, but visa issues and a quarantine period pushed back his MLS debut until August 29 against FC Dallas when he was subbed on in the 82nd minute.

"It's clear within the identity of the team that there's a lot of ambition," Djitte said. "All of the players have been pushed by the supporters to realize that ambition. I saw and really believed in the project of the club. I wanted to help progress the ambitions of Austin."

Scoring goals has been an issue for Austin FC all season, and despite scoring seven goals in the last three games, the expansion side still ranks last in the league with 20 goals through 21 games.

Djitte — who scored 15 goals in 67 appearances with Grenoble Foot 38 — is the first out-and-out striker added to Austin FC to replace injured forwards Danny Hoesen and Aaron Schoenfeld.

Sunday was Djitte's first game appearance since May, so fitness and learning the system is the main priority for head coach Josh Wolff.

"We have 13 games left, and I expect him to play in 13 of those," Wolff said. "We needed a striker desperately, and now he's gotten here and we've got to fit him in in the right way, in a responsible way. It's our responsibility to keep those expectations realistic."

Multiple Austin FC players and coaches speak French, including Alex Ring and assistant coach Davy Arnaud. But the player with the closest connection to Djitte is winger Kekuta Manneh.

Not only does Manneh speak French, but Djitte's mother was born in The Gambia, as was Manneh, so speaking a similar native African tribal language has helped the pair communicate and grow



Austin FC forward Moussa Djitte (99) moves the ball during an MLS match between Austin FC and FC Dallas on August 29, 2021 in Austin, Texas. SCOTT W. COLEMAN

close. "Kekuta is a very good friend, he's helped with the adaptation process," Djitte said. "I'm very close with him, and we do a lot of things together. It's been incredibly positive having him as a brother on the team."

The narrative for the first part of the Austin FC season was about its struggle to score goals. With the introduction of designated player Sebastian Driussi and Ring, Cecilio

Dominguez and Tomas Pochettino showing an ability to play in the attack, the quality and goals are coming.

Wolff has seen what Djitte is capable of in training. He said as soon as he's up to speed with the system and fit, he'll be a regular in the starting lineup.

"He can be a handful in front of goal," Wolff said. "He understands his job is to score goals and to be dangerous in front of goal. We

have quality, we'll score goals. I'm certainly more optimistic about that now."

Djitte said that soccer is soccer, and while he's taken some time to learn the nuances of MLS and the style of play Wolff wants Austin FC to play, he's ready to add to the lethal goalscoring ability.

Austin FC has some of the most passionate fans in the league, and they welcomed Djitte to the city as only they could, tracking his flight

and meeting him at the airport, where they presented him with a Los Verdes scarf.

Djitte feels that love and said his main goal is winning a championship in Austin.

"Seeing the supporters at the airport was an absolute pleasure," he said. "It was really, really cool. The gesture was so grand, it moved me to tears seeing the welcome not just as a footballer, but as Moussa Djitte."

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Katy Times

Katy ISD gears up for volleyball district play

BY TYLER TYRE
TIMES SPORTS EDITOR

With District 19-6A play quickly approaching and District 19-5A play already started, we decided to do a Q&A with every Katy ISD volleyball team. Seven Lakes is in the pursuit of another state title, Katy thinks they can contest for that and Jordan is in its first year of varsity play.

CINCO RANCH HIGH

DANIELLE WELLS

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. We are a younger team this year. We are continuing to grow in our court experience and playing together.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. We have discussed leadership and the qualities of team building and how it can bring our young team together.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our goals as a team is to make top 4 in district to move into the playoffs.

JORDAN HIGH SCHOOL

JENNIFER VADEEN

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Our Jordan High School fans can expect to see exciting volleyball and a team that never gives up and can play through tough moments.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip for our players is that every day they should invest in each other and never take a moment for granted.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The goals for the Jordan High School Volleyball team is to have the most competitive season possible and to establish a culture of relentlessness and become a better teammate through the process.

KATY HIGH SCHOOL

KAREN PAXTON

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?



Seven Lakes Ally Batenhorst celebrates during the Spartans' 3-1 win over district rival Katy High in their Class 6A Region III final last year at the Merrell Center.

A. Our Katy Tiger Fans can expect a team excited to compete this year.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip I give the Katy High School Volleyball team is to keep focusing on progress and not perfection.

Q. What is the teams goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our Katy High School Volleyball team goals are the regional finals!

MAYDE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

MEGANN OLLETT

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Mayde Creek High School fans can expect to see volleyball players that play hard, don't quit and work at getting better with every touch on the ball!!

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip for the Mayde Creek High School Volleyball Team is to have fun, communicate, and the

most important play is the next one!

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Mayde Creek High School Volleyball team goal are to have fun, get better every match and create a winning culture!

MORTON RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

GABRIELA PRINCESS TOUSSANT

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. The Morton Ranch High School fans can expect high intensity games with highly energetic dynamic players who have the ability to do multiple things on the court.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip for our Morton Ranch High School Volleyball team is to give everything you have everyday in order to help others elevate themselves. Be the Difference... Everyday!

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Morton Ranch High

School Volleyball Team goals are to first finish with a winning record and second to at least split teams in district to better our chances for playoffs.

PAETOW HIGH SCHOOL

ALYSSA BROWN

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. Paetow High School Panther fans can expect games full of energy and positivity. We are ready to compete and show everyone who Panther volleyball is!

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip for the Paetow High School Volleyball team is to enjoy the time you have with your team and always give 100%. When you are having fun, you will make memories that will last a lifetime.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Paetow High School team goals are to come out in the top half of our district. We have a great group of girls that work hard on and off the court. I know they can do anything they put their mind to.

SEVEN LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

AMY CATALINE

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. There are six returners that are leading the team this season. We have young talent joining them and they are eager to jump in and contribute. We look different, but our purpose and pursuit is the same - be a premier volleyball program that exemplifies class, resilience and heart.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. One tip for our Seven Lakes High School volleyball team is to play with confident, be resilient and give it your all.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. The Seven Lakes High School team goals are to get better each match, excel under pressure, trust the process and take it a game a time. By doing that we hope to peak at the right time and win matches needed to get us to back to state.

TAYLOR HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISE CRITE

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. This year the Taylor High School Mustang fans are expected to see our players be more competitive to get in the play-offs.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. A tip for the Taylor High School volleyball team is that this season our players are going to have to be consistent, scrappy, and fearless when playing. We have a competitive district, and in order to compete, we have to limit our errors and challenge our opponents.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. Our Taylor High School Volleyball team goals for this season are to be competitive, and earn a spot in the play-offs.

TOMPKINS HIGH SCHOOL

ALLISON MERRELL

Q. What can fans expect from your season this year?

A. If you are wanting to see some amazing volleyball, then this is the season for that! We have an incredibly talented group of girls who are going to leave everything out on the floor this season. We are all really excited about this season and seeing how far we can go.

Q. One tip for their players to help make it a good season.

A. We work as a family and as a unit and are all in this together. We work above the crimson line and to do that you need heart and focus, but you can't forget to have fun moments as a team to bond and connect.

Q. What are the team's goals for the 2021 season?

A. At the beginning of each season we list out as a team what we want our goals to be. Of course we would love to win district; that would be the ultimate pay day as a program, but each player has individual goals that they strive for. Overall we keep the mindset of "Be the team you want to beat" and we want to go all the way this year.

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 2021 on September 27, 2021 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.

FOR the proposal: Miguel G. Hull, W.F. Trotter Jr., Crystal Sampson, Thomas H. Williams

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: Timothy C. Miller

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)	\$.40000/\$100 Adopted	\$.38000/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.02000/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-5.00%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 233,078	\$ 248,349
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 233,078	\$ 248,349
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 932.31	\$ 943.72
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$ 11.41	1.22%

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.

Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 161 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027 or via teleconference at 888-363-4734, Access Code: 8706826. 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.

FOR the proposal: K. Scully, J. Schubert, J. Kaiser & M. Harris

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: C. Kight

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)	<u>\$ 0.9000</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$ 0.8800</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.020 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.0000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$576,464</u>	<u>\$616,969</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$576,464</u>	<u>\$616,969</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$5,188.18</u>	<u>\$5,429.33</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)	\$241.15	4.6481%

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 eight 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.

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

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INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids addressed to Board of Directors Harris County Municipal Utility District 165, will be received, until **2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, September 28th, 2021**, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for Construction of "Avalon at Cypress West Channel Softscape" for Harris County Municipal Utility District 165, Harris County, Texas"

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Concrete Trails, grading, sprinkler irrigation, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time**. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID 916 4102 4453 and use Passcode: 905505 or <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/91641024453?pwd=WXVXKzJvZDZ0cDV6VTNMRWJPTjJWUT09>

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search SWA project name. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, and associated documents for this Project. There is **NO** charge to view or download documents.

A Bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and bid securities must be submitted through www.civcastusa.com. Bidder must register on this website in order to submit a Bid and bid security.

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

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

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

HC MUD 165

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213, Attention: Mr. Charles "Ted" Lee, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 3:30 p.m., Local Time, Wednesday, September 22, 2021, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Uplands Amenity Lakes Earthwork & Drainage Facilities for Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213, Waller County, Texas". Bidders may elect to submit bids electronically via <https://bids.lja.com>. To attend the Bid Opening by telephone, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0635232.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of earthwork and drainage facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory audio/web pre-bid conference will be held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. Local Time. To attend the web-format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, go to <https://micollabuca.ljaeng.com/call/0615286>. To attend the audio format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0615286.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or at <https://bids.lja.com>.

A Bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and bid securities must be submitted through <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register and obtain bidding documents on this website for the required payment amount (if any) to submit an electronic bid.

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

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

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

Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213

850 HELP WANTED

850 HELP WANTED

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

JOURNEYMAN, APPRENTICE ELECTRICIAN

RESIDENTIAL WIRING
FULL TIME
COMPETITIVE PAY
VALID LICENSE

CONTACT DAVID
281-932-1247
Email: d43elect@yahoo.com

LAKE MANAGEMENT CO. IN KATY SEEKING LAKE FIELD SERVICE TECHNICIAN. OUTSIDE WORK, HANDS-ON TRAINING, NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED. BENEFITS AVAILABLE. GOOD STARTING PAY. APPLY IN PERSON MON-FRI. 9AM TO 3PM @ 4110 KATY HOCKLEY CUT OFF RD., KATY, TX 77493, TEL (281) 391-3688

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by Woodmere Development Company, Ltd. on behalf of Harris County M.U.D. No. 432 in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:00 P.M. on September 30, 2021 for Morton Creek Ranch Section 23 Landscape Improvements.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including sidewalks, irrigation, planting, fine grading and hydromulch.

Bidders shall submit two (2) copies of the Bid on exact copies of the Bid Form provided. A Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (Form CIQ) and Certificate of Interested Parties (HB Form 1295) must be returned with Bid. (Forms are provided with Spec Book)

Bid Documents may be examined without charge in the offices of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC, 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494, or may be obtained upon deposit of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75.00) for each set. This sum is non-refundable and checks should be made payable to KGA/DeForest Design, LLC. Only check or money order will be accepted.

A Cashier's Check or Bidder's Bond Payable to Woodmere Development Co., Ltd. on behalf of Harris County M.U.D. No. 432 in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid submitted, outlined in the Contract Documents, must accompany the Bid.

Bidders must have at least five years of confirmed experience on comparable size projects of a similar scope in the Houston Area.

The successful bidder receiving contract award must furnish Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) each of the total Contract price. Each such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas.

The winning bid is decided not by low price but by this standard:

"The responsible person or persons that, in the Board's judgment, will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the District's proposed improvements."

The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive bidding informalities.

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

September 2 Puzzle Answers

C	A	B	A	L	F	I	F	O	A	N	K	H					
A	R	O	M	A	A	B	D	U	C	T	I	O	N				
W	A	N	A	M	A	K	E	R	T	R	O	P	H	Y			
S	B	A	H	E	X	G	A	N	A	L							
			S	C	A	D	E	R	N	E							
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A	L	A	E		A	G	E	D	P	A	C						
H	A	R	E	S	A	G	E	S	C	E	B	U					
A	N	D	R	A	M	A	T	E	S	T							
			E	A	S	I	N	G	S	A	N	S					
			T	O	D	A	S	A	C								
			P	L	A	T	A	P	A	T	D	U	O				
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			O	W	E	S	C	A	T	C	A	E	C	A			

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



INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213, Attention: Mr. Charles "Ted" Lee, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 2:00 p.m., Local Time, Tuesday, September 21, 2021, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Twinwood Business Park Phase 4 and 5 Detention Facilities and Amenity Lake for Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213, Waller County, Texas". Bidders may elect to submit bids electronically via <https://bids.lja.com>. To attend the Bid Opening by telephone, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0595340

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of detention facilities and amenity lake.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory audio/web pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time. To attend the web-format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, go to <https://micollabuca.ljaeng.com/call/0575394>. To attend the audio format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0575394.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or at <https://bids.lja.com>.

A Bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and bid securities must be submitted through <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register and obtain bidding documents on this website for the required payment amount (if any) to submit an electronic bid.

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Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 213



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars quarterback Clayton Tune (3) escapes the grasp of Texas Tech Red Raiders linebacker Riko Jeffers (6) in the end zone to avoid a safety during an NCAA football game between Houston and Texas Tech on September 4, 2021 in Houston, Texas.

COUGARS

from page B1

Houston caught Texas Tech napping on a surprise inside kick, and the Cougars added to their lead after an eight play drive as Tune completed a 23-yard touchdown pass to Nathaniel Dell.

"We were up and I felt good about the momentum," Holgerson said. "The inside was there and we

play to win, it worked out and got us the lead."

Texas Tech got on the board with a touchdown in the second quarter, but Tune again had an answer, as he hooked up with Seth Green for a 9-yard score with 23 seconds remaining in the half and Houston went into the locker room

with a 21-7 lead.

Houston finished with just 53 yards of total offense while allowing the red Raiders to accumulate 246 yards of offense in the second half.

Tune threw four interceptions, three of which came in the third and fourth quarters, and finished the night 27-38 for 174 yards and

two touchdowns passing.

Dell finished the game with a career-high seven catches for 80 yards and a score. Mulbah Car rushed for 37 yards on 13 carries. Defensively, Donovan Mutin had a team-high eight tackles and forced a fumble.

"They just came out in the

second half and did some things," Tune said. "They got after us a little and we just didn't make as many plays. That's what it comes down to."

Houston will have a chance to get into the win column when they face Rice at 5 p.m. Saturday at Rice Stadium.

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INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids, in duplicate, addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Attention: Mr. Doug Bergen, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 9:00 a.m., Local Time, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of the Paving and Appurtenances to Serve Twinwood Business Park Phase 3B - Discovery Hills Parkway Station 0+51 to Station 10+48 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Waller County, Texas". Bidders may elect to submit bids electronically via <https://bids.lja.com>. To attend the Bid Opening by telephone, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0236312.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Construction of paving and appurtenances.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory audio/web pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. Local Time. To attend the web-format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, go to <https://micollabuca.ljaeng.com/call/0216366>. To attend the audio format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, dial 713.358.8400, Access Code 0216366.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided, and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery) (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 or at <https://bids.lja.com>.

A Bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and bid securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and bid securities must be submitted through <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register and obtain bidding documents on this website for the required payment amount (if any) to submit an electronic bid.

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

Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS
GASOLINE & DIESEL FUEL**

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR CONTRACT DELIVERY OF UNLEADED GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2023. CLEARLY-MARKED, SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.

THE CITY OF KATY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL TECHNICALITIES, AND TO ACCEPT BIDS THAT IT DEEMS MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO IT.

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

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KATY

from page B1

offensive line.

“The offensive line just opens up every hole for me, they’re improving so much and I love my offensive line, I couldn’t do anything without them.”

After rushing for 149 yards in Katy’s opening win over Clear Springs, Davis wasn’t satisfied. It showed as he rushed for 178 yards and three scores as the Tigers ran over Cypress Woods in a 42-7 victory on Saturday at Rhodes Stadium.

The Tigers used a balanced offense and strong defense to slowly pull away from the Wildcats, scoring 28 points while holding Cy-Woods scoreless in the second half to keep up their perfect start to the season.

Cy-Woods had scored on its last possession of the first half to trim Katy’s lead to seven, but it only took a minute and 20 second into the second half for the Tigers to get back on track, as they forced a fumble from the Wildcats and Davis ran in an eight yard touchdown to start the second quarter.

“It was huge to get that turnover to start the half,” said senior linebacker Ty Kana. “We made adjustments at halftime and it was great to start off the half by giving the ball back to the offense with a short field and the way it led to a score.”

Katy started the game strong, as Davis broke off a 51-yard score to give the Tigers the lead and Caleb Koger made it a 14 point game after finding JR Ceyanes on a 10-yard pass early in the second quarter.

But Katy turned the ball over in its next possession and Cy-Woods found success in the intermediate pass game, driving the length of the field before Wildcat quarterback Trey Craft ran in a touchdown with 21 seconds left in the half, making things a one score game.

“We just had to settle down,” Joseph said. “We were trying to do too much and when we’ve been successful its when they’ve done their jobs and taking care of their stuff first. We had too many of them trying to make big plays and wanting things to happen right now. We just had to settle down and play football.”



Katy High defensive back Arian Parish (6) celebrates his interception during the first half of the Tigers’ win over Cinco Ranch last year at Legacy Stadium.

“We knew that we were better than how we had been playing. We just had to stop playing down to their level and play up. We did that and were able to play a lot better in the second half.”

—SETH DAVIS, KATY HIGH RUNNING BACK

After Davis’ touchdown to start the third quarter, the Tigers forced another fumble on the next Cy-Woods drive and the offense again capitalized as Davis scored on a two yard touchdown run.

“We knew that we were better than how we had been playing,” Davis said. “we just had to stop playing down to their level and play up. We did that and were able to play a lot better in the second half.”

Chase Johnsey and Dallas Glass both scored on runs in the fourth quarter as both played in relief of Davis at the running back position.

Johnsey had himself a good game last week and it was the shifty Glass who had a strong showing this week, as he rushed

for 121 yards on eight carries to go with his score.

“It’s really nice how good they’ve played,” Davis said. “It’s nice to have a break sometimes and I love it when they come in and show out the way they did.”

The Katy defense only allowed 40 yards on the ground in the win, and Kana feels that while the front seven is strong now, they can continue to get even better.

“We are a good front seven but I think where we are going to be is going to be even better as we go throughout the season,” Kana said. “I feel like we can be more dominant making plays behind the line of scrimmage. I think moving forward there’s so much more stuff that we can accomplish and I feel

like that’s where we’re headed.”

One player that stood out to Joseph was kicker and punter Axel Robertson, who made all of his extra points and kicked a number of touchbacks.

“I’m so proud of the job Axel did tonight,” Joseph said. “He did a great job of kicking off and did a good job punting too. He had a really good night and that was good to see. I’m proud because he’s got to this point because he works at stuff and that’s always a good thing.”

Katy will take on Dickinson at 7 p.m. Friday at Sam Vitanza Stadium as the Tigers continue their march towards their district schedule.

“We can get better in all areas,”

Kana said. “We’re going to have. A full week of practice focusing on getting better. We’re going to take our mistakes from this game in the first half and continue to improve.”

Katy 42, Cy-Woods 7

Cy-Woods	0	7	0	0	--	7
Katy	7	7	14	14	--	42

First quarter

Katy: Safety, Seth Davis 51 run (Axel Robertson kick), 5:50

Second quarter

Katy: Caleb Koger 10 pass to JR Ceyanes (Robertson Kick), 10:25

Cy-Woods, Trey Craft 1 run (Maximilian Nowak kick), 0:21

Third quarter

Katy: Davis 8 run (Robertson kick), 10:25

Katy: Davis 2 run (Robertson kick), 4:46

Fourth quarter

Katy: Chase Johnsey 1 run (Robertson kick), 8:10

Katy: Dallas Glass 7 run, (Robertson kick) 3:12

Team stats

	Cy-Woods	Katy
First downs	11	17
Yards rushing	30-41	40-356
Yards passing	120	94
Passes	11-21-0-0	8-16-1-2
Punts	7.36	2.33
Fumbles-lost	3-1	1-0
Penalty-yards	2-15	6-55

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Katy: Seth Davis, 17-178-3; Dallas Glass 11-121-1; Chase Johnsey, 8-35-1; Isaiah Smith, 3-12; Justin Jurek, 1-9; Caleb Koger, 2-4; Elijah Bowman, 1-(-3); Cy-Woods: Trey Craft, 14-32; Connor Morris, 8-15; Myles West, 6-3; Javarian Stewart, 2-(-9);

Passing — Katy: Caleb Koger, 8-16-94-1-2; Cy-Woods: Trey Craft, 11-21-120-0-0;

Receiving — Katy: Antonio Silva, 3-52; Isaiah Smith, 3-24; JR Ceyanes, 1-10; Ronnie Schneider, 1-8; Cy-Woods: Javarian Stewart, 3-25; Myles West, 1-27; Braedon Dodson, 2-25; Phillip White, 3-20; Connor Morris, 1-12; Charles Bain, 2-11.

**Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
on Tax Rate**

The Fort Bend County Municipal Utility District No. 151 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., at Inframark Water & Infrastructure Services, 2002 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 100, Katy, TX 77449 or by telephone conference at (1-888-363-4734), Access Code (8706826). 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.

FOR the proposal:	K. Gier, S. Fitzsimmons, L. James, N. Shipley & C. McFarland
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)	<u>\$ 0.890</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$ 0.890</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		<u>\$0.000</u> /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		<u>0.0000%</u>
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$361,773</u>	<u>\$373,835</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$361,773</u>	<u>\$373,835</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$3,219.78</u>	<u>\$3,327.13</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		<u>\$107.35</u> <u>3.3341%</u>

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 eight 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.

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 West Memorial Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Memorial Civic Center, 22415 Kingsland, Katy, TX 77450 or by Teleconference Number: 1-346-248-7799, Meeting ID: 838 1588 0018. 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.

FOR the proposal:	K. L. Cryar, G. Griggs, E. Vanderloo & P. Leo
AGAINST the proposal:	(none)
PRESENT and not voting:	(none)
ABSENT:	G. Barnhill

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)	<u>\$ 0.390</u> /\$100 Adopted	<u>\$ 0.390</u> /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		<u>\$0.000</u> /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		<u>0.0000%</u>
Average appraised residence homestead value	<u>\$178,851</u>	<u>\$183,776</u>
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person’s exemptions)	<u>-\$35,770</u>	<u>-\$36,755</u>
Average residence homestead taxable value	<u>\$143,081</u>	<u>\$147,011</u>
Tax on average residence homestead	<u>\$557.02</u>	<u>\$573.38</u>
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		<u>\$15.36</u> <u>2.7526%</u>

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.

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