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Katy Times



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THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

CITY OF KATY

Council OKs funds to finish Heritage Plaza work

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy City Council, at a March 8 special meeting, approved a \$3.4 million contract to complete the work on its historic town square project.

The work will incorporate feedback the city has received the Downtown Advisory Committee, the city's Convention and Tourism Bureau, and from local elected officials. The city solicited bids, but received only one, from Millis Development and Construction.

Nonetheless, City Administrator said the city felt comfortable with the arrangements.

"We're all very pleased with what we're going to get," Hebert told the council.

Hebert said the city needed to have the work finished by the

annual Katy Rice Festival, set for Oct. 13. The annual event, a major attraction for the city, draws thousands of visitors to the downtown area.

A shade structure, work on the Katy Corner, and mural walls that will surround the iconic water

tower are among the projects to be completed. The mural walls will depict familiar Katy landmarks and symbols, according to the agreement with the artist, Tyler Kay Designs.

See **PLAZA**, page A3

Willowfork Fire District #2 breaks ground for new office

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Willowfork Fire District #2 is building a new administrative office and remodeling its Westheimer Parkway fire station to meet the needs of a growing district.

The new administrative office will be built next to Station 3, at 2700 Spring Green Blvd. Robert Miller, president of the district's board of commissioners, said the new building would be 2,000 square feet and hold six offices. Presently, Station 3 is serving as a temporary administrative office during the construction.

While the groundbreaking ceremonies were March 10, Miller said construction began the previous week. He

said the building is expected to be ready by February 2024, but the hope is that the construction can be completed before then.

"They hit the ground running," Miller said. "We didn't want to hold them up."

The district has three stations. In addition to Station 3, Station 1 is at 24655 Westheimer Pkwy., and Station 2 is at 26950 Cinco Ranch Blvd. Station 1 previously held the administrative office.

Miller said Station 1 is undergoing renovations to make it more storm-worthy.

"It was built in 2005 and opened in 2006," Miller said. "It was state of the art at the time."

During Hurricane Ike in

See **WILLOWFORK**, page A3



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Willowfork Fire District #2 administration building took place Dec. 10. Pictured from left are Billy Wilson, fire chief; Daryl Brister, commissioner; Steven Fein, commissioner; Robert Miller, commissioner and board president; Vincent Morales, Fort Bend County Pct. 1 commissioner; Corey Zollinger, commissioner; Wes Noonan, commissioner; Jennifer Knesek, district assistant for state Sen. Joan Huffman, and Wendi Logo, senior advisor for state Rep. Jacey Jetton.



PEXELS

Not all construction workers are men. A program designed to introduce Katy ISD 8th grade girl students to career opportunities in the construction trade is set for March 21.

Building a better future

Program looks to introduce Katy ISD girls to the construction industry

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Think of the term "construction worker," and chances are the image of a man, in jeans and a hard hat and tool belt, comes to mind. But as Katy continues to grow, more construction workers

are needed. A relatively new outreach program, which will be introduced March 21 in Katy, will work to help change that construction worker image.

The program's name is She Builds Houston, and it is a hands-on career exploration event in which young women get introduced to career opportunities in the construction trade. Construction Career Collaborative, also called C3, is a Houston-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit, oversees She Builds Houston. C3 partnered with Katy ISD to bring the program to Katy.

When program organizers describe She Builds Houston as a hands-on experience, they mean it. The approximately 1,700 Katy ISD 8th grade girls who will be attending the event will be able to use hand tools, power tools and other building materials. The event is set for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gerald D. Young Agricultural Services Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cutoff Road.

Perhaps not coincidentally, March 21 is Rosie the Riveter Day. Rosie the Riveter was an iconic

See **CONSTRUCTION**, page A3

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DEBRA FOR...

Lexa is one of the young entrepreneurs who will be at the Katy Home and Garden Show. Among the products made by Lexa's company, Mushroom Duck, are bookmarks.

Katy Home and Garden Show features up-and-coming young entrepreneurs

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Youngsters tagging along with their parents—perhaps some parents themselves—can expect to find some entrepreneurial inspiration at the upcoming Katy Home and Garden Show. Plenty of businesses will have their merchandise available for purchase.

Some of that merchandise comes from youngsters who are staffing their own booths selling their own products.

Sixteen-year-old Bea, for example, has a business she calls Slime Shop by Bea. The slime she sells isn't the real stuff, but rather, a stretchy substance that is used as a pleasant distraction.

"You can play with it to relax," Bea, who is 16, said. "I saw it online when I was younger. I decided to try selling it."

Slime Shop by Bea has been open since last fall, she said, and started selling her products in November.

The show will be March 25-26 at the Katy ISD's Gerald D. Young Agriculture Services Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cutoff Road. Show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. March 25 and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 26. Tickets are \$9 at the door. Parking is free.

To register for a \$250 shopping spree or for more information, visit the website katyhomeandgardenshow.com or call 832-392-0165.

March 26 is hero day where all active military personnel, veterans, fire department, police force and first responders, Katy ISD and Cy-Fair ISD employees receive free admission for two by showing a valid ID at the box office.

Bea said she hopes to keep selling her slime as long as she can. Having her own booth at the show is exciting to her.

See **SHOW**, page A3

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Forest Production and Management Program set for March 23

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Fort Bend County Office will host a forest production and management program from 9-11 a.m. March 23 at 1402 Band Road in Rosenberg. The first 50 producers who register and attend the event in person will get a free tree. Topics covered include: How to Plant a Tree, Benefits of Urban Forestry, Sustainable Forestry and the SFLR Program and a Tree Planting Demonstration. For more information or to register, contact PVAMU CEP County Extension Agent Abdul Hakeem at 281-342-3034 or abhakeem@pvamu.edu.

Katy Spring Community Campout set for March 24-25

Registration is open for the Katy Spring Community Campout, which is March 24-25 at the VFW Park, 6002 George Bush Dr. The event promises free family fun including an outdoor movie, children's activities, dinner, s'mores and a light breakfast.

Camp setup begins at 4 p.m. March 24 and camp breaks at 9 a.m. March 25. Reservations are required, regardless of whether one is camping or only participating in Friday night festivities. Registration deadline is March 20. For more information, visit the website cityofkaty.com/communitycampout.

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office hosting Spring Summit March 25

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's office, in collaboration with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC), is hosting a Spring Summit: Building Trust Between the Community and Law Enforcement. The event is from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. March 25 at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, in Richmond.

Sheriff's deputies and Fort Bend County leaders will be



Waller County Pct. 4 Commissioner Justin Beckendorff spoke at the Feb. 7 West I-10 Chamber of Commerce meeting about the growth in Waller County.

leading the summit with various interactive workshops including the dangers of drugs, the dos and don'ts on traffic stops, drinking and driving consequences and tips for parents on how to decrease challenging behaviors at home.

"JJAC came to life as an idea to enhance community safety and interactions between our youth and local law enforcement," Sheriff Eric Fagan said. "It's important to continue building trust with our neighbors, especially in the leaders

of tomorrow."

The summit is free to Fort Bend County high school students and parents. Registration deadline is March 20. For more information and to register, email Paulette Johnson at paulette.johnson@fbctx.gov.

Peeps & Pups Easter event/market set for April 2

The Bad Moms of Katy & Fulshear present the Peeps &

Pups Easter Market, featuring an Easter egg hunt with dog treats and no-chocolate treats for the kids, pictures with the Easter Bunny, dancing, meeting amazing local vendors, and more. The Bad Moms of Katy & Fulshear will be making a charitable contribution to Santos Sanctuary & Rescue in support of their work providing vet care, vaccinations and homes to homeless and stranded dogs. The event is from 2-5 p.m. April 2 at MKT Distillery, 5373 1st St. For more information, call 833-658-1870.

Registration now open for Lemonade Day Katy

Registration is now open for Lemonade Day Katy, a free, fun, experiential learning program that teaches youth how to start and operate their own business.

The event is set for May 5.

"As the title sponsor of Lemonade Day Katy, we are proud to bring this program to our local community designed to empower youth to take ownership of their lives and become productive members of society," Luke Billeri, Members Choice Credit Union CEO, said. "These young people will become the business leaders, social advocates, volunteers, and forward-thinking citizens of tomorrow, and we must support them now so that they will be well-positioned to succeed in the future."

Lemonade Day Katy teaches the basics of entrepreneurial learning, including business skills, financial literacy, teamwork, social and emotional skills, goal setting, and responsibility. Children learn to set goals, create plans, and execute plans to turn their vision into reality.

"We encourage anyone interested in helping children learn and grow to participate in Lemonade Day. Young entrepreneurs need mentors, investors, business partners, and customers. Sponsors and volunteers also are needed to make Lemonade Day Katy a successful venture," said Billeri.

The credit union will host a registration event from 12-4 p.m. March 17 at its Katy Freeway branch, at 18211 Katy Fwy. Kids can register, pick up a workbook, and ask questions about the program. They can also grab some Lemonade Day swag and enjoy some refreshing lemonade.

For more information and to register, visit the website lemonadeday.org/katy.

Katy Heritage Society 2023 Scholarship Contest is open

The Katy Heritage Society Scholarship Contest is open for entries.

Participants must be enrolled or be seeking enrollment at an accredited community college, college, university, business, vocational, continuing education program or technical school and must reside or work within the geographic boundaries of Katy ISD.

While this scholarship is open to any age, it was distinctly created to provide an opportunity for adults or currently employed persons who wish to further their education, to advance their professional career or improve opportunities for those seeking to provide income to care for their families.

The Katy Lions Club will be partnering with the society to offer a second scholarship in 2023. For more information, visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3mKmlXJ.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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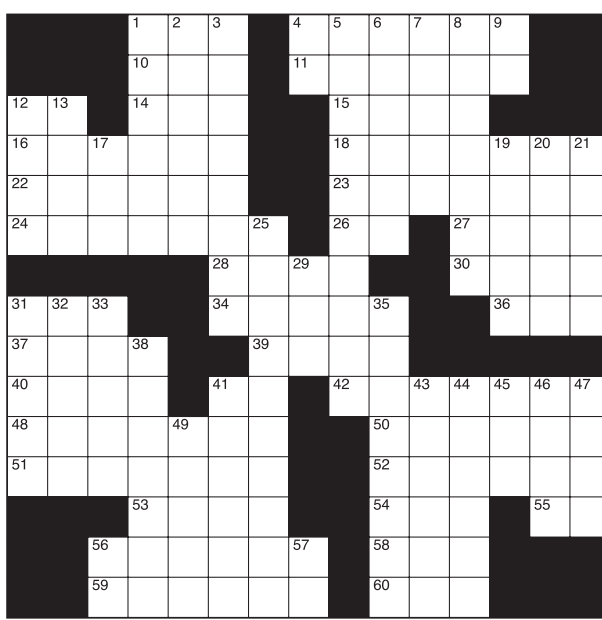
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Belonging to a thing
- Pass or go by
- Partner to cheese
- Subjects
- U.S. State (abbr.)
- Bits per inch
- Forest-dwelling deer
- Illinois city
- A salt or ester of acetic acid
- Wholly unharmed
- Cuddled
- Bane
- Global investment bank (abbr.)
- Oh my gosh!
- Arrive
- Famed Spanish artist
- Home of "Frontline"
- Group of quill feathers
- Keyboard key
- Army training group
- Detail
- Pole with flat blade
- Football play
- Makes unhappy
- Island in Hawaii
- Back in business

CLUES DOWN

- Stain one's hands
- Nocturnal hoofed animals
- Back condition
- Popular movie alien
- City of Angels
- Peaks
- Infantry weapons
- Left
- Atomic #99
- Told a good yarn
- Vale
- Resistance unit
- Aquatic plant
- Bluish greens
- About some Norse poems
- Reinforces



- Of an individual
- Painful chest condition
- Tropical American monkey
- Matchstick game
- For instance
- Even again
- Popular beverage
- Evaluate
- Time units (abbr.)
- Egyptian mythological goddess
- Supportive material
- Subatomic particle
- Expired bread
- Cereal grain
- Goes against
- Walkie ___
- One who does not accept
- Beliefs
- Indicates near
- Brazilian NBA star
- Grab quickly
- Romantic poet
- College dorm worker
- Set of data

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

PLAZA

from page A1

The money will come from three sources.

- About \$892,139 will come from hotel and occupancy taxes.
- About \$926,722 will come from a 2016 bond, already approved by Katy voters, for downtown improvements.
- About \$1.58 million will come from the city's general fund reserves.

While city officials look forward to having the renovations finished by the Katy Rice Festival, downtown enthusiasts are looking at opportunities to bring people downtown to enjoy local attractions this weekend.

The Fulshear-Katy Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting its first annual O'Katy St. Patrick's Day Shamrock Shindig, 5-8 pm. Friday in downtown. The free event features vendor booths,

music, food trucks and drinks. A portion of Avenue C, between 1st and 2nd streets, will be closed for the event.

Don McCoy, chamber president, said this first event will be small, with about 24 businesses represented, but the hope is that there will be more such events in the future.

"With the opening of the Katy Icehouse (5733 2nd St.), it seemed to make the sense to highlight the opening of a new business downtown," McCoy said. "It's just another event we wanted to bring to the Katy area. People can come and go as they please."

Wearing green is optional. McCoy said one does not have to be Irish to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day.

"We look to have a lot of fun and

just enjoy the day," McCoy said. "The weather should be cooperative. It will be nice and cool and crisp."

One group that will be at Friday's event, McCoy said, is the Katy Rotary Club, which will be selling tickets to the Wild West Brew Fest, which is set for March 25. But Friday's event will also give people a chance to preview the Katy Market Day, which is set for Saturday in downtown Katy.

Katy Market Day, a local tradition for two decades, resumes Saturday. Katy Market Day is held on the third Saturday, from March-December, each month in downtown Katy. It features arts, crafts, direct sales from selected vendors, plants and produce. The event also has food trucks and has in the past had a beer garden.

CONSTRUCTION

from page A1

character symbolizing the women who held jobs previously held by men while the men fought overseas during World War II, from 1939-45.

Diane Aguilar, C3 marketing and operations manager, said the program began in 2019 in Aldine ISD. She said it has expanded to Alief ISD and Spring Branch ISD. Last year, she said, Katy ISD observed the program in Alief and started discussions about bringing the program to Katy.

"We're having a great time working with Katy," Aguilar said. "They're fantastic partners."

While Aguilar said the program focuses on the trades—"swinging hammers and building scaffolds"—office-type jobs in planning and design are part of the industry. Students are given the chance to sit in groups with professionals who can answer their questions about the trades, both blue- and white-collar, and how to prepare for them. The event will feature about 30 vendors where students can learn about various trade programs, such as electrical. Some trade unions are also expected, Aguilar said.

The students will also receive some swag, including their own hard hat, lanyard, safety glasses, safety vest and t-shirt.

Aguilar said fighting the misperception of construction workers being exclusively male remains a focus of the program.

"They will say, 'I'm not getting out there, I'm not strong enough to hang a sheet rock,'" Aguilar said. "But you know what? Yes, you are. Once you've been taught the techniques, you can do it. It might take three swings with a hammer instead of one, but you're going to get it done. Women are so much stronger than they give themselves credit for."

Lisa Kassman is Katy ISD's executive director for facilities, planning and construction. She has been with Katy ISD since 2000. She said when she began her career, the ratio of men to women in the construction industry was 10:1. But women are earning their place in the ranks, both on the ground and in the executive suites. Yet, earlier in her career, she said she was told she could not get into a management role because the men running the companies wouldn't listen to her.

"You couldn't get away with that now," Kassman said. "I fought hard, stood my ground and ended up having a good relationship with everybody in my field. I was at the job sites at 6 a.m. and stayed until the end."

Like the young students She Builds Houston hopes to reach, Kassman herself did not initially think of being in construction or civil engineering. She began her collegiate studies as a chemistry major, but she found it frustrating in that she could not see things come together. But with civil engineering, she said, she could see the design go from a plan to a building.

Kassman said when she graduated from college, 62 students were in her school's civil engineering program, and 12 of those were women. But things have changed since then.

"The industry has changed as people are learning more," Kassman said. "My son is a mechanical engineer. I just think about him watching me and what I did. My kids always came to the job sites with me. There's a different awareness now. Girls don't have to stay home or do home economics stuff. As Diane said, we're very smart, we're very strong. You just have to have that confidence and perseverance to move forward."

The opportunities are there. Last year, Aguilar said, the number of available construction jobs "plummeted" to only 248,000 nationwide.

"That's two jobs for every unemployed person," Aguilar said.

SHOW

from page A1

"I think it will be really fun and I'm looking forward to it," Bea said.

Watching over Bea's business activities as her mother, Gabriela.

"My daughter is very much an entrepreneur," Gabriela said. Like the other young entrepreneurs interviewed for this story, Bea's last name is not being used by parental request. The young entrepreneurs profiled here are all homeschooled.

Another young entrepreneur, Khizar (pronounced KIZZ-ur) is 8, and he is a budding artist. He uses watercolors to create portraits of reptiles and amphibians. He said he wanted to use the profits from his art to help save endangered reptiles and amphibians. Like any artist or entrepreneur, he works hard at what he does—though he said that the art doesn't always quite turn out as planned.

Like Bea, Khizar began his business last year. This is the second year in which he has had a booth at an event, though this is the first time at the Katy Home and Garden Show. He said he is excited about the opportunity.

Creativity can take many forms. For Lexa, age 12, her business, which she calls Mushroom Duck, focuses on creating crocheted



DEBRA FORD

This package of "slime" is meant to be a plaything and includes a fake chicken nugget.

products and t-shirt bags. But she's just getting started.

"I want to add in some more items," Lexa said. "I want to add specialty items."

Kristen is Lexa's mother. She and her husband have their own business, serving the industrial electrical market. She said she encouraged Lexa, and the other students, to have their own businesses.

"Since we're homeschooling, we thought it would be fun to have other kids in it," Kristen said. "I'm happy about it. I'm excited about it. I like to see her in action. You see a different side of these kids. I'm always in awe of what the kids produce. It's so unique and so cool to see how they been working to create these products."

And sell those products.

"I'm very much looking forward to having a booth," Lexa said.

WILLOWFORK

from page A1

2008, Miller said, firefighters had to back the fire trucks against the doors to keep the doors from collapsing against floodwater pressure.

The station is also being remodeled to enable more firefighters to be headquartered there.

"We have been looking forward to this for quite a while," Miller said. "We started discussions about this before COVID. We're very excited. The fire department has been crammed a little bit."

Miller said firefighters think of the stations as their homes when they are on duty but between calls. With the renovations, he said, firefighters can take better advantage of the station when they are there. He said the firefighters are excited about the changes.

The construction and renovation work comes as the district continues to grow in population. Miller said the district serves about 70,000 people, both residential homeowners and commercial properties such as LaCenterra. The district, in north Fort Bend County, covers about 19 square miles and remains the same, geographically speaking.

"It's just a very busy district," Miller said.

According to its website, the district was founded in 2003. It has 15 full-time and 57 part-time personnel. In its latest published activity report, in January the department responded to seven fire calls, 138 EMS calls and three hazardous conditions calls.



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Saturday	March 25	10 - 5	Adults	\$9.00
Sunday	March 26	11 - 4	12 & Under	FREE

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To drive or not to drive

Along with identifying as “Swifties,” ignoring the reported Chinese threat of bad dancing posed by TikTok, and pretending that plant-based meat is actually edible, many young people in America are engaging in another fascinating trend—not driving.

According to recent surveys, around 20% fewer teens of driving age are getting their driver’s licenses as compared to the glorious 1980s. Much to the relief of my insurance premiums, our youngest daughter, who recently turned 16, is one of these vehicular agnostics.

Speaking of the 1980s, the nanosecond I turned 16, I raced like a scalded ape (wearing embarrassingly snug Ocean Pacific shorts) to the local DPS office for my license. I then bugged my dad until he took me to a used car lot to pick up the coolest vehicle ever to leak antifreeze into the front passenger floorboard—a sleek, black 1985 Oldsmobile Calais. Yes, I literally drove it until it bled to death.

My two older daughters were also enthusiastic to begin testing our credit limits as soon as they were eligible to drive. We bought both of them very nice pre-owned Nissans, which have become grave threats to street curbs and parking blocks throughout the State of Texas. They also have developed acute phobias of car washes, and they only clean their vehicles when I threaten to curtail their Starbucks privileges.

In my effort to afford my daughters the responsibility of soiling their own vehicles, I continue to drive what could once have been described as a 2013 Ford Expedition. Having apparently reached its self-destruct date, it has now become little more than a chronic loiterer in auto service departments—held together with road tar and melted gummi bears. Instead of striking fear into my heart, the warm glow of the check-engine light is almost comforting—because I know that at least something on the vehicle still works properly.

When I first took my reluctant youngest daughter out to see what it was like to sit behind the wheel, I did my best to create a non-threatening experience for her. I chose an empty Baptist church parking lot for our practice session, praying that the Lord would bless our time together and that there wouldn’t be an impromptu covered-dish supper that day.

I actually thought the

JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



I’m confident that we’ll be watching her pull out of the driveway and hit the curb soon enough. Until then, she can ride around with me in the Expedition—watching for the check-engine light, listening to Taylor Swift and spilling a few more gummi bears.

practice went pretty smoothly. There was very little screaming or crying – and my daughter remained fairly composed, as well. Our good old Expedition even behaved throughout the ordeal – saving the major engine failure for the drive home.

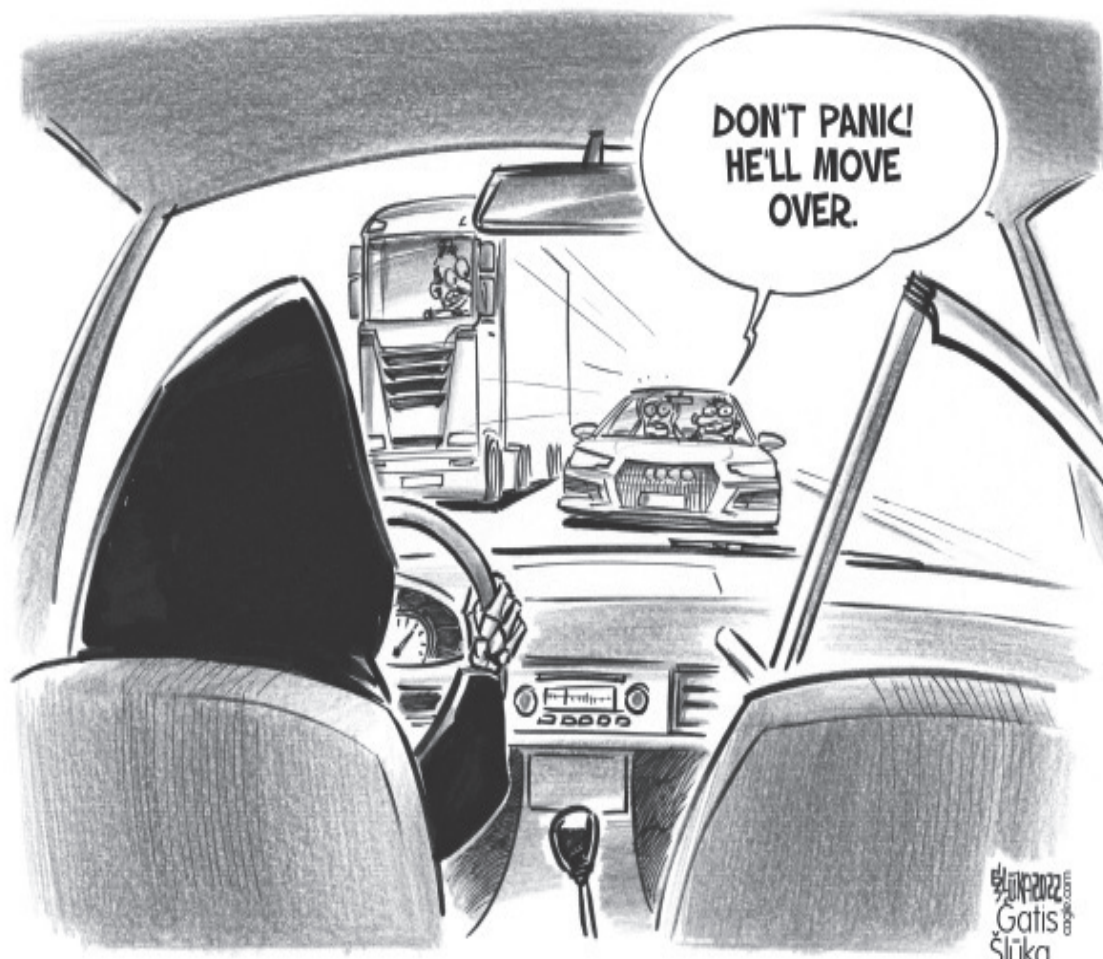
But, for whatever reason, the experience made her even more uneasy about learning to drive. (I think she was traumatized about having to survive for more than twenty minutes without watching a YouTube video.)

A few days later, she came to me and sweetly said, “Dad, I’m just not ready to drive, yet.”

And that’s fine with me. Kids seem to grow up too fast these days, anyway, and I’m more than happy to let her hang on to childhood for a little bit longer.

I’m confident that we’ll be watching her pull out of the driveway and hit the curb soon enough. Until then, she can ride around with me in the Expedition—watching for the check-engine light, listening to Taylor Swift and spilling a few more gummi bears.

Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in Texas Escapes magazine, The Shreveport Times, The Longview News Journal, and The Kilgore News Herald. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.



Still time to save us from Daylight Saving Time

I dreaded the coming of Sunday, March 12.

At 2 a.m. that morning, our clocks were to “spring forward.”

That means that my yellow Labrador, Thurber, who wakes me at exactly 6 a.m. every morning, will begin waking me at exactly 5 a.m. every morning.

He’ll do so because that’s when his Labradorian clock tells him it is time for me to feed him and take him outside for Number 1 and Number 2.

Which means I’ll be in a perpetual stupor for weeks until the two of us finally get used to the clock change—only to have to go through the clock disruption all over again come November.

I’ve become keenly aware of the national daylight saving time debate since I got Thurber two years ago.

As I’ve reported prior, the jarring shift to our daily sleep patterns and routines each spring and fall is linked to an increase in heart attacks, strokes and automobile accidents.

In March, when our clocks “spring forward,” hospitals around the U.S. report a 24% spike in heart attack visits.

The reverse happens in the fall when our clocks are set back. Heart attack visits to hospitals drop by 21%—but pedestrian deaths increase because it gets dark earlier.

Finally, one year ago, our esteemed politicians decided to actually do something about it.



TOM PURCELL

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

The U.S. Senate unanimously passed the Sunshine Protection Act to make DST permanent starting in 2023, ending the twice-annual changing of clocks.

So why are we still changing our clocks every spring and fall?

Because last year the Sunshine Protection Act bill “hit a brick wall” in the U.S. House, according to The Hill.

Some lawmakers argued other matters were more important or asked for more research, the Hill reports.

Others worried that changing—or not changing—the clock could affect areas that rely on tourism or have large farming communities.

Good God, are confusion, disagreement and inaction the only talents our politicians have?

Nonetheless, Senator Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), who introduced the Sunshine Protection Act last year, is giving it another go.

The Sunshine Protection Act of 2023—one of the few acts to have bipartisan support in the Senate—would make the clock change on March 12 the very LAST clock change in American history.

Our new Republican House has an opportunity to pass this bill into

law and finally end our twice-a-year misery.

To ensure that outcome, we dog lovers are offering them this timely deal:

First, we’ll loan you our furry friends, so you can experience yourselves the unpleasantness of the morning of March 12.

We’ll let you keep our dogs for a week or more. They being some of the most sensible creatures on the planet, we pray that their good sense will rub off on you.

Dogs know that only a stupid human can think he can snip an hour off the morning and add it to the evening as though he has mastery over darkness and light. (Thurber explains why DST is dumb in a humorous video at ThurbersTail.com).

A 2022 poll by Monmouth University found that 61 percent of Americans are tired of the madness of DST and ready for it to end, so it’s a smart political move for House members of both parties.

However, if our dogs’ good sense does not rub off on you—and if you lawmakers continue to delay the long overdue death of DST—know that our dogs know where your lawns are.

They’ll be leaving you a present every morning at 5 a.m.

Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, which features pet advice he’s learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

Katy Times

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MARISSA FERREIRA | Page Designer

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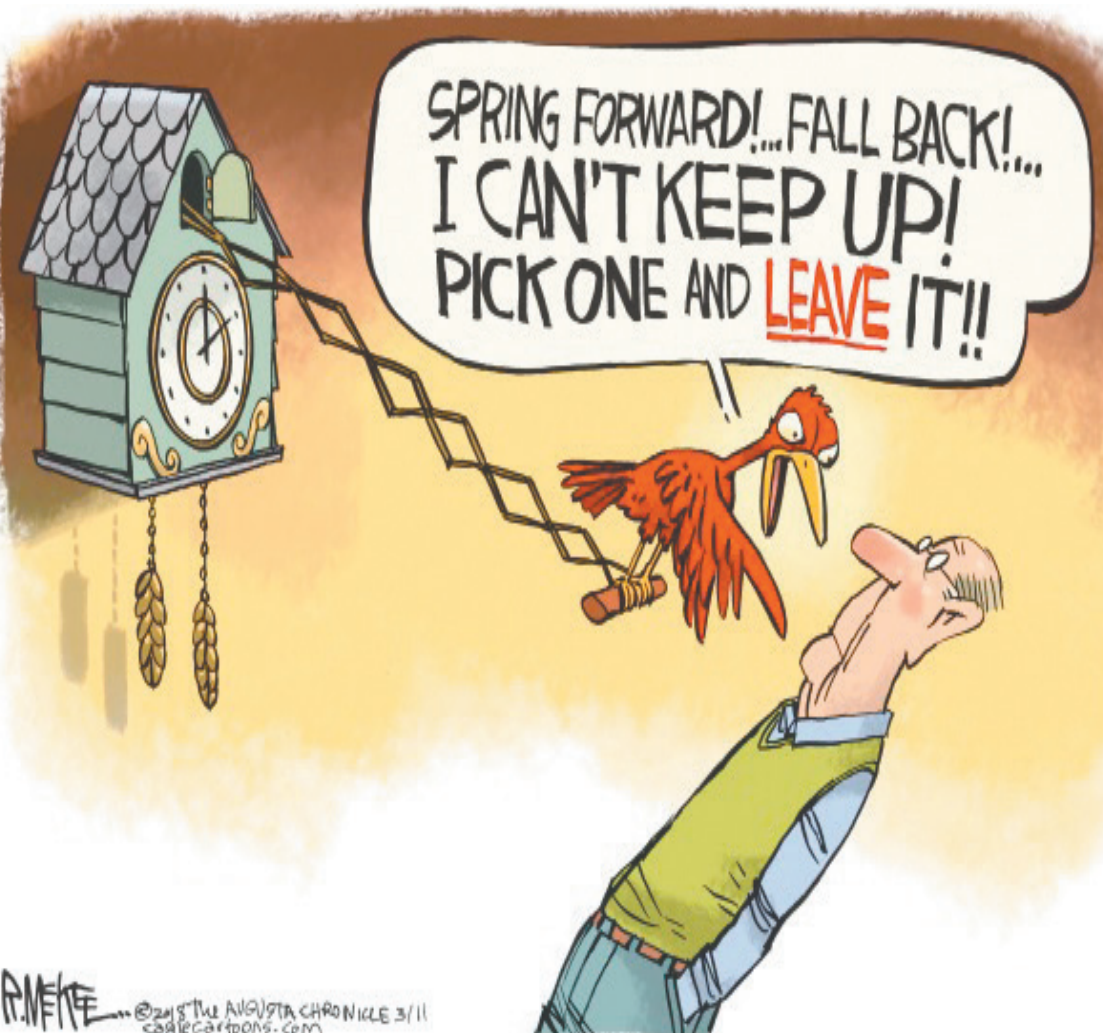
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TRIBUTES

Betty Jean Caldwell was born on April 12, 1936 in Houston, Texas to Gerald and Fannie Sexton Miller. She graduated from Sulphur High School in Louisiana. On December 29, 1962, she married Alan Boyd Caldwell in Houston, Texas. Betty was a member of Katy First United Methodist Church, where she enjoyed being a member of the Chancel Choir, Good Samaritan Sunday School class, and the Joyful Noise-makers. She also worked at the Katy Depot for many years. Betty was a devoted Katy Tiger football fan, and followed the Aggies as well. She also traveled a lot with the Holiday Ramblers Recreational Club.

Betty Jean Caldwell passed away on Monday,



BETTY JEAN CALDWELL
1936-2023

March 6, 2023, in Katy, at the age of 86.

She is survived by her daughters, Paula Gist, and Breta Goodrow and her fiancé Curtis; grandchildren,

Lindsay Elmore and her husband Corey, and Jordan Goodrow; great grandchildren, Cayden and Hadley Elmore; brother, Robert Key; sister, Dorothy Key Brightwell and her husband James; as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and other loving family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Alan Boyd Caldwell; parents, Gerald and Fannie Miller, and Ghur-some Key; Siblings, Gerald Kenneth Miller, Jr., Jerry Miller, Donald Key, Darleen Christopher, and Janice Key.

The family received friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at the Schmidt Funeral Home East Avenue Chapel, in Katy. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on

Friday, March 10, 2023, at the First United Methodist Church of Katy, with Rev. Mark Kimbrough officiating. Interment in Katy Magnolia Cemetery.

Those wishing to make memorial gifts may do so to the Music Ministry at Katy First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 925, Katy, Texas 77492.

Pallbearers were Jordan Goodrow, Corey Elmore, Shannon Caldwell, Chris Caldwell, Jason Hoke, Justin Schroyer, Wayne Hooks, and Ray Silhavy; honorary pall-bearer was Cayden Elmore.

Funeral services held under the direction of **Schmidt Funeral Home** 5601 Fifth Street ~ Katy, Texas 77493 ~ (281) 391-2424

Mabry Lee Cain III passed away on February 9, 2023, in Brookshire TX. He was with us for 62 years on this earth and will continue to live in the hearts of all who loved him.

He was predeceased by Benjamin Cain (Mother), Mary (Daughter), John (Son-in-law), Mabry (Son), Leslie (Daughter-in-law), Mathew (Son), Gabrielle (Daughter), Levi (Grandson), Kaylee (Granddaughter), Breanna (Granddaughter), and John (Grandson).

Mabry was born on September 21, 1960, in Liberty Tx to Benjamin and Mary Alice Cain. He grew up in Liberty but lived all over Texas as an adult. Some of the places included including Baytown, Angleton, Canton, Lampasas, Katy, Thicket, and Brookshire. He was a very artistic person who could make jewelry, paint, sculpt, and work glass. He was also the biggest advocate for those who needed him.

A service to celebrate his life will be held at Clay's Mortuary 3923 Fifth St. Brookshire TX 77423 on 3/18/23 at 1:00 p.m.



MABRY LEE CAIN III
1960-2023



JAMES FOLAND
1943-2023

On February 25, 2023 Mr. James (Jim) Foland went to meet his maker. Jim was 80 years old and born in Anderson IN in 1943. He was preceded in death by his wife of 54 years, Judy Foland, his mother and father, his brother Thomas Edward Foland, sister Nancy (Fowler) Harris, his two sons William Frank Foland of Houston TX and Thomas James Foland of Newburgh NY and a grandson Joshua Keith Schoettmer, Sr. of Elkhart, IN. He is survived by his

daughters Jeannie Hiatt (Phil) and Tammy Leigh Hodder (Jeffrey), a brother William Foland of Anderson, IN, 2 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. He joined the army at age 16 where he served a total of 33 years. Jim's other careers include Newburgh Police Department and EG&G. He held the position of Service Officer for the American legion post 164, Katy TX for 7 years. He was the longest service officer to date.

He was awarded the medal of merit along with many others. We are proud of his service.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 PM on Sunday, March 19, 2023, at Katy Funeral Home, 23350 Kingsland Blvd., Katy Texas 77494.

In lieu of flowers, we ask for donations to go to the American Legion Post 164 Katy, TX.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.katyfh.com for the Foland family.



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Psalms 94:19

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Fussell Senior Center holds annual chili cookoff

STAFF REPORT

The City of Katy Fussell Senior Center, 5370 E. 5th St., held its annual chili cookoff March 10. The cookoff drew 21 teams from across the Greater Houston area.

In addition to the top three entries being chosen by a panel of judges, a “people’s choice” award was chosen by vendors, community members, and Katy seniors.

Amanda Di Dio, the city’s social services director, said the center can’t wait to host next year’s event.



CITY OF KATY



CITY OF KATY

Shannon Kneisley, right, from Caydance Assisted Living and Memory Care won the people’s choice award for her white chicken chili.



CITY OF KATY

Richie Kainer, right, from the City of Katy Parks and Recreation Department won second place for his Texas brisket chili.



CITY OF KATY

John Nelson, left, from Cleveland, Texas, won first place for his Papa J’s chili. He accepted his award from Amanda Di Dio, City of Katy Social Services Director.

Schofield, Bettencourt file bill seeking to end Daylight Savings Time

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

State Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, has filed SB 2329 and SJR 86 to let Texans vote on keeping Daylight Savings Time. If the voters approve, this would group Texas with Arizona and Hawaii as states that stay on one time during the year.

Currently the U.S. Congress does not allow for a shift in Daylight Savings Time, only to stay on Standard Time. However, U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., is promoting the Sunshine Protection Act of 2023, which if adopted would enable states to adopt Daylight Savings Time. In March 2022, a previous version of Rubio’s bill passed the Senate unanimously but was held in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“When you think of hot-button public policy issues, what usually comes to mind are things such as property tax relief and school finance and pension reform,” Bettencourt said. “However, the issue of Daylight



SEN. PAUL BETTENCOURT



REP. MIKE SCHOFIELD

Savings Time has roused passions on both sides of the debate for over 100 years. Texans like me want to be on one time, and the Congress hasn’t given us the option to vote on Daylight Savings Time. SJR 86 gives Texans the opportunity to vote on the issue and express their opinion on the debate once and for all in the Lone Star State.”

SB 2329 and SJR 86 would apply to all portions of Texas using Central Standard Time and Mountain Standard Time. If passed, the bill would require a vote in the Nov. 7 general

election, where Texas voters would decide whether to keep Daylight Savings Time.

Daylight Savings Time was first enacted in the United States during World War I but was repealed in 1919 over the veto of President Woodrow Wilson. It was restarted during World War II, but it was repealed again three weeks after the end of the war during the Truman Administration. A patchwork quilt remained until Congress passed the Uniform Time Act in 1966, which allows states to remain on standard time if they wish.

Rep. Mike Schofield, R-Katy, represents the Harris County portion of Katy. He is House author of the bill. He said Texans are tired of having to change their clocks and lose an hour’s sleep for no reason.

“People would like to get home from work and play with their kids without it being dark half the time,” Schofield said. “There’s no reason not to fix this.”

One major justification given for Day-

light Savings Time is that it reduces energy consumption. However, studies on the issue have been mixed, with a 2008 Department of Energy study finding that an extended Daylight Savings Time “saved about 0.5 percent (1.3 billion kilowatt hours) in total electricity per day” over a four-week extension. A University of California Santa Barbara study however found that when Indiana moved to a statewide system in 2006 it caused a 1% increase in residential electricity use. At the federal level, Rubio refiled legislation in the Senate to enable states to go to a Daylight Savings Time option and permanently end the twice a year adjustment of clocks.

“Instead of fall back and spring forward, it would be a fall vote to keep a Daylight Savings Time, but the language in the Texas constitutional amendment says it would await a federal court order or Congressional action before it could be implemented,” Bettencourt said. “Let’s get to one time in Texas any way we can.”

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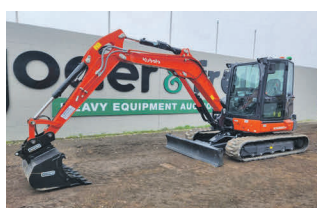
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Construction of Square at Elyson retail development underway



An artist's rendition showing the layout of the forthcoming Square at Elyson retail development.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Square at Elyson retail development now under construction on a 12-acre site at Grand Parkway and FM 529.

Adding more momentum to a fast-developing corner of the Grand Parkway and FM 529, Excel Commercial Real Estate has commenced construction of The Square at Elyson, a 12-acre development with 75,000 square feet of planned retail and more than 450 parking spaces.

Excel purchased the site from Brookfield Properties Development, developer of the 3,642-acre Elyson master planned community. The site is located at the northwest corner of FM 529 and Elyson Exchange Boulevard, immediately west of the Grand Parkway. Construction is expected to be completed by late

summer of 2024.

The Square at Elyson is located directly across FM 529 from a site owned by H-E-B, and is cater-cornered from The Plaza at Elyson, anchored by a 150,000-square-foot Target and Burlington department store.

The Square at Elyson is already substantially preleased, but several opportunities are still available.

EOS Fitness, a Phoenix-based fitness center new to the Houston market, has leased 40,000 square feet for a new cutting-edge gym with state-of-the-art machines and a wide range of workout classes and amenities. Other retail tenants joining The Square at Elyson include Salata, Heartland Dental, and American Family Care, an urgent care center walk-in clinic.

Taco Bell and McDonald's have leased pad sites along the

development's FM 529 frontage, with construction commencing soon. Excel is currently working with a pet supply retailer for approximately 7,500 square feet of inline retail space next to EOS Fitness, according to Clay McDaniel, managing member of Excel.

Two additional pad sites are planned along the FM 529 frontage of The Square at Elyson.

Opened in 2016, Elyson has more than 2,000 completed homes and is ultimately planned for more than 6,000 single-family homes. The community is zoned to the Katy Independent School District, ranked as the number one school district in the Houston region by Niche.

Other retail developments completed in Elyson include the Co-Op at Elyson and the Shops at Elyson, both located on the south side of FM 529.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Katy ISD Jazz Festival set for March 24-25

Musician Wycliffe Gordon will perform at the 2023 Katy ISD Jazz Festival, which is set for March 24-25 at Tompkins High, 4400 Falcon Landing Blvd. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the website, and the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3FjA2Sv.

Katy ISD prekindergarten preregistration opens April 3

Prekindergarten preregistration for future Katy ISD students begins April 3. A child is eligible for enrollment in free prekindergarten if he or she is at least four years of age by Sept. 1 and meets one of several criteria, which are on the district's katyisd.org website.

Registration can be done through the district's website. Before preregistering a student, please have proof of residence, official birth certificate or passport, government-issued ID card of the person registering the students, and proof of immunization.

For more information, visit the website katyisd.org or email prekindergarten@katyisd.org.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

CAMPUS STUDENT SUPPORT PERSON OF THE YEAR



KATY ISD

Angelina Kelly, of West Memorial Elementary, has been named campus student support person of the year.

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT ECOSYSTEMS



LYNN PAULSEN

Students from Amy Campbell Elementary took a Feb. 9 field trip to the Coastal Prairie Conservancy and were joined by their school's namesake, Amy Campbell, second adult from right. Students are pictured doing their pond activity. This year's TEKS require students to make seed balls and learn about ecosystems, and the preserve proved a good place to do those things.

LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS OF THE YEAR



Alice Cardner, left, of Pattison Elementary, and Allison Dominguez, of Raines Academy, have been named library media specialists of the year.



KATY ISD

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR



Jessica Byles, of West Memorial Junior High, has been named instructional coach of the year.

INSTRUCTIONAL PARAPROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR



KATY ISD

Josefina Wells, of Nottingham Country Elementary, has been named instructional paraprofessional of the year.



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2023 KATY ISD
JAZZ FESTIVAL
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WYCLIFFE GORDON

Wycliffe Gordon will play at the 2023 Katy ISD Jazz Festival on March 24 and 25th at Tompkins High School.

KATY ISD

This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$8.7 million. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit HRSA.gov.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Cinco Ranch bowling teams compete at Region VIII championships

The Cinco Ranch boys and girls bowling teams competed at the Region VIII championships with teams from Katy and the Conroe area.

The girls' varsity edged Taylor to finish second and earn a trip to the state championships on March 25.

The boys' varsity team fell just short of qualifying for state, bowling team sponsors Bob Diethrich and Carlos Villafone said.

Royal ISD FFA to hold livestock and horticulture project show March 22-25

The 68th Annual Royal ISD FFA Livestock and Horticulture Project Show are set for March 22-25.

The theme for this year's events is "Rollin' Out the Red Carpet with the Royal FFA."

The parade will be held on March 25 in Downtown Brookshire.

Katy ISD holding certified teacher fair March 25

Katy ISD is holding a certified teacher fair March 25 at the Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Ln.

The time for interviewing prospective secondary school teachers is from 8:30-11:30 a.m. The time for interviewing prospective elementary school teachers is from 1-4 p.m.

No preregistration or registration fee is required, but all applicants must bring a copy of their certification, TEA/SPEC content exam scores, and/or SOE. Applicants are also asked to bring resumes and copies of their certification/test scores.

The 2023 teacher fair will be open to current Katy ISD employees who meet transfer eligibility requirements.

For more information, visit the website katyisd.org/Page/7700.

Harmony-Katy teacher nominated for award

Jesenia Pineda, of Harmony School of Innovation-Katy, has



From left, the Cinco Ranch girls varsity bowling team of Holly Payne, Sydney Tran, Rheilyn Cox-Rodabaugh, Samantha Bailey, Inessa Tate, team captain Isadora Tate, Hailey Tran and Morgan Ferguson.

been nominated for the 2023 LifeChanger of the Year award. She is an English and language arts teacher, PATH college career teacher, homebound teacher, speech and debate coach, and cheerleading coach.

Sponsored by the National Life Group Foundation, LifeChanger of the Year recognizes and rewards the very best K-12 educators and school district employees across the United States who are making a difference in the lives of students by exemplifying excellence, positive influence, and leadership.

Pineda is eligible to receive one of 17 cash prizes up to \$10,000. Winners will be announced in late March/early April.

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities offering scholarships

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) has scholarships open. The following scholarships have a May 1 application deadline:

- Cricket Wireless Scholarship, 10 awards of \$1,000 each.
- Ford Driving Dreams Academic Scholarship, 13 awards of \$5,000 each.
- Ford Economic Mobility Grants, 200 awards at \$500 each.
- The Café Bustelo El Café del Futuro Scholarship will have 25 awards at \$5,000 each.

Application deadline is July 3. For more information, visit the

website hacu.net/scholarships.

Katy Resident Named to University of Central Oklahoma Dean's Honor Roll

Katy resident Ieshia Morse has been named to the dean's honor roll for her work in the fall 2022 semester, a distinction given to those who achieve the university's

highest academic standards.

To be included on the University of Central Oklahoma dean's honor roll, a student must record a 3.5 grade point average or better for the semester and no grade lower than a B for their work in qualifying classes.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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Seven Lakes clinches 4th straight district title

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes set out to do something unprecedented this year.

The Spartans have big goals — make a deep run, make it back to state, and others, but first and foremost they needed to take care of things in District 19-6A.

Seven Lakes came into this year having won the district title each of the past three years, and they made it their first goal to go out and claim a fourth — something that hadn't been done in Katy ISD boys soccer since at least the 1980's and maybe never.

The Spartans had a chance to claim that title on Tuesday and didn't hold back, beating Paetow 5-0, including a four goal second half where Seven Lakes put things away and was able to start the celebration early.

"This program, I think we're just at an all-time high right now," said senior striker Hunter Merritt. "The competition level of our district is unmatched compared to any other district in Texas, so for us to win this district four straight times just



TYLER TYRE

See **SOCCER**, page B5 Seven Lakes players celebrate during a District 19-6A game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Paetow soccer field.

Seven Lakes' Bates named District MVP for second straight season

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

A.J. Bates was named the District 19-6A for the second straight season last week, as the junior point guard garnered MVP accolades after a historic season for the Spartans.

Bates was a driving force behind a very strong year for the Spartans, as he along with a young, strong core helped the Spartans to a 34-5 record and a district championship this year.

The Spartans dominated the superlatives list for the All-District team, as senior center Josh Akpovwa was named the district's defensive player of the year, freshman guard Nasir Price was

See **ALL-DISTRICT**, page B6



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

AJ Bates gets past a defender during a Class 6A Regional Semifinal between Seven Lakes and Clear Falls at the M.O. Campbell Center in Aldine.



TYLER TYRE

Ashtyn Reichardt hits during Friday's District 19-6A game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field.

Katy stays atop district with run rule win over Cinco Ranch

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy has been working on ways to improve this season.

Despite having a very good start to the year, the Tigers have been focused on making sure they are making themselves better everyday.

It's resulted in a 19-3 start to the year and a 6-0 start to district, as Katy has continued a dominant run throughout the start of the season.

But even with that, the Tigers are still working to meet expectations, and during practice this week Katy head coach Kalum Haack saw what he believed to be a soft-

ball team building towards its potential to be a true contender.

"I don't think we've played up to our potential in our 22 ball games so far this year, but (Thursday) I saw a team for the first time this year that practiced like a really good softball team. We had focus, energy, concentration and effort. It's the first time we've reached that level of it this year and it was good to see."

The Tigers took that energy and brought it into Friday, when they faced an important game against Cinco Ranch at home in a battle between the top two teams in district heading into the day.

See **SOFTBALL**, page B7

WEEK OF MARCH 17

SCORES & SCHEDULES

BASEBALL

Thursday

- Mayde Creek vs. Paetow, noon
- Taylor vs. Seven Lakes, 2 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Katy, 6 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Cinco Ranch, 6 p.m.

Tuesday

- Morton Ranch vs. Cinco Ranch, 6 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
- Jordan vs. Paetow, 6 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Katy, 6 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Fort Bend Austin, 6 p.m.

SOFTBALL

Saturday

- Seven Lakes vs. Stratford, 10:30 a.m.
- Cinco Ranch vs. Memorial, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday

- Tompkins vs. Jordan, 6 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Katy, 6 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Paetow, 6:15 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Mayde Creek, 6:15 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER

Monday

- Seven Lakes vs. Cinco Ranch, 7:15 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Paetow, 7:15 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Katy, 7:15 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Jordan, 7:15 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER

Monday

- Jordan vs. Morton Ranch, 7 p.m.
- Katy vs. Taylor, 7:15 p.m.
- Paetow vs. Tompkins, 7:15 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch vs. Seven Lakes, 7:15 p.m.

TRACK & FIELD

Thursday-Saturday

- Mayde Creek and Katy at TSU Relays

Friday

- Seven Lakes at Strake Jesuit Tri-Meet

GOLF

Tuesday

- Cinco Ranch at Cinco Ranch Golf Club, 6 a.m.
- Tompkins at Eagle Point Golf Course, 6 a.m.



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BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Tompkins completes sweep of Katy with 7-4 win



Above: Cole Kaase pitches during a game between Katy and Mayde Creek at the Mayde Creek baseball field. Right: Drew Markle throws the ball to first base during Thursday's game between Tompkins and San Antonio Reagan at the Tompkins baseball field.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins completed a regular season sweep of Katy on Tuesday, beating the Tigers 7-4 behind a strong offensive performance that moved the Falcons to 2-0 in district and 7-3-1 overall.

The Falcons' offense was led by Drew Markle, who had two RBIs and two extra base hits in the game. Ty Dagley started the game and went four innings, allowing one earned run on two hits, striking out one and walking one in the win.

Tompkins got on the board first in the top of the first, as Dagley reached base and Markle drove him in with an RBI triple.

But Katy responded in its first time up at the plate. Sutton Hull drove a run in on a sacrifice fly before Katy got three more runs off errors to take a 4-1 lead after the first inning.

Tompkins had its own response in the top of the third inning. Dagley again reached base, this time on a walk, and Markle hit a double to drive in another run. Cooper Markle followed that up with a single, making things a one run game. The Falcons tied things when Cooper Markle scored on a passed ball, and Ivan Gomez gave them the lead when he got a run home on a bunt. They added on to things an inning later, as Drew Markle scored on an error after reaching on a single and Cooper Markle scored off an RBI single from Adam Benavidez.

The pitching was the main factor from there as neither team was able to get a run across in the final three innings. Kaden Bertrand pitched the final three innings for the Falcons, allowing no earned runs on one hit while striking out two and walking none.

Cole Kaase started on the mound for Katy and lasted just over two innings, allowing five earned runs on four hits while striking out two and walking three. Lucas Moore came on in relief and pitched four innings, allowing one earned run on five hits while striking out four and walking one. Graham Laxton led the Katy offense, driving in two runs, while AJ Atkinson also had two hits in the game.

The loss dropped Katy to 9-3-2 overall and 0-2 in district play.

Pitching leads Cinco Ranch past Taylor

Cinco Ranch downed Taylor for the second time in a week on Tuesday, beating the Mustangs 4-1 behind a strong day on the mound from Brayden Hodge.

Hodge started and went nearly five innings, allowing one run on four hits while striking out and walking four each. Lucas Franco and Logan Sosolik both drove in two runs to lead the Cougar offense.

Cinco struck first in the second inning. Connor Ficcaro reached on a single and came around to score on a single from Sosolik, making things 1-0. Sosolik added to the Cougar lead in the fourth, as he drove in Gavin Rutherford on another single.

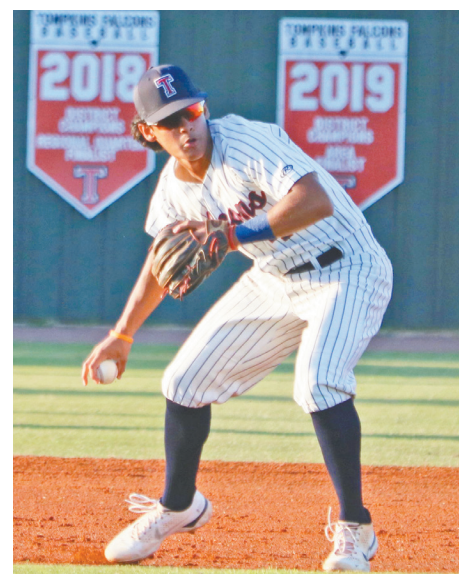
Bryce Krenek made things a one run game in the fifth inning, hitting an RBI double to center field, but Cinco came back to increase its lead in the bottom of the inning, as two runners reached base before Franco doubled to drive both in and make it 4-1. Neither team scored the rest of the way, as Cinco came away with the win. Sosolik came in and pitched the final two innings for Cinco, allowing three hits and striking out four while walking one without giving up a run.

Layne Bishop started and pitched five innings in the game for Taylor, allowing three earned runs on five hits while striking out six and walking two. The loss dropped the Mustangs to 7-5-1 and 0-2 in district.

Jordan run rules Mayde Creek

Jordan earned a big win over Mayde Creek on Tuesday, run ruling the Rams 11-0 for a shutout win and moving to 6-3 on the season and 2-0 in district play, into a three way tie for first place in district with Tompkins and Cinco Ranch.

Jordan had a fantastic game on the mound in the game, as Monty Bognar and Connor Carmichael combined to allow



Adam Benavidez throws to first base during a Class 6A area round game between Tompkins and Lamar at the Tompkins baseball field.

just five hits and no runs in the game while striking out 15 and walking just two. Braden Franklin and Cole Keppler led the Warriors offense, as Franklin had three RBIs in the game and Keppler had two.

The Jordan offense exploded in the second inning, getting three runners on base and getting a run across on a passed ball before Keppler drove in two more with an RBI single and Monty Bognar drove in another with a single to make it 4-0. Franklin drove in another in the third inning with a sacrifice fly, and then scored two more in the fourth inning, with JD Ortigoza bringing a run in on a single before another came across on a passed ball.

The Warriors sealed things in the sixth inning, getting a run on an error and a wild pitch before Franklin ended things with a double that drove in two runs.

Marcus Rodriguez started the game for Mayde Creek on the mound and went three innings, allowing six earned runs on five hits and striking out six and walking five. Cole Jensen led the Rams' offense with two hits. Mayde Creek fell to 4-6-1 overall and 0-2 in district after the loss.

Morton Ranch gets first district win over Paetow

Morton Ranch earned its first district win of the year on Tuesday with a 6-4 win over Paetow, getting revenge for a loss to the Panthers a week earlier. The win was a big one for Morton Ranch, as it moved the Mavericks to 4-8 overall and 1-1 in district.

Zane Heiliger had a strong day on the mound, starting and going five innings and allowing two earned runs on four hits and four walks while striking out seven. Kevin Malone led the Mavericks' offense with two RBIs while Justin Cryer had three hits and two runs on the day.

The Mavericks struck first in the top of the first inning. Cryer reached base and was brought home when Brandon Hasselbring hit a single. Paetow came right back to tie things up in the bottom of the inning, with Christian Chacon driving in a run on a sacrifice grounder, before Morton Ranch took back the lead on a steal of home by Jerry Gutierrez in the top of the second. The Mavericks extended things to 3-1 in the third inning, when Hasselbring again brought home Cryer after Cryer walked and Hasselbring hit a double.

Things stayed that way until the fifth inning. Paetow trimmed into the lead when a runner scored on a wild pitch, and Garrett Smith tied things with a two-run double.

Neither team scored from there until the seventh inning. Morton Ranch took the lead on a run scored on an error, and then went up 6-4 on an RBI single from Malone. A clean half of the inning in the bottom of the seventh sealed things for the Mavericks.

Anthony Diaz started for Paetow on the mound and went six innings, allowing four earned runs on seven hits while striking out 10 and walking two. The loss dropped Paetow to 3-10 and 1-1 in district play.



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SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

Mayde Creek earns come from behind win over Tompkins

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Friday

Mayde Creek earned a huge win over Tompkins Friday, coming from behind to beat the Falcons 4-3. The win was a very important one for Mayde Creek, as it propelled the Rams to 10-5-1 overall and more importantly, 5-2 in district play, as Mayde Creek moved into a tie with Cinco Ranch for second place in district.

Alyssa Gonzalez was once again a huge part of the win, as she started on the mound and pitched a complete game, only giving up one earned run on seven hits while striking out eight and walking none to earn the win. Debanhi Carrizales was the driving force behind the Rams' offense, driving in three of Mayde Creeks four runs.

Mayde Creek struck first in the bottom of the first inning, the Rams got a runner on base and Carrizales came up to drive it home with an RBI double. It took until the third inning for Tompkins to respond, but when the Falcons did, they did in a big way. Meagan Brown tied things on an RBI double before two more runs came across on an error to give Tompkins a 3-1 lead.

Things stayed that way until the sixth inning, when Mayde Creek found its breakthrough.

Carrizales tied things up with a two run homerun, and after a double from Julissa Aquino, Kima Sepic gave the Rams the lead on a single to center field. Tompkins had a final chance to tie things in the top of the seventh, but Gonzalez struck out two and pitched a clean half inning to seal the win.

Samantha Crumrin started and went over three innings on the mound for Tompkins, giving up one earned run on three hits to go with three strikeouts. Brown earned the Falcons only RBI of the night while Peyton Ebel led Tompkins with two hits. The loss dropped the Falcons to 9-6 on the season and 4-2 in district play.

Seven Lakes shuts out Paetow

Seven Lakes got another big win on Friday, shutting out Paetow 4-0 behind another big day on the mound from Amy Abke. The win moved Seven Lakes to 6-10 on the year and 3-3 in district.

Abke allowed just one hit in the shutout, striking out 11 and walking three to earn the win and keep Seven Lakes right in the mix of a playoff spot early in the district schedule.

Seven Lakes grinded away offensively until they were finally able to get on the board in the fourth inning. The Spartans got two runners on base and were able to get one across as Emma Wingate hit an RBI single. The Spartans then doubled their lead in the sixth inning, as Michelle Taborda drove in a run on an RBI single of her own. Dulce Franco then sealed things in the top of the seventh, as Abke reached base on an intentional walk and Franco hit a two run homerun to make things 4-0. Abke then struck out two in the bottom of the inning to close things out.

Shy'lynn Brown started and went six innings for Paetow on the mound, allowing three earned runs on eight hits while striking out seven and walking two. Amanda Vasquez got the Panthers' only hit of the night. The win moved Paetow to 11-13 overall and 1-5 in district play.

Taylor tops Jordan

Taylor overcame Jordan to get an important win on Friday, shutting out the Warriors 2-0 to move



Mayde Creek beat Tompkins on Friday to move into a tie for second in district.



Ariana Hughes pitches during Tuesday's game between Katy and Taylor at the Katy softball field.
TYLER TYRE

to 10-8-1 on the season and 2-3 in district play.

Ari Hughes was huge for the Mustangs in the win, starting on the mound and pitching a complete game shutout, allowing only two hits while striking out 11 and walking none to earn the win.

Taylor got their first run early and it was all they would need because of its strong pitching, as Izzy Allen drove in a run on a triple to put the Mustangs ahead.

Things stayed that way until the fifth inning, when Kenna Irvin drove in the Mustangs second on an RBI single. That was all Hughes needed as she didn't allow Jordan to come close to scoring the rest of the way.

Ryan McIntosh started on the mound for Jordan and pitched a complete game, giving up two earned runs on eight hits while striking out five and walking five more. The Warriors' two hits came from McIntosh and Madeline Wil-

liams. Jordan fell to 9-7-1 overall and 1-4 in district with the loss.

Tuesday, March 7

Cinco Ranch put on a dominating pitching performance on Tuesday en route to a 6-3 win over Paetow, moving the Cougars to 10-6 and 5-1 in district play.

The Cougars were led by Chela Kovar, who pitched six innings and allowed three runs on eight hits while striking out seven and walking three.

Kovar also went 1-2 at the plate, driving in a run, while Kendall Bregenzer drove in three to lead the Cougars on her walk off homerun.

Neither team was able to get on the board until the third inning, when Paetow struck first. Samantha Guillory started off the inning with a double to get herself in scoring position, and Jade Catherwood brought Guillory home with a single, giving the Panthers the lead. But Cinco had an answer and

found its offense in the bottom of the inning. Madison Royce hit a single and after getting to second base was brought home on a single from Faith Piper. Chela Kovar then handed the Cougars the lead, hitting a single and driving in Piper to make it 2-1 Cinco.

Piper scored again in the fifth inning on an error to make it 3-1 Cougars, but the Panthers didn't give up on things. Paetow got a runner on in the top of the sixth and Guillory was able to bring it in by hitting a triple. Amanda Vasquez then tied things, bringing in Guillory on a triple to tie things at three. But Kovar was able to limit the damage and get out of the inning without giving up anything more.

Things stayed the same through the bottom of the sixth and top of the seventh, but in the final half inning Cinco got its offense going. Sophie Hassall hit a single and Kovar walked to put two runners on and Bregenzer took care of the rest, hitting a 3-run homerun to center field to walk things off and give the Cougars the win.

Catherwood started the game and went seven innings for Paetow, allowing five earned runs on seven hits to go with four strikeouts and three walks. She also contributed one of Paetow's three RBIs in the game along with Guillory and Vasquez.

Paetow fell to 11-12 and 1-4 in district play with the loss.

Tompkins run rules Morton Ranch

Tompkins earned a run rule shutout win over Morton Ranch on Tuesday, winning 10-0 behind a stout effort from Samantha Crumrin on the mound, moving Tompkins to 9-5 on the season and 4-1 in district play.

Crumrin went five innings on the night, only allowing two hits while striking out seven and walking one to earn the win. Leah Gershman finished things with a clean half inning in the sixth, allowing one hit and no runs. Peyton Ebel and Cami Hearn led the way for the Falcons offensively, as both had two RBIs on the night.

Tompkins got on the board early and often, starting in the top of the first inning, with Tayden Alexander driving in a run on an RBI single. Tompkins continued to increase its lead in the second inning — Hearn drove in a run on a single before Rachael Foit got a run across with a sacrifice grounder. Avery Andry then made things 4-0 with another RBI single. Hearn then increased the Tompkins lead again in the bottom of the third as she drew a bases loaded walk.

Both teams' defenses settled in from there until the bottom of the sixth when Tompkins put things

away and earned the run rule win. Tompkins got a sixth run on an error. Ebel then drove in two on a single and Hearn ended things, reaching on an error, with two runs coming across to make it 10-0 and end the game.

Alli Slaten started the game for Morton Ranch and went two innings, allowing three earned runs on seven hits. Jiselle Lopez, Madison Burciaga and Lea Avila each had hits for Morton Ranch to lead the offense.

The loss dropped Morton Ranch to 5-9 on the season and 0-5 in district play.

Seven Lakes shuts out Jordan

Amy Abke put together a brilliant performance on the mound Tuesday to lead Seven Lakes to a 4-0 shutout win over Jordan and keep Seven Lakes in the mix of a playoff spot. The win moved Seven Lakes to 5-10 on the year and 2-3 in district, as they sit a game back of a playoff spot tied for fifth place.

Abke pitched a complete seven inning game in the win, striking out 18 in the win while allowing just one hit and three walks. In a tremendous pitching display, she also struck out her 900th batter of her varsity career in the game. Ashley Abel drove in two to lead the Spartans' offense.

The Spartans got on the board in the bottom of the first inning. Dulce Franco reached on an error and then Abel drove her in with a two-run homerun to put Seven Lakes ahead.

Things stayed that way until the fifth inning when the Spartans' offense again got runs on the board. Kaley Garland drove in a run with a single after two runners reached on errors and then Sarah Petree made it 4-0 by driving in a run on another single. Things stayed that way the rest of the way as Abke kept Jordan from ever getting close to getting a run.

Brooke Hidalgo started and went three innings allowing two earned runs on one hit with two walks. Madeline Williams got Jordan's only hit in the game to lead the offense. The loss dropped Jordan to 9-7-1 overall and 1-4 in district play.

Mayde Creek earns shutout win over Taylor

Mayde Creek earned a big win over Taylor on Tuesday, beating the Mustangs 2-0 behind a big performance from Alyssa Gonzalez on the mound, and staying in the top four of District 19-6A.

Gonzalez pitched a complete game shutout for the Rams, striking out seven and allowing five hits while walking none to earn the win. Gonzalez also added an RBI in the game to secure the win, while Debanhi Carrizales also drove in a run.

Gonzalez kept Taylor off the board and then also put the Rams ahead in the top of the third inning. Mayde Creek got a single and then Gonzalez drove that in with another single to put Mayde Creek ahead.

Things stayed that way until the sixth inning, when Carrizales brought in another run. Alexa Ruiz doubled to get into scoring position before Carrizales singled to drive her in. Gonzalez pitched a clean two innings after to secure the win.

Ari Hughes pitched a complete game for Taylor, allowing one earned run on eight hits while striking out five and walking one. Izzy Allen led the way for the Taylor offense, getting two hits in three at bats.

The loss dropped Taylor to 10-7-1 overall and 2-2 in district play.

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Unit #1 (C18) (1) General Description of property: Unit is 10' by 10' enclosed and climate controlled. Unit contains a mattress, cat scratching post, shelving, a television, as well as some boxes. (2) Lien: This unit is being sold to satisfy a lien owed to Cane Island Storage. (3) Owner: The owner of this unit is Albert Manning. (4) Address: The address of the self-storage facility is 27748 Highway 90, Katy, Tx 77494 (5) Site/Time: Auction will take place on March 27, 2023, at 11 am and will be hosted on SelfStorageAuction.com</p>		

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Unit #1 (C24) (1) General Description of property: Unit is 10' by 10' enclosed and climate controlled. Unit contains a wooden bed headboard and footboard, a fan, small wood cabinet, small black desk, radio, a gas grill, and a Nintendo Wii. (2) Lien: This unit is being sold to satisfy a lien owed to Cane Island Storage. (3) Owner: The owner of this unit is Albert Manning. (4) Address: The address of the self-storage facility is 27748 Highway 90, Katy, Tx 77494 (5) Site/Time: Auction will take place on March 27, 2023, at 11 am and will be hosted on SelfStorageAuction.com</p>		

March 9 Puzzle Answers

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES	950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale to be held ONLINE at storagetreasures.com The facility is BEAR CREEK MINI STORAGE 17730 Kieth Harrow Blvd, Houston, TX 77084. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on March 13, 2023, and end at 12:00 pm on March 20, 2023. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Raul Torres, Christian Fontenot, Manuel Sanchez.</p>	

950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale to be held ONLINE at Storagetreasures.com The facility is Langham Creek Mini Storage 18619 FM 529 RD. Cypress, TX 77433 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on March 11, 2023, and end at 10:00 pm on March 20, 2023. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Claudia Benedix, Trey Benedix, Patricia Torres Acevedo, Karen Dabney, Cynthia Olvera, Richard Brasher, Ana Parra, Sean Alongi, Luke Ribbans, Nicholas Harper, Kelvin Sarver, Frederick Brooks, Josue Gutierrez, Darnell Washington, Francisco Andrade, Danny Cardenas, Keley Johnson, Braylan Hernandez, John Pratt.</p>

T	R	A	N	C	E	S			E	E	R	I	E	
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C	O	O	R	S		P	A	N	O	R	A	M	A	S
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D	E	N		A	L	L	A	N			A	S	H	I
E	P		W	I	L	L	I	E	N	E	L	S	O	N
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E	D	U	C	E			S	L	E	D	D	E	D	

950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Unit #2 (C22) (1) General Description of property: Unit is 10' by 10' enclosed and climate controlled. Unit contains several cardboard boxes, washer and dryer set, two mattresses, a vacuum, and a luggage bag. (2) Lien: This unit is being sold to satisfy a lien owed to Cane Island Storage. (3) Owner: The owner of this unit is Albert Manning. (4) Address: The address of the self-storage facility is 27748 Highway 90, Katy, Tx 77494 (5) Site/Time: Auction will take place on March 27, 2023, at 11 am and will be hosted on SelfStorageAuction.com</p>

950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">NOTICE TO BIDDERS ALTITUDE VALVE STATION</p> <p>THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A POTABLE WATER ALTITUDE VALVE STATION INSTALLATION. 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., FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 2023, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. BID DOCUMENTS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.</p> <p>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.</p> <p align="right">Becky L. McGrew City Secretary City of Katy, Texas</p>

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900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
<p align="center">NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY INTO THE CITY OF KATY</p> <p>The City Council Of The City Of Katy, Texas, Will Conduct a Public Hearing To Be Held At Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas.</p> <p align="center">CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 27, 2023</p> <p>The Hearing Is Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On The Annexation Of A Property Described As Approximately 4.2 Acres Of Land In The James Conner Survey, Abstract 157, Fort Bend County, TX And The Annexation Of Approximately 0.885 Acres Of Land Being A Portion Of Katy-Flewellen Road In Accordance With Section 43.10671 Of The Texas Local Government Code.</p>		

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
<p align="center">INVITATION TO BIDDERS</p> <p>SEALED PROPOSALS addressed to City of Pattison for construction of the City Hall Renovations, LJA Job No. 1817-0001, will be received at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2023, and then publicly opened and read aloud.</p> <p>Scope of Work includes but is not limited to the demolition of existing walls, electrical, and plumbing and construction of new walls, flooring, electrical, and plumbing inside the existing City Hall.</p> <p>Bidding Documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect and Amtek or may be obtained upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$100.00 per set (\$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. Bidders must register on this website to download bidding documents.</p> <p>City of Pattison will hold a non-mandatory pre-bid conference at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 23, 2023. An additional non-mandatory pre-bid conference and site visit will be held at City of Pattison City Hall, 3410 First Street, Pattison, Texas 77423, 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2023. No additional site visits to City Hall will be granted outside of the two pre-bids. City of Pattison reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Successful Bidder, if any, is the Bidder offering the best value for the Owner based on the published criteria provided in the bid documents and on its evaluation. (Texas Local Government Code 252.043 and 271.116)</p> <p>Bid security in the form of bid bond or cashier's check payable to City of Pattison in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid submitted, must accompany each Bid.</p> <p>The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and bidder/contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the bidder/contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.</p> <p>Bidder/Contractor declares that it has not received from a governmental body a notice of noncompliance with a provision of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Texas Government Code, or, if such notice has been received, bidder/contractor has taken adequate steps to ensure future compliance with such subchapter and has provided or upon request will provide documentation of same.</p>

900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES	900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
<p align="center">TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK</p> <p align="center">TexSCAN</p> <p>TexSCAN Week of Mar. 12-18, 2023</p>		
<p>ACREAGE</p> <p>AFFORDABLE LAND. We have some of the best in Texas. Hill Country - Edwards, McCulloch, Schleicher, Coke, Val Verde counties, free ranging exotics. South Texas - Kinney, Duval, Live Oak counties - whitetail, hogs. Trans Pecos, Terrell, Val Verde - whitetail, javelina, quail. 30 year fixed rate financing. 5% down. www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.</p>	<p>CATTLE</p> <p>60+ Angus Bulls For Sale Private Treaty. One Year Guarantee. We Deliver. Kelly Giles, Giles Angus Ranch, 806-655-5800.</p>	<p>EVENT</p> <p>South Texas Home and Garden Show, Floresville, TX, Sat., March 25, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free Event. More than 70 vendors. Food trucks, plants, drawings. Floresville Event Center, 600 Hwy 97 W. www.southtexashomeandgarden.com.</p>
<p>ARROWHEADS</p> <p>INDIAN ARROWHEADS WANTED. Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute top dollar paid - up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector. Call 979-218-3351.</p> <p>Want to lease an area (small acreage) to find Indian arrowheads in the sand dunes of West Texas. I will pay up to five figures for the right property. Call 979-218-3351.</p>	<p>LEGAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Applying for Social Security Disability or Appealing a Denied Claim? Call Bill Gordon & Assoc. Our case managers simplify the process & work hard to help with your case. Call 1-844-494-0689 FREE Consultation. Local Attorneys Nationwide Mail: 2420 N St NW, Washington DC. Office: Broward Co. FL (TX/NM Bar).</p>	<p>MEDICAL</p> <p>Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983.</p>
<p>AUCTION</p> <p>BANKRUPTCY SALE, Fort Worth 50,000+ SF Data Center/Flex/Warehouse, 9100 NW U.S. HWY 287. Bid deadline Mar. 23. Built 2018 w/ \$6.7M in upgrades, expansive warehouse, 13.72+ AC with 6.6+ AC for expansion, 22 drive-in doors & 2 loading docks, heavy power (10 MW electric), modern 2-story office space, leased 5,000+ SF storage warehouse. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstate.com.</p>	<p>DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 #6258</p>	

950 PUBLIC NOTICES
<p align="center">COMPETITIVE BIDDING NOTICE INVITATION TO BID</p> <p>The County of Waller proposes to purchase the following items on competitive bid:</p> <p align="center">EMULSIFIED ASPHALT & HAULING HOT MIX ASPHALTIC CONCRETE PAVEMENT (HMCA) INSTALLATION (Pct. 1 & Pct.2) HOT MIX ASPHALTIC CONCRETE PAVEMENT (HMCA) INSTALLATION (Pct. 3 & Pct. 4) HYDRATED LIME</p> <p>Bids will be received by the Waller County Auditor, Alan Younts March 28, 2023 until 2:00 pm in the office of County Auditor at 836 Austin Street, Suite 221, Hempstead, Texas 77445. Bids shall be opened by Commissioners' Court at 9:00 a.m. March 29, 2023, in the Waller County Courtroom, Hempstead, Texas 77445. The Court shall award the contract on April 12, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., in the Waller County Courtroom, during open session of Commissioners' Court to the responsible bidder who submits the lowest and best bid.</p> <p>A contract shall not be awarded to a bidder who is not the lowest dollar bidder meeting specifications unless, before the award, each lower bidder is given notice of the proposed award, and is given an opportunity to appear before the Commissioners' Court and present evidence concerning the lower bidder's responsibility.</p> <p>Bid award shall be based on either unit price or lump sum as indicated on the BID SHEET.</p> <p>Method of payment will be by check upon completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County.</p> <p>Bid Forms may be downloaded from the Waller County web site at www.co.waller.tx.us.</p> <p>ALAN YOUNTS County Auditor 836 Austin Street, Suite 221 Hempstead, Texas 77445</p>

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SOCCER

from page B1

speaks volumes about the program and about coach (Jimmy) Kreuger. To do it with two games left means even more. It's just an awesome feeling."

It was a very strong first half from both sides. Seven Lakes and Paetow went back and forth, with both teams' offenses forcing their defenses into adverse positions. Paetow made Seven Lakes struggle to move the ball forward for the first 15 to 20 minutes of the game, but the Spartans settled into the game and found their flow as the first half went on.

Seven Lakes started creating better chances towards the end of the first half and found their breakthrough in the 34th minute, when they caught Paetow out on a counter attack, with Kortay Koc delivering a through ball to Sean Carlos Rivera, who hit a curler to the far post that opened the scoring.

"We're a team that will always find a way and to get this win just shows the success of our program," said junior midfielder Aidan Morrison. "It's an honor to be at such a great school that's had this success. But it just makes us want it even more, so to make it four in a row today was a pretty special moment."

The Spartans kicked it into high gear in the second half. Merritt scored in the 49th minute off a pass from Noa Stasic before Gabriel Gonzalez made it 3-0 just five minutes later when he took a pass from Merritt and put it far post, past the diving keeper and into the back of the net. Kortay Koc and Sebastian Ranz added

goals to seal things as the Spartans were able to empty the bench and allow their seniors to celebrate the night after scoring five.

Merritt became the Spartans all-time leading points scorer in the game, as his goals and assists tally now surpasses any player that has come through the Seven Lakes program.

"The big thing about Hunter is he is one of the most hardworking people on the field every single day," Kreuger said. "It's great to see a player like that that who just grinds and battles in every single moment of the game doing something that is really special. This program has had a lot of talented players — for him to do that speaks volumes to him as a person, his character and him as a player."

This is just the first goal that the Spartans have checked off their list, and with two district games remaining before playoffs, Seven Lakes remains as focused and ready as ever, as they prepare for the biggest part of their season yet.

"It's good to clinch with two matches to go — we'll be able to use those final two matches as preparation for bi-district and from there it's one round at a time," Kreuger said. "Last year it wasn't easy — once you hit playoffs, nothing is. We can't look beyond anyone — it's a playoff situation and environment and if you lose, you're done. We just have to get our guys as prepared as possible, but they're hungry to go out there and continue to prove themselves."



Sebastian Ranz shoots a penalty during a District 19-6A game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Paetow soccer field.



Above: Jose Dominguez and Diego Flamenco collide while going for a header during a District 19-6A game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Paetow soccer field. Left: Kortay Koc dribbles during a District 19-6A game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Paetow soccer field.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

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Katy Times

ALL-DISTRICT

from page B1

named the newcomer of the year and head coach Shannon Heston was named the co-coach of the year in the district.

The Spartans made their first regional tournament in 12 years on the year and broke the school's single season win record in the process, becoming one of the best teams throughout Spartans' history.

Taylor head coach Matthew Brayton was named the co-coach of the year for the district along with Heston. Brayton led the Mustangs back to the playoffs this season and almost pulled off a huge upset in the first round despite being a fourth seed.

Luke Coughran was named the district's offensive player of the year after he had a great year offensively. The junior averaged 25 points per game and made 159 three pointers in 31 games, averaging over five three pointers per game. Tompkins made it to the area round despite being the third seed out of the district, with Coughran leading the way for the offense.

Seven Lakes placed three players on the district's first team, while Jordan, Tompkins and Cinco Ranch placed two players on the first team.

Following is the full District 19-6A All-District team.

2022-2023 Boys Basketball

DISTRICT MVP

AJ Bates, SLHS

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Luke Coughran, OTHS

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Josh Akpovwa, SLHS

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR

Nasir Price, SLHS

19-6A CO-COACH OF THE YEAR

Matthew Brayton, THS
Shannon Heston, SLHS

1st Team

*AJ Bates (Jr, SLHS)
*Josh Akpovwa (Sr, SLHS)
*Luke Coughran (Jr, OTHS)
Ayden Perdue (Sr, KHS)
Ikemba Otuonye (Sr, PHS)
Jaden Holt (So, JHS)
Jamal Chretien II (So, MCHS)
Josh Lennon (Sr, CRHS)
Luke Robbie (Sr, THS)
Nasir Price (Fr, SLHS)
PJ Jones-Bynum (So, CRHS)
Scottie Guillory (So, OTHS)
Trevor Martz (Sr, JHS)

2nd Team

Ade Onalaye (Jr, PHS)
Brett Norton (Jr, SLHS)
Drew Joyce (Sr, CRHS)
Elijah Black (So, JHS)
Jabari Parker (Jr, THS)
Jayden Jones (Jr, MRHS)
Misaías Herrera (Sr, JHS)
Owen Craig (Sr, OTHS)
Princeton Layton (Jr, PHS)
Reece Hymowitz (Sr, THS)

*Unanimous Selection



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Nasir Price goes around a defender for a layup during a Class 6A Regional Quarterfinal between Seven Lakes and Stratford at the Merrell Center.



MARK GOODMAN | KATY TIMES

Tompkins Luke Coughran #5 drives up to the basket during the Tompkins vs Mayde Creek game.



TYLER TYRE

Matthew Brayton talks to his team during a timeout during a game between Cinco Ranch and Taylor at the Cinco Ranch gym.



Left: Josh Akpovwa dunks during a Class 6A Regional Quarterfinal between Seven Lakes and Stratford at the Merrell Center. Below: Seven Lakes head coach Shannon Heston explains to a referee during the Class 6A Regional Quarterfinal.

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SOFTBALL

from page B1

Katy took care of business and earned a 10-0 win over the Cougars, run ruling them in five innings to stay atop the District 19-6A standings as the teams head into spring break.

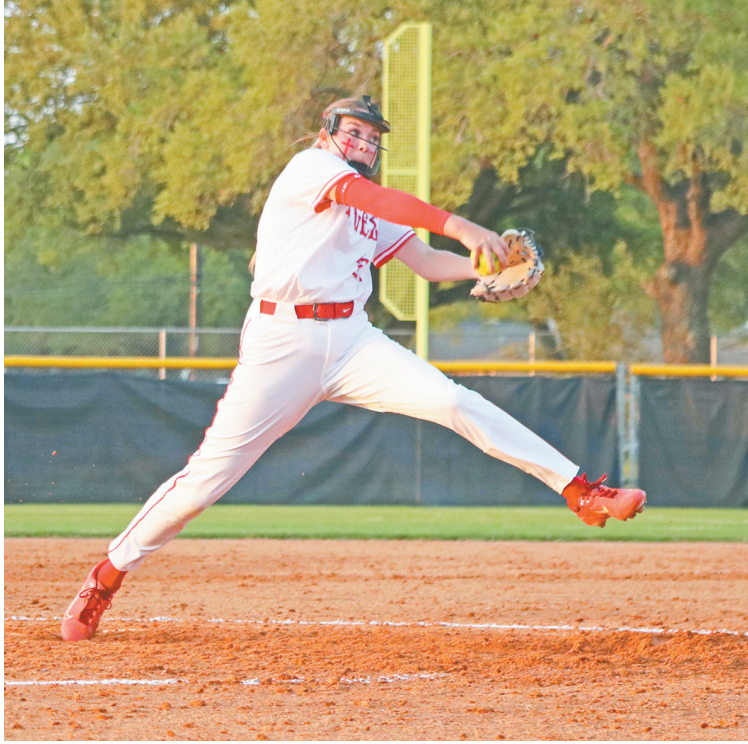
"Getting this win is huge," said junior pitcher Cameryn Harrison. "Going into a little break with a win and ending on a high note is important. We know what we need to work on so to come out of this on a high note, have a little time to get things right. It's great, now we get to rest a bit and when we come back work on closing out district just as strong."

It was a fast and furious start for Katy, as Harrison pitched a clean top half of the first before the Katy offense exploded in the bottom of the inning.

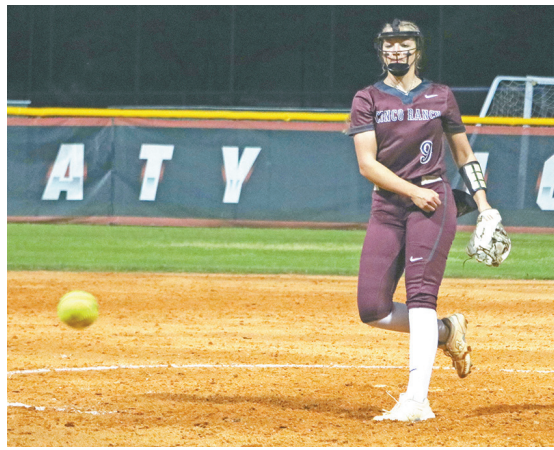
The Tigers got two runners on to start the game before Ashtyn Reichardt drove a run in on a sacrifice grounder. Montgomery Henderson followed that up with a single to drive in another run before she then came around to score on a wild pitch, and Katy got another run on an error before Peyton Watson grounded into a fielder's choice to make things 5-0 Katy after the first inning.

"It was huge to get those runs early and get ahead," Reichardt said. "Cinco is a good team and we knew that coming in. Being able to get that momentum early in the game really set us up the rest of the way. We were able to just build on it towards getting the win. It was a really good win for us."

Katy added its sixth run in the third inning off a Lauryn Soeken RBI single, before Henderson drove in two more runs with a 2-run homerun in the fourth. Haley Gore made it 9-0 with an RBI double to bring Henderson

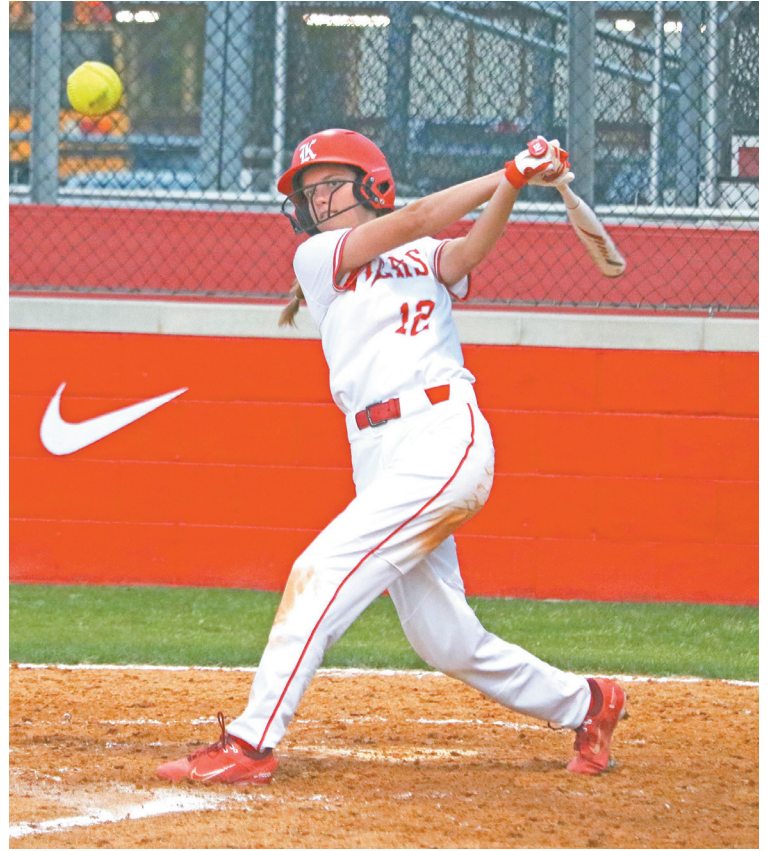


Above: Cameryn Harrison pitches during Friday's District 19-6A game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field. Right: Chela Kovar pitches during Friday's District 19-6A game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field. PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE



home before Reichardt sealed the win in the fifth inning, coming in to score from third base on a wild pitch.

Harrison ended the night only giving up one hit, while striking out 11 and walking two in a complete game effort, while



Faith Piper hits during Friday's District 19-6A game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field.

Henderson led the offense with three RBIs.

"We really improved tonight with a number of things," Haack said. "We moved runners over well with sacrifices and more importantly we had good at bats with runners on base. Not every one of the at bats but so much better than where we were with it at the beginning of the season, and I really like what we did there. Our focus and our swings were much better up there and we need to build on that."

Katy will have off the week of

March 17 before getting back into things and trying to continue to pull away in the district race. The Tigers are determined to do just that, and find a way to bring home another district title.

"We have to keep working during the break and keep a good mindset," Reichardt said. "That's what we've been working on recently is our mindsets we bring into things and I think that showed in this game. We're all very focused on giving good effort and playing for the team."

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University of Houston falls to East Carolina in AAC championship game

STAFF REPORT

The University of Houston's Tatyana Hill recorded her 17th-career double-double but the fourth-seeded Houston women's basketball team lost to No. 3 seed East Carolina 46-44 in the American Athletic Conference championship game last Thursday.

Houston was making its first conference championship game since 2004. The Cougars (15-16) didn't allow East Carolina (23-9) to score until the 3:34 mark in the first quarter and held the Pirates to just two first quarter points, the fewest points allowed in a quarter this season by the Cougars.

The Cougars started the game

on an 8-0 run and led 11-2 after the first quarter in part to seven points by Hill in the frame. The Houston native finished the game with 11 points and 10 rebounds for her eighth double-double this season. Hill finishes her Cougar career tied for 10th in double-doubles and 20th all-time in scoring with 1,135 career points.

The Cougars pushed their lead to 11 points with 1:46 remaining in the first half on a Logyn McNeil second chance layup. The Pirates made it a seven-point game to close the half. East Carolina used a 12-2 run to take their first lead of the game at 28-27 with 3:16 remaining in the third quarter.

Senior Bria Patterson made a

hookshot with 2:31 remaining in the game to give Houston its final lead of the game at 42-40.

East Carolina was picked to finish last in the conference in the Preseason Coaches Poll and is the first team not seeded first to win the AAC tournament.

Houston out-shot East Carolina 28.7-28.1 percent but went 0 for 12 from beyond the arc, the only game in 2022-23 the Cougars did not make a three-point field goal.

Patterson and Hill were named to the All-Championship team after each scored in double figures. Kamryn Jones scored a game-high 13 points while Patterson scored 11 points, brought down eight rebounds and collected six steals.



PHOTO COURTESY UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON ATHLETICS

The University of Houston's women's basketball team lost in the AAC Championship game to East Carolina last week.

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