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THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023

Summit provides overview, insights on Texas, Katy area economy



KATY AREA EDC

From left, Matthew Ferraro, Katy Area Chamber of Commerce president; Angie Thomason, Katy Area Economic Development Council president/CEO; former Gov. Rick Perry; Paul Kurt, Katy Area Economic Development Council chairman, and state Rep. Mike Schofield, R-Katy, at the first annual Katy Area Economic Outlook Summit.

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Not overtaxing, or regulating, or litigating, while providing a skilled workforce, are at the heart of Texas' economic success, former Gov. Rick Perry said in a June 16 speech at the first Katy Area Economic Outlook Summit.

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, the Katy Area Economic Development Council and state Rep. Mike Schofield, R-Katy, organized the summit, which took place at the Embassy Suites, 16435 Katy Freeway.

A skilled workforce, Perry said, meant accountable public schools.

"This isn't rocket science," Perry said. "Implement those things, then get out the way and then let private sector do what the private sector does best."

Perry said he was first elected in 1985, as a Democrat, to the Texas House of Representatives. He represented a rural, eight-county district. But he said Ronald Reagan, who was president then, made it OK for him and others to switch parties. He did so in 1989 and joked that his move made both Democrats and Republicans happy.

Perry joined the legislature at a time when, as he put it, the Texas economy went off the cliff.

"We were based on oil and gas and real

estate money," Perry said, adding that the Texas economy imploded when the price of oil fell. When that happened, he said, one could stand on the steps of the state Capitol, and could almost see through every office building.

The Texas economy began to recover in the early 1990s, Perry said, but it wasn't until 2003, when the legislature passed tort reform, things became moving firmly towards his four points of not overtaxing, not overregulating, not litigating, and providing a skilled workforce.

"We said, you know what, we're going to put things into place to improve the

See **SUMMIT**, page A6

Secret to good men's health is no secret, Katy doctor says

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

June is Men's Health Month, and there is no secret when it comes to men staying in good health, a Houston Methodist West doctor said.

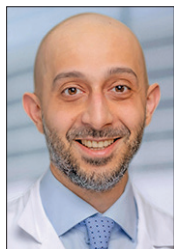
Dr. Monty Aghazadeh, a urologist at that hospital, said the biggest misperception about men's health is that maintenance is not required.

"This is just like anything we keep up with, health particularly," Aghazadeh said, adding that healthy eating habits, exercise and regular checkups with one's doctor are all important.

Getting a PSA, or prostate specific antigen, screening is important, though Aghazadeh said there is some controversy about the timing of such screening.

"Typically, we recommend age 50-55, unless you have a family history of prostate cancers where you might have a brother or uncle or a father with prostate cancer, especially an aggressive prostate cancer," Aghazadeh said. In such cases, a patient might start

See **SECRET**, page A3



DR. MONTY AGHAZADEH

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Top: Members of the Chi Omicron Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority march in the first-ever Juneteenth Parade held June 19 at Katy Woodland Park.



Left: Hot weather didn't discourage Juneteenth festival attendees from visiting the various covered tables, many of which were positioned under the trees at Katy Woodland Park.

Katy ISD trustees receive budget update

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy ISD budget is in good shape and trustees could adopt next year's budget by the end of the month, a district official said.

Chris Smith, the district's chief financial officer, gave a district budget update at a special school trustees meeting Monday afternoon. He said if a budget had to be passed immediately, the district would be looking at an approximately \$3.5 million surplus. This is because of additional state funding, which he said "saved our bacon." Still, district officials had to sharpen their pencils to reach that surplus, he said.

The legislature is still addressing issues affecting school finance and what that might mean for districts across the state. He said the Texas Legislature, which began its

biennial regular session in January, was looking at an approximate \$33 billion surplus, much of which was to go for property tax cuts. However, legislators have been unable to reach an agreement to make this happen. The legislature also failed, he said, to implement enrollment-based funding and increased teacher pay.

Smith said Gov. Greg Abbott called the legislature into special session to deal with property tax cuts and border security. He said Abbott could add school finance to the special session, and that funds remain set aside in the budget. However, he said, lawmakers must come to an agreement on how



CHRIS SMITH

to spend that money.

Smith said the House and Senate have differing proposals on property tax cuts. He said the House proposal involves a 5% appraisal cap on all real property, along with reducing an additional \$0.1620 cents off each district's compressed rate.

The Senate proposal, Smith said, involves a \$100,000 homestead exemption, plus reducing an additional \$0.10 off each district's compressed rate. Smith described the Senate proposal as "less appealing" to a district such as Katy, which he described as fast growth and relies on selling bonds to build schools. If the Senate-proposed home exemption becomes law, districts will not get any state assistance for that additional money.

See **BUDGET**, page A3

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FORT BEND COUNTY

County announces economic development agreement



FORT BEND COUNTY

Fort Bend County Judge KP George, center, announced a community and development agreement.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Judge KP George, along with area nonprofits, announced a community and economic development agreement aimed at strengthening under-resourced communities through affordable housing, education, and revitalization initiatives. This agreement represents a milestone in the county's ongoing commitment to addressing the challenges faced by vulnerable populations.

Since December 2022, George has been talking with various area nonprofit organizations,

including Brandon Baca, Attack Poverty chief executive officer, and Shannan Stavinoaha, Parks Youth Ranch executive director, among others. Their primary focus of these discussions was to address the needs of the county's at-risk homeless population and explore collaborative solutions to improve their quality of life.

As a result of these visits, Fort Bend County Commissioner's Court unanimously approved a \$2.5 million budget allocation June 13 for an affordable housing program. This funding will provide

See **AGREEMENT**, page A3



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Property owner litigation meetings set

Three lawsuits have been filed against the US Army Corps of Engineers following the flooding from Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Lawyers in those suits are inviting property owners near the Addicks and Barker dams to a town hall meeting to review the situation and consider whether to file a claim as the time to do so is running short.

Three meetings are scheduled. The first is at 6:30 p.m. on June 22 at the Cinco Ranch Golf Club, 23030 Cinco Ranch Blvd. The second meeting is July 19 and the third is set for Aug. 17, all at the same time and address.

Those with questions can attend any or all the free meetings. For more information, visit the website bapfe.com.

Angie Thomason appointed permanent Katy Area EDC president/CEO

The Katy Area Economic Development Council has removed the "interim" tag from president/CEO Angie Thomason's title, appointing her this month to serve permanently in that role.

Thomason has been with the organization since January 2020 and has served as manager of business development. She was appointed to the president/CEO role on an interim basis following the resignation of former President/CEO Chuck Martinez in January.

Katy City Park to get new sidewalks

The Katy City Council, at its June 5 meeting, approved the installation of 1,400 square feet of sidewalks at Katy City Park, 5850 Franz Road.

In a memorandum to the council urging approval, Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Browne wrote that the 5' sidewalk would connect the softball parking lot to the fitness court, the fitness court to the restroom building, and connect new and existing sidewalks to the basketball pavilion.

Browne wrote the work would include cleaning and haul-off of trash and debris. It would also include the sealing of expansion joints with poly-

urethane sealant.

"Staff has received multiple requests for sidewalk expansions to the basketball pavilion from the softball parking lot and from the existing sidewalk surrounding the multi-purpose field to the pavilion," Browne wrote. "This will create a fully accessible pathway for patrons to safely traverse from the parking lot to the fitness court, restroom facilities and basketball pavilion from various areas of the park that were not previously accessible."

Browner appointed to Village at Katy Development District board

Mayor Dusty Thiele appointed, with council approval, the appointment of former Mayor Chuck Browne to the Village at Katy Development District.

The Village at Katy is one of nine planned development districts in Katy. According to the city's website, such a district encourages the unified design of commercial, institutional, office, professional, residential and retail facilities through a comprehensive development plan. The district enables greater flexibility in building and set-back design, among other items.

Browner served as mayor from 2017-19 and had served as mayor pro tem and Ward A council member before that. Browner replaces Steve Pierson on the board.

Friends of Maud Marks Library to hold used book sale

The Friends of Maud Marks Library will hold a used book sale from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. June 24 at the library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Presale viewing and sales (cash or check only) will be available to members of the Friends from 4-5:30 p.m. June 23. Annual memberships can be purchased at the door for \$10.

All funds earned from the sale are used to support library programs that are offered to the community.

Books (adult or children's, fiction, nonfiction, reference, foreign language, etc.) that the public would like to donate to the sale are being accepted, during library hours, in the bins inside the entrance.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

JUNETEENTH GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA



SHERREL ROGERS

The City of Brookshire held its Juneteenth Gospel Extravaganza and Award Ceremony June 16 at the Brookshire Convention Center, 4029 5th St. in Brookshire. Award recipients pictured are, front row left to right, Portia Abanathy, Kimberly Seals, Erica Abanathy, Debra Jones Savage and Pastor Edmund Blouin Jr. (with cane). Pictured on the back row are, from left to right, Derrick Dabney, Sherrel Rogers, Mia Davis, Cassandra Runnels, Pastor Roosevelt Lasker and Sylvester Parker. Not pictured: Henrymae McNeal, Austin Stephens, Johnny Singh, and Latchia Ames.

TLSBA SCHOLAR



ROYAL ISD

Erica Grant, who graduated from Royal High this year, has been named a Texas Latino School Boards Association Scholar. She will study criminal justice at Texas Southern University.

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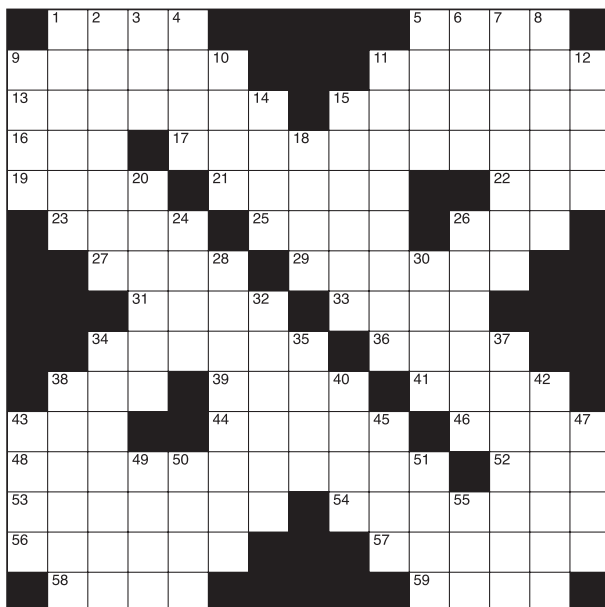
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Understand intuitively
- Two of something
- Not involving computer tech
- Acclaimed
- Undermine
- The condition of being concealed or hidden
- Irritate
- The process of developing a theory
- Ceramic jar
- Not fresh
- Dad's fashion accessory
- Popular review site
- New Mexico county
- '_ death do us part
- Fees
- Takes with force
- One-time Yankees rookie sensation
- Gordon and Snider are two
- Body parts
- Arranges
- Fiddler crabs
- Mimics
- Witnesses
- They _
- Lasso
- Runs down
- In response to

CLUES DOWN

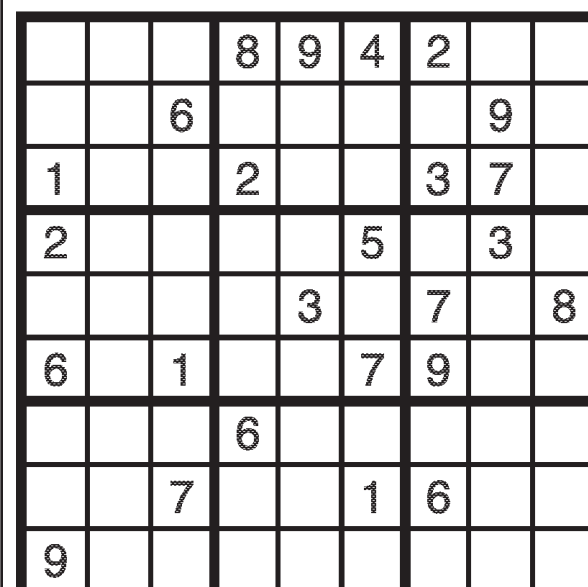
- Bird-like dinosaur
- Metamorphic stages
- Conditions of incapacity
- Sodas are sold in these units
- Break away from
- Ethereal
- Boggy
- Mangled
- Ruffled some feathers
- Not young
- Lakers legend
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Direction (Scottish)
- Intestinal inflammation
- Spring back in fear
- Owl genus
- Girls
- Unbeliefs
- Force unit
- Expired trade agreement
- Went alone
- Animal noises
- Woman who graduated from a specific school
- The very top
- Organs in males
- Earnings
- Z Z Z



- Reddish browns
- A salt or ester of acetic acid
- A place to get off your feet
- More disreputable
- Kidney condition
- Cease moving
- Quick
- Extra seed covering
- "Survivor: Panama" winner
- Six
- One who inspects lamps
- Small parrot
- Primordial matter of the universe
- _ fi (slang)

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU



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.

AGREEMENT

from page A1

critical support and assistance to homeless individuals, helping them secure safe and stable housing.

“This community and economic development agreement is a testament to Fort Bend County’s dedication to addressing the needs of our most vulnerable community members,” George said. “We believe that everyone deserves access to safe and affordable housing, quality education and opportunities for revitalization. By collaborating with local nonprofit organizations, we can make a lasting impact on our community and uplift those in need.”

Joining George for this announcement were state Rep. Ron Reynolds; Fulshear Mayor and Vice President of Attack Poverty Aaron Groff; Fort Bend County Pct. 4 Commissioner Dexter McCoy; Attack Poverty Chief Executive Officer Brandon Baca; Parks Youth Ranch Executive Director Shannan Stavinoha; Fort Bend County Economic Development Director Carlos Guzman; Fort Bend County Director of Behavior Services Connie Almeida; and Fort Bend Family Promise Jim Uschkrat.

The agreement focuses on encouraging local economic development by stimulating, promoting and developing business locations and commercial activity in Fort Bend County to:

- Strengthen under-resourced communities through education and revitalization.
- Meet the need to match those that are either unemployed or underemployed with the varied job openings that exist to meet employer demand, and to ensure individuals have opportunities to meet their basic needs.
- Ensure that an adequate workforce is available to meet the needs of local businesses and provides a foundation for families and individuals to thrive economically and socially.
- Ensure that residents can easily access necessities such as education, healthy food, employment, and health services.

The agreement also enables providing additional community development services, including:

- Onsite and after-school programs that focus on at-risk children that target reading and math development alongside school district performance standards.
- Adult education that focuses on learning English as a second language, obtaining a high school equivalency certificate (GED), technical school training, financial literacy, and computer literacy.
- Job readiness courses that support soft skills development to obtain employment.
- Skill development through on-the-job training through employment onsite and certificate acquisition for trade skills.
- Workforce development programs designed to meet local needs.
- Job creation through part-time entry-level opportunities accessible onsite.
- Development of CDC and management of social enterprise initiatives.

The Fort Bend County Attorney’s Office has played an instrumental role in ensuring the successful execution of this economic development initiative and paved the way for a fruitful project.

BUDGET

from page A1

“I like the House version because I know we are going to be in the bond business and we’re going to continue to grow,” Smith said.

State funding is one of three factors that provide meaningful impact on district budget revenues. Another is local tax revenue, which can include such things as a tax ratification election, which was rejected by Katy ISD voters last November.

Smith said taxable values were budgeted at \$54.6 billion in 2022-23, and are estimated to be \$62.3 billion for 2023-24, a 14.14% increase.

The student attendance rate is part of this factor, Smith said.

Smith said attendance is down across the state, including Katy. Still, he said the district continues to grow. Enrollment is expected to increase from 91,872 in 2022-23 to 95,347 students in 2023-24, an estimated 3.8% increase.

The district expects to open two new elementary schools this fall, and a junior high and high school next fall, as enrollment continues to grow.

The third factor, Smith said, was fees, gate sales and interest, which he described as a very small figure.

Projected budget revenues are: tax revenue, (\$512 million), other local revenue (\$3.4 million), state funding,

(\$413.3 million), state TRS contributions, (\$56 million), federal revenue (\$6.9 million). Total estimated revenue is about \$1.01 billion, he said.

Smith said 88.1% of the district’s expenses go toward payroll. Other expenses include services and utilities (5%), software, supplies and material (4.6%), other operating expenses 2.2% and capital outlay (0.05%).

“If anything, payroll is going to grow,” Smith said. “But really, nothing else will change.”

Smith said Katy ISD has the lowest administrative cost ratio, at 3.53%, of the 18 Greater Houston-area school districts. Spring ISD has the

highest such ratio at 12.09%, he said.

Smith said trustees will review budget projections covering all budgeted funds at their July meeting. At that meeting, district officials will also know how the legislature addressed the school funding issues for the biennium. In August, the district will hold a public hearing to discuss the budget and tax rates.

Smith said some other districts are changing their budget schedules, but Katy is not. The current Katy ISD budget ends Aug. 31. Trustees are expected to adopt a new budget in August to take effect Sept. 1.

SECRET

from page A1

screening earlier, perhaps at age 40.

How does one prevent prostate cancer?

“That’s one of those things we don’t have a great answer to,” Aghazadeh said. Doing things such as eating healthy, exercising and having regular checkups all help, he said, but to what extent precisely is unknown. He said about 10% of prostate cancer cases are genetic.

Heart disease is another leading cause of death. Checking for heart disease goes with cholesterol screening, which in turn can be part of a regular checkup.

“Primary care physicians do thorough screenings and check the patient’s family history,” Aghazadeh said, adding that some factors can compel a visit to a cardiologist for further checking and possible treatment.

While treating a condition is important, it is better to prevent conditions from happening in the first place. When it comes to exercise, however, some men feel they don’t have the time. Between family and professional commitments, they have busy lives.

Aghazadeh said people who successfully get their exercise make it a priority.

“The way they make it a priority is to stay consistent and do it early in the day,” Aghazadeh said. “As the day goes on,

things pop up and there are competing factors for your attention. Doing your exercise early in the day is how you can make it a priority.”

Aghazadeh said it helps to give exercise what he called the “red carpet” treatment. One example of this, he said, is setting out your exercise clothes and equipment by the door so they are ready when you wake up in the morning.

“Make it as easy on yourself as you can,” Aghazadeh said.

While it’s easy to find information on diets, sorting through all the articles, books, magazines, podcasts and websites for the best information is another matter. Aghazadeh said visiting with a doctor can help a patient make the best choices.

“There are so many things out there, and they’ll have their pros and cons,” Aghazadeh said. “The most important thing is to get an expert to guide you. Your primary care physician can recommend a dietitian. The key is making modifications that are sustainable.”

Some men go on a fast to lose weight. Aghazadeh said there are benefits with fasting and it can be incorporated into one’s routine. However, it is a short-term option.

“I think the challenge with fasting is that it becomes difficult to sustain,” Aghazadeh said. “As soon as you stop,

there is often a rebound effect. Your body is starved for calories.”

The doctor came to Houston in 2010 for a urology residence at Baylor College of Medicine. He joined Houston Methodist West in 2017. Among his medical activities at the hospital is minimally invasive urology.

“We have a lot of the latest technologies to make some of these procedures less invasive, which means faster recovery and getting back to normal life as quickly as possible,” he said.

He said robotic surgery has been around since 2006. Those robotic surgeries, he said, were multiport surgeries in which multiple incisions were made. But the technology has improved since then.

“Now, what we’re able to offer is single port, or single hole, surgery,” Aghazadeh said. “There’s only four hospitals in the Houston area with the single port robot available. We’re the only one in the West Houston area.”

Ultimately, good men’s health means listening to one’s body.

“If something’s not right, see a doctor,” Aghazadeh said. “There’s no secret sauce. You have to be in tune with your body, listen to your body and act accordingly when things aren’t quite right.”



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Does TV industry budget cutting worry you?

Maybe it's a good thing that my teenage dream of becoming a TV programmer never materialized.

Analysts have regarded the over-the-air free TV networks as dinosaurs for years, but now even the cable channels and streaming services are watching over their shoulders for asteroids.

Oh, the new Golden Age was nice while it lasted—with companies trumpeting ambitious five-year plans for special-effects-heavy prestige projects, offering new life to niche programs dumped by the traditional networks and luring big-name movie stars over to the small screen. ("I don't care what his asking price is—I want Charlie *%\$ Chaplin!")

Even deep-pocketed executives now acknowledge that show biz is still a biz. The reality of rising labor costs, a glutted market for channels and services, password sharing and binge-and-unsubscribe viewing patterns are leading to drastic changes.

Things are tough all over. Disney+ unceremoniously stopped production of several high-profile series and buried the reruns. "Blue Bloods" won renewal only after the actors accepted pay cuts. "Superman and Lois" will receive only 10 episodes in its fourth season. NBC is seriously considering surrendering the third hour of prime time to its affiliates. ("Great! What else are you giving away—your used Odor Eaters and your ex-mother-in-law?")

Speaking of Odor Eaters, I've been waiting for the other shoe to drop, revealing new austerity policies.

Will the mentors on "The Voice" be replaced by a warm handshake and a See 'n Say toy? Will "Dumpster Diving with the Stars" and "The Hiding-His-Face-Behind-His-Hands Singer" grace our screens?

Could the high cost of costume designers and animal trainers make "Bridgerton" unrecognizable? Will Lady Whistledown confine her gossip to the fact that everyone is suddenly going all Lady Godiva—without the horse?

Will the hit show "Wednesday" force the titular character to leave Nevermore Academy



DANNY TYREE

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

and take only online classes? Will the special-effects crew decide to streamline Thing as Middle Finger?

Product placement in programs will doubtless become even more jarring, with the emergence of soap operas such as "The Young and the Restless Leg Syndrome."

I can well imagine NBC advertising "Law and Order—and would you like to leave an 18 percent tip with your order?"

"Netflix and Chill" will probably morph into "Netflix and turn up the thermostat. We're not cooling off the entire neighborhood!"

Remakes and reboots remain a popular life preserver for broadcasters, so don't be surprised if we get a new version of "The 1950s test pattern—with most of the original cast!" (I hear the same penny-pincher has a pitch for converting all the conflagrations on "Fire Country" into the 24-hour yule log.)

Gameshows are cheaper to produce than dramas, but even they face reconfiguration. Get ready for "Let's Make A Deal: You Get to Meet Wayne Brady and We Get to Sell Your Blood."

PBS is not immune to economic realities. "Masterpiece" may be renamed "Some Unrecognizable Scrawls I Hung on the Refrigerator Door to Keep My Six-Year-Old Happy."

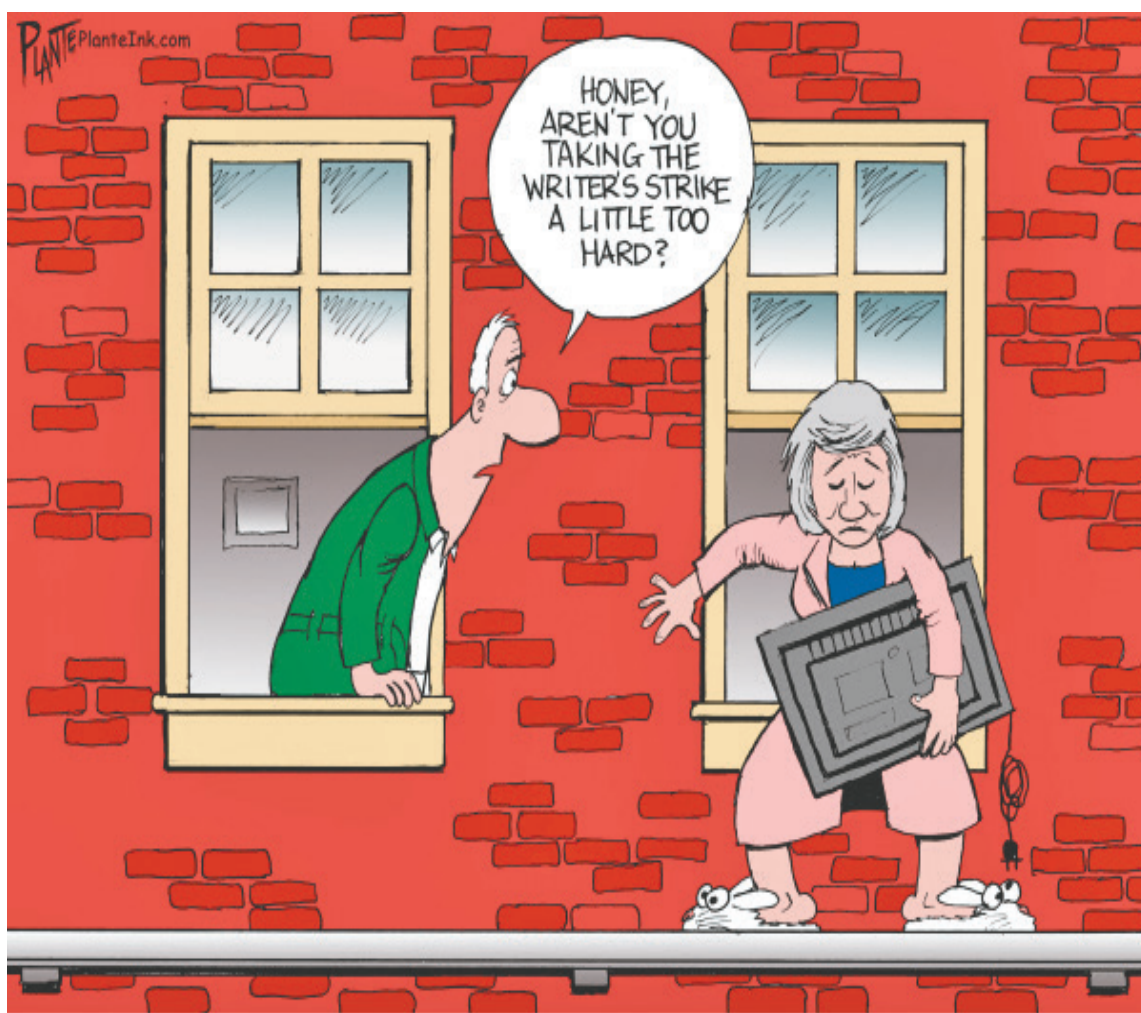
Brrr. Yes, I really dodged a bullet thanks to my career obstacles. In an alternate timeline, I could be pulling my remaining hair out over network belt-tightening.

As it is, I'm enjoying a less stressful job and preparing for Social Security and Medicare and... and...

Yikes! Maybe belt-tightening is inevitable. Maybe my younger self should have persevered with his dreams!

I'll bet his/my "Who gave J.R. a group hug?" mystery would have captivated millions!

Danny Tyree welcomes email responses at tyreetyrades@aol.com and visits to his Facebook fan page "Tyree's Tyrades."



My rock still tries to roll

Recently, my wife and I joined some friends to attend our first "rock" concert since the COVID pandemic temporarily made fun illegal. It was great to be back in that electric atmosphere among a crowd of excited music lovers, about 90% of whom were younger than my lawn mower.

Ed Sheeran headlined the concert—with Khalid and Dylan opening. I was really excited about this lineup, mainly because with two opening acts, there would be plenty of restroom and refreshment breaks. Better yet, our friends gave us the tickets, and they also drove us to AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, which meant that I could nap in the car.

I didn't know much about Ed Sheeran prior to the concert, other than he sang a couple of popular romantic ballads and he had ginger hair that looked like he styled it with a package of fire crackers. My wife and I both worried that we might have trouble staying awake if all his songs were slow and being performed after 8 p.m. Oh, well. More napping!

A few hours before the gates opened, we decided to have a late lunch in downtown Arlington at Babe's Chicken Dinner House, where the food is served family-style, most of it is fried, and everything is "all-you-can-eat." (Did I mention the chance for napping?)

The atmosphere in Babe's was cozy and dark, probably so we couldn't see each other making total pigs of ourselves as the massive Lazy Susan on the table doubled as a rotating trough full of



JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

A few hours before the gates opened, we decided to have a late lunch in downtown Arlington at Babe's Chicken Dinner House, where the food is served family-style, most of it is fried, and everything is "all-you-can-eat." (Did I mention the chance for napping?)

fluffy biscuits, greasy fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy and a few other vegetables that I don't remember much.

Once we had traumatized our waistbands at Babe's, we were off to the concert. We arrived early, which gave me a chance to scout out the food vending (including a jumbo hotdog I had my eye on) since the long walk to our seats was making me hungry again.

Probably because our tickets were free, they were high enough in the stadium to be right next to the Lord's throne room, which was

fine with me. Up there, we were among other adults who had the good sense to stay seated.

The first performer was a new rock artist named Dylan. She was young, incredibly energetic, and almost certainly had never eaten at Babe's Chicken Dinner House. I thoroughly enjoyed her music, but she made me exhausted just watching her. When she was finished, I felt old—and hungry.

Next up was Khalid, whom I can only describe as "totally cool." His voice was cool, his walk was cool and his songs were cool. I couldn't really make out most of the lyrics, other than one song called "Young, Dumb & Broke." Now, that's a song I can relate to - parts of it, anyway. Khalid's coolness made me feel really uncool—and still hungry.

Finally, it was time for Ed Sheeran. I was excited to discover that his performance included lots of fast, "rocking" music, and he delivered a terrific stage show. There were striking visuals, exploding fire and best of all, I finally got my hot dog.

We had a great time at the concert. Ed Sheeran and friends were extremely talented musicians, so much so that when the concert ended, I felt really untalented, but at least I wasn't hungry—until the ride home.

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.

Katy Times

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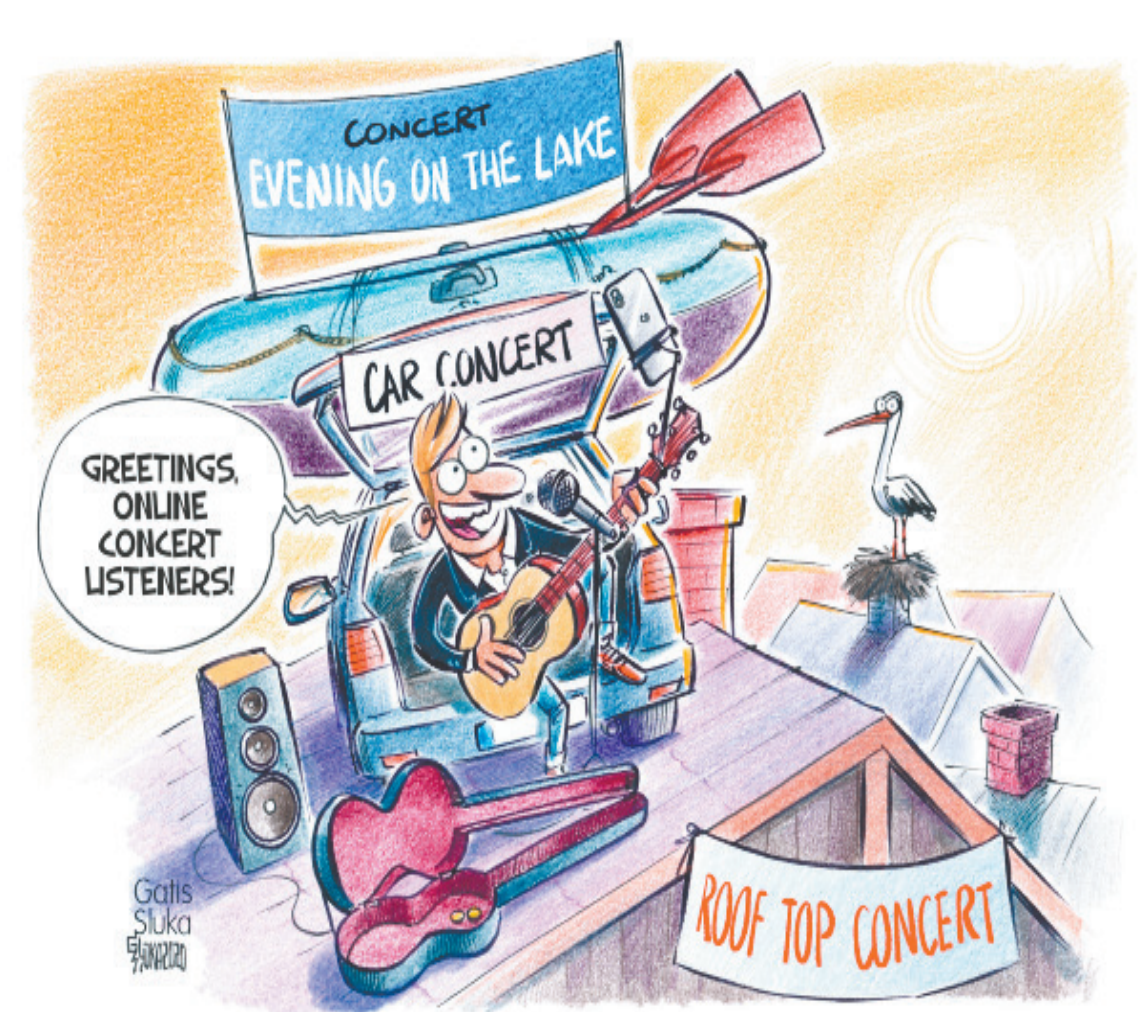
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TRIBUTE

Kenneth Wayne Stuessel of Sealy, Texas died on June 14, 2023, in Katy, Texas at the age of 87.



KENNETH WAYNE STUESSEL 1936-2023

Kenneth was born on May 18, 1936, in Sugar Land, Texas to Herbert and Frieda (Krancher) Stuessel. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. In 1955, he graduated from Sealy High School. Kenneth married Doris Hauerland on April 4, 1959, at the Immaculate Conception Church in Sealy, Texas. They remained married for over 55 years until Doris' death in 2015.

He earned an Associate in Science degree from Blinn Junior College (Brenham, Texas) in 1957, a Bachelor of Science degree from Sam Houston State Teachers College, now known as Sam Houston State University (Huntsville, Texas), in 1959 and a Master of Education from Sam Houston State Teachers College in 1963.

Kenneth was employed as a part time longshoreman in Houston, Texas while attending college. He also served in the U.S. Naval Reserve for 8 years.

He was a teacher and counselor for 25 years. He began his teaching career in Pasadena ISD at Parks Glen Elementary, South Houston Junior High School, and Sam Rayburn High School. He then served as Executive Director of Boys Harbor in La Porte, Texas for 5 years. He

went back to teaching for 2 years at J. Frank Dobie High School (Houston, Texas). After teaching at J. Frank Dobie High School, he served as Ranch Manager of the Rocking S Ranch in Burton, Texas for 5 years. He once again returned to teaching at Brenham High School for 3 years and Burton High School for 1 year. He moved back to Sealy, Texas and began teaching at Katy ISD's OAC for 8 years and served as classroom teacher and guidance counselor at Mayde Creek Junior High in Katy ISD for 5 years.

While teaching at Katy ISD, Kenneth began working part time driving 18-wheelers for Blue Bell Creameries in Brenham, Texas. After retiring from Education in 1993, he continued working at Blue Bell Creameries in a full-time capacity for 12 more years,

for a total of 23 years. Upon his retirement from Blue Bell, Kenneth stated that driving a truck was "one of the easiest and pleasant jobs" he held during his work life.

Kenneth was a Lions Club member in Burton and Sealy for over 30 years and served as the Burton Lions Club President. He was also a member of the Optimist Club.

Kenneth is survived by son Eric Stuessel and wife Karen of Sealy; daughter Jennifer Caskey and husband Johnny of Katy; daughter Jenine Stuessel of Katy; grandson Kyle Parrish and wife Amanda of Houston; grandson Kevin Parrish and wife Cherie of Frisco; granddaughters Jessica and Jenna Caskey of Katy; great-grandchildren Elijah, Ruth and Margaret Parrish of Houston; Blakely, Knox, and Blair Parrish of Frisco; sisters-in-law Geraldine Stuessel of Sealy, Billye Hauerland of Burton, Sharon Hauerland of Meridian and numerous other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his wife Doris, parents Herbert and Frieda Stuessel and brother Aubrey (Mutt) Stuessel.

Kenneth was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, son, and uncle. Throughout his life he wore many different hats and had a great work ethic. He always enjoyed working with his tractors and farm equip-

ment on his properties, along with helping others like mowing the city park with his tractor for years. He always gave his time to share his knowledge and experience with family and others. Kenneth and Doris enjoyed dancing throughout their lives and proudly led wedding marches for family and friends. Later in life, they listened to polka music regularly from their large collection of polka CDs and on TV. Even in his later years of life, Kenneth remained inquisitive, enjoying watching science and nature shows on TV and inspecting his property with help from his family. He will be greatly missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Sealy Lions Club, P.O. Box 403, Sealy, Texas, or a charity of your choice.

Visitation will be on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, from 5 to 7 pm at Knesek Family Funeral Chapel-Sealy, 768 4th Street, Sealy, Texas. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 10 am at Knesek Family Funeral Chapel-Sealy, 768 4th Street, Sealy, Texas.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Knesek Family Funeral Chapels - Sealy, Texas. www.knesekfuneralhome.com (997) 865-3535

CORRECTION

In its June 15 story "Artificial Intelligence in Katy," the print version misspelled Rutva Gupta's name. Gupta also clarified that he did not use ChatGPT in any way when preparing his article "AI is here to stay," that The Times ran. The Times regrets the errors.

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Former state Rep. Bill Callegari receives honorary degree



Former state Rep. Bill Callegari of Katy (center) received an honorary degree from Houston Community College for his longstanding support.

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Local leader and former state Rep. Bill Callegari of Katy received an honorary degree from Houston Community College for his longstanding support of HCC.

Callegari received his degree as part of the June 15 graduation ceremony, held at NRG Stadium, where more than 1,700 students received their degrees.

Callegari holds a special place in the hearts of both the HCC and Katy communities, college leaders said. HCC trustee Dave Wilson nominated Callegari for the recognition which HCC Northwest President Dr. Zachary Hodges said is a well-deserved honor and long overdue.

"Bill is an icon in Katy, having served on the school board, then as a Texas state representative, and he's also been on my business steering committee for the past 28 years," Hodges said, adding that Callegari has been "instrumental leading the effort to bring a complete higher education program and infrastructure to Katy."

Community involvement has been an important part of Callegari's life and career. Before his election to the Texas Legislature, he participated in activities in Katy and Houston areas, including local chambers of commerce and various professional and civic organizations. He served on the Katy Independent School

Board of Trustees in the mid-1980s and was a precinct chair for approximately 20 years in the Republican Party.

Callegari has been a licensed professional engineer for more than 50 years. During his tenure in the Texas House of Representatives, he worked on issues that included pension reform, water policy, eminent domain, private property rights, hurricane protection, transportation reform and streamlining government.

He graduated from Louisiana State University with a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering and received a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Houston.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Katy ISD names new principals for existing schools

Katy ISD has appointed Lori Maurer as principal at Morton Ranch Elementary, Genevieve Lopardo at Seven Lakes Junior High and Lizzie Herring at Mayde Creek High School.

"All three principals have a wealth of experience and have demonstrated a remarkable commitment to teaching and learning," Ken Gregorski, Katy ISD superintendent, said. "They are dedicated to ensuring every student can reach their full academic potential."

Maurer has 11 years of educational experience, all in Katy ISD. She began her career as a math/science looping teacher in 2013 at Wood Creek Elementary. Her methods of developing engaging lesson plans were quickly noticed as she became a math/science instructional coach in 2016.

Throughout her Katy ISD career, she worked with students and staff to promote positive attitudes toward school programs while helping to create and maintain an encouraging culture at her campus.

Maurer's leadership experience consists of serving as assistant principal at Mayde Creek Elementary (2019-21), Katy ISD Summer Academic Term (KSAT-Summer 2021) and Rhoads Elementary School (August 2021-present). These roles prepared Maurer for her first principal role which took place last summer in the KSAT. She will assume her new role on June 15 and will be replacing Deborah Hubble who was recently named assistant superintendent for elementary school leadership. Maurer a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Houston-Victoria.

"I am excited to begin building relationships with the Morton Ranch Elementary family," Maurer said. "Our

relationships will create a campus community and culture that is centered on a safe and positive environment in which students can explore, be creative and become lifelong learners."

Lopardo has 22 years of experience in education. She began her career as a band director in 2001 at Briarhill Middle School in Lewisville ISD. Six years later she joined Pearland ISD as a counselor at Sam Jamison Middle School.

As a counselor, she worked closely with the Anti-Defamation League to implement a "No Place for Hate" program as well as an anti-bullying program for both students and staff.

In 2011, she joined Katy ISD as a testing facilitator, training over 200+ staff members on TAKS, STAAR, EOC, AP, PSAT and TELPAS testing. She took on her first leadership role at Seven Lakes Junior High as assistant principal in 2013. During her eight years there, she implemented various programs and initiatives at the campus that built upon the culture of the campus. Many of these projects have continued to this day. Her next leadership role began in 2021 at Seven Lakes High School. There, Lopardo served as an assistant principal as well as senior administrator for 860+ graduating seniors.

Lopardo will be returning to Seven Lakes Junior High, this time as principal, beginning June 19. Lopardo holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Texas Christian University, a master's degree in school counseling from school counseling from the University of Houston-Victoria and a doctorate in education in curriculum and instruction from Texas A&M University.

"Building relationships with students, staff and the community is critical to the success of a school," Lopardo said. "I have spent ten years with the Seven Lakes community, and I look forward to working with Spartan families to build a solid foundation of trust so that all stakeholders

have a voice."

Herring has a 22-year career in education. She began her love for teaching in August 2001 at Sartartia Middle School in Fort Bend ISD as a life skills teacher. In 2006 she transitioned to Travis High School where she was special education department chair, followed by two promotional roles as assistant principal and associate principal. During the summer of 2011, she was given the opportunity to serve as the Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) principal at Cornerstone Elementary School, where she coordinated student programs for elementary special education students.

In November 2019, Herring joined Katy ISD as an assistant principal at Mayde Creek High School. Four years later, her love for the Ram community earned her a spot as associate principal. It was then that she embarked on various initiatives including the implementation of the campus' instructional program and the creation of a master schedule framework as the school transitions to a Title I campus.

Herring will be welcoming students back to school for the 2023-24 school year, this time as Mayde Creek principal. She holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and a master's degree in education, with a concentration on special education, from Texas A&M University.

Additionally, she a principal certification from Concordia University.

"When I arrived at Mayde Creek High School in November 2019, it didn't take me long to realize that it's a special place," Herring said. "I quickly understood why Ram Pride Never Dies. I am excited to continue building upon the foundation of

Ram Pride in our pursuit of excellence."

Katy ISD fine arts students commit to artistic journey with renowned colleges

Katy ISD announced that over 200 fine arts students have committed to continuing their post-secondary education in visual and performing arts. These students began their journey in the fine arts world while enrolled in one, or various, disciplines (art, dance, music and/or theater) offered at the district. Before the close of the school year, fine arts signing days took place at nine Katy ISD high schools, where distinguished institutions announced the student's commitment to the visual and performing arts now at the collegiate level.

"These aspiring fine arts students are a testament that their hard work and creativity in the arts does pay off," Damon Archer, Katy ISD fine arts executive director, said. "I would also like to applaud the fine arts teachers who provided a supportive learning environment and inspired these students to hone their artistic skills."

Many signees also graduated in the Top 10 of their respective classes.

To see a list of students, visit the website, the abbreviated URL for which is bit.ly/3JfHOiv.

Student from Katy named to president's honor roll at Missouri Western State University

Abby Bala of Katy has been named to the president's honor roll at Missouri Western State University.

Students who carried 12 hours or more for graded credit and earned a grade point average of 4.0 qualify for the honor at the school, which is in St. Joseph, Mo.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORT

SUMMIT

from page A1

high school graduation rate," Perry said. "We did things like starting testing. You really can't intervene unless you test."

Perry said he heard complaints about student testing, but responded that the students would be tested in real life, every day.

Perry said that during his governorship the state increased the number of charter schools and had the largest teacher incentive pay program.

Perry was elected agriculture commissioner in 1990. He was elected lieutenant governor in 1998. Perry became governor in December 2000 when then-Gov. George W. Bush resigned to be sworn in as president the following month. Perry is the longest-serving governor in the state's history, serving until 2015.

Between brief welcoming remarks from Comptroller Glenn Hegar, who is from Katy, and Perry's keynote speech, the summit had breakout sessions for transportation and water.

The transportation session featured brief presentations by Larry McManus, director for business and community development, economic development and tourism in the governor's office; Sue Theiss, advanced project development director for the Houston district of the Texas Department of Transportation, and Waller County Pct. 4 Commissioner Justin Beckendorff.

In discussing corporate site selection, McManus cited a Site Selection magazine survey that said manufacturing (95%) and distribution/warehouse (73%) were two top factors companies use when selecting a site. In another part of the same survey, McManus said availability of skilled labor and energy availability were important, along with labor costs, proximity to major markets, and state and

local incentives.

McManus said 345 potential economic development projects are in the state's pipeline. This is 78 more projects than 2021, when there were 267, he said.

The top two industries these projects are in are general manufacturing (20%) and advanced manufacturing and technology (19%). Energy (13%) and petroleum refining and chemical products (12%) are the other top two industries, McManus said.

Targeted growth industries and taxes are information technology, advanced manufacturing, petroleum refining and chemical products, biotechnology and life sciences, corporate services, creative, energy, and aerospace, aviation and defense, McManus said.

Already, many companies are moving here. McManus said from 2015 to May of this year, 284 corporations have relocated to Texas, with a net creation of 6,480 jobs. 50% of those companies, he said, relocated from California.

If Texas were a nation, McManus said, it would have the ninth-largest economy in the world based on GDP. This would be higher than Australia, Mexico, Russia and South Korea. Texas has the second largest civilian workforce in the world, he said, with about 14.9 million people. In 2022, he said, the state added about 650,100 new jobs, which led the nation.

Theiss shared project updates for the TxDOT six-county Houston region, which includes Harris, Waller, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Galveston and Montgomery counties. She said the district serves approximately 6.8 million people and has approximately 5.5 million registered vehicles.

The region also continues to grow. Theiss said the population is expected to grow by 66% to 10 million people over

the next 25 years. The region, she said, has the fourth-largest economy in the U.S.

For the Katy area, Theiss said three projects are now under construction:

- Widening I-10 from FM 359 to the Brazos River is to be completed by Spring 2024.

- Widening FM 1463 from I-10 to FM 1093 is expected to be complete by September 2025.

- Widening State Highway 99 from I-10 to FM 1093 is expected to be complete by early 2026.

Theiss said five projects are in development:

- Widening, adding managed lanes and some frontage roads to I-10 from FM 359 to Mason Road. This has been funded.

- Adding frontage roads to State Highway 99 from I-10 to FM 1093. This has been partially funded.

- Widening and raising the median and shared use path on U.S. 90 from I-10 to FM 1463. This has not been funded.

- Widening and constructing a shared use path on FM 529 from State Highway 99 to FM 362. This has not been funded.

- Constructing Highway 36 a from state Highway 36 south of Needville to US 290/State Highway 6 north near Hempstead. This has not been funded.

Justin Beckendorff spoke of the growth in Waller County—his precinct is in the southern portion of that county—and the need to continually improve the roads there to accommodate the growth.

In the breakout session covering water issues, former state Rep. Bill Callegari, state Rep. Stan Kitzman of Waller County, and Harris County Pct. 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones discussed flood mitigation issues.

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Rihanna DeLeon shoots a layup during Thursday's game between Tompkins and Laredo United South defenders at the Tompkins gym.

TYLER TYRE



Young Tompkins team growing at TABC tourney

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins is using every opportunity they can to grow as a team.

The Falcons will enter next season with a number of new faces that haven't gotten used to the rigors of varsity and a young core overall. While there will be plenty of time for the group to grow together, the Falcons are taking any and every opportunity to gel together and continue to gain experience.

That includes taking part in the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Showcase this summer.

The TABC showcase is held over the summer each year and is an event where college coaches from Division I through Junior College can come and see top high school teams from around the state of Texas compete under one roof, with it being held at Tompkins and Jordan for the girls teams this year.

"Getting this extra time and playing teams is huge for us," said Tompkins junior Rihanna DeLeon. "Our team chemistry is still developing and we are working on how to play off of each other and how to make everyone feel comfortable in their positions. So having this extra time with the TABC Tournament and playing against other teams is a really good thing for us."

The Falcons went 1-1 on the first day of the tournament, dropping their first game 47-26 to San Antonio Warren before bouncing back with a 4-47 win over Laredo United South. A number of young players were able to find their footing in the games and figure out how to be effective for Tompkins, and it resulted in a big comeback in the second half of the United South game, where Tompkins erased a double digit deficit to earn the win. That was the goal for Falcons

See **TOMPKINS**, page B3

TABC SHOWCASE SCORES

Thursday

San Antonio Warren 47, Tompkins 26
Taylor 54, Fort Bend Dulles 35
Tompkins 49, Laredo United South 47
San Antonio Reagan 50, Taylor 47

Friday

Austin Westlake 59, Tompkins 39
Klein Oak 38, Taylor 32
Mayde Creek 47, New Caney 34
Cy-Falls 52, Jordan 42

Saturday

Humble 44, Mayde Creek 35
San Antonio Sotomayor 54, Mayde Creek 38
San Antonio O'Connor 53, Jordan 51
Buda Hays 67, Jordan 24

Kaase ready for next challenge at Texas Tech

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cole Kaase had a memorable senior season. The Katy graduate was part of a historic Katy team that made a run to the Regional Finals for the first time in 17 years and was a big part of team in both the lineup and the pitching rotation.

The experience Kaase gained both from reaching the regional finals this year and regional finals last year was invaluable, and even though Katy wasn't able to reach the state tournament, which was their ultimate goal, Kaase wouldn't trade it for anything.

"It was an amazing season," Kaase said. "I'm so glad I went through it with the group of guys we had and that we made history together."

Kaase was able to go out and represent Katy for a final time last week at the Greater Houston Baseball Coaches Association Senior All-Star Game, which the best graduating baseball athletes play in each year before heading off to continue their academic and athletic careers in college. Being able to go out and represent Katy one last time meant everything to Kaase.

"It was amazing to be able to come out here and represent Katy again," Kaase said. "It means a lot to all of us representing our team again and I think it's a really cool thing to do before everyone goes off to college."

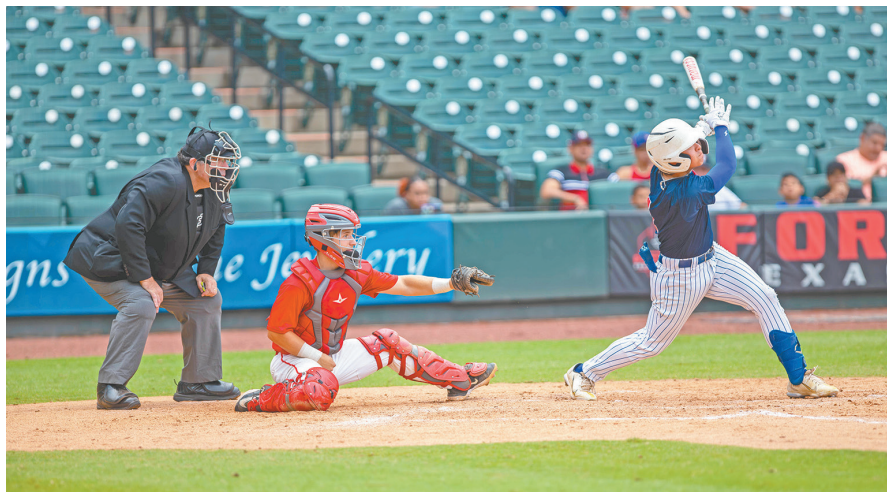
See **KAASE**, page B3



COURTESY: INSTAGRAM: @LOUIES.PICS

Cole Kaase pitches during the GHBCA Senior All-Star game at Constellation Field in Sugar Land.

Englett ends high school career on high as he prepares for Navarro



COURTESY: INSTAGRAM: @LOUIES.PICS

Brady Englett catches during Tuesday's GHBCA Senior All-Star game at Constellation Field in Sugar Land.

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Brady Englett was happy he got one more moment.

The Katy graduate didn't want his last high school moment to be a heartbreaking loss to Pearland in the Regional Final. But he got one more chance to put on his Katy hat and compete under the Tiger banner one more time at last week's Greater Houston Baseball Coaches Association All-Star game.

"It meant a lot to be selected here and to come back out here and compete for Katy," Englett said. "The fact that the organization and that my

coaches picked me is amazing and I just am soaking up as much of it as I can."

For Englett, competing put a bright spot to the end of his high school career as he got to go back to Constellation Field as a Katy Tiger again, after going through a tough loss there days earlier. It was tough for him when he walked back onto the field, but as soon as the two teams started competing, it made things easier.

"This is a great group of guys on both sides and it's a privilege to be able to come back out to Constellation Field one more time. There's some bad memories here and it was sad when I walked in thinking

about some stuff but it was just so awesome being out there and competing against the best of the best."

While it was the final time for Englett putting on a Katy uniform, it won't be the end of his baseball career. He is signed with Navarro Junior College. Navarro has put together a great tradition in the junior college scene, winning a national championship in 2011 and having won their conference nine out of the past 12 years.

Joining such a strong program is a big jump, but Englett feels ready — he has worked to

See **ENGLETT**, page B6

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University of Houston extends Kelvin Sampson's contract, names Kellen Sampson head coach in waiting

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

University of Houston Men's Basketball Head Coach Kelvin Sampson and Assistant Coach Kellen Sampson have signed new contracts with the program, Vice President of Athletics Chris Pezman announced Tuesday.

Both contracts are pending approval from the University of Houston System Board of Regents.

Kelvin Sampson's new contract runs through the 2026-27 season, elevating him to one of the nation's top paid head coaches. Kellen Sampson's new contract formalized the coaching succession plan upon the elder Sampson's departure from the program with Kellen Sampson being designated head coach-in-waiting on the Houston staff.

"We have been working toward this moment for some time because Coach Sampson has done so much for not just our Men's Basketball program but our University and the city of Houston. We could never pay him for all he has done and for what he is truly worth. He has returned Houston Basketball to one of the nation's elite programs," Pezman said. "Kellen has had opportunities presented to him, but he has remained loyal to our program. As we move into the future into a new league and continue to build upon our current success, Kellen is integral to that plan. We are pleased to make this commitment to Kellen and his family."

"I would like to thank (University of Houston System Board of Regents Chairman) Tilman Fertitta, (UH President) Renu Khator, Chris Pezman and all that were involved for

their continued support of me, my coaching staff, our student-athletes and our program," Kelvin Sampson said.

"I feel so humble in the belief and commitment Houston Athletics has made to me and my family. I am unbelievably excited to build upon what we started here, and I am excited for the future and what lays ahead," Kellen Sampson said. "We live by the motto 'Be where your feet are,' and I am ready to work with our current team and help them pursue every goal and dream it has."

About Kelvin Sampson

Entering his 10th season with the Cougars, Kelvin Sampson has placed Houston among the nation's very best. Since 2017-18, Houston has posted a 176-34 record for the second most wins in NCAA Division I, trailing only Gonzaga (186).

The Cougars have finished among the Top 25 in both final national polls in each of the last six years with Top-10 showings in each of the last three seasons. The Cougars also stood at #1 in at least one national poll for the first time since 1983-84, including seven weeks during the 2022-23 season.

As the Cougars prepare to enter the Big 12 Conference for the 2023-24 season, Sampson's teams recorded four American Athletic Conference regular-season championships and two American Tournament titles with a school-record five straight NCAA Tournament appearances, including four consecutive berths in the NCAA Sweet 16 or farther.

Sampson has guided the Cougars to three 30-win seasons in his tenure with 32 victories in 2021-22 and a school record-setting 33 wins in 2018-9 and, again, in

2022-23. In the 2020s alone, Sampson's Houston teams have posted a combined 93-14 record with four conference titles and three NCAA Tournament berths.

Sampson was named The American Coach of the Year four times in a six-year stretch and was named the CBS Sports National Coach of the Year following the 2020-21 season after leading the Cougars to the NCAA Final Four for the first time in nearly 40 years.

He owns a 232-74 record at Houston to rank as the school's career leader in winning percentage (.758) and is the only coach in school history to lead the Cougars to five, six, seven and eight consecutive 20-win seasons.

With a 732-344 record, he is one of only 33 coaches in NCAA history (with 10+ years in Division I) to reach the 700-win milestone and is one of only 16 coaches to lead multiple schools to NCAA Final Four appearances.

About Kellen Sampson

Kellen Sampson has been the program's lead assistant throughout his Houston tenure, which includes six American Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament titles and seven postseason appearances, including each of the last five NCAA Tournaments.

He was named to The Athletic's 40 under 40 Rising stars in men's college basketball in 2020 and 2021.

In 2022-23, he worked with forward J'Wan Roberts, who was named The American's Most Improved Player of the Year after averaging 10.0 points and a team-best 7.7 rebounds per game. Forward Jarace Walker was honored as the league's Freshman of the Year after

posting 11.2 points and 6.8 rebounds per game in his first collegiate season and is projected as a Top-10 pick in the NBA Draft later this month.

In his time at Houston, Kellen Sampson also worked with forward Fabian White Jr., who ended his career as the winningest student-athlete in program history with 121 victories from 2017 to 2022.

Before joining the Cougars, Kellen Sampson served as an assistant coach at Stephen F. Austin (2010-11) and at Appalachian State (2011-14).



Houston Cougars assistant coach Kellen Sampson (right) talks with players during an NCAA college basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Mar. 2, 2023, in Houston.

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Above: Gabby Painter makes a move in the paint during Thursday's game between Tompkins and Laredo United South defenders at the Tompkins gym. Left: Sascha Coughran drives to the basket during Thursday's game between Tompkins and Laredo United South defenders at the Tompkins gym. Far left: Makayla Tezano shoots a layup during Thursday's game between Tompkins and Laredo United South defenders at the Tompkins gym.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

TOMPKINS

from page B1

head coach Tamatha Ray, who wanted to put the younger players in a position where they could show what they could do.

"We know what the returners can do and they're very capable, but it's about getting those youngsters out there," Ray said. "We had four sophomores on that court sometimes today and it's just a different level. It's so much faster

and this is another place where they can experience that and learn how to play at that speed."

One of the biggest standouts out of the sophomores was Sascha Coughran. Coughran was passive in the first half against United South but took things to a different level in the second half during the Falcons' comeback, cutting passing lanes and being aggressive

on defense while pushing the pace and being a strong distributor at the point guard position on offense.

"She settled it down really well in that second half," Ray said. "Sascha does a really good job of handling the ball and she has really good chemistry with Rihanna and that's just going to continue to develop with everyone

else. It's just all about getting the dust off. She's going to have the ball in her hand a lot and she has to command the floor."

The tournament also gives the coaches and players an extra look at what needs to be worked on once the school year gets going, and the whole team is ready to get to work and keep improving.

"Everyone already getting

better every time we go out there," DeLeon said. "There's still definitely work to be done and growth we need to have as a team, but this kind of tournament is going to help the underclassman with their confidence a lot. It's all about experiencing that pace and knowing you can keep up with it and I think they see they can do that now."

KAASE

from page B1



COURTESY: INSTAGRAM: @LOUIES.PICS

Cole Kaase and Brady Englett pose for a photo together after Tuesday's GHBCA Seniors All-Star game at Constellation Field in Sugar Land.

For Kaase, that college career will take place in Lubbock, as he will attend Texas Tech and join a program with a very strong tradition.

The Red Raiders have made at last the regional round each of the past seven seasons and have advanced to the College World Series four times in the past decade. Kaase knows what that traditions entails and how much winning means, and has been working every day to improve.

"It's something I work on every day," Kaase said. "My coaches at Katy have helped me improve a lot and we were always working on something and then I'm constantly working outside of school to be better too. I've been throwing a lot and working out consistently to try and make sure I'm ready when I get up there."

Kaase can't wait to get up to Lubbock and make an impact — he was watching as the Red Raiders made a strong run in the Big 12 Tournament and in the Coral Gables Regional, where they ultimately fell in the final to Florida. Seeing that run just made him want it even more.

"I'm so excited to get up there," Kaase said. "It sucked the way we lost in the Regional but it was great to see them be a part of it and the way they competed. I just can't wait to be a part of that next year and hopefully help us make a run to Omaha."



The Katy Times will be closed on
Tuesday, July 4, 2023
in observance of Independence Day.

The deadline for all advertising and editorial copy in the **July 6 edition** is **3 p.m. on Thursday, June 29.**

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

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY INTO THE CITY OF KATY

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.

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
6:30 p.m., Monday, July 10, 2023

The Hearing Is Being Conducted To Receive Comments From The Public On The Annexation Of A Property Described As Approximately 1.1477 Acres Of Land In The E.P. Everett Survey, Abstract 385, Fort Bend County, TX And The Annexation Of Approximately 1.6294 Acres Of Land Being A Portion Of FM 1463 In Accordance With Section 43.106 Of The Texas Local Government Code.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Unit #1 (B18)

(1) General Description of property: Unit is 10' by 10' enclosed and climate controlled. Unit contains several boxes with assorted items, a few garden tools, what appears to be an evaporator.

(2) Lien: This unit is being sold to satisfy a lien owed to Cane Island Storage.

(3) Owner: The owner of this unit is Ashley Jaramillo.

(4) Address: The address of the self-storage facility is 27748 Highway 90, Katy, Tx 77494

(5) Site/Time: Auction will take place on June 27, 2023, at 11 am and will be hosted on SelfStorageAuction.com

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

WATER TREATMENT CHEMICAL SUPPLY

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR WATER TREATMENT CHEMICAL SUPPLIES FOR THEIR WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.

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

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SLUDGE CAKE HAUL AND LANDFILL DISPOSAL

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR SLUDGE CAKE HAUL AND LANDFILL DISPOSAL FOR THEIR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025. 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., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.

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

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Unit #2 (C14)

(1) General Description of property: Unit is 10' by 10' enclosed and climate controlled. Unit contains several boxes, two step ladders, and several dressers.

(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 June 27, 2023, at 11 am and will be hosted on SelfStorageAuction.com

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the **City of Katy** will be received at the City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, attention Becky L. McGrew, City Secretary; for furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of the **FY 2023 Asphalt Street Improvements Project, until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023**. Bids will, immediately thereafter, be publicly opened and read aloud in the City of Katy Council Chambers. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The project involves pavement repairs at various locations within the City of Katy. The repairs will involve removal and replacement of existing pavement, joint sealant, striping, minor storm sewer repairs, and all labor, materials and equipment required to perform the work.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid guarantee of not less than 5% of total bid amount, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute the required bonds within ten days after notice of award. At the option of the bidder, the guarantee may be one of the following:

- Cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank, payable to the **City of Katy**.
- Negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value).
- Bid bond from a surety company listed in the latest issue of U.S. Treasury Circular 570, such bid bond being within the maximum amount specified for such company in that publication.

Bids without such guarantee will not be considered.

Award of this contract will be made on the basis of the lowest responsive responsible bid and references. The right is reserved as the interest of the Owner may require, to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bids received. The successful bidder must furnish Performance Bond and Payment Bond on the forms provided in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total contract price from a Surety or other Sureties acceptable to the Owner. Owner reserves the right to award the contract at any time within ninety (90) days after bid opening.

A **Non-Mandatory Virtual Pre-Bid Conference** will be held to review the scope of work. The Pre-Bid Conference will be held at **2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023**.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87088627249>
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Dial In: 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Equal Opportunity in Employment – all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60.

A Complete set of the bidding documents are on file at www.civcastusa.com. There is no cost to view or download the plans. Sets of hard copies of Bidding Documents will not be sold. Complete sets of Bidding Documents shall be used in preparing bids; neither Owner nor Engineer assumes any responsibility for errors or misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of Bidding Documents. Owner and Engineer, in making copies of Bidding Documents available on the above terms, do so only for the purpose of obtaining Bids for the Work and do not confer a license or grant for any other use.

First Publication: **Thursday, June 22, 2023**
Second Publication: **Thursday, June 29, 2023**

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to **Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171**, will be electronically received, until **2 p.m. Local Time, Thursday, July 13th, 2023** and then publicly opened and read at the offices of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for **"Elyson Section 48, 53, 50 and Park Landscape"**, Harris County, Texas. In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>.

Scope of Work for the Contract includes, but is not limited to, the construction of pedestrian trail, park shelter, playground, sprinkler irrigation, grading, grassing, planting, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **Tuesday, June 27th, 2023, at 10 a.m. Local Time**, via ZOOM. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/8408644870>. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is **MANDATORY**, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the *original* certified or cashier's check within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt of the bid opening.

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search **NWct305**. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is **NO** charge to view or download documents.

A bidder submitting electronic Bids must submit its Bid and Bid Securities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through www.CivcastUSA.com. Bidder must register on this website in order to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website.

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

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

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

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the **City of Katy** will be received at the City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, attention Becky L. McGrew, City Secretary; for furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of the **2023 Drainage Improvements - Various Areas, until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023**. Bids will, immediately thereafter, be publicly opened and read aloud in the City of Katy Council Chambers. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The project involves drainage and paving improvements to various areas in Katy including Y Street, Lilac Street, and Caloro Lane. The project also includes all labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals required for the project.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid guarantee of not less than 5% of total bid amount, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute the required bonds within ten days after notice of award. At the option of the bidder, the guarantee may be one of the following:

- Cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank, payable to the **City of Katy**.
- Negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value).
- Bid bond from a surety company listed in the latest issue of U.S. Treasury Circular 570, such bid bond being within the maximum amount specified for such company in that publication.

Bids without such guarantee will not be considered.

Award of this contract will be made on the basis of the lowest responsive responsible bid and references. The right is reserved as the interest of the Owner may require, to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bids received. The successful bidder must furnish Performance Bond and Payment Bond on the forms provided in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total contract price from a Surety or other Sureties acceptable to the Owner. Owner reserves the right to award the contract at any time within ninety (90) days after bid opening.

A **Non-Mandatory Virtual Pre-Bid Conference** will be held to review the scope of work. The Pre-Bid Conference will be held at **2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023**.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85280762096>
Meeting ID: 852 8076 2096
Dial In: 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Equal Opportunity in Employment – all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60.

A Complete set of the bidding documents are on file at www.civcastusa.com. There is no cost to view or download the plans. Sets of hard copies of Bidding Documents will not be sold. Complete sets of Bidding Documents shall be used in preparing Bids; neither Owner nor Engineer assumes any responsibility for errors or misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of Bidding Documents. Owner and Engineer, in making copies of Bidding Documents available on the above terms, do so only for the purpose of obtaining Bids for the Work and do not confer a license or grant for any other use.

First Publication: **Thursday, June 22, 2023**
Second Publication: **Thursday, June 29, 2023**

Texas falls to Stanford, comes up one game short of CWS appearance

BY ZACH SMITH
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

The Texas Baseball season came to a heartbreaking end last week in California.

The Longhorns battled back from three-run deficits to tie the game twice but lost in walk-off fashion when a pop-up got lost in the lights and fell for the game-winning single in the ninth to give the Cardinal a 7-6 win.

"I don't even know," Outfielder Dylan Campbell told KXAN. It was Mother Nature and the twilight sky, and me and (outfielder Erik Kennedy) couldn't see the ball off the bat," Campbell said. "We have to move forward, I guess. Nothing we can do about it now. It's over."

Texas scored three runs in the fourth inning to tie the game and scored three more runs in the eighth to knot things up again.

But with two on and two out in the bottom of the ninth, the twilight sky in Palo Alto played a factor as a pop fly fell gingerly into the outfield grass surrounded by four Long-

horns.

"I think everyone lost it," Texas head coach David Pierce said. "I don't think anyone saw it. It was in the heart of the twilight. I'm just disappointed for our team. It's tough to lose like that and it was such a hard-fought game. The guys played their hearts out."

The Longhorns end their season with a 42-22 record and come up one win short of returning to the College World Series for a third-consecutive season.

Texas was not new to coming from behind in this series, scoring five runs in the ninth inning to win Game 1 of the best-of-three Super Regional Series on Saturday night. Stanford won Game 2 8-3 on Sunday.

"It just wasn't meant to be, I guess," Pierce said. "But I couldn't be more proud of the team. From where we started to where we finished they became such a great team."

This was supposed to be a transition year for the Longhorns, who were picked to finish in the bottom

half of the Big 12 standings and miss the NCAA Tournament. They won just four of their first 11 games.

But throughout the season, they came together to win a share of the conference regular season conference title and get within one game of the College World Series.

Junior Lucas Gordon became a certified ace, winning Big 12 Pitcher of the Year. He finished the season with a 2.48 ERA, best among Big 12 starters, and a 6-1 record in 14 starts. He struck out 85 hitters in 83.1 innings and held opponents to a .210 batting average.

Junior outfielder Dylan Campbell, meanwhile, set a new Texas and Big 12 record with a 38-game hitting streak that finally came to an end in the first game of the Super Regional on Saturday.

"We have a program that our fans are proud of," Pierce said. "We shattered records last year and shattered records this year. We had tremendous support. It's just sports, and that's what happens. If you don't win a National Championship, the season ends on a loss."



Texas third baseman Jalin Flores (1) tosses the ball to pitcher Lebarron Johnson Jr. (57) during an NCAA college baseball game between Texas and LSU on Feb. 28, 2023, in Austin.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

WALLER COUNTY COURTHOUSE
836 AUSTIN ST. HEMPSTEAD, TX 77445
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023
9:15 AM.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Commissioner Court of Waller County, Texas, will conduct a Public Meeting AT 9:15AM on WEDNESDAY, the 5th day of July, 2023, at the Waller County Courthouse, Hempstead, Texas, following Commissioner's Court.

- Public meeting for Brazos River Flood Study being funded by the Flood Infrastructure Fund. The purpose of the study is to identify existing drainage issues and potential projects in the Brazos River Watershed within Waller County. Meeting will cover the project scope, results of the existing conditions analysis, and the identified potential project locations.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's lien.

Sale to be held ONLINE AUCTION selfstorageauction.com

The facility is at FRY ROAD MINI STORAGE. 20150 Park Row, Katy, TX 77449 Bidding will open at 10:00 am on June 22, 2023 and end at 12:00 pm on June 28, 2023. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Janis Adetu, Tiara Williams, Yvonne Clay, Coery Farrow, Tim Petty, Sierra Mothershed.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN ORDINANCE NO. 3095 BEARING THE FOLLOWING CAPTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, ON JUNE 12, 2023:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 3.02.053 "AMENDMENTS TO BUILDING CODE OR RESIDENTIAL CODE" OF ARTICLE 3.02 "TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION CODES AND STANDARDS" OF CHAPTER 3 "BUILDING REGULATIONS" OF THE KATY CODE OF ORDINANCES; HEAT DETECTORS BY REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT FOR HEAT DETECTORS IN RESIDENTIAL ATTICS; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION IN AN AMOUNT UP TO \$2,000.00; AUTHORIZING THE CITY SECRETARY TO PUBLISH ONLY THE CAPTION OF THIS ORDINANCE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND PROVIDING SEVERABILITY.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by Harris-Waller Counties M.U.D. No. 5 in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:00 P.M. on June 30, 2023, for **Sunterra - Sol Club West Amenity Improvements**.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including sidewalks, site furniture, site grading, underground drainage, pavilion structures, pickleball courts, sportsfields, fencing, irrigation, lighting & electrical, planting, and turf.

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

Bid Documents may be examined without charge in the offices of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC, 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494, or may be obtained upon deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for each set. **This sum is non-refundable** and checks should be made payable to KGA/DeForest Design, LLC. Only check or money order will be accepted.

A Cashier's Check or Bidder's Bond Payable to Harris-Waller Counties M.U.D. No. 5 in the amount of not less than two percent (2%) of the bid submitted, outlined in the Contract Documents, must accompany the Bid.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2023, at 2:00 P.M. at the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC.

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the **City of Katy** will be received at the City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, attention Becky L. McGrew, City Secretary; for furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of the **FY 2023 Striping Project, until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023**. Bids will, immediately thereafter, be publicly opened and read aloud in the City of Katy Council Chambers. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The project involves striping improvements to be performed for various roadways and parking lots throughout the City of Katy. The project also includes all labor, equipment, materials, and incidentals required for the project.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a bid guarantee of not less than 5% of total bid amount, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract and execute the required bonds within ten days after notice of award. At the option of the bidder, the guarantee may be one of the following:

- Cashier's check or certified check upon a national or state bank, payable to the **City of Katy**.
- Negotiable U.S. Government bonds (at par value).
- Bid bond from a surety company listed in the latest issue of U.S. Treasury Circular 570, such bid bond being within the maximum amount specified for such company in that publication.

Bids without such guarantee will not be considered.

Award of this contract will be made on the basis of the lowest responsive responsible bid and references. The right is reserved as the interest of the Owner may require, to reject any or all bids, and to waive any informality in bids received. The successful bidder must furnish Performance Bond and Payment Bond on the forms provided in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total contract price from a Surety or other Sureties acceptable to the Owner. Owner reserves the right to award the contract at any time within ninety (90) days after bid opening.

A **Non-Mandatory Virtual Pre-Bid Conference** will be held to review the scope of work. The Pre-Bid Conference will be held at **2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5, 2023**.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8622322275>
Meeting ID: 862 2322 2275
Dial In: 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Equal Opportunity in Employment - all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, handicap or national origin. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and as supplemented in Department of Labor regulations 41 CFR Part 60.

A Complete set of the bidding documents are on file at www.civcastusa.com. There is no cost to view or download the plans. Sets of hard copies of Bidding Documents will not be sold. Complete sets of Bidding Documents shall be used in preparing Bids; neither Owner nor Engineer assumes any responsibility for errors or misinterpretations resulting from the use of incomplete sets of Bidding Documents. Owner and Engineer, in making copies of Bidding Documents available on the above terms, do so only for the purpose of obtaining Bids for the Work and do not confer a license or grant for any other use.

First Publication: **Thursday, June 22, 2023**
Second Publication: **Thursday, June 29, 2023**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS WET DIGESTER SOLIDS HAUL AND DISPOSAL

THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, IS ACCEPTING BIDS FOR REMOVING, TRANSPORTING, AND LEGALLY DISPOSING OF WET DIGESTER SOLIDS FOR THEIR WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY STARTING OCTOBER 1, 2023 AND CONTINUING THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2025. SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY, KATY CITY HALL, 901 AVENUE C, KATY, TEXAS 77493 UNTIL **2:15 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2023**, AT WHICH TIME BIDS WILL BE PUBLICLY OPENED AND READ. SPECIFICATIONS AND THE BID PROPOSAL FORM MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE CITY SECRETARY AT ABOVE ADDRESS OR EMAIL REQUEST AT BIDS@CITYOFKATY.COM.

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

Becky L. McGrew
City Secretary
City of Katy, Texas

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION BY COMMISSIONERS' COURT TO REVISE A SUBDIVISION PLAT FILED FOR RECORD WITH THE COUNTY CLERK

APPLICATION: Jackie Fox Noland, William Walker Reynolds IV, and Amy Fox Reynolds also known as Amy Lynn Fox, are requesting to be allowed to revise Tracts 26 and 27, of INDIAN OAKS ESTATES. The revision will reconfigure Tracts 26 and 27 of INDIAN OAKS ESTATES but keep them as two separate tracts. These newly configured tracts would consist of 2 residential lots or tracts. INDIAN OAKS ESTATES is situated in the Samuel Hady Survey, Abstract 31, Waller County, Texas recorded in Volume 219, Page 56, in the Deed Records of Waller County, Texas. This replat request, if approved, will only revise the applicants' property.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on **July 12, 2023**, at the Waller County Courthouse, 836 Austin St., Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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Katy Times

ENGLETT

from page B1

get to this point, competed against some of the best high school players in the state and continues to get better and put in the work needed.

"I'm lifting, working out and keeping in shape," Englett said. "There's going to be a lot of games in the fall and a lot of games in the spring so I have to continue to improve my shape and keep my knees ready and get as many at bats as I can."

It also helps that Englett has been catching Division I talent for years. In his senior season alone he was a mainstay at catcher all year for a Tigers pitching rotation that included Texas Tech and UTSA signees and underclassman TCU and UH commits. All of that makes Englett confident he can compete at the next level and he can't wait to get to Corsicana and start to prove himself.

"It's going to be a different type of level," Englett said. "All of these guys are really good at the collegiate level so it's going to be hard to earn a spot. But I'm going to work my butt off and prove to everyone how good I am."



Brady Englett readies for a pitch during Tuesday's GHBCA Senior All-Star game at Constellation Field in Sugar Land.

PHOTOS COURTESY: INSTAGRAM: @LOUIES.PICS

ROYAL KICKS OFF 2023 FOOTBALL FUNDRAISER



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Sherrel Rogers, left, poses with Todd Lux, Brookshire Hyundai general manager, after Brookshire Hyundai made a donation to the Royal High School football program as part of a fundraising drive. The program is working to raise \$10,000, according to its fundraising website. For more information or to make a donation, visit the website at 2023 We Are Royal Fundraiser.



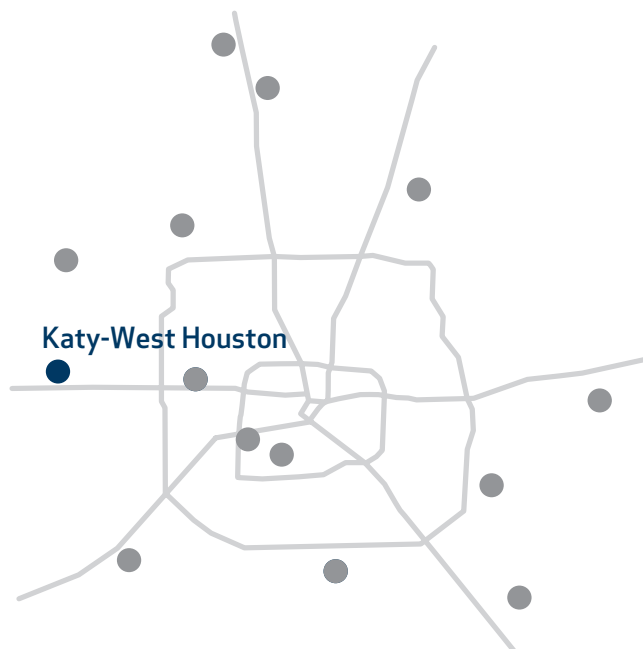
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- Physical therapy to improve mobility and range of motion
- The latest technology, including minimally invasive surgical techniques that help reduce recovery time



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832.522.8280