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

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

KISD board modifies book policy, approves lower tax rate

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER



The Katy ISD Board of Trustees made slight modifications to its book policy for elementary school students at its meeting on Monday, September 25th.

"The amendment is meant to clarify one simple clause," said board president Victor Perez. "The board's intent was never to remove well-known cartoon-like children's books just because they showed a drawing of a little boy's rear end. The only change [to the policy] is to provide more specificity as

See **KISD**, page A3

The Katy ISD school board added the singing of the national anthem to its meeting agenda on Monday, September 25th. Performing is Micah Marsh, a junior at Cinco Ranch High School.

SUSAN ROVEGNO



PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

TxDOT presentation shows new plan for Katy-Brookshire area

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

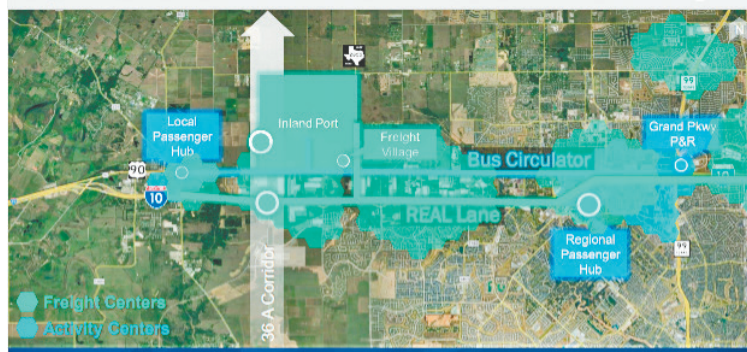
What is REAL System?

- Agile and resilient multimodal transportation system
- Connected through multimodal hubs
- Provide wide range of multimodal choices for all users
- Scalable mobility concept
- Adaptable to sustainable future growth and technology



REAL 2.0 Stakeholder Engagement Meeting - Scenario Development September 19, 2023

Implement the REAL Vision



REAL 2.0 Stakeholder Engagement Meeting - Scenario Development September 19, 2023 COURTESY OF TxDOT

Attendees at the September 19th General Assembly meeting of the Katy Area EDC got a glimpse into the REAL future of transportation in the Katy-Brookshire area.

Featured speaker Catherine McCreight, director of Transportation Planning for the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Houston District, unveiled the agency's bold new plan to improve the movement of people and goods in the I-10 corridor serving Katy and Brookshire. The Regional Express Access Lanes (REAL) 2.0 Brookshire-Katy Implementation Plan is designed to connect clusters of residential and employment activity centers and freight centers identified as part of the REAL Plan that are located in the western section of the TxDOT service area including areas between Brookshire, Pattison and Katy.

According to materials provided at the meeting by TxDOT officials, REAL is more than just "express

See **TXDOT**, page A3

Katy ISD accepting name nominations for High School #10, Junior High #18

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy Independent School District is now accepting name nominations for High School #10 and Junior High #18. Both campuses will open for the 2024-2025 school year.

High School #10 is located at 7800 Katy Hockley Road while Junior High School #18 is located at 25747 Longenbaugh Road.

Individuals interested in submitting a name are asked to review the Katy ISD Board Policy CW(Local) for facility naming guidelines and submit a completed nomination form which can be found on the Katy ISD website at katyisd.org/Page/7715.

The form and all supplemental materials may be submitted by any of the methods below:

By email: schoolnaming@katyisd.org

By mail: Katy ISD School/Facility Naming School & Community Engagement, P.O. Box 159, Katy, TX 77492-0159

Delivery: Education Support Complex (ESC) School & Community Engagement, 6301 S. Stadium Lane, Katy, TX 77494

Submissions for High School #10 must be received no later than 4 p.m. on October 27, 2023 while submissions for Junior High #18 must be received no later than 4 p.m. on November 1, 2023.

Katy City Council approves budget, tax rate and Franz Court rezoning

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

During Monday night's city council meeting, the 2023-2024

budget was unanimously approved, along with tax rates, following a public hearing.

The tax rate of \$0.067024 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation

was approved for Debt Service, and the tax rate of \$0.362976 on each \$100.00 of assessed valuation

See **COUNCIL**, page A3

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Seven Lakes grad testifies before House Judiciary

FROM STAFF REPORTS

A local Katy ISD graduate gave Witness Testimony to the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary for a hearing of the Full Committee on "Book Bans: Examining How Censorship Limits Liberty and Literature" in Washington, D.C., on September 12th.

Cameron Samuels, a 2022 graduate of Seven Lakes High School and now currently a college student at Brandeis University, is the executive director and co-founder of the nonprofit Students Engaged in Advancing Texas, known as SEAT. Samuels prefers the gender-neutral pronouns "they/them."

In testimony before the committee, Samuels described their firsthand experience in Katy ISD, beginning in Fall 2021 when a few parents sought to remove Jerry Craft's New Kid from school libraries and cancel his author visit. "Eventually, I could no longer watch board members speak for me without hearing my concerns, so I decided to sign up to speak at a meeting," Samuels testified.

"Over the following months, I continued standing up for my freedom to read, but my school district continued removing books



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMERON SAMUELS

Cameron Samuels, currently a student at Brandeis University, is a graduate of Seven Lakes High School.

from shelves at record pace. Nearly all these books were targeted for identity - such as LGBTQ+ themes, racial diversity, religion, or addressing gender-based violence," Samuels continued. "These books represent our diver-

sity as a student body and give us an opportunity to learn beyond classroom curriculum. When students found themselves more represented in books being challenged than books left in school libraries, I gathered student groups to lead efforts to distribute hundreds of banned books to students district-wide. We packed school board meetings with community members who knew we deserved better."

"From a historical lens, censorship has never been on the right side of history," said Samuels in their testimony. "Furthermore, censorship most certainly is a slippery slope. In Katy, they have even banned children's books like Wacky Wednesday by Dr. Seuss and No, David by David Shannon for comical reasons. Next door, the state of Texas has converted many libraries in the Houston school district into discipline centers. Discipline centers, where bookshelves have been turned around to face the wall. Censorship like this sounds satirical, but it's our reality in Texas."

"Censorship is undemocratic when it suppresses the marginalized and silences the vulnerable," Samuels said. "Libraries

See **TESTIFY**, page A3

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

“Nowhere But Up” to perform at Central Green Park at LaCenterra on September 29th

Enjoy live music from “Nowhere But Up” on Friday, September 29th from 7 to 9 p.m. at Central Green Park at LaCenterra. Free admission. The venue is located at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy.

Public reading of Scripture featured every Monday at noon at The Bible Seminary

Join the staff of The Bible Seminary for Public Reading of Scripture each Monday from noon to 1 p.m. in Classroom 270 on campus of The Bible Seminary, 2655 S. Mason Road, Katy. In-person attendees will enjoy free lunch and fellowship. A Zoom link is available for online attendees. RSVP at info@TheBibleSeminary.edu to let organizers know that you plan to attend and how you plan to participate. For more information, call 281-646-1109.

“Nature’s Ways” story time for children offered Tuesdays at 3 p.m. at John Paul Landing

Children can explore the world of nature Tuesdays at 3 p.m. as they read a nature story together and do an activity or explore outside. Parents and caregivers are invited to participate. Best suited for children ages 2-5. Register at hcp4.net/events. Classes held at the John Paul Landing environmental Education Center, 9950 Katy Hockley Road, Cypress. For more information call 713-274-3131.

Focus on “Hocus Pocus 2” at LaCenterra on October 6th

The popular film “Hocus Pocus 2” will be shown at dusk October 6th. Time is approximately 8 to 10 p.m. Free admission. Central Green Park at LaCenterra is located at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy.

Katy AARP Chapter Meeting October 10th

The Katy chapter of AARP will meet Tuesday October 10th, at Midway BBQ, 6191 Highway Blvd in Katy. The meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with a short meeting and announcements. Afterwards, entertainment will be provided by The Larry Glass Band. The group plays a variety of the most requested songs from country and pop/rock classics from the 1930s to



SUSAN ROVEGNO

Pucci will host Paws Fest at LaCenterra on Oct. 28th.

1970s. The audience can listen, dance, or sing along. Visitors are welcome. Allow time to purchase any food before the meeting starts.

St. Edith Stein Catholic Church celebrates Founders Day October 7-8

Fun for all ages can be found at the St. Edith Stein Catholic Church's Founders Day Festival on October 7th and 8th. Open noon to 10 p.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, the festivities include children's activities such as inflatables and games and prizes, and for adults -- a silent auction, bingo and a country store with both vintage and new items. There will also be a raffle drawing offering gift prizes totaling over \$6000.00; raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or five for \$20.00. Live music and folk dancing will be featured, along with great international foods, beer and wine, and a sweet shop. Admission is free. Proceeds from the festival benefit the St. Edith Stein building fund. The church is located at 3311 N. Fry, Katy.

City of Katy hosts 22nd annual Senior Health and Wellness Fair on October 20th

The annual Senior Health and Wellness Fair is coming back to Katy, on October 20th. Attendees can meet local senior service providers and receive health screenings and valuable education, as well as purchase crafts, engage in interactive activities, win

door prizes and more! The free event takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 6202 George Bush Dr., Katy. Prospective vendors who wish to purchase a booth/table for \$25.00 (including lunch) may contact Amanda Di Dio at adidio@cityofkaty.com by October 6th.

Naomi's Grace to hold third annual Naomi's Race October 21st at No Label Brewery

Naomi's Grace will host Naomi's Run on October 21st, featuring a 5K run, a 5K walk and a 1K walk/run. The fundraising event will be at No Label Brewery, 5351 1st St., Katy, from 8 to 11 a.m. The nonprofit's mission is to provide water-safety and drowning prevention resources and programs to the community. To register, go to <https://www.naomisgracetx.org/register>. For more information, please contact info@naomisgracetx.org.

Pucci Café to present Paws Fest 2023 on October 28th

Enjoy dog jumps, competitions, dog vendors and pet adoptions along with food and live music on October 28th at Pucci Café in LaCenterra. The fun begins at 10 a.m. and lasts until 3:30 p.m. at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd, Ste N200, Katy. Paws Fest is a free event which is jointly sponsored by Pucci and Dock Dogs. For more information, go to puccicafe.com/calendar/.

LIBRARY EVENTS

The Katy Branch Library, a division of the Harris County Public Library System, has announced its events for the first half of October. The library is located at 5414 Franz Road, Katy and is open Monday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Wednesday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Friday 1-6 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and closed on Sunday.

- **BABY TIME** 11:30 AM-12 PM (Every Tues.) This is a ticketed story time for non-walking babies. Arrive 15 minutes early to receive a ticket at the front desk.
- **KNOTTY & NICE** 1-3 PM (Every Wed.) Knit, crochet, craft, or just come and socialize. On Oct. 25, this program will take place at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (5373 Franz Rd)
- **MUSES ACROSS KATY** 4:30-5:30 PM (Oct. 2) This fun arts and crafts program is designed for 7-11 year olds/2nd-5th grade children.
- **FAMILY PLACE WORKSHOP** 10 -11:15 AM (Oct. 4, 11) This ticketed program is designed to be a resource for parents and guardians to connect and play with their children, other families, and the greater Katy community.
- **SPOOKY CRAFTS** 4:30-5:30 PM (Oct. 5) An hour of making candy catapults, ghost hands, and spooky jars! Must be in Grades 6-12/age 12-17 to attend.
- **SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION** 6:30-7:30 PM (Oct. 5, 12, 19) This instructor-led session provides holistic healing and health benefits including stress, anxiety, and depression relief.
- **FIESTA HISPANA** 2-4 PM (Oct. 7) Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.
- **BIG KID STORY TIME** 4:30-5:30 PM (Oct. 9) This story time is for elementary-aged children and will include fun books, songs, and more.
- **BASIC COMPUTER CLASS** 6-7 PM (Oct. 10) Improve your computer skills for free.
- **GARDEN CLUB** 1 PM- 2 PM (Oct. 12) Presentations, plant and seed swaps, socializing and occasional field trips for all gardeners, novice or expert.
- **ANIME** 4:30-5:30 PM (Oct. 12) Anime-related crafts, snacks, and more -- must be in Grades 6th-12th/age 12-17 to attend.
- **BOARD GAME NIGHT FOR ADULTS** 5-7 PM (Oct. 17) Enjoy a come-and-go board game night for adults. Bring games to share, or use those available at the library. Snacks will be provided.

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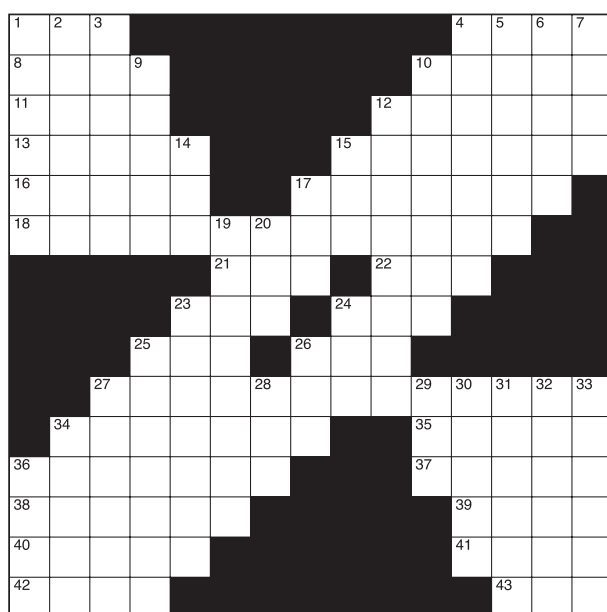
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. Outsourcing (abbr.)
4. Post
8. German city on edge of Black Forest
10. “___, but goodie”
11. Spiced stew
12. Passionately
13. Monetary units
15. Group of living organisms
16. Organic compound derived from ammonia
17. High honors
18. 5-year-olds’ classes
21. Swiss river
22. Old woman
23. Cash machine
24. A way to soak
25. Hair product
26. Deride
27. “The Blonde Bombshell”
34. Cause to become insane
35. Bluish greens
36. Supported with money

CLUES DOWN

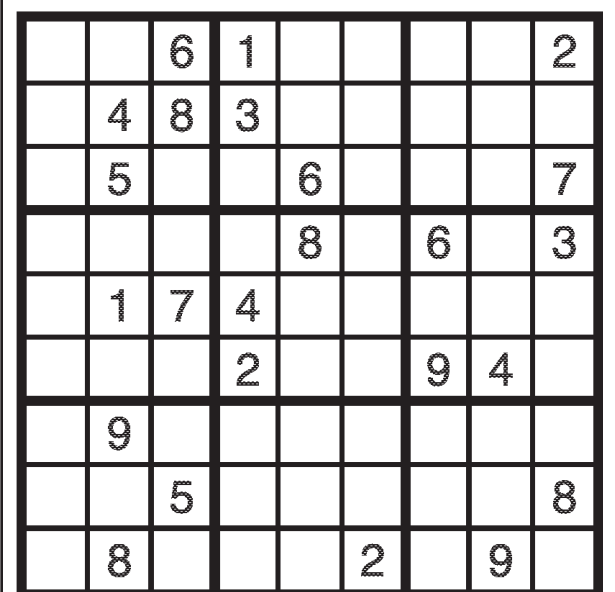
1. Native of Slovakia
2. Deli meat
3. Fibrous substance in fungi
4. Cutting
5. Vedder and Van Halen
6. Horror comic novelist
7. Rulers of Tunis
9. Shaped like a circle
10. Make a pig of oneself
12. Aphorism
14. Witness
15. Single Lens Reflex
17. Freshwater North American fish
19. Nautical ropes



20. Leg (slang)
23. Pokes holes in
24. Moved quickly on foot
25. Fix-it shops
26. Type of bread
27. Repaired
28. Synthetic diamond (abbr.)
29. Type of drug (abbr.)
30. German city along the Rhine
31. Animal disease
32. Martini necessities
33. Get away from
34. Village in Mali
36. Djibouti franc

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.

KISD Community Education courses open for registration

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Registration is now open for Fall 2023 Community Education courses through Katy ISD. The Katy ISD Community Education Program is conducted for the benefit and enjoyment of community patrons. Classes are held at District campuses and are offered for non-credit. Payment for classes must be received before students can attend classes. Children are not allowed in class. Students will be notified of time or date changes, as well as class cancellations or schedule changes.

For the past 33 years, the Katy ISD Community Education Program has grown to include almost 2,000 participants per semester. Its purpose is to provide the general public with learning opportunities that include self-improvement, enrichment, recreation and academic courses.

Classes are offered in:

- Art
- Dance
- Music
- Culinary
- Health & Wellness
- Home & Garden
- Business

- Finance
 - Retirement & Long-term planning
 - Computer skills
 - Spanish
 - Personal safety
- Online registration is offered through Katy ISD Pay N' Go. Classes are limited to ages 18 and up.

Refund Policy

The Katy ISD Community Education Program is funded solely by tuition. Once a class has formed or is in progress, expenses for the teacher and materials are set. Therefore, the following procedures must be followed:

- For classes canceled because of lack of enrollment, 100% of the tuition will be refunded.
 - For students who withdraw from a class after registration and before the second class meeting, 75% of the tuition will be refunded.
 - No refund will be given after the second class meeting (whether the student has attended or not).
- A refund request can be made by contacting the Katy ISD Community Education Office at (281) 396-6365. Credit card refunds can be processed within three working days of the request.

Canceled Classes

If Katy ISD cancels regular school classes due to inclement weather or other reasons, Community Education classes are canceled as well. Every effort will be made to contact the student if class is canceled. Therefore, an accurate phone number and email address on file with the district. To update your information, please contact the Katy ISD Community Education Office.

For more information, contact CommunityEd@katyisd.org or call (281) 396-6365 with any questions.

TESTIFY

from page A1

are for learning about oneself through the lens of literature. Libraries are not for certain people to challenge identities they disagree with, at the expense of the broader community. Censors create silence when they diminish our education, deplete our libraries, deprive students of our rights, and discredit educators. You may not see eye-to-eye with me, but as a student, I must tell you that

The complete text of Samuels' testimony may be found at https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/2023-09-12_-_testimony_-_samuels.pdf?fbclid=IwAR00FYqGK18wnjYmgxe7ewPE28sqfXKP9H3w9D6Bb0-91GICKLgXs55o

we are facing a students' rights crisis in Texas and nationwide. It should not have been my responsibility as a 17-year-old to defend my rights and challenge

bigotry. Protecting children requires empowering us students, not allowing one or two parents to dictate the policies of an entire community."

COUNCIL

from page A1

to fund Maintenance and Operations expenditures was also approved. In response to a previous request submitted by council members Janet Corte and Gina Hicks, a representative from LJA Engineering provided an update on the renovations to Town Square. He assured council members that most of the work would be completed in time for the Rice Harvest Festival in October. Work on the square includes:

- Underground utilities, including electrical and water
- Structures and foundations: three shade structures have been erected along with a series of rectangular concrete seat walls
- Structures around the water tower are still in progress and the mural panels are still being worked on by the artist. A November 16th unveiling of the murals is planned.
- Electrical building

- Hard scaping and paving including installation of restored clay pavers and commemorative bricks
- Landscape, irrigation and lighting: the existing drought has resulted in the delay in installing landscaping. Live oak and cedar elm trees will be planted in time for the Rice Harvest Festival. Mulch will be placed in areas not yet landscaped. In place of the main lawn, some temporary flooring will be installed for placement of the stage.

Council members also voted unanimously for rezoning of Franz Court from a C-1 commercial district to an R-1 residential district. A city spokesperson said that the goal of the rezoning was the containment of the commercial development to the frontages of Avenue D and Franz Road and to have only residential properties accessing Franz Court. The issue provoked passionate public comment, includ-

ing feedback from some of Katy's legacy families and long-time residents supporting the measure, and from Dr. Michael Lindsay, senior pastor of Today's Living Word Church, who opposed the measure. Dr. Lindsay, who also oversees OnTime Home Care Solutions, said that he spent over \$1.2 million acquiring the property at 6002 Franz Court about a month ago, and that he had no idea that a change from the current C-1 zoning was forthcoming. He is seeking to open a licensed foster care facility at the location, he said.

Mayor Dusty Thiele also recognized October as Domestic Violence Awareness month and presented a proclamation to Deysi Crespo and staff members from Katy Christian Ministries.

The next city council meeting is scheduled for October 9th at 6:30 at City Hall, 901 Avenue C in Katy.

KATY ISD BOOK POLICY

Elementary Schools **No instructional materials in elementary schools shall contain:**

1. Visual or visually implied depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts;
2. Explicit written descriptions of sexual acts;
3. Non-explicit written descriptions of sexual acts, except for purposes of teaching students (as may be approved by parents) to avoid and report molestation; or
4. Visual depictions of nudity or implied nudity.

No instructional materials in elementary schools shall contain depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts, implied or otherwise. This includes explicit or non-explicit written descriptions, depictions, or illustrations of sexual acts, except for the purposes of teaching students (as may be approved by parents) to avoid and report molestation. See Texas Education Code 33.021. No instructional materials shall include visual depictions or illustrations of explicit frontal nudity.

KISD

from page A1

to nudity, and we have deleted the term 'implied nudity.' " The changes, which were unanimously approved in a 7-0 vote by board members, include a reversal on the ban on visual depictions of nudity or "implied nudity," among other changes.

The change would appear to clear the way for some banned books - including the award-winning "No, David!" and books by Dr. Seuss -- to be returned to Katy ISD school libraries. "No, David!" contains an illustration of a child who has shed his clothes.

Via consent agenda, the board unanimously approved the adoption of the 2023-2024 Maintenance and Operations tax rate and the 2023-2024 Debt Service tax rate. The rates are an M&O rate of 72.94 cents per \$100.00 valuation and a debt service rate of 39 cents per \$100.00 valuation, totaling \$1.1194.

At the September 18th meeting of the board, district CFO Chris Smith said that this new rate would be a reduction of 18.5 cents, due to the actions of the state legislature putting money toward tax compression and tax relief, and the anticipated voter approval of the increased homestead exemption.

FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD INCLUDE:

- Special board meeting -- strategic planning on October 5th
- Special board meeting -- team building on October 16th
- Board work study meeting on October 23rd
- Regular board meeting on October 30th

Also approved via consent agenda was the authorization for the superintendent to form naming committees for the district's newest schools opening next year (see sidebar on A1).

Public comments at the beginning of the meeting were almost equally divided between agenda items and non-agenda items. Of the 13 people who spoke on agenda items, all but one spoke on the book policy. Of the 11 people who spoke on non-agenda items, five were students from Cinco Ranch High School, who spoke on a variety of issues including recycling, the attendance policy and the cost of health insurance for district employees, among others.

TXDOT

from page A1

lanes" or "high occupancy vehicle" lanes; it is an improved and scalable mobility concept that starts in a neighborhood and provides users with a multimodal interconnected transportation system to get them to their destinations more safely and more reliably.

There are two components of the REAL system -- a "People System" and a "Goods System." Each "system" has two components -- multimodal hubs and a network of REAL lanes and connections. The "People System" of mobility hubs and passenger network and the "Goods System" of freight centers and freight networks will overlap, said McCreight.

The "People System" will have three types of mobility hubs:

- Primary, which connects regional trips, plays an important role in the net-

work and is directly served by express lanes, express bus, fixed guideway, and local transit. It is designed to foster additional surrounding development.

- Secondary, which is served by local transit and may be served by express lanes, express bus, fixed guideway transit, connecting to local and regional system
- Local, which is served by micro transit, bike/pedestrian modes and may be served by local transit, enabling Intra-neighborhood trips and connecting the neighborhood to regional system

The Freight Network prioritizes freight traffic into "tiers" of high, medium and low demand. It allows for more reliable freight movement throughout the system and potentially provides direct ramp connections into the more intense Freight Centers,

facilitating more efficient regional movement of freight.

- Primary and secondary "freight villages" will offer direct ramp connections, enhanced truck parking areas, roadway geometry improvements and alternative fuel availability
- Unified Distribution Systems will have unified delivery policies, parcel lockers, smart loading zones, and alternative delivery vehicles

McCreight said that TXDOT had finished its data collection process and analysis of existing conditions and was now in the "scenario development and evaluation" phase of the project, which will result in a recommended concept. Meetings with stakeholders are planned to take place during this time. The implementation of the plan is scheduled for fall 2024.

WILLKOMMEN Y'ALL

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Katy area fall events feature pumpkin patches, pumpkin smashing — and a few monsters too

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

Fall is finally here and with its arrival, there are a variety of ways to celebrate in the Katy area.

First Christian Church holds 11th annual Pumpkin Patch September 25-October 31

Families – including the four-footed members – are welcome at First Christian Church's annual Pumpkin Patch, now in its 11th year. The Patch is open daily through October 31st, from 12 p.m. until dark on Monday-Friday and from 10 a.m. until dark on Saturday and Sunday. Free admission. The church is located at 22101 Morton Road in Katy.

For more information, go to fcckaty.org. In addition to the pumpkin patch, the church has scheduled other festivities during October:

- Outdoor Movie Night, 7:30 p.m. on October 21st, featuring Disney's "Coco." An indoor sensory alternative will also be available.
- "Pup or Treat" and the Blessing of the Pets on October 22nd from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Rescues and retailers will be on-site.
- Pumpkin smashing on October 28th from 4 to 6 p.m. and on October 29th from 2 to 4 p.m. Two pumpkins for \$5.00; five pumpkins for \$10.00.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Dewberry Farms Fall Festival has it all from now until November 12th

At Dewberry Farms the entire family can enjoy a day filled with fun, pumpkins, great food, and over 40 rides and attractions. Their Fall Festival offers a pumpkin patch to explore, the chance to paint pumpkins, and to follow a trail of glowing Jack-o-Lanterns inside "Pumpkin Hollar." Take photos by the life-sized Pumpkin House or spin out on the new Jumping' Jacks ride. Meet friendly barnyard animals or get lost in the eight-acre Houston Astros-themed corn maze. Stay late for the evening hours spooky event, BOOriffic Nights (no extra ticket needed). Tickets from \$31.95 and up. For hours and more information, go to dewberryfarm.com/fall-festival. Visit Dewberry Farms at 7705 FM 362, Brookshire.

Blessington Farms' Pumpkin Patch open now through November 19th

Join Blessington Farms in Simonton this fall for their annual Pumpkin Patch from September 23rd through November 19th. The Pumpkin Patch is included in the general admission to the farm and pump-

kins are sold per pound. The Pumpkin Patch contains several unique varieties of pumpkins along with more than 25 photo opportunities. The Sunflower Field is also available during the Pumpkin Patch. Tickets from \$21.00 up with additional options for bird feeding and camel feeding. No pets or alcohol permitted, and smoking/vaping are prohibited. NO admittance an hour before closing. Please check the Farms' website at blessingtonfarms.com before heading out. Blessington Farms is located at 510 Chisolm Trail in Simonton.

ROSE Therapeutic Farm & Goat Yoga reopens September 30th with Fall Celebration 2023

Snuggle with goats and enjoy family time on the farm at ROSE Therapeutic Farm's Annual Fall Celebration this Saturday, September 30th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Enjoy goat yoga and mimosas, momma goat snuggles and "Chicken Poop Bingo" which starts at 12:30 p.m. A tap truck offering beer and wine will be there, along with BBQ and lemonade. Meet Equine Therapist Lauren Curtis. Enjoy lots of treats to feed

the animals; fun crafts for kids and adults will also be available. The farm is at 1324 Peach Ridge Rd., Brookshire. For more information, go to goatyogakaty.com/grand-opening.

St. Peter's UMC presents its Fall Festival on October 14th and Pick-A-Dilly Market on October 21st

Hosted by the St. Peter's ECDC, the church's Fall Festival will be held on October 14th from 3 to 6 p.m. at the campus at 20775 Kingsland Drive, Katy. Attractions include balloon artists, bounce houses, face painting, a petting zoo, a bake sale, games and more. The popular Pick-A-Dilly Market, to be held on October 21st from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will feature nearly 100 vendors. New at the market this year is an indoor eating area, musical entertainment and games and raffles in the Pumpkin Patch. Proceeds from the market benefit St. Peter's missions ministry. For more information go to stpkaty.org/piccadilly.

Cross Creek Ranch offers "Trail of Treats" on October 21st

Visitors can get a taste of the Cross Creek West lifestyle during a Western-themed Trail of Treats, 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, October 21st. The event features a food truck, inflatables, photo opportunities and more. Builders will hand out candy and other treats to children visiting the models. Cross Creek West is located on FM 359 and Cross Creek West Boulevard in the City of Fulshear's extra-ter-

ritorial jurisdiction. Award-winning Cross Creek Ranch is located west of the Grand Parkway off FM 1093 in Fulshear. For more information about Cross Creek West, visit www.crosscreekwesttx.com. For more information about Cross Creek Ranch, visit www.crosscreektx.com.

Miller Career Center hosts "Monster Mash" on October 25th

The Miller Career & Technology Center will be offering opportunities to "trick or treat" and to receive free candy at its "Monster Mash" event on October 25th from 5 to 7 p.m. Free admission; children must be accompanied by an adult. Enter through the east doors of the facility located at 1734 Katyland Drive, Katy. Free parking available at Rhodes Stadium.

Howl O Ween returns to Katy Dog Park on October 28th

A project of the City of Katy Parks Department, Howl O Ween returns to Katy's city dog park at 5414 Franz on October 28th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., benefitting local animal shelters in Katy. There will be vendors, raffles, a costume contest and more. Entry into the event is a donation of pet food OR a cash donation for the local shelters. The costume contests will start at 11:00 a.m. There will be three categories to compete in this year: best group costume (dog(s)+owner or 2+ dogs); funniest costume and most creative costume. For more information, go to facebook.com/katyparksandrec.

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October 5th 2023

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General Admission: 6-9PM

Bowery House and Gardens
24902 Franz Rd, Katy, TX 77493

Tickets & Vendor Info: SipandShopnight.eventbrite.com

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PHOTOS BY SHERREL ROGERS

BROOKSHIRE

Local volunteers tackle community projects

BY SHERREL ROGERS
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

On September 16th, more than 16 volunteers came together to help out Brookshire residents with minor yard work, tree trimming, maintenance lawn work, and disposal of items no longer used by the residents.

On September 23rd several organizations known as the Community Service Crew, along with Mayor Darrell Branch and also Mayor Pro Tem Jeremiah Hill, came together to do outside house work for two of local Brookshire residents. The Service Crew worked on removing boards right below the base of roof all around one of the resident's home. While one crew removed all the boards, the second crew were measuring the length of the footage for the board to be replaced. The third crew was receiving the proper measurements of the boards which had to be cut, assembled and nailed back onto the resident's home. Trees were trimmed in the second resident's yard front and back.

Organizations that were in attendance



included the City of Brookshire, Greater Mt. Zion, Word of Promise, All Thread Tires Katy, and other community members.

Butterfinger, Kroger head to Houston on gaming tour

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Calling all gamers! As part of Butterfinger and Kroger's gaming partnership, gamers can get a crispety, crunchety look at how they can Game Better with Butterfinger through a multi-city national tour. Game lovers nationwide who pull up to select Kroger supermarkets will have a chance to interact with popular video games including Monster Supercross and Hot Wheels. Attendees will also receive branded Butterfinger gaming merchandise and peanut-buttery chocolate bars to accompany them while they game.

Additionally, Kroger members who participate in the Points Rewards Plus program, will receive automated rewards points. By creating an account,

participants can redeem Rewards Points for gamer-favorite Rewards* such as digital video games, Xbox gift cards, PlayStation gift cards, Nintendo gift cards and more downloadable content.

The free program is available at select Kroger grocery stores in the Houston area including these in the Katy area:

- Wednesday, October 4th (4pm - 7pm): 1712 Spring Green Blvd, Katy, TX 77494
- Thursday, October 5th (4pm - 7pm): 2700 West Grand Parkway N, Katy, TX 77449
- Friday, October 6th (10am - 1pm): 9703 Barker Cypress Rd, Cypress, TX 77433

For more information on the points rewards plus, please visit kroger.com/f/gaming.

Blinn College District to open new location in Waller

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Blinn College District is opening a new location in Waller this fall that will bring its nationally recognized, highly transferable courses to college students in the greater Waller and Harris County region.

Blinn will begin offering classes Monday, Oct. 23, at Waller ISD's W.C. Schultz Junior High School, formerly known as Waller High School, located at 20950 Field Store Road in Waller. This expansion will provide greater accessibility for college students in Waller, Harris County, and the surrounding region.

At this new site, Blinn will offer an array of transferable academic core courses, providing the community with an affordable pathway to their college degree. Blinn already partners with Waller ISD to provide high school dual-credit courses at the high school.

"We are excited to bring the educational excellence that has defined Blinn College to this vibrant region," said Dr.

Mary Hensley, Chancellor of the Blinn College District. "We look forward to bringing the same exceptional instruction, innovation, and commitment to student success that has made Blinn the state's academic transfer rate leader and allowed us to guide thousands of students each year to the state's leading university programs."

The new Waller location demonstrates Blinn's commitment to student growth and achievement and its responsiveness to the evolving educational landscape. Blinn will begin by offering academic core courses during the fall second 8-week term, including English, government, history, math, philosophy, and speech.

In addition to Blinn's highly transferable classes, students attending Blinn's Waller location will have access to Blinn's online academic resources, including tutoring and library services.

For more information regarding course offerings, registration details, and other updates, please visit www.blinn.edu/waller.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 449 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 8:00 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: J. Beavers, M. Willett, H. Tolleson & C. Gabriel
AGAINST the proposal: (none)
PRESENT and not voting: (none)
ABSENT: T. Crist

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

	Last Year \$ 1.16 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$ 1.03 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 1.16 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 1.03 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.130 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-11.2069%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$300,697	\$337,965
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$300,697	\$337,965
Tax on average residence homestead	\$3,488.09	\$3,481.04
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		(\$7.05) -0.2021%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

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

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

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

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 287 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 12:00 noon, at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

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

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

	Last Year \$ 1.000 /\$100 Adopted	This Year \$ 0.940 /\$100 Proposed
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 1.000 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.940 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.060 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.0000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$253,771	\$279,273
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$253,771	\$279,273
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,537.71	\$2,625.17
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$87.46 3.4464%

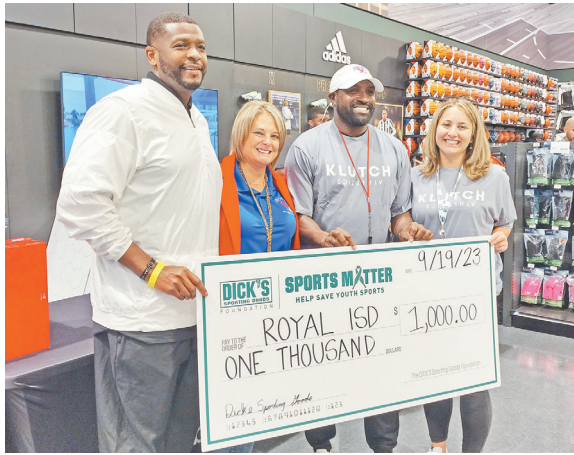
NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

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

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

Royal Falcons receive surprise from DICK's, Texan Will Anderson Jr.



A spokesperson for DICK'S House of Sports presents a \$1,000 check to the Royal ISD Football team; accepting are RISD Assistant Superintendent Duana Brashear and Coach Theadis Reagins. At far right is Nicole Martin of DICK's, who orchestrated the event.



Houston Texans Defensive End Will Anderson Jr. greets a Royal player.

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO
PUBLISHER

DICK'S Sporting Goods hosted a private in-store meet and greet with Houston Texans' Defensive End, Will Anderson Jr., at the DICK'S House of Sport location in Katy, on September 19th to celebrate Anderson's new partnership with New Balance. The event benefited the Royal ISD High School Falcons Varsity Football team, who received the surprise gift as a result of a collaboration between DICK's and the Katy Christian Chamber of Commerce. Upon arrival, each Royal High School player was given a pair of brand-new New Balance shoes as well as a bag containing T-shirts, hoodies,

a water bottle, and related gear. Dick's House of Sport also presented the team with a \$1,000 grant.

An autograph session was preceded by a private training session led by Anderson, consisting of three types of drills. Royal ISD Head Football Coach/Athletic Coordinator Theadis Reagins said he welcomed the opportunity for his players to receive advice from an NFL professional. Anderson also spoke to the team following the drills and challenged each player to be a positive role model and to "coach each day" - particularly to coach each other and to prepare their teammates to assume leadership roles. DICK's House of Sports is located at 24600 Katy Fwy, Suite 1100 in Katy.

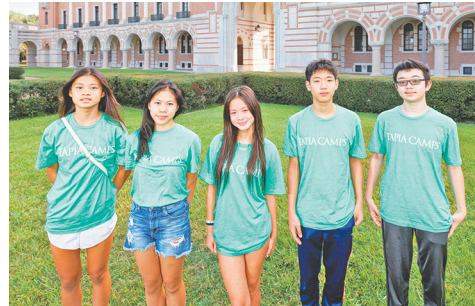


PHOTOS COURTESY RICE UNIVERSITY

(L-R) Danni Zheng, Maxwell Yu, Melinda Zhu, Jessica Xu, Ayla Arslan, Charles Shi, Angeli Fetizanan, Adithi Arun, Xinyuan Liu



(L-R) Aarna Shukla, Andrew Wu, Andrew Liu, Charles Han, Katherine Gao



(L-R) Whitney Xiu, Hannah Liang, Melody Jin, Ryan Du, Sean Lu



FRONT (L-R): Lily Zhang, Jessica Fan, Alejandra Moscoso, Isabella Cooley, Jade Davidson. BACK (L-R): Matthew Wei, Amen Frankfort, Eric White

Local STEM students attend summer Tapia Camps at Rice University

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy ISD has several students kicking off the school year with newfound skills and confidence in the classroom thanks to a summer of learning and growth at Rice University's prestigious camps hosted by The Tapia Center for Excellence and Equity in Education.

The Tapia Camps, supported in part by ExxonMobil, are available to rising 8th-12th graders and feature a five-night, six-day residential experience with a challenging STEM (science, tech-

nology, engineering and math) curriculum. Campers experiment with hands-on STEM projects that simulate real world problems. This summer, campers completed a brand-new project developed by the Tapia Center and ExxonMobil that explored safe storage of carbon dioxide underground in order to slow climate change. Another project challenged students to design their own computational algorithm for equitable college admissions. During camp, students also enhance their communication and team building skills by learn-

ing how to simplify complicated STEM ideas through completion of an end-of-camp oral presentation - all while experiencing life on a college campus.

"The Tapia Camps deliver high quality education and mentorship to students of all backgrounds. We help them develop their STEM skills, improve their communication abilities, build confidence, and connect with peers and role models who share their backgrounds and interests," said Dr. Paul Hand, director of the Tapia Camps at

Rice University. "Additionally, we provide professional development programs to equip educators with tools and skills to be more successful with student engagement in the classroom, promoting a more impactful educational experience for all."

The professional development camp for educators of all subjects and levels provides participants the tools to implement project-based learning—a set of techniques that encourage hands-on, engaging experiences—in their classrooms. Teachers

who complete the program earn Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours.

This summer, more than 500 students and educators from across Texas and beyond attended the camps. Individuals or school districts looking to register for summer 2024 can reach out to The Tapia Center at tapiacenter@rice.edu or 713-348-5182. Corporations and charitable foundations interested in sponsorship opportunities may also reach out to The Tapia Center for more information.

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Nottingham Country Municipal Utility District will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 11:30 a.m., at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Brazos Conference Room, Houston, TX. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: R. Hudson, V. Brown, A. Wiggins, W. Skelton & D. Moon

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: (none)

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.275 /\$100 Adopted	\$ 0.275 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.000 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		0.0000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$502,370	\$554,277
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$502,370	\$554,277
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 1,381.52	\$ 1,524.26
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$142.74 10.3321%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

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

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

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

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The Harris County Utility District No. 6 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., at the Jackrabbit Road Public Utility District Wastewater Treatment Plant, 16720 Pine Forest Lane, Houston, TX 77084. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: J. J. Sugg, D. Durgin, A. Grzanka & R. W. Schmitz

AGAINST the proposal: (none)

PRESENT and not voting: (none)

ABSENT: R. L. Watkins

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$ 0.2350 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.28200 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$0.047 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		20.0000%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$199,773	\$221,332
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	-\$39,955	-\$44,266
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$159,818	\$177,066
Tax on average residence homestead	\$375.57	\$499.32
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$123.75 32.95%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

The purpose for the tax increase is to pay debt service requirements and operations and maintenance of the utility district.

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

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



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WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29

SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Scores

- Tompkins 42, Seven Lakes 0
- Katy 59, Mayde Creek 7
- Cinco Ranch 49, Morton Ranch 42
- Jordan 26, Paetow 8

Thursday

- Mayde Creek vs. Cinco Ranch, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Tompkins vs. Taylor, 7:15 p.m., Legacy Stadium

Friday

- Jordan vs. Katy, 6:30 p.m., Rhodes Stadium
- Morton Ranch vs. Seven Lakes, 6:30 p.m., Legacy Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

Friday

- Cinco Ranch vs. Tompkins, 4:30 p.m.
- Katy vs. Morton Ranch, 4:30 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Taylor, 5:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Paetow, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

- Tompkins vs. Seven Lakes, 5:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Katy, 5:30 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Cinco Ranch, 5:30 p.m.
- Jordan vs. Paetow, 5:30 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Friday

- Morton Ranch and Seven Lakes at Klein Bearcat meet, 8 a.m.

Saturday

- Cinco Ranch, Jordan, Katy, Paetow, Mayde Creek, Seven Lakes, Taylor and Tompkins at Nike South Invitational, 8 a.m.

Roup steps up in Cinco Ranch victory over Morton Ranch

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Davis Roup was thrown into the fire last week.

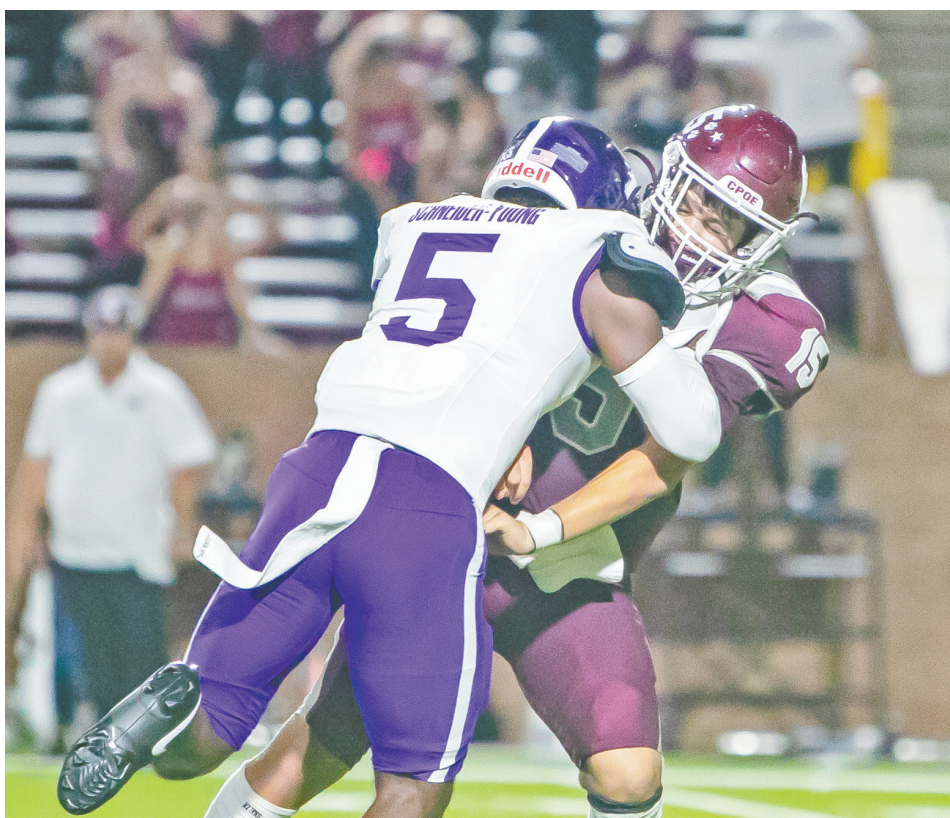
The sophomore quarterback was tasked with a big job, jumping up from junior varsity to starting for the varsity team with little time to get ready for the jump. Making things harder, the sophomore would be doing it as Cinco Ranch was going right into the heart of District 19-6A play.

But Roup didn't blink — last week the sophomore mounted a 21-point comeback against Tompkins with a big performance and this week, he stepped up even further, putting together a record-tying performance in Cinco Ranch's 49-42 win over Morton Ranch.

The sophomore was phenomenal leading the Cougars to their second straight win, completing 23 of 27 passes for 388 yards and tying Gavin Rutherford's single game school record by throwing for six touchdown passes.

"Davis is such a smart kid, and he's obsessive about the quarterback position and it shows because he's so good with the details," said Cinco Ranch head coach Chris Dudley. "He's really taken advantage of this opportunity he has right now and even with some of the hits he's taken, he gets right back up and makes big time throws — some of those throws he made tonight we really difficult. This is a kid who was playing freshman football last year and he's stepped in and not missed a beat. He didn't even need time to get in sync with his receivers and it just speaks to his preparation."

Roup got started on the first drive of the game, taking Cinco down the field and throwing a 38-yard touchdown to Matthew



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Davis Roup takes a hit from Kevin Schneider-Young after throwing a pass during Friday's District 19-6A game between Cinco Ranch and Morton Ranch on Friday at Rhodes Stadium.

Courtois. He added to it just minutes later, throwing an 11-yard touchdown pass to Gavin Beavers before Morton Ranch answered back with a 1-yard touchdown run.

The teams traded scores in the second

quarter — Cinco scored three times, with throws from Roup to Nathan Olivier and Taytum Johnson and a Tessiah Young touch-

See **CINCO**, page B3

Jordan stays unbeaten with win over Paetow

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan has continued to improve this season.

The Warriors have gone week to week and stepped up each time so far in their undefeated start, finding ways all around the ball to get better no matter who their opponent is.

While it's evident all around the field, where it's really started to show up is on the lines. Jordan's (4-0, 2-0) defense has made leaps and strides going into this year and it showed again on Saturday with a 26-8 win over Paetow (0-5, 0-3).

Jordan's defense was strong all day in the win, allowing less than 110 yards of total offense to Paetow for what ended up being a comfortable victory.

"These guys have made a step each week and it continued today," said Jordan head coach Mike Rabe. "We were a little upset early to give up a touchdown, but they also started that drive with good field position and that was the only possession they were able to move the ball. Besides one drive these guys played exceptional all night and I'm proud of those guys."

Jordan came out right away and pushed ahead, with Chad Gasper running in a 3-yard score.

Paetow though, came out fired up in the game and answered right

See **JORDAN**, page B2



Above: Van Keith Brown gets past the Paetow defense during Saturday's game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium. Left: Colin Willetts and Andrew Marsh celebrate after a touchdown during Saturday's game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Tompkins tops Seven Lakes for first win in district

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins needed a bounce back performance.

The Falcons started off district 0-2 this year, putting together strong performances at time, but being unable to put together a complete game, falling short in both games.

This week could have gone one of two ways for the Falcons. They could have been down on themselves after the losses or picked themselves back up to try and climb back into things in the district race. Every member of the team chose the latter and it led to big things with Tompkins (2-3, 1-2) coming out 42-0 winners over Seven Lakes (1-3, 0-2) on Thursday at Legacy Stadium.

"They didn't live in that loss and they bounced back tonight, I'm proud of the guys for that," said Tompkins head coach Todd McVey. "We had an opportunity to grow as a football team and these guys took it. We played a half last week and we grew and put together a full game

See **TOMPKINS**, page B6

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Van Keith Brown makes a cut as he runs upfield during Saturday's game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

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JORDAN 26, PAETOW 8

Paetow	8	0	0	0	--	8
Jordan	7	9	3	7	--	26

First quarter

J: Chad Gasper 3 run (Wilson Kalvass kick) 5:23
P: Javaughn Waldron 15 run (Devon Perkins run) 3:17

Second quarter

J: Kalvass 26 field goal, 9:53
J: Colin Willetts 41 pass to Andrew Marsh, 7:19

Third quarter

J: Kalvass 28 field goal, 7:20

Fourth quarter

J: Gasper 6 run (Kalvass kick) 10:21

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Jordan: Chad Gasper, 13-83-2; Colin Willetts, 7-46; Ifeanyi Monye, 7-24; Tanner West, 6-22; Jeremy Alo-Perry, 1-1;

Paetow: Javaughn Waldron, 7-36-1; Kaleb Molina, 4-12; Devon Perkins, 9-(-13);
Passing – Jordan: Colin Willetts, 18-22-230-1-0; Paetow: Devon Perkins, 10-15-64-0-0
Receiving – Jordan: Andrew Marsh, 7-97-1; Van Keith Brown, 6-64; Chad Gasper, 4-31; Deacon Stanfield, 1-20; Zechariah Sample, 3-18; Paetow: Markel McNeal, 5-133-1; Tyler Williams, 5-83; Kelvin Malone, 1-42; Jabari Bush, 4-19; Carmelo Wilson, 1-17; Joshua Scott, 1-14; Kaleb Molina, 2-12; Javaughn Waldron, 1-5; Carlton Nichols, 1-(-3);

Team stats

	PAETOW	JORDAN
First downs	5	20
Yards rushing	20-35	35-188
Yards passing	64	230
Passes	10-15-0-0	18-22-1-0
Punts	2-39	N/A
Fumbles-lost	2-1	0-0
Penalty-yards	3-25	5-24

JORDAN

from page B1

back. Paetow got the ball with good field position off a kick return and capped the drive off with a 15-yard touchdown run by Javaughn Waldron, taking an 8-7 lead after a two-point conversion.

From that point on though, it was all Jordan. The Warriors went back ahead on a field goal by Wilson Kalvass and cemented their lead going into halftime by getting a touchdown on a 41-yard pass from Colin Willetts to Andrew Marsh.

"We knew we couldn't overlook this week," Gasper said. "This is 6A and the competition is very good. Paetow fought hard tonight, and we knew we couldn't look past them. You have to work every week to get better no matter who it is you're playing and that's what we did this week. I'm just happy to have helped the team and that we got this win."

The second half was dominated on defense by Jordan but the offense made plays as well, with Kalvass hitting another field goal in the third quarter and Gasper running in a 6-yard touchdown in the fourth to seal the game.

Gasper finished the night with two touchdowns runs and 83 yards on 13 carries, adding 31 more yards in the receiving game. Colin Willetts threw for 230 yards on 18 of 22 completions while Andrew Marsh caught seven passes for 97 yards and a score and Van Keith Brown added three catches for 64 yards.

"Chad is such a big piece of this offense," Rabe said. "He can do everything. We can hand it to him, we can split it out and throw it too him because he runs great routes and he also blocks really well for us. Running and passing he is an integral part of our



OMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Andrew Marsh catches a pass during Saturday's game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

offense."

Jordan, the last undefeated team in District 19-6A, will take on the district favorite in Katy next. It's a matchup that the Warriors have had marked on their calendars since before the season started and they can't wait to get to Friday night.

"We have to just hit it hard and practice with even more tenacity," Dallas-Patrick Alo-Suliafu said. "This is a team you want to test yourself against. You want to play the best and this is a team that is known to dominate district and Texas. We have to prepare better than we have before and be more locked in that we have. I'm excited for it."

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The FRY ROAD M.U.D. will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on October 17, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at Fry Road District Administration Building, 20111 Saums Road, Katy, TX 77449. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal:	James Roadarmel, David Buxkamper, James Teal, Marcy Martinez and Michael Kramm
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	None

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.36300/\$100 Adopted	\$.32782/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$-0.03518/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-9.69%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 188,603	\$ 208,841
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 37,721	\$ 41,768
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 150,882	\$ 167,073
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 547.70	\$ 547.69
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$ -.01 .00%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

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

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Above: Tessiah Young runs through the Morton Ranch defense during Friday's District 19-6A game between Cinco Ranch and Morton Ranch on Friday at Rhodes Stadium. Right: Kellen LeCronier and Nathan Olivier celebrate after Olivier scored a touchdown during Friday's District 19-6A game between Cinco Ranch and Morton Ranch on Friday at Rhodes Stadium.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

CINCO

from page B1

down run while Morton Ranch stayed in fighting distance with touchdown runs from Ryan Hall and Mike Gerald, with Cinco going into half leading 35-20.

"This team has really just treated me like family," Roup said. "I came in and immediately all of these guys believed in me, the coaches, the players — all of them. They've loved on me and even when I threw an interception tonight, they just calmed me down and told me we were good — they knew we would win this game and told me not to worry about it. It's just been really welcoming and it made this transition so easy for me."

Roup ran into trouble early in the second half, throwing an interception that was returned for a touchdown by Dai'Shawn Overstreet. But Cinco came right back with a scoring drive, with Roup finding Johnson for the second time in the game.

Morton Ranch though wasn't done. The Mavericks mounted a comeback with Mike Gerald throwing a 41-yard touchdown to Markel McNeal and Hall running in a 3-yard score before Morton Ranch got the ball back with under two minutes to

go, having a chance to tie the game.

But it was Cinco Ranch's defense that stepped up, stopping the drive by forcing a fumble, recovering it and being able to kneel out the clock for the win.

"The goal was to get that takeaway and get the offense off the field, cause it would end the game," Johnson said. "Our offense held it down the hold game and it was time for the defense to do its part. They scored two times back to back so we knew it was important for us to step up. Thankfully we took advantage of it and sealed the win."

Cinco will take on Mayde Creek next with a chance to start to cement themselves in a good position with a win. The Cougars though, know you can't take anything for granted in District 19-6A.

"It's the toughest district in the state of Texas and you have to take this thing one game at a time," Dudley said. "We're going to enjoy this one, but we're going to get right back to it and prepare for Mayde Creek. We've got some good momentum but there are no gimmies — we have to bring it and not look ahead."



CINCO RANCH 49, MORTON RANCH 42

Morton Ranch	7	14	7	14	--	42
Cinco Ranch	14	21	7	7	--	49

First quarter

CR: Davis Roup 38 pass to Matthew Courtios (Noah Machart kick) 10:00
CR: Roup 11 pass to Gavin Beavers (Machart kick) 7:03
MR: Ryan Hall 1 run (Kason Martinez kick) 4:09

Second quarter

CR: Tessiah Young 7 run (Machart kick) 10:35
MR: Mike Gerald 21 run (Martinez kick) 8:12
CR: Roup 3 pass to Nathan Olivier (Machart kick) 4:25
MR: Ryan Hall 1 run (Martinez kick) 8:12
CR: Roup 13 pass to Taytum Johnson (Machart kick) 4:25

Third quarter

MR: Dai'Shawn Overstreet 41 interception return (Martinez kick) 4:30
CR: Roup 12 pass to Johnson (Machart kick)

Fourth quarter

CR: Roup 24 pass to Beavers (Machart kick) 9:05
MR: Mike Gerald 41 pass to Markel McNeal (Gerald pass to Jerome Ryans) 8:06
MR: Hall 3 run (Machart kick) 5:28

Team stats

	MORTON RANCH	CINCO RANCH
First downs	14	30
Yards rushing	28-117	40-125
Yards passing	258	388
Passes	11-14-1-0	23-28-6-1
Punts	2-40	1-40
Fumbles-lost	1-1	0-0
Penalty-yards	4-50	6-36

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Cinco Ranch: Tessiah Young, 23-71-1; Davis Roup, 11-25; Marcus Gadlin, 6-29; Morton Ranch: Ryan Hall, 17-59-3; Mike Gerald, 11-58-1;
Passing — Cinco Ranch: Davis Roup, 23-28-388-6-1; Morton Ranch: Mike Gerald, 11-14-258-1-0
Receiving — Cinco Ranch: Gavin Beavers, 9-167-2; Matthew Courtios, 3-72-1; Scott Eckel, 4-63; Taytum Johnson, 3-49-2; Tessiah Young, 1-20; Kellen LeCronier, 1-9; Drew Tureau, 1-5; Nathan Olivier, 1-3; Morton Ranch: Markel McNeal, 5-133-1; Tyler Williams, 5-83; Kelvin Malone, 1-42;

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The INTERSTATE MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 11:30AM at the office of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, 3200 Southwest Freeway, STE 2600, Houston, TX 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal:	James P Ellis, Joe Mattingly, Kevin Atkinson, Michelle Shen
AGAINST the proposal:	None
PRESENT and not voting:	None
ABSENT:	James Kennedy

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

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.34250 /\$100 Adopted	\$0.32000 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		-\$0.02250 /\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-6.57%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$205,698.00	\$226,602.00
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$41,140.00	\$45,251.00
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$164,558.00	\$181,351.00
Tax on average residence homestead	\$563.61	\$580.32
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$16.71 2.97%

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

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

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

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

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for BG by Em's Vietnamese Cuising LLC, to be located at 6420 FM 1463, Suite 800, Katy, Fort Bend, Texas 77494. Mai Le is the Owner.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a MB, FB, LH by Gunby Enterprises, LLC dba Crafted Kitchen and Taps, to be located at 1443 FM 1463, Suite 100, Katy, Fort Bend, Texas. Officers of said corporation Joseph Plant and Kevin Hough are Co-Owner Operator/Owner.

Katy ISD Provides Evaluations for Students with Suspected Disabilities

The Katy Independent School District Department of Special Education provides evaluations for students with suspected disabilities to identify every student with a disability living within the district's boundaries. These evaluations are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education or Section 504 program.

Students with all categories of disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 can be provided with services to ensure their success in school. These services and supports may be provided through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Special Education services are also available to children who are visually and/or auditory impaired starting at birth.

If you are aware of a child who may be challenged with a disability, please contact the Katy ISD Department of Special Education at 281-396-2066. The Department of Special Education will coordinate efforts to evaluate the student and, if eligible, ensure that the student is provided with supports and services needed to obtain academic and non-academic benefit. Please do not hesitate to call should you have any questions.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Sale to be held ONLINE at storagetreasures.com
The facility is BEAR CREEK MINI STORAGE 17730 Kieth Harrow Blvd, Houston, TX 77084. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on September 25, 2023, and end at 12:00 pm on October 2, 2023. Cleanup and removal deposit will be required. The seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale ends. Unit items are sold as-is to the highest bidder for cash. The property includes contents of space of the following tenants: Jesus Castillo, Cedric Tudmon, Rick Barker, Meagan Cooper, Diane Crane.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING BOUNDARY EXTENSION AND TERM EXTENSION OF, AND AMENDMENT TO PROJECT PLAN AND REINVESTMENT ZONE FINANCING PLAN FOR, REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF KATY, TEXAS

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, October 9, 2023

The Hearing Is Being Conducted In Connection With A Proposed Boundary And Term Extension Of, And An Amendment To The Project Plan And Reinvestment Zone Financing Plan (The "Plan") For, Reinvestment Zone Number One, City Of Katy, Texas (The "Zone"). At The Hearing, All Interested Persons May Be Heard Regarding The Proposed Boundary Extension And Plan Amendment. Following The Conclusion Of The Hearing, The City Council Will Consider Adoption Of An Ordinance Approving The Boundary Extension And Plan Amendment. Copies Of The Updated Boundary Map And Proposed Plan Amendment Are On File In The Office Of The City Secretary For Public Inspection.

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Final Notice and Public Explanation of a Proposed Activity in a 100-Year Floodplain and Floodway

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals

This is to give notice that the City of Katy has conducted an evaluation as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management Protection. The activity is funded under the HUD CDBG Disaster Recovery Program under DR# 20-065-137-C503 / B-17-DM-48-0001.

Project Name: Katy - 20-065-137-C503 - Street-Bridge-EA

Project Location:

All work will occur within the City of Katy or its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ), Waller County, Texas in the following locations:

Detention Pond:

- Pitts Road Detention Pond - Area East of Pitts Road and North of Morton Road (29.820445, -95.83901)

Street/Bridge:

- 10th St. - Bartlett Street to the Waller County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

The project is located in two (2) separate areas of the City. The new Detention Pond will be constructed in a developed part of the community on disturbed property that is currently considered vacant undeveloped. The area is relatively flat and appeared to have recent groundwork as only scattered native grasses existed and small piles of dirt were present. An existing detention pond exists within a few feet northeast of the proposed project site and the proposed site, at a two-lane paved roadway, borders the west side of the property and similar vacant undeveloped land exists to the south. Residential neighborhoods exist within a few hundred feet of the property in all directions. Overhead utilities exist. The bridge/street improvements will occur along a paved, two-lane roadway in a developed, residential area of the City. The roadway crosses a waterway and is bordered by fairly dense residential neighborhoods with scattered trees. Three detention ponds exist within a few feet to the north of the project area and both overhead and underground utilities exist. Bar ditches also exist along both sides of the roadway.

Description:

Flood and Drainage Facilities

Detention Pond: Subrecipient shall create a detention pond, and shall complete all associated appurtenances. Street/Bridge: Subrecipient shall replace storm sewer culverts, regrade roadside ditches, install outfall ditches with associated pavement repair, replace and elevate an existing bridge, and shall complete all associated appurtenances.

Projects in a FEMA Floodplain or Special Flood Hazard Area:

According to FEMA floodplain map #48473C0375E (Effective Date 2/18/09), portions of the project will occur within a 500-year floodplain (Zone X), 100-year floodplain (AE) and a Regulated Floodway.

The portions of the project in the 100-year floodplain and 500-year floodplain (AE):

- Detention Pond: Pitts Road Detention Pond - Area East of Pitts Road and North of Morton Road (29.820445, -95.83901)
- Street/Bridge: 10th St. - Bartlett Street to County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

Area of 100-year floodplain disturbance; 8 acres. Area of 500-year floodplain disturbance: 7 acres.

The portions of the project in the floodway: Bridge: 10th St. - Bartlett Street to County Line (29.794843, -95.829851)

Area of Floodway Disturbance: 5.8 acres

The drainage improvements and bridge replacement are considered functionally dependent activities and will occur within the floodway and extend out of the floodway to meet the roadway in Zone AE. This will allow the road improvements to transition the roadway in order to accommodate the bridge elevation, which is being increased.

According to the project engineer, only bridge work will occur within the floodway and street transitioning work will occur outside the floodway.

Wetlands and WOTUS:

According to a wetlands delineation of the area, it was determined that no wetlands will be disturbed as a result of this project. However, according to the USACE, WOTUS were confirmed to potentially be impacted by the project and that NWP 43 pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act must be followed for such disturbance.

Natural Values of Floodplain:

The natural resources of the floodplain/floodway include water, biological, and societal resources. The proposed project will have minimal adverse impacts to the floodplains/floodways. Temporary disturbance will occur during construction but the cumulative impact will be less localized flooding within the floodplain/floodway which will result in better protection of the floodplain/floodway. All activities taking place in the floodplain/floodway will meet Federal, State and Local floodplain requirements.

Alternatives: The City of Katy has considered the following alternatives and mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values:

1. **Do only work outside the floodplain/floodway.** - Neither the bridge nor detention pond can be completed without encroaching on the 100-year floodplain or floodway respectively. (Not Viable)
2. **Obtain a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) or Letter of Map Revision (LOMR).** - It was determined that neither a LOMA nor a LOMR was likely nor practical for the project area. (Not Viable)
3. **Other infrastructure considered.** - After considering other potential projects in the City, it was determined that of the eligible projects, this project was of the highest priority. However, if funding is available, additional facilities may be considered. (Potentially Viable if Funding Allows)
4. **No Action or Alternative Actions that Serve the Same Purpose.** - The current storm drainage system is inadequate for the area and must be addressed to prevent public health hazards. (Not Viable)

Determination of No Practicable Alternative: It is our determination that there are no practical alternatives for locating the project in the floodplain/floodway.

Mitigation measures to be taken to minimize adverse impacts and to restore and preserve natural and beneficial values:

1. A floodplain Development Application must be Submitted.
2. Preserving Property: Project designs should, to the best extent possible, incorporate measures to reduce the risk of damage to the new infrastructure via another flood.
3. Preserving Natural Values and Minimizing Impacts: After construction is completed, the disturbed area will need to be immediately re-vegetated with native grasses. Only native plants are to be used in the floodplain, floodway and on the site.
4. Deposition and excavation of materials will need to be performed in such a manner that erosion and sedimentation will be controlled.
5. Precautions will need to be taken in the handling of fuels or other hazardous materials to prevent discharge or spillage resulting in lower groundwater quality.
6. Erosion control measures such as hay bales or silt screen barriers will need to be implemented and maintained during construction as required.
7. The project engineer will need to incorporate best management practices into the specifications and plans.
8. All activities taking place in the floodplain/floodway must meet Federal, State and Local floodplain requirements.

The City of Katy has reevaluated the alternatives to building in the floodplain/floodway and has determined that it has no practicable alternative. Environmental files that document compliance with steps 3 through 6 of Executive Order 11988, are available for public inspection, review and copying upon request at the times and location delineated in the last paragraph of this notice for receipt of comments.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains/floodways and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains/floodways can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains/floodways, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of Katy at the following address on or before **October 6, 2023** a minimum 7 calendar day comment period will begin the day after the publication and end on the 8th day after the publication: **Byron J. Hebert, City Administrator, City of Katy, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493 and (281) 391-4800.** A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm from the previously mentioned address. Comments may also be submitted via email at lkerr@cityofkaty.com.

Date: September 28, 2023

Jordan enters state rankings, Katy moves up in top 10

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Jordan entered the Dave Campbell Texas Football Magazine state rankings for the first time this season on Monday, moving up to No. 25 after a win over Paetow.

It's the first time in school history that the Warriors have been ranked in the top 25 by Dave Campbell and shows the progress the team has made with a strong start this year.

Katy also was ranked this week, moving up one spot to No. 8 after a dominant win over Mayde Creek. The rest of the top seven remained unchanged heading into week six of the regular season.

The rankings preview a huge matchup this week between Katy and Jordan, the only two Katy ISD teams ranked in the top 25, as they will face off 7:15 p.m. Friday at Legacy Stadium.

CLASS 6A				
Rank	School	(Record)	Week 5	Prv rank
1	Duncanville	(4-0)	W	1
2	Galena Park N. Shore	(4-0)	W	2
3	DeSoto	(4-0)	W	3
4	Austin Westlake	(4-0)	W	4
5	Austin Vandegrift	(4-0)	Idle	5
6	Southlake Carroll	(5-0)	W	6
7	Humble Atascocita	(4-0)	W	7
8	Katy	(4-1)	W	9
9	North Crowley	(5-0)	W	10
10	Humble Summer Creek	(4-0)	W	11
11	Lake Travis	(4-1)	L	8
12	Cibolo Steele	(4-1)	W	12
13	McKinney	(5-0)	W	13
14	Northwest Nelson	(5-0)	W	14
15	Pflugerville Weiss	(5-0)	W	15
16	Houston Lamar	(5-0)	W	17
17	Dickinson	(4-1)	W	18
18	Willis	(5-0)	W	19
19	Tomball Memorial	(4-0)	W	21
20	SA Reagan	(4-0)	W	20
21	Sheldon King	(4-0)	W	22
22	Rockwall	(4-1)	W	23
23	Prosper	(4-1)	W	24
24	Dripping Springs	(3-1)	W	25
25	Katy Jordan	(4-0)	W	NR

Dropped out: No. 16 Alvin Shadow Creek



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES
Zion Jones and Zechariah Sample celebrate after a play during Saturday's game between Jordan and Paetow at Legacy Stadium.

TOMPKINS

from page B1

this week. That's part of the growth of this team. They're still having to take that next step in some areas and I'm proud of them and the way they responded. The whole week of practice and today."

The Falcons got back on track by getting some superb play from the team's defense and leaning on Caleb Blocker on offense, as the senior running back had a huge day, rushing for 159 yards and two touchdowns while also catching a touchdown to help Tompkins get back in the win column.

Tompkins got put in great position for their first drive, as Donovan Hudson made an interception which he brought back inside the Seven Lakes five-yard line on the opening drive of the game.

William Duncan got the Falcons on the board by hitting a 28-yard field goal and Blocker added to it on the Falcons next drive, running in a 43-yard score. Duncan hit another field goal, a 40-yarder, and Tompkins added another score while at the same time stopping a Seven Lakes drive late in the half, with Jhase McMillan intercepting a pass which he returned 75 yards for a touchdown. It was McMillan's fourth interception of the season as he has made a big impact so far in his season year.

"A big thing we talked about this week was getting our eyes right," McMillan said. "We struggled with that last week and so we had to come in and correct it. I knew that we would have a chance to make some plays tonight and I'm just glad I was able to jump that pass and take it back."

Blocker added his second touchdown on the first play of the second half by running in a 74-yard touchdown before Justin Thierheimer threw a 17-yard touchdown to blocker to put the game away late in the third quarter. Dylan Rodriguez capped off the win in the fourth quarter with a 54-yard touchdown run.

A big thing for the Falcons was putting together four strong quarters. Last week against Cinco Ranch, Tompkins had a 21-point lead and



DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES
Ronnie Quinn runs downfield during a game between Katy and Tompkins at Rhodes Stadium.

TOMPKINS 42, SEVEN LAKES 0

Seven Lakes 0 0 0 0 -0
Tompkins 10 10 15 7 -42

First quarter

T: William Duncan 28 field goal, 5:28
T: Caleb Blocker 43 run (Dunan kick) 1:42

Second quarter

T: Duncan 40 field goal, 7:37
T: Jhase McMillan 75 interception return (Duncan kick) 3:57

Third quarter

T: Blocker 74 run (Pass from Justin Thierheimer pass to McMillan) 11:39
T: Thierheimer 17 pass to Blocker (Duncan kick) 8:38

Fourth quarter

T: Dylan Rodriguez 54 run (Duncan kick) 6:12

Individual Statistics

Rushing - Tompkins:
Caleb Blocker, 12-159-2;
Dylan Rodriguez, 4-59-1;
Ronnie Quinn, 2-6; Seven Lakes: Barrett Hudson, 15-72; Jake Farris, 11-55; Jared Young, 14-11; Collin Mills, 1-(-7);

Passing - Tompkins:
Justin Thierheimer, 4-9-37-1-0; Dylan Rodriguez, 1-1-11-0-0; Seven Lakes: Shaan Patel, 9-18-28-0-2;

Receiving - Tompkins:
Caleb Blocker, 1-17-1; Rhys Phillips, 1-16; Juan Cordero Acevedo, 1-11; Dante Johnson, 1-4; Dylan Rodriguez, 1-0; Seven Lakes: Carter Hatten, 2-15; Kaiser Floyd, 1-8; Luke Robinson, 1-6; Barrett Hudson, 1-4; Davis Yates, 2-3; Ryan Fowler, 1-12; Peter Noonan, 1-(-6)

Team stats

	SEVEN LAKES	TOMPKINS
First downs	8	11
Yards rushing	41-131	20-234
Yards passing	28	48
Passes	9-18-0-2	5-10-1-0
Punts	7-40	2-40
Fumbles-lost	1-1	2-1
Penalty-yards	6-45	3-25

played a good first half, but weren't able to keep things going in the second half. That changed on Thursday where Tompkins never allowed Seven Lakes to get comfortable in the game.

"We got back to our core values," McMillan said. "One of those is finish. We preached that all week and we did better at it tonight."

Tompkins continues district play by taking on Taylor

next, a game that will be of huge importance to both teams trying to battle for a playoff spot.

"We needed and wanted this so much," Blocker said. "We had a difficult couple of weeks and it's just good to get a win. This has been on our mind all week. We got back into a groove and played like we should. We just have to keep building on that and get 1% better every single day."

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The HARRIS-WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 12 (formerly Harris County MUD No. 554) will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP, 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: Justin Klump, Geneva van Zijll, Joan Leiber Ryman, Matthew O'Neill, Donald Hayter

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

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

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

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

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

There were no residential homesteads on either January 1, 2022, or January 1, 2023, therefore the tax that would have been imposed on a residential homestead is \$0.00. Due to this the tax election rate is not applicable for 2023 tax year.

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

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

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Anderson and Kana have career weekends

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Nic Anderson and Ty Kana had career games on Sept. 16, as both stepped up in wins for their respective college programs.

The two Katy products and state champions had big games in week three of the NCAA season. Anderson got into the endzone three times for the University of Oklahoma, catching three passes for 120 yards and three touchdowns, averaging 40 yards per catch in the Sooners. Oklaho-

ma came away with a 66-17 win over Tulsa to improve to 3-0. Tompkins graduate Marquis Shoulders also played in the game and had a good week, catching three passes for 52 yards and a touchdown of his own.

Kana meanwhile had a big day helping out the Texas Tech defense in a win. Kana led the Red Raiders in tackles with six total, four solo and two assisted, which could lead to more playing time for the redshirt freshman. The win moved Tech to 1-2 on the season.



Left: Katy's Nic Anderson makes the reception scoring a TD during the first half of a UIL regional playoff game between the Katy Tigers and King Panthers at Legacy Stadium in Katy. Above: Katy's Ty Kana makes the stop on Tompkins #21 Caleb Blocker during a game between Katy Tigers and Tompkins Falcons at Legacy Stadium in Katy.

PHOTOS BY MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



THERE'S A BETTER APPROACH TO CANCER CARE in Katy & West Houston

At Houston Methodist Neal Cancer Center, we treat every aspect of your cancer. Leading oncologists work with our specialists across disciplines to minimize cancer's effects on major organs. One comprehensive team — dedicated to your individual care — uses the latest research, treatments and technology to stop your cancer. From infusion and clinical trials to surgery and reconstruction, our innovative care is available in Katy-West Houston.

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