

SEVEN LAKES  
BOYS TOP  
JORDAN IN  
NAILBITER  
SPORTS | A8

# Katy Times

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VOLUME 111, ISSUE 51

THE GREATER KATY AREA'S NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1912 ■ [katytimes.com](http://katytimes.com)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023

## First responders honored at American Legion dinner



Eric Valls (right) was recognized by the Westlake Volunteer Fire Department as their "Firefighter of the Year" at Saturday night's dinner honoring first responders, hosted by the American Legion.



Marina Rolon (right) was selected as EMS/Paramedic of the Year by Harris County ESD 48 at Saturday's dinner honoring first responders, hosted by the American Legion.

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

The American Legion dinner and awards ceremony honoring area first responders was held on Saturday, December 9th at the Elks Club Lodge at 1050 Katy Fort Bend Road, with five area departments participating. The event was sponsored by the American Legion Post 164.

Each department selected the honoree from their organization; each honoree received a plaque commemorating their award.

The Westlake Volunteer Fire Department honored David Fishman and EMT/Paramedic of the Year and Eric Valls as firefighter of the year. Each

man is a part-time volunteer who has been serving the Westlake fire department as a volunteer for more than 15 years.

Harris County Emergency Services District 48 selected Marina Rolon as EMS/Paramedic of the year and Lou Fabricant as firefighter of the year.

Katy Fire Department chose Jacob Yezak as the EMS/Paramedic of the year while Lt. Edison Saunders was selected as the firefighter of the year.

Katy Police Department honored Janie Melara, a CID investigator, as their law enforcement officer of the year.

The Katy Independent School District's police force saluted Jazmine Garcia, who works onsite at Paetow High School, as their officer of the year.

## Partnership to improve mobility in Westpark Corridor

FROM STAFF REPORTS

More than 16 miles of multi-modal mobility enhancements along the Westpark Corridor will be explored under a new partnership among the City of Houston, Harris County, Fort Bend County and the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County (Metro).

The partnership was formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during a signing ceremony in downtown Houston on December 14th.

The study will determine the feasibility of multi-modal mobility enhancements extending west of the planned terminus of the 25-mile University Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line at the Westchase Park & Ride for an additional 16 miles through Harris and Fort Bend Counties. Metro is expected begin construction on the University BRT line in 2025.

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MEMORIES BY ASHLEY MARIE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Katy community honors veterans with "Wreaths Across America" ceremony

FROM STAFF REPORTS

National Wreaths Across America Day took place at over 4,225 participating locations across the country on Saturday, December 16th, including Katy Cemetery and Magnolia Cemetery. Volunteers remembered the nation's heroes as they said their names aloud, honoring over three million veterans this year.

The ceremony at Magnolia Cemetery was under the direction of American Legion Post 164 of Katy. The century-old American Legion, comprised of war-time veterans, has adopted the mission to serve veterans and the community with volunteer activities focused on their key pillars: Veterans and Rehabilitation, Americanism, National Security, and Children and Youth. One seasonal focus has been Wreaths Across America, where deceased veterans receive a beautiful wreath at their place of burial.

"Beginning Saturday December 16th, our division comprised of 7 districts, 96 posts, and 53,000 veterans and have raised funds to buy and coordinate volunteers to place a beautiful wreath provided by Wreaths Across America on veteran gravesites in our region," says Butch Sparks, Air Force Veteran and Commander of the Division, "Wreaths Across America is an annual event honoring those veterans at cemeteries across the country. What a wonderful way of acknowledging the great sacrifices our veterans have made." The Division estimates that several thousand wreaths will be placed on gravesites in the region.

For centuries, fresh evergreens have been used to symbolize honor and a living tribute renewed annually. "Wreaths Across America believes the tradition represents a living memorial that honors veterans, active-duty military, and their families," the organization said in a statement. "When volunteers say the name of a veteran aloud while placing a wreath, it ensures they live on in our hearts and memories and are always remembered."

"This is a labor of love and dedication and takes all year to plan and raise money from the community where individuals and organizations cans sponsor wreaths," says James Mc-

See **WREATHS**, page A3

## Fort Bend County District Clerk's office recognized for accepting highest volume of passport applications

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County District Clerk Beverley McGrew Walker announced on December 5th that the Houston Passport Agency, U.S. Department of State has recognized the Fort Bend

County District Clerk's Office for accepting the highest volume of passport applications in Fiscal Year 2023.

"The Fort Bend County District Clerk's Office processed 24,240 passport applications in Fiscal Year 2023 bringing an

additional \$1,037,913.00 into the Fort Bend County general fund," Walker said. The Fort Bend County District Clerk's Passport Facility is open in Richmond, Texas Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The facility operates on an appointment

basis, but currently takes walk-ins until 2 p.m.

The Sienna Passport Office located in the Fort Bend County Sienna Annex at 5855 Sienna Springs Way, Missouri City, Texas

See **PASSPORTS**, page A3

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BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF HOUSTON

Gifts gathered by seniors at the British International School of Houston benefitted over 120 families.

## Adopting Angels to make a difference in local community

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

This year, once again, The British International School of Houston supported The Salvation Army Angel Tree program. High school seniors partnered with the program to provide Christmas gifts for 120 underserved families in the Houston area with their wish list of presents to open this holiday season. "Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning," said school officials in a statement. "The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for hundreds of thousands of children around the country each year. Once a child or senior adult has been registered and accepted as an Angel their Christmas wish list is shared with donors in our community who purchase gifts of new clothing and toys." The gifts are distributed to the family to place under their family Christmas tree.

This initiative is part of seniors' CAS project - community, action and service. The British International School of Houston is located in Katy at 2203 N. Westgreen Drive.

For more information on the Adopt an Angel Program, visit [saangletree.org](http://saangletree.org).

## Shottenkirk Nissan collects toys for Upbring at Krause

Employees of Shottenkirk Nissan of Katy conducted a toy drive in early December to benefit local children's shelter, Upbring at Krause.

More than \$300.00 worth of toys were collected by the Shottenkirk team and delivered to Upbring on December 8th. A Christmas tree was also donated, since the center did not have

the funds to purchase one, according to Michelle Trujillo, internet marketing manager for the dealership.

According to their website, Children's Shelter at 25752 Kingsland Drive in Katy, offers a nurturing and temporary haven for hundreds of unaccompanied children annually, providing them with solace, safety and a pathway to healing

after their journey across the Southern border.

At Krause, children embark on the healing process through comprehensive clinical therapy, personal development activities and voluntary spiritual care programs within a secure environment.

Shottenkirk Nissan is located next to the Katy Mills Mall at 25550 King-land Blvd. in Katy.



SHOTTENKIRK NISSAN

## SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN NEED



Members Choice Credit Union (MCCU) employees adopted eight children as part of the Santa's Sleigh Christmas Program for Katy Christian Ministries (KCM) in the spirit of the holiday season. From left to right are MCCU associates Llanly Estupinan, Syeda Hameed, Katrina Otto, Roseanna West, Ana Moreno, Maria Gomez, Jose Liu, John Padilla, Jackie Segura, and Shalonda Guidry. In the back row is Tim Garrity, and in the front row is Joey Waddell. Supporting the local community is core to MCCU's mission, and through its partnership with Katy Christian Ministries, the team is glad to make this an enjoyable time of year for local families in need, an MCCU spokesperson said. The photo was taken at MCCU's headquarters in Katy.

COURTESY OF MEMBERS CHOICE CREDIT UNION

## R&R patrons organize "angel drive" for Veranda House

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

Patrons of the R&R Sports Bar & Grill at 1840 Barker Cypress Rd organized a Christmas Angels event for the Veranda House Assisted Living Facility in Katy. The event coordinators were given names of residents who no longer have family to visit with during the holidays. A stack of paper angels was

then sent over to the activity coordinator at Veranda House.

Each resident wrote a few things they wanted or needed for Christmas on the Christmas Angels, which were returned to the benefactors at R&R.

"We then picked up the 'Angels' and the amazing patrons we have went above and beyond," said Sara Mladenka, a spokesperson for the

group. "We ran out of angels! So many people bought boxes and boxes of socks and blankets and pajamas and pillows and the things most residents who had 'Angels' requested."

The group delivered the gifts and met with the people they shopped for Saturday, December 16th. Veranda House is located at 5129 E. Fifth Street in Katy.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- Droops
- Subatomic particle
- Not in danger
- Nursemaid
- Black band worn in mourning
- Long song in opera
- Edible seed of a Philippine tree
- Chicago political family
- Pursues pleasure from one place to another
- Appetizer
- Hill (Celtic)
- Simple shoe
- Songs to one you love
- Secret activities
- Upset
- Popular hot drink
- Body art (slang)
- Fired
- Blood relation
- Identical
- Porticos
- Partner to cheese
- Type of sword
- Enough (archaic)
- Surface layer of ground
- Cotton fabric woven like satin
- Choose for a post
- Father
- Tell on
- Indian title of respect
- Fonts
- Fencing sword
- Mock

**CLUES DOWN**

- Exhausts
- Genus of fish related to gars
- Impudent behavior
- Adherents to Islam
- They come after A
- Spoke
- Room to receive guests
- About opera
- End-blown flute
- Heroic tales
- Member of a Semitic people
- Dog's name
- Opposite of west
- Political divisions in ancient Greece
- Ocean
- Cool!
- Young woman about to enter society
- One from central Caucasus
- Indian city
- A way to serve ice cream
- Emaciation
- Escort aircraft carrier

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

## SUDOKU

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

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

# KP George comments on possible Fort Bend Economic Development Council closure

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Commissioners Court released the following statement on December 14th regarding the future of economic development in the County following recent reports on the proposed closure of the Fort Bend Economic Development Council.

"Fort Bend is one of Texas's fastest-growing counties, with a diverse population projected to exceed one million residents before the end of 2026. In response to this explosive growth, the County identified a need to

focus more on diversifying the economy by attracting significant commercial and industrial development.

"Fort Bend County, responding to changing market conditions, created an internal Economic Development and Opportunities Department to have in-house experts to address economic needs and emerging opportunities.

"The County, in partnership with the Fort Bend County Economic Development Council (EDC), engaged a strategic economic development consultant to recommend ways to refocus its economic development efforts. One of the strategic plan's recommendations

is that the EDC change its focus to better serve our County's future economic development needs more effectively.

"The EDC Executive Committee, after reviewing the strategic plan's recommendations, is pursuing the option to end the EDC's operations by the end of its fiscal year on June 30, 2024.

"Even if the EDC chooses to close, the County is committed to working with the cities and private sector to keep Fort Bend County moving forward.

"At a time when Fort Bend is embarking on an effort to diversify its economy, the

business community must be an active participant. A strong voice from the business community is essential in formulating a plan that will be successful.

"Moving forward, we will pursue an Ad Hoc Committee, equally representing the public and private sectors, to recommend how best to expand our economy.

"The Bottom Line is that Fort Bend County is open for business and working hard to secure more investments in industrial and commercial operations to reduce the tax burden on residential property taxpayers and create well-paying jobs for our residents."



MEMORIES BY ASHLEY MARIE PHOTOGRAPHY

## WREATHS

from page A1

James McGuire, 22nd District department of Texas Commander for the American Legion, who was one of the speakers at the Magnolia ceremony in Katy. "The American Legion coordinates the delivery and volunteers to specific cemeteries for flawless placement and respect of the recipient."

The Katy initiative was initially projected to fall short of its goal of providing a wreath for every veteran in the Magnolia Cemetery. During public comments at the November 13th meeting of the City of Katy City Council, American Legion Vice Commander Phil Malsbury provided an update on the "Wreaths Across America" project slated for December 16th at

Magnolia Cemetery, stating that the project was falling about 100 wreaths short of the organization's goal of 600. Council member Rory Robertson posted the need on Facebook and two and a half hours later, the goal was achieved, he said. "I'm just so proud of our community," Robertson said in his subsequent post. "It is why I love this town. Katy is our home for a reason. Thank you to all who gave."

Wreaths Across America ([www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org)) was founded by a couple -- Morrill and Karen Worcester -- with the simple idea of placing a surplus of wreaths at the Veterans Memorial at Arlington Cemetery in 2005. This gesture spawned a national movement of

volunteers who now gather in small towns and major cities across America to remember veterans who have served and passed on.

"What I love most about this day, and this mission, is that it is so much more than just the placement of a wreath. The wreath is the catalyst, it brings together communities - families and strangers -- to learn about those who have served and sacrificed," said Karen Worcester, founder and executive director Wreaths Across America. "We have more than three million volunteers across the country and a third of them are children. This mission and the events happening today provide the opportunity to teach kids about what freedom is."

## TRIBUTE

Mrs. Jessie Mae Holloway was born on May 13, 1939, in Brenham, Texas, to Leroy Ray and Hattie Mae Coleman. Jessie graduated from A.W. Jackson High School in Rosenberg before attending Prairie View A&M University, where she met the love of her life, Reginald Holloway. Reginald's service in the U.S. Army took them to Germany for ten years, before allowing them to return home. During his service, Jessie gave back to her community by volunteering in the Army hospitals in Germany and New Mexico as a caregiver. She was a troop leader in the Girl Scouts as well. For more than fifteen years, she worked for the Katy Independent School District in the food service department before her retirement.

Jessie was full of life. She loved to dance to country music, especially at Duke's Tavern in Katy. She enjoyed all types of music, such as country, gospel and rhythm and blues. She also loved to eat and had many favorites, such as gumbo, pinto beans, brisket, steak, macaroni



JESSIE MAE HOLLOWAY  
1939-2023

& cheese, and smothered chicken. She had a sweet tooth for pecan pie, banana pudding, and especially Lifesavers candy. Jessie, nicknamed Lucy in recent times, was a speed-reader with a love for romance novels. As her eyesight declined, she eventually transitioned to audiobooks. She loved the companionship of her dog, Ace, a miniature pinscher.

Mrs. Jessie Mae Holloway passed away on Sunday, December 10, 2023, in Katy, at the age of 84.

Jessie was preceded in death by her husband, Regi-

nald Holloway; her parents, Leroy Ray, Sr. and Hattie Mae Coleman; and by two brothers, Oscar C. Ray and Alvin L. Ray.

She is survived by her daughter, Janice R. Holloway and spouse Tony Bowen; her son, Ronald J. Holloway; sisters, Ora Nell Ray Ford, Theresa A. Lampley and husband Reginald, Felicia Ray and Monica Ray; brother, Leroy Ray, Jr.; as well as many other loving family members and many friends.

The family received friends from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at the Schmidt Funeral Home Grand Parkway Chapel, in Katy, where funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday with Rev. Wesley Hicks officiating. Interment in Forest Park Westheimer Cemetery in Houston.

To express condolences, please visit [www.Schmidt-FuneralHome.net](http://www.Schmidt-FuneralHome.net)

Funeral services held under the direction of Schmidt Funeral Home 1344 W. Grand Parkway South ~ Katy, Texas 77494 ~ (281) 391-2424

## PASSPORTS

from page A1

also takes appointments and walk-ins.

According to Michelle Jochen, Chief Deputy District Clerk, passport appointments can be made from any computer or cell phone by going to the Fort Bend County District Clerk's website and clicking on

passport appointments. At this website, one can opt for a passport book, passport card or both, and decide the appropriate dollar amount needed prior to coming to the appointment.

The U. S. Department of State only accepts personal checks, cashier's checks, or

money orders with passport applications. The \$35 execution fee can be paid with a credit card or cash. Photos are also taken at the site for \$15.

For additional information, contact the Fort Bend County District Clerk's Passport Office at 281-341-4509.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF YMCA

# 21st annual YMCA Turkey Dash raises \$250,000 for local causes

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The 21st Annual Katy YMCA Turkey Dash, presented by Houston Methodist West Hospital on November 23rd, was a huge success, said event organizers in a press release.

The Thanksgiving Day event welcomed over 4,500 participants in four live events: 10K, 5K, 1 Mile Walk/Run, and 1-mile Kids' Run. Runners enjoyed beautiful weather, post-race vendor booths and making core memories while supporting the YMCA mission.

Funds raised from the Katy YMCA Turkey Dash support the Katy YMCA Annual Campaign. The funds stay in the Katy community to strengthen the community and ensure that everyone has access to YMCA programs and services. This year's event raised \$250,000 to support the Katy YMCA's scholarship fund that provides memberships and programs for all. "From a child learning to swim to a senior adult seeking to avoid isolation and socialize with others, we have programs for all ages," said Katlynn Balson, Director of Operations of the Katy Area YMCAs. "The Katy YMCA Turkey Dash is a special event where all ages and abilities gather together to support the Katy Community. Families have made this event their annual Tradition, and we are honored they participate year after year. Our event is only successful and possible because of the support of our local community, committed volunteers and local partnerships/businesses."

"Hearing the stories from participants -- from first year participants to veteran 21-year participants -- that this is their favorite race every year is very special, and we are honored they choose to support the YMCA year after year," said Balson. "We wouldn't be able to have such great impact in Katy without the support of the community at this event." Balson issued a special thanks to all event sponsors, vendors and volunteers who made the event possible. Registration for the 22nd Annual Katy YMCA Turkey Dash will be open early 2024. If interested in participating, volunteering, or becoming a sponsor for 2024, please email [ymcaturkeydash@ymcahouston.org](mailto:ymcaturkeydash@ymcahouston.org), or call the YMCA at 281-392-5055.



# Katy native serves with Navy's recruiting orientation unit

BY CATHERINE BLAND,  
NAVY OFFICE OF COMMUNITY  
OUTREACH  
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

PENSACOLA, Fla. - Lt. John Thornton, a native of Katy, Texas, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit.

Thornton graduated from Morton Ranch High School in 2009.

The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in Katy.

"Growing up, I learned to do well with the cards that are dealt, meaning take life's lemons and make that lemonade, lemon iced tea or a lemon drop, whatever the case requires," said Thornton.

Thornton joined the Navy 10 years ago.

"My parents wanted a better opportunity for my future and pushed me to the Navy," said Thornton. "I made the decision on my own for the college opportunities."

Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit is the Navy's sole recruiting schoolhouse responsible for the instruction in professional sales, prospecting techniques, marketing and leadership. Students attending basic recruiting courses receive a good dose of public speaking classes to develop communications skills that will help them not just in recruiting but throughout their Naval careers. Students must demonstrate what they learn in the classroom with prepared speeches and perform in a simulated sales environment, where they must help an applicant make an informed, mutually beneficial decision to join the Navy.

"Students at Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit will shape the future of the Navy," said Capt. Robert Stockton, Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit officer in charge. "The skills and attitudes these sailors develop at the schoolhouse not only have a positive influence on our recruiting force but prepare them to succeed both personally and professionally."

The school emphasizes the importance of focusing on the needs of prospects, facilitating an open ex-

change of information, and ensuring mutual understanding and agreement throughout the recruiting process. These steps are critical to ensuring that prospective applicants fully understand what naval service entails and that the Navy receives highly motivated and committed officers and enlisted sailors to serve.

With 90% of global commerce traveling by sea and access to the internet relying on the security of

undersea fiber optic cables, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity of the United States is directly linked to trained sailors and a strong Navy.

Serving in the Navy means Thornton is part

of a team that is taking on new importance in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy covers large bodies of water on either side of the continental U.S., protecting freedom of navigation," said Thornton.

Thornton has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

"My proudest accomplishment is earning my master's in operations analysis from Naval Postgraduate School," said Thornton. "I started out flying then shifted to human resources. It was something I decided for myself."

As Thornton and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the U.S. Navy.

"The Navy allows you to maximize opportunities offered," said Thornton. "Like the old Navy slogan says, 'Accelerate your life.' The Navy definitely has."

Thornton is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

"I would like to thank my parents for supporting me and pushing me along this journey," added Thornton. "Also, I would like to thank my brother, Darius, who served in the Navy, he was my sounding board and gave me the enlisted perspective. He also helped develop and mentor me as an officer."



JOHN THORNTON

# Teens earn volunteer hours at Fort Bend Libraries' YA advisory councils

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Fort Bend County Libraries' Cinco Ranch Branch Library (2620 Commercial Center Blvd, Katy) and Mission Bend Branch Library (8421 Addicks Clodine Road) offer programs specifically designed for high school-aged teens entering grades 9 through 12. The programs provide fun and challenging opportunities for these young adults, who are also encouraged to become active participants in designing and orchestrating new activities for teens in the library system.

Teens can earn volunteer-service hours by participating in FBCL's Young Adult Advisory Councils, where they can express ideas, help organize upcoming activities, and suggest new programs and books that would be of interest to teens at the library. The January schedule of Young Adult Advisory Council

meetings is as follows:

- Mission Bend Branch Library - Thursday, January 4, 4 p.m., Conference Room.
- Cinco Ranch Branch Library (Katy) - Wednesday, January 17, 4-5 p.m., Conference Room.

In addition to the Young Adult Advisory Council meetings, the libraries will offer the following Young Adult (YA) activities for the teen community.

- D&D Character Creation - Monday, January 22, 4-5 p.m., Cinco Ranch Branch Library

Teens and adults will create a character and character sheet for the popular role-playing game, Dungeons & Dragons. Participants will invent a character backstory and roll for character stats. Registration required.

- YA Craft Night: Magnetic Bookmarks - Tuesday, January 23, 3:30 p.m. Mission Bend

Branch Library

Teens will make customized magnetic bookmarks. Materials for this activity are made possible by the Friends of the Library. Registration required.

The activities are free and open to the public. Some of the activities require registration. To register online at the library's

website ([www.fortbend.lib.tx.us](http://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us)), click on "Classes & Events," select the library, and find the program on the date indicated.

For more information, call the Cinco Ranch Branch Library (281-395-1311), the Mission Bend Branch Library (832-471-5900) or the library system's Communications Office (281-633-4734).

# Katy Times

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Our thanks and best wishes to all of you!

# Katy Times

will be closed on Monday, January 1.

## TRIBUTE

Henry Richard "Rick" Carew, age 75, of Katy, Texas was called home to be with his Savior on December 11, 2023, after a long battle with cancer.

Rick was born on December 28, 1947, to Wilma Jane Hood Carew and Herbert G. Carew in Baytown, Texas. After graduating from Katy High School as a second-generation graduate in 1967, he volunteered to serve in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. Qualifying for submarine service, Rick first served on the U.S.S. Baya, followed by the U.S.S. Tang, both stationed in San Diego, California.

After an honorable discharge, Rick pursued his passion for photography while working at Olan Mills. Rick then started his own business, Carew Photography, which has been in business in Katy since its opening in 1975. He met many people who were considered friends and family while he captured their memories through his photography. He had an eye for the proper lighting and knew how to pay attention to detail to create beautiful portraits. No matter where he went, he always had a camera in his hand and loved capturing special moments. Rick was a member of the Professional Photographers of America, Texas Professional Photographers, Southwestern Professional Photographers, and Professional Artists of Texas.

Rick was a beloved member of the



**HENRY RICHARD "RICK" CAREW**  
1947 – 2023

Katy community and never met a stranger. He was always ready with a joke, wanted to make others smile, and genuinely cared for their well-being. When not taking pictures, Rick enjoyed collecting antiques, restoring vintage vehicles, and riding his Harley in the countryside.

Rick was preceded in death by his parents Jane Carew and Herbert Carew, brother Wesley Carew, and several extended family members. He is survived by his brother Neil Kent Carew, wife Judy, and his sister Sarah Carew Ryan, husband Bob. He is also survived by his nieces and nephews: Denise and Jeff Shaver, John Carew, Zachary Carew, Cheryl and Russell Stratman, Marc and Stacia Carew, Kimberly and Brad Kolojaco, Jennifer and Josh Hanson, and Katy and Ross Sheffield. He also had many great-nieces and nephews and other extended family members and close friends whom he loved.

Services were held at Katy's First Baptist Church in Katy, Texas on December 20, 2023 at 11 a.m., with the visitation held prior at 10 a.m.. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Wounded Warrior Project.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at [www.rasberryfamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/](http://www.rasberryfamilyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/).

## Local Christian authors launch books

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO  
PUBLISHER

Two well-known Katyites are in the process of launching new books on amazon.com.

Stan Goss, a former executive coach, is well-known as a Board of Governor's member of the Katy Area Economic Development Council, heading up the Leadership Committee, a dedicated and talented group of volunteers whose most noteworthy achievement has been to provide the energy and spark that led to the establishment of the University of Houston Victoria at Katy, now the anchor of a campus which includes UH/Victoria and Houston Community College.

"My book, entitled Tears of Sorrow; Tears of Joy, is in part autobiographical, and it is filled with vulnerable anecdotes, special moments, and spiritual think-pieces I've witnessed, endured and observed throughout my life," said Goss in an email to the Katy Times. "I've joked with some that Tears of Sorrow; Tears of Joy has been in gestation for years. If this were true, we're currently in the 'labor' stage, and soon, it will be birthed into this world! The launch date of Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, rapidly draws near."

"I'd like to reiterate my mission in releasing Tears of

Sorrow; Tears of Joy. At this point in my life, my primary focus is in spreading seeds of hope and of the Holy Spirit's love." Goss said. "My prayer is that my book is able to help its readers heal from any hardships in life and connect deeply with the Holy Spirit, which has dwelled within us all along."

Goss has partnered with people within his extensive network to prepare a book launch party on Thursday, January 11th. The event, hosted by Texas Traditions Bank at 24285 Katy Freeway Suite 100 in Katy, will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Katy Christian Chamber of Commerce, the party will include a book signing event; a specially selected excerpt reading; delicious, catered Hors d'oeuvres; wine and beverages; a raffle; and more. Parking is available in the bank's parking garage.

Stacie Henry, long-time owner of expo company Home for the Holidays Gift Market which stages multiple gift shows in Katy throughout the year, has written "For a Second Chance: Turn the Page: A Story of Faith, Prophecy and Revelation" under the name Stacie Bowles. The book, which launched sales in early December, focuses on the post-Rapture events and those left behind. Cassie, a young

gift shop owner from Texas, has become desperate to relay the most critical piece of advice of her life to her friends and family as they navigate the tumultuous aftermath of the Rapture. This one piece of advice will ensure the only survival that matters to those who were left behind. Using a study guide and critical letters that Cassie created for this very event, they unearth facts from the Bible, embracing their destiny as warriors in a spiritual struggle to survive the last seven years.

Early results for Henry's book are strong. She received a statement from her publisher that read, "Congratulations to Author Stacie Bowles for a successful book launch from Elite Online Publishing. #1 International Bestseller on Amazon in THREE categories in the United States and Australia. Including Evangelism and Christian New Testament Criticism and in the US and Christian Evangelism in Australia. The book reached THREE #1 Hot New Release Categories in the United States and Australia."

Both Goss and Henry mentioned their books at the December 15th breakfast meeting of the Katy Christian Chamber of Commerce, which was held at Grace Fellowship Church, 2655 S. Mason Road in Katy.

## The Katy Times

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Mailing Address: 1415 East Avenue, Suite B • Katy, Texas 77493

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Open M-F 7-6 • Sat 8-12 281-391-3169 • [www.katyvetclinic.com](http://www.katyvetclinic.com)

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Networking, Upcoming Events, & More Info  
Where Christian Businesses Meet

When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.  
Psalms 94:19

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Help our ministry transform lives. Give now by scanning the QR Code.  
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281-391-3141

**RESURRECTION CHURCH**  
IT'S GOOD TO BELONG!  
Meeting at Katy High School, 6331 Hwy Blvd  
Sundays 10 AM (English) 11:30 AM (Spanish)  
Pastors Jason Smith and Daniel Hernandez  
[resurrectionkaty.org](http://resurrectionkaty.org) | 281-407-8716

**ASSEMBLY OF GOD EL SHADDAI ASAMBLEA DE DIOS**  
5610 LILAC STREET • 281-391-8339  
PASTORS, PETER & ESTELA PINON  
**FAMILY LIFE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
24911 ROESNER ROAD • 281-392-0637  
ALBERT CORTEZ, PASTOR • [WWW.FLAG.CHURCH](http://WWW.FLAG.CHURCH)

**RIVERS OF OIL CHURCH**  
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LEAD PASTOR: MR. HERNAN CASTANO  
[WWW.RIOSDEACEITE.COM](http://WWW.RIOSDEACEITE.COM) • SUNDAY SERVICE 9 A.M.

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TYRONE FREEMAN, PASTOR  
**BRIDGEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH**  
FRANZ ELEMENTARY • 2751 WESTGREEN BLVD. • 281-578-0970  
MICHAEL THOMPSON, PASTOR

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2855 GREENHOUSE ROAD • 281-492-2689  
LARRY MADDOX, PASTOR  
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PASTOR: MIKE MCGOWN

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MITCH MAHER, PASTOR

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DR. ED YOUNG, PASTOR

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**TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
10000 SPRING GREEN BLVD. • KATY, TX 77494  
281-579-6724 • [TRINITY-KATY.ORG](http://TRINITY-KATY.ORG)  
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ROY MEADOWS, PASTOR  
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281-769-5544 • [WWW.GRACEANGLICANKATY.COM](http://WWW.GRACEANGLICANKATY.COM)  
RECTOR: ROBERT HENSON

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346-773-3500 • [WWW.SAINSTFAUSTINACHURCH.ORG](http://WWW.SAINSTFAUSTINACHURCH.ORG)

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**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)**  
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Western Rite  
1717 KATY GAP RD. • KATY, TX 77494 • 281-201-6439  
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EMAIL: [INFO@NFBCC.ORG](mailto:INFO@NFBCC.ORG) • TELEPHONE: (281)698-0132  
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PASTOR RICHARD DEVOST

# Katy ISD counselors receive prestigious CREST Award



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATY ISD

Shayla Tillery, Erin McGee and Shireen Abughazaleh, Counseling Team at Morton Ranch Junior High

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Katy Independent School District announced December 14th that the counselors at Morton Ranch Junior High and Robertson Elementary earned the highly acclaimed Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas (CREST) Award for the 2023-2024 school year. This award is given out by the Texas School Counseling Association (TSCA) which began the CREST program in 2005.

The CREST program is designed to acknowledge schools that exhibit a strong commitment to enhancing students' lives and achievements across academic, career, and person-

al-social domains, following the Texas Model. The CREST Award serves as a continuous improvement document, allowing school counseling programs to showcase effective communication and a dedicated pursuit of positive outcomes.

By evaluating their programs in five key categories, counselors can demonstrate the effectiveness of their guidance and counseling initiatives. The five categories evaluated by CREST are:

- Introduction to the School and the Role of the Profession-



ROBERTSON ELEMENTARY  
**LAUREN HASSIG**

- al School Counselor
- Program Implementation Cycle
- Foundational Components
- Four Service Delivery Components
- Program Curriculum

The counselors at Morton Ranch Junior High and

Robertson Elementary prepared a comprehensive digital submission that highlighted their efforts in each of these areas. This submission was rigorously judged by reviewers throughout the state of Texas based on pre-set standards of excellence, said the district in a

statement. The winners will be recognized during the annual TSCA conference in San Antonio in February 2024.

"We are immensely proud of the counselors from Morton Ranch Junior High and Robertson Elementary for achieving the CREST Award. This recognition reflects their unwavering commitment to the success and well-being of our students," said Ronnie Edwards, assistant superintendent at Katy ISD. "Their dedication to continuous improvement, effective communication, and adherence to the Texas Model is truly commendable and sets a benchmark for counseling programs across the state."

# Royal ISD students excel at SkillsUSA show

## CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On Saturday, December 9th, the Royal SkillsUSA Chapter hosted its 10th Annual Royal SkillsUSA Project Show at the John H. England Career and Technical Education Center at Royal

High School in Pattison.

The show consisted of live contest/project shows in the Arts, A/V, Automotive, Cosmetology, Machining, Health Science and Welding Industry Pathways. This year a total of over 60 SkillsUSA members participated in the

SkillsUSA Show.

An awards luncheon followed the competition with over 150 contestants, family members, and industry guests enjoying a BBQ lunch provided by Hinze's BBQ.

The contest results are below.

## SKILLSUSA 2023 PROJECT SHOW AWARDS

### ARTS A/V

- Award**
- Quiz Bowl Best of Show
  - Quiz Bowl 2nd Place
  - Quiz Bowl 3rd Place
  - Photography Best of Show
  - Photography 2nd Place
  - Photography 3rd Place
  - Photography 4th Place
  - Graphic Design Best of Show
  - Graphic Design 2nd Place
  - Graphic Design 3rd Place
  - Graphic Design 4th Place
  - Graphic Design 5th Place

### Final Results

- Gabriel Velasquez & Jayson Majano
- Kimberly Pedraza & Kia Anderson
- Elizabeth Moreland & Elisha Glover
- Athena Garcia
- Layla Thompson
- Elizabeth Moreland
- Gabriel Velasquez
- Angel Rodriguez
- Samantha Autry
- Kimberly Pedraza
- Gabriel Velasquez
- Elisha Glover

### AUTOMOTIVE

- Automotive Best of Show
- Brake job and lathe 1st place
- Brake job and lathe 2nd place
- Brake lathe 3rd place
- Automotive participation

N/A

- Aaron Venegas
- Sebastian Espinoza
- N/A
- Aaron Venegas, Sebastian Espinoza

### COSMETOLOGY

- Esthetics 1st place
- Esthetics 2nd place
- Esthetics 3rd place
- Cosmetology 1st place
- Cosmetology 2nd place
- Cosmetology 3rd place
- Barbering 1st place
- Nail Care 1st place
- Nail Care 2nd place
- Nail Care 3rd place
- Cosmetology Quiz Bowl

Yoselyn Arriaga

- Xitlaly Larios
- Shaelyn Gamez
- Dulce Hernandez
- Jessica Calvillo and Esteban Carranza
- Airiana Anaya
- Kevin Izquierdo
- America Palacios
- Alexa Rivas
- Sarahi Mendoza Sanchez
- Jessica Calvillo, Esteban Caranza, Sandra Montalvo, Shaelyn Gamez, Yoselyn Arriaga
- Jackyline Chavez
- Jessica Calvillo
- Xitlaly Larios
- Dulce Hernandez
- Dayrin Aguilar
- Jaiden Wilkins

- Best of Show Braiding
- Best of Show Color/Cut
- Best of Show Day/Evening
- Best of Show Fantasy
- Best of Show 3D/Flat Nail Art
- Best of Show Classic/Mens Design

### HEALTH SCIENCE

- Award**
- Health Quiz Bowl Best of Show
  - Best of Show job exhibit
  - Medical Math 1st place
  - Medical Math 2nd place
  - Medical Math 3rd place
  - Medical Terminology 1st place
  - Medical Terminology 2nd place
  - Medical Terminology 3rd place

### Final Results

- Isaac Martinez
- Rebeca Arvizo
- Monica Hernandez
- Danahe Alcantar
- Ulysses Palacios
- Isaac Martinez
- Sherissa Pierre
- Daniel Hernandez

### MACHINING

- Best of Show
- Lathe Manuel 1st place
- Lathe Manuel 2nd place
- Lathe Manuel 3rd place
- Mill Machine 1st place
- Mill Machine 2nd place
- Mill Machine 3rd place
- Job Exhibit 1st Place
- Job Exhibit 2nd Place
- Job Exhibit 3rd Place

NONE

- Miguel Hernandez
- Gabriel Velasquez
- Jorge Salazar
- Eric Hernandez
- Yeson Lopez
- Jacob Cater
- Ayden Stamps, Alexander Castillo
- Miguel Hernandez, Eric Hernandez
- Jorge Salazar, Adriel Franco, Emiliano Rodriguez, Lenny Larios, Gabriel Velazquez
- Victor Pozos, Miguel Grimaldo

Job Exhibit 4th Place

### WELDING

- Introduction to Welding 1st Place
- Introduction to Welding 2nd Place
- Introduction to Welding 3rd Place
- Welding 1 1st Place
- Welding 1 2nd Place
- Welding 1 3rd Place
- Advanced Welding 1st Place
- Advanced Welding 2nd Place
- Advanced Welding 3rd Place
- Team Build Off 1st Place
- James Oviedo, Tate Seward, Torch Cutting Contest

- Kevin Weatherford
- Omar Campos
- Jose Vega
- Alexis Salgado
- Nery Infante
- Dana Smith
- Jairo Marquez
- James Oviedo
- Aaron Campos
- Team 1 - Kevin Weatherford, Robert McGowen
- Joel Serrano



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROYAL ISD

Royal ISD CFO Hector Herrera (left) joins Superintendent Rick Kershner (center) and Assistant Superintendent Duana Brashear in finalizing the purchase of land for the district's second elementary school. The district is set to experience explosive growth in the next ten years, according to district demographers.

# RISD selects site for second Royal Elementary School

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

In a statement from the district on December 15th, Royal ISD announced that it officially closed on the land for the second Royal ISD Elementary School. The new campus will be located at Caymus Creek Drive and Barlett Road. Construction will

be funded by the bond initiative passed by voters in May 2023.

"Today's news is a very good thing and demonstrates our dedication to 'investing in our tomorrow,'" said the statement. "Thank you again for your trust in Royal ISD. We look forward to the future while maintaining the legacy of our past."

# MCLEWAIN GINGERBREAD DAY



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ISD

On December 13, staff and students at McElwain Elementary enjoyed the annual Gingerbread House Day. Students were allowed to invite up to two guardians to attend the special event. McElwain Elementary is located at 6631 Greenwood Orchard Dr, Katy, near FM 529 and the Grand Parkway.

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**Katy Times**



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## Aviso temprano y revisión pública de una propuesta Actividad en una llanura aluvial de 100 años

Para: Todas las agencias, grupos e individuos interesados.

Esto es para dar aviso de que el **ciudad de katy** ha determinado que la siguiente acción propuesta bajo la Subvención en Bloque para el Desarrollo Comunitario - Programa de Recuperación de Desastres administrado por la Oficina General de Tierras de Texas - Departamento de Vivienda de EE. UU. y Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Mitigación (CDBG-MIT) y **Katy - 2022-100130-RMP-agua-alcantarillado**, Se encuentra en una llanura aluvial de 100 años el **ciudad de katy** identificará y evaluará alternativas prácticas para ubicar la acción en la zona de inundación planoy los impactos potenciales en la llanura aluvial de la acción propuesta, según lo exige Orden Ejecutiva 11988, de acuerdo con las regulaciones de HUD en 24 CFR 55.20 Subparte C Procedimientos para tomar determinaciones sobre la protección de Llanura de inundación.

### Localización del proyecto:

Todo el trabajo se realizará en la ciudad de Katy, Fort Bend Condado, Texas, en las siguientes ubicaciones:

#### Mejoras del agua:

- Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 747'
- Danover Rd desde Roberts Rd. hasta un punto 50' South St.
- Armstrong Ln desde Danover Road oeste 175'
- Barley St. desde Danover Rd. oeste 510'
- North St. desde Danover Rd. este 425'
- South St. desde Danover Rd. este 490'

#### Mejoras de alcantarillado:

- Danover Rd desde 110' al sur de Hwy Blvd hasta South St.
- FILA entre Hwy Blvd. y Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 400'
- Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 730'
- Barley St. desde Danover Rd. oeste 140'
- North St. desde Danover Rd. este 475'
- Calle Danover. desde la calle Norte hasta la calle Sur.

**Descripción del proyecto propuesto** [24 CFR 50.12 y 58.32; 40 CRF 1508.25]:

#### Proyecto de agua y fuego.

Este trabajo incluye la instalación de 4,510 pies lineales de nuevas líneas de agua de hasta 12 pulgadas de diámetro, 14 nuevos hidrantes contra incendios, nuevas válvulas de aislamiento en línea, reconexión de 59 líneas de servicio al cliente, pruebas y desinfección.

- Línea de agua de 12 pulgadas: 1,870 LF
- Línea de agua de 8" - 2,350
- Línea de agua de 6" - 290 LF
- Reconexiones de servicio - 59
- Bocas de incendio - 14
- Válvulas de compuerta (12"/8") - 5
- Reparaciones de pavimento - 700 SQ

#### Proyecto de mejoras de alcantarillado

Esta obra incluye la rehabilitación de 3,782 pies lineales de tuberías de alcantarillado sanitario existentes, rehabilitación de pozos de registro existentes y reemplazo de 52 líneas de atención al cliente. El proceso utilizado para rehabilitar las tuberías principales de alcantarillado sanitario será mediante métodos sin zanjas, como Pipe Bursting y Curado-in-place Pipe Liner.

- Rehabilitación de alcantarillado de 15" - 1,872 LF
- Rehabilitación de alcantarillado de 8" - 1,890 LF
- Reconexiones de servicio - 52
- Lateral de Servicio de Alcantarillado - 52
- Rehabilitación de paredes de alcantarilla - 153 LF
- Reparaciones de pavimento - 412.7 SY

#### Llanura de inundación

Según el mapa de llanura aluvial de FEMA n.º 48157C0040L (fecha de entrada en vigor 2/4/14), partes del proyecto se llevarán a cabo en la Zona X de FEMA (área de riesgo mínimo de inundación), la llanura aluvial de 500 años y la Zona AE (llanura aluvial de 100 años).

Las actividades están permitidas en la Zona X y debido a que el proyecto no se considera una acción crítica, no se requieren acciones adicionales para las partes del proyecto ubicadas en la llanura aluvial de 500 años.

Llanura aluvial de 100 años:

#### Mejoras del agua:

- Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 755'
- Danover Rd desde Roberts Rd. 150' al sur
- Barley St. desde Danover Rd. oeste 510'

#### Mejoras de alcantarillado:

- FILA entre Hwy Blvd. (Hwy 90) y Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 400'
- Roberts Rd desde Danover Rd. oeste 730'
- Barley St. desde Danover Rd. oeste 140'

Área máxima de perturbación: 1,22 acres

Cabe señalar que no se realizará ningún trabajo en el canal de inundación que se encuentra junto al extremo oeste del proyecto en Roberts Road.

### Valores naturales y beneficiosos potencialmente afectados negativamente por la actividad:

1. Prevenir la pérdida de vidas y bienes como resultado de las inundaciones es la máxima prioridad. Otra inundación podría dañar la nueva infraestructura.
2. Además de las preocupaciones por la vida y la propiedad, la Ciudad ha considerado los valores naturales de la llanura aluvial. Los recursos naturales de la llanura aluvial incluyen recursos hídricos, biológicos y sociales. El proyecto propuesto tendrá impactos mínimos en las llanuras aluviales porque habrá una mínima alteración del suelo.
3. Luego de la revisión de las listas de especies estatales y federales, se concluyó que la construcción de las instalaciones no tendrá un impacto cuantificable en la vida vegetal y animal. En la llanura aluvial y en el lugar sólo se utilizarán plantas autóctonas.
4. Los recursos sociales también deben considerarse durante el proceso de diseño. Los diseños están destinados a complementar las características naturales del área y ofrecer una estructura estéticamente agradable. El sitio no afectará las tierras agrícolas.

Hay tres propósitos principales para este aviso. Primero, las personas que pueden verse afectadas por las actividades en las llanuras aluviales. y aquellos que tengan interés en la protección del medio ambiente natural deberían tener la oportunidad de expresar sus preocupaciones y proporcionar información sobre estas áreas. Se anima a los comentaristas a ofrecer sitios alternativos fuera de la llanura aluvial, métodos alternativos para cumplir el mismo propósito del proyecto y métodos para minimizar y mitigar los impactos. En segundo lugar, un programa adecuado de avisos públicos puede ser una importante herramienta educativa pública. La difusión de información y la solicitud de comentarios públicos sobre llanuras aluviales puede facilitar y mejorar los esfuerzos federales para reducir los riesgos e impactos asociados con la ocupación y modificación de estas áreas especiales. En tercer lugar, como cuestión de justicia, cuando el gobierno federal determina que participará en acciones que se llevan a cabo en llanuras aluviales, debe informar a quienes puedan estar en mayor riesgo o en mayor riesgo.

Los comentarios escritos deben ser recibidos por el ciudad de katy A la siguiente dirección en o antes 9 de enero de 2024, Ayuntamiento de la ciudad de Katy, 901 Avenue C, Katy, TX 77493 y (281) 391-4800, a la atención de: William Thiele, alcalde. También se puede revisar una descripción completa del proyecto desde 9:00 a. m. a 5:00 p. m. en la dirección anterior. Los comentarios también pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a [todd@ambientalesdetexas.com](mailto:todd@ambientalesdetexas.com).

Fecha de publicación: 21 de diciembre de 2023

## Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a 100-year Floodplain

To: All interested Agencies, Groups and Individuals.

This is to give notice that the **City of Katy** has determined that the following proposed action under the Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery Program administered by the Texas General Land Office - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) and **Katy - 2022-100130-RMP-water-sewer**, is located in a 100-year floodplain and the **City of Katy** will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Protection of Floodplains.

### Project Location:

All work will occur in the City of Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas at the following locations:

#### Water Improvements:

- Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 747'
- Danover Rd from Roberts Rd. to a point 50' South St.
- Armstrong Ln from Danover Road west 175'
- Barley St. from Danover Rd. west 510'
- North St. from Danover Rd. east 425'
- South St. from Danover Rd. east 490'

#### Sewer Improvements:

- Danover Rd from 110' south of Hwy Blvd to South St.
- ROW between Hwy Blvd. and Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 400'
- Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 730'
- Barley St. from Danover Rd. west 140'
- North St. from Danover Rd. east 475'
- Danover Rd. from North St. to South St.

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

#### Project for water and fire

This work includes the installation of 4,510 linear feet of new water lines up to 12 inches diameter, 14 new fire hydrants, new in-line isolation valves, reconnection of 59 customer service lines, testing, and disinfection.

- 12-inch Water Line - 1,870 LF
- 8" Water line - 2,350
- 6" Water Line - 290 LF
- Service Reconections - 59
- Fire Hydrants - 14
- Gate Valves (12"/8") - 5
- Pavement Repairs - 700 SQ

#### Project for sewer improvements

This work includes the rehabilitation of 3,782 linear feet of existing sanitary sewer mains, rehabilitation of existing manholes, and replacement of 52 customer service lines. The process used to rehabilitate the sanitary sewer mains will be by trenchless methods such as Pipe Bursting and Cured-in-place Pipe Liner.

- 15" Sewer Rehab - 1,872 LF
- 8" Sewer Rehab - 1,890 LF
- Service Reconections - 52
- Sewer Service Lateral - 52
- Manhole Wall Rehab - 153 LF
- Pavement Repairs - 412.7 SY

#### FLOODPLAIN

According to FEMA floodplain map #48157C0040L (Effective Date 4/2/14), portions of the project will occur in FEMA Zone X, (area of minimal flood hazard), the 500-year floodplain and Zone AE (100-year floodplain).

The activities are allowed in Zone X and because the project is not considered a critical action, no further action is required for the portions of the project located in the 500-year floodplain.

100-year Floodplain:

#### Water Improvements:

- Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 755'
- Danover Rd from Roberts Rd. south 150'
- Barley St. from Danover Rd. west 510'

#### Sewer Improvements:

- ROW between Hwy Blvd. (Hwy 90) and Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 400'
- Roberts Rd from Danover Rd. west 730'
- Barley St. from Danover Rd. west 140'

Max Area of Disturbance: 1.22 acres

It should be noted that no work will be done in the floodway which is located adjacent to the west end of the project on Roberts Road.

### Natural and beneficial values potentially adversely affected by the activity:

1. Preventing loss of life and property as a result of flooding is the highest priority. Another flood could damage the new infrastructure.
2. In addition to concerns for life and property, the City has considered the natural values of the floodplain. The natural resources of the floodplain include water, biological, and societal resources. The proposed project will have minimal impacts to the floodplains because there will be minimal ground disturbance.
3. After the review of state and federal species lists, it was concluded that the construction of the facilities will have no quantifiable impact on plant and animal life. Only native plants are to be used in the floodplain and on the site.
4. Societal resources should also be considered during the design process. The designs are meant to complement the natural features of the area and to offer an aesthetically pleasing structure. The site will not have an effect on agricultural lands.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplains 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. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplains 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, 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 **January 9, 2024, City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, TX 77493 and (281) 391-4800, Attn: William Thiele, Mayor.** A full description of the project may also be reviewed from **9:00 AM to 5:00 PM** at the address above. Comments may also be submitted via email at [todd@texasenvironmentals.com](mailto:todd@texasenvironmentals.com).

Publication Date: December 21, 2023

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# Six Katy ISD players nominated to Whataburger Super Team

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Six Katy ISD players have been nominated for the 2023 Whataburger Super Team after a strong year for the school district.

Katy led the way with three players being put on the ballot. Center Coen Echols, defensive end Dakys Brinkley and tight end Colton Sanders were the three nominated from the Tigers after Katy won the District 19-6A title and was the only team to advance past the bi-district round of the playoffs.

Taylor followed behind Katy by placing two players on the list in center/long snapper Brady Downs and punter/kicker

Jackson Waller. Waller was named to the Whataburger Super Team last year as a punter and is hoping to make it two years in a row. Taylor finished third in district and made it to the playoffs for the first time in three seasons this year, making it to the bi-district round.

Tompkins' Ashton Funk was the final player to be nominated from Katy ISD. The offensive tackle helped lead the Falcons to a second place finish in district and as Tompkins made the playoffs for the sixth straight season.

To cast a ballot for the Whataburger Super Team, go to <https://www.texasfootball.com/whataburger-super-team/form>



PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Above: Tompkins' Ashton Funk celebrates as Caleb Blocker runs in for a touchdown during a game between Tompkins and Jordan at Rhodes Stadium. Left: Dakys Brinkley celebrates after a pass breakup during a game between Katy and Clear Springs at Rhodes Stadium.

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**NOTICE**  
THE MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023, REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF KATY, TEXAS, HAS BEEN CANCELLED IN OBSERVANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.  
  
By Order Of Mayor And City Council  
City Of Katy, Texas  
October 9, 2023

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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](http://StorageTreasures.com)  
  
The facility is 8900 Emrnor Lane Houston, Texas 77080. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on December 22, 2023, and end at 12:00 pm on December 28, 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: Dunia Alas, Cardenas Roberto Soria, Long Phung, Juan Perez.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Crown Castle is proposing to install a 36-foot telecommunications utility structure located within the public right of way at 1463 Katy Flewellen Rd, Katy, Ford Bend County, TX 77494, (29 45 59.9724 N, 95 49 14.9334 W). The facility is not expected to be FAA lighted. Crown Castle invites comments from any interested party on the impact of the proposed action on any districts, sites, buildings, structures or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or specific reason the proposed action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Specific information regarding the project is available by contacting EBI Consulting, Project 6123008548 - ENB, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or at (407)792-9506.

**INVITATION TO BIDDERS**  
Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by KGA DeForest Design on behalf of the City of Fulshear in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:00 P.M. on January 15, 2024, for **City of Fulshear Eagle Landing Park**.  
  
All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including concession building, parking lots and driveways, natural turf sports fields, playground, irrigation and landscape.

**December 14 Puzzle Answers**

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ) IN THE FAMILY COURT  
 ) SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT  
COUNTY OF YORK )  
  
Marie Madeline Chery and Benjamin Moses Chery, Plaintiffs  
Vs  
John Solomon Jatta, Defendant  
Docket Number 2023-DR-46-1003  
  
TO THE DEFENDANT:  
  
**SUMMONS**  
**YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND REQUIRED** to answer the complaint in the above-entitled action, a copy of which is herewith served upon you; to appear and defend the action; and to serve a copy of your answer upon the subscriber at Post Office Box 12323, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 29731 within thirty (30) days from the date of service.  
  
**NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS**  
**YOU ARE ALSO NOTIFIED**, in case of your failure to do so within the time aforesaid, judgment by default will be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.  
  
1. An adoption proceeding has been commenced pursuant to Chapter 9 of Title 63 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina.  
2. You must respond in writing within thirty days of receiving this notice by filing with the court in which the adoption is pending notice and reasons to contest, intervene, or otherwise respond;  
3. The court must be informed of your current address and of any changes in address during the adoption proceedings; and  
4. Failure to file a response within thirty days of receiving notice constitutes consent to adoption of the child and forfeiture of all rights and obligations with respect to the child.  
  
Respectfully Submitted,  
DUNCAN AND NOBLES  
  
S/B James David Duncan  
Duncan and Nobles  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
306 Oakland Avenue  
PO Box 12323  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731  
O 803.366.6633  
[james@duncanandnobles.com](mailto:james@duncanandnobles.com)  
  
May 25, 2023

Bidders shall submit two (2) copies of the Bid on exact copies of the Bid Form provided. A Certificate of Interested Parties (HB Form 1295) must be returned with Bid. (See Spec Book)  
  
Bid Documents may be examined without charge in the offices of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC, 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494, or may be obtained upon request.  
  
A Cashier's Check or Bidder's Bond Payable to City of Fulshear in the amount of not less than two percent (2%) of the bid submitted, outlined in the Contract Documents, must accompany the Bid.  
  
A Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for January 04, 2024, at 2:00 P.M. at the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC.  
  
Bidders must have at least five years of confirmed experience on comparable size projects of a similar scope in the Houston Area.  
  
The successful bidder receiving contract award must furnish Performance, Payment, and Maintenance Bonds in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) each of the total Contract price. Each such bond shall be executed by a corporate surety duly authorized to do business in the State of Texas.  
  
The winning bid is decided not by low price but by this standard:  
  
"The responsible person or persons that, in the Board's judgment, will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most economical completion of the District's proposed improvements."  
  
The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive bidding informalities.

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AJ Bates fights through contact and tries to shoot a layup during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Jordan at the Seven Lakes gym. TYLER TYRE

## Seven Lakes tops Jordan, stays unbeaten in district

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes has beaten teams with offense this year. The Spartans have been a high flying team, averaging over 70 points and outscoring opponents with a fast paced team that loves to get up and down the court.

But when the time came, the Spartans knew they would need to lock down on defense and knew that they would have to put together a whole game on that end of the floor.

That time came on Friday and the Spartans were up to the challenge, using a swarming defense against Jordan that slowed down an explosive team and helped Seven Lakes to a 50-44 win to stay unbeaten in District 19-6A play.

"It was a fantastic defensive performance," said Seven Lakes head coach Shannon Heston. "One of the things we really praised these guys about was their effort defensively and the second and third efforts we had, because Jordan had a great gameplan. It's always important to be able to win with different styles



Isaiah Santos goes up for a dunk during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Jordan at the Seven Lakes gym. TYLER TYRE

and we showed we could do that tonight against a very high quality opponent. We're excited about that type of defense, because that's something that can travel."

It was a defensive battle all game between the two teams, with neither ever being able to gain

much of an edge. The Spartans led 13-11 after the first quarter and 29-20 at halftime. They were helped in large part by a big performance from a role player, as Hagen Knight scored all nine of his points in the first half, while Brett Norton also made an impact, scoring seven of his nine points in the first half.

"Hagen is a guy who's been stuck in a bit of a shooting slump, but he's a tremendous shooter so we told him to keep shooting with confidence," Heston said. "It was awesome to see him hit a couple threes and hit an and-one as well. He played strong defense and really gave us a spark in that first half."

It became even more of a defensive game in the second half. Both teams locked in on that side and went back and forth all through the second half. Seven Lakes led by only two points after the third quarter and Jordan tied things midway through the fourth quarter before Seven Lakes got a couple of key buckets to regain the lead and create space which they then held on to the rest of the way.

See SPARTANS, page 10

## Jordan tops Cinco in record-setting night from Holt

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Tuesday had the makings of an important game for Jordan. The Warriors were in a big spot, going up against a team with a similarly strong start to the season in Cinco Ranch and with the chance to get above .500 in district play.

The Warriors put together a complete team performance and got a much needed win behind a record setting day from Jaden Holt. The Warriors came out 67-54 victors while Holt set the single game points record for the school, scoring 32 and leading the way offensively.

"He's one of our leaders and he's a guy we count on in these types of big games," said Jordan head coach Charlie Jones. "He's been on varsity before and he's played in these types of games and been in these moments. When he has games like this, it just lifts up the level of every other guy on the team — they all feed off of it."

Holt kept the Warriors in the game through the first quarter of the contest, scoring 13 of the team's 15 first quarter points as

the two teams were tied at 15 after one.

But in the second, Jordan jumped out ahead and never looked back. The defense picked up its intensity and broke open a 32-25 lead at half-time, increasing that to a 51-36 lead after the third quarter.

"All week we've preached 'play together,'" Holt said. "It took us a bit, but we got there in the second quarter and we kept getting better as the game went on. We rebounded, boxed out and got out in transition. We did a really good job on that in the last three quarters and when we play like that it puts us in positions to win."

Just as important as the offensive display was the team's work on defense. The Warriors slowed down Cinco Ranch's No. 1 option in Prince Jones-Bynum in a big way, limiting the junior point guard to just eight points and not allowing the Cougars to ever get into a rhythm.

"We tried to throw a lot of bodies at Prince, pick him up full court and just make things tough on him," Jones said. "He's

See JORDAN, page A10



Jaden Holt gets in a triple threat position during Monday's game between Jordan and Cinco Ranch at the Jordan gym. TYLER TYRE

### WEEK OF DECEMBER 22

## SCORES & SCHEDULES

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

#### Wednesday

- Seven Lakes vs. Dallas Hillcrest, 12:30 p.m.
- Jordan at Oak Ridge, 1 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Lufkin, 3:30 p.m.
- Taylor at Boerne ISD Tournament

### BOYS BASKETBALL

#### Wednesday

- Cinco Ranch at New Caney, TBD

### WRESTLING

#### Thursday

- Morton Ranch at Cy-Falls meet, 3 p.m.

### GIRLS SOCCER

#### Wednesday

- Cinco Ranch at Woodlands/Bridgeland Tournament

## Cavallo named Morton Ranch head football coach

BY TYLER TYRE  
SPORTS EDITOR

Morton Ranch announced its new head football coach on Friday, bringing in a coach with experience in the area and a background in developing strong programs.

Nicholas Cavallo was named the new head coach of Morton Ranch, becoming the fifth head coach in school history.

Cavallo moves into the role after leading the George Ranch program in Richmond for the past six seasons. He comes off a 9-3 season where he led the Longhorns to a third place finish and an area round appearance, with the Longhorns beating Taylor in the bi-district round to advance to the second round of the playoffs.

He led the Longhorns to playoffs in five of his six seasons



PHOTO COURTESY KATY ISD

Nicholas Cavallo has been named the new head football coach of Morton Ranch high school.

as head coach and accumulated a 34-30 record.

Cavallo earned a bachelors degree in law and society at

Purdue where he then went on to become a graduate assistant. He eventually became an offensive player development specialist at Rutgers before becoming a defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator at Campbell University.

Cavallo came to the Houston area and became the defensive coordinator at Terry High School, where he helped the Rangers to two playoff appearances from 2013-2017 before becoming the head coach at George Ranch in 2018.

George Ranch improved every year under Cavallo, going from a 4-6 record to a 5-7 record in 2019, a 5-4 record in 2020, a 5-5 record in 2021, a 6-5 record in 2022 and a 9-3 record this past season.

Cavallo succeeds Ron Counter, who had a record of 29-40 at Morton Ranch over the

past seven seasons, making the playoffs once in 2022, where the Mavericks lost to Hightower in the bi-district round.

Before Ron Counter, Dave Meadows, Scott Svendsen and Jim Shewmake led the Mavericks program; overall Morton Ranch has a record of 72-111 in the history of the school's football program.

"I am grateful and excited for the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and talented team of educators and staff at Morton Ranch High School," Cavallo said. "The Mavericks' reputation precedes itself, and I feel privileged to join this remarkable community. I am excited to hit the ground running and get to work. I am looking forward to building a championship program that both our students and the entire school community can be proud of."

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**SPARTANS**

from page A9

“We just did whatever we needed to win down the stretch,” said senior guard AJ Bates. “We didn’t have a great scoring night tonight, but for all of us we just do whatever it takes to win, whether that be, scoring, making assists, rebounding of defense. We just find ways to do that and that’s how we got things done down the stretch. All of our mindsets were to get the win any way we could.”

The Spartans improved to 17-2 on the year and 4-0 in district play with the win. Seven Lakes will hope to build on that when they go into the Christmas break, but they know the job isn’t done yet.

“These guys just are never satisfied and that’s what I’m most proud of,” Heston said. “They go and look at film on their own. When we walked in at halftime, the players are already talking about things that we were

going to point out. When after the game when we come in, the players are already talking about how to fix certain things. The leadership on this team and the camaraderie — it makes these guys special and it gives these guys a chance to do something that no team has done before at this school.”

District 19-6A  
**SEVEN LAKES 50,  
JORDAN 44**

Points: (SL) Isaiah Santos 10, Nasir Price 9, Hagen Knight 9, Brett Norton 9, AJ Bates 8, Tillman Jaramillo 3; (J) Jaden Holt 11, Jacob Oluokun 10, Jude Oluokun 10, Trae Gage 2, Rayan Fadika 2; Halftime: Seven Lakes 29, Jordan 20; 3-Pointers: (SL) Knight 2, Price, Norton, Jaramillo; (J) Holt 3, Nicholson; Records: Seven Lakes: 17-2, 4-0; Jordan: 14-4, 2-2;

**JORDAN**

from page A9



TYLER TYRE

Jaden Holt shoots a fadeaway during Monday’s game between Jordan and Cinco Ranch at the Jordan gym.

a really good player and it’s hard going against my nephews like that but we worked on how we would defend him and the biggest thing was making him take tough shots. He’s going to make some because he’s really good, but luckily tonight he missed more than he made.”

Jordan has bounced back in a good way after losing its first district game, beating Katy and Cinco Ranch to go to 2-1 in District 19-6A.

“Our energy against Paetow last week was way too low and we’ve preached about picking that up and being better,” said junior guard Corey Nicholson. “You could see it work out tonight. We had so much energy — we played hard

and that’s what we have to keep doing.”

District 19-6A

**JORDAN 67,  
CINCO RANCH 54**

Points: (J) Jaden Holt 32, Corey Nicholson 10, Jalen Black 7, Jacob Oluokun 6, Jude Oluokun 6, Rayan Fadika 4, Elian Dudziak 2; (CR) Dylan Jones-Bynum 14, Noah Pearce 11, Prince Jones-Bynum 9, Pat Origo 6, Darren Moore 5, Kellen LeCronier 4, Joseph Kayinda 3, Campbell Turner 1;

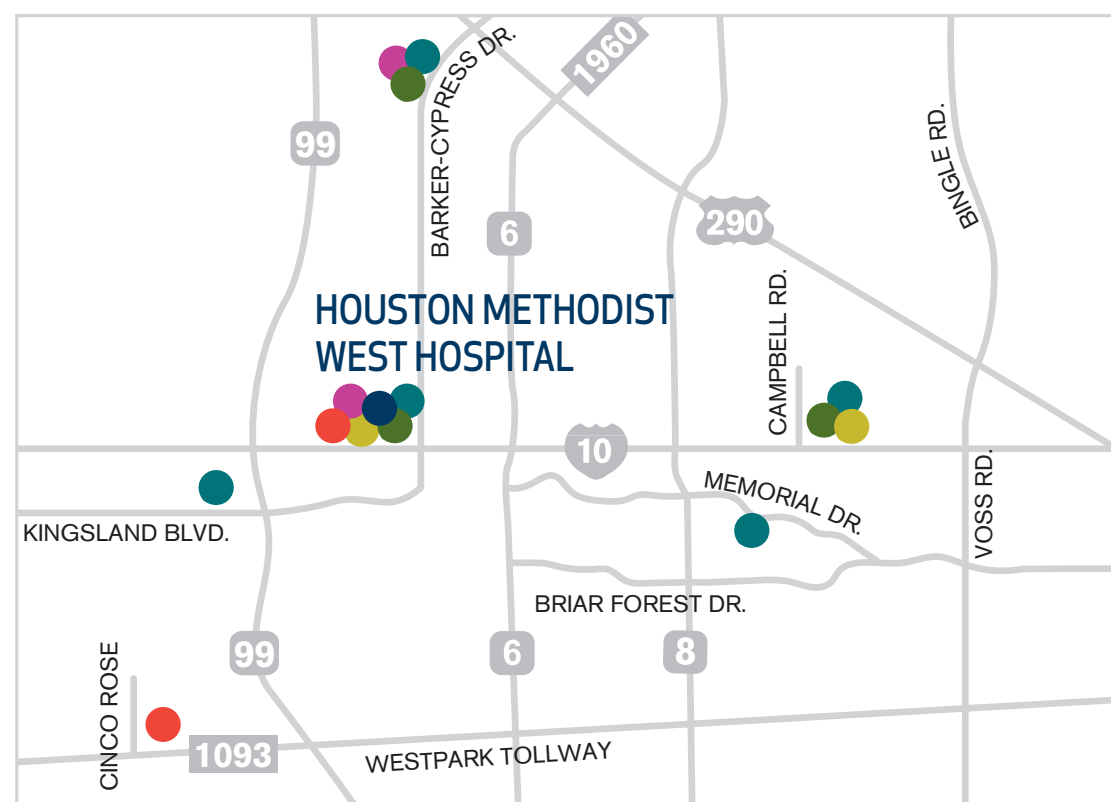
Halftime: Jordan 32-25; 3-Pointers: (J) Holt 2, Nicholson 2, Black; (CR) Pearce 3, Dylan Jones-Bynum 2, Prince Jones Bynum 2, Origo, Moore; Records: (J) 14-3, 2-1; (CR) 13-4, 2-1;

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