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THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024

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# Katy ISD honors legacy of David and Terri Youngblood with dedication ceremony

FROM STAFF REPORTS

On March 5, Katy Independent School District (Katy ISD) celebrated the significant contributions and legacy of David and Terri Youngblood at the dedication ceremony of

Youngblood Elementary, 25600 Longenbaugh Road, in Katy. The occasion united the community in honoring the exceptional service of the Youngbloods, whose ongoing impact continues to shape the district's history.

The dedication ceremony

welcomed Youngblood students and staff, families, district officials, namesakes, and the Board of Trustees, as well as State Representative Michael Schofield. Attendees were

See **DEDICATION**, page A3



Retired educator Terri Youngblood (center) displays the customized guest book which was presented to her and to her husband, David, (right) at the March 5th dedication ceremony for the elementary school named in their honor, while fellow campus namesake Bonnie Holland (left) looks on. The Youngs also received the gift of two rocking chairs from the Youngblood Elementary School staff for them to enjoy in retirement.



SUSAN ROVEGN

Attending the ribbon cutting for Jurassic World: The Exhibition and meeting Baby Bumpy were City of Katy City Administrator Byron Hebert, State Representative Michael Schofield, Katy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris, Baby Bumby's handler Jordyn Chuter of the Jurassic World staff, City of Katy Councilmember Gina Hicks, and Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele. The exhibition is open through October 26th at Katy Mills Mall.

## Jurassic World: The Exhibition now open at Katy Mills Mall

An immersive experience based on Jurassic World franchises makes its Houston area debut

#### FROM STAFF REPORTS

The award-winning Jurassic World: The Exhibition opened March 8th at Katy Mills Mall, 5000 Katy Mills Circle in Katy, with an official ribbon-cutting attended by city officials, media and other dignitaries.

Jurassic World: The Exhibition, a 20,000-square-foot

family-friendly immersive experience, has now become one of the fastest selling exhibitions in history since its launch and has welcomed over 8 million visitors in cities around the world. The exhibition engages audiences of all ages in settings inspired by Universal Pictures and Amblin Entertainment's Jurassic World franchise and is produced in conjunction with Universal Live Entertainment, NEON, and Animax Designs - the creators of the lifelike animatronic dinosaurs.

Jurassic World: The Exhibition is a family-friendly exhibit of massive proportions based on one of the biggest blockbuster franchises in cinema history. Visitors walk through the iconic Jurassic World gate, where they will explore richly themed environments inspired by the beloved films, coming face-toface with life-sized dinosaurs. such as the towering Brachiosaurus, Velociraptors including fan-favorite Blue, and the most fearsome of all, the mighty Tyrannosaurus rex. Guests will imagine what it would have been like to roam amongst these breathtaking creatures, and even interact with baby dinosaurs, including "Bumpy" from the popular animated series Jurassic World: Camp Cretaceous from Universal Pictures, Amblin

See **JURASSIC**, page A3

## Katy Home & Garden Show and Barndo Expo returns with new features

**CONTRIBUTED REPORT** 

The 18th Annual Katy Home & Garden Show and Barndo Expo is back March 23-24 at the Katy ISD Gerald D. Young Ag Center, 5801 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd. in Katy, with hundreds of exhibitors, vendors, and speakers all under one roof to help with home improvement and garden needs. Whether you are looking for new flooring, windows, kitchens, baths, or ideas to spruce up your backyard --comparison shop on everything all under one roof. Enjoy live demonstrations, workshops, and seminars on topics like gut health, building a barndo, interior design and more. Plus, features like Pet Central, Artisan Alley, Fresh Ideas Stage and the always popular Barndominium Expo will be featured. Tickets are available at the door for just \$9.00 or may be purchased online at katy-

homeandgardenshow.com.

Meet Stacee Lynn — the leading expert in barndominium design and build at the Barndominium Expo, sponsored by Toyota of Katy. Barndominiums continue to be a hot suburban and rural design trend. Come hear Stacee Lynn talk about the latest design ideas for steel and post-frame Barndos and the technology being used to improve designs and the customer experience. She will also discuss the growing trend toward

multi-generational family compounds. Have fun learning at this informative session full of energy and creativity.

Other show features include Artisan Alley, featuring handmade art products from area artists like Ami's Art Glass, Golden Beaver Woodworks, and more. Pet Central for the fur baby is where you can discover new products and services for your four-legged family members. And now is the time to get planting and spruce up the yard. Talk to experts about building that long-awaited outdoor living area with features like pergolas, outdoor kitchens, outdoor fireplaces, and unique outdoor furniture. Plus, stock up on Texas natives at the always popular and sell-out Brookwood Community's plant sale. Find idea-inspiring seminars for the home which will be featured Saturday and Sunday on the Ikea Fresh Ideas Stage. Check the website for a complete listing of speakers.

Meet Stephen Ritz, author and founder of the Green Bronx Machine, an award-winning school academic program that puts the art and science of growing vegetables indoors at the heart of project-based learning in the classroom. Part of his classroom success

See **GARDEN**, page A3

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March 14, 2024 16 pages | \$1



# Katy ISD to conduct free CRASE training for parents and staff on March 27th

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Katy Independent School District will conduct free CRASE training – Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events – on March 27th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the district's Education Service Complex, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy.

The event – which is available ONLY to Katy ISD parents and staff and which is limited to 75 participants – is designed to help civilians understand what they should do if confronted with an active shooter situation. The Civilian Response

to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training is designed and built on the AVOID, DENY and DEFEND strategy, according to a flyer provided by the district. Topics covered in the presentation include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of law enforcement and civilian response options.

To register for the training, please contact the district's Emergency Management Department by email at oemclerk@katyisd.org. Please provide the names of all who will be attending the training in the email.

## KAEDC's Stan Stanley award ceremony moved to August General Assembly date

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Katy Area Economic Development Council is now accepting nominations for the annual Stan C. Stanley "Eagle" Leadership and Economic Development Awards, with the awards presentation to be made at the KAEDC General Assembly Meeting on August 20, 2024.

The awards – given in two categories — recognize an outstanding volunteer economic development leader and an elected official leader in the Katy area for the time period of

January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023. Contact Susan Dixon at 281-396-2201 or email sdixon@katyedc.org for an application. Form submissions will be accepted until March 29, 2024. For more information, go to katyedc. org.





## LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch hosts charitable blanket bingo event

All proceeds of the event will go to Hope Impacts, non-profit fighting homelessness

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch announced on March 4th that the center would host a new event, Blanket Bingo, to be added to its lively entertainment schedule. Blanket Bingo will be held in the

centrally located Heritage Square, the green area in front of Ambriza, on March 22, 2024, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the center at 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. All event proceeds will go to Hope Impacts, a non-profit organization creating sustainable solutions to fight homelessness in Katy, Texas.

LaCenterra is thrilled to have the opportunity to host an event that allows the Katy area residents to come together and positively impact the community," said Ulisa Quiroz, marketing coordinator at LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch. "Events like Blanket Bingo allow

us to give back to the people of Katy, Texas, while simultaneously creating fun and lasting moments for our guests here at LaCenterra."

Open to the public, tickets for the event are available for purchase on LaCenterra's website. Each ticket includes eight rounds of bingo and a bingo dabber. Participants will have the chance to win exclusive LaCenterra tenant prizes during the event.

Hope Impacts is a non-profit organization serving the Katy, Texas community by creating sustainable solutions for those experiencing homelessness.

"Events like Blanket Bingo allow us to give back to the people of Katy, Texas, while simultaneously creating fun and lasting moments for our guests here at LaCenterra."

-ULISA QUIROZ, marketing coordinator at LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch

Through a vast referral and resource system, intentional community partnerships and relationshipbuilding opportunities, Hope Impacts has helped move over 260 homeless individuals to find

permanent housing solutions since its inception in 2016.

For more information, please visit https://www.hopeimpacts. org/ and https://www.lacenterra.



## \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* CLEARLY, YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! 🍣 LORRAINE! She has been with us for 5 months. She



LOOKING FOR A PET, A HOME OR A JOB? **DON'T MISS OUR CLASSIFIEDS!** 

#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### Hop to It! The Bunny Returns to Katy Mills for Easter

Katy Mills is pleased to announce Bunny visits for families as part of the Bunny Photo Experience at Katy Mills. The Bunny arrives on Friday, March 1st and will be available for visits until

The Bunny Photo Experience will be open March 1st through March 8th on Monday - Friday from 2 to 7 p.m., Sat-

urday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sunday 12 to 6 p.m., and March 9th through March 31st on Monday - Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 12 to 6 p.m. on Sunday. Reservations are

strongly encouraged. Make Bunny reservations today by going to whereisbunny.com/mall/0641?utm\_campaign=katy-mills&utm\_medium=referral&utm\_source=influencer-simon

Katy Mills Mall, located at 5000 Katy Mills Circle in Katy, will also host events with the Bunny this season

• Caring Bunny® - Sunday, March 17 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Caring Bunny® is a private event for children with special needs and their families. Special care is taken to ensure a sensory-friendly environment. Reservations are required.

#### **American Legion celebrates** 105th anniversary with March 15th dinner at the Elks Lodge

Celebrate the American Legion's 105 years of service to veterans on March 15th from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Katy Elks Lodge, 1050 Katy Fort Bend Road, hosted by American Legion Post 164 of Katy. For tickets and for more information on the event, contact Phil Malsbury at 281-797-1913 or phil. malsbary@yahoo.com.

#### **Easter Jam at The Fellowship Church on March 30th**

Easter Jam - an Easter show and carnival celebration big enough for the entire family! Join Fellowship Kids for a Saturday morning - March 30th -for all the fun. There will be live entertainment that children will love, including carnival games, inflatables, treats and so much more. Doors will open at 9:45 a.m. and the Easter Jam show will kick off right at 10 a.m., rain or shine. The event will be at the Fellowship Church, 22765 Westheimer Parkway in Katy. For more information, please contact Erin Moore at erin@thefellowship.org.

#### **Jellybean Jamboree is coming** your way on March 30th

**Jellybean Jamboree is coming!** 

Bring your kiddos March 30th at 4 p.m. to the Second Baptist Church's west campus at 19449 Katy Freeway, Houston. Check-In starts at 3:30 p.m.. There will be an egg scramble, live music, inflatables, face painting, cotton candy, food trucks, and a petting zoo. Pre-Register here: https://2nd. org/3Iwz9aq

#### Find your special friend at the Special Pals adoption event at Serene Beans on March 30th

Serene Beans, located at 5609 Third Street in old Katy, announced that starting Saturday, March 30th. the cafe will be doing "canines and coffee" every last Saturday of each month. Serene Beans will be partnering up with the Special Pals animal shelter and will also be partnering with Blue Line K-9 of Katy who will have a booth set up outside. Come and meet all the adoptable dogs and possibly meet your new best friend! The event takes place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



## **CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Helps little firms
- 4. Political action committee 7. Allowed
- 12. Olivia Colman played one 15. Open
- 16. He had a notable lamp
- 18. Promotional material 19. Domesticated animal
- 20. Larry and Curly's buddy 21. The best ever
- 24. TV network
- 27. Checked for
- 30. Dry or withered
- 31. Expression of annoyance 33. Dash
- 34. Fifth note of a major scale
- 35. A secret clique
- 37. Partner to cheese
- 39. \_\_ school: where to learn healing
- 41. City in ancient Syria 42. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
- 44. Established practice 47. Thanksgiving side dish
- 48. District in Peru
- 49. It's becoming more prevalent
- 50. State in India
- 52. Measure of illumination 53. Raised platform

- 56. Japanese warrior
- 61. R.L. Stevenson novel 63. Transitory
- 64. Advanced degree
- 65. Fiddler crabs

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Prevent from seeing
- 2. Czech city 3. \_\_ and Andy, TV show
- 4. A young pig
- 5. Removed surgically
- 6. Covered with
- 7. Chest muscle (slang)
- 8. Nigerian City 9. Midway between south
- and east 10. A way to shut
- 11. Stop playing
- 12 Marshy places
- 13. Takes apart 14. Ten cents
- 17. A gesture of assent
- 22. Scent 23. Teletypewriter
- 24. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 25. Hillside
- 26. Taxi driver
- 28. Semitic Sun god
- 29. Town in India
- 32. Traditional rhythmic
- 36. Fugitives are on the \_\_\_ 38. Type of dance 40. Two letters, one sound

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

- 43. Having a strong, pleasant taste 44. Golf score
- 45. Mayhem 46. Drenched
- 51. River in northeastern Asia
- 54. Drug to treat anxiety (abbr.) 55. Part-time employee
- 56. A very large body of water 57. Aboriginal people of Japan
- 58. Millisecond 59. Forearm bone 60. Subway dweller
- 62. Royal Mail

#### 8 3 6 6 5 8



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.

#### **GARDEN**

from page A1

comes from utilizing the innovative Tower Garden concept. Tower Gardens are truly the future of gardening, using 90% less water and land resources and producing 30% more yield. What Ritz has done in education with Tower Gardens will be featured in the documentary Generation Growth, which will be aired at the White House in early April before being released to audiences nationwide. Ritz will make a guest appearance at the Juice Plus+ Tower Garden booth both Saturday and Sunday alongside Andrea Bohn, wellness educator and certified health coach.

Andrea Bohn is leading the Sourdough and Gut Health Workshop, a hands-on workshop where participants will make and take sourdough bread along with a 103-year-old starter. Eighty percent of the immune system function comes from the gut and 90% of the

body's serotonin (mood regulating hormone) is made in the gut. The foods we eat have a major impact on our health, and sourdough has numerous health benefits that attendees will learn about at the workshop. Find out how to improve your health in 2024.

Returning for a second year is the Youth Entrepreneur Market featuring area students ages 6-17 with a penchant for businesses. These young business leaders are showing off their business acumen early with business models that have cultivated idea implementation, product cost, packaging, budgeting, ROI, and marketing. Come shop with them and support young entrepreneurs in the making!

"Shopping local is a key to keeping a community thriving," explains Robyn Cade, President of RJC Productions, producers of the Katy Home & Garden Show and Barndominium Expo. "We have been supporting area businesses for 18 years. If you are redoing your kitchen, bath or tackling any other home project, you will be able to talk to multiple experts at one time. In this busy world that is an actual cost savings," Cade added.

The first 100 attendees each day receive a FREE \$5 Starbucks gift card - courtesy of Vitewall. With hundreds of experts under one roo,f it is a fantastic opportunity to comparison shop. To register for a \$250 shopping spree or for additional information, directions to the Katy ISD Ag Center, and seminar times, visit katyhomeandgardenshow.com or call 832-392-0165. Tickets are \$9 at the door. Children twelve and under are free. Parking is FREE. Show hours are Saturday, March 23 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 24 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

#### **DEDICATION**

from page A

treated to performances by the "Incredi-bulls" school choir and moved by speeches delivered by school and district leaders, fellow campus namesake Bonnie Holland, and the Youngblood family.

The Youngbloods built their legacy "brick by brick," said the couple's son. "Every brick in this building represents a life touched by my parents," said Brent Youngblood, who serves as principal of Katy ISD's Haskett Junior High. Brent Youngblood entered the "family business" of education after attending law school. David Youngblood noted that - together – the generations of the Youngblood family have contributed over 430 years to public education, of which 210 years are in Katy ISD.

"The Youngbloods' commitment to the Katy community has been nothing short of exemplary," said Ken Gregorski, superintendent of schools. "David and Terri's years of outstanding service have made a lasting impact on our school community. We extend our gratitude for their contributions," he added.

David Youngblood dedicated 36 years to Katy ISD, starting in 1977 as a teacher and head swimming coach at Katy High School before becoming Taylor High School's first diving coach in 1979. Throughout his tenure, David led teams to numerous athletic triumphs and established the Katy ISD Summer Swimming Recreation Program, impacting thousands of children in the area. Since retiring in 2013, he remains active in the community, volunteering for committees, officiating volleyball, and contributing to organizations such as Meals on Wheels and the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo. David's ongoing commitment to education and service exemplifies his enduring dedication to Katy ISD and the community

"Working with our students and athletes was a joy for us. Seeing our students learn and grow was so gratifying," said David Youngblood. "It's hard to imagine either of us pursuing any other career besides teaching young people. Teaching was not just a job for us, it was a passion," he added.

Terri Youngblood, a dedicated educator, began her journey at Katy High School in 1977, where she met her husband David during teacher training. Over her 40-year tenure, she played a pivotal role in shaping Katy ISD's vocational, career, and technical curriculum, evolving from teaching shorthand to advanced digital graphics. As the Business Department chair, Terri's influence extended beyond the classroom, serving on numerous committees and mentoring Future Business Leaders of America, producing state presidents. Even in retirement since 2018, Terri's commitment to education persists through substitute teaching, involvement in the Katy Area Retired Educators, and volunteering with Meals on Wheels, showcasing her enduring dedication to serving her community.

Expressing her sincere thanks and appreciation to school principal, Ms. Charlotte Gilder, Terri Youngblood said, "You and your administration staff have worked tirelessly to create a positive and supportive environment for the staff and students and Youngblood Elementary. Because of you, teachers and staff are proud to be part of the Bull family." She continued by recognizing the school's educators, adding, "Thank you to the staff for your hard work and dedication to excellence. We appreciate you very much."

As part of the ceremony, a school portrait that will hang at the entrance of the school was revealed and the couple was presented with a pair of rocking chairs for them to enjoy and reflect on their 77 combined years of dedicated service. A customized guest book was also presented to the Youngbloods.

#### JURASSIC

from page A1

Entertainment and DreamWorks Animation, currently streaming on Netflix.

This one-of-a-kind attraction has been created by NEON, a global leader in immersive and epic experiences and produced in conjunction with Universal Live Entertainment, a division Universal Destinations & Experiences.

The Exhibition welcomes multiple generations of Jurassic World fans to venture to the remote island made famous in the movie franchise. Some of the elements on the interactive journey that await visitors include:

- The Ferry: The journey begins aboard a ferry and a walk through of the iconic "Jurassic World" gates.
- Land of the Giants Walk under the towering Brachiosaurus that is part of the gigantic sauropod dinosaur family, the largest creatures to ever walk the earth.
- Creation Lab: Guests can enjoy a hands-on experience and learn more about the science behind dinosaur DNA. They'll also learn more about coprolites and the vari-

ous species of dinosaurs that live at Jurassic World.

- The Raptor Paddock: Guests can walk up to the Raptor's paddock, but don't get too close! These creatures have sharp serrated teeth and sharp-clawed hands and feet. Their large, recurved claw is used for slashing and pinning prey.
- Gyrosphere Valley: This is the perfect place to take a picture with a baby dinosaur and discover what is under the dirt at the Dig Site. Continue the journey through this picturesque valley to climb into a life-sized gyrosphere.
- Feeding Time: The highly intelligent and extremely dangerous Indominus Rex is one of the most formidable creatures in the park. Visitors can watch as she is fed her daily meals.
- T. rex Kingdom: A high voltage fence is the only thing that separates visitors from the mighty Tyrannosaurus rex.

Jurassic World: The Exhibition will be in Houston at Katy Mills for a limited engagement through October 26th. Tickets are available now at Jurassicworldexhibition. com. Admission to Jurassic World: The Exhibition starts at \$24.00 for children (ages three to fifteen) and \$31.99 for adults (ages 16 and up). Family and group tickets are also available as well as special pricing for senior citizens and students.

Kurt Baker, Executive Vice President Global Marketing for NEON said, "We very excited to bring our world renowned, award-winning Jurassic World: The Exhibition to the wonderful city of Katy in the great state of Texas. Katy is a thriving community with so much to offer, situated perfectly within great driving distance to so many families and Jurassic World fans throughout the Greater Houston area. It just felt like the perfect fit for Jurassic World: The Exhibition to visit."

Trent Wall, executive creative director for NEON, added that the exhibition created about 100 jobs in Katy locally, with about 100 more people contracted locally.

For more information about Jurassic World: The Exhibition, please visit Jurassicworldexhibition.com.

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## Rotary Club of Katy continues grants to community organizations

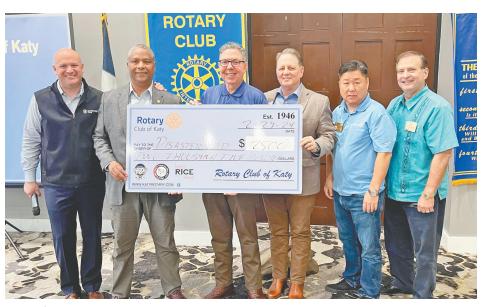
#### FROM STAFF REPORTS

At its February 29th meeting at the Club at Falcon Point, 24503 Falcon Point Drive in Katy, the Rotary Club of Katy awarded another round of charitable donations to eight area organizations, for a total of \$19,150.00. The service organization raises funds through its community events such as the forthcoming Wild West Brewfest which will be held at Typhoon Texas March 21-23. Other annual fundraisers conducted by the club include the Katy Rice Harvest Festival and the Katy Triathlon. The next round of donations is scheduled for April 4th, according to an email from club members.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ROTARY CLUB OF KATY

The club awarded \$ 5000.00 to the Brookwood community. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Brookwood Volunteer & Outreach Manager Tawana Goodwin, Brookwood Chief Advancement Officer Carol Thornburg, Julie Ames, Jeff Ames and Rodolfo Lobera.



Receiving \$ 2500.00 was Disaster Aid. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Jerry Moye, Patrick Lesley who is a Rotarian and ambassador for Disaster Aid, Jeff Thompson, Scotty Jung and Paul Kurt.



A grant of \$500.00 was made to Hooks 2 Crook of Brookshire. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Greg Hess, Aletha Crates, Candice Reyes, and Melissa Clark.



A grant of \$1650.00 was made to Feed the Hunger. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Bec Piek, Regina Alexander, Ralph Brock, and Jason Sanders.

## **Katy** Times

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Relay For Life received \$2500.00 for their April event. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele, Relay for Life chair Brenda Hunter Martin, Denise Cooper, Adrienne Davitz of the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, Katy City Administrator Byron Hebert, former Katy Mayor Skip Connor and Katy Mayor Pro Temp Chris Harris.



MADD received \$2500.00. Left to right: Kristin Searcy, Jaime Corona, Carol Levin, Rosa Villanueva, Norma Palma, Trudi Smith, Stu Levin, Jerry Moye and Rodolfo Lobera.



Literacy programs at Mayde Creek Elementary and Mayde Creek Junior High received \$2000.00. Left to right: Jaime Corona, Carol Levin, four representatives from the KISD Literacy program and Scotty Jung.



Katy Christian Ministries received a grant of \$2500.00. Left to right: Jaime Corona, KCM Executive Director Deysi Crespo, KCM Board President Don Flowers, KCM Director of Programs and Grants Carolyn Chandler, Rodolfo Lobera, Katy Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris. and Jason Smith.



#### **TRIBUTE**

Ardis JoAnn Loy Scheer Scott entered the Kingdom of Heaven on the Lord's Day, Sunday, March 3, 2024. She was with her son and medical team.

A woman beloved by so many, she was born on October 28,1936, in Mapleton, Iowa, to Edward and Lillian (Meggers) Scheer. While growing up in Iowa, she was a star basketball player, a drummer in the school band, and was crowned Stockcar Beauty Queen. As a young professional she went on modeling auditions, tried recording a record album and worked in the Aerospace industry in Southern California in the late 1950's and 60's. She always drove Buicks and there she commandeered her own 1956 Buick Cabriolet. She started work at the age of nine after her father was killed in an accident and worked in accounting for various companies well into her 70's. She was united in marriage to Merrill Lockler "Bud" Scott, Jr.

Having traveled and lived across the United States, she and her family settled in Brookshire, Texas, and became proprietors of



ARDIE JOANN LOY **SCHEER SCOTT** 

several liquor stores and a restaurant which, when not rented out, was dubbed "The Place Next Door to the Liquor Store." There she and Bud threw some of the grandest parties the community had ever seen. The local newspaper frequently reported details of her hosting skills, social events, and galas. She was also very involved in Cub Scouts, multiple school events and the Royal Booster Club.

She was the chief decorator for many of the UIL banquets. In the late 60's, while living in New York, she was in an Art Guild where she painted oils and polymers. One of her paintings was commissioned and hung in the New York State House. While her son served three terms as Mayor of Brookshire, she effectively acted as the First Lady. The entire community loved her as "Mom" and was regularly treated to her gourmet candies, jellies, and pickles. Each year at the church's fundraiser, her peanut brittle was highly sought after and bid upon. One of her passions was quilting and for each grandchild, she designed and created works of art to keep them warm. During Christmas, her favorite time of year, she created enchanting and merry venues, provided gifts for all, and loved to make and gift unique yule logs. She also was an avid bridge player and was a member of several bridge clubs throughout her life.

As a little girl Ardis accompanied her older sister to Lutheran School and, when she was of age, attended the very same classes.

Throughout her life she had a sense of sophistication, was kind, loving and treated people well with respect and grace. She was a giver and delighted in her friendships, and her family, particularly her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She exemplified the true teachings of Christianity.

Ardis Scott was known as Mommy by her children and MeMe by her grand and great grandchildren. She had her son Mayor Eric James Scott, daughters Lynn Ann Scott Browning and Jean Marie Scott Aranda. Her grandchildren are Cortney Renee Gough (Lucas), Brock Steven Browning, Blake Adam Aranda (Britney), Derek Lockler Browning, and Gavin Scott Aranda. Her great grandchildren are Juliet Renee Gough, Lillian Arielle Gough, and William Blake Aranda. She is survived by her youngest brother Myrlan Scheer, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, and many, many loving nieces, and nephews from multiple generations. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband M.L. Scott Jr., and siblings LuVerne

Scheer, Edward Scheer, Al Scheer, Kenneth Scheer, Joy Scheer Beck, Jean Scheer Dose, and DeEthel Scheer Bumann.

Family was present to receive friends from 5 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at the Schmidt Funeral Home Chapel in Brookshire, Texas.

Funeral Service was held at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024, at San Felipe Methodist Church in San Felipe, Texas, with Pastor Joel Mc-Mahon and Pastor Beverly Vaughn officiating.

Interment followed at San Felipe Cemetery in San Felipe, Texas.

Honorary Pallbearers are Brock Browning, Blake Aranda, Derek Browning, Gavin Aranda, William Aranda and Lucas Gough.

Friends who wish may make memorial gifts to: San Felipe Methodist Church, PO Box 149, San Felipe, Texas 77473.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Schmidt Funeral Home, PO Box 248, 819 Waller Avenue, Brookshire, Texas, 77423 - (281)934-2424 - www. schmidtfunerals.com.

### Students to spend spring break assisting with disaster relief

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Approximately 230 students and sponsors from churches around Texas will be volunteering in the Katy/ Houston area, doing repairs and recovery work on homes affected by Hurricane Harvey through Dallasbased BOUNCE Student Disaster

Recovery. Students from all over Texas, including the DFW Area, Longview, San Antonio, Crawford, Gozales, Stockdale and Marshall, as well as a group of students from Louisiana, will join together to work on the homes during their spring break.

The work will be done in partnership with Katy Responds and The

Restoration Team.

Workdays are March 11-12 and students will be at their worksites from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. or until project completion. The students will be working at private residences in the

For more information, go to texasbaptists.org/ministries/bounce.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF MEMBERS CHOICE CREDIT UNION

## Members Choice Credit Union sponsors Lemonade Day Katy

#### Registration for Lemonade Day Katy 2024 now open

#### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Members Choice Credit Union, a full-service financial institution based in the greater Katy area at 18211 Katy Freeway, Houston, announced March 4th that registration is now open for participation in Lemonade Day Katy, which will take place on Saturday, May 18th.

Lemonade Day is a free, fun, experiential learning program that teaches youth how to start, own and operate their own business, said the organization in a press release.

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

succeed in the future."

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

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

On Saturday, April 20, Members Choice will host a Financial Family Fun Day at its Katy Freeway branch where kids can register for Lemonade Day in -person, ask questions, and pick up Lemonade Day swag.

To learn more about Lemonade Day Katy, how to get involved, and to register, visit https://lemonadeday.org/katy.

#### **About Lemonade Day**

Since 2007, more than one million kids have participated in Lemonade Day in 31 U.S. states, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Bermuda. For more information, visit www. lemonadeday.org.

## G6 Hospitality celebrates grand opening of new Studio 6 in Katy

New Studio 6 extendedstay hotel offers affordable accommodations for short- or long-term stays in Energy Corridor

#### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

G6 Hospitality, the leading economy lodging franchisor and parent company of the iconic Motel 6 and Studio 6 brands, today announced the grand opening of Studio 6 Katy, TX – Energy Corridor on March 6th. The Studio 6 property, which is the 12th in the Houston area, is located at 1425 Westborough Drive in Katy.

The new extended-stay property, located just 30 minutes west of Houston within the city's Energy Corridor business district, provides another fresh, modern option for travelers looking for affordable lodging in the area. The hotel is owned and operated by Dhyan & Riyan Hospitality, which owns and operates multiple hotels in Texas.

"We are incredibly excited to celebrate Dhyan & Riyan Hospitality as our franchise partner and the growth of our Studio 6 brand with this new extended-stay lodging option for travelers to Houston's bustling Energy Corridor," said Tina Burnett, Chief Development Officer, G6 Hospitality. "Our Motel 6 and Studio 6 owners continue to raise the bar of excellence for their team members, guests, and the communities in which they serve."

and the communities in which they serve."

The three-story, new construction hotel opened to reservations in December 2023 and offers 55 guest rooms, all of which feature the

latest Studio 6 design prototype, which incorporates clean, modern elements such as sleek, wood-effect flooring, white quartz countertops and a bold, sophisticated color palette featuring teal and yellow, with secondary colors of red, warm grays and white. The studios feature living areas and fully furnished kitchens, along with linens, cookware and coffee maker. The pet-friendly hotel also offers free Wi-Fi in guest rooms and common areas, a guest laundry facility, and free parking.

"We are excited to celebrate the opening of our Studio 6 hotel and join the portfolio of this iconic brand that demonstrates clear commitment to delivering real value to guests and franchise owners," said Ketan Rama, co-owner, Dhyan & Riyan Hospitality. "From the very beginning, G6 Hospitality has offered unmatched support across all aspects of the property's development, and we look forward to growing our business within the Katy community."

One of the reasons that the group selected the Katy site is its proximity to major medical institutions, such as Houston Methodist West Hospital, Memorial Hermann and Texas Children's Hospital, said Curt Eiffert, Vice President, Franchise Development Services, G6 Hospitality, LLC. The Studio 6 model offers an affordable option for those traveling to the Houston area while undergoing medical treatment, he said.

#### **About Studio 6**

Studio 6 welcomes travelers in key markets in the U.S. and Canada, allowing guests to "Extend your stay, not your budget". The studios include fully furnished kitchens with linens and cookware and free Wi-Fi at an inclusive, transparent rate, competitive to other economy extended stay hotels. For more information, visit www.studio6.com.

# Camp Bow Wow franchise owner awarded 'Franchisee of the Year' at annual convention

José Morillo recognized at annual conference honoring entrepreneurs' outstanding efforts

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

WESTMINSTER, Colo. (Feb. 22, 2024) – The International Franchise Association (IFA) has recognized Katy's Camp Bow Wow® franchise owner José Morillo with its prestigious annual Franchisee of the Year Award at the 65th IFA Annual Convention, held Feb. 17-20 in Phoenix. The Franchisee of the Year Award recognizes leading franchise owners from IFA member brands whose outstanding performance and contributions help protect, enhance and promote the franchise business model.

Morillo was selected for his involvement in his communities, embodying the entrepreneurial spirit, fostering a strong and healthy culture within his workforce and assisting his fellow franchise owners when called upon.

"José stands out both as an industry leader and a multi-unit Camp Bow Wow franchise owner, living out our brand's mission of Making Dogs Happy," said Camp Bow Wow President Julie Turner. "His Camps continue to shine brightly, demonstrating excellence driven by profitability and a genuine passion for the brand itself, ultimately providing pet parents with peace of mind when they need to be away from their pups."

Morillo, who worked in the corporate healthcare industry before becoming a Camp Bow Wow franchise owner, opened the first of his three Texas Camps in 2015 in Katy, followed by the purchase of an existing Camp in Kemah in 2018 and another new location in Cypress in 2020.

"Almost a decade ago, I entered the world of franchising with Camp Bow Wow, allowing me to explore my passion for dogs and develop a process-focused business model," said Morillo. "As a Camp Owner, I have the privilege of assisting pet parents and continuing to learn new ways to support fellow franchise owners while also allowing myself to explore making a lasting impact by giving back in the communities my Camps serve."

For more information about Camp Bow Wow or to learn about franchise opportunities, campbowwow.com/franchising

#### **About Camp Bow Wow®**

Camp Bow Wow\* is a leading franchise brand in the rapidly growing pet care industry with over 200 franchise locations in 41 states and Canada. Since 2000, the Camp concept has provided the highest levels of fun, safety and service for its Campers and peace of mind for their parents. Dogs romp together in an open-play environment and snooze the night away in spacious individual cabins. In addition to day care and overnight boarding, the company offers personalized enrichment opportunities, grooming services and a rewards-based dog training program. The Camp Bow Wow brand family also includes the Bow Wow Buddies Foundation\*, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing urgent medical care funds to dogs who are homeless or whose parents cannot afford to pay their veterinary bills. Camp Bow Wow has been ranked on Entrepreneur's Franchise 500 list for 15 consecutive years. Camp Bow Wow is part of Propelled Brands, a recognized leader in the franchising industry.



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## Katy ISD fifth graders advance to regional spelling bee competition

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Katy Independent School District (Katy ISD) announced on March 7th the triumph of two exceptional fifth-grade students, Sahith Iyer of Creech Elementary and Arnav Vijay of Wilson Elementary, as the victors of the 2023-2024 District Spelling Bee competition.

Outshining a field of 62 contestants from across the district, Sahith and Arnav demonstrated remarkable proficiency and dedication in spelling, earning them the honor of representing Katy ISD at the prestigious 2024 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee.

'We are delighted to announce that two fifth-grade students will represent Katy ISD at the upcoming regional spelling bee," said Karen Muller, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction at Katy ISD. "Spelling bee competitions serve as an excellent avenue for students to enrich their vocabulary and academic skills, while also nurturing confidence and a love for learning. We extend our heartfelt wishes to Sahith and Arnav who will proudly represent their schools and Katy ISD at the upcoming event."

The regional event will be held on Saturday, March 23, at the Houston Community College Missouri City Campus, 1600 Texas Pkwy., Missouri City. The top three spellers of the



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KATY ISD Sahith Iyer, District Spelling Bee Winner, Creech Elementary



Arnav Vijay, District Spelling Bee Winner, Wilson Elementary

"We are delighted to announce that two fifthgrade students will represent Katy ISD at the upcoming regional spelling bee. ... We extend our heartfelt wishes to Sahith and Arnav who will proudly represent their schools and Katy ISD at the upcoming event."

-KAREN MULLER, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction at Katy ISD

2024 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee will receive an all-expense paid trip to the Washington, D.C. area to participate in the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Bee Week 2024 will take place at the Gaylord National Resort &

Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. On May 26, more than 200 spellers from across the country and around the world will come together in hopes of taking home the national spelling bee trophy.



The Royal ISD Floriculture team placed fifth overall at the San Antonio Livestock Show in February. Team members are (left to right) Kaelyn Hein, Elyssa Pruner, Alexcia Garcia and Guadalupe

PHOTO COURTESY

## **Royal FFA teams** place at San Antonio **Livestock Show**

#### BY CHRISTY JACOB

ROYAL HIGH SCHOOL AGSCIENCE TEACH-ER/FFA ADVISOR SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

The Royal FFA Livestock team competed at the San Antonio Livestock Show on Sunday February 25, 2024. The Junior team placed fourth at the competition, with Porter Jacob placing seventh overall and Shelby Woods placing thirteenth individual.

Members are Porter Iacob.

Maria Gomez, Jaycee Estep, Presley Jacob, Shelby Woods, Sasha Torres, Tessa Clingenpeel

The Floriculture team also competed at the San Antonio Livestock Show, placing fifth overall. Team members are Kaelyn Hein, Elyssa Pruner, Alexcia Garcia and Guadalupe

The San Antonio Livestock contest is the largest contest in the state annually with well over 1.300 contestants.

## Katy ISD classes benefit from annual 'Promise to Read' program

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Continuing a 29-year tradition, business and community partners across Katy came together in February to bring the love of reading into elementary campuses across the district. The annual reading program, led by Katy ISD Partners in Education, opens

the door for the local business community members to ignite imaginations and model for young minds both service and leadership by simply reading a story.

This year's Promise to Read event was hosted with Partners in Education at Cimarron, Franz, Katy, McElwain, McRoberts, Shafer, and West Memorial Elementary

Representatives from the Katy ISD PIE program extended special thanks to the following business and community partners for sharing their love of reading with Katy ISD students for 2024 Promise to Read: Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union, Chick-Fil-A Mason Road, Chick-fil-A Cinco

Ranch, Chick-fil-A Katy Green, H.E.B. - Cross Creek Ranch, Houston Methodist West Hospital, Katy ISD Education Foundation **Executive Committee, Memorial** Hermann Hospitals, PowerHouse Church, State Farm - Matt Schomburg, and Texas Children's Hospital.

Partners in Education opens

the door to lasting school and community relationships that positively impact students and the staff who lead them, said the PIE department.

To learn more, visit Partners in Education under the "Community" tab at www.katyisd.org or contact Lauren Slovisky at laurenvslovisky@katyisd.org.





Saturday, March 23, 10-5 • Sunday, March 24, 11-4 Over 250 booths Katy ISD Ag Center • 5801 Katy Hockley Cut Off Rd. For more info: KatyHomeAndGardenShow.com





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#### STATE SCIENCE OLYMPIAD



PHOTO COURTESY OF CALVIN NELMS CHARTER SCHOOL

TCSAAL 2023-2024 State Science Olympiad: The TEXAS Charter School Academic and Athletic League state Science Olympiad was held on February 29 in Austin. Katy-based Calvin Nelms Charter School took three teams to the event, with one team placing second in state. The medal-winning team members are (from left to right) Hannah Voorhes, Leonardo Peddio, Luis Castillo, and Josue Castillo

## Katy ISD hosting certified teacher job fair March 23

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

As the district gears up for the 2024-2025 academic year, Katy ISD announced on March 8 that its upcoming Certified Teacher Job Fair has been scheduled for Saturday, March 23, 2024. The event will be held at the Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane, Katy, with the elementary school job fair from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and the secondary school job fair from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

No pre-registration or fees are requisite for attendance; however, participants are asked to show proof of certification, TEA/SBEC content exam scores, and/or Statement of Eligibility (SOE). It is recommended that candidates complete an application on the Katy ISD website prior to the event and come with an ample supply of resumes to distribute.

This event will provide

a platform for prospective candidates to engage with administrators from both elementary and secondary campuses. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with principals and engage in onthe-spot interviews.

"In Katy ISD, we pride ourselves on being a premier school district, where our dedicated and passionate educators consistently provide unmatched learning experiences to over 95,000 students," stated Brian Schuss, Chief Human Resources Officer. "As a result of our rapid growth, we are excited to announce the opening of Nelson Junior High and Freeman High School next year, which will further enhance our educational offerings, Schuss added, emphasizing the increased hiring needs across the district.

For more information. visit the Katy ISD Human Resources Job Fair webpage.

## **Habitat for Humanity of Houston** receives grants from State Farm

Funds used to host workday and financial literacy program at Taylor High on Feb. 17th

#### **CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

On February 16th, Houston Habitat for Humanity announced a youth-led grant from State Farm to help better prepare the students in the James E Taylor High School learn about financial literacy and understand homeownership. As part of the grant, local State Farm agents and students spent the day building a playhouse for a Houston Habitat homeowner along with some classroom time learning about basic budgeting, saving and completing a "Housing simulator" program that walks students through a real-life scenario, on Saturday, February 17th.

The school is located at 20700 Kingsland Blvd. in Katy.

'The 2nd annual Houston Habitat Youth Day was very successful," said Nathaniel Flores, community engagement coordinator for Houston Habitat for Humanity. "The students of the James E. Taylor H.S. Habitat Campus Chapter were eager to participate in the building of a playhouse for a Houston Habitat Homeowner. They also appreciated discussing their financial goals with the local State Farm associates, learning more about the issues families face while seeking housing, and having a friendly competition in the Lego House Building Challenge. At the end of the day, the students were proud to be a part of the chapter and were seeking ways they could continue to make a difference in the community."

Helping the youth today learn about the importance of understanding basic financial literacy will help enable these students to achieve their goals." Said Felicia Hutchins, State Farm Corporate Responsibility Analyst, "Giving up one day of their weekend demon-



Students from Taylor High School came together on February 17th to build a playhouse and to learn about financial literacy, through a Habitat for Humanity program funded by State Farm.

strates they are already serious about a better future and community."

Brandon Thompson, the State Farm agent who attended and helped with the playhouse build and conducted the financial literacy class, said, "This weekend, I had fun teaming up with Houston Habitat for Humanity and James E. Taylor High School students to build a super playhouse for a local Habitat for Humanity homeowners' children. The event was absolutely mind-blowing! Everyone came ready to go to work, assembling the playhouse and painting along with providing a home-buying seminar, a LEGO house-building competition and a financial foundation seminar from State Farm. Providing students with the tools to plan their short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals early in their lives will give them a better probability to achieve their goals."

The goal of the event was to engage new and existing youth to get involved through volunteerism as well as offer education and advocacy activities that teach and promote homeownership, Habitat for Humanity's core mission, said a press release from Habitat for Humanity.

Over the past 17 years, State Farm has invested over \$13 million in Habitat for Humanity's youth engagement programs.

#### **About Houston Habitat** for Humanity

Committed to a world where everyone has a decent place to live, Houston Habitat for Humanity's work includes new home construction, home rehabilitation and disaster repair, infrastructure development for new communities, neighborhood revitalization and guiding Houston families to become homeowners. Houston Habitat has built more than 1,200 homes in 12 Houston neighborhoods, including the Fifth Ward, Clinton Park, Settegast, Sunnyside, and Carverdale. In addition to building, the organization has also repaired homes throughout Houston due to natural disasters; since Hurricane Harvey Houston Habitat has repaired more than 700 homes for families who are without resources to make repairs.

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Kortay Koc takes a penalty kick during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Seven Lakes soccer field.

## Seven Lakes soccer ready for playoff push

#### AFTER CLINCHING FIFTH STRAIGHT DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP



Daniel Ejerenwa celebrates after scoring a goal during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Seven Lakes soccer field.

#### BY TYLER TYRE

Seven Lakes has made itself into a dynasty in

The Spartans have cemented themselves as one of the premier programs in the state of Texas over the past decade and it's been highlighted by the teams over the past five years. Seven Lakes came into this year wanting to extend an important streak and they did that on Tuesday, clinching a fifth straight district title with a win over Jordan, following that up with a tie on Friday, 3-3, against a strong Paetow team.

"This program has become that dynasty here and it's something that we want to continue to build on," said junior winger Kortay Koc. "The great thing about these guys is we aren't going to be happy with it. Clinching five district championships is great but we want more and we want to keep this going next year too."

It was a gutsy performance by Seven Lakes to earn the tie on Friday, coming from behind while shorthanded and earning the tie against a Paetow team that was fighting for its playoff lives.

"It was almost like a playoff environment, which is good for us," said Seven lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "It's good for some of those players to

See **SOCCER**, page B3

## Katy run rules Cinco Ranch, heads into spring break unbeaten in district

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

There's a difference going around the Katy softball field

The pop of the catchers mitt seems louder, the smacks of the bat on the ball resound with more force, even the talks in the dugout have a more serious tone.

It underscores the way the Tigers are going about their business this year. It isn't just another season for Katy this is a team on a mission.

The Tigers still feel the sting of the way last season ended and it's fueled them this year. They want to reach bigger goals, they want to show how talented this group of players is, but they know it comes by taking each day and each practice and game as seriously as they can.

Their approach has led to a tremendous start to the year. Katy is off to a 21-1-1 start and has been perfect in district play, going 6-0. That continued on Saturday, as the Tigers hosted Cinco Ranch and run ruled the Cougars 16-0 in four innings behind a strong effort at the plate and dominant game on the mound from Camryn Harrison.

"It's insane how hungry everyone on this team is," said senior center fielder Ashtyn Reichardt. "You see it every day in practice and in every game. We want this so bad and we are not going to let ourselves go out like that again."

It's showed in the Tigers' play this year. Katy has outscored opponents 200-9 so far, dominating at the

See KATY, page B5



Camryn Harrison pitches during Saturday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the

#### **WEEK OF MARCH 15**

### **SCORES** & **SCHEDULES**

#### **BASEBALL**

#### **Thursday**

- · Cinco Ranch vs. Tompkins, noon · Seven Lakes vs. Taylor, noon
- Katy vs. Morton Ranch, noon • Paetow vs. Mayde Creek, noon
- Saturday
- Cinco Ranch vs. Morton Ranch, noon
- Katy vs. Mayde Creek, noon Tompkins vs. Seven Lakes, noon • Paetow vs. Jordan, noon

#### Tuesday

- Seven Lakes vs. Tompkins, noon
- Jordan vs. Paetow, noon • Mayde Creek vs. Katy, noon
- Morton Ranch vs. Cinco Ranch, noon

#### SOFTBALL

#### **Friday**

• Seven Lakes at Waller, 4:30 p.m.

#### Saturday

• Tompkins at Memorial, 11 a.m. • Jordan at Klein Forest, noon

#### Tuesday

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

#### **TRACK & FIELD**

#### **Friday**

 Seven Lakes at College Park Relays • Friday and Saturday

• Mayde Creek and Tompkins at TSU Relays

## **Texans re-sign** Schultz and Fairbairn to 3-year deals

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

One of CJ Stroud's biggest safety blankets and key weapons will be coming back next season.

The Houston Texans made an important move Tuesday, resigning 27-year old tight end Dalton Schultz to a 3-year deal, worth \$36 million, \$23.5 million of which will be fully guaranteed.

Schultz was one of the most important pieces for the Texans to bring back going into this year's free agency period and Houston made sure to keep him around, ensuring that one of CJ Stroud's biggest weapons will be back for the long term.

The six-year veteran had a strong season in his first year in Houston. Including the playoffs, Schultz caught 65 passes for 715 yards and six touchdowns, and he showed up in big moments, including hauling in a 37-yard touchdown in the divisional round of the playoffs against the Cleveland Browns.

The deal came a week before the start of free agency and allows the Texans front

See **TEXANS**, page B3





Above: Texans place kicker Ka'imi Fairbairn (15) connects on a 21-yard field goal in the first quarter of an NFL Wild Card playoff game between the Houston Texans and the Cleveland Browns on January 13, 2024 in Houston. Left: Texans tight end Dalton Schultz (86) carries the ball after a catch during an NFL game between the Houston Texans and Tennessee Titans on December 31, 2023, in Houston. The Texans won, 26-3.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

## Katy, Taylor, Jordan, Paetow earn shut out wins

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

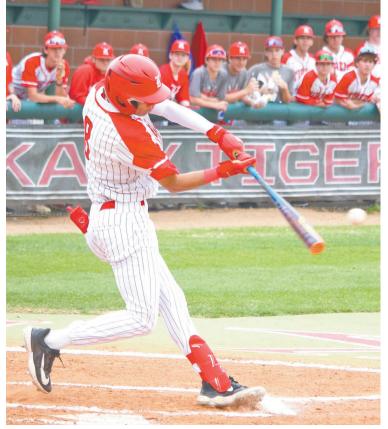
Tuesday, March 5 Katy, Taylor, Jordan and Paetow all earned shut out wins on Tuesday, as all four teams improved to 2-0 in District 19-6A play and clinched sweeps over their oppo-

#### **Krenek shuts out Cinco Ranch**

Bryce Krenek had a huge performance against the reigning district champs on Tuesday, pitching a complete game shutout to lead Taylor to a 1-0 win over Cinco Ranch where he allowed just five hits and struck out five. Taylor improved to 10-4-1 with a 2-0 district record with the win.

Neither team could get their offense going on the day and it remained scoreless for five innings. Cinco was held scoreless in the top of the sixth before Taylor found the breakthrough in the bottom of the inning. Carlos Cardoso walked to get on base with one out in the inning and Ethan Jacobson came in to pinch run for him. A ground out by Krenek got Jacobson into scoring position and an error allowed Jacobson to come around and score. Cinco Ranch fought to try and tie the game in the top of the seventh and had two players reach base, but were unable to get a run across as Taylor secured the

Josh Morelli had a strong day for Cinco Ranch on the mound, the junior allowed five hits and struck out five, walking only two and allowing just the one unearned run.



TYLER TYRE

Ashten Ballew hits during a game between Katy and Ridge Point at the Katy baseball field.

The Cougars fell to 8-3-2 overall and 0-2 in district with the loss.

### Udland, Brashear combine to shout out Tompkins

Katy earned its second straight shutout district win, beating Tompkins 2-0 to clinch a regular season sweep over the Falcons. Connor Udland and Aaron Brashear clinched the win by combining for a shutout, with the duo only allowing four hits and striking out 11 in the win as the Tigers improved to 9-5 on the year and 2-0 in district play.

Katy's only runs came in the

third inning. Jeremy Mazariegos led the inning off with a single and Ashten Ballew got Mazariegos to third base with a single of his own later in the inning. Sutton Hull then reached on an error and both runners came around to score. Neither team could get on the board after that and Katy's pitching and defense sealed the win the rest of the way.

Hunter Melaerts took the mound for Tompkins and had a good day, pitching a complete game and allowing no earned runs on two hits while striking out nine and walking one. Tompkins fell to 7-7 on the year and 0-2 in district with the loss.

#### Phillips leads Paetow over Morton Ranch

Paetow earned a second straight district win over Morton Ranch, beating the Mavericks 2-0 behind a huge day on the mound from Camden Phillips, who allowed just one hit in a complete game shutout, striking out seven and walking five as the Panthers secured a shutout, improving to 10-3 and 2-0 in district play.

Both teams were held scoreless through four innings before Paetow got both of their runs in the top of the fifth. Hector Millan started the inning off with double and an error put runners on first and third. A hit by pitch loaded the bases and before a fielder's choice brought one run across and an error made it 2-0. Neither team could get on the board after that as Paetow was able to secure the win without giving up a run. Zane Heiliger started on the mound for Morton Ranch and went 6.1 innings, allowing no earned runs on four hits while striking out eight and walking four. The Mavericks fell to 5-7-1 overall and 0-2 in district play after the

#### Jordan offense comes alive in win over Mayde Creek

Jordan's offense had a big day as they clinched an 11-0 shutout win over Mayde Creek on Tuesday, improving to 7-5 overall and 2-0 in district. Thomas Eugate was huge for the Warriors in the win, pitching a complete game and striking out six while allowing just one hit and walking just one in the win, while Connor Carmichael and Luis Vera both had two RBIs.

Jordan took the lead in the first inning, getting their first run on an error and then getting another when Vera hit an RBI single to make it 2-0. Bobby Richardson added to the lead in the fourth inning with a one-run single and Jordan got two more runs in the fifth on an error and a sacrifice fly. The Warriors added a sixth in the sixth inning on an RBI single from Vera and they added five runs in the seventh to seal the win, closing things out without allowing a run in the bottom of the seventh.

BJ Lumkins started on the mound for Mayde Creek and went 4.1 innings, allowing two earned runs, while striking out five, walking eight and allowing three hits in the loss. The Rams fell to 1-9-1 overall and 0-2 in district after the loss.

## Three Katy ISD athletes named to TGCA Volleyball All-Star Team

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Three Katy ISD players were named to next year's

Texas Girls Coaches

Association Class 5A-6A All-Star Game after a terrific year in the school district and District 19-6A. Kassidy O'Brien, Heidi Wingate and Brooklyn



Merrell were all recognized for their accomplishments this school year and named to the Blue Team of the event.

O'Brien was named Co-District 19-6A MVP in her junior year at Cinco Ranch and finished the year with 1385 assists, 388 digs, 137 kills, 22 blocks and 25 aces as the Cougars' setter while helping her team reach the Class 6A state final after an undefeated district championship.

Wingate had a great season in her junior year at Seven Lakes, helping the Spartans reach the Region III-6A Final. She finished the season with 194 kills, 21 blocks, 54 digs, seven assists and one

Brooklyn Merrell was the final player from Katy ISD to make the team. The junior setter helped lead the Falcons to a second place finish in district and a third round appearance in the playoffs. She had 496 digs, 134 assists, 102 aces and six kills on the season to help lead Tompkins, being named the district's defensive player of the year in the process.

Following is the full list of the Class 5A-6A TGCA All-Star Blue Team.



TYLER TYF

Tompkins' Brooklynn Merrell sets a ball for a teammate during a match against Canyon in the finals match of gold bracket Katy ISD/Cy-Fair Tournament at Bridgeland.

CLASS 5A-6A TGCA All-Star Blue Team									
Athlete	Grade	School	Team	Conf	Coach				
Jordyn Sims	Junior	Friendswood HS	5a-6a Blue	5A	Sarah Paulk				
Kassidy O'Brien	Junior	Cinco Ranch HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Danielle Wells				
Taylor Porter	Junior	Cy Ranch HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Collea McKinney				
Kennedy Jones	Junior	Dawson HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Lauren Leth				
Samara Coleman	Junior	Grand Oaks HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Morgan Rogers				
Jordan Taylor	Junior	Langham Creek HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Gena Glenn				
Mya Allen	Junior	Reagan HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Rachel Torvik				
Kennedi Rogers	Junior	Ridge Point HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Lauryn Bailey				
Heidi Wingate	Junior	Seven Lakes HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Amy Cataline				
Morgan Madison	Junior	College Park HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Candice Collins Gibson				
Sydni Halfmann	Junior	Tomball Mem. HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Sydney Lynch				
Brooklynn Merrell	Junior	Tompkins HS	5a-6a Blue	6A	Mary Allison Merrell				





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#### **SOCCER**

from page B1

get experience where we are playing against a team that has nothing to lose. It was back and forth and it's good that we responded well. We responded the way we needed to in the second half and I'm proud they never stopped playing.

The Spartans took the lead in the 23rd minute of the first half when they earned a penalty. Kortay Koc stepped up to take it and even after his initial effort was saved, the junior followed his rebound and scored on a tap in, getting it past the Paetow keeper. The Panthers responded almost immediately, with Cesar Hernandez stepping up and placing a free kick past the keeper from 20-yards out to tie the game just two minutes later.

Koc put the Spartans back in front just four minutes into the second half, taking a short corner kick and then receiving the ball at the corner of the 18-yard box where he curled his shot around the keeper for a goal. Paetow came back to equalize again in the 58th minute on a Roberta Sepulveda-De Paz header and then after a penalty just a minute later, Hernandez gave the Panthers the lead, calmly putting his shot past the keeper.

But Seven Lakes put things in a different gear for the remaining 20 minutes of the game. Daniel Ejerenwa tied it in the 65th minute after a great team play where he received the ball in the center of the box after a low cross and the Spartans kept pushing until the final whistle to find a winner, but ultimately came up just short of that goal.

'This team is unique in that no matter what adversity we've faced, we bounce back and get right back up," Koc said. "The energy we showed after we went down was higher than what we had early in the game, and it shows the fight we do have. We didn't get the three points, but we responded well and that's what we have to build off of going into the last part of district."

The Spartans will get a much needed respite in the form of spring break before playing in their final two regular season games the final week. The players are going to enjoy the time off, but their eyes are on preparing for a playoff run.

'The season is a grind and I just told the guys after the game that spring break couldn't have come for us at a better time," Krueger said. "They'll be able to recover a bit physically and mentally before they get back at it and ready to go for the final two games of district and get playoff ready."





Above: Cesar Garcia dribbles up the field during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Seven Lakes soccer field. Left: Kortay Koc scores on a rebound during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Seven Lakes soccer field. Below: Dionizy Gonzalez brings down a ball during Friday's game between Seven Lakes and Paetow at the Seven Lakes soccer field.

PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE





#### TEXANS

office to focus on other players and options heading into the free agency period. Together with Nico Collins and Tank Dell, Schultz will form a formidable trio of pass catchers for Stroud to throw to as the quarterback

Texans tight end Dalton Schultz (86) celebrates with Texans wide receiver Tank Dell (3) after scoring on a 9-yard touchdown catch in the fourth quarter of an NFL game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on November 5, 2023 in Houston.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

enters his second season.

"Dalton did a really good job for us in the passing game." Said Texans head coach DeMeco Ryans. "When we were in those two-minute drives where we were able to win a few games, Dalton really showed up. Situational football, third down, he showed up making big catches for us."

The Texans also locked down a long-term deal with KaI'mi Fairbairn, signing the 30-year old kicker to a three year deal, worth \$15.9 million, which makes Fairbairn one of the highest paid

kickers in the league. Fairbairn had been one of the best kickers in the league over the past two years, making 56 of 59 attempts, including being perfect inside of 50-yards this season, while going five for six over 50-yards this season.

Houston still has a number of players that have a chance to reach free agency, including Sheldon Rankins, Jerry Hughes, Steven Nelson, Noah Brown, Jonathan Greenard and Blake Cashman.

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#### **INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids in duplicate will be received by Katy Management District No. 1 in the office of KGA/DeForest Design, LLC (L.A. License No. 2602, Texas), 24275 Katy Freeway, Suite 300, Katy, Texas, 77494 until 2:30 P.M. on March 21, 2024, for Primary Gateway Signage Phase 1.

All bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for construction of improvements including Pylon Monument Signs, Lighting and Electrical and Street Signage

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.

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

Management District No. 1 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 March

A Cashier's Check or Bidder's Bond Payable to Katy

15, 2024, at 2:30 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

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

State of Texas.

"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.

#### **INVITATION TO BIDDERS**

Sealed Bids addressed to Willow Fork Drainage District, Attention: Mr. John Savage, President, Board of Directors, will be received at the office of LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time, Thursday, March 21, 2024, and then publicly opened and read at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 for "Phase I VA3B Rehabilitation for Willow Fork Drainage District, Fort Bend County, Texas." In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may attend the Bid Opening by telephone by dialing +1 346-202-6170, Phone Conference ID: 931 784 519#.

Scope of Work of the Contract Documents includes the following: Remove and replace existing concrete slope paving, regrade channel bottom, and place concrete rip rap.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held in-person on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time at Willow Fork Park, 23440 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy, Texas 77494.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract Documents and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates and Bonds within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the successful bidder. If a certified or cashier's check is provided, the successful bidder shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, or at https://www.civcastusa.com/.

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

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

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

#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**

Of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Two Sales to be held online at storagetreasures.com. Facility is located at 14655 Old Humble Rd, Humble TX, 77396. Bidding will open on 3/21/2024 at 9:00 AM and concludes on 3/29/2024 at 7:00 PM. Clean up deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the properties at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to the highest bidder. Two properties include the contents of the following tenants, Joseph Mullikin and Eric Moore include power and hand tools, outdoor items, electronics and household items and more

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy landlord's

Sale to be held ONLINE at storagetreasures.com

The facility is BEAR CREEK MINI STORAGE 17730 Kieth Harrow Blvd, Houston, TX 77084. Bidding will open at 10:00 am on March 14, 2024, and end at 12:00 pm on March 21, 2024. 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: VICKIE MORRIS, GUSTAVO FORTNELA, MARIA STANLEY, ROLAND SARWON, SHARMAIN SHELTON, GREG NORWOOD, PATRICE JACKSON, LAQUISHA TUCKER, VERONICA FUENTES.





#### **Notice** Virtual Public Meeting with In-Person Open House State Highway (SH) 6 from Clay Road to Interstate (I) 10

Control Section Job (CSJ): 1685-05-138 Harris County, Texas

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), Houston District, is proposing improvements along SH 6 from Clay Road to I 10 in Harris County, Texas. This notice advises the public that the project team will be conducting an online Virtual Public Meeting on the proposed project with an in-person open house. The Virtual Public Meeting will be available starting on Thursday, March 28, 2024, by 5 p.m. The Virtual Public Meeting will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. To view the Virtual Public Meeting presentation and view project information, visit: www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html.

Please note that the presentation will not be available on the website until the time and date listed above. If you do not have internet access, you may call (713) 802-5199 between the hours of 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. Formal comments may be provided by mail or email as explained below.

Additionally, TxDOT is providing an in-person open house option for individuals who would like to participate in person. In-person attendees will be able to view the same pre-recorded presentation as posted online, review paper copies of project materials, ask questions, and submit written comments. The in-person open house will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road, Houston, Texas 77084.

SH 6 is a principal arterial North/South route that services the project area. Currently, motorists are experiencing high levels of congestion on SH 6 between Clay Road and I-10 which increases travel times, and this segment of roadway is prone to flooding during 100- or 500-year storms. An example of one such 500-year storm was the Tax Day Flood from April 17 and 18, 2016, where between 12 and 16 inches of rain fell over a 12-hour period leading to the closure of this segment for multiple weeks. Residents found it extremely difficult to leave their homes, emergency response crews could not be dispatched in a timely manner, and supply vehicles were required to make their deliveries by traveling long distances around the project area during this closure. The current configuration of SH 6 does not meet current traffic needs and is not anticipated to improve as traffic continues to grow, and 100- and 500-year storms become more frequent in the future. The purpose of the Public Meeting is to present various proposed alternatives for improvements along SH 6 to enhance safety, address drainage and flooding, relieve congestion, and improve mobility within the corridor. Although additional right-of-way (ROW) would be required as described below, no residential or non-residential structures are anticipated to be displaced at this time. Information concerning services and benefits available to affected property owners and information about the tentative schedule for ROW acquisition may be obtained from Emad Naser by calling (713) 802-5606.

This project may be subject to Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 coordination for parks, recreation areas, and wildlife and waterfowl refuges pursuant to Part 23 CFR 774.3(b) and Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code for the impacts to the publicly owned recreation area: Congressman Bill Archer Park and Dog Park. Alternatives 1 and 2 would require additional ROW from the vegetation (green space) between the park facilities and the existing roadway. Alternative 3 would not require any new ROW. If either Alternative 1 or 2 is chosen, the proposed project may impact 6.4 acres or 4.7 acres, respectively, of the park property. If effects to the resource are anticipated to be minimal, this project would constitute a de minimis use of the property under Section 4(f). A Section 4(f) de minimis finding means that the proposed project would not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the recreation area for protection under Section 4(f). TxDOT will consider comments received during the public comment period before making a final Section 4(f) de minimis determination. Public comments on the effects of the proposed project on the activities, features, or attributes of the Congressman Bill Archer Park and Dog Park may be submitted as described below.

The proposed project would involve construction in wetlands and floodplains.

Any environmental documentation or studies, maps and drawings showing the project location and design, tentative construction schedules, and other information regarding the proposed project are on file and available for review Monday through Friday between the hours of 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the TxDOT Houston District Office, 7600 Washington Avenue, Houston, Texas 77007. Project materials are also available online at www.txdot.gov/projects/hearings-meetings.html. These materials will also be available in hard copy form at the in-person open house.

The Public Meeting will be conducted in English and Spanish. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English or Spanish is not your primary language or you have difficulty communicating effectively in English or Spanish, one will be provided to you free-of-charge. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the Public Meeting, please contact Gabriel Adame, NEPA Public Engagement Coordinator, at (713) 802-5199 or Gabriel.Adame@txdot.gov, no later than 4 p.m., Monday, March 25, 2024. Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for the project team to arrange.

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted in any language by mail to the TxDOT Houston District Office, advanced project development director, P.O. Box 1386, Houston, Texas 77251-1386. Written comments may also be submitted by email to HOU-PIOwebmail@txdot.gov. All comments must be received or postmarked by Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Responses to comments received will be available online at the web address listed above once completed.

If you have any general questions or concerns regarding the proposed project or the Public Meeting, please contact Adam Wood, TxDOT Environmental Specialist, at (713) 802-5267 or via email at Adam.Wood@txdot.gov.

The environmental review, consultation, and other actions required by applicable Federal environmental laws for this project are being, or have been, carried-out by TxDOT pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327 and a Memorandum of Understanding dated Dec. 9, 2019, and executed by FHWA and TxDOT.

Please call (713) 802-5199 to request special accommodations or if you have need for interpretation/translation.

Mandarin: 如對住宿有特殊要求或需要口譯或筆譯, 請撥打 (713) 802-5199。

Swahili: Tafadhali piga simu kwa (713) 802-5199 ili kuomba malazi maalum au ikiwa unahitaji ukalimani au utafsiri.

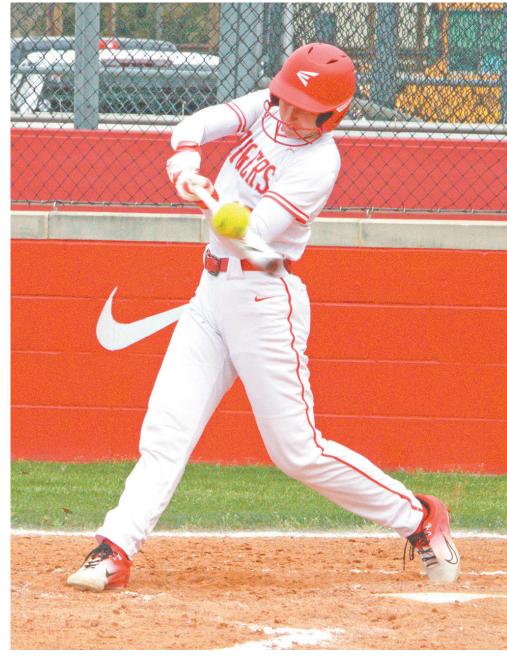
Vietnamese: Xin hãy gọi **(713) 802-5199** để yêu cầu cho các điều chỉnh đặc biệt hoặc nếu bạn cần có phiên dịch hoặc biên dịch.

Creole: Tanpri rele (713) 802-5199 pou mande aranjman espesyal oswa si ou bezwen entèprèt oswa tradiktè.

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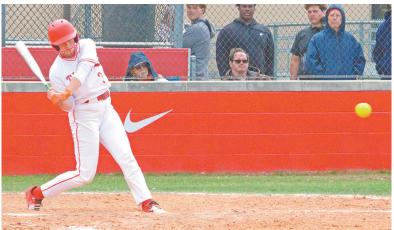
March 7 **Puzzle** Answers

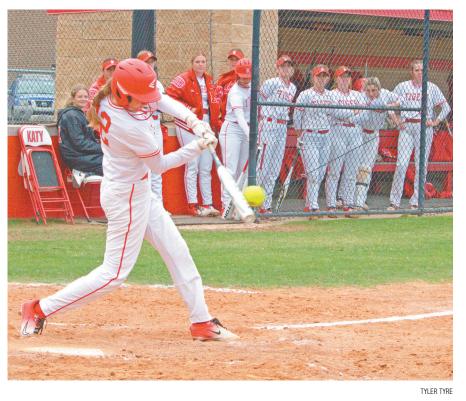
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Above: Ashtyn Reichardt hits during Saturday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field. Right: Maddie Smith hits during Saturday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field.

TYLER TYRE





Avery Porter hits during Saturday's game between Katy and Cinco Ranch at the Katy softball field.

#### KATY

from page B1

plate and in the field. In district play, Harrison has not allowed a single run through six games and she continued her dominance Saturday, pitching four innings and allowing just one hit while striking out 11 and walking none. But the pitcher's biggest growth coming into this year may have been what she has done off the field.

"She has grown into an absolutely tremendous leader," said Katy head coach Kalum Haack. She is hungry and she's leading the way for her teammates. You can see her put the team on her back at times. She's on a

Katy started the game with their foot on the gas and never let up. Ella-Kate Smith gave the Tigers the lead in the first inning with a 3-run home run to left field and Lauryn Soeken kept things going by driving in a run on the single. Katy added five more in the second inning before Montgomery Henderson hit a 3-run home run in the third, coming up again in the fourth to make it 14-0 with an RBI single before Maddie Smith ended the game with a 2-run single.

"We just had to stay disciplined at the plate," Harrison said. "Their pitchers struggled a bit today and so we couldn't go swinging at things out of the zone even if we really wanted to hit. We made some mistakes but overall we did a good job waiting and swinging on pitches we could drive. It's just understanding the situation and playing to it."

The Tigers will have a small break with spring break coming up before they take on Seven Lakes and Taylor. The team has the option of going out during the break to use the cages and get different work in, but the group expects everyone to be out there. That's one of the biggest things for this team, is their self discipline and willingness to work.

"The leadership of this group is what makes that happen," Haack said. "You try to develop a culture from when these girls are freshman to where they will understand what it takes to be successful. All of this group has bought in and They've done a really good job of it. It makes my job as a coach easy."

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today!

#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF PUBLIC TEST OF LOGIC AND ACCURACY AND TEST OF TABULATION **EQUIPMENT**

Notice is hereby given that Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 80, and Fort Bend County Emergency Services District No. 2, will conduct a public test of the logic and accuracy of automatic tabulating voting equipment machines which will be used in the election to be held on May 4, 2024. The test will determine that the voting equipment will accurately record the votes cast for all offices and all propositions.

The tests will be conducted on March 18, 2024, commencing at 9:00 A.M., at the following location: 820 Gessner Rd., Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024.

#### AVISO PÚBLICO DE PRUEBA PÚBLICA DE LÓGICA Y PRECISIÓN Y PRUEBA DEL **EQUIPO DE TABULACION**

Se notifica por el presente que el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 48 del Condado de Harris, el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 80 del Condado de Harris y el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 2 del Condado de Fort Bend realizarán una prueba pública de lógica y precisión de las máquinas del equipo de votación de tabulación automática que se usarán en la elección que se celebrará el 4 de mayo de 2024. La prueba determinará que el equipo de votación registrará con precisión los votos que se emitan para todos los cargos y todas las proposiciones.

Las pruebas se llevarán a cabo el 18 de marzo de 2024, a partir de las 9:00 a.m. en la siguiente ubicación: 820 Gessner Rd., Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024.

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#### THÔNG BÁO CHO CÔNG ĐỒNG VỀ BUỔI KIỂM TRA CÔNG KHAI VỀ MỨC ĐỘ LÔ-GÍC VÀ CHÍNH XÁC VÀ KIẾM TRA THIẾT BỊ KIỂM PHIỀU

Theo đây xin thông báo rằng Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 48 Quận Harris, Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 80 Quận Harris, và Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 2 Quận Fort Bend, sẽ tiến hành một buổi kiểm tra công khai về mức độ lô-gíc và chính xác của các máy thiết bị bỏ phiếu bầu tự động sẽ được sử dụng trong cuộc bầu cử tổ chức vào ngày 4 tháng Năm, 2024. Buổi kiểm tra sẽ xác định rằng thiết bị bỏ phiếu đó sẽ ghi nhận chính xác số phiếu bầu cho tất cả các chức vụ và tất cả các kế hoạch đề nghị.

Buổi kiểm tra sẽ được bắt đầu tiến hành lúc 9 giờ sáng, ngày 18 tháng Ba, 2024, tại địa điểm sau: 820 Gessner Rd., Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024.

#### 關於邏輯和準確性公開測試 及投票統計設備測試的公告

特此通知,Harris 縣緊急服務區第 48 區、Harris 縣緊急服務區第 80 區和 Fort Bend 縣緊急服 務區第 2 區將對自動投票統計設備的邏輯和準確性進行公開測試,這些設備將在 2024 年 5 月 4 日選舉中使用。該測試將確定投票設備能否準確記錄所有職位和所有提案的投票數。

測試將於 2024 年 3 月 18 日上午 9:00 起在以下地點進行: 820 Gessner Rd., Suite 1710, Houston, Texas 77024.

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Landon Sturdevant of Cinco Ranch High School was the top auction winner at this year's Katy ISD FFA Livestock Show.

### Record-breaking success at Katy ISD FFA Livestock **Show Auction**

#### STAFF REPORT

The 2024 Katy ISD FFA Livestock Show auction totals have officially been announced. Student livestock projects raised a record-breaking \$975,000 at auction, \$30,000 more than in 2023. This year's livestock show consisted of over 575 student exhibitors.

The 2024 Katy ISD FFA Livestock Show owes its success not only to the commitment and perseverance of its students and staff, but also to the unwavering support of the community, sponsors, and volunteers. Their generous contributions and tireless efforts have played an indispensable role in empowering the FFA program and its students to reach new heights. Top auction winners included:

#### **Rabbits**

- Grand Champion: Samantha Weathers - Katy HS: \$8,500
- Reserve Champion: Shea Rainosek -Cinco Ranch HS: \$5,500
- Grand Champion Showman: Eva Bowdery - Seven Lakes HS: \$4,000
- Reserve Champion Showman: Jan Betancourt - Cinco Ranch HS: \$2,200

#### **Broilers**

- Grand Champion: Wyatt Moebes Katy HS: \$10,000
- Reserve Champion: Jackson Lucas -Katy HS: \$9,999
- Grand Champion Showman: Amber Hall - Katy HS: \$4,000
- Reserve Champion Showman: Brandon Terrell - Katy HS: \$2,000

#### Goats

- Grand Champion: Patrick Keener -Cinco Ranch HS: \$7,000
- Reserve Champion: Maria Eduarda Lyra Paludo - Cinco Ranch HS: \$5,000
- Grand Champion Showman: Samantha
- Skinner Jordan HS: \$4,500 • Reserve Champion Showman: Brady
- Zollinger Tompkins HS: \$3,000

#### Lambs

- Grand Champion: Siona Easterbrook -Paetow HS: \$6.500
- Reserve Champion: Karyss Kennedy -Paetow HS: \$6,499
- Grand Champion Showman: Shelby
- Landry Taylor HS: \$4,500 • Reserve Champion Showman: Brooklyn Tijerina - Katy HS: \$4,500

#### Swine

- Grand Champion: George Ullrich -
- Cinco Ranch HS: \$15,000 • Reserve Champion: Nolan Kondra -
- Jordan HS: \$14,999 • Grand Champion Showman: Karlie

Clay - Seven Lakes HS: \$3,500

• Reserve Champion Showman: Jake McDaniel - Katy HS: \$5,000

#### Steers

- Grand Champion: Landon Sturdevant -Cinco Ranch HS: \$32,000
- Reserve Champion: Jaeden Mortensen - Jordan HS: \$18,000
- Grand Champion Showman: Abigale Dilday - Taylor HS: \$9,500
- Reserve Champion Showman: Halie Johnson - Morton Ranch HS: \$6,500



Avery Robinson Jr. signed to play at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, Zechariah Robinson signed to play at UTSA and Connor Smith signed to play at Minnesota West College.



## Royal celebrates 4 student athlete signings

#### **STAFF REPORT**

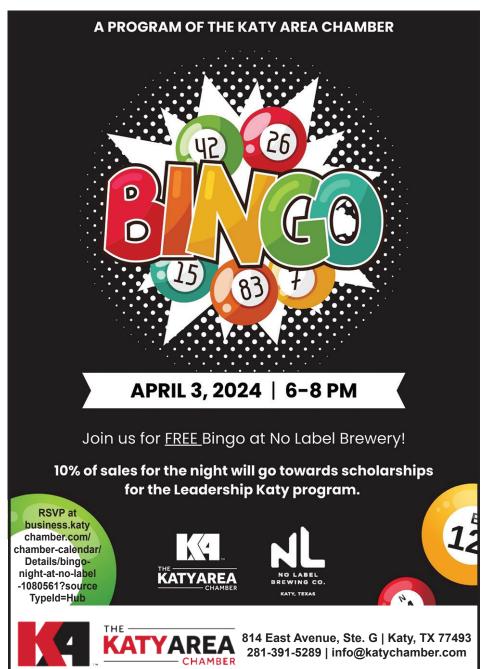
Royal ISD is proud to announce that four student athletes participated in the 2024 National Signing Day at Royal High School. Deysi Rivera became the school's first girls soccer player to be awarded a scholarship to play soccer at the collegiate level.

The signees during February's signing period were

- Deysi Rivera, Southwestern Adventist University
- Avery Robinson, Jr., University of
- Mary Hardin-Baylor • Zechariah Robinson, University of
- Texas at San Antonio
- Connor Smith, Minnesota West College







SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

# Taylor, Paetow continue winning ways, Tompkins earns first district win of season

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

#### **SATURDAY**

Taylor stayed perfect in district with a win on Saturday, while Paetow kept up its winning streak, winning a second in a row and Tompkins earned its first district win of

#### **Taylor stays perfect in district**

Taylor stayed perfect through six games of District 19-6A play with a 6-2 win over Jordan on Saturday, heading into spring break on the back of a three-game winning streak. Sophia Ybanez had two RBIs to lead the Mustangs and Ari Hughes pitched a complete game, striking out 12 and allowing two earned runs on nine hits, improving to 13-8 on the season.

Taylor scored first in the third inning, when Kenna Irvin hit an RBI single, but Ryan McIntosh came back to tie the game on an RBI double in the bottom of the inning. Taylor pulled ahead again in the top of the fourth, going ahead on a Alyssa Sharrock single and then getting another run on a sacrifice grounder. Ybanez drove in two more in the fifth inning on a double then getting their sixth run on an error. Jordan came back with one run on an Aislyn Duhon solo home run, but weren't able to do any more damage the rest of the way.

McIntosh pitched a complete game for Jordan, allowing five earned runs on seven hits and striking out two in the loss. The Warriors fell to 7-9 on the year and 2-4 in

#### Tompkins earns first district win

Tompkins overcame Mayde Creek for a 10-7 win, earning their first district win of the year with a strong offensive performance.

Samantha Crumrin and Lainey Wilkerson both had two RBIs in the win while Crumrin had a strong performance on the mound, pitching the final 3.2 innings of the game and allowing just one run on three hits while striking out two.

Tompkins took the lead in the top of the first inning on a bases loaded walk but Mayde Creek came back with two runs in the bottom of the first when Kaitlyn Flores hit a double that drove in two. Tompkins tied the game again in the third inning on a sacrifice grounder before taking the lead on a Gershman single, but the Rams again had the answer, as Flores drove in two more on a double in the bottom of the third.

The Falcons offense came alive after that though, and they broke things open with a five run fourth inning, Mayde Creek trimmed the Falcons lead to 8-6 in the bottom of the fourth, but Crumrin hit a double for the Falcons for their ninth run and after Mayde Creek made it a two run game again Crumrin hit a sacrifice grounder in the top of the seventh before shutting down the Rams in the bottom of the seventh to seal

Flores led Mayde Creek with four RBIs while Shy'Lynn Brown pitched a complete game and allowed four earned runs on eight hits while striking out four in the loss. Mayde Creek fell to 4-9 on the year and 2-4 in district play with the loss.

#### **Paetow walks over Seven Lakes**

Paetow was in an offensive slugfest on Saturday, where the Panthers earned a walkoff win over Seven Lakes. The Panthers had four players with two RBIs in the game and Makayla Staten earned the win on the mound after pitching the final inning of the

Samantha Crumrin pitches during Friday's bi-district round game between Tompkins and Ridge Point at the Jordan softball field.

game and allowing two runs on three hits while striking out two.

Seven Lakes came out on fire at the plate and scored four runs in both the first inning and second inning while the Panthers were only able to score one. Paetow trimmed the Seven Lakes lead to 8-3 in the third inning when Alexis Rodriguez hit a one-run single and Lea Avila hit an RBI single. Seven Lakes added a ninth run on a Dulce Franco steal of home, before Valeria Morales added two more on a Haley Welch single and another on a Valeria Morales single.

Paetow started to come back in the sixth inning and scored seven runs to make the game 12-10 heading into the final inning. Seven Lakes added two runs in the top of the seventh, but Paetow kept pushing. Lea Avila drove in a run on a single to start the seventh before a hit by pitch with the bases loaded made it a two-run game. Amanda Vasquez tied the game on a single of her own and then an error brought the final run home as Paetow walked it off.

Sarah Petree led the way for Seven Lakes with four RBIs while Welch and Morales both added three RBIs. Ryma Charkraborty pitched for Seven Lakes and lasted 6.2 innings, allowing nine earned runs while striking out three and walking six.

#### **TUESDAY, MARCH 5**

Katy and Taylor both earned run rule wins on Tuesday to stay perfect in district, while Mayde Creek and Cinco Ranch earned wins as they try and keep pace in the playoff race early in district play.

#### Harrison, Soeken combine for perfect game

Cameryn Harrison and Lauren Soeken combined for a perfect game against Paetow on Tuesday, with both pitching two innings and the two combining for 10 strikeouts in the 16-0 shutout effort. Haley Gore was a force offensively in the game, driving in four runs and hitting two runs, while Harrison, Ella-Kate Smith and Maddie Smith also had

home runs of their own. Katy improved to 20-1-1 with the win and 5-0 in district play.

Harrison got the scoring started in the top of the first inning, when she hit a single that drove in a run. Katy added to the lead in the second, adding runs on an Avery Porter triple and a Ashtyn Reichardt sacrifice fly before Harrison drove in two on a home run and Ella-Kate Smith hit another 2-run home run, with Brooke Fechner making it 9-0 on a double that brought in a run.

Reichardt made it a double digit lead in the third inning with an RBI single and Gore followed that up with a 2-run home run, Maddie Smith drove in two more with a home run to cap off the inning. Gore hit her second 2-run home run of the day in the fourth inning to cap off the scoring and Paetow had a three up, three down bottom of the fourth to end the game.

Jiselle Lopez started on the mound for the Panthers and went one inning, allowing one earned run on two hits while walking one. Paetow fell to 11-11 on the season with the loss and 1-3 in district play.

#### Hughes throws no hitter in win over **Morton Ranch**

Ari Hughes was on her game Tuesday, leading Taylor to an 18-0 win over Morton Ranch by pitching a 3-inning no hitter in a run rule win. Hughes struck out eight of 10 batters and only walked one in the win, Taylor Gray led the way offensively with four RBIs while Kaelyn Lerma had three RBIs in the win as the Mustangs improved to 11-8 on the year and 4-0 in district play.

Bethany Fan got things started in the top of the first by driving in a run on a single and Sophia Ybanez drove in two with another single. Gray and Kenna Irvine both drove in runs with singles of their own to make it 5-0 after half an inning.

Katelyn Wentzler drove in two on a home run to start off the second inning and Gray hit a 3-run home run before Izzy Allen got in on the action with an RBI single, as Taylor led 11-0 after two innings. Taylor kept adding on in the third inning, scoring seven more runs before not allowing anything from Morton Ranch in the bottom of the inning to end the game.

Mackenzie Rimmer started the game on the mound for Morton Ranch and went the whole game, allowing 14 earned runs and walking one. The Mavericks fell to 5-9-1 with the loss with a district record of 0-4.

#### Cinco Ranch offense heats up in win over Jordan

Cinco Ranch had a huge day at the plate on Tuesday, beating Jordan 26-9 behind a late offensive explosion and moving to 7-7 on the year and 4-1 in district play. Aubrey Ramirez led the way with a seven RBI day, including hitting two home runs, while Ossie Cooper had five RBIs and Madison Rosario

Cooper was the one to get things going in the top of the first, hitting a 2-run double for the first runs of the game and Ramirez followed that up with a 2-run home run. Jordan trimmed the lead to one in the bottom of the first, with Madeline Jovanovic hitting a double that drove in two run and then coming around to score on an error.

Cinco kept things going in the second, getting two runs on an error, and added on in the third with Rosario drawing a bases loaded walk before Cooper hit an RBI single and Ramirez hit a sacrifice fly, putting Cinco Ranch up 9-3. Jordan kept fighting back and got a run back on a Madison Green single in the bottom of the third, but Faith Piper drove in two on a triple in the top of the fourth as the Cougars continued to pull away, with Elle Wallace adding on in the top of the fifth with a sacrifice grounder.

Jordan again got a run back in the bottom of the fifth when Halle Brazan hit an RBI single, but Cinco Ranch scored 14 runs over the course of the final two innings and Jordan couldn't get back into it despite scoring four runs in the sixth inning.

Ryan McIntosh started on the mound for Jordan and went four innings, allowing 10 earned runs on 10 hits while striking out six and walking seven. Brazen led the way offensively with three RBIs. Jordan fell to 6-8 overall and 1-3 in district with the loss.

#### **Mayde Creek run rules Seven Lakes**

The Rams got back in the win column on Tuesday with a strong performance against Seven Lakes, beating the Spartans 15-5 behind big days at the plate from a number of the team. Julissa Aquino led the team with three RBIs while Madison Rodriguez had

Seven Lakes got on the board in the top of the first when Kamryn Wallman tripled and drove in two runs and it stayed that way until the bottom of the second, when Aquino singled and tied the game by bringing home two runs. Seven Lakes came back and took the lead in the top of the third when Dulce Franco hit a 2-run home run.

Mayde Creek got back into it in the bottom of the fourth, a run on an error made things a one run game and then Seven Lakes tied it on a passed ball. Aquino hit a sacrifice fly to give the Rams the lead and Mayde Creek drew three straight bases loaded, then two runs scored on two passed balls and Aneesa Ocanas hit a triple that drove in two before coming around to score on an error.

Seven Lakes got one run back when Valeria Morales hit a sacrifice grounder, but that was all they could manage as Mayde Creek put things away with a sacrifice fly and a run on a passed ball in the bottom of the fifth to

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## Katy ISD student earns No. 1 ranking in national junior Judo competition

STAFF REPORT

Alessia Quinto, an eighth grader at Beck Junior High, has recently earned national champion honors as the USA Judo's No. 1 ranked Junior Athlete for Juvenile Females under 64 kilograms.

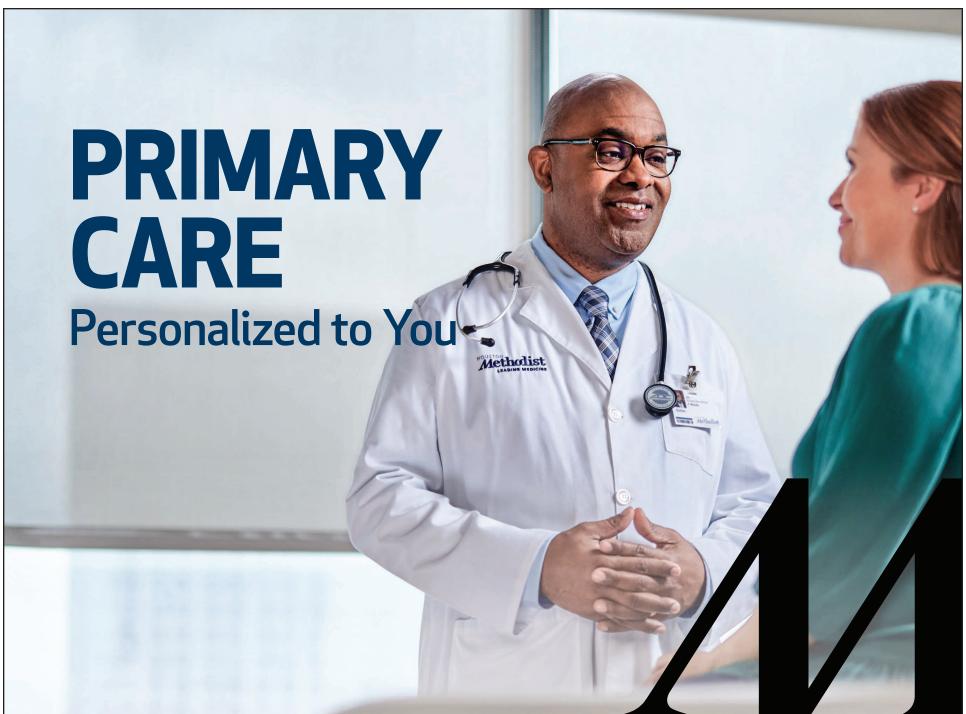
Quinto has competed in Judo and gymnastics since the age of four and

Alessia Quinto was ranked as the United States No. 1 Junior Judo Athlete under 64 kilograms. PHOTO COURTESY KATY ISD

won two gold medals last June at the USA Judo National and International Junior Olympics in Shreveport, Louisiana. She then represented Team USA at the Pan American under 15 Championships in Lima, Peru, where she took home a gold medal in the mixed teams events.

She competes in a number of sports at Beck, including volleyball, basketball and track and field; she competes for the Houston Force Volleyball Club as a middle blocker and will attend Cinco Ranch High School in the fall.



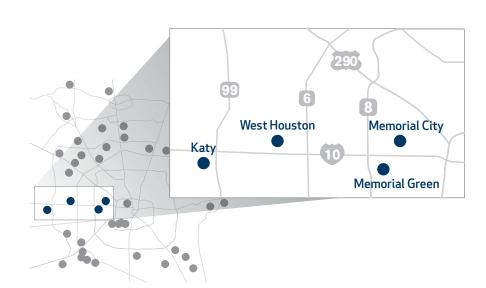


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