

HARRIS COUNTY



KAT WILCOX

Harris County Sheriff's Office investigators are investigating a likely murder-suicide after a shooting in the northeastern portion of the Katy area last night.

Deputies look into murder-suicide

By R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Harris County Sheriff's Office spokesman Jason Spencer announced at a press briefing Nov. 24 that HCSO investigators are looking into an apparent murder-suicide in the 19,400 block of Cypress Arbor Drive. Two men in their twenties lost their lives in the situation which witnesses say may have involved a love triangle.

"When deputies arrived, they discovered that two adult men - both in their twenties - were shot and deceased in the front yard ... subsequent investigation revealed that one of the men had come to the home to confront the other over a relationship that they were having with the same woman," Spencer said.

Spencer said witnesses were cooperative and indicated that the initial confrontation had begun a physical altercation which led to the man who came to the home pulling out a firearm and shooting the other man twice before turning the gun on himself.

Other people were at the home where the incident occurred at the time of the shooting, including at least one woman. He did not indicate if the woman was the individual the two men were fighting over, but did say that no other individuals were harmed.

"(Investigators are) interviewing witnesses; they're talking to neighbors, reviewing surveillance video - home security video - from neighbors' homes," Spencer said.

The Harris County Institute for Forensic Science was expected to perform autopsies on both

See **MURDER**, page 5

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December 3, 2020
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'PAYDAY'

Reward of hard work, culture earns Tompkins district title

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins senior defensive back Colby Huerter stood alongside head coach Todd McVey after the Falcons' 52-0 rout of Seven Lakes on Friday, Nov. 27, at Legacy Stadium that secured the outright District 19-6A title.

"We've still got some more work to do," Huerter said as he basked in the celebratory atmosphere near the team's locker room.

"Yes, we do," McVey responded.

But for that night, Huerter, McVey and Tompkins High took time to admire what they had accomplished.

The last time Katy High was not Katy ISD's district champion in football, Barack Obama won the presidential election to become the first African American in that capacity, The Dark Knight was the highest-grossing movie, and Flo Rida's "Low" featuring T-Pain was the top song.

It's been 11 years, a dynastic run of supremacy that was halted as Tompkins

See **FALCONS**, page 8



DENNIS SILVA II

Tompkins players celebrate with a 'District Champs' banner and the 19-6A championship trophy following their win over Seven Lakes on Nov. 27 at Legacy Stadium.



R. HANS MILLER

Waller County Judge Trey Duhon delivers opening remarks at the Waller County Justice Center ribbon cutting Nov. 21.

Waller Co. officials hold ribbon cutting for new criminal justice center

By R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Waller County officials had a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the county's new criminal justice center Nov. 21. While the facility is still pending a few finishing touches before opening county leadership wanted to give the public an opportunity to tour the facility before it opens soon.

The facility is one of two that will affect those living in southern Waller County directly to be nearing completion. The county's Precinct 4 Annex between Brookshire and Katy on the south side of Highway 90 is also essentially complete.

"Not only have we delivered these projects on time and on budget, but this year, we were able to set a tax rate that was not only lower than the tax rate when (Waller residents) voted on (the bond that paid for the buildings), but it was the lowest tax rate in Waller County in 32 years - since 1988," County Judge Trey Duhon said during a speech at the ceremony.

The new justice center will host the Waller County Sheriffs Office, Waller County Jail and district court and was funded by bonds approved by voters in 2017.

The jail has enhanced safety features in comparison to the old jail which county officials have said was outdated and falling apart, leading to safety concerns. Cameras are located throughout the building and a "eye in the sky" setup allows guards to look into cells from an elevated catwalk to keep an eye on prisoners and ensure they are safe. Visitation booths have phones at hand to allow clear communication and visitor's conversations with inmates can be recorded if necessary. Phone interactions

See **CENTER**, page 5

Katy City Council hears CARES Act update at meeting

By R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

In a brief special meeting Monday afternoon, Katy City Council awarded a contract to Tidal Construction Inc. for upgrades to one of the city's water plants and received an update from Mariga, PLLC representatives regarding its efforts to claim reimbursement for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Today what I wanted to do was really go over the Coronavirus Relief Fund and particularly what we've done in terms of working with the city in order to maximize what they're able to receive in terms of reimbursement for the fund," said Susanne Mariga with Mariga, PLLC, the city's consultant that is assisting in monitoring CARES Act funds.

Mariga explained that the CARES Act was a \$150 billion relief package passed by Congress to assist with the economic impact of COVID-19 and that Katy had been allocated funding from the three counties it overlaps - Harris, Waller and Fort Bend. Those counties each have reporting requirements and deadlines for reimbursement requests which begin on Dec. 8 for Harris County, Dec. 15 for Waller County and Jan. 15 of next year for Fort Bend County.

Mariga said the city had submitted its spending plan as required by Waller County Nov. 10 and anticipated turning in the requisite reimbursement claims to all three counties Dec. 8 rather than waiting until the separate deadlines for

See **CARES**, page 5



Katy City Council met virtually Nov. 30 as they have since the pandemic began. From top-left: City Secretary Becky McGrew, City Attorney Art Pertile III, Council Member Dusty Thiele, Council Member Rory Robertson, Council Member Jennifer Stockdick, Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris, Mayor Bill Hastings, City Finance Director Andrew Vasquez and City Administrator Byron Hebert. Robertson was elected Nov. 3 and Thiele was appointed to council by Hastings upon the resignation of former Council Member Frank Carroll III, who had moved out of city limits and thus resigned.

Pattison hires grant consultant in final 2020 meeting

By R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Pattison's city council adopted an agreement with GrantWorks to assist the city with obtaining Community Development Block Grant funding to aid in the city's development and adopted Ordinance No. 135 related management of rights of way on public streets during its Dec. 1 meeting.

The CDBG agreement with GrantWorks will assist the city in obtaining funding, possibly as much as about \$350,000 for improvements in the city related to water, wastewater, flood mitigation and drainage said Sylvia Davila, a representative with GrantWorks. She added that there may be some matching fund requirements for the grants, however the grants would still represent savings overall for the city. The cost of the GrantWorks proposal will

be pro bono if no grant funding is received or would be a portion of the overall grant funding if a grant is awarded to the city, she said.

"There is a match that's involved with this grant," Davila said. "(Pattison) is about, I believe, at 5% match for the grant."

For a grant award of \$350,000 the city's matching portion would be \$17,500.

Mayor Joe Garcia said the city had reached out to several organizations involved in applying for the CDBG program, which is run by the Texas Department of Agriculture, but GrantWorks was the only company to respond, though he felt confident in their ability to do the job well for the city.

"Their proposal to us was received in a timely manner and they were the only ones who responded as to date," Garcia said.

See **PATTISON**, page 5



CITY OF PATTISON/ZOOM

Pattison City Council, like most local municipal governments, held its meeting via Zoom Tuesday evening. From top-left to bottom right: City Secretary Lorene Hartfield, Katy Times placeholder, Council Member Robert MacCallum, Council Member Wayne Kircher, City Attorney Lora Lenzsch, Council Member Fred Branch, GrantWorks Representative Sylvia Davila, Council member Seth Stokes, Mayor Joe Garcia. Not pictured: Council Member Frank Cobio who was absent from the meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The events below offer the opportunity for some fun while practicing social distancing. Given the pandemic and weather conditions this time of year, readers are encouraged to call ahead to ensure that no cancellations or reschedulings have occurred.

Storytime with Santa at LaCenterra

Texas Children's Hospital is sponsoring this each Saturday through Dec. 19. Times vary and can be confirmed at <https://bit.ly/39IG1XY>. The event will be held at Heritage Square in the LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch shopping center. Tickets are \$25 and must be purchased in advance. Your ticket includes one LaCenterra blanket and a Nestle Toll House cookie pack. Make sure to bring your camera! One ticket gives access for up to 4 people.



PHOTO BY BARRY PLOTT

A variety of community events including craft fairs are available in the Katy area. The listing below is a partial list of what is available in the Katy area that allow readers to have some fun while practicing social distancing amid concerns of the pandemic.

available at www.katychambere.com.

Holiday Craft Show at The Cottage Door

The downtown Katy shop will be hosting craft shows on Saturdays from Dec. 5 through Dec. 19. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show will feature local crafters and will be family friendly with social distancing encouraged strongly. The shop is tucked away in the middle of downtown Katy at 1001 Ave. Be, Katy.

Battlehops Bingo Brunch

Battlehops Brewing at 6801 Hightway Blvd. in downtown Katy hosts this Dec. 13 event for being, beer and brunch. Doors open at noon for food and beer and bingo begins at 1 p.m. The event is free to play and prizes will be provided by Battlehops Brewing and Nekkid Texan Soaps. www.battlehopsbrewing.com.

State of Our Region - Hosted by the Fulshear-Katy Area Chamber of Commerce

This Dec. 15 event will include Tex. Rep. Gary Gates, Tex. Senator Lois Kolkhorst and Congressman-elect Troy Nehls to discuss regional concerns for the greater Fulshear-Katy area. The event will be held virtually from 10 a.m. to noon.

Chuckwagon BBQ & Burgers Car Meet

Step out on Dec. 19 from 6-9 p.m. for this event featuring awesome cars and great food at Chuckwagon BBQ & Burgers and neighboring Little V Vietnamese Bistro. Social distancing encouraged. The event will be held at the BBQ restaurant at 4031 FM 1463, Ste. 50 in Katy. Car drivers are asked to drive safely entering the lot and to back into their respective parking space if they are displaying their vehicles.

Katy Chamber Annual Holiday Luncheon

This annual event on Dec. 10 will have health screening as guests enter the Brookwood Community. Networking is set for 11:30 a.m. to noon and the luncheon will take place from noon to 1 p.m. The Café at Brookwood is located at 1752 FM 1489 in Brookshire. Admission for an individual is \$50, a table for six is \$500 and an event sponsorship with a table for eight is \$1,000. Registration is

Boy Scouts, a K9 and constables



PHOTOS COURTESY HARRIS COUNTY CONSTABLES OFFICE PCT. 5

Corporal Markus Suarez and K9 Deputy Brandon McIlwain from the office of Harris County Constable Ted Heap recently presented to Cub Scouts Pack 1103 at Sedona-Ralston Bend Park. The community outreach event allowed the officers to talk with scouts about what it takes to be a police officer, the equipment deputies wear on patrol and provide some interaction with Drift, one of the department's K9 deputies that helps keep Precinct 5 neighborhoods safe, according to a post on the department's Facebook page.

This Week's Puzzle Sponsored by

Katy Times

SUDOKU

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| 1 | 4 | 2 | | 7 | | | | |

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.

P.O. Box 678, Katy, TX 77492-0678

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This Week's Puzzle Sponsored by

Katy Times

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Opposite of west
- ___ Caesar, comedian
- Helps little firms
- A way to censor
- Expresses atomic and molecular weights
- Chalcedony
- Type of sword
- A corporation's first offer to sell stock to the public
- Attired
- A sequence of winding turns
- Pal
- Expresses pleasure
- Amendable
- Clear
- A way to cut off
- Indigenous Thai person
- Pale brownish yellow color
- Aquatic plants genus
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Merchants
- Fix a chair
- Throws into disorganization
- Famed German composer
- Keyboard key
- Oral polio vaccine developer
- Partner to pain
- Where golfers start
- Jenny ___: weight loss program
- Sailing dinghy
- Suffix that forms adjectives
- Speeds at which music is played
- Body part
- Fall back
- Ancient Greek sophist

CLUES DOWN

- One point south of due east
- Wings
- One point south of southeast
- The shirts on our backs
- One who works on the seas
- Select jury
- Small intestines parts
- Plant of the heath family
- Extrasolar planet
- Creates more of
- Before
- Forms over a cut
- Runs down
- Exercise regimen ___-bo
- Unkeyed
- Principle underlying the universe
- Corpuscule count (abbr.)
- Residue
- Company that rings receipts
- Rugged mountain range
- Commercials
- NY footballer
- They ___
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Poked holes in the ground
- Pitchers
- Your
- Diana ___, singer
- Important document for inventors
- Where military personnel work
- Play a role
- La ___ Tar Pits, Hollywood
- Unstressed-stressed
- Type of palm tree
- Judo garments

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

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Waller Commissioners Court meeting highlights

By R. HANS MILLER
NEWS EDITOR

Waller County Commissioners Court approved a draft agreement to provide CARES Act funds to county school districts, including Katy ISD, to help with connectivity and other remote learning expenses associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. They also approved an agreement with The Beckham Group regarding litigation against a proposed high-speed rail project and instituted a burn ban which was later lifted.

The agreements to distribute CARES Act funds will pass money to Waller, Hempstead, Royal and Katy ISDs on a prorated basis, based upon the number of



Waller County Judge Trey Duhon discusses allocation of CARES Act funds to various school districts within Waller County. Each of the four districts were allocated funding, pending the districts' acceptance of the agreements, based on the number of students they serve that reside in Waller county.

students each district has living in Waller County. The agreements are subject to approval by the individual district's as well. Under the agreement, Waller ISD will receive

about \$257,000, Hempstead ISD about \$114,000, Royal ISD roughly \$178,000 and Katy ISD about \$52,000. County Judge Trey Duhon said

the county had been required to submit reports on how it would spend CARES Act funds it had been allotted prior to the end of the year. Funds not spent would be subject to recall by the state and federal government, barring congressional action. The county had been allocated about \$1.6 million, he said, and even with free COVID-19 testing the county is offering to residents had not been able to spend that full amount, which led to the discussion of assisting schools.

"We were not going to be able to spend the money," Duhon said. "We were not going to be able to spend (\$1.6 million) even with the aggressive testing that we have been doing."

Funding also covered PPE reimbursement, additional payroll costs due to COVID-19 and other related issues, Duhon said.

Duhon later said Waller County is seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases in the county. At the time of the meeting, the county had 70 active cases compared to a few weeks prior when the case counts were in the high 20s. Total cases to date at the time were 1,159 with 18 fatalities and 1,034 recoveries.

"I'll just say this subjectively," Duhon said. "I'm hearing of more people I know of that have come down with the virus. We've even had some county employees that have come down with the virus as well."

See HIGHLIGHTS, page 5

TRIBUTES

Betty Sue Dearing Nichols, 81, of Edna, Texas, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on November 20, 2020 after a courageous battle with bile duct cancer.

Betty was born on July 2, 1939 to Thomas Jefferson Dearing and Donnie Sipe Dearing in Houston, Texas. After graduating from Jefferson Davis High School in 1957, she landed her first job in the banking industry, kicking off a 49-year career in banking.

In 1959 she met the love of her life, Roderick Joseph Nichols and they wed in 1961. They had 2 children, Laurie and Lisa. In 1965 the family relocated from Houston, Texas to Katy, Texas and lived there for the next 42 years.

After retiring in 2007, Betty and Rod moved to Edna, Texas to be near their grandchildren. Betty spent her time enjoying going to her granddaughters' sporting events, spending time with family and occasional trips to the casino.



BETTY SUE DEARING NICHOLS
1939-2020

Betty was predeceased by her father, Thomas Jefferson Dearing; mother, Donnie Sipe Dearing; and sister, Donna Dearing Nichols.

She is survived by her husband of almost 60 years, Roderick Joseph Nichols of Edna; daughters Laurie Nichols of Victoria, Lisa Gabrysch (Kent) of Edna; grandchildren, Stephanie Laskowski (Luke), Courtney Novella (Jonathan), Mor-

gan Gabrysch (fiancé Rhett Musser) and great-grandchildren, Ryleigh Novella and one on the way, Madisyn Laskowski.

Visitation for family and friends was held Wednesday, November 25, 2020 from 9:00-10:00 AM at St. Theresa's Catholic Church in La Salle. A rosary was recited at 10:00 AM with a Funeral Mass following at 10:30 AM. Burial was held at St. Theresa's Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Luke Laskowski, Jonathan Novella, Rhett Musser, Payton Gabrysch, Glenn Gabrysch and Logan Gabrysch.

We would like to thank all of the doctors, nurses and caregivers who so lovingly cared for Betty during her illness.

Memorial donations may be made to Jackson County Home Health or Hospice of South Texas.

Words of comfort may be shared at www.rosewoodfuneralchapel.com.

Mary Margaret Henry, 99, of Brookshire, Texas, passed away Monday, November 23, 2020, at her home.

Mary Margaret was born January 25, 1921, in Brookshire, Texas, the daughter of Elza Howe and Aghney (Agopian) Martin. She grew up in the Brookshire area, graduating from Katy High School, Class of 1938. She then attended the University of Texas.

After the start of World War II, Mary Margaret left UT to Fort Worth and worked for Consolidated Aircraft as an inspector during the production of war planes. Later Mary Margaret was employed as a medical and x-ray technician. She was also an adventurer as she pursued and received her pilots license and flew Piper Cub airplanes. She lived in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston and Colorado before returning to Brookshire where she was an active member of the community. She was a member of the Brookshire First United Methodist Church and a founding member of the Brookshire-Pattison Ambulance Corps. She had also served on the Royal FFA Parade Committee. Mary Margaret was very artistic, enjoying painting, creating pastel drawings, and soap carvings.



MARY MARGARET HENRY
1921-2020

She is survived by her daughters: Donnell Sturm of Cuero and Dayl Cooksey and husband, Aubert, of Brookshire; son: Darryl Henry and wife, Kim, of Katy; grandchildren: Sari Phillips and husband, Ranny, Nathan Cooksey and wife, Paola, Cara Moya and husband, Jonathan, Wesley Cooksey and wife, Edith, Jacob Henry, and Aaron Henry; great-grandchildren: Kierra Harris, Layne Riley, Alyssa Bernelle, Cage Richards, Garrison Cooksey, and Elijah Henry; great-great-grandchild: Cassidy Harris; sister: Bessie Rhodes of Houston; niece: Linda Turner, also of Houston; and many dear friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her sister: Alice Martin; and

grandsons: Danny Hundl and Jace Cooksey.

Visitation was held from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Sunday, November 29, 2020, at the Schmidt Funeral Home Chapel in Brookshire. Funeral Service were held at 11:00 AM, Monday, November 30, 2020, at the Brookshire First United Methodist Church with Reverend Dottie Dumas and Pastor Sue Lyle officiating. Interment followed in the Pattison Cemetery. Pallbearers were Wesley Cooksey, Jacob Henry, Aaron Henry, Nathan Cooksey, Layne Riley and Ranny Phillips. Honorary Pallbearers were John Hovas, Greg Hovas and Eddie Hovas.

Memorial gifts may be made to Brookshire First United Methodist Church, PO Box 397, Brookshire, TX 77423.

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

Esther Frances (Harrington) Gillis of Katy, Texas passed away on Sunday, November 22, 2020, at the age of 89 years. She was born in New Bedford, Massachusetts on November 12, 1931, the fourth child of Edward J. Harrington and Esther Frances Yates.

Esther attended Holy Family High School. She was a piano student of Lil Dumond Mindus, a concert pianist of world renown. She was educated at the College of Music at Boston University where she earned a Bachelor of Music Degree. Esther taught music in schools and gave piano lessons as a private teacher. She also studied at Framington State College in the field of Early Child Education. She received her Masters Degree in Special Education from Buffalo State College and taught in this field and in music in several states before retiring from Katy schools. Esther was also a volunteer at the Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital for many years.

She was preceded in death by her son, Thomas A. Gillis; her parents; brothers, Edward J. Harrington, Jr. and Monsignor Thomas J. Harrington; and by a sister, Ann Callanan.

She is survived by her loving husband of over 63



ESTHER FRANCES GILLIS
1931-2020

years, Hugh Colin Gillis; children, Catherine Gillis, Colin Gillis and his wife Denise, Rosemary Buetikofer and her husband Clifford, and Esther Finley and her husband Sean; nine grandchildren; many great grandchildren; sister, Mary Cain; as well as many nieces and nephews.

The family received friends from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, November 30, 2020, at the Schmidt Funeral Home Grand Parkway Chapel, in Katy, where a rosary was recited at 11:00 a.m. with Deacon John Evanoff reciting.

Those wishing to make memorial gifts may do so to

Maryknoll Fathers, P.O. Box 302, Maryknoll, New York 10545.

Condolences may be expressed at www.SchmidtFuneralHome.net

Funeral services held under the direction of Schmidt Funeral Home at 1344 W. Grand Parkway South in Katy, Texas. They can be reached at (281) 391-2424.

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN
Katy Old-Fashioned Christmas Festival

SAT. DEC 5TH, 2020 10AM-5PM

Delicious Food Trucks & Awesome Local Vendors

FREE FAMILY EVENT

Don't forget to shop our many local antique stores and boutiques, right here in beautiful Historic Downtown Katy!
Remember to wear your mask when social distancing isn't possible!

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Bottom line....

If it is not toilet paper, then it shouldn't be flushed.

Save your pipes and your pocketbook.

The cost to remove blockages and clean up any sewage spills is a hefty cost to all of us.

It's a toilet, not a trash can.

INTERSTATE MUD

Can you believe the EPA is 50 years old?

It may be the sort of birthday where someone shouts, "50 candles blazing on the cake? Are you crazy? Why don't we just fill a pinata with cow methane while we're at it???"

I'm speaking of the 50th anniversary of the Environmental Protection Agency. President Richard Nixon proposed the independent executive agency on July 9, 1970 (fun fact: "EPA" was the only term on that particular Nixon tape with fewer than FOUR letters) and it began operation on December 2, 1970.

(This was mere weeks before Elvis Presley's famous meeting with Nixon in the Oval Office. Nixon would maintain an interest in both Elvis and the environment, as witnessed by a joint operation of the FBI and EPA in investigating the effect of a hunk'a hunk'a burning love on the ozone layer.)

The EPA didn't arrive on the American scene a moment too soon. Bob Hope and Red Skelton were running out of smog jokes, and newcomer Flip Wilson's Geraldine Jones character was in danger of her sassy catch-phrase becoming "What you see is what you get - no, I'm over here - *cough* *cough* just squint real hard..."

I know some people long for the Good Old Days ("Who needed Jell-O Pudding Pops when you could just draw them right out of the well? Mmmmm..."), but we were some NASTY sons of guns before federal intervention.

We thought an "ecosystem" was a plan for blowing your horn while driving through a tunnel. Tourists seeing the U.S.A. in their Chevrolet frequented tourist sites such as the World's Largest Ball of Particulate Matter.

It was a "buyer's market" for hitchhikers. ("If you ain't haulin' at least three barrels of benzene in the back of your pickup, I'd just as soon walk, mister.") The fuzziness of nostalgia helps us forget that kids couldn't even make a simple paper football in class without calling time-out to add lead paint and asbestos to the project.

Homeowners and factories took shortcuts and were not particularly keen on looking at the big picture. And if they did look at the big picture, afterwards, they let the photographic chemicals run off into navigable waterways.

I know sometimes the EPA is accused of going hog wild with regulations (arguably, little Jimmy's mud pie business probably ISN'T that big a threat to endangered wetlands), but in general we shouldn't take the agency for granted.

They educate us about fuel efficiency, set radiation standards and prepare Environ-



DANNY TYREE

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

"Homeowners and factories took shortcuts and were not particularly keen on looking at the big picture. And if they did look at the big picture, afterwards, they let the photographic chemicals run off into navigable waterways."

mental Impact Statements for all major government projects. Roughly 1,000 "Superfund" hazardous waste sites have been reused or redeveloped in the 40 years since Congress put a priority on such cleanups.

Considering humanity's desire to cut corners, bend rules and kick the can down the road (suddenly the Traveling Wilburys song "The Devil's Been Busy in Your Backyard" is playing in my brain), there will always be a need for the folks at the EPA to serve as our ecological conscience and maintain this great land's natural beauty.

Just don't get me started on the funding of OTHER federal programs, such as the Pony Express Saddle Inspection Agency or the Department of Keeping Betsy Ross Supplied with Needles.

Those can go to the Landfill of History for all I care. Unless there's another cracked landfill liner...

All these complications make me mad enough to whack a pinata!

Hey, there's one now...
BOOM!



COVID-19 obscures how great 2020 was

As challenging a year as 2020 has been, we still should be thankful that it has been the best year in human history to be alive.

Consider: In 1920, according to the book "Enlightenment Now," the average person spent 11.5 hours each week doing laundry. By 2014, he or she was completing laundry chores in less than an hour and a half.

Or, in my case, five minutes - which is how long it takes me to drop off my laundry at the laundry-cleaning shop.

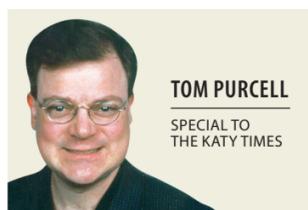
Right now, humans are living longer, more productive lives than ever before in human history.

"For 99.9% of our species' existence, a newborn baby could expect to live, on average, to about the age of 30," reports Tom Chivers for BuzzFeed. "According to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, that age dropped even lower in classical times, to perhaps 28 for ancient Greece and Rome. And as late as the start of the 20th century, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), it was still just 31."

But today, says Chivers, the global average life expectancy is 71.5 years, according to a study in The Lancet.

And life expectancy will keep increasing.

According to the World Future Society, we are in the early phases of a superlongevity revolution.



TOM PURCELL

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Thanks to advances in nanotechnology and cell and gene manipulation, scientists may eventually learn how to keep humans alive for 120 to 500 years.

I hope I don't live that long though. I have zero desire to participate in one more presidential election, let alone several dozen.

COVID-19 has disrupted global markets, but the fact is that free markets and capitalism have been leading millions of people out of poverty - and will continue to do so as the world eventually returns to normal.

As poverty decreases, the global population enjoys a continually improving quality of life.

In 2017, Bill Gates reported global improvement across several indicators: Childhood deaths fell from 12 million in 1990 to 5 million in 2017. More than 90 percent of children were attending primary school. The proportion of people living in extreme poverty declined from one-third in 1990 to one-tenth.

Today, the average American family is living better than the world's wealthiest lived just 100 years ago.

Cafe Hayek says the lifestyle of today's typical middle-class American is better than billionaire John D. Rockefeller's was 100 years ago.

As rich as Rockefeller was, he didn't have air conditioning; sophisticated medicine; safe, fast travel; limitless dining and entertainment options; and many other wonderful things that we have.

Of course, Rockefeller didn't have social media or talking heads on 24/7 cable news, so his lifestyle was not without its benefits!

This year has been no picnic. Many people are without work and are suffering terribly as they face an uncertain future.

Despite 2020's setbacks, however, now is still the best time in history to be alive. We have our problems, to be sure, and have plenty of work ahead of us.

Then again, technological innovation is in the process of unleashing marvels - and, hopefully, much-needed economic growth - that will benefit us all.

This Thanksgiving, in addition to toasting the good health of my family and friends, I toasted the many blessings and opportunities that abound, but are harder to see during this most peculiar year.

Katy Times

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

To paraphrase, Martin Luther King Jr.: Do not judge a person by the color of his skin, but by the content of their character. To those who suggest that because you're white, you are privileged, is identity politics and could be considered racist by itself. Katy is one of the most multicultural area's in the United States. People from all over the world are wanting to transplant to America to escape tyrants, fascists,

racism, socialism, and extremism. To point out someone's skin color is good or bad is simply wrong. We do not need government re-education camps to teach us what we already know. Racism is evil and telling other's their skin color makes them privileged is egregious. God Bless the USA.

A.D. Muller
Katy



CONSTITUTION CORNER Article IV, Section 1

Full Faith and Credit shall be given in each State to the public Acts, Records, and judicial Proceedings of every other State. And the Congress may by general Laws prescribe the Manner in which such Acts, Records and Proceedings shall be proved, and the Effect thereof.

Harris GOP chair resigns

By PATRICK SVITEK
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

The head of the Republican Party in Texas' largest county has resigned after less than four months on the job.

Keith Nielsen, chairman of the GOP in Harris County, home to Houston, submitted a letter of resignation and the party's secretary, Josh Flynn, said he received it Monday morning. It was unclear why Nielsen was stepping down, and the letter was not immediately available.

Nielsen was engulfed in controversy before he even became chairman. He won the job in



KEITH NIELSEN

March, but as he prepared to take office this summer, he faced widespread condemnation for posting a Facebook graphic juxtaposing a Martin Luther King Jr. quote with a banana, which could be read as an allusion to equating Black people with monkeys, a well-worn racist trope. He initially said he would forfeit the job but reneged, taking office in early August.

Nielsen's resignation is effective immediately, according to Rolando Garcia, a member of the party's advisory board. The county party's executive committee will pick Nielsen's successor.

Once a battleground, Harris County has become increasingly blue in recent elections. President-elect Joe Biden carried it by 13 percentage points in the Nov. 3 election, a slightly larger margin than Hillary Clinton did four years earlier.

with growth to ensure development occurs properly.

The ordinance was adopted with the caveat that Lenzsch would work with city staff to develop a fee schedule for permits related to rights of way.

Council members also:

- Heard a brief update from Garcia regarding an update to the city's comprehensive plan. Garcia said a public meeting would need to be held in early 2021 to discuss the plan.
- Adopted the city's 2021 calendar.
- Discussed upcoming city council elections. Filing for office for positions three, four and five on the council begins Dec. 15, City Secretary Lorene Hartfield said.
- Heard a brief update from Hartfield regarding sales tax revenues for the city which she said were higher than had been projected, though she did not provide an exact dollar amount.

CARES

from page 1

each county. She also commended city staff for their efforts in tracking expenses, including time spent on COVID-19-related projects, in an organized and detailed manner which made the work easier for the city's consultants.

"The first final reimbursement request is Harris County and those documents are required to be submitted by Dec. 8," Mariga said. "And so, our goal is this - because Harris County is the biggest county - to have all three counties completed by Dec. 8, at the same time."

She said a training workshop in early November allowed her and her staff to see that the city would be able to file for reimbursement for hours worked related to COVID-19 due to amendments of CARES Act requirements with the three counties.

"So what the amendment allowed for was any expenses that were related to your fire department or police or anyone in public safety that were incurred from

Mar. 1 to Dec. 31 - any of those payroll expenses were allowed to be submitted for reimbursement up to the maximum dollar amount that was allotted by the three counties," Mariga said.

Once the counties have received their respective documentation, they will have two to three weeks to review the information and request supporting documentation, after which appropriate reimbursements should be distributed, Mariga said. The current overall expected combined reimbursements from the counties totals \$1,056,880.

The council also approved a contract to upgrade City of Katy Water Plant No. 7 with Tidal Construction, Inc. which had submitted a bid of about \$1.08 million. The total project cost with contingencies, engineering and various inspections is estimated at about \$1.3 million.

Council also rejected all bids for a planned remodel of Katy City Hall's third floor. City Attorney Art Pertile III said there was a technical issue with the bids received that made it so it was best to redo the procurement process to ensure that bids could be properly considered.

PATTISON

from page 1

Next steps in the process are for Grant-Works to prepare the applications which are due May 3, 2021 and for public hearings to be held, likely in January, Davila said.

The next item on the agenda was for the council to address a proposed ordinance regarding rights of way which City Attorney Lora Lenzsch had drafted at council's request. Lenzsch explained that a right of way involves public access to items along roadways such as sidewalks and are what allow people to walk along sidewalks in front yards and similar situations while easements provide rights similar to property rights that allow items such as utility lines to be installed in an area.

Council members noted that the ordinance is important as the city moves forward

HIGHLIGHTS

from page 3

He also said data from the Texas Medical Center shows that the virus is actively spreading and encouraged residents to use caution to mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus especially during the holidays.

"We are not going to regulate a family gathering. Not in Waller County," Duhon said. "It's just not going to happen, but I do encourage people to be smart about it."

COVID-19 testing information is available online at co.waller.tx.us/page/homepage. Testing is for Waller County residents only and is free of charge.

The county agreed to become a plaintiff in a lawsuit that seeks to challenge the environmental statement for the project spearheaded by Texas Central which would build a high-speed railway between Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth.

"This is at no cost to the county. We don't have any liability; we don't bear any cost," County Judge Trey Duhon said. "We will just be included as a plaintiff along with a number of other entities ... since we have standing as being one of the impacted counties that will be impacted by this proposed project."

Grimes County and other impacted counties have already joined in the lawsuit, Duhon said. He added that he will be speaking to the city of Waller to ask if they want to be included because the city will be impacted as well.

The court also instituted a

OTHER ITEMS

Commissioners also approved the following items during the meeting:

- Multiple payments for items associated with the new Precinct 4 Annex located between Katy and Brookshire on Highway 90 totaling about \$103,000.
- Approved execution by the county judge of two resale deeds for private tax resale of properties held in trust by the county in a manner that complies with the Texas Tax Code.
- Approval of training expenses for Sheriff Elect Troy Guidry to attend the new Sheriff Conference from Dec. 6-11. The training conference is a standard training newly-elected sheriffs attend and is within the Sheriff's Department's training budget.
- Renewal of the county's auto liability, Worker's Compensation and other similar coverages for 2021 with some increase in premiums due to increased fleet size and staffing.
- Payment of about \$1.17 million to Sedalco, Inc. for construction related to the county's new Criminal Justice Center. This is expected to be one of the final payments for the facility which was paid for through voter-approved bonds.
- Stan Kitzman as the point of contact for approval of content to be placed on the Waller County Veterans Memorial website. Commissioner Jeron Barnett will serve as the alternate point of contact.

burn ban at the recommendation of Fire Marshal Brian Cantrell. The recommendation was put forth because of a high Keetch-Byram Drought Index across the county which indicated a high risk of fire due to a lack of rain. The ban has since been lifted after weekend rains.

"So the KBDI has reared its ugly head. It started last week. Last week we were a bit under 500 and now we've gone to 543," Waller County Fire Marshal Brian Cantrell said. "We've got areas in the county that are (in the) 570s."

Cantrell said he understood that people would want to be outside sitting by a fire due to colder weather and asked the court to allow him to lift the ban if the KBDI had become lower due to expected rain over the weekend. The court authorized the burn ban with that caveat.

Waller County readers are encouraged to follow the Waller County Fire Marshal's Office and Office of Emergency Management's Facebook page for real-time updates regarding burn bans in the county.

CENTER

from page 1

between attorneys and inmates are in a separate visitation booth setup that does not allow for recorded conversations due to attorney-client privilege concerns, officials said.

Interim Sheriff Joe Hester said he and the rest of the sheriff's department's officers were grateful to have a new home in a nice facility that will allow them to serve the community while keeping both officers and prisoners safe.

"We're very appreciative of the county commissioners and everybody that's helped us get this done," Hester said. "Sedalco (Construction Services), the architects - everybody that had anything to do with these buildings. It's very nice and state of the art. We're very appreciative of that and it's something for everybody to look forward to working in."

The facility is awaiting some minor finishing touches and inspections



R. HANS MILLER

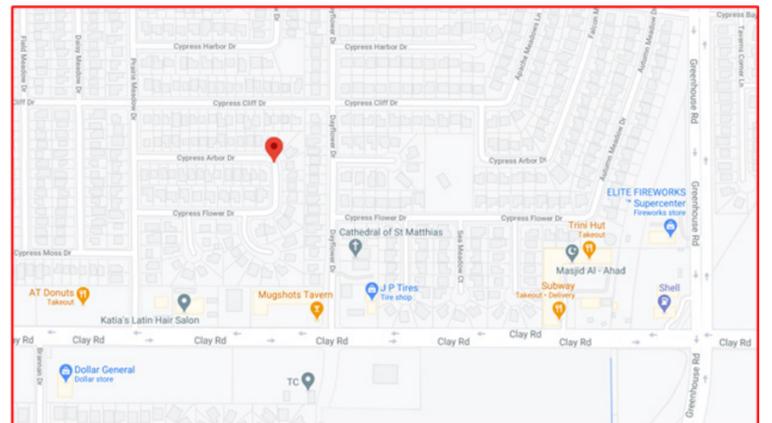
The new Waller County Sheriffs Office is one of three buildings in the justice center complex.

including an issue with ensuring the smoke alarms work properly, but will be usable once that is completed, officials said. Once that is done, the facility can be moved into and operations there can begin.

Waller County Construction Manager Danny Rothe, whom Duhon said was hired because the county needed someone to take on the construction and refurbishment of buildings officials knew would be needed as growth came to Waller County, said he was appreciative of the effort put out by Sedalco and all of the other contractors as

well. He said the teamwork put forth by the general contractor, engineers, architects and county staff made for one of the smoothest projects in his career due to the cooperative effort and support of everyone involved.

"I think it turned out pretty well," Rothe said. "I do kind of want to do my part to address the taxpayers of the county - I want to give you my word that you have a quality facility and that the project was done right. That was my goal when I came here and I thank commissioners court for giving me the opportunity, who entrusted me to do this goal."



GOOGLE

The incident, which took the lives of two men, occurred at about 7 p.m. Tuesday evening in the 19,400 block of Cypress Arbor Drive.

MURDER

from page 1

men's remains as part of the investigation, Spencer said.

He also said that the situation, which some may consider domestic violence, is a part of a larger trend this year of violence in homes.

"It's just a tragedy for everyone involved and our

hearts go out to the families of the people who have lost their lives tonight," Spencer said. "You know, a lot of people are grieving tonight. It's a terrible loss and our hearts go out to them."

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2020-21 KATY AREA SPORTS RESULTS & SCHEDULE

To submit scores, news or schedules, email dennis.silva@katytimes.com

FRIDAY, NOV. 27 CLASS 6A REGION III QUARTERFINAL VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

• Katy 3, Memorial 1

FOOTBALL

- Paetow 10, Hightower 7
- Tompkins 52, Seven Lakes 0
- Taylor 28, Cy-Springs 27

SATURDAY, NOV. 28 CLASS 6A REGION III QUARTERFINAL VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

• Seven Lakes 3, Cinco Ranch 1

MONDAY, NOV. 30 CLASS 6A REGION III SEMIFINAL VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

• Seven Lakes 3, Pearland Dawson 0

TUESDAY, DEC. 1 CLASS 6A REGION III SEMIFINAL VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

• Katy 3, Clear Springs 1

THURSDAY, DEC. 3 FOOTBALL

- Mayde Creek at Katy, at Legacy Stadium, 6 p.m.
- Paetow vs. Deer Park, at Rhodes Stadium, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 4 CLASS 6A REGION III FINAL VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

• Katy (19-3) vs. Seven Lakes (24-1), at Merrell Center, 5 p.m.

FOOTBALL

- Cinco Ranch vs. Seven Lakes, at Legacy Stadium, 6:30 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Clear Brook, at Rhodes Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Tompkins at Cinco Ranch, 7 p.m.
- Seven Lakes at Katy, 7 p.m.
- Morton Ranch at Taylor, 7 p.m.
- Paetow at Magnolia West, 6:30 p.m.
- Mayde Creek at Pasadena, 5:30 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

- Paetow at Morton Ranch, 7 p.m.
- Fort Bend Austin at Tompkins, 7 p.m.
- Seven Lakes at Bridgeland, 7 p.m.
- Mayde Creek at Cy-Ridge, 7 p.m.
- Taylor at Spring Woods, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 5 BOYS BASKETBALL

- Cy-Park at Taylor, noon
- Pearland at Cinco Ranch, 1 p.m.
- Bellaire at Morton Ranch, 3 p.m.
- Strake Jesuit at Seven Lakes, 6 p.m.
- Tompkins at Cy-Woods, 1 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 8 GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Magnolia at Paetow, 6:30 p.m.
- Katy at Clear Brook, 7 p.m.
- Morton Ranch at The Woodlands, 6 p.m.
- Taylor at Cy-Fair, 6:30 p.m.
- Tompkins at College Park, 7 p.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

- Elsie at Seven Lakes, 7 p.m.
- Jersey Village at Katy, 7 p.m.
- Humble at Cinco Ranch, 7 p.m.
- Fort Bend Bush at Mayde Creek, 7 p.m.
- George Ranch at Tompkins, 7 p.m.
- Fort Bend Austin at Taylor, 7 p.m.
- Morton Ranch at Eisenhower, 7 p.m.
- Paetow at Fort Bend Travis, 7 p.m.

BARRIER BREAKERS

Fuller's feat returns memories for Amanda Taylor, Katy's first woman to score in a varsity football game

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Amanda Taylor watched with wide eyes and a wider smile as Sarah Fuller kicked off for Vanderbilt to start the second half against Missouri in their SEC matchup on Saturday, Nov. 28.



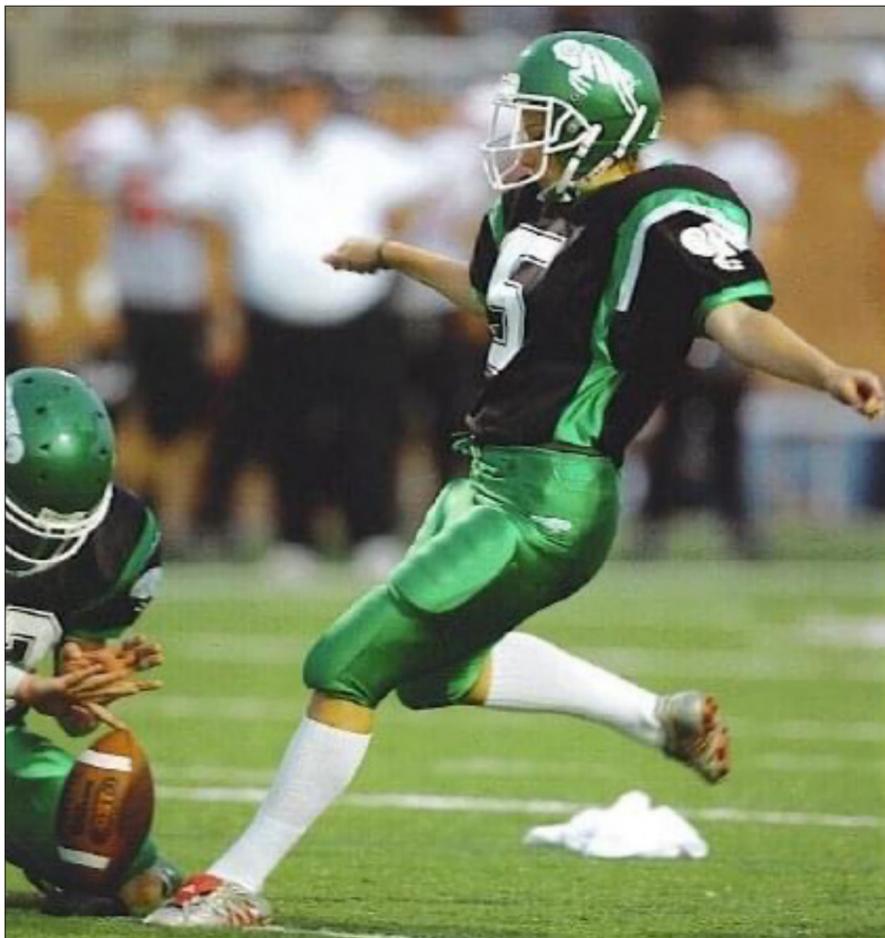
AMANDA TAYLOR

Fuller's designed squib kick to the 35-yard line was the most important play in Vanderbilt's 41-0 loss. Kicking for the team out of need due to a limited roster because of COVID-19 protocols and restrictions, Fuller, a goalkeeper for the Commodores women's soccer team, became the first woman to compete in a Power Five conference football game.

"I was really excited about it. So proud," Taylor said. "I was like, 'Yes! We got one in the Power 5!'"

The moment brought back a rush of great memories for Taylor, formerly Amanda DeLafosse. Taylor, Class of 2007 at Mayde Creek High, is the first Katy ISD female football player to score in a varsity football game. In the 2006 season, she made 19-of-19 extra-point attempts and two-of-four field goals (from 41 and 35 yards, respectively) for the Rams.

See **TAYLOR**, page 9



COURTESY OF AMANDA TAYLOR

Amanda Taylor, formerly Amanda DeLafosse, is shown kicking for Mayde Creek in a varsity football game during the 2006 season. Taylor is the first Katy ISD female football player to score points in a varsity game.

CLASS 6A VOLLEYBALL REGION III FINAL: KATY HIGH (19-3) VS. SEVEN LAKES (24-1), FRIDAY, DEC. 4, 5 P.M., MERRELL CENTER

Spartans back in 6A regional final

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

On the court, Seven Lakes senior outside hitter Ally Batenhorst loves to destroy. As quick as she is with a smile off the court, the Nebraska signee is just as quick to power through blocks on it.

"I'm mad," Batenhorst said with a laugh when asked what she thinks about every time she goes up for a swing. "I want to win. I just want to win. I just want to hit as hard as I can and hope they shake it, and be smart, too, obviously. If I hit harder, it's harder to defend."



ALLY BATENHORST

The 6-foot-4 Batenhorst is a nightmare matchup, and that has been the case time and time again throughout this postseason. Behind Batenhorst's 31 kills, Seven Lakes topped District 19-6A rival Cinco Ranch, 3-1 (25-20, 25-14, 16-25, 25-15), in their Class 6A regional quarterfinal playoff game Nov. 28 at the Merrell Center. Then she followed that up with 16 more kills in the Spartans' 3-0 sweep (25-23, 25-20, 25-22) of Pearland Dawson in the regional semifinals Nov. 30 at Wheeler Fieldhouse in Sugar Land.

The No. 4 state-ranked Spartans are 24-1 heading

See **SPARTANS**, page 9



DENNIS SILVA II

Katy High is in the regional final for the first time since 1993 after beating Clear Springs, 3-1, in their Class 6A regional semifinal on Tuesday at the Merrell Center.

Tigers in regional final for 1st time since 1993

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the goals for Katy High this volleyball season was to still be playing in December.

Not only have the Tigers done that, but they now have an opportunity at a state tournament berth after beating Clear Springs, 3-1 (13-25, 25-16, 25-22, 25-22), in their Class 6A regional semifinal Tuesday at the Merrell Center.

"It's exciting and a big deal for us," junior middle hitter Jordan Gamble said. "But right now, we're just focused on the next game. I just want the (state) ring, and my team wants that ring. That's the goal."

Forget December. That's nice, but the Tigers have already accomplished so much more. They are in the regional final

See **TIGERS**, page 9

Atkinson, Nielson finish 2nd, 3rd at state meet

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch seniors Sophie Atkinson and Heidi Nielson capped their decorated high school cross country careers in typical impressive fashion on Tuesday, Nov. 24, as the Cougars' dynamic tandem finished second and third, respectively, at the UIL Class 6A state meet at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

Atkinson posted a time of 16-minutes, 57.44-seconds to finish a little less than 32 seconds behind state champ Brynn Brown of Denton Guyer in the 5,000-meter race. Nielson ran a time of 17:38.13 to finish third.

After she won the Region III meet on Nov. 10, Atkinson emphasized that the team was going to run with a purpose at state and "go for it and be intense."

"As long as we all go out there and do our best, good results will come," Atkinson said. "But we're going to go for it, for sure." They did exactly that.

For Atkinson and Nielson, it was their best finish at state. Atkinson's previous best finish was ninth in 2018. Nielson's previous best was fourth in 2018.

"It's amazing how dominant they are," Cinco Ranch girls cross country coach Dana Mathis said of the pair earlier this season.

As a team, Cinco Ranch, which won Region III and qualified for state



COURTESY KATY ISD ATHLETICS

Cinco Ranch seniors Sophie Atkinson, left, and Heidi Nielson, right, pose with coach Dana Mathis after finishing second and third, respectively, at the UIL Class 6A state meet on Nov. 24 in Round Rock.

See **STATE**, page 9

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

APPLICATION: Cristobal and Maria Ramos, Baudelio Marin Covarrubias, Sandra Vergara Aquino and Maria Teresa Marin, owners, are requesting to be allowed to revise Lot 5 of Rosebud Subdivision. The revision will be to partition Lot 5 into two lots. These newly configured lots would consist of Lot 5A (3,500 acres) and Lot 5B (1,500 acres). Rosebud Subdivision is situated in the Juan A. Padillo Survey, A-48, Waller County, Texas recorded in Volume 702, Page 938, in the Official Public Records of Waller County, Texas.

This replat request, if approved, will only revise the applicant's property.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing will be held during the regular session of Commissioners' Court on December 23, 2020 at the Waller County Courthouse, 836 Austin St., Hempstead, Texas, 77445.

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November 26 Puzzle Answers

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DENNIS SILVA II

Tompkins head coach Todd McVey, in grey, hands off the district championship trophy to school namesake O.D. Tompkins, in crimson red, following the Falcons' win over Seven Lakes on Nov. 27 at Legacy Stadium.

FALCONS

from page 1

continued its undefeated season to win its first district title in football in its seventh year of varsity play.

But a district title was not the end-all, be-all, Tompkins coaches and players stressed. It was merely one step forward, one goal reached.

"This is just a short-term goal. Our long-term goal is the state championship," senior quarterback Jalen Milroe said. "It feels great to accomplish one of them. You start in the offseason, when you put in week by week of work. I'm just happy and proud to accomplish this goal. Now we have to put more work in to accomplish our next goal."

Just three years ago, the Falcons were 0-9. Since then, they have gone 10-3, 11-2 and now 8-0 this season, ranked No. 23 nationally and No. 6 in the state.

"It shows how much work we put in the last four years and how we kept getting better each season," Huerter said. "All the work we've put in created the outcome we got. It's a lot of early

mornings, a lot of weight room. It's a lot of not wanting to do stuff sometimes, but knowing you have to, knowing you should. It all paid off. Keeping each other accountable and continuing to play for each other is the biggest part of football."

The Falcons got off to a fast start against Seven Lakes, leading 21-0 after the first quarter. They led 42-0 at the half.

Senior running back Marquis Shoulders had 124 rushing yards and three touchdowns on 11 carries. Milroe completed six of seven passes for 107 yards and two touchdowns. Senior running back Sherman Smith, who has won a district title in each of his four years of high school after spending the first three years at Katy, rushed for 89 yards and a touchdown on nine carries and caught two passes for 49 yards.

McVey played his reserves for the entire second half.

"Last week (in a 56-21 win over Mayde Creek on Nov. 19), we started off slow," Shoulders said. "Against good teams, we can't do that. This week, we had to start fast and play hard."

Tompkins left no doubt. It

scored touchdowns on its first six possessions before settling for a Hunter Huckaby 29-yard field goal on its seventh.

Defensively, the Falcons held the Spartans to 30 total yards. The only sore spot for Tompkins was penalties, as it compiled 10 for 75 yards.

"Anything worth having is worth sacrificing for," McVey said. "The kids understand that, but it's tough for a 17-year-old to figure that out. When they start seeing the resolve of their work, like we call it 'payday,' they start understanding why and our core value of discipline."

McVey was hired to lead the Falcons in the spring of 2017. Before he got there, Tompkins had lost 25 of 30 games over three seasons.

His first year, the team was winless. But over the course of the next few seasons, players embraced his culture of sacrifice, selflessness and an irrepressible work ethic.

"Chop wood, carry water," McVey is fond of saying.

"It's crazy the journey it took to get here," Milroe said. "It took buy-in from the players to change the culture around.

There was a losing mentality before. Coming in, we wanted to build the chemistry ... mat drills, Falcon curls, 110s. Just going through all that work with your brothers and building that relationship with them."

McVey called the district title a "blessing" for coaches and players.

"It's very rewarding for these coaches, these kids," he said. "I'm talking from 2017 and on. We were hard on them, and they bought in. It's these lessons they've learned that I'm hoping they take with them later in life. It's rewarding in that way for the kids."

Tompkins finished its regular season undefeated. It has an open week this week before starting the playoffs next week against Fort Bend Travis. The Falcons will be a No. 1 seed in Class 6A, Division I.

The last two seasons, the Falcons have fallen in the third round of the postseason. They're hoping this season is the one they break through that barrier.

"It's been about the team," Shoulders said. "Chemistry. One game at a time. For us to accomplish all of this is amazing. But we still have a lot more to accomplish. A lot more to do."

2020 TOMPKINS FALCONS

SENIOR CLASS

| NO. | NAME | POSITION |
|-----|-------------------|----------|
| 3 | Temisan Alatan | DB |
| 4 | Jalen Milroe | QB |
| 6 | Marquis Shoulders | RB |
| 7 | Dru Polidore | DB |
| 9 | Caleb Freeman | QB |
| 10 | Koronje Gilbert | DB |
| 14 | Colby Huerter | DB |
| 15 | Nick Mayer | WR |
| 16 | Paul Magee | RB |
| 17 | Nathan Vines | DB |
| 20 | Josh White | DB |
| 21 | Sherman Smith | RB |
| 22 | Brady Douglass | RB |
| 23 | Kobee Madriz | LB |
| 24 | Caleb Karonka | RB |
| 25 | Gavin Baldacci | LB |
| 26 | Sam Mills | WR |
| 27 | Terry Hearn | DB |
| 28 | Hunter Huckaby | K |
| 34 | Jeremy Tas | LB |
| 35 | Jeremiah Ageh | DL |
| 36 | Mason Young | LB |
| 45 | Justin Bevrotte | DL |
| 48 | Christian Roman | DL |
| 49 | Mason Ramsey | K |
| 53 | Kyle Brown | DL |
| 60 | Gabriel Marquez | OL |
| 66 | Tyler DeVries | OL |
| 71 | Aaron Holzer | OL |
| 73 | Connor Monroe | OL |
| 82 | Ben Wowo | DL |
| 86 | Daniel Crain | WR |

2020 TOMPKINS FALCONS

19-6A DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

| | | |
|---------|------------------|-------|
| Oct. 9 | vs. Cinco Ranch | 55-0 |
| Oct. 23 | vs. Taylor | 28-0 |
| Oct. 30 | vs. Morton Ranch | 48-0 |
| Nov. 5 | vs. Katy | 24-19 |
| Nov. 19 | vs. Mayde Creek | 56-21 |
| Nov. 27 | vs. Seven Lakes | 52-0 |

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SPORTS

TIGERS

from page 6

for the first time since 1993 after making it to the regional semis for the first time since 2008.

This team is having one of the finest seasons in program history.

"It's absolutely amazing," senior outside hitter Perris Key said. "We've worked all season for this, and to see our work pay off is incredible. I'm proud of everyone."

Katy (20-3) will play District 19-6A rival Seven Lakes (24-1) in the Class 6A Region III final Friday, Dec. 4, at 5 p.m. at the Merrell Center. Winner goes to the state tournament next week in Garland.

"We're really excited," senior libero Hannah Hoover said. "We know we lost to them both times in district, but that actually motivates us more. Since they haven't really seen us at our best, that excites us. This team now is so much mentally stronger than we were in district. We can surprise them and go to state. We know we can beat them this time."

The Tigers fell behind to Clear Springs after a lethargic opening set. Katy was heavily favored against the 17-8 Chargers, but it did not look that way early.

Still, the Tigers put the slow start behind them fairly quickly.

"We went into the huddle after the first set and said it's 0-0," Key said. "We had to just fix our attitudes and play. Our shots and placement of the ball was better; we knew the deep corners were open. We knew who to serve and what zones to serve. We know we had roll shots."

They also had plenty of weapons at their disposal.

In the second set, Key, Gamble and sophomore hitter Maddy Chaapel led the way. In the third set, Key was brilliant with six kills and Hoover was dominant defensively, eating up any perceived open space Chargers attackers thought was available and picking up more than her share of floor burns.

"I was not losing this game, so I knew coming in it was time to step up more than I have all season," Key said.

In the fourth set, down 16-11, Katy rallied back with nine consecutive points, inspired by senior Abby Sherman's three kills and a block.

In all, Key had 14 kills, two blocks and two aces. Gamble had 10 kills and five blocks. Chaapel had eight kills.

"Last year, we had some people step up here and there," junior setter Maddie Waak said. "But this year, everyone buys into it and wants it so bad that everyone is contributing. Everyone is on the same page."

The Tigers have a plethora of girls playing their best volleyball at the most opportune time of the season.

Gamble has 25 kills in the last two wins over Memorial and Clear Springs. Reagan Jones and Sherman have been crucial as attackers opposite of Key. Waak has expertly created splits. Hoover and junior defensive specialist Izzy Denton consistently put the team in good position in transition.

"What's nice about this team is they're all so happy," coach Karen Paxton said. "If it's someone else's night, they're just as thrilled as if it was their night. They spread positivity."

Paxton said the sense of accomplishment from her kids brought her to tears after the game.

"We've asked them for so much; not only from January to now, but even that short window when we didn't even know if we'd have a season," she said. "Every single day, they come in excited, passionate, competing. These girls are constantly thinking. They're wanting to learn, wanting to grow, wanting to get better. They just want to play another point."

SPARTANS

from page 6

into this weekend's Class 6A Region III final against another district rival in Katy High (19-3), which is in the regional final for the first time since 1993. Seven Lakes is in the regional final for the first time since 2017, when it finished as a state finalist in Batenhorst's freshman season.

"It's her drive and want to get back to state," Seven Lakes coach Amy Cataline said of her star player. "It's her leadership and her experience in helping us be poised and knowing what it takes. She saw it displayed as a freshman and now she's getting to lead it."

In the playoffs, Batenhorst is averaging 23.8 kills per game, 7.3 per set. The latter number is one kill more than her season average. Batenhorst has a kill percentage of 46.6, meaning almost half of her total hits are resulting in points.

"She has a whip for an arm," Cataline said. "She has a fast arm swing, and that's what happens when you power through the ball at that speed."

The Spartans have only lost one set in four playoff games. That came against Cinco Ranch, which put together an impressive playoff run of its own with wins over state finalist Ridge Point and regional finalist Cy-Fair as the fourth-place team out of 19-6A.

"It's definitely more personal when it's a district rival," Batenhorst said after the Cinco Ranch win. "It's hard to beat a team three times, so we knew that and we focused in practice and we focused on having energy and bringing everyone up. This wasn't some other district game, and we knew that."

STATE

from page 6

as a team for the first time since 2017, finished fifth overall with 152 points, 77 behind state champion Lewisville Flower Mound. It was a better finish than the Cougars' 2017 result, when they finished sixth.

Aside from Atkinson and Nielson, Mathis's team included junior Alison Mueller (66th, 19:35.32), sophomore Helen Ulrich (73rd, 19:44.06), senior Camila Corser (106th, 21:05.53), sophomore Lindsay Krippner (109th, 21:14.64) and junior Natalia Corser (115th, 21:41.52).

Cinco Ranch was the second-best team out of the Greater Houston area. The Woodlands finished third overall with 108 points.

Katy High had a pair of strong runners at state in junior Isabella Rubio (30th, 18:59.63) and freshman Maddy Hunter (43rd, 19:11.05). Seven Lakes junior Katie Fitzpatrick finished 64th with a 19:32.49 mark. Tompkins senior Addison Stevenson finished 84th with a



COURTESY KATY ISD ATHLETICS

No. 4 state-ranked Seven Lakes is back in the regional final for the second time in four years.

The Spartans' lone blemish this postseason was that uncharacteristic third set where they looked lackluster and sloppy. A lot of that had to do with Cinco Ranch, which had no trouble swinging through Seven Lakes' block in the middle.

Senior outside hitter Kayla Griebel was exceptional for the Cougars with seven kills in the third set. She scored six of Cinco Ranch's final eight points. Largely because of Griebel (21 kills) and sophomore outside hitter Courtney O'Brien (12 kills), Cinco Ranch was tough to put away.

"We played with a lot of

intensity and a lot of heart," Cataline said. "They did not take for granted the fact that we beat them in district. They definitely respected their opponent and I'm proud of how serious they took this, as far as what happened in district didn't matter."

Aside from Batenhorst, junior outside hitter Emma Schroder was key with eight kills. The 6-1 Schroder has been lauded by Batenhorst and Cataline for her work ethic and vast improvement in emerging as a strong attacker opposite Batenhorst.

Junior defensive specialist Kailey Bickel has also been

huge during the postseason. In the regular season, Bickel averaged 4.4 digs per set. In the playoffs, she is averaging 5.9 in leading the Spartans' defense alongside senior blocking specialist Mayo Olibale.

If the Spartans are to reach the state tournament for the second time in four years, more will be counted upon from the likes of Batenhorst, Schroder, Bickel and Olibale. They're ready for it.

"We're doing great," Schroder said. "We have a lot of energy and a lot of heart. The way we're playing right now, I really do think we'll have a chance at state."

STATE FINISH

Katy ISD team and individual state cross country results

TEAM QUALIFIERS (WITH STATE PLACE FINISH AND TIMES)

- Cinco Ranch girls (5th overall): Senior Sophie Atkinson (2nd, 16:57.44), senior Heidi Nielson (3rd, 17:38.13), junior Alison Mueller (66th, 19:35.32), sophomore Helen Ulrich (73rd, 19:44.06), senior Camila Corser (106th, 21:05.53), sophomore Lindsay Krippner (109th, 21:14.64), junior Natalia Corser (115th, 21:41.52).
- Tompkins boys (10th overall): Senior Gavin Saacke (20th, 15:53.05), senior Ben Smith (68th, 16:34.88), junior Colton Howard (70th, 16:37.40), junior Jackson Torti (80th, 16:47.36), junior Noah Howard (84th, 16:50.02), junior Omar El Miloudi (99th, 17:11.36).

GIRLS INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS (WITH STATE PLACE FINISH AND TIME)

- 30. Isabella Rubio, Katy jr., 18:59.63
- 43. Maddy Hunter, Katy fr., 19:11.05
- 64. Katie Fitzpatrick, Seven Lakes jr., 19:32.49
- 84. Addison Stevenson, Tompkins sr., 20:06.90
- 99. Hayden Gold, Tompkins sr., 20:33.31

BOYS INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIERS (WITH STATE PLACE FINISH AND TIME)

- 15. Ruben Rojas, Seven Lakes jr., 15:45.00
- 30. Adrian Hahn Vadstein, Cinco Ranch so., 16:01.55
- 63. Ethan Boyd, Cinco Ranch sr., 16:30.48

TAYLOR

from page 6

"That's one of the things in my life where I left my mark," said Taylor, now a commercial insurance underwriter in Katy. "Not only for my school and team, but our district, too. Of anything I did while in Katy ISD, that's by far the thing I'm most proud of."

Liz Heaston was the first woman to score at the college level, for NAIA Willamette, in October 1997. Katie Hnida was the first woman to score at the FBS level for New Mexico in August 2003.

Tonya Goss was the first woman to kick a field goal in a college game for Division II West Alabama in September 2003.

Fuller's feat, however, holds more significance, Taylor said.

"I hope she gets to suit up again in more games and more chances to get on the field, to get that on broadcasts and be seen," Taylor said. "Since Vandy is more of a higher profile team than what we've seen from girls who've played in college in the past, it would be great to see little girls to see that exposure and see that it is an option to play a man's sport if they want it."

Like Fuller, Taylor was a talented soccer player. She started playing at four years

old and eventually went on to play for the Rams and as a midfielder and forward for St. Edward's University in Austin.

Both of her older brothers, Tyson and Taylor, played soccer. Taylor DeLafosse also kicked for the Rams' football team. When she was in the seventh and eighth grades, Taylor would be the holder for her brother as he practiced on campus during the summers and weekends. When he would get tired, she would take some kicks as well.

She also attended then-head football coach Joe Sheffy's summer camps with Taylor.

"Kicking on the football team was something I was always interested in trying, but I was super focused with soccer," Taylor said. "That was my passion at the time. I was practicing (soccer) four or five nights a week, numerous games every weekend. It was more of me trying to figure out if I could make this something more than I'm just interested in and put the correct time into it. I didn't want to get on the team and not give my best."

A week into the football season her junior year in the fall of 2005, after much thought and consideration, Taylor decided she wanted to kick for the Rams. She discussed it with Sheffy. Sheffy advised her to return in the spring, do spring ball

with the team, and compete for a spot.

Taylor did. "Everybody thought it was a joke and that I actually wasn't going to do it, but, no, I was serious about it," she said.

The response was a "mixed bag," Taylor admitted.

"You have to remember that we as a society, when it comes to what women can do, have come a long way in the past 14 years or so," she said. "It was a different world when I was in school. There was some poking fun, and there was pressure on me in that I needed to prove myself if I was going to suit up, not be a publicity stunt."

Taylor not only earned a spot on the team, but she won the starting job two weeks into fall preseason camp. She had full support from teammates and coaches. Outsiders, however, were a different matter.

"They thought it was us as a school trying to get our name out there because our football team wasn't the best," Taylor said. "But I had the support of my team, and that's what mattered."

Taylor eventually earned the respect of those outsiders with her play on the field, scoring five points in the Rams' first two games of the season. The Rams' coaches and players protected Taylor and took her under their wing. A few weeks into the

start of the season, TV crews showed up at the Rams' practice fields to talk to Taylor.

"Coach Sheffy pulled me aside and said, 'They're here for you, and they'd like to interview you, but you do not have to do that if you don't want to,'" Taylor recalled. "He offered to let me hang out inside and he'd ask them politely to leave if that's what I wanted. He and the coaching staff were super understanding. I had a choice. I didn't have to feel the pressure of doing what people were wanting me to do. But I did the interviews because I felt it was important."

Another time, following an extra-point make during a game, an opposing player broke through the Rams' protection and Taylor found herself at the bottom of the ensuing pile of players.

"And then I'm getting dragged out by our quarterback and he's saying, 'You don't want to be at the bottom of the pile. I got you,'" Taylor said. "He drug me out really fast and I was so grateful. How much I felt supported and unified with them is what sticks out the most."

Since Taylor, Katy ISD has had a couple of girls play football. Taylor, however, will always be in the district's history records for the 25 points she scored as a varsity football player. The hope is there will be

more Amanda Taylors and more Sarah Fullers sooner than later.

"I'd tell younger girls to make sure it's something you really do want to do," Taylor said. "It's a commitment. Sports are fun, but at the end of the day,

they're like a second job for students. You have to show up for your team. Once you assess and decide it's what you want to do, don't let outside influence sway you in any way. Just focus on your team supporting you and you supporting them."

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Panthers secure 3rd in district

By DENNIS SILVA II
SPORTS EDITOR

Having already clinched its second playoff berth in three years of varsity play courtesy of a 24-point win at Angleton on Nov. 20, Paetow still felt it had a lot to prove.

Against perennial regional power Hightower on Friday, Nov. 27, the Panthers played like it.

Paetow upended Hightower 10-7 in a District 10-5A, Division I defensive showcase at Legacy Stadium. Junior Anthony Fuentes' 41-yard field goal with 3:39 left sliced right down the middle, and the Panthers' defense and run game came up with clutch plays late to secure the win.

The win awarded the 7-1 Panthers the No. 3 seed out of the district, setting them up with a bi-district playoff meeting against Goose Creek Memorial at Stallworth Stadium in Baytown next week. Hightower (3-4) is the No. 4 seed and will face district champ Port Arthur Memorial in the postseason.

Manvel is the District 10-5A, DI champion. Richmond Foster is second. All four playoff qualifiers out of the district are ranked in the top 10 in Class 5A in the Houston area high school football media poll: Manvel No. 1, Foster No. 3, Paetow No. 6, and Hightower No. 7.

"I don't think anybody picked us before the season to finish No. 3 in a district like this," said senior running back Damon Bankston, who had 85 yards on 19 carries and the Panthers' lone touchdown of the game.

"We just had that underdog mentality. Against a team like this, we had a lot to prove and we came out here and we did it."

The scoreless first half was a punt-fest as Hightower averaged 1.4 yards per



Agumba Otuonye

play and Paetow averaged 0.8.

But Bankston's 13-yard run to cap off Paetow's 5-minute, 13-second drive to open the second half ignited the Panthers. Though Hightower answered 46 seconds later on Charles Shellington's 19-yard run, that was the last that would be heard of from the Hurricanes.

"We made a few adjustments and started to run directly at them, pound them inside," Bankston said. "We scored that opening drive and that gave us a real momentum boost. We rolled off that the rest of the game."

Fuentes' kick ended up the game-winner, and Hightower hardly threatened the rest of the way. Hightower's final drive fittingly ended in

a sack of senior quarterback Jakob Longino, and Bankston had a 13-yard run for a first down to allow Paetow to run out the clock.

Longino was sacked six times for a total loss of 49 yards. Senior defensive end Agumba Otuonye had two of those sacks. Senior defensive lineman Andrew Rutherford had two. Sophomore linebacker Daymion Sanford had two.

"Their (offensive) tackles weren't very good, couldn't move their feet very well," said Otuonye, who has five sacks this season. "We just took advantage of it, worked moves and got after the quarterback."

Gotte was impressed with the effort of the 6-foot-4, 260-pound Otuonye, who also had five total tackles,

including three tackles for a loss.

Otuonye was a running back as a sophomore, a 6-1, 185-pounder who ran a 4.6 40-yard dash as one of Paetow's better athletes. But he was moved to tight end the following spring and then to the defensive line prior to his junior season last year, putting on 45 pounds over the course of the season.

"He's just naturally progressed over time," Gotte said. "He's got a long way to go, and that's the encouraging thing. He's got so much potential that he can reach if he keeps working."

Gotte said Otuonye's technique with his footwork and hands have improved considerably.

"You can't just line up and chase the ball with us," Gotte said. "Fits have to be right, steps have to be right, punches have to be right, eyes have to be right. Him being able to understand the position is where he's grown a lot."

Physically, Otuonye, who holds 10 scholarship offers and has drawn significant interest from Ivy League schools, said more time in the weight room and a conscientious effort to remake his body have been essential.

"I've bought into the process and trusted what the coaches and my teammates have done for me," he said. "I rely on them as they rely on me."

Gotte implored his defense to be disciplined, play fast and get to the ball. From Otuonye to Rutherford to junior defensive back K.J. Truehill, the Panthers did that.

Entering the game, Hightower averaged 42.7 points on 424 yards per game. The Panthers held the Hurricanes to 151 total yards. The seven points are the fewest Hightower has scored since a 21-2 loss to Friendswood on Oct. 25, 2019.

"I haven't seen a better effort from our guys defensively," said Gotte, whose defense ranks No. 1 among all Katy ISD teams in yards against. "It reminds me of Huntsville last year, but Hightower's offense is as explosive of an offense as I've seen this year. Them and Manvel. Our defense did a great job."

Paetow has one last non-district game remaining before the playoffs begin. The Panthers host Deer Park at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 3, at Rhodes Stadium. Gotte said he wants his team to continue getting better.

"There is a lot to improve on," he said.

Getting the third seed is nice, but simply coming out of a hellacious district like 10-5A, Division I has him optimistic about his team's chances in the postseason.

"In this district, with these teams, I felt like just getting into the playoffs we could have a chance to be successful," Gotte said. "I wasn't sure who we'd face, but when you face Hightower, Foster, Angleton, and even Terry is better this year ... I felt like we'd have a chance either way."

H.S. FOOTBALL STANDINGS AS OF DEC. 2

DISTRICT 19-6A

| | DISTRICT | | OVERALL | | SCORING | |
|---------------------------|----------|---|---------|---|---------|-----|
| | W | L | W | L | PF | PA |
| xy-Tompkins | 6 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 297 | 68 |
| x-Katy | 4 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 366 | 88 |
| x-Taylor | 4 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 291 | 211 |
| Seven Lakes | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 129 | 261 |
| Cinco Ranch | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 93 | 239 |
| Mayde Creek | 1 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 234 | 234 |
| Morton Ranch | 1 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 159 | 273 |
| x-clinched playoff berth | | | | | | |
| y-clinched district title | | | | | | |

DISTRICT 10-5A, D1

| | OVERALL | | DISTRICT | | SCORING | |
|---------------------------|---------|---|----------|---|---------|-----|
| | W | L | W | L | PF | PA |
| xy-Manvel | 5 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 266 | 176 |
| x-Richmond Foster | 7 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 270 | 134 |
| x-Paetow | 7 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 268 | 111 |
| x-Hightower | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 263 | 236 |
| Terry | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 218 | 240 |
| Angleton | 3 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 192 | 223 |
| Kempner | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 133 | 150 |
| Wisdom* | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 173 |
| Milby | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 7 |
| x-clinched playoff berth | | | | | | |
| y-clinched district title | | | | | | |
| *-forfeits rest of season | | | | | | |

KATY ISD FOOTBALL TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL STATISTICAL LEADERS AS OF DEC. 2

TEAM OFFENSE

| | GP | Rushing | Passing | Total | Average |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| Mayde Creek | 8 | 1669 | 1680 | 3349 | 418.6 |
| Katy | 8 | 2124 | 1093 | 3217 | 402.1 |
| Tompkins | 8 | 1945 | 1156 | 3101 | 387.6 |
| Taylor | 9 | 1673 | 1482 | 3155 | 350.6 |
| Paetow | 8 | 1661 | 981 | 2642 | 330.3 |
| Morton Ranch | 8 | 1508 | 689 | 2197 | 274.6 |
| Seven Lakes | 7 | 736 | 869 | 1605 | 229.3 |
| Cinco Ranch | 7 | 208 | 1322 | 1530 | 218.6 |

TEAM DEFENSE

| | GP | Rushing | Passing | Total | Average |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| Paetow | 8 | 850 | 708 | 1558 | 194.8 |
| Katy | 8 | 592 | 1010 | 1602 | 200.3 |
| Tompkins | 8 | 741 | 946 | 1687 | 210.9 |
| Mayde Creek | 8 | 1109 | 1123 | 2232 | 279.0 |
| Taylor | 9 | 1560 | 1399 | 2959 | 328.8 |
| Morton Ranch | 8 | 1528 | 1273 | 2801 | 350.1 |
| Cinco Ranch | 7 | 1303 | 1406 | 2709 | 387.0 |
| Seven Lakes | 7 | 1840 | 943 | 2783 | 397.6 |

TURNOVER DIFFERENTIAL

| | GP | Takeaways | Giveaways | Diff. |
|--------------|----|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Taylor | 9 | 20 | 11 | +9 |
| Paetow | 8 | 16 | 7 | +9 |
| Tompkins | 8 | 17 | 9 | +8 |
| Katy | 8 | 13 | 9 | +4 |
| Morton Ranch | 8 | 11 | 11 | 0 |
| Seven Lakes | 7 | 5 | 8 | -3 |
| Cinco Ranch | 7 | 9 | 13 | -4 |
| Mayde Creek | 8 | 16 | 21 | -5 |

INDIVIDUAL RUSHING

| | Carries | Yards | Avg. | TD |
|-------------------------|---------|-------|------|----|
| Loughridge, Mayde Creek | 175 | 1337 | 7.6 | 19 |
| Bankston, Paetow | 146 | 1147 | 7.9 | 10 |
| J. Davis, Katy | 100 | 901 | 9.0 | 14 |
| Shoulders, Tompkins | 100 | 866 | 8.7 | 14 |
| S. Davis, Katy | 105 | 839 | 8.0 | 8 |
| Whitaker III, Taylor | 112 | 683 | 6.1 | 8 |
| Smith, Tompkins | 76 | 555 | 7.3 | 7 |
| Christopher, Mrtn Ranch | 98 | 487 | 5.0 | 3 |

INDIVIDUAL PASSING

| | P-A-Int | Yards | Pct. | TDs |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------|------|-----|
| Wilson, Mayde Creek | 126-221-9 | 1680 | 57.0 | 7 |
| Jensen III, Taylor | 114-181-5 | 1442 | 63.0 | 13 |
| Rutherford, Cinco Ranch | 82-178-6 | 1118 | 46.1 | 9 |
| Milroe, Tompkins | 68-109-1 | 1079 | 62.4 | 12 |
| Dumas Jr., Paetow | 70-132-2 | 911 | 53.0 | 9 |
| Koger, Katy | 51-87-2 | 903 | 58.6 | 13 |
| Beltran, Seven Lakes | 68-115-2 | 759 | 59.1 | 5 |
| Wilson, Morton Ranch | 26-47-3 | 468 | 55.3 | 4 |

INDIVIDUAL RECEIVING

| | Catches | Yards | Avg. | TD |
|------------------------|---------|-------|------|----|
| Skinner, Mayde Creek | 45 | 727 | 16.2 | 1 |
| Irving III, Taylor | 33 | 672 | 20.4 | 3 |
| Abboud, Cinco Ranch | 31 | 467 | 15.1 | 5 |
| McMillan II, Tompkins | 25 | 458 | 18.3 | 7 |
| Salverino, Cinco Ranch | 21 | 415 | 19.8 | 2 |
| Medford, Seven Lakes | 31 | 324 | 10.5 | 2 |
| Anderson, Katy | 19 | 317 | 16.7 | 3 |
| Saulsberry, Katy | 12 | 301 | 25.1 | 6 |

PUNTING

| | Punts | Yards | Avg. | BK |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|------|----|
| Stanford, Seven Lakes | 38 | 1701 | 44.8 | 0 |
| Shurtz, Katy | 26 | 995 | 38.3 | 0 |
| Woods, Taylor | 22 | 774 | 35.2 | 1 |
| Huckaby, Tompkins | 26 | 908 | 34.9 | 0 |
| Moore, Cinco Ranch | 41 | 1328 | 32.4 | 0 |

PUNT RETURNS

| | Returns | Yards | Avg. | TD |
|----------------------|---------|-------|------|----|
| Woods, Taylor | 10 | 258 | 25.8 | 0 |
| Medford, Seven Lakes | 4 | 74 | 18.5 | 0 |
| Schneider, Katy | 2 | 31 | 15.5 | 0 |
| Huerter, Tompkins | 15 | 200 | 13.3 | 0 |
| Taylor, Katy | 14 | 143 | 10.2 | 0 |

KICKOFF RETURNS

| | Returns | Yards | Avg. | TD |
|-------------------------|---------|-------|------|----|
| Khan, Mayde Creek | 9 | 251 | 27.9 | 1 |
| Woods, Taylor | 5 | 149 | 29.8 | 0 |
| Jer. Johnson, Mrtn Rnch | 2 | 122 | 61.0 | 1 |
| Tolbert, Seven Lakes | 8 | 111 | 13.9 | 0 |
| Christopher, Mrtn Rnch | 6 | 111 | 18.5 | 0 |

INTERCEPTIONS

| | Int. | Yards | Avg. | TD |
|-------------------------|------|-------|------|----|
| Huerter, Tompkins | 4 | 112 | 28.0 | 1 |
| Khan, Mayde Creek | 3 | 55 | 18.3 | 0 |
| Polidore, Tompkins | 3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Sanford, Paetow | 2 | 26 | 13 | 0 |
| Earles III, Mayde Creek | 2 | 23 | 11.5 | 0 |
| Truehill, Paetow | 2 | 20 | 10.0 | 0 |
| Rodriguez, Katy | 2 | 1 | 0.5 | 0 |

SCORING BY KICKING

| | PATs | FGs | Points |
|-----------------------|------|-----|--------|
| Lazic, Katy | 48 | 6 | 66 |
| Baeta, Taylor | 32 | 9 | 59 |
| Huckaby, Tompkins | 32 | 6 | 50 |
| Fuentes, Paetow | 34 | 5 | 49 |
| Arriaga, Morton Ranch | 21 | 2 | 27 |

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