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THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2022



PHOTOS BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Above, from left, Maria Luna, Francesca Mazzetto, and Neha Rao hold posters at the July 13 Katy Fights Back rally. Rao's partially obstructed sign on the right reads, "No woman is free when she cannot control her own body." Below, from left, Taryn Hozdic, McKenna Franco, and Logan McLean were three of the organizers of the July 13 Katy Fights Back rally at Katy Harvest Park.

KATY FIGHTS BACK

Local rally draws pro-choice supporters

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Katy-area students opposing the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade held a pro-choice rally, called Katy Fights Back, July 13 at Katy Harvest Plaza.

A crowd estimated at about 100 came to hear speakers on a warm, breezy evening. Most in attendance were young women and students.



Three of the organizers who were there are high school students. Taryn Hozdic and McKenna Franco will be seniors this fall at Jordan High School. Logan McLean will be a senior at Cinco Ranch High School.

Hozdic said they've been paying attention to the news about the court's actions.

"We don't have the privilege of not paying attention," Hozdic said. "McKenna and I are friends with

each other and we wanted to start something in response."

Hozdic said she received a note from McLean and another organizer who wanted to get involved. It was important that the response happen in Katy.

"It's a little challenging to do it without an organization, but we wanted to do it in Katy where we live," Hozdic said.

See RALLY, page A3

Brookshire looks to update its ordinance for food trucks

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Brookshire City Council is looking at how food truck operators do business in the community.

While discussions are underway, the council voted at its July 14 meeting to table an amendment to the city ordinance that would simplify the criteria food truck operators must meet to do business in Brookshire. City Attorney Justin Pruitt said the present ordinance was worded in a confusing way.

Under the present law, Pruitt said, food trucks are allowed in Brookshire so

long as they are associated with what he called a "temporary event." However, he said such an event was not clearly defined. For example, the type of event, or how long the event would last, were unclear.

As a result, he said, city staff had to decide those questions and things became confusing. By removing the "temporary event" criteria, Pruitt said food trucks would need only city staff approval and not need council approval.

Position 3 Alderwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Kim

See BROOKSHIRE, page A3

Waller Co. working to create county assistance district

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Waller County commissioners voted to partner with a Fort Bend County law firm to begin work on creating a county assistance district, the purpose of which would be to help the county focus local sales tax revenue on specific local projects.

Commissioners took this action at their July 13 meet-

ing following a presentation by Rich Muller, an attorney with Muller Law Group in Fort Bend County.

Muller said under Texas law, the maximum sales tax rate is 8.25%. Under this arrangement, the state received 6.25% and a local entity receives the remaining 2%. Muller said the goal of a county assistance district,

See WALLER, page A3

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Katy woman competing in Miss Arab USA Pageant

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

For Mirage Namdy, 2022 is proving to be a banner year.

Namdy is a lead user experience researcher with AT&T in Dallas, but she divides her time between there and Katy, where she works remotely. She grew up in Katy and graduated from Taylor High School in 2014. She went on to earn a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington in 2018.

But that's all prologue for what's happened, and will happen, for Namdy this year.

In January, Namdy and her team received a patent for an automated equipment tracking system that field representatives can use in their technical repair jobs. She said she and her team filed the patent application in 2019. The process was quicker than she thought it would be, she said.



MIRAGE NAMDY

Mirage Namdy, of Katy, will be competing in the Miss Arab USA Pageant Saturday in Phoenix.

According to the patent application, "the tool tracking system can map the tool data to the vehicle and can determine when the tool is no longer mapped to the vehicle. This can be indicative

See PAGEANT, page A3



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Katherine Gao and Isabella Higuera show a prototype of their squeezy scalp brush at the Inventors Summer Camp at the Robert Shaw Center.

Creating a new future

Inventors Summer Camp enables students to develop new products

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

If things work out as hoped, consumers will soon see a new hairbrush available for purchase. The new hairbrush would be

unique in part because two Katy-area junior high school students designed it.

"The squeezy scalp brush is our invention," Katherine Gao, who will be a

See INVENTORS, page A3

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office promotes deputies

Fort Bend County Sheriff Eric Fagan announced the promotions of eight sheriff's deputies at a July 7 promotion ceremony at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy in Richmond. The deputies emerged as the top scorers in a civil service test for sergeant positions.

"These deputies have advanced progressively through the ranks and are well respected by their peers and the communities in which they protect and serve," Fagan said. "I extend my heartiest congratulations to these officers and their families and thank them for their service."

Deputies with their new rank are as follows:

Sgt. Brooks Cash started with the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office in 2010 after beginning his law enforcement career two years earlier with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. In 2011, he graduated from the University of Houston Downtown Police Academy. Cash has served Fort Bend County for eight years in the patrol division and four years in the Fort Bend County Jail as a field training officer, where he trains new correctional officers and deputies beginning their law enforcement career. Cash was pinned by his wife, Lydia.

Sgt. Colin Godmintz started his career as a patrol deputy at the Fayette County Sheriff's Office in 2016. In 2019, he joined the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office as a patrol deputy and later transferred to the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). Godmintz has been a CIT instructor and has taught both cadets and peace officers at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy. He was involved in the planning of the creation of the academy's de-escalation class. Godmintz has been awarded the NAMI Greater Houston CIT Deputy of the Quarter twice since being assigned to CIT. He also holds the certifications of basic instructor and mental health peace officer. He was pinned by his wife, Dixie.



BROOKS CASH



COLIN GODMINTZ



JUSTIN HARRIS



RAYBON HASTEDT



JESUS QUIROZ



DAVID RIVERA



CHARLES WILLEBY

Sgt. Justin Harris has been an employee of the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office for over 18 years. He began his career in 2003 as a civilian jailer and graduated in 2005 from the Wharton County Junior College Police Academy. In 2008, Harris transferred to the inmate transport division in the fugitive/warrants department where he worked until 2010. He has spent the last dozen years in the criminal investigations division where he worked in family violence for two years, special crimes for eight years, misdemeanors for one year, and fraud since early 2022. Harris was pinned by his wife, Mary Ann.

Sgt. Raybon Hastedt IV attended Texas A&M University and was a member of the Corps of Cadets. While enrolled at the university, Sgt. Hastedt joined the U.S. Army and completed two deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He began his career in law enforcement after graduating from the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy in 2009 (Class #24). He was assigned to the Patrol Division where he became a field training officer tasked with the responsibility of developing prospective patrol deputies. Sgt. Hastedt holds a Master Peace Officer certification as well as a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration. He was pinned by his wife, Christina.

Sgt. Jesus Quiroz began his law enforcement career with the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office in December 2017. He is a graduate of the Wharton County Junior College Police Academy. Quiroz is currently assigned to the Detention Division. He was pinned by his

ancée, Rebecca.

Sgt. David Rivera is a 2002 graduate of Lamar Consolidated High School in Rosenberg and is a 2006 graduate of the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy (Class #21). He currently holds an advanced peace officer certification from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. Rivera holds certifications as a mental health officer, field training officer, and basic instructor. Most recently, Rivera served as a contract deputy in the Big Oaks community. He was pinned by his son, David.

Sgt. Charles Willeby attended and graduated in 2013 from the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy. He started with the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office in the jail in 2013. In 2014, Willeby left to work with the Fort Bend County Precinct 1 Constable, working in the Civil and Patrol divisions. He returned to the Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office in 2015 and worked in the Patrol Division until 2019 when he was promoted to detective. He worked Misdemeanors for a few months and moved to the robbery/homicide division where he remains today. Willeby has received multiple commendations for his work on murder/robbery investigations, including Officer of the Year. He was pinned by his wife, Laura.

Sgt. Joshua Wright served at the Texas Department of Criminal Justice for four and a half years before graduating the Wharton County Junior College Police Academy in 2011. Wright served for three and a half years at the Sweeny Police Department. From there he went on to work at the Fort Bend County Pct. 3 Constable's Office before joining the Fort Bend County

Sheriff's Office in 2016. Wright was unavailable for the pinning ceremony.

Katy Area Chamber of Commerce offering candidates academy

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce has created a program for community members focusing on personal and political preparation for a future career as an elected official and community leader.

The three-part program provides the opportunity to learn from and interact with former politicians and community leaders, as well as prominent campaign executives.

The program is free from political affiliations and provides an in-depth learning environment where potential candidates for elected office, as well as those interested in the process, can learn the key components of a political campaign.

The sessions are on Aug. 18, Aug. 25, and Sept. 1. For more information, contact the chamber at 281-391-5289.

Special Pals part of 250+ shelters participating in summer "Empty the Shelters" event

Bissell Pet Foundation is sponsoring reduced adoption fees of \$50 or less from July 11-31. The longest-ever Summer National "Empty the Shelters" event will be hosted in more than 250 shelters in 42 states, including Special Pals.

Special Pals, 3830 Greenhouse Road, will participate July 11-31, offering \$25 adoption fees for all cats and dogs older than 4 months. All interested adopters can find

more details online at the website specialpals.org/adopt.

"Shelters are calling me daily and BISSELL Pet Foundation is feeling the burden of overcrowding," Cathy Bissell, Bissell Pet Foundation founder, said. "With the euthanasia of homeless dogs up 22% in just the first quarter of 2022 alone, we knew we had to act quickly to help at-risk pets. Empty the Shelters is the largest funded adoption event in the country, and by extending the event to three weeks, we can help meet the immediate need to save lives."

This is the third Empty the Shelters event for Special Pals, and past events have found hundreds of homes for animals in Houston. "More adoptions from our shelter means more space for us to save animals who are at risk of being euthanized in overcrowded shelters," Becky French, Special Pals executive director, said.

Bissell Pet Foundation's "Empty the Shelters" event is the largest funded adoption event in the country. With a goal of encouraging more families to choose adoption, this lifesaving effort has helped more than 96,000 pets find loving homes since 2016. "Empty the Shelters" is Bissell Pet Foundation's largest program, partnering with a total of 443 animal welfare organizations in 47 states and Canada to reduce adoption fees.

Bissell Pet Foundation and Special Pals urge families to research the pet they are interested in adopting, as well as adoption requirements. For more information, visit bissellpetfoundation.org/empty-the-shelters as well as specialpals.org.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

- Eurasian shrubs
- Strikes and rebounds
- Group of advisers
- Modern necessity
- Top lawyer in the land
- Philadelphia university
- Of I
- Functions as a laser
- Basketball phenomenon
- Jeremy
- Famed island
- Parent-teacher groups
- Distributes
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Ad ____
- Circulation problem (abbr.)
- Brother or sister
- A famous "Squad"
- Stage actor Anthony
- Violent seizure of property
- Saclike cavities
- Sound units
- Counts on
- Dad
- Woman (French)
- A digital tape recording of sound
- Polish Baltic peninsula
- Recipe measurement
- Requests out of dire need
- Precious stone weight unit
- The immaterial part of a person
- Anoint
- Golf score

CLUES DOWN

- Flowing
- Computer department
- Lasts
- DiFranco and Samsonyan are two
- ___ de sac
- Merchant
- Hosts film festival
- State of agitation of fuss
- A way to praise
- Opaque gems
- McKinley is one
- Smallest interval in classical Western music
- Famed designer Lauren
- Occupies
- Small island (British)
- Misuse of the sacred
- Covers with a thin sheet
- Most valuable player
- Title of respect
- Investigated discreetly
- Belonging to the bottom layer
- Black tropical American cuckoo
- Music genre
- Indicates one is in mourning
- Secured forever
- Bodily cavity
- A dog is one
- Chose to do something
- Annoy persistently
- Large hotel rooms
- Beg
- Docket
- Subway dwelling rodent
- Sources
- Mild Dutch cheese
- Spanish city
- Consumed
- Ballplayer's tool
- Midway between north and east
- Atomic #3

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

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Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

RALLY

from page A1

Franco said while the evening was very hot—“That’s Texas for you,” she said—she was happy with the people who came to the rally. Many of the students attending were ages 14-18, Franco said, and it’s important that they get up and speak out for what they believe in.

McLean was also pleased with the turnout.

“I’m really proud of our Katy community for coming out,” McLean said.

Hozdic said she respected those with pro-life views.

“I think they are 100% justified in their own opinions, but just because they believe that doesn’t mean I have to believe that,” Hozdic said. “We’re supposed to live in a free country and that comes with freedom of religion. I’ve seen a lot of pro-life movements based on religions.”

Hozdic said she didn’t know whether she would get an abortion if she found herself in that situation, but she believed everyone should have the right to choose.

Franco said an abortion was not a black-or-white matter. She said pro-life advocates tend to see abortion as “you do it or you don’t” situation, but the decision to terminate a pregnancy—for whatever reason—is a difficult one.

McLean said she has seen pro-life advocates talk about when does life begin.

“I want to tell them, that doesn’t matter, the woman has a right to choose in their body regardless of when life begins,” McLean said. “We should respect that choice and always have that choice open.”

Maria Luna, who will be a senior at Jordan High School this fall, was one of the speakers. She described the rally as an eye-opening experience. She said hearing other women and men speak about their experiences gave her more of a picture of what’s happening. The issue is worth fighting for, she said. Everyone has their own beliefs, and that’s OK, she said.

“Please don’t put your beliefs on my body,” Luna said. “Please don’t try to make me be like you or believe in the things like you. Let me do what I think is right with my own body.”

Luna said she felt conversations about these topics should take place in both junior high and high schools. These topics are important to young people, she said. To have those conversations at such young ages encourages young people to speak their truths, she said.

CORRECTIONS

■ In its July 14 article, “Three Katy-area students awarded National Merit Scholarships,” the Times incorrectly said “winders” instead of “winners” in its print edition.

■ In its June 30 article, “Tompkins students form mental health support group,” the Times incorrectly called the group “Share 2 Care,” when the name is “Swear 2 Care,” in its print edition.

The Times regrets these errors.

INVENTORS

from page A1

sixth-grader at Beckendorff Junior High School, said. “We realize lots of people have dry scalp or lice and have trouble putting on serum or lotion for the treatment. So, we invented the squeezey scalp brush, and if you push the button, then the lotion or the serum comes out from the tips of the bristle and you can refill it from the refill latch.”

The refill latch is at the end of the hollow brush handle, which is where the serum or lotion goes.

Isabella Higuera is Gao’s partner on the project, will be a sixth-grader at WoodCreek Junior High. She also sings its praises.

“Our squeezey scalp brush is better than the traditional brush because it is eco-friendly,” Higuera said. “Also, most brushes of its kind, you have to actually rub the lotion into your head, but this one already comes with it.”

The girls said they planned to apply for a patent on the product. They must also make the needed manufacturing and distribution arrangements. But when the product goes to market, they said they expected the brush would sell for \$14.99.

Gao, Higuera, and other students have been participating in an Inventors Summer Camp, a day camp held at the Robert Shaw Center, 1730 Katyland Dr. Stephen Adams, the center’s facility coordinator, said the camp is for junior high students where they work on invention projects. The summer camp has taken place every year since the center opened in 2015.

“What we do is, we bring junior high kids in for a summer camp and we do a lot of fun, hands-on science activities with them, but the focus of the camp is for them to work together to create an invention,” Adams said. “So, they work with a group of two or three. We guide them through the brainstorming process, the research process and then they come up with an idea, an invention, and they build a model of it. Obviously, we don’t have time to build a completely working new invention but what they do is they build a model.”

Adams said the camp has 70 students

from the junior high schools across the Katy Independent School District. He said that the enrollment is always full, though they’d like to have more students. Sessions run from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. every day over a week.

“The fun part is that they actually build the models,” Adams said. “So, the room we’re sitting in, they might paint their invention there. The reason there was a machine going back there is they’re going to be cutting wood, cutting prototypes and so it’s very important to us here to have hands-on experiences where there actually building and engaged.”

Even though the camp lasts only a week, the center is used year-round, Adams said. Robotics is a big part of that.

“The robotics teams that meet here are called FRC (first robotics competition), and FRC is a big robot,” Adams said. “It’s about 120 lbs. It requires a big field. Cinco Ranch, Morton Ranch, Tompkins, Seven Lakes, Jordan and Paetow high schools have FRC teams, so they come here and they drive the big robots.”

Adams said Katy and Taylor high schools have smaller programs, called VEX robotics programs. Because of this, Adams said those teams don’t need Shaw Center space to run their programs.

“They could run it more conveniently from their home campuses,” Adams said. “It’s not accurate to say they don’t have robotics teams. They have VEX robotics. They just don’t come here.”

The camp gives students a chance to make new friends, be creative and make their mark on the future. Gao described how she and Higuera teamed together.

“We chose to be partners when everybody else, of course, had their partners and we just ran into each other,” Gao said. “But then we realized we have a lot in common, like she’s pretty much the same age as me. And we both like the piano. That’s how we work really well together and then usually when I come up with an idea, she’ll have a suggestion and then that’s how we have a balance between the two of us.”

PAGEANT

from page A1

of the tool having been left, for example, at the customer location. The tool tracking system can create an alert to inform the service technician and/or another entity that the tool is no longer mapped to the vehicle.”

On Saturday evening, Namdy will compete in the Miss Arab USA Pageant, to be held in Phoenix. The pageant is back in business after the 2020 and 2021 pageants were canceled because of the pandemic.

According to its website, the Arab American Organization, a 501(c)3 organization, produces and manages the pageant, which serves as a charity fundraiser as the organization celebrates the Arab cultural heritage in the United States. The website said the pageant redefines the image of the Arab woman as a leader and a vital partner in the development of the Middle East and the world.

For someone with professional engineering and customer service credentials, participating in a beauty pageant is taking things in a new and different direction. This is the first pageant in which Namdy has participated.

Namdy said when she was younger, the idea of participating in a beauty pageant piqued her interest. But she said she never felt she fit into the “standard” beauty pageant mold. But she learned of the Miss Arab USA pageant, and was encouraged to enter. She’s now a pageant finalist.

Namdy said one factor that stood out to her was how some past winners have done impactful work.

“That really stood out to me,” Namdy said. “I feel very focused on my career in education. It’s nice to have an organization that really values that.”

The pageant features three mandatory categories—evening gown, interview, and a traditional gown reflecting the country of one’s heritage. Namdy’s family is Egyptian.

Namdy is the youngest of three daughters, all of whom live in the Katy area. She herself was born and raised in Southeast Texas. Their parents came to the United States from Cairo, Egypt. Namdy said everyone in her family speaks fluent Arabic, and they return to visit Cairo every summer.

WALLER

from page A1

called a CAD, is to capture the sales tax revenue where those local taxes were not being applied, or were being taken and used somewhere else.

Muller said Fort Bend County has 19 such CADs. In 2021, he said, these CADs collected \$16.8 million for local projects. These projects include roads, police, libraries, museums, parks, firefighting, and economic development and tourism.

He cited three examples.

- Fort Bend County CAD #1, created over the Cinco Ranch portion of Grand Parkway and westward extension of Westpark Tollway. In 2021, Muller said, this CAD collected \$6.1 million to be used for roads and a future county library.

- Fort Bend County CAD #3, created over commercial areas of the Grand Parkway between Westpark Tollway and US 90A. In 2021, Muller said, this CAD collected \$2.4 million to be used for improvements connecting to the Grand Parkway.

- Fort Bend County CAD #6, created over State Highway 6 in Houston’s extraterritorial jurisdiction. In 2021, Muller said, this CAD collected \$1.9 million for road work in the Mission Bend area.

“The money has to be spent in the district,” Muller said. “The sales tax stays there.”

He said if Waller County wanted to establish its own CAD, or CADs, it was better to get started sooner than later. Given that the county has large unincorporated areas and relatively few cities with limited extraterritorial jurisdiction areas, a CAD might be useful for road repair work. Muller said recent changes to city annexation laws

reduce the likelihood of future city expansion, while there is more demand for services in the unincorporated areas of the county.

Muller said commissioners had options if they wanted to proceed with creating a CAD. Commissioners could create a single, county-wide CAD. They could create a CAD for each of the four precincts. Or, they could follow Fort Bend County’s example, and establish smaller CADs as desired. Commissioners ultimately voted for Muller’s firm

BROOKSHIRE

from page A1

Branch expressed concerns about having too many food trucks in town. She said she could immediately think of six food trucks set up in the city.

“We have too many food trucks in town,” Branch said. “When they have trucks, they keep businesses from wanting brick and mortar businesses. If you have too many trucks, nobody makes any money.”

Position 4 Alderwoman Amanda Neuendorf asked if the council could pass the amended ordinance now but return to the issue with possible restrictions on where a food truck can set up shop.

“I would love it if a developer came in and created a food truck park,” Neuendorf said, citing similar setups in Houston and Conroe. “It provides more of an atmosphere and helps with the aesthetics across the city.”

Branch said in the past, Brookshire has given the OK to food trucks on a temporary basis.

“We gave them a six-month span, to do Monday-Friday,” Branch said. “But that wasn’t good enough and they wanted to move from one location to another. The council took the time to listen and approve the requests, but nothing happened.”

Branch moved to table the issue, citing a desire to visit individually with Pruitt to review the ordinance and share ideas. She encouraged other council members to do the same.

Miller named acting police chief

Police Sgt. Clyde Miller is serving as acting chief of the police department, Mayor Darrell Branch said.

Branch said the city continues to search for a permanent police chief and is more interested in finding the right person for the position than in making an immediate hire.

The council fired former police Chief Brandal Jackson June 8, but neither Jackson nor city officials cited a specific reason due to expected litigation.

Asked what people in Katy might not know about Cairo, Namdy said people tend to think only of the pyramids. But there’s more to Cairo than the pyramids. The Egyptian beaches are a favorite attraction for Namdy. Yet while those beaches might be lovely, they are not the best attraction.

“The people are the best attraction,” Namdy said. “The Egyptian people are known to be really, really funny. They are very welcoming. They will tell you a joke and make you laugh.”

The pageant features an optional talent category. Namdy will participate and give a speech about humanity and software. She said humanity and software have similarities, but people are kinder to one than the other.

“We accept imperfections in software, but we don’t accept imperfections in people,” Namdy said. “We’re constantly evolving, but we’re not patient with people in our lives or ourselves.”

The pageant, though exciting, is just one of the highlights about which Namdy is excited. In August, she will earn her master’s degree in engineering management at Vanderbilt University.



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Portrait of a colonoscopy

There have been countless jokes, comedy routines and humorous articles written about colonoscopies, but I'm a firm believer that, like Mexican food restaurants, there can never be too many. Besides, we now live in a world where each individual colon has the right to assert its own unique identity that can't be categorized based on society's stereotyped definitions of a large intestine.

JASE GRAVES

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



So, here goes.

Ever since I turned 50 and my stylist started charging extra to brush my ear hair, several of my friends and loved ones have encouraged me to schedule a colonoscopy. At first, I was reluctant, maybe because the procedure conjured images of alien abductions involving bodily probing devices the size of Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles. Or perhaps I was just afraid of what the gastroenterologist might discover based on my long history of devouring pretty much anything that the FDA has deemed semi-edible.

My worries were so profound that for the first couple of years of my 50s, I resorted to the cumbersome, awkward and potentially disastrous take-home colon cancer screening kits. But as my friend's gastroenterologist once warned him, "There's really no graceful way to catch a stool."

And, sure enough, when I attempted to use the kits, my juggling performance usually resulted in a call for back-up from an emergency hazmat team.

But this year, motivated by the fear that I might not live long enough to become a financial and psychological burden on my three daughters, I decided to take the plunge (or the prod) and schedule a full-blown colonoscopy with all the trimmings.

As most of you know, a proper colonoscopy begins with the preparatory process of fasting and ingesting a regimen of military-grade laxatives designed to transform you into a human fire hose nozzle set to Armageddon strength. For me, though, the prep wasn't as traumatic as I anticipated. Rather than having to set up a campsite next to the toilet, I was actually able to do some yard work—with the slight inconvenience of occasionally performing a penguin sprint to the bathroom.

By the end of the day, though, I understood what one of my friends meant when he advised that, instead of toilet paper, I should have a snow

cone handy.

After a full day of fasting and counting enchiladas to get to sleep the night before, I was anxious to get the procedure over with in the morning so I could resume my steady diet of Tex-Mex and Andy's Frozen Custard. I'm happy to say that the entire medical staff at the clinic was extremely cordial and accommodating, even though I couldn't help thinking that they were all trying not to laugh—along with my wife.

I have to admit that I was a little nervous since this was the first time I'd ever been put to sleep (when not listening to a sermon in church), but the nurse anesthetist told me that it would be like taking a really good nap—while basically on the same drugs that killed Michael Jackson.

When I woke up, I expected to feel like I had been on the receiving end of a Build a Bear Workshop stuffing station. Instead, I felt surprisingly refreshed, well-rested and oddly ventilated.

I'm pleased to report that the doctor found my colon extremely boring and said that he wasn't interested in seeing it again for ten years. I did request the bowel portrait family value package with two 8x10s, three 5x7s and eight wallets. He didn't laugh.

Following the procedure, my wife drove me to the closest Mexican restaurant, and I experienced a great sense of satisfaction and relief that I had overcome my anxieties and done what was best for my health—while consuming an obscene amount of chips and salsa.

So, if you've been putting off your own colonoscopy, let me encourage you to get it done. You'll have a great sleep, you can gorge guilt-free on your favorite food when it's over, and it just might help you live long enough to become a financial and psychological burden on those you love the most.

Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in *Texas Escapes* magazine, *The Shreveport Times*, *The Longview News Journal*, and *The Kilgore News Herald*. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.



KUPER

Rebirth of the drive-in theater

I'm going to the drive-in this weekend — for the first time in 42 years.

You see, the COVID pandemic has disrupted and rearranged our lives forever, but it has also given birth to some wonderful trends, such as the comeback of the drive-in movie theater.

According to CNN Business, the drive-in has made a rebound in the past few years and it is a trend that "looks like it's here to stay."

Consider: During 2019, drive-ins accounted for just 2.9% of total box office revenue.

But during the summer of 2020, thanks to the COVID lockdowns, drive-in theaters generated as much as 95% North American box office revenue.

Even as people begin trickling back to brick-and-mortar cinemas, drive-ins are still doing significantly more business than they did prior to COVID.

"Through the first 30 weeks of 2021," reports CNN Business, they were "still gobbling up a greater share of box office revenue than they did pre-pandemic: averaging 6.2% of weekend box office dollars this year versus nearly 1.9% for the first 30 weeks of 2019."

I'm very fond of the American drive-in theater in part because its creation is unique to America.

According to Kerry Segrave, author of "Drive-in Theaters: A History from Their Inception in 1933," only two other countries,



TOM PURCELL

SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Canada and Australia, were able to come close to America's "intense love affair with drive-ins."

He writes that before drive-ins could spring up all over America during the post-World War II boom, a unique mix of conditions had to exist.

First, there had to be an abundance of relatively inexpensive land. Second, families needed to be able to afford comfortable automobiles, such as our family's wood-paneled Starship Enterprise station wagon.

Third, drive-ins needed lots of kids and the Baby Boom era produced plenty of those.

My family certainly took full advantage of this affordable entertainment option every summer.

And so I have many vivid memories of my father driving the station wagon around to several parking spots before finding a window speaker that worked.

He'd open the tail gate and set cheese curls and chips and ice-cold soda pop on it — one of the rare times we could devour these treats with abandon.

Soon, the blue sky fell dark, the film projector began rattling and black and white numbers — "5, 4, 3, 2, 1..." — flashed onto the screen.

Next came yellowed 1950s footage advertising hot dogs, popcorn and other concession items we could never get our father to buy. The feature film, "The Love Bug," would finally play and our family event was under way.

I think the last time I went to the drive-in theater was my senior year of high school in 1980 — we were a bunch of would-be "American Graffiti" knuckleheads.

We went in my friend Gigs' Plymouth because it had a trunk large enough for two or three of us to hide in.

Our ploy of getting past the theater owner and only having to pay for one ticket never worked — we always got caught, but it was great fun trying.

I won't be hiding in my friend's trunk, but I'm going to the drive-in theater this weekend.

We'll go in my convertible with the top all the way down.

We'll enjoy cheese curls and ice-cold orange soda, as we forget our worries for a little while, whiling the night away enjoying the rebirth of the great American drive-in theater.

Tom Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, is a *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.



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TRIBUTES

John Barron (Jr.) passed away at his home surrounded by his loving family on Monday, July 11, 2022. His fight with cancer and rededication to his faith were inspiring to his loved ones. His presence will be greatly missed.

John was born in Wharton, Texas and raised in Lane City, Texas along with his siblings, cousins, and many lifelong friends. His father John Sanchez Barron and mother Sara Flores Barron raised 6 children; Eleazar, Elizabeth, Ernest, John, Domingo, and Herminia. The family served the Methodist Church built by the family on Boone Street.

John left school after the ninth grade to help support his family after his father's passing. He worked a variety of jobs from farming, landscaping, and industrial work before turning his lifelong love of cars and engines into a career. John received his auto mechanics degree from Wharton County Junior College and began working for Joe Grillo in Rosenberg, Texas. John later returned to college and received a teaching degree. John started his second career as an auto mechanic teacher at Miller Career Center in Katy, Texas, where his tenured presence and mentorship shaped many lives, both vocationally and personally.

It was in Katy, where John met his wife Amy Parrish. They were married in 2001 and welcomed their son Sean Michael in 2006. John and Amy built a home together in Houston, Texas alongside their other children Jon, Leslie, and Ethan. John had many hobbies and skills, but he will always be remembered for his abundant automotive knowledge, continuous home renovations, cooking and barbecuing for family gatherings, and his exquisite gardening and landscaping settings.



JOHN F. BARRON
OCTOBER 2, 1962 - JULY 11, 2022

John is survived by his wife Amy Julie Barron.

• Children: Jon Phillip Barron, (Deborah) Leslie Marie Cordova (Jonathan), Ethan Matthew Rowland (Lauren), and Sean Michael Barron

• Grandchildren: Jonathan Andrew Cordova, Ayla Madison Barron, Jacob Nathaniel Cordova, Christian Phillip Barron, Ellie Fay Cordova, and Nathan Bradford Rowland

• Siblings: Eleazar Barron, Elizabeth Oros (Jesus), Domingo Barron

(Debra) and Herminia Thompson (Steve), Carmen Barron (wife of late Ernest Barron)

John is preceded in death by his father John Sanchez Barron, mother Sara Flores Barron, and brother Ernest Barron.

Pallbearers: Eleazar Barron, Ernest C. Barron, Albert Barron, Israel Barron Fermin Flores, Fernando Flores, Patricio Flores, Karl Sidney.

Visitation was held on Friday, July 15, 2022 starting at 5 p.m. at Wharton Funeral Home. A Celebration of Life service was held at Wharton Funeral Home on Saturday, July 16, 2022 at 10 a.m. with Rev Domingo Barron officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Memorial Park Cemetery. Funeral reception was held at Boling Community Center (9839 CR 162 Boling, TX 77420) immediately following burial.

Family requests memorial donations be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network at pancan.org or Iglesia Metodista Unida Nazaret at 1605 Adell Street, Bay City, Texas 77414.

Condolences can be left for the family at www.whartonfuneralhome.com Services under the direction of Wharton Funeral Home 515 E. Boling Hwy. Wharton, TX 77488 (979) 532-3410



The Fort Bend County Fair kickoff parade is set for Sept. 23.

FORT BEND COUNTY FAIR

Fort Bend County Fair taking entries for kickoff parade

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The Fort Bend County Fair is now taking entries for its 2022 kickoff parade. The parade will officially kick off the 86th Annual Fort Bend County Fair & Rodeo at 9 a.m. Sept. 23.

The 2022 Fort Bend County Fair and Rodeo's 10-day fair run will be from Sept. 23-Oct. 2. The parade is back as part of the fair's festivities that include rodeo action, carnival rides, fair foods, live entertainment and livestock shows. The parade will have approximately 200 entries such as floats, horse drawn wagons, antique vehicles, trail rides and marching bands.

Crowds as large as 20,000 spectators have lined the parade route in years past.

The parade begins at the Historic Court House in Richmond and proceeds west down Highway 90-A to Jannetta Street in Rosenberg.

"Generations of Champions" is this year's fair and parade theme. Parade judges will be judging the following categories: Youth Civic, School, Commercial, Nonprofit, Queen, Trail Riders, Car Clubs and Fort Bend County Fair Committees. Businesses, politicians, cheerleader squads, Boy Scouts, and numerous organizations are expected to participate.

The Fort Bend County Fair must receive entries to the Fort Bend County Fair Office by 4 p.m. Aug. 25. Entry forms may be picked up at the Fort Bend County Fair Office or at the website, fortbendcountyfair.com.

The Katy Times

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EDUCATION BRIEFS

Achieve Fort Bend County delivers 12,500 books

Achieve Fort Bend County announced that it has worked with volunteers, parents, schools, local foundations, and the community deliver, to 1,241 elementary students, 10 new books each to help build their reading skills over the summer.

"This year, our Summer Reading Program was able to serve an additional 200 students thanks to the additional community support we received," James Patterson, Achieve Fort Bend County chairman, said. "Our program's success is due in large part to the collaborative efforts of our funders, community volunteers and the school administrators. In particular, we'd like to thank The George Foundation, the Henderson Wessendorff Foundation and Fred and Mabel Parks Foundation for their continued financial support and the Fort Bend County constables who helped distribute the books."

Achieve Fort Bend County's Summer Reading Program, operating since 2016, fills a critical gap for students who struggle with reading. Numerous studies indicate that during the summer months, student reading skills from economically disadvantaged households slide back a few months. The program's goal is to give 10 books to first grade students to help build their reading confidence and skills so that they're better prepared for the new school year. Students who need reading help to stay on level with their peers are identified by school personnel in Title I schools in Fort Bend County.

Qualified education volunteers and professionals help identify reading materials that represent the reading level, language and interest of students so that they are excited about the books and will read them frequently and share them with others in their family. As in previous years, volunteers from teachers to law enforcement, to school administrators, parents and members of the community, come together to sort, label, and distribute 12,500 books.

For more information, or to make a donation, email achievefbc@yahoo.com.

Royal student receives Houston Livestock Show scholarship

Alondra Melendez, a Royal High School student, is among 70 Texas FFA members representing 58 FFA chapters from across Texas were presented with \$1.4 million in scholarships from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo during the 94th Annual Texas FFA State Convention July 13 in Fort Worth.

Texas FFA officials selected the recipients based on the students' involvement with the program, academic and FFA achievements and financial need, as well as the FFA member's performance in an interview process. Each scholarship recipient will receive a \$20,000 scholarship from the rodeo to apply toward a four-year undergraduate degree at a Texas college or university of their choice.

"These FFA scholarships tie directly back to the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo's mission of promoting agriculture and supporting Texas youth and education, and we are so proud to support these students' academic journeys," Chris Boleman, Rodeo president and CEO, said. "Many of these FFA scholars will actually go on to pursue a career that promotes agriculture, which makes these scholarships particularly meaningful to us at the rodeo."

The top four schools these students will be attending are Texas A&M University, Tarleton State University, Texas Tech University and West Texas A&M University. Of the 70 FFA scholarship recipients, the top four majors include animal science, agricultural business, agricultural engineering and agricultural communications.

The Texas FFA Association was chartered in 1929 and contributes to a model of secondary agricultural education in which students take part in classroom instruction and supervised agricultural experiences.

The FFA is an integral part of the school's agricultural science program, guided by FFA's mission to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

These 70 FFA scholarships represent a portion of the Rodeo's annual commitment of more than \$22 million to support Texas youth and statewide educational programs in 2022.

Paetow High School teacher nominated for Region 4 teaching award

Dax Nesossi, a Paetow High School social studies teacher, has been named a finalist for the Region 4 Teacher of the Year



ROYAL ISD

Royal ISD Police Chief Marilyn Vaughn received with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2022 Texas School District Police Chiefs Association Conference in San Antonio. The award was presented by Chief Solomon Cook, association president. Here she is pictured with Royal ISD Superintendent Rick Kershner.

Award.

According to its website, Region 4 Education Service Center is one of 20 regional education service centers established by the Texas Legislature to help school districts and charter schools in improving efficiencies and student performance. Regional education service centers are nonregulatory, intermediate education units.

Region 4 serves a seven-county area comprised of 47 public school districts and 40 open-enrollment charter schools, representing more than 1.2 million students, 105,000 educators, and 1,500 campuses.



DAX NESOSSI

Miller Career and Technical Center teacher nominated for teaching award

Dallas Bergstrom, a manufacturing engineering teacher at Katy ISD's Miller Career and Technology Center, has been named a finalist for the Harbor Freight Tools for Schools Prize for Teaching Excellence.

Bergstrom is one of 50 finalists nationwide and the only skilled trades teacher selected from Texas.



DALLAS BERGSTROM

KARE Hooky Day set for Aug. 17

The Katy Area Retired Educators, known as KARE, have set their Hooky Day, which will be from 1-3 p.m. Aug. 17 in room 1200 of the Education Support Center, 6301 S. Stadium Dr.

Hooky Day is an opportunity for membership renewal and new member sign up for anyone affiliated with education on all levels. Those not yet retired from the state teacher retirement system, or who are interested in participating, are invited to join as associate members. Refreshments will be served and prizes will be given away at the event.

Three students from Katy area earn All-Academic honors

Three student-athletes from the Katy area have earned All-Academic honors at Clarendon College in Clarendon, Texas.

Jaylon Sullivan made second team, which is comprised of students who earn a grade point average between 3.80-3.99 on a 4.0 scale. Sullivan graduated from Paetow High School and is a pitcher and infielder for the Bulldog baseball team.

Elias Koury and Cesar Koury Rodriguez made third team, which is comprised of students who earn a grade point average between 3.60-3.79. Both are Tompkins High graduates. Both are infielders for the Bulldogs.

Each year, the NJCAA announces its All-Academic teams to recognize student athletes across the country for their dedication to the classroom. This year, a total of 9,912 student-athletes have been honored for achieving a grade point average of 3.60 or higher. Clarendon College placed 33 student-athletes on that list.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS



KARE officers and committee chairs at the June 29 annual planning meeting for the upcoming year and Hooky Day festivities. Top left to right: Karen Thorton, David Hopkins, Sue Fagan, Bob Bryant, Sally Farr, Brenda Shaver, Felice Bryant and Terri Youngblood. Bottom left to right: Earlene Hopkins, Eileen Kress, Marsha Smith, Fran McTigrit, Betsy Irwin, Tracey Patterson and Brenda Owen.

LYNN PAULSEN



ACHIEVE FORT BEND COUNTY

Clay Cook, Fort Bend County Pct. 4 constable; Daniel Schleppey, Fort Bend County Pct. 4 constable; Cherise Roberts, Achieve Fort Bend County board member; John Robson, Achieve Fort Bend County board member; James Patterson, Achieve Fort Bend County chairman; Cathy Duvall, Achieve Fort Bend County board member; Brian Wood, Fort Bend County Pct. 4 constable, and Mark Selinas, Fort Bend County Pct. 4 constable.



ROYAL ISD

Royal High School students Ricardo Lopez, Yazmin Alvarado, Ivette Padilla and teacher Lynette Beyer recently attended the Educators Rising National Conference in Washington, D.C. There, the students competed in the national Association of Future Educators competition. Lopez and Alvarado competed in the largest event, Interactive Bulletin Board, and Padilla competed in a Non-Core Teaching Subject event. This is the first year that Royal Texas Association of Future Educators have competed since this student-led organization began in 2020.

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The Katy Times thanks the Fulshear Katy Area Chamber of Commerce and Chiro Dynamics for hosting "Happy Hour" on July 7th, honoring winners of our annual "Best of Katy" readers choice contest.

Thank you for celebrating the excellent achievements of our local businesses!

Katy Times

PHOTO COURTESY OF SANDRA ROSS

PHOTO BY SUSAN ROVEGNO



TOP



KATY ISD FOOTBALL GAMES FROM LAST SEASON

Above: Seven Lakes' Michael Amico #32 carries the ball cutting back up the middle during a District 19-6A game between Seven Lakes and Morton Ranch at Legacy Stadium in Katy. Below: Katy's #84 Luke Carter makes the reception in the end zone for a TD during the UIL regional playoff game between Katy Tigers and King Panthers at Legacy Stadium in Katy.

MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES



BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

There were a number of amazing games in every sport throughout the Katy ISD school district. But with football season fast approaching, we have decided to take a look back to last year to some of the most exciting games from the 2021 high school football season.

From in district matchups to playoffs, the Katy ISD schedule was full of tight knit games and here are five of the best games that we saw last year.

5. Tompkins 18, Magnolia 6

Tompkins played host to a very eventful season opener against Magnolia last year, that came all the way down to the wire and was decided by a huge play by the Tompkins defense.

The Falcons took a 12 point lead in the second quarter, highlighted by a 31-yard fade pass for a touchdown from Cole Francis to Josh McMillan and a four-yard touchdown run by Collin Marshall to give the Falcons a commanding lead heading into the half.

Magnolia got back into things in the third quarter behind a strong run game and trimmed things to a one score game.

Magnolia then drove the field again late in the game, getting the ball down to the one-yard line in the fourth quarter, but Bryce Shaink made a game saving interception after Sean DuBose forced an errant throw by getting pressure on the quarterback. Tompkins was able to put things away on the next drive with a 1-yard touchdown run by Marshall.

The win was a strong start to a great season for Tompkins, which made it to the third round of the playoffs before falling to North Shore.

4. Cinco Ranch 55, Morton Ranch 16

Cinco Ranch clinched a playoff berth while Gavin Rutherford broke a number of single game Cougar records in a win over Morton Ranch last year in what was an extremely dominant performance.

It was the defining moment in a turnaround of the Cinco

See **FOOTBALL**, page B3



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Cinco Ranch's Sam McKnight #26 rushes scoring a TD during a conference game between Cinco Ranch and Morton Ranch at Rhodes Stadium in Katy.

Paetow Panthers quarterback C.J. Dumas Jr. (15) reacts after scoring a touchdown in the fourth quarter of the Class 5A Division I state football championship game between Paetow and College Station on December 17, 2021 in Arlington, Texas.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN



UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Carl Lewis named track & field head coach

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Will Blackburn has been named the University of Houston's Director of Track and Field and Carl Lewis will serve as the program's Head Coach, Houston Vice President for Athletics Chris Pezman announced Thursday.

"Will and Carl are both incredible representatives and products of the University of Houston, Houston Athletics and our track and field programs," Pezman said. "I am personally grateful for their leadership during this transitional time. We are fortunate to have individuals of their caliber leading our program with Will doing so on the day-to-day side and Carl as head coach. They are two of the very best in the country."

As the Director of Track and Field, Will Blackburn will oversee the program in its entirety while also continuing to coach the throwing events and horizontal jumps.

"What an exciting opportunity to continue and build upon the success and achievements of the long-celebrated history of the University of Houston Track and Field program," Blackburn said. "I would like to thank Chris Pezman, DeJuena Chizer, Lauren DuBois and Monty Porter for investing in the vision, energy and excitement that we will continue to bring to the Houston Track and Field program. I also want to thank my wife Geri and my family for all their support. What an opportunity to help lead this historic program."

Blackburn and Lewis will work congruently in their roles to carry on the legacy and history of the Houston Track and Field team.

"I am excited to continue with this staff on our journey to win a national championship," Lewis said. "We wanted to continue the legacy of Leroy Burrell and Tom Tellez and agreed this was the way to do it. Will and I have known each other for multiple years and are looking forward to leading this team to all the things we want to do and keeping the history and tradition of #HTownSpeedCity alive."

Lewis came to Houston to run for Tellez in 1979 and competed for the Cougars until 1981. After winning the NCAA Championship title in both the long jump and 100-meters, Lewis made the tran-

See **LEWIS**, page B3

Three Katy players named to Class 6A All-State Team

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Katy placed three players on the Texas Sports Writers Class 6A All-State Team, which was released last week.

Cameryn Harrison, Kailey Wyckoff and Ashtyn Reichardt were all named to the team after a year in which Katy won a district title and made a run to the Class 6A Region III semifinals.

The three Tigers were the only representatives from Katy ISD on the team, as the three led the way for the school district.

Northside O'Connor took home both distinct awards after winning the state championship, as Northside's Sammie Portillo won player of the year and Caitlin Bollier won coach of the year for the classification.

All three of Harrison, Wyckoff and Reichardt were named honorable mentions to the team, as

See **ALL-STATE**, page B3



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Texans wide receivers show promise heading into camp

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Texans have been looking for improvements everywhere across the offense this season.

A year after finishing dead last in the NFL in yards, 30th in points and 26th in passing yards, Houston knows they have work to do to improve that ranking this year and have been hard at work through the offseason to do so.

A big part of that is the maturation of Davis Mills, entering his second NFL season and now knowing what it takes to be an NFL starter. The Texans expect a jump during his sophomore campaign.

But the franchise also knows it will take more than just an improvement from Mills. They have added depth to the offensive line and running back, and to another important position in wide receiver.

The Texans are bringing back each of their top three leading receivers from last year, and have also built up depth through this year's NFL draft.

And this year's group has already gotten to work.

"I just really have a lot of respect for the entire group for the way they've approached this offseason," said Ben McDaniels, the Texans wide receivers coach and passing game coordinator. "There's been great energy and focus in the building and they've grown themselves mentally and they've really taken that from the building to our here on the field and have gotten some valuable physical snaps. It's just been great energy and focus from all of them."

The Texans want their offense to be more explosive this season and the receivers have been working to make sure they can help that happen.

Under Pep Hamilton as offensive coordinator, the team wants a balance of run to pass, but they want to be able to attack down the field and take some risks in order to get big plays.

"It's a new system and terminology, which is always a challenge when there's a new coordinator," McDaniels said. "I'm trying to teach it and show my guys how you run it, which everyone else is doing too. But I think everyone has done a good job, both as coaches and players of embracing this and embracing that change. There's always going to be change year to year and they've answered the call and stepped up."

Brandin Cooks is the leader and veteran presence of the group. Cooks comes off a year in which he caught 90 passes on 134 targets and had 1,037 yard receiver and six touchdowns, averaging nearly 65 yards per game. Chris Conley also provides a steady veteran presence, and the team is expecting a jump from Nico Collins as he enters his second NFL season. Collins was the team's second leading receiver last year with 33 receptions and 446 yards to go with one touchdown.

"Collins really has had a great approach to the offseason so far," McDaniels said. "I'm really excited for him because he has a lot of talent. He's done a great job both in the meeting room and on the practice field. We attack a lot of areas in the offseason. He's focusing on some fundamental tweaks and he's really started to grow. He's just growing in every area."

The Texans also added a big addition in the second round of the draft, with John Metchie III, and the entire group is rearing and ready to get to training camp.

"I think we just get a little bit more physical in training camp and so that's always a great focus," McDaniels said. "But the most important thing is no steps back. We're going to take a break to get ready for that, but mentally you have to be prepared for that physicality because like I said, you can't take any steps back."



PHOTOS BY SCOTT W. COLEMAN
Houston Texans wide receiver Nico Collins (12) scores on an 11-yard pass from quarterback Davis Mills (10) during an NFL preseason game between the Houston Texans and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on August 28, 2021 in Houston, Texas.



Above: Houston Texans wide receiver Chris Moore (15) makes a 28-yard touchdown catch in the third quarter of an NFL game between the Texans and the Titans on Jan. 9, 2022 in Houston, Texas. Left: Houston Texans wide receiver Brandin Cooks (13) brings in a catch on a 45-yard scoring play during an NFL game between Houston and the Los Angeles Rams on October 31, 2021 in Houston, Texas.

Houston Rockets re-sign Jae'Sean Tate on 3-year deal

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

One of the Rockets' biggest goals this offseason was to lock down the team's young talent, and they made a step towards doing that by resigning Jae'Sean Tate.

Resigning Tate, a 26-year old small forward, was a priority for the Rockets this offseason, as the team wanted to make sure that a locker room leader as well as a great defender and distributor

of the basketball returned to the team.

Tate is one of the best stories in the NBA. After finishing his collegiate career at Ohio State, Tate went undrafted in 2018 and spent two years playing overseas, playing with the Antwerp Giants in Belgium and the Sydney Kings in Australia. While in Australia in 2019 and 2020, Tate averaged 16.4 points, 2 assists and 5.8 rebounds while being named All-NBL First Team.

Tate managed to turn that into an NBA contract and signed with the Rockets before the 2020-2021 season and has since become a very valuable player in the league.

As a rookie, Tate averaged 11.3 points per game to go with 5.3 rebounds and 2.5 assists while averaging 1.2 steals and half a block per game. That earned him NBA All-Rookie First Team honors as he became just the second undrafted player ever to earn those honors.

In his second season, Tate

averaged 11.8 points, 5.4 rebounds and 2.8 assists while starting in 77 of the 78 games he played as he became a hugely important cog to the Rockets' offense and defense.

Tate had one year left on his rookie deal, but the Rockets declined the team option on it in order to sign him to a more lucrative long-term extension.

The new deal for Tate is for three years and worth \$22.1 million. Tate was due to make \$1.8 million this year in his old

contract.

For a player of Tate's worth, this is still a very team-friendly deal and it allows the Rockets to maintain lots of flexibility in the salary cap heading into a free agent class next year that is loaded with talent.

The third and final year of Tate's contract will be a team option. The Rockets are in the midst of summer league, with the next point in the league schedule being training camp in September.

Fall Sports

2022

The Katy Times is excited to announce that we will publish our annual Fall Sports Preview on **Thursday, Aug. 25th**. Our preview will include previews of the upcoming high school football season for Katy and Royal ISDs as well as highlights from local private schools.

Advertising deadline is Tuesday, Aug. 9 at 5 p.m.

Full Page Premium (inside back cover) 10" wide x 9.75" tall	\$800
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ALL-STATE

from page B1

the three followed up their district awards with even bigger ones.

Harrison was named the District 19-6A MVP as a sophomore before being named honorable mention and Wyckoff was named the district's defensive player of the year and Reichardt was named to the first team.

Harrison was the ace all year for Katy, while also leading the team in home runs and being arguably their biggest threat at the plate, as well as on the mound.

Wyckoff was a guiding force and a leader for the team all year, as she helped all her young teammates and pitchers from behind the plate and showed them early on what it took to win.

Reichardt was a do it all player for the Tigers who got things done at the plate, with baserunning and in the field on defense.

Following is the full Class 6A TSWA All-State Team

CLASS 6A

COACH OF THE YEAR: Caitlin Bollier, Northside O'Connor

PLAYER OF THE YEAR: Sammie Portillo, Northside O'Connor

FIRST TEAM

Pitcher: Sammie Portillo, Northside O'Connor; Emily Ayala, Judson; Emma Strood, Clear Springs

Catcher: Destiny Rodriguez, Judson

First base: Ella Gonzales, Northside O'Connor

Second base: Jada Munoz, Northside O'Connor

Shortstop: Leighann Goode, Northside O'Connor

Third base: Larisa Perez, Copperas Cove

Outfield: Hailey Golden, Pearland; Kasidi Pickering, Atascocita; Paris Johnson, Mansfield Lake Ridge

Utility: Sydney Saenz, El Paso Americas
DP/DH/Flex: Izzy Farmer, Alvin

SECOND TEAM

Pitcher: Madison Azua, Round Rock; Neveah Brown, Harker Heights; Raenna Nieman, Deer Park

Catcher: Gabby Sosa, San Antonio MacArthur

First base: Elizabeth Schaeffer, Rockwall

Second base: Kayla Zaid, Deer Park



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Kailey Wyckoff hits during an area round game between Katy and Cy-Fair at Cy-Lakes, above. At left, Cameryn Harrison pitches during Tuesday's game between Katy and Taylor at the Katy softball field.

HONORABLE MENTION

Pitcher: Molly Yoo, Cy Ranch; Camryn Harrison, Katy; Katia Reyes, Weslaco; Makenzi Jenkins, Bridgeland; Mia Perez, El Paso Americas; Ainsley Pemberton, Rockwall; Madison Applebe, Deer Park; Cassidy Fixico, South Grand Prairie; Allison Stidham, Boswell

Catcher: Kadin Vire, Waxahachie; Kaiya Fabela, Keller; Jenna Rosson, Eules Trinity; Kailey Wyckoff, Katy

First base: Kylie Sanchez, San Benito; Kaelyn Zusi, The Woodlands; Santrea Armstead, Boswell; Roni Harrison Alvin.

Second base: Kennedy Drafton, Pearland; Mimi Thornton, Judson; Rylie Swindall, Rockwall; Jade Uresti, Ridge Point

Shortstop: Elizabeth Joyner, Round Rock Westwood; Aubrey Brown, Wylie; Maddie Flanery, Tyler Legacy; Reagan Jones, Alvin; Paislie Allen, Lewisville

Third base: Grace Janik, Ridge Point; Emmy Apodaca, Rockwall-Heath

Outfield: Sydney Murphy, Wylie; Ava Wallace, Rockwall; Kelsey Mathis, Midway; Emma Lverla, Deer Park; Sophia Simmons, South Grand Prairie; Chloe Foster, Alvin; MacKenzie Drake, Belton; Clarissa Gutierrez, Harker Heights; Gabby Leach, The Woodlands; Alana Gray, Cy Fair; Ashtyn Reichardt, Katy; Alyssa Carter, Fort Bend Austin; C.J. Castilla, San Marcos

Utility: Krisilyn Corral, El Paso Socorro; Ava Serna, San Marcos; Matti Matthew, Alvin; Gabrielle Briones, North Mesquite; Kaylee Jordan, Belton

Shortstop: Sam Hood, Allen

Third base: Victoria Valdez, Alvin

Outfield: Alejandra Medina, El Paso Socorro; Tia Warsop, Mansfield Lake Ridge; Alannah Leach, The Woodlands

Utility: Samara Aguilera, El Paso Eastwood
DP/DH/Flex: Presley Brott, Rockwall

THIRD TEAM

Pitcher: Arletee Hernandez, La Joya; Peyton Tanner, Brazoswood; Madison Collins, San Antonio MacArthur

Catcher: Sophia Lundstrom, Fort Bend Austin

First base: Tristan Thompson, Midway

Second base: Jady Grandison, Lewisville

Shortstop: Cassidy Chance, Mansfield Lake Ridge

Third base: Tori Edwards, Flower Mound Marcus

Outfield: Roxy Thompson, Rockwall; Katelyn Luna, El Paso Socorro; Kate Callaway, Humble Kingwood

Utility: Maggie Miller, Mansfield Lake Ridge
DP/DH/Flex: Brooke Barron, Rockwall

LEWIS

from page B1

sition to competing professionally. At the conclusion of his competitive career, Lewis' achievements were, and still are, unprecedented in track and field. He is one of two athletes to win nine Olympic gold medals and one of two to win four golds in the same event. He also holds the record for winning 10 medals at the World Outdoor Championships, including eight golds.

Lewis joined the Houston Track and Field Coaching staff in 2013 as a volunteer coach for former head coach Leroy Burrell before being brought on full-time the following season.

During his time as a coach for Houston, he has helped guide the program to 15 combined conference championships including the Houston Men's Track and Field team's third-place finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in 2019. Among the athletes he has coached, many have been Olympians, National Champions, All-Americans and Conference Champions.

Blackburn has been with the Houston track and field team for 22 seasons and has spent time mentoring the throwers, triple jumpers and long jumpers.

After competing for Houston as a thrower, highlighted by a Conference USA championship, Blackburn started his coaching career in 2000 under Burrell.

During his time at Houston, Blackburn has been a part of 42 conference championship teams while coaching 10 All-Americans and 45 individual conference champions.

Born in El Paso, Texas, Blackburn graduated from Dayton High School before earning his bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Houston. He received a master's in Sports Administration and taught in the Health, Human Performance and Kinesiology Department at Houston.

Blackburn is married to his wife, Geri, and the couple have three kids Hudson, Haven and Hawke.

FOOTBALL

from page B1

Ranch program, as they went from winning one game over two years to a playoff appearance.

Rutherford threw for 423 yards and six touchdowns in the win, breaking Cinco Ranch records for both passing yards and passing touchdowns in a game in the win, while Seth Salverino had 192 yards receiving on five catches and Fischer Reed had five catches for 115 yards.

Morton Ranch's Santana Scott had 109 yards rushing to go with 29 yards receiving while Josh Johnson threw for 85 yards and rushed for 95 more.

3. Seven Lakes 21, Morton Ranch 18

An extremely important game for both Seven Lakes and Morton Ranch's playoff hopes came down to the wire and ended in a last second win for Seven Lakes in what was one of the most thrilling in-district matchups the district saw all year.

Scott Stanford played hero for the Spartans, as he ran in a 1-yard score out of the wildcat formation with 22 seconds left to win

the game after Grayson Medford had driven the team down the field as time was running out.

It had been a back and forth affair, as Seven Lakes took a 14-6 lead in the first half, but Morton Ranch came roaring back in the fourth quarter, scoring two touchdowns in the last six minutes of the game to take the lead, before Seven Lakes mounted its last minute comeback.

Barrett Hudson had 105 yards on the ground in the game to lead Seven Lakes, while Medford rushed for 81 yards and threw for 67 yards and Michael Amico rushed for 55 yards and two touchdowns. Morton Ranch's Santana Scott had 116 yards rushing and 98 yards receiving, and Josh Johnson threw for 137 yards.

2. Katy 34, Summer Creek 31

Katy faced a stern test in its Class 6A Region III Final game against Summer Creek, as the Tigers built up a huge lead but had to hold on for a three-point victory to advance to the state semifinals.

Seth Davis was a force for the Tigers,

as he scored three touchdowns in the first half and Katy raced out to a 27-7 lead. But Summer Creek answered back in the second half. The Bulldogs scored two touchdowns in the span of 12 seconds in the third quarter to trim the lead before Dallas Glass ran in a 51-yard touchdown to keep Katy two scores up.

Summer Creek scored another touchdown and then kicked a field goal with six minutes left in the third quarter to trim Katy's lead to three.

Summer Creek got the ball back late in the game with a chance to go ahead, but Broderick Johnson and Malik Sylla sacked Summer Creek's quarterback on a fourth down to seal the win.

Davis ended the game with 234 yards rushing while Glass had 82 yards on the ground and Caleb Koger threw for 90 yards.

1. Paetow 27, College Station 24

There couldn't have been another game for our No. 1 spot.

It was one of the best, if not the best game in high school football all year, and it came in a state championship game to make

things even more exciting.

Paetow and College Station were both powers all year, and it was evident in the state title game as it was back and forth the entire affair.

College Station got on the board first with a huge 80-yard touchdown pass before Bryan Del Cid tied things in the second quarter. College Station took the lead again before Gene Kendall tied things late on in the first half as the two teams went into the half tied at 14.

Both teams traded scores again in the fourth quarter, with CJ Dumas scoring on a one-yard run and College Station answering back with a long touchdown run to take things to overtime.

College Station got a field goal on its first possession and Paetow faced a fourth down inside the ten-yard line, which the Panthers converted, and Jacob Brown then scored the game winning touchdown on a run one play later.

Brown finished the game with 112 yards rushing, while Dumas threw for 165 yards and Kole Wilson had 94 yards receiving.

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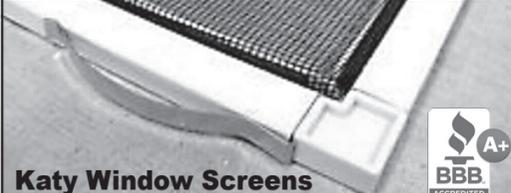


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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed proposals addressed to the City of Katy will be received at the City of Katy City Hall, 901 Avenue C, Katy, Texas 77493, attention Becky L. McGrew, City Secretary; for furnishing all necessary materials, equipment, superintendence, and labor for the construction of the 27" Sanitary Sewer Point Repair Project, until 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 9, 2022. Bids will, immediately thereafter, be publicly opened and read aloud in the City of Katy Council Chambers. Any bids received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The project involves six (6) point repairs to an existing 21" and 27" gravity sewer trunk main. The trunk main is located along a drainage ditch that runs alongside Interstate 10 Frontage Rd. from the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant to Pin Oak Road.

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

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

Bids without such guarantee will not be considered.

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

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A NON-MANDATORY virtual pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. local time via Zoom.us. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is NOT MANDATORY.

Information for joining the virtual meeting is given below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84961156884>
Meeting ID: 849 6115 6884
Passcode: 594881
Dial In: +13462487799,,84961156884# US (Houston)

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

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

Katy ISD Provides Screenings for Students with Suspected Disabilities

The Katy Independent School District Special Education Department provides screenings for students with suspected disabilities in an effort to identify every student with a disability who lives within the district's boundaries. The screenings are designed to help identify children who may qualify for the district's special education programs.

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

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

Katy Independent School District
6301 South Stadium Lane
Katy, TX 77494

Katy Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer. The Board of Trustees and its agents, officers and staff members shall not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, disabling condition, age, color, religion, national origin, military status, or any other legally protected status in making decisions regarding staff members or students.

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to Board of Directors, Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 171, will be electronically received, until 2 p.m. Local Time, Thursday, September 1, 2022 and then publicly opened and read at the offices of SWA Group Landscape Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for "Elyson Basin K Park Landscape", Harris County, Texas. In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/95249248646>.

Scope of Work for the Contract includes, but is not limited to, restroom construction, concrete parking lot, steel overlook structure, concrete and aggregate trail, sprinkler irrigation, grading, grassing, planting, and landscape maintenance.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held Thursday, August 11, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time, via ZOOM. Join the meeting from your computer at <https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/98781740051>. Attendance by each prospective bidder or its representative at the pre-bid conference is MANDATORY, and no Bid will be opened unless the bidder or representative was present at the pre-bid conference.

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

Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search NWCt019.A. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, soils report, and environmental reports for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents.

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

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

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

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

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISE OR SUBSCRIBE TODAY! 281-391-3141

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Electronic Bids, addressed to Quiddity Engineering, LLC, attention Travis W. Miller, PE, will be electronically received until 10:00 a.m. local time, August 4, 2022, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of Paving Facilities in Sunterra Sec 44 for Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 569, Harris County, Texas."

The bids will only be received electronically bid through CivcastUSA. The electronic bids will be publicly opened and read via conference call. Physical bids will not be accepted.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, large public gatherings are not permitted by law. Bids will be publicly read aloud at the time bids are due via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 830-269-969# when prompted.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Paving facilities

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A NON-MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on July 28, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time, via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 457-217-565# when prompted.

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 five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents are on file at the following locations:

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

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. The Successful Bidder, if any, will be the responsible Bidder which in the Owner's judgment will be most advantageous to the Owner 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/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Electronic Bids, addressed to Quiddity Engineering, LLC, attention Shawn C. Sturhan, PE, will be electronically received until 9:00 a.m. local time, July 27th, 2022, and then publicly opened and read for "Construction of Paving Facilities in Sunterra Sec 43 for Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 569, Harris County, Texas."

The bids will only be received electronically bid through CivcastUSA. The electronic bids will be publicly opened and read via conference call. Physical bids will not be accepted.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, large public gatherings are not permitted by law. Bids will be publicly read aloud at the time bids are due via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 536-594-050# when prompted.

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: Paving Facilities

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A NON-MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on July 20th, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. Local Time, via teleconference call. The number for this call is: 1-832-856-3756. Enter access code 210-179-788# when prompted.

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 five percent (5%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates within seven (7) days after the date Contract Documents are received by the Contractor.

Copies of the bidding documents are on file at the following locations:

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

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

July 14 Puzzle Answers

E A P R S E E E P I E D M C M I A L A D A R E E P O C H S	A P P R E C I A T I O N	E M B A L M	S E E R S	O S P R E Y	A G E E	E D D A S	S O D A	1	7	2	8	6	4	5	3	9
R E U N I O N	E A S I E R							6	9	3	2	7	5	8	4	1
								4	8	5	9	3	1	6	2	7
								7	3	6	4	1	9	2	8	5
								2	5	9	7	8	3	4	1	6
								8	1	4	5	2	6	9	7	3
								9	6	7	1	4	2	3	5	8
								3	2	1	6	5	8	7	9	4
								5	4	8	3	9	7	1	6	2

Dynamo fall 3-1 to Austin FC, sit in 11th in Western Conference

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Dynamo continue to falter as they dropped a 3-1 contest against Austin FC and the Dynamo are now winless in their last four games.

Just like last time Houston played Austin, things started well for the Dynamo, as Adalberto Carrasquilla got them on the board on a shot from the left side of the box.

But Austin FC worked themselves back into the game and just four minutes later tied things off a goal from Diego Fagundez as both teams went into the half with a goal.

But the Dynamo were unable to rebound in the second half as Austin FC soared to a new level.

Maximiliano Urruti scored the go ahead goal in the 57th minute before Alexander Ring padded the lead with a third for Austin FC 13 minutes later.

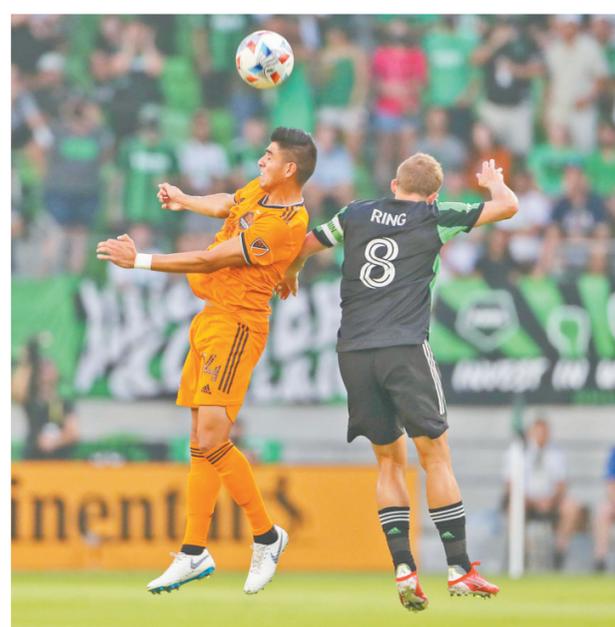
Steve Clark came up with two saves late in the game and Darwin Quintero almost got a goal in the 84th minute off a pass from Hector Herrera, but the Dynamo were unable to answer back, despite having a number of late chances, as Austin FC goalkeeper Griffin Dorsey had a very strong day in net.

The loss puts the Dynamo at

6-10-4 in the Western Conference, as they sit in 11th place and five points back of a playoff spot. Meanwhile, Austin FC sits in first place in the conference. The Dynamo have now earned just one point over four Copa Tejas games while Austin FC lead Texas teams with seven points over their three games against Copa Tejas opponents.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Dynamo midfielder Joe Corona (14) heads the ball during a Major League Soccer match between Austin FC and Houston Dynamo on August 4, 2021 in Austin, Texas. Austin won 3-2.



Davis named Southwest Conference Hall of Famer

STAFF REPORT

Former University of Houston standout quarterback Danny Davis has been named one of eight members set for induction as part of the 2022 Southwest Conference Hall of Fame class, the Texas Sports Hall of Fame announced Monday.

Davis is joined by fellow inductees Ben Cowins (Arkansas),

Santana Dotson (Baylor), Kareem Streete Thompson (Rice), Putt Choate (SMU), Betsy Mitchell (Texas), Carven Holcombe (TCU) and Maury Buford (Texas Tech).

The Southwest Conference (SWC) Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Luncheon will be held at the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in Waco, Texas, at noon Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Considered by many Houston

football fans as one of the all-time greats, Davis legitimized the Cougars' membership in the Southwest Conference, and is the only quarterback in the history of the program to guide his team to two Cotton Bowls.

As a sophomore in 1976, Davis led the Cougars to a 10-2 record and a Southwest Conference championship in Houston's first year in the league. Then, on

January 1, 1977, Davis guided Houston to an impressive 30-21 win over Maryland in the Cougars' first-ever visit to the Cotton Bowl, finishing fourth in the nation after the win.

Two years later Davis did it again, taking the Cougars to another SWC championship and a 9-3 overall record. On New Year's Day at the Cotton Bowl, Davis and his teammates lost a heartbreaker

to Notre Dame, 35-34, but still finished ranked ninth nationally. Davis finished his career with a 20-5 record as a starting quarterback.

Davis becomes the 20th Cougar to be inducted into the Southwest Conference Hall of Fame and fifth Houston Football member, joining Andre Ware (2013), Wilson Whitley (2013) and Bill Yeoman (2013), David Klingler (2014).

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES								
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INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35, Attention Victoria A. Battistini, President, Board of Directors, will be **electronically** received, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time, Friday, July 29, 2022, and then publicly opened and read at the offices of Quiddity Engineering LLC., located at 6330 West Loop South Suite 150, Bellaire, TX 77401 for "Construction of Paving Facilities in Sunterra Section 50 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35"

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Microsoft Teams). To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 134 887 760#

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following:
Construction of Paving Facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **electronically** on Friday, July 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time. To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 564 726 095#

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

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

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

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

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

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

WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY
DISTRICT No. 35

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35, Attention Victoria A. Battistini, President, Board of Directors, will be **electronically** received, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time, Tuesday, August 2, 2022, and then publicly opened and read at the offices of Quiddity Engineering LLC., located at 6330 West Loop South Suite 150, Bellaire, TX 77401 for "Construction of Paving Facilities in Sunterra Section 46 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35"

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Microsoft Teams). To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 948 681 858#

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following:
Construction of Paving Facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **electronically** on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time. To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 597 826 457#

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

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

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

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

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

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

WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY
DISTRICT No. 35

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed **Electronic** Bids addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35, Attention Victoria A. Battistini, President, Board of Directors, will be **electronically** received, until 10:00 a.m. Local Time, Thursday, July 28, 2022, and then publicly opened and read at the offices of Quiddity Engineering LLC., located at 6330 West Loop South Suite 150, Bellaire, TX 77401 for "Construction of Paving Facilities in Sunterra Section 49 for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 35"

In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the public opening of sealed Bids via Microsoft Teams). To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 992 923 745#

Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following:
Construction of Paving Facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A **NON-MANDATORY** pre-bid conference will be held **electronically** on Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Local Time. To join via Microsoft Teams:

Phone Number: 832-856-3756
Phone Conference ID: 874 943 754#

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

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

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

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

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

WALLER COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY
DISTRICT No. 35



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars guard Jamal Shead (1) moves the ball during an NCAA men's basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas.

University of Houston men's conference matrix revealed

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Houston Men's Basketball program learned the breakdown of its 2022-23 American Athletic Conference opponents with the release of the league's schedule matrix on Thursday.

The Cougars and their American rivals will play 18-game league schedules in 2022-23. Each school will play eight of its 10 opponents twice - home and away - with one opponent on the road only and one opponent at home only.

In 2022-23, Houston will face Cincinnati, Memphis, SMU, Temple, Tulane, Tulsa, UCF and Wichita State in home-and-away series. The Cougars will play South Florida once in the Fertitta Center while hitting the road to take on East Carolina in Greenville, N.C.

The Cougars' complete non-conference schedule will be announced soon with The American schedule, game



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars guard Tyler Edwards (11) goes to the basket during an NCAA men's basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas.

times and broadcasting networks to follow later.

A year ago, the Cougars posted a 32-6 overall record, advanced to the NCAA Tournament Elite Eight and swept

both The American regular-season and tournament titles. It was only the fourth time in school history that the Cougars swept both conference championships.

Cougars to compete in Veterans Classic

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The University of Houston Men's Basketball program will face Saint Joseph's at 5 p.m. Nov. 11 in Annapolis, Md., during the ninth annual Veterans Classic, hosted by Navy. The game will air on CBS Sports Network.

This will be the first time in school history that the Cougars face Saint Joseph or compete at the Veterans Classic.

"This will be a great opportunity to expose our kids to the history of the U.S. Naval Academy that they can only read about," Houston Head Coach Kelvin Sampson said. "For me personally, there has always been an appeal for going to the Academy and being in Annapolis. I have always wanted to take a team to the U.S. Naval Academy. When this opportunity came, we took it."

Three starters and seven lettermen return from the Cougars' 2021-22 team, which posted a 32-6 overall record, advanced to the NCAA Tournament Elite Eight, swept the American Athletic Conference regular-season and tournament titles and finished among the nation's Top 10 for the second straight

season.

Under Sampson's leadership, the Cougars have posted seven consecutive 20-win seasons, including a pair of 30-win campaigns and competed in each of the last four NCAA Tournaments, tying a school record.

Guard Marcus Sasser returns for his senior season after missing most of the 2021-22 campaign following foot surgery. The Dallas native averaged a team-high 17.7 points per game and was a Preseason All-American Athletic Conference selection before being sidelined.

Like Sasser, junior guard Tramon Mark missed most of the season a year ago following shoulder surgery but is healthy for the 2022-23 campaign. The Dickinson native averaged 10.1 points per game in seven contests before his surgery.

Junior guard Jamal Shead led the Cougars and the American Athletic Conference with 221 assists in 2021-22, the second-highest total in school single-season history. Shead was the only NCAA Division I student-athlete to rank among the nation's Top-10 leaders in both assists and assist-turnover ratio and was an All-American Athletic Conference honoree.

University of Houston women's conference matrix announced

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The American Athletic Conference announced the University of Houston women's basketball matrix breakdown for the 2022-23 season on Thursday.

For the women's teams, the matrix is based on a 16-game league schedule with each team playing six of its 10 opponents twice, and the other four opponents once each, two at home and two away.

During the 2022-23 season, the Cougars will face Memphis, South Florida, SMU, Temple, Tulane and Tulsa both in the Fertitta Center as well as on the road. Houston will also welcome UCF and Wichita State to campus while competing at Cincinnati and East Carolina.

At a later date, Houston will announce the rest of its non-conference schedule as well as dates and times for each game.

Last season, the women's basketball team finished with an 18-16 overall record including making it to the Round of 16 in the WNIT.



SCOTT W. COLEMAN

Houston Cougars guard Laila Blair (14) calls out to her teammates during an NCAA women's basketball game between Houston and Tulsa on Jan. 8, 2022 in Houston, Texas.

Sprinter Maswanganyi to represent South Africa at World Championships

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Sophomore University of Houston sprinter Shaun Maswanganyi will compete for his native country South Africa at the World Championships from July 15-23 in Eugene, Oregon.

A seven-time NCAA All-American, Maswanganyi finished the 2022 track season as a two-time American conference champion as well as Indoor Freshman of the Year and Most Valuable Performer for both indoor and outdoor. At the NCAA Championships, the sprinter finished sixth in the 200-meter

and eighth in the 100-meter as well as running the anchor leg of the third-place 4x100-meter relay team.

Maswanganyi will compete in the 200-meter as well as being in the relay pool for South Africa at Hayward Field at the University of Oregon. The 200-meter first round

will be on July 18 at 7 p.m. CT with the first round of the 4x100-meter relay on Friday, July 22 at 8 p.m. CT.

Alumni sprinter Elijah Hall will also travel to the World Championships to compete for the United States.

The World Athletics Champion-

ships Oregon22 will be streamed live in some territories on the World Athletics YouTube and Facebook channels. Action from each session will be shown and competition times are available on the event schedule. In the United States, the event will be broadcast on NBC Universal and NBC.



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