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SPORTS | B1

Katy Times



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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022

Katy-area hospitals growing to meet local demand

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Katy-area hospitals are investing in new facilities as the local population grows and, with it, the demand for healthcare services, hospital executives said.

Jerry Ashworth, senior vice president and CEO of Memorial Hermann Katy; Carla Braxton, chief medical officer and chief quality officer of Houston Methodist West Hospital; Lara Hamilton, executive director of Christ Clinic; and Amanda Hamlin, executive director of locations for The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, were panelists at a state of healthcare discussion sponsored by the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce. The Nov. 9 discussion took place at the Embassy Suites, 16435 Katy Fwy. Jason Hodge, owner/manager of Medical Fitness Pros and chamber vice chairman, served as moderator.

Ashworth said Katy has a significant growth market.

"It's the greatest largest growth market and the greater Houston area," Ashworth said. "We're going through expansion. We are experiencing at times overwhelming volumes. The hospitals are very full. Ours is no exception."

Memorial Hermann Katy announced in March a \$167 million plan that, when finished, would add about 115,000 sq. ft. of new and renovated service areas.

Ashworth described the environment as challenging, though Memorial Hermann is excited about the growth and expansion. Braxton said her hospital shared the excitement. It, too, is developing more local facilities.

In May, Houston Methodist West broke ground

See **HEALTHCARE**, page A3



GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Jason Hodge, Carla Braxton, Jerry Ashworth, Amanda Hamlin, Lara Hamilton, and Matthew Ferraro pose for a picture at the state of healthcare panel discussion, sponsored by the Katy area Chamber of Commerce Nov. 9.



PHOTOS BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER

Lee-Wrangler employees joined Katy Area Chamber of Commerce members at a Nov. 4 ribbon cutting at Katy Mills Mall.

Lee-Wrangler settles into home at Katy Mills Mall

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

Lee-Wrangler, the jeans and clothing company, opened a retail outlet at Katy Mills Mall this month.

Store officials and staff held a ribbon cutting Nov. 4 with the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, with the store featuring its signature brands of jeans, along with a variety of other clothing items. The store itself did not open that day due to some last-minute paperwork issues with the state, but the store is open for business now. Mary Tremble, store manager, said the store passed its fire marshal inspection Monday.

Lee and Wrangler are best known for their lines of jeans, but Julianna Hallman, U.S. marketing manager, said the store has more to offer.

"We offer more than just western," Hallman said. "We have so many options for clothing. Denim, jeans, jackets, shirts, graphic t-shirts...we offer a wide variety of product."

Many retailers focus on their online operations, particularly after the pandemic. Lee-Wrangler is no different there. But in Katy's case, having a brick-and-mortar presence



Mary Tremble is the Lee-Wrangler store manager at Katy Mills Mall.

at the mall is important. It is the only Lee-Wrangler store in the Greater Houston area and only one of five in Texas, Hallman said.

"We like to have options for everyone, especially so people can come in and try on the products in the stores," Hallman said. "We're thrilled to offer to our customers and people who haven't shopped with us before."

Hallman said the company also wanted to open in Katy because the mall recently underwent a multimillion-dollar renovation.

"We are excited to be in Katy, serving the community with these two iconic brands," Hallman said. "We're thrilled to be in a community that loves Lee and Wrangler."

Tremble said she had been with the company for eight years. She used to manage the store in LaMarque, which closed in 2020. The Katy store has 10 employees, including Tremble, though she said she hoped to hire three more seasonal employees as the Christmas shopping season gets under way.

While Tremble admitted she was new to Katy, she likes what she's seen.

"I started researching Katy and thought it was a beautiful city," Tremble said. "I enjoy the area so far. It's very sweet and the people are very nice."

The company has researched its market. Hallman said the company knew that Katy ISD high schools all have FFA chapters.

"We are looking forward to being able to partner with the FFA chapters," Hallman said. "They probably all wear Wranglers."

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The Katy City Council authorized the reconstruction of the First Street bridge.
CHRIS HARRIS

City authorizes project to reconstruct First Street bridge

BY GEORGE SLAUGHTER
NEWS EDITOR

The Katy City Council Monday authorized the reconstruction of the First Street bridge from Bartlett

Drive to Avenue D, voting to approve a \$2.6 million bid from Aranda Brothers Construction Company.

The Aranda Brothers bid was one of 10 bids submitted, although ARKK Engi-

neers, which reviewed the bids and recommended that bid to the city, said one bid did not meet the minimum qualifications for bridge

See **CITY**, page A3

Demographer: Katy ISD sees huge student enrollment gain

CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

Katy ISD continues to top the list of 15 Greater Houston-area school districts in student population growth, with 12,940 new students since 2016, according to a presentation at the Nov. 14 trustees meeting.

The rate represents a 14.6% change in enrollment over the past five years, according to the presentation.

"Over the next 10 years, PASA projects 27,681 single-family units for Katy ISD, which is approximately 60 percent of new housing projections for the district," Kris Pool, a Population and Survey Analysts (PASA) demographer, said. "These occupancies are predominately in the

See **KATY ISD**, page A3



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Typhoon Texas to add new children's attractions

Typhoon Texas has embarked on its most significant addition in its six-year history, an interconnected water experience exclusively for children featuring junior-sized versions of the Katy waterpark's signature attractions.

Scheduled to open for the upcoming summer season, Typhoon Junior will offer five new, child-friendly attractions patterned after the waterpark's most popular water-slides, all surrounding the waterpark's iconic Gully Washer.

"Most waterparks don't offer much in terms of attractions for children under 48 inches beyond perhaps a splash pad," Matt Girocco, Typhoon Texas general manager, said. "We want to give our youngest patrons the same kind of waterpark experience the rest of the family enjoys."

In addition to five new waterslides, Typhoon Junior will include an upgraded splash pad and the waterpark's signature Gully Washer where kids splash and play among more than 100 spray areas topped off by a giant, 800-gallon water bucket.

Spanning close to four acres, the area will offer the convenience of new cabanas and open lounge seating to ensure moms and dads can remain in Typhoon Junior with a front-row seat for all the fun. Several of the waterpark's food-and-beverage options also will be easily accessible from the new children's area.

Access to Typhoon Junior is included in both day tickets and season passes.

Every summer, Typhoon Texas welcomes more than one half million guests through its gates. The family destination consistently ranks among the top-20 most attended waterparks in North America.

"From day one, we've set out to raise the bar when it comes to creating a quality, family-friendly waterpark experience," Girocco said. "Now with Typhoon Junior, our youngest patrons can share in the same thrills and fun as the rest of the family."

Typhoon Texas opens daily for the 2023 summer season beginning Memorial Day weekend.

Season passes offering unlimited admission and discounts on food, retail purchases and other items, are on sale now at TyphoonTexas.com.

Wesley H. Jones joins Memorial Hermann Mischer Neuroscience Associates-Katy Neurosurgery

Dr Wesley H. Jones, a dual fellowship-trained neurosurgeon specializing in cranial

and spine surgery, has joined Memorial Hermann Mischer Neuroscience Associates-Katy Neurosurgery.

Jones' diverse and extensive training enables him to treat patients with an array of innovative and traditional procedures best suited to their individual diagnoses and needs. As one of the first neurosurgeons in the Greater Houston area to offer robotic-assisted cranial and spine surgery, his patients benefit from cutting-edge treatment.

"Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital has been strategically focused on expanding specialty and surgical services for our residents," Jerry Ashworth, Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital and Memorial Hermann Cypress Hospital CEO, said. "The addition of Dr. Jones is a big win for our community, especially those seeking surgical care for spine, peripheral nerve or cerebrovascular disease."

A native of the Greater Houston area, Dr. Jones received his Doctor of Medicine at Texas Tech University School of Medicine, where he was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society and the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Dr. Jones completed neurosurgical residency training at the Vivian L. Smith Department of Neurosurgery at McGovern Medical School at UTHealth Houston. He then went on to complete a cerebrovascular and endovascular fellowship at McGovern Medical School, and subsequently, a complex spine fellowship at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis in the Departments of Neurosurgery and Orthopedics.

Memorial Hermann Mischer Neuroscience Associates-Katy Neurosurgery is located on the Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital campus in Medical Plaza 1 at 23920 Katy Freeway, Suite 555.

Candy Cane Market with Katy Moms Network returns to Cane Island Dec. 3

More than 50 outdoor vendors will set up shop for one of west Houston's most popular single-day holiday shopping events, Candy Cane Market with the Katy Moms Network, set for Dec. 3 in Katy's Cane Island.

Candy Cane Market is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. in the community's Cane Quarter amenity village, 2100 Cane Island Pkwy., where local vendors will present handcrafted jewelry, custom clothing and accessories, fun items for the home and other unique



DR. WESLEY JONES



CHUCK MARTINEZ



TYPHOON TEXAS

These youngsters participate in the ceremonial groundbreaking for Typhoon Texas Junior, an interactive water experience designed for children. The groundbreaking took place Nov. 7. Left: An artist's rendition of Typhoon Texas Junior.

finds. Admission and onsite parking are free.

While at Candy Cane Market, families can take pictures with Santa, enjoy face painting and food truck cuisine and more.

For more information, visit the website CaneIsland.com or call 281-725-6555.

Fort Bend County Sheriff's office awarded Justice Assistance Grants

The Fort Bend County Sheriff's office was recently awarded over \$400,000 in justice assistance grants from the Texas governor's office.

The justice grants will support five programs and initiatives that are of vital importance to the sheriff's office, including a full-time domestic violence investigator, a victim services liaison in the Criminal Investigations Division, technological equipment for the Patrol Division, detention radios, and Individualized First Aid Kits (IFAKs) needed by field operations personnel. The kits contain tourniquets, gauze and bandages, Quikclot agents, shears, and other items needed to render immediate aid for injuries.

Sheriff's motorcycle patrol deputies will receive electronic equipment to wear on their helmets to enhance communication without needing hand movements. Similarly, Toughbook computers will enable deputies to access records management systems and enter reports directly into the database system.

The grants also fund the purchase of

mobile Automated Fingerprint Information Systems to allow investigators and patrol deputies to immediately analyze suspect fingerprints at any crime scene or traffic stop where identity is an issue. Within an immediate time period, a suspect's true identity will be known without any need to transport the person to a detention facility.

"These tools of our trade are of vital importance to our office and support our mission to protect the citizens of Fort Bend County," Sheriff Eric Fagan said.

This funding was made available by the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program developed by the U.S. Department of Justice—Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grants fund a broad range of activities and initiatives that emphasize breaking the cycle of violent crime and substance abuse, holding offenders accountable, and reinforcing law enforcement efforts in areas such as enhanced technology and information-sharing between agencies.

This JAG Program was named after New York City Police Officer Edward R. Byrne, who was assassinated in 1988 as he sat in a patrol vehicle guarding a drug crime witness. In honor of Officer Byrne, the Justice Department seeks to make communities safer and better places to live and work.

For more information, visit the website fbcsheriff.org.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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CLUES ACROSS

- Greek mountain
- One dependent on something
- Gratitude
- Glazed ceramic ware
- Paddling
- Step
- More greasy
- Upper-class young woman
- Light beige
- Belief in a supreme being
- Indigenous people of Scandinavia
- A beloved princess
- Transfer property
- Field force unit
- Automated teller
- When you hope to get there
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Politicians Fischer and Conroy are two
- Blood type
- Stringed instrument
- Curses
- Barbary sheep
- Belonging to a thing
- Supporters
- Leaf-footed bug
- A shower of water
- Attribute to
- Intermittent
- Soda waters
- Scottish island

CLUES DOWN

- Klutz
- Relaxing places
- Expel saliva
- The extended location of something
- Certified
- Cease to exist
- Powerful legal pro
- The OJ trial judge
- Popular greeting
- "90210" actress Spelling
- ___ Blyton, children's author
- "This Is Us" star Fitch
- Battery cell with a nickel alode
- Full of bacteria
- Remains of an old building
- Exist
- It gets you into places
- Witness
- The spreading of a disease to another part of the body
- Father
- Touch gently
- Licensed for Wall Street
- Herring-like fish
- Lute used in N. Indian music
- Mirabel shouldn't talk about him
- Atomic #62
- Religious
- Silvery-white metal (abbr.)
- Influential civil rights organization
- Acknowledgment (abbr.)
- Turn away
- Kidney disease (abbr.)
- Smooth-feeling fabric
- Consistently
- Sea eagle
- General's assistant (abbr.)
- It helps you see
- Emerging technology

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers will be provided in next week's edition.

KATY ISD

from page A1

northwest quadrant of the district where master-planned communities are projected for development through 2023.”

Additionally, over 17,000 multi-family occupancies are projected through 2032. To address the rapid growth taking place in the northwest quadrant of Katy ISD, demographers recommend additional elementary, junior high, and high schools in that area of the district.

Katy ISD has worked closely with PASA for several years to determine current and future student enrollment projections. Growth estimates have aided Katy ISD when addressing overcapacity and campus enrollment.

Currently, Katy ISD has more than 92,500 students enrolled and is expected to serve 107,357 by 2032.

The 103,357 figure was part of a chart that trustees reviewed, describing three projected scenarios for student enrollment growth. The low number on the range is 102,365 students and the high figure is 113,399 students.

District appoints Hutsell, Shafer Elementary School principals

Katy school trustees named Shaunta Smith as Hutsell Elementary principal and Kristi Gonzales as Shafer Elementary principal at their Nov. 14 meeting.

Smith is taking the reins at Hutsell Elementary after Margie Blount’s retirement. Smith has 20 years of educational experi-



KRISTI GONZALES



SHAUNTA SMITH

ence and began her career as an elementary teacher in 2002 at Betsy Ross Elementary in Houston Independent School District. While at HISD, Smith was also a summer school coordinator, literacy coach and a vanguard magnet coordinator.

Smith joined Katy ISD in August 2013 when she accepted a position as an English language arts and social studies instructional coach at Mayde Creek Elementary School. Since then, she has served in several leadership roles which include assistant principal at Franz, Hutsell, Randolph and Stephens elementary schools as well as principal for the Katy Summer Academic Term (KSAT) Initiative at Mayde Creek Junior High. Smith holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from the University of Houston and a master’s degree in educational administration from Prairie View A&M University.

“Through many different roles, I have wholeheartedly directed my energy towards the goal of launching children into a world of

endless possibilities,” Smith said. “I also look forward to contributing expertise in instructional leadership to the Hutsell family and to this excellent school district that has successfully prepared children to live honorable and fulfilling lives.”

Gonzales has 18 years of experience in public education. She began her career in 2004 as a teacher at Copeland Elementary in Cypress Fairbanks ISD. She joined Katy ISD in 2008 as a teacher at Morton Ranch Elementary. Four years later, she transitioned into an English Language Arts (ELA) Instructional Coach position on that campus.

Gonzales became an assistant principal at Alexander Elementary in 2014, followed by her most recent position as assistant principal at Davidson Elementary. She also collaborated as the Katy Summer Academic Term (KSAT) principal at McElwain Elementary. Gonzales holds a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies from Texas State University and a master’s degree in education administration from Texas A&M University-Commerce.

“Shafer Elementary is a school built on the foundation of the virtues held by the namesakes Fred and Patti Shafer,” Gonzales said. “Their belief that all students deserve an inclusive, accepting school environment is evident in the high achievement of all students at Shafer. It is an honor and privilege to join the Shafer Silver Knights family.”

HEALTHCARE

from page A1

on a \$65 million expansion project that includes a 150,000-square-foot, six-story medical office building. The new building will house orthopedics and sports medicine on the top two floors and physical therapy on the ground floor. In addition, the hospital is developing a sports field for physical therapy that will be adjacent to the building.

“We’re happy to grow based on the expectations and the demand of the community and what’s necessary to provide high-level care here in Katy,” Braxton said.

While hospitals are developing their facilities, gaps can remain when it comes to people getting needed healthcare. Christ Clinic works to fill those gaps, Hamilton said.

“We work really closely with the hospitals, and we see one of our key roles in the community as being able to identify where the gaps in the big systems are as the population increases and we start to see new things coming up in your community or the need increasing,” Hamilton said. “We like to see our role as trying to help below steps in the short term to the best of our ability while these bigger systems.”

But one crucial healthcare gap involves who, in terms of hospital staff, actually provides the healthcare services. Braxton said the goal is to retain the present staff, and do so in a creative way.

“At Houston Methodist West, we had particularly the equine support program which really helped when talking about mental health support and emotional support for your staff that are under a tremendous amount of stress, especially from the last couple of years,” Braxton said. “We’ve added that to a very vast array of social and mental health support. Child care support is also very key. You want to make sure that your staff can actually show up to work and if they’re struggling with child care, you have a significant section of your workforce that can’t come in.”

Ashworth said according to the Bureau of Labor & Statistics, almost half a million nurses will leave the workforce this year.

“In the next two years the state of Texas will be about 37,000 to 38,000 nurses short,” Ashworth said, adding that the need for physicians is also great. He said Memorial Hermann Katy is working with Katy ISD to find and train students to earn patient care tech and patient care associate certifications.

“We want to bring them to our campus,” Ashworth said. “We want them to work in our hospital.”

CITY

from page A1

construction experience.

In a letter to the council recommending the bid, David Kasper, ARKK Engineers senior project manager and principal, said the distance of the First Street reconstruction is about 2,300 linear feet. The reconstruction includes the bridge that crosses Cane Island Creek.

Kasper said the anticipated cost for the project included the construction contract bid (\$2.1 million), a 5% contingency amount (\$105,168), design and construction phase professional services (\$390,000) and construction materials testing budget (\$29,360).

“I’m glad we’re moving forward with this project,” Council Member-at-Large and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris said. “It’s exciting for all of Katy. We’re going to be able to move a lot of water to the south of town through Cane Island Branch.”

The bridge is expected to be four feet higher than the current bridge. In response to a question from Ward A Council Member

Janet Corte, Kasper said there would be a slope leading up to the bridge and coming back down from the bridge, but the bridge itself would not stand higher than U.S. 90.

“The bridge is going to be higher, but it’s not going to be a rainbow or anything like that,” Kasper said.

Kasper said the final contracts are expected to be ready for Mayor Dusty Thiele’s signature within the next seven days. He said work on the project is expected to begin in January.

METRO funds will be used to pay for the project.

Council authorizes Danover Road water and sanitary sewer project

In other action Monday, the council approved another proposal from ARKK Engineers for engineering and construction phase services for the city’s Danover Road water and sanitary sewer project.

In his proposal to the council, Kasper said ARKK Engineers would provide engineering design and construction phase services for rehabilitating existing sanitary sewer mains and replacing existing water mains along Danover Road a between U.S. Highway 90A and Stockdick Road.

Kasper said the sanitary sewer and water mains along the side streets on Danover Road (meaning North Street, South Street, Roberts Road and Barley Street) will also be considered for rehabilitation and replacement.

Kasper said \$1.1 million in Community Development Block Grant Mitigation (CD-BG-MIT) funds will be used to pay for the project, and ARKK Engineers would help city staff prepare the grant paperwork.

Kasper said under ARKK’s preliminary cost estimate, approximately 4,510 L.F. of water mains and 3,780 L.F. of sanitary sewer mains, can be replaced and rehabilitated with the available construction budget.

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Laughs to ease your election pain

This week half the country will be upset by the mid-term election results and half will be elated.

Regardless, politics is causing every one of us more stress than it ought to, but, believe it or not, there is, hopefully, still some humor that we can all enjoy.

Since Congress has a lower approval rating than polio, here are some fun lines to share:

It's so cold today, the congresswoman had her hands in her own pockets.

The opposite of "pro" is "con," so the opposite of progress is: Congress.

Q: What did the corrupt congressman order for lunch on Election Day? A: Stuffed ballots.

Here's one of my favorite old congressperson jokes:

A congressman is walking through D.C. when he is approached by a mugger with a gun.

"Give me all your money," says the mugger.

"You can't rob me," says the congressman. "I'm an esteemed member of the U.S. Congress."

"Then give me all MY money!" says the mugger.

Too often, people think the argument in Washington is between Republicans and Democrats, but it's really between the voters and the politicians and our ever-growing government, as this joke illustrates well:

Three contractors submit bids to fix a broken fence at the White House.

Contractor one tells a White House official he can do it for \$800. Contractor two says he can do it for \$700. Contractor three says he can do it for \$2,700.

"How did you come up with such a high figure?" the official asks the third contractor?

"Easy," says contractor three. "You give me \$2,700. I give you \$1,000. I keep \$1,000. Then we hire contractor two to fix the fence for \$700!"

We recently lost one of our greatest political humorists, P.J. O'Rourke, whose humor was filled with truth:

"When buying and selling are controlled by legislation," he said, "the first things to be bought and sold are legislators."

"There is only one basic human right, the right to do as you damn well please," he said.



TOM PURCELL
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

"And with it comes the only basic human duty, the duty to take the consequences."

"A little government and a little luck are necessary in life," he said, "but only a fool trusts either of them."

I've long written about our rapidly growing government debt—I've documented its massive rise over the past decade—but nobody explained government waste better than O'Rourke:

"It is a popular delusion that the government wastes vast amounts of money through inefficiency and sloth," he said. "Enormous effort and elaborate planning are required to waste this much money."

Alas, though human imperfections abound in our government and electoral process, matters could be worse, as one Russian citizen notes:

"Americans complain because it takes so long to get a definitive result from their elections," he says. "In my country, we know our results months in advance!"

The best we can do during election week is remember that there will be other elections. Let us hope and pray the candidates who win are the ones that offer our country the best solutions.

In the meantime, the very best we can do is learn from the example of President Jimmy Carter.

Even though he only served one term, he left the White House with a tremendous sense of humor.

"My esteem in our country has gone up substantially," he said, upon leaving office. "It is very nice now when people wave at me, that they use all their fingers."

Purcell, creator of the infotainment site ThurbersTail.com, which features pet advice he's learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.



Thanksgiving: Have an attitude of gratitude

BY BRYAN GOLDEN
SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Thanksgiving is much more than a big meal with family and friends. It's a time to reflect on, and be thankful for, all of the good things you have. It's important to be grateful, not just on Thanksgiving, but each and every day. Rather than lamenting what you feel is lacking in your life, begin each new day by developing an attitude of gratitude. Take inventory of your blessings and you will be surprised at just how much you have to be thankful for.

If you have enough to eat, a place to live, a way to get around, people who care about you, or people you care about, then you are wealthy. If you lack any of these elements, you must still be grateful for what you do have, while striving to obtain whatever is absent.

Focus on all positive aspects of your life. Take nothing for granted. Every morning, recharge your appreciation. Be happy for everything there is, not upset over what you feel is missing.

Dreams of the future shouldn't diminish appreciation for the present. If all you do is concentrate on what you want, you won't enjoy today. Don't be jealous of others; what they do or have has no bearing on you.

You can feel bitter or resentful for a variety of reasons. Perhaps you feel something is missing from your life, things aren't going your way, or you have been treated unfairly. You may wonder, "why do these things always happen to me?"

Keep things in perspective. Consider all the people who have overcome difficulties far worse than yours. Don't be consumed by your problems, there is always a solution. Maintaining an attitude of gratitude allows your mind to devise a resolution for your circumstances.

Life's problems tend to dominate your thoughts, turning your focus to what you feel is wrong. You may start to resent those who appear to be better off. You're apt to dwell on things you think would make your life better if you had them. If only you had more money, more time, a bigger house, a different car, a different job, a different boss, had picked a different career, etc.

Once your attitude becomes one of deficiency instead of abundance and appreciation, you can become overwhelmed by feelings of frustration and feel like a victim. As this happens, a consuming vicious cycle starts.

Being bitter or resentful blows situations out of proportion. People who are bitter frequently find that their situations deteriorate and their mental and physical health decays.

It's difficult, if not impossible,

to achieve your goals while you are bitter or resentful. Regardless of what challenges might befall you, bitterness makes finding solutions much more elusive.

There is no point to feeling bitter since it accomplishes nothing, harms you and makes things worse. Filling yourself with gratitude on a daily basis makes you feel good, while driving out negative feelings.

Begin your practice of gratitude each morning as soon as you wake. Every day is a great day. If you have any doubts, try missing one. Take inventory of everything, no matter how small or seemingly insignificant, that is good in your life.

If it helps, make a written list of all things you are grateful for. Read your list every day. As you do this, you will build and reinforce your attitude of gratitude. Don't waste any time with what you feel you don't have.

Keep things in perspective. Consider all the people who have overcome difficulties far worse than yours. Don't be consumed by your problems, there is always a solution. Maintaining an attitude of gratitude allows your mind to devise a resolution for your circumstances.

Make everyday a day of Thanksgiving and you will be amazed how much better your life will become.

Golden is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit his website, DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com.

Katy Times

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hegar establishes scholarship at Houston Community College

Texas Comptroller Glenn Heger has begun a scholarship fund Katy-area students attending Houston Community College. Heger and other officials commemorated the occasion with a brief ceremony Nov. 10 at the HCC Northwest College Katy, 2280 Colonial Pkwy. Heger is a Katy native.

Katy Area community band performs holiday concert

The Lone Star Symphonic Band is celebrating its 30th anniversary season this year. The band's second performance of this season, "Peace," is set for 4 p.m. Dec. 11 at the Holy Covenant United Methodist Church, 22111 Morton Road.

The celebrations of the winter holidays mean different things to different people, all special. At this time of year, one often thinks of family, loved ones, hope, faith and peace. Come prepared to enjoy the sounds of the season and sing along.

Tickets for this performance only are \$7, and may be purchased online at app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=138455.

Season tickets are \$26 and include this concert and the three remaining concerts of the season. They may be purchased online at app.arts-people.com/index.php?subscription=138455.

The Lone Star Symphonic Band, founded in 1993 as the West Houston Concert Band, is a non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to bringing performances of artistic merit to the Houston metropolitan area. The band is comprised of musicians from all walks of life and instills the value that music is a life-long event, continuing well beyond high school and college.

For more information, visit the website lssb.org.

Coastal Prairie Conservancy hosts birding adventure at Indiangrass Preserve

Each winter, the Katy Prairie becomes home to flocks of birds fleeing cooler climates for the season.

Join John Berner and Steve Gast, local birding enthusiasts, to see one of the most charismatic of these species, the sandhill crane, come in to roost on the prairie for the evening. Other waterfowl and other birds can also be seen.

The birdwatching event is for experienced and novice birders, families, and individuals of all ages.

Times are from 4-6:30 p.m. Jan. 18, Jan. 25, and Feb. 1 at the Coastal Prairie Conservancy's Indiangrass Preserve, 31975 Herbert Road in Waller. Tickets are \$20.

For more information, send an email to info@coastalprairieconservancy.org.

—CONTRIBUTED REPORTS

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|--|---|---|--|--|
| Firethorne 1 | Firethorne 2 | Young Ranch & Willow Creek Farms 1 | City of Katy Christmas Tree Lighting | Willow Creek Farms 2 |
| 5 Pin Oak Village | 6 Woodcreek Reserve, Wooded Hollow, Reserve at Katy & Avalon at Spring Green | 7 Fawn & Pine Lakes, Magnolia, Redbud, E. & W. Elm Circle, Huntington Ct, Hunters Terrace, Manorwood | 8 Cane Island South | 9 Cane Island North |
| 12 Patricia, Fern, Ash, Birch, Danover, Victoria Lakes, N. & S. Woods & Falcon Point Apts | 13 1st Street, East Ave, Ave A, B, & C, 11th & 13th Street, Pine Meadows, K.A.T.Y Streets & Whispering Lakes | 14 East Ave, Airline Dr, Heights Dr, Drexel Dr, Katyland, Heritage Meadows & Katy Manor Apartments | 15 Lilac, Town Park, Pineview Terrace, Heritage Park West, Fortuna, Patina, Village Green, Elder & Carson | 16 Green Meadows, Gardenia, Delfren, Dahlia, Iris & Enclave at Katy |



Along his nightly route, Santa and his elves will be accepting canned goods for our local food pantry & new toys for the Lions Club and Toys-For-Tots Programs.

SANTA WILL BE ARRIVING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AROUND 6:30 PM EACH EVENING.

VISIT THE KATY FIRE DEPARTMENT FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DAILY MAPS WITH FULL STREET LISTINGS AND ROUTES.

KATY FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Katy Fire Department has released its 2022 Santa Tour calendar.



FILE PHOTO

The Lone Star Symphony Band gives a performance.



NEWELL CHEATHAM

State Rep. Mike Schofield, Comptroller Glenn Heger, Christ Clinic Executive Director Lara Hamilton, Newell Cheatham of Newell's Designs, Mayor Dusty Thiele and Council Member-at-Large and Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris pose at an event where Heger announced the formation of a scholarship for Katy-area students attending Houston Community College.

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ROYAL ISD

Royal High School held a send-off rally for its Falcons football team Nov. 11 before it faced Hamshire-Fannett in the Class 4A football playoffs. The Falcons fell to the Longhorns, 40-10, finishing with a 9-2 record.



ROYAL ISD

Royal High student Leo Robles, left, and teacher Lynette Beyer, right, hold up a banner supporting the Falcons. The Falcons enjoyed their first winning season and playoff berth since 2010.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Jaime Hahn of Katy recognized as a Ford Leadership Scholar

Members of the Texas FFA Association's Ford Leadership Scholars Program are beginning their community service projects and apprentices for the school year, including Jaime Hahn of the Katy chapter. Through the Texas FFA Foundation and Texas FFA Association's partnership with Ford Motor Company and Texas Ford Dealers, outstanding juniors heading into their senior year are chosen for the hands-on leadership program.

"The number of students invested in implementing change through the Ford Leadership Scholar program never fails to impress," Jennifer Jackson, Texas FFA Association executive director, said. "While only 10 students are selected to serve as leaders, all of those who apply all play an important role in shaping a successful future for their communities."

Hahn applied for the leadership program, not just for the title or scholarship, but to be able to give back to her community and make an impact on others. Her passion for service extends beyond the FFA as Hahn has been an active member in the Girl Scout organization for 12 years. Service is vital to the FFA as is reflected in the last line of the organization's motto, "Living to Serve". Hahn believes that as students, members are responsible for stepping outside of their chapters and implementing the incredibly important lessons learned through the FFA. In addition to career-focused, communication and management skills, one lesson Hahn has learned is that service is tending to others even when there is no demand, but merely out of a want to serve.

More than 50 Texas FFA members apply annually and are put through a rigorous interview process to pinpoint students who truly embody the FFA's "Living to Serve" mission. Students like Hahn complete an online application, take an exam around assigned leadership text, conduct a telephone interview and are a part of a day-long behavioral interview as well.

The Ford Leadership Scholars program provides an extensive development experience for students through a week-long training seminar, relationship with their mentor, and the exposure they will have to key business and nationally recognized industry leaders. During this time, students complete a year-long community service project to fill a need they see within their city from building greenhouses at their school to jumpstart agriculture education to hosting life skill classes for other teens and young adults. The students also receive a \$1,000 academic scholarship.

The 10 selected students all met the criteria of exemplifying six key characteristics of leadership: action, relationships, vision, character, awareness and continuous improvement. The next class of Ford Leadership Scholars will be chosen in the spring of 2023.

Seven Lakes, Taylor bands compete in UIL State Marching Band Championships

The Seven Lakes High and Taylor High marching bands competed at the 2022 UIL State Marching Band Championships, where were held Nov. 7-9 at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Bands were evaluated in three categories: music, visual, and content and design. The Seven Lakes band finished 26th, with a score of 186. The Taylor band finished 36th, with a score of 235.

The bands were two of 42 teams from Class 6A schools that participated in the competition. The Hebron High band won the overall competition. Hebron is in Carrollton, just north of Dallas.



FORD LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Jaime Hahn

British International School of Houston to host rugby players to share leadership lessons

The British International School of Houston, a Nord Anglia school, will host Kieran Read and Andy Ellis, formerly of the New Zealand All Blacks, a World Cup-winning rugby team.

Read and Ellis are two of the most decorated players in world rugby history. They will share lessons learned in leadership and culture in their quest for winning the 2011 World Cup and after 20 years playing professional rugby.

The event is at 7 p.m. Nov. 28 at the British International School Theatre, 2203 N. Westgreen Blvd.

British International School students and families receive free admission. Non-British International School students and families can purchase tickets for \$20 at the website bish.booktix.com.

Taylor High Graduation Project annual Holiday Home Tour set

The Taylor High School Graduation Project is hosting its 19th annual Holiday Home Tour, the proceeds from which benefit its 2023 Graduation Project.

Tours of six holiday-decorated homes are from 6-10 p.m. Dec. 1, and from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-10 p.m. Dec. 2.

According to its website, Project Graduation is a national high school event where participating high schools plan a supervised and safe all night graduation party. The program was initiated in 1980 in response to alcohol-related traffic fatalities involving graduating seniors and to raise awareness of the dangers of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at thsprojectgrad.com, or in person at Southern Divas Boutique, 23114 Cinco Ranch Blvd.

For more information, visit the website thsprojectgrad.com or email thsprojectgrad23@gmail.com.

Cinco Ranch Cougar Stars host 2022 Holiday Home Tour

The Cinco Ranch High Cougar Stars Dance Team is hosting a Holiday Home Tour of five homes decorated for the holidays.

The tour features five Katy-area homes, full of decorations, to help put people in the holiday spirit.

Tours are from 6-9 p.m. Dec. 8-9. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online at eventbrite.com/e/cinco-ranch-cougar-star-2022-holiday-home-tour-tickets-433210954627.

— CONTRIBUTED AND STAFF REPORTS

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WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18

SCORES & SCHEDULES

FOOTBALL

Scores

- Katy 59, Clements 0
- Cinco Ranch 49, George Ranch 14
- Ridge Point 35, Tompkins 33
- Hightower 29, Morton Ranch 14

Friday

CLASS 6A-DIVISION II

- Katy vs. Memorial, 7 p.m. at Tully Stadium

CLASS 6A-DIVISION I

- Cinco Ranch vs. Cy Fair, 7 p.m. at Pidgeon Stadium

VOLLEYBALL

Scores

CLASS 6A-REGIONAL SEMIFINAL

- Tompkins 3, Clear Springs 0
- Cinco Ranch 3, Pearland Dawson 0

CLASS 6A-REGIONAL FINAL

- Tompkins 3, Cinco Ranch 0

CLASS 6A-STATE SEMIFINAL

Friday

- Tompkins vs. Keller, 5 p.m., Curtis Culwell Center, Garland

BASKETBALL

GIRLS

Thursday

- Jordan at HISD Tournament
- Katy at Marble Falls Tournament
- Morton Ranch at Sharpstown Tournament
- Paetow at Oak Ridge Tournament
- Seven Lakes at Pasadena Tournament
- Tompkins at Langham Creek Tournament

Friday

- Jordan at HISD Tournament
- Katy at Marble Falls Tournament
- Morton Ranch at Sharpstown Tournament
- Paetow at Oak Ridge Tournament
- Seven Lakes at Pasadena Tournament
- Tompkins at Langham Creek Tournament
- Mayde Creek vs. Fort Bend Marshall, 7 p.m.

Saturday

- Jordan at HISD Tournament
- Katy at Marble Falls Tournament
- Morton Ranch at Sharpstown Tournament
- Paetow at Oak Ridge Tournament
- Seven Lakes at Pasadena Tournament
- Tompkins at Langham Creek Tournament

Monday

- Cinco Ranch at Klein Cain, 11 a.m.

Tuesday

- Seven Lakes at Bridgeland, 12:30 p.m.
- Cinco Ranch vs. Taylor, 1 p.m.
- Mayde Creek vs. Jordan, 1 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Katy, 1 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Paetow, 7 p.m.

BOYS

Thursday

- Jordan at Austin High Tournament
- Seven Lakes at La Joya Tournament
- Tompkins at McDonalds Invitational
- Seven Lakes at Pasadena, 9 a.m.
- Katy vs. Flour Bluff, 4:30 p.m.

Friday

- Jordan at Austin High Tournament
- Seven Lakes at La Joya Tournament
- Tompkins at McDonalds Invitational

Saturday

- Jordan at Austin High Tournament
- Seven Lakes at La Joya Tournament
- Tompkins at McDonalds Invitational

Tuesday

- Mayde Creek vs. Clear Falls, noon
- Cinco Ranch at Friendswood, 1 p.m.
- Morton Ranch vs. Fort Bend Dulles, 1 p.m.
- Taylor vs. Fort Bend Austin, 1 p.m.
- Seven Lakes vs. Austin Westlake, 3 p.m.
- Paetow at Bridgeland, 7 p.m.
- Tompkins vs. Alief Taylor, 7 p.m.

Wednesday

- Cinco Ranch at South Houston, 1 p.m.
- Jordan at Hoopsgiving Classic
- Mayde Creek vs. San Antonio Wagner, 1:30 p.m.
- Katy at North Shore, 2 p.m.

SWIMMING/DIVING

Thursday-Saturday

- Cinco Ranch, Jordan, Katy, Seven Lakes, Taylor and Tompkins at TISCA meet



Presley Powell tips a ball over the net during Saturday's Class 6A-Region III Final against Cinco Ranch at Delmar Fieldhouse. TYLER TYRE

Tompkins tops Cinco in All-Katy Region III Volleyball Final

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Tompkins players had a meeting in August before the season started, in that meeting they set one goal for themselves this year.

The players and coaches knew what a talented team they had and knew that if everything came together properly, they could be as good as anyone in the state.

The Falcons had confidence in themselves and they told themselves they wanted

to accomplish one thing this year: make it to state.

Tompkins has strived to reach that goal all year and everything came down to Saturday, when the Falcons met Cinco Ranch in the Class 6A-Region III Final. As for the second time in three years, Region III had an All-Katy ISD regional final to decide who would go to state.

And just like they have all season, Tompkins took care of business, sweeping Cinco Ranch three sets to zero, 25-20, 25-22, 25-18 to advance to the state tournament for the

first time in school history.

"The kids have just worked so hard to get here," said Tompkins head coach Allison Merrell. "They have been driven by that goal all year long and they set the tone August 1st when they said they wanted to get to state. It's just so great to see them accomplish it."

Tompkins knew it would be a test to face Cinco Ranch for a third time, but the Falcons found a way to battle through it and secure a sweep.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page B6

Tompkins suffers season-ending loss to Ridge Point in bi-district

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins has responded in the face of adversity all season.

From losses, to changes at positions to injuries, the Falcons have found a way to compete, stay together with the bond they have as a team and win all year.

Tompkins did the same thing Thursday, fighting through adversity and injuries while playing an extremely tough opponent. But, the Falcons efforts ended up coming just narrowly short, as they suffered a season ending double overtime loss, 35-33, to Ridge Point in the Class 6A-Division I Bi-District round at Mercer Stadium.

"I'm just super proud of those guys," said Tompkins head coach Todd McVey. "It was such a good ballgame and hats off to Ridge Point because they played their hearts out. It was such a good game and I'm just so proud of the way these guys fought. The senior class here held in there and have stepped things up all year. They truly trusted the process and what their coaches were telling them. There's a lot of sad seniors out there right now but I'm so impressed with them. They've become great young men over the past four years in this process and I love them."

It was a tight, thrilling game from beginning to end, as no team held a lead larger than seven points.

Jhase McMillan nearly returned the opening kickoff for a touchdown, but was brought down just inside the red zone and Tompkins eventually had to settle for a 25-yard field goal from Andrew Horner.

Ridge Point responded with a field goal of its own and the two teams went back and



Tompkins Caleb Blocker takes off down the field during a game between Tompkins and Jordan at Rhodes Stadium. DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

forth until Tompkins regained the lead on a 46-yard field goal. The Falcons looked to be driving late in the first half before a fumble derailed a drive and gave Ridge Point the ball back. The Panthers were able to tie things at six heading into half with a late field goal of their own.

"We went through a lot this year," said Tompkins senior running back and safety

See **TOMPKINS**, page B3

Cinco Ranch dominant in bi-district win

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch had a plan heading into their game on Friday night.

The conditions were rainy and windy, and the Cougars knew that to be successful, they would need to pound the rock.

Cinco Ranch did exactly that on Friday night at Rhodes Stadium, using a forceful run game to down George Ranch 49-14 and clinch a spot in the area round for the second straight season.

"it gets everybody really excited when that's the gameplan," said senior running back Sam McKnight. "Me, Eric (Eckstrom) the offensive line, we hear we want to pound the ball and it just lights our faces up. You can see the line just working in the trenches on every single play, playing aggressive and making holes and they just make those big plays possible, it's awesome."

George Ranch started the game with a 3-and-out, and the Cinco offense went right to work driving the ball down the field on run plays and scoring on a 14-yard run by McKnight. McKnight added a second touchdown just under a minute later on an 11-yard run and a third in the second quarter on a 14-yard run as the Cougars continued to grow

See **CINCO**, page B2



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AREA ROUND PREVIEWS

Katy, Cinco last teams remaining in playoffs

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

FRIDAY

CLASS 6A-DIVISION II

Katy (11-0) vs. Memorial (8-3), 7 p.m. at Tully Stadium

• Katy rolled through the first round of the playoffs once again and look to have an easy path to the third round as the Tigers go up against Memorial this week.

Katy comes off a big win over Fort Bend Clements, as they stayed undefeated on the season and continued to show improvements.

Seth Davis was at the forefront of the offense despite only playing for the first half. The senior ran for 155 and four touchdowns on just 10 carries, averaging over 15.5 yards per carry, while Dallas Glass continued to be a very strung backup, carrying the ball nine times for 143 yards and three touchdowns. Romarian Tillman added 61 yards and a touchdown on the ground as Katy finished the night with 454 rushing yards, with everyone getting involved.

Caleb Koger only had to throw the ball four times, throwing for 31 yards, with Tillman being the team's leading receiver, catching two passes for 18 yards.

The Tigers earned a shutout defensively, but did give up 141 yards through the air, as Clements attempted to attack the Katy secondary.

The challenge this week for Katy will be shutting down an offense that has been very balanced throughout the year with multiple weapons.

Chase Goodwin is a very strong and efficient quarterback and comes off a game where he threw for 136 yards, completing six of seven passes with two touchdowns. Kyle Siblik can be a weapon in the pass game and caught four passes for 115 yards and a touchdown in the Mustangs last game, while Cooper Gindorf is a good running back that will fight for every yard.

The key for Katy will be slowing down Goodwin and Siblik in the passing game and forcing Memorial to run against the Tigers very strong run defense, they will also need to continue their dominance on the ground offensively, as the Tigers will look to take an early lead and allow Davis to not have a full workload.



Above: Eric Eckstrom rushes the ball during Friday's game between Cinco Ranch and George Ranch at Rhodes Stadium. Left: Sam McKnight runs down the sideline during Friday's game.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES.



CLASS 6A-DIVISION I

Cinco Ranch (8-3) vs. Cy-Fair (10-1), 7 p.m. at Pridgeon Stadium

• Cinco Ranch is gaining confidence at the right time.

The Cougars had one of their best defensive performances of the year in the Bi-District round, when the team needed it the most and is in a groove as they head to area. Cinco Ranch gave up less than 200 yards of total offense against George Ranch, keeping George Ranch in check in both the pass and run game. The Cougars didn't allow a score until the game was already out of hand,

and never let George Ranch get into a rhythm.

Offensively, the Cougars controlled the clock and wore down George Ranch with a strong run game, only mixing in the pass when needed and not relying on Gavin Rutherford in a performance that bodes well for future games.

Sam McKnight had a very strong game, rushing 12 times for 106 yards and three touchdowns, while Erick Eckstrom had 60 yards rushing. Rutherford was only called upon to pass 16 times, but completed 11 of those passes for 173 yards and three touchdowns with Fischer Reed leading the team receiving wise, catching five passes for 51 yards and a touchdown, while Colten Michalec and Seth Salverino both had over 45 yards receiving and a touchdown.

Cinco was strong in every area, and will look to continue that when the team takes on one of the toughest opponents they have face all year in Cy-Fair.

The Bobcats have reeled off 10 straight wins since a season opening loss to Bridgeland and have turned into a very formidable team that can win in a multitude of ways.

It will be strength vs. strength for the two teams, as Cinco Ranch and Cy-Fair both boast quarterbacks that are one of the best in the state.

For Cy-Fair, Trey Owens has led the team offensively all year, the junior quarterback already has 2840 yards through the air this season to go with 34 touchdowns compared to just six interceptions, and Owens comes off a game where he threw for 286 yards and three touchdowns. Zaccheas Baynes leads the team in the rushing game, as he has 1055 yards on the year with 15 touchdowns and Cy-Fair has a number of weapons in the pass game. Owen Carter is the biggest name, as he leads the team with 46 receptions for 909 yards and nine receiving touchdowns, but Cy-Fair has six other players who all have over 100 yards receiving this year.

For Cinco, they will have to be on top of their game against one of the best pass offenses they have faced all year, while limiting turnovers and mistakes themselves offensively and keeping that balance of pass and run that the Cougars have found over the past few weeks.

CINCO RANCH 49, GEORGE RANCH 14

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|----|----|---|---|----|----|
| George Ranch | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 | -- | 14 |
| Cinco Ranch | 14 | 21 | 7 | 7 | -- | 49 |

First quarter

CR: Sam McKnight 14 run (Jack McCall run) 8:50

CR: McKnight 11 run (pass failed) 7:53

Second quarter

CR: McKnight 14 run (Santiago Taborda kick) 8:36

CR: Gavin Rutherford 25 pass to Colten Michalec (Taborda kick) 5:10

Third quarter

GR: Jaden Shelton 4 run (David Michel kick) 3:33

CR: Gavin Rutherford 20 pass to Seth Salverino (Taborda kick) 1:50

Fourth quarter

GR: Shelton 3 run (Michel kick)

CR: Brandon Arroyave 14 run (Taborda kick) 0:57

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Cinco Ranch: Sam McKnight, 12-106-3; Eric Eckstrom, 5-60; Brandon Arroyave,

3-20-1; Noah Abboud, 1-19; Jack McCall, 3-10; Javon Randle, 1-2; Gavin Rutherford, 4(-7); George Ranch: Jaden Shelton, 20-86-2; Deion Drinkard, 10-11; Hayden Drinkard, 2-0; Passing – Cinco Ranch: Gavin Rutherford, 11-16-173-3-0; Jack McCall, 0-1-0-0-0; George Ranch: Deion Drinkard, 8-21-99; Receiving – Cinco Ranch: Fischer Reed, 5-51-1; Colten Michalec, 2-50-1; Seth Salverino, 3-47-1; Eric Eckstrom, 1-25; George Ranch: Gregor Jones, 2-44; Russell Franklin, 3-22; Jackson Muckelroy, 1-19; Jaden Shelton, 1-8; Bryce Odum, 1-6;

Team stats

| | G. RANCH | C. RANCH |
|---------------|----------|-----------|
| First downs | 8 | 22 |
| Yards rushing | 32-97 | 29-210 |
| Yards passing | 99 | 173 |
| Passes | 8-22-0-0 | 11-17-3-0 |
| Punts | 5-33 | 1-45 |
| Fumbles-lost | 2-1 | 1-1 |
| Penalty-yards | 5-30 | 4-35 |

CINCO

from page B1

their lead.

"We didn't want the conditions to affect how we came out, but we knew that the run game was going to be important for us tonight," said Cinco Ranch head coach Chris Dudley. "We've been balanced all year and on a night like tonight that pays off for you to not be one dimensional. I'm just really proud of the guys up front for opening up those holes and getting us what we needed to when we ran the ball."

Cinco continued to add to the lead in the first half, with Gavin Rutherford throwing a 15-yard touchdown to Fischer Reed and went into a locker room up 35-0, but as impressive as the offense was, it was the defense that stepped up just as much if not more, shutting out George Ranch and only giving up 14 points in the entire game.

"Having this type of game just continues to boost our confidence, we know we can play like this we just have to be able to do it consistently," said senior linebacker Braden Williams, who became the career sack record holder at Cinco Ranch on Friday. "It's just even better now — we're as confident as we have been all season. We know what we're capable of — now we just need to finish

out a game and get a shutout on somebody."

George Ranch got on the board late in the third quarter, but Cinco answered back, driving down the field and scoring on a 20-yard pass from Rutherford to Seth Salverino. Cinco and George Ranch traded one more set of scores with backups in.

"It's big and that's a big reason we run the ball about half the time," Dudley said. "When you can be effective running it half the time and throwing it half the time, it puts a lot of pressure on defenses and allows you to get in a rhythm offensively and we've really been able to do that well over the past two weeks."

Cinco Ranch moves on to play Cy-Fair in the area round, 7 p.m. Friday at Pridgeon Stadium. Cy-Fair is a formidable foe which has won 10 straight games since a season opening loss to Bridgeland, but despite that, the Cougars remain confident that they can make it to the regional quarterfinals for the second straight season.

"They have a really good team, good quarterback and good skill kids and they're the typical hard-nosed Cy-Fair that you always see," Dudley said. "They're a gritty tough bunch and it's going to be a fun, tough game, we're looking forward to it."



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PAETOW 14, CONROE 3

| | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| Conroe | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | -- | 3 |
| Paetow | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 | -- | 14 |

Second quarter

P: Alex Kilgore 2 run (Brady Wade kick) 9:34
C: Arijt Singh 44 field goal, 1:23

Fourth quarter

P: Koby Truehill 6 pass to DJ Hicks (Wade kick) 7:04

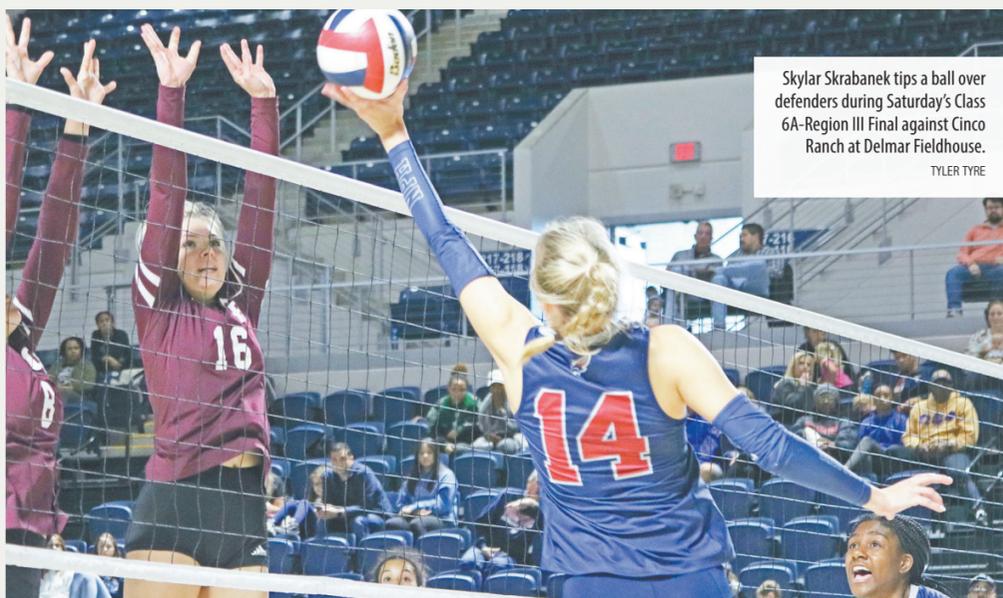
Team stats

| | CONROE | PAETOW |
|---------------|-----------|----------|
| First downs | 10 | 11 |
| Yards rushing | 27-(-14) | 38-189 |
| Yards passing | 208 | 46 |
| Passes | 15-25-0-0 | 7-16-1-2 |
| Punts | 2-27.5 | 3-35.3 |
| Fumbles-lost | 3-1 | 0-0 |
| Penalty-yards | 63-30 | 6-65 |

Individual Statistics

Rushing – Paetow:
Damyron Phillips, 16-73;
Alex Kilgore, 8-65-1; Koby Truehill, 3-26; Derrick Johnson, 6-21; Jamaal Comminie, 3-3; Brock Nichols, 2-1; Conroe: Drameko Green, 4-31; Louis Williams, 1-0; Nick Medina, 4-0; Cameron Thomas, 2-(-1); Javarius Hatchett, 16-(-44);
Passing – Paetow: Koby Truehill, 5-10-45-1-2; Brock Nichols, 2-6-1-0-0; Conroe: Javarius Hatchett, 15-25-208-0-0
Receiving – Paetow: Justin Stevenson, DJ Hicks, 1-6-1; Jason Blue, 2-2; Kaleb Molina, 1-0; Saymon Taylor, 1-0; Conroe: Louis Williams, 6-118; Cameron Thomas, 7-75; Michael Fermin, 1-13; Nigel Leday, 1-2

'Not Finished Yet'



Skylar Skrabanek tips a ball over defenders during Saturday's Class 6A-Region III Final against Cinco Ranch at Delmar Fieldhouse.
TYLER TYRE

TOMPKINS

from page B1

Caleb Komolafe. "From changing positions to different starting lineups and things, but we all stayed ready and believed. There's a collective brotherhood here and coach McVey really appreciates all of us. We stuck together and we had love for each other and it's just sad that this was our last game together."

Ridge Point came out with a strong drive to open the second half, scoring on a 15-yard run by Ezell Jolly to take a seven-point lead, but Tompkins had the response this time. The Falcons put together a strong drive and tied things on a 4-yard Caleb Blocker run and after going back and forth the rest of the third quarter, Tompkins took a touchdown lead with seven minutes left in the fourth after a Komolafe 1-yard touchdown run.

Ridge Point tied things back up with two-minutes remaining, but Tompkins looked poised to take the lead late before a big penalty halted a strong drive. Ridge Point then tried to put together a last minute drive, but Tompkins came up big, forcing a turnover on downs and taking the game into overtime.

"The guys really stepped up, and even though tonight didn't go the way we wanted I'm still really proud," Komolafe said. "The young guys really did their best and tried so hard tonight. I'm looking forward to seeing what they can do next year."

Ridge Point scored a touchdown on their possession in the first overtime, and things looked dire for Tompkins as they faced a fourth down the play after Wyatt Young, their starting quarterback, got injured. But backup quarterback Chris Gilbert Jr. came in and made two huge plays, converting the fourth down on a pass and then scoring on a 3-yard run to bring things to a second overtime.

"That's what we do, it's always next man up and Chris knows how to run the offense, he practices too and he's been ready all year every time his name was called," McVey said. "I'm just super proud of his attitude and his effort for the team and his brothers. Every single one of them believed in him, he made plays and got us in the endzone tonight when we had to have it and I can't say enough about

a guy like that." Tompkins only needed one play to score in the second overtime, as Komolafe went 25-yards for a touchdown, but the Falcons were stuffed on the two-point conversion and Ridge Point was able to get the win by scoring and converting their two-point conversion.

The Falcons will have to say goodbye to a group of seniors that paved the way for the younger players, which is exactly what the coaches ask of their groups. And while they are all sad about the way the season ended, every coach is appreciative of what this group gave this season and how they bought in to the process.

"They just endured," McVey said. "They endured everything that was put in front of them. They gave such great effort and did such a great job of embracing our culture and leading themselves this year. They led more stuff on their own this year than we've ever done and when a group does that it just makes the program better. Them doing that is going to help these next groups continue to grow."

Tompkins ready for challenge of state tournament

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Tompkins has been wanting to get to this exact moment all year.

The Falcons have worked to reach the state tournament, to go into the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland and have a chance to prove themselves to the rest of the state, and that moment has finally come after a sweep of Cinco Ranch in the Class-6A Region III Final last week.

"It's going to be so awesome to go in there, be under the light and just experience everything," said senior outside hitter Tendai Titley. "My whole time playing volleyball I have always wanted to take part in this and play there, to have this opportunity, so I'm so excited to finally get there."

The Falcons (41-4) have been on a roll and outside of a warmup game for the playoffs, haven't lost since August. It's been a blend of experience, high powered outside hitters and young players coming into their own as the Falcons' confidence has soared to new heights heading into the state tournament.

"These kids really do love each

other, I know coaches say that all the time but seriously, this group is special," said Tompkins head coach Allison Merrell. "Their chemistry, how they play for each other and the way everyone is included and everybody has a good time together on and off the court, it's just a special the way this group goes about everything."

That confidence has only ratcheted up in the playoffs, the Falcons have dropped just one set through their five games and have swept a Ridge Point team that took two sets off them earlier this year, swept a Cinco Ranch team that took a set off them in both district matchups and swept a Clear Springs team that beat the Falcons earlier this season, showcasing how an already strong Tompkins team has only kept improving.

"The newcomers have really come in and they have done so well with getting better and understanding everything they need to do," said junior outside hitter Skylar Skrabanek. "The experience that a lot of us already had helped them get comfortable and they really have listened to what we have to say and really have let us teach them in some things. When

you add that to the talent we already have, it's just made us so successful throughout the playoffs because everyone knows what they need to do."

For the Falcons next they get Keller (33-11) 5 p.m. Friday at the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland, with the winner advancing to Saturday's state final, which will be played 5 p.m. Saturday.

Keller will be a tough matchup — they have four different players with over 200 kills this season, with Reagan Sharp leading the way with 506 kills, and are a very good serving team. Anna Boatner leads the team in blocks while senior libero Kea Whitlock leads the team in digs. Keller has only dropped three sets through the playoffs while sweeping three opponents.

But no matter who the Falcons' opponent is, they are confident, and they feel like they still have business to take care of.

"It's a great feeling and everyone is so excited to get up there," Merrell said. "This is what they have all worked for, was to get to this tournament, but I don't think that we're finished yet."

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950 PUBLIC NOTICES

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's on-premise permit (BG) by Mr. Penguin Snacks LLC dba Don Pinguino Snacks #1 located at 18775 Clay Rd., Suite B/C, Houston, Harris County, TX 77084. Officer of this company is Araceli Andrade Owner/manager.

November 10 Puzzle Answers

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

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| | | | A | S | C | E | N | T | | | A | R | E | S |

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION TO BIDDERS

Sealed Bids addressed to Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Attention: Mr. Doug Bergen, President, Board of Directors, will be received electronically or at the office of LJA Engineering, Inc., the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, November 29, 2022, and then publicly opened and read at the office of the Engineer, LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449 for "Water Line, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage to Serve Twinwood Commerce Center for Waller County Municipal Utility District No. 18, Waller, Texas." In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may attend the Bid Opening by telephone by dialing +1 346-202-6170, Phone Conference ID: 354 877 978#.

Scope of Work of the Contract Documents includes the following: Construction of water, sanitary sewer and drainage facilities.

Bids received after the closing time will be returned unopened. A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held remotely on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. Local Time. To attend the audio format non-mandatory pre-bid conference, dial +1 346-202-6170, Phone Conference ID: 895 843 642#.

Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total amount Bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into the Contract Documents and execute the Bonds on the forms provided and provide the required insurance certificates 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.

Bidding documents may be examined at LJA Engineering, Inc., AGC of Texas, Construct Connect, and Amtek or may be obtained by prospective bidders or suppliers upon payment of \$100.00 non-refundable plus cost of delivery (\$50.00 for electronic copy) for each set of documents at LJA Engineering, Inc., 1904 West Grand Parkway North, Suite 120, Katy, Texas 77449, or at <https://bids.lja.com>. Checks should be made payable to LJA Engineering, Inc. No cash will be accepted.

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 <https://bids.lja.com>. Bidders must register and obtain bidding documents on this website for the requirement payment amount (if any) to submit an electronic bid.

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 Documents can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

HOW TO KILL A BUSINESS IN TEN EASY STEPS

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3. DON'T ADVERTISE. Just assume everybody knows what you sell.
4. DON'T ADVERTISE. Convince yourself that you've been in business so long customers will automatically come to you.
5. DON'T ADVERTISE. Forget that there are new potential customers who would do business with you if they were urged to do so.
6. DON'T ADVERTISE. Forget that you have a competition trying to attract your customers away from you.
7. DON'T ADVERTISE. Tell yourself it costs too much to advertise and that you don't get enough out of it.
8. DON'T ADVERTISE. Overlook the fact that advertising is an investment in selling - not an expense.
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Seven Lakes' Carlton named to Jr. NBA Court of Leaders

BY TYLER TYRE
SPORTS EDITOR

Justice Carlton was named to the 2022 Jr. NBA Court of Leaders on Thursday, as the junior will have the chance to be around groups of leaders, mentors and both WNBA and NBA staff and players for the next year as she takes part in the council.

Carlton was one of just 12 high school youth basketball players chosen from around the country to participate in the council for the following year. Carlton was chosen as being one of the top youth basketball players who has also demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities in elite tournaments, camps and competitions across the country.

The council aims to empower the young men and women chosen to participate by providing resources to develop them as leaders while also offering a platform to amplify their voices in their communities and across youth basketball. Members participate in personal development programming focused on leadership, decision-making, mental wellness and civic engagement.

Carlton and the other 11 athletes will have a chance to meet with the NBA's youth basketball development team four times over the next year where they will have a chance to give their thoughts on enhancing the Jr. NBA programs and learn about career opportunities in the sports industry and will also have a chance to collaborate on social responsibility projects centered around ways that each athlete can positively impact their communities.

Carlton and the other chosen players will each be assigned a mentor from across the NBA, WNBA and G-League to help them through their development and provide the players with guidance. There will also be players from WNBA and NBA teams serving as co-chairs of the council. Last year Napheesa Collier of the Minnesota Lynx and Jaren Jackson Jr. of the Memphis Grizzlies served as co-chairs for the first ever Jr. NBA Court of Leaders.

Members will have a chance to attend educational trips and receive access to unique learning opportunities throughout the year and it kicked off for Carlton last weekend, as she took part in a trip to Washington D.C. where she will have a chance to tour the White House, the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the United States Holocaust Museum, attend an NBA and receive a tour of the Capital One Arena and be part of a youth leadership development workshop and basketball workout session.

ESPNW has Carlton as the No. 3 ranked recruit in the Class of 2024 and a five-star with a 97 grade. She is the highest ranked recruit in Texas in the class.



MARK GOODMAN | SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

Seven Lakes' Justice Carlton drives up the lane to the basket during the Regional Quarterfinal playoff game between Seven Lakes vs Fort Bend Austin at the Merrell Center.

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VOLLEYBALL

from page B1

The first set was back and forth, until Tompkins started to pull away towards the end. Cinco made a minor comeback but Tompkins was able to hold on and go ahead.

“We just wanted to come in strong — we didn’t want to be cocky or overconfident because we knew Cinco Ranch is a really tough opponent,” said senior outside hitter Tendai Titley. “We focused on all the little things we could because we know them and they know us really well. We know their offense they run, their main hitters and things like that so we just stayed smart and paid attention to the game itself, and thankfully we got the win.”

The second set went the

same as the first, as Tompkins again gained the lead before a Cinco Ranch comeback made things closer to the end. Tompkins was still able to go up two sets to zero, and held off rallies from the Cougars in the third set as they secured the sweep without letting things get close.

“We just bring a really good mentality to every game — this team shakes off mistakes better than any I’ve been a part of,” said junior outside hitter Skylar Skrabanek. “We have that mistake but then we move on and fix it. And we have such a good energy, we picked it up and we really play for one another.”

It’s the Falcons’ first ever trip to the state tournament, and for them to come all this

way and accomplish their goals means everything to the players and coaches.

“I can’t even put it into words right now,” Merrell said. “It’s been a dream for a really long time — it’s been a dream of mine and a dream of theirs and these kids, they’re just really special.”

The Falcons will play Keller at 5 p.m. Friday at the Curtis Culwell Center in Garland in the state semifinal, with the winner moving on to Saturday’s state final.

“It feels amazing, I knew we could do it but I’m still in shock that we have gotten this far,” Skrabanek said. “But we put in all the hard work to come this far, I’m proud of us and I’m just excited to get the chance to keep going.”



TYLER TYRE

Tompkins players celebrate after winning the Class 6A-Region III final against Cinco Ranch at Delmar Fieldhouse on Saturday.

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