

Home Depot opens in Katy

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Home Depot is scheduled to open its new store in west Katy at 133 Cane Island Parkway on April 11th under the direction of Home Depot Store Manager Javonne Smith.



community is invited to the grand opening day, which will feature KODA 99.1 FM, food

trucks.

prizes, give-

aways and

The local

JAVONNE SMITH

more. The grand opening festivities kick off at 8 a.m. with food trucks starting at 11 a.m. Store personnel will also be awarding prizes through a Spin Wheel game, giving out hard hats for customers at the store entrance and distributing mystery gifts.

A ribbon cutting and community event was slated for the afternoon of Wednesday, April 10th, at press time for this story. The new store location fea-

tures

• 106,270 square foot indoor space

• 28,216 square foot outside garden center

 One stop shop for power featuring a battery platform layout

Tool rental center open from

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

WEATHER OVERSHADOWS LOCAL ECLIPSE VIEWING

Optimistic Katyites braved gray skies and drizzle on Monday in hopes of seeing the eclipse at the City of Katy Parks & Recreation Department's "Cosmic Encounter" event. Undeterred, over 250 people came, some bringing their umbrellas, to Arboretum Park, 2046 City Park Road in Katy, for story time and crafts. Their patience was rewarded as the skies cleared in time to use their free eclipse viewing glasses to observe the last several minutes of the phenomenon.

Katy City **Council awards** bid for paving

BY SUSAN ROVEGNO PUBLISHER

In Monday night's city council meeting, the council awarded a bid to Hayden Paving of Houston for street improvements in the Town Park subdivision. The project, approved for \$1,095,639.50, will primarily focus on street resurfacing but will also address some drainage issues, said ARKK Engineer David Kaspar. The project is scheduled to begin in early May and to be completed by the end of July, Kaspar said.

The council also authorized a \$99,625.00

See COUNCIL, page A3



SUSAN ROVEGNO

In a proclamation read by Mayor Pro Tem Chris Harris (on far right) at Monday night's city council meeting, council members and Mayor Dusty Thiele (third from left) recognized the achievements of the city's dispatchers by declaring April 16-20 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The only Home Depot location in Katy city limits, the company has already hired more than 127 employees and is looking to fill 17 open positions ahead of opening and the busy spring season. Each job at The Home Depot supports more than four additional jobs across the U.S., which is more than twice the retail average. That impact includes significant

See OPENING, page A3

April 11, 2024

16 pages | \$1

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PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ISE

40 years-of-service employees (left to right): Thomas D'Andrea, Raymond Fonseca, Virginia Neville, Donna Sloat

Katy ISD celebrates employee milestones at annual service awards event

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

On April 2, Katy Independent School District hosted the annual Employee Service Awards event, honoring and celebrating district employees who have reached remarkable milestones in their careers. Themed around the "Eras of Excellence" employees experience throughout their tenure, the event recognized their years of service and the significant impact they have made on the district and the

community.

As honorees, staff, administrators, Board members, and guests arrived at the Leonard E. Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy, the atmosphere was set by the talented Katy ISD Elite Jazz Ensemble.

The event recognized teachers, administrators, support staff, operations workers, law enforcement officers, and other essential personnel who have

See SERVICE, page A3

Briones announces next community engagement events set for April 20th and May 4th

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones has invited the Katy community to provide feedback on shaping the future of the Katy East community's needs for transportation, green spaces and housing.

Set for April 20th from 12 to 2 p.m. at Morton Ranch Elementary School, 2502 N. Mason Road in Katy, the event is designed to brainstorm ideas for enhancing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity, introduce new housing options and preserve community character, said a Facebook post from the Precinct 4 office.

Family-friendly activities, crafts and games will be featured in addition to the discussion. RSVP for the event at qrco.de/KECP_RSVP or visit https://bit.ly/KatyEastSocial.

Briones will also host another stop on her "2024 listening tour" of Precinct 4 - this one in the Energy Corridor/Memorial area - where residents can speak up about the issues that matter to their neighborhoods.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, May 4th from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at Nottingham Elementary, 570 Nottingham Oaks Trail in Houston. RSVP: https://bit. ly/24summerltsocial.



COMMUNITY

KATYTIMES.COM

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Spavia Cinco Ranch kicks off program to assist single mothers on April 14th

This Mother's Day season, Spavia Cinco Ranch has teamed up with Vital 2 Life's -Single Mother's Ministry, a local charity in support of single mothers. This 501c3 charity organization is dedicated to providing essential support to single mothers, ensuring they feel valued and empowered, especially during significant occasions like Mother's Day. To support the initiative, Spavia will have a kick-off event on April 14th. The spa, located at 10705 Spring Green Blvd Suite 600 in Katy, is donating 10% of all gift card purchases to this cause (from April 14th to Mother's Day). For more information, please call (281) 697-9544 or visit their website at cincoranchtx.spaviadayspa.com

Stellar Bank schedules 'Community Shred Day' for April 13th

Clean your desk and help save the earth by getting rid of those piles of paper! Stellar Bank will hold its "Community Shred Day" on Saturday, April 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at its location in old Katy at 722 Pin Oak. Free shredding takes place while you wait. For more information, call 281-391-4900

LaCenterra hosts 'Earth Day' events on April 19th

Celebrate Earth Day at Heritage Square in LaCenterra, 23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd. in Katy, on Friday, April 19th from 1 to 4 p.m. Activities include:



• Tree giveaway courtesy of Land Crafters to the first 150 guests (1 tree per family while supplies last) Music & Arts

mance • The Village School kid's Earth

musical perfor-

Day activity

 Nelson Water Gardens & Nursery will have information and examples of organic lawn care, container herb gardening which can double as host plants for many butterfly species, and reliable plants for extreme Houston Weather

· Buff City Soap bath bomb craft activity and laundry soap samples

• Fort Bend Libraries - Cinco Ranch Branch will be on-site to promote weekly programs and library resources



Enjoy 'Dueling Pianos' at on April 19 and April 20 at Brandt 1910 Event Center

A concert featuring "dueling pianos" and benefitting both Abigail's place and SIRE Therapeutic Horsemanship will be held at the Brandt 1910 Event Center, 6503 Commerce Street in Wallis. Led by internationally renowned musician and director Stephen Dakin, the two-night event will raise funds for Abigail's Place on April 19th and for SIRE on April 20th. The performance runs from 8 p.m. to midnight each evening. Ticket packages range from \$10.00 to \$500.00. For more information, contact the event center at info@brandt1910.com or call 979-217-1772.

Katy Christian Chamber of Commerce annual Clay Shoot returns on April 20th

Shottenkirk Nissan presents the second annual "Faith & Business" Clay Shoot benefitting the Katy Christian Chamber of Commerce, to be held at American Shooting Centers, 16500 Westheimer Parkway, Houston, on April 20th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Following registration there will be a safety briefing, practice games, and the tournament, and then lunch, a silent auction, and awards. Awards will include highest overall team, highest overall individuals (male and female) and a "save the clays" award for the team that breaks the least amount of clays. The "come as you are" red, white and blue event also features music, raffles, games and door prizes and the opportunity to network with other local businesses. Tickets start at \$35.00. To register or for more information, go to katychristianchamberofcommerce. growthzoneapp.com/ap/Events/Register/ zLwyjXDp?mode=Attendee.

Katy Market Day will be April 20th

Katy Market Day, featuring a variety of vendors, antiques and delicious foods, will take place on April 20th from 10 a.m. to 4 pm. The street fair is held in the historic downtown square in Old Katy at 5717 2nd St, Katy and will offer 100 vendors, food trucks, entertainment, and free snow foam and in-

flatables for the kids. For more information, call Betsy Proctor at The Limited Edition Antiques at 281-391-1993.

Fussell Center April events

The City of Katy's Fussell Senior Center will host the following events at their location at 5370 E. Fifth Street in Katy:

• The Art of Painting with Carmen, April 20th at 10 a.m. \$5.00 supply fee payable at the class

• Wild Birds, with the Audubon Society, April 23rd at 11 a.m.

• Katy Senior Caregivers Support Group, April 23rd at noon. Includes a light lunch.

• Beginner's Mah Jong, April 25th, 9:30 a.m.

• Bridge 101, April 25th at 9:30 a.m. The center is also offering these trips to area attractions:

• Shiner Gaslight Theater and Dinner, April 20th at 3 p.m.

• St. Mary's Grotto Celebration in Frydek, April 28th at 9 a.m. Includes BBQ and raffles.

• Movies and lunch, April 30th at 11 a.m. For more information, please contact

Amanda Di Dio at 281-391-4827 or adidio@ cityofkaty.com.

KAEDC General Assembly meeting to be held on April 23rd

Join the Katy Area Economic Development Council for its April General Assembly meeting on April 23rd from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, 16435 Katy Freeway in Houston. The featured speaker will be Captain Eric Carrero, president of the Greater Houston Port Bureau, a consortium of over 250 maritime enterprises within the Port of Houston, who will give an update on the Port of Houston. To register, go to katyedc.org/about/calendar/p/ event/28937/kaedc-april-general-assembly-meeting or call 281-396-2200 for more information.

Fashion show to benefit Clothed by Faith scheduled for April 25th

Clothed by Faith, a nonprofit organization with locations in Katy and Deer Park which provides gently used clothing to those in need, has announced via Facebook that it is partnering with YaYa Club and Venue 116 for a fashion show on April 25th. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Venue 116 at 907 Baines Street in Brookshire. Tickets may be purchased at www.yayaclubclothing. com/products/fashion-show with packages ranging from \$50.00 to \$300.00. Proceeds will benefit Clothed by Faith.

Cross Creek Ranch Art Market on April 27th

Enjoy music, local art, activities for kids and delicious cuisine from some of the area's best food trucks at the April 27th Art Market in the Cross Creek Ranch community. The Art Market will showcase paintings, ceramics, woodwork, jewelry and other handcrafted items. Enjoy music, local art and face painting for the kids. The free festivities begin at 11 a.m. and continue through 3 p.m. at 6450 Cross Creek Bend Lane in Fulshear.

Eat shrimp and fund scholarships with the Go Texan Committee of HLS&R on April 28th at Wildcatters

The Katy subcommittee of the Houston Metro Go Texan Committee of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo will hold a"Oh Boy! Oh Boil!" at the Wildcatter Saloon, 26913 Katy Freeway on Sunday, April 28th from 2 to 6 p.m. to raise money for the organization's scholarship program. The meal includes boiled crawfish and shrimp with corn, potatoes and sausage; tickets start at \$50.00 presale price for adults and \$20.00 for children. Discounts are offered for first responders, military and veterans. Beer and wine are available for purchase. There will be a silent auction. For more information please contact Stephen Kellogg at 281-217-2218 or HMGTKaty21@gmail.com.

Katy Responds to hold golf tournament on April 29th

Katy Responds, an area nonprofit that assists families in rebuilding their homes after disaster strikes, has announced that its



golf tournament will be held on April 29th at Weston Lakes Country Club, 32611 FM 1093 in Fulshear. The proceeds from this event will go towards helping the Katy families

in need. The day begins at 10 a.m. and will include a live silent auction, steak dinner, and team competitions such as the longest drive, closest to the pin, and putting contests. Individual tickets start at \$250.00 and a team of four may play for \$750.00. Non-player dinner tickets are available for \$50.00. Sponsorship packages starting at \$350.00 are still available. Register at www.katyresponds.org/golf. For questions, please call or text 281-305-8545 or email golf@katyresponds.org.





CROSSWORD PUZZLE

16

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Island nation
- 7. Platforms
- 13. Project plan
- 14. French fishing port
- 16. South Dakota
- 17. Oakland's baseball team
- 19. Military policeman
- 20. Ornamental stone
- 22. Garland
- 23. Process that produces
- ammonia 25. Mousses
- 26. Music notation "dal "
- 28. Fail to win
- 29. Peyton's little brother
- 30. Not near
- 31. Some cars still need it
- 33. Lizard genus
- 34. An idiot (Brit.)
- 36. Postponed
- 38. African country
- 40. Gazes unpleasantly
- 41. In a way, traveled
- 43. Ukraine's capital
- 44. Appropriate
- 45. Dash
- 47. Twitch
- 48. Swiss river
- 51. Data file with computer
- animations
- 53. City in S. Korea
- 55. Particular region 56. They have eyes and noses

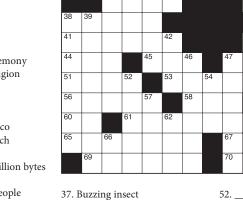
59. Large Madagascan lemur 60. Not out

58. Tear

- 61. Ornamental saddle covering
- 64. A driver's license is one
- 65. Latin term for charity
- 67. Rechristens
- 69. Objects from an earlier time
- 70. Hindu male religious teachers

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Used as a weapon
- 2. Yukon Territory
- 3. Makes a map of
- 4. An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
- 5. Unnilhexium
- 6. Merchant
- 7. Playing the field
- 8. Folk singer DiFranco
- 9. Something to scratch
- 10. Mexican agave
- 11. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 12. Session
- 13. North American people
- 15. Ranches
- 18. Electroencephalograph
- 21. A type of compound 24. Avenue
- 26. High schoolers' test
- 27. A type of meal
- 30. Gradually disappeared
- 32. Ancient Frankish law code
- 35. Popular pickup truck



- 38. Deal illegally
- 39. Lying in the same plane
- 42. Obstruct
- 43. Related
- 46. Challenge aggressively
- 47. Nocturnal hoofed animals 49. Bird's nests
- 50. Foravs
- 52. ___ B. de Mille, filmmaker

59. Private school in New York

62. Political action committee

68. "The Great Lake State"

54. Title of respect 55. One-time name of Vietnam

63. A way to fashion

66. Email reply

- 57. Self-immolation by fire ritual

6 7 2 8 4 7 agoog 5 3 3 5 socode 2 8 3 6 00000 5

Level: Intermediate

9

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.

- Answers will be provided in next week's edition.
- 3 6 4

Fort Bend County to benefit from GLO regional flood mitigation funds

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham announced on April 1 that the Texas General Land Office (GLO) approved more than \$72 million in regional mitigation funds to improve Texas streets, drainage, and sewer systems. Fort Bend County will receive \$25.8 million from that funding for Brazos River erosion protection, according to a statement from Fort Bend County Precinct 4 Commissioner Any Meyers.

"Brazos River erosion pro-

tection is an issue that's one of my priorities," said Meyers in an email to the Katy Times. "I initiated efforts to fund solutions for the Simonton Pinch Point of the Brazos River when I chaired the Water Resources Committee at the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC). So, I deeply appreciate Commissioner Buckingham securing millions of dollars of additional funding for Brazos River erosion protection. The announcement on Monday is in addition to other GLO grants I've worked hard to bring to Fort Bend County to address continued erosion along the Brazos River to protect people, homes, and businesses in our area. Thank you, Commissioner Buckingham, for addressing these critical needs."

The mitigation funds are also designated to improve streets. drainage and sewer systems in the cities of Bedias, Bremond, Galveston, Liberty, Midway and San Augustine, as well as Hardin County, according to a press release from the GLO

"Every day the GLO works with communities to ensure federal funding is administered effectively and efficiently as the federal process allows," said Commissioner Buckingham in the press release. "Our efforts to streamline federal funding procedures help protect communities and the homes, businesses, and local government infrastructure that make Texas a wonderful place to live. These Regional Mitigation Program projects were prioritized at the local level by the Texans who will directly benefit. The GLO is proud to work with our local partners on cutting bureaucratic red tape to make Texas communities more resilient against future disasters."

SERVICE from page A1

collectively devoted decades improving the educational experience within Katy ISD. Their commitment has significantly contributed to the district's success and positively impacted countless students, said the district in a press release.

"I extend my heartfelt thanks for your tireless efforts in our classrooms, support facilities, police department, and throughout our community. Throughout your years of service, each of you has played a vital role in shaping Katy ISD into a beacon of excellence that has made it a recognized destination district and a premier workplace in the state of Texas," said Ken Gregorski, superintendent of schools. "Thank you to our retirees for your dedication, and for leaving this school district an even better place than when you first arrived," he added.

Throughout the ceremony, thoughtfully crafted videos showcased honorees who have achieved significant career milestones, aligning with the

"Throughout your vears of service, each of you has played a vital role in shaping Katy ISD into a beacon of excellence that has made it a recognized destination district and a premier workplace in the state of Texas."

– KEN GREGORSKI, KATY ISD SUPERINTENDENT OF **SCHOOLS**

overarching theme of employees transitioning into a new "era" in their careers.

Katy ISD's 35-and-40 yearsof-service employees who have reached their "Legacy Era":

- Donna Pittenger
- B.J. Thibodeaux
- Thomas D'Andrea
- Raymond Fonseca
- Virginia Neville
- Donna Sloat



The long-awaited Home Depot opens April 11th at the intersection of Cane Island Parkway and Kingsland Blvd. The store will employ almost 150 people after all positions are filled, said company officials.

OPENING from page A1

job creation and workforce development - helping Pro customers grow their businesses, connecting customers with trusted home services providers, working with small and diverse suppliers, and supporting local

communities, said the company in an April 2 press release.

Jobseekers are encouraged to learn more and apply online at careers.homedepot.com. The Home Depot is an equal opportunity employer.





Suvida Your life. Your health. Your partner in both.

We are here to honor and celebrate you Your family, your culture, your neighborhood, your care, "su vida"



from page A1

proposal for ARKK Engineers, LLC for design and construction phase services for the rehabilitation of the water well and ground store tank at City of Katy Water Plant No. 3 at 25815 Kingsland Blvd., which services the Katy Mills Mall area and the portion of the city south of I-10. The equipment for the water well will be replaced and the ground storage tank is to be repainted and to receive a new roof.

By special proclamations, the mayor and council recognized several events in April:

 Recognized April as 'Sexual Assault Awareness and Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Month," with Mayor Thiele awarding the proclamation to members of Katy Christian Ministries' Crisis Center, and declaring Wednesday, April 24th as "Denim Day" to help raise awareness.

• Recognized April as "Autism Awareness Month" in a proclamation read by Councilmember Rory Robertson.

• Recognized April 14-20 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week in a proclamation read by Mayor Pro Tem Harris, who presented the proclamation to the city's dispatchers.

• Recognized April 20 as "Relay for Life Day" in a proclamation read by the mayor.

The next meeting of the city council will be April 22 at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall, 901 Avenue C in Katy.

CORRECTION

An April 4th story on the death of local chef Alex Au-Yeung contained three errors, including the misspelling of his last name. He was 52 at the time of his death, not 53. His restaurant, Phat Eatery, is located in Katy Asian Town, not "Asia Town."

The Times regrets the errors.





Terrell Tate, student council president at Rylander Elementary, opened the school's 20th anniversary celebration on April 6th by welcoming parents, students and guests to the event. Joining Tate on stage are (left to right) former principal Cheryl Glasser (2018-2022), former principal Lisa Simmons (2024-2015), former principal Gwen Coffey (2013-2018), current principal Tanya Heard (2022-present, and Fred "Tony" Rylander Jr., son of Roberta Opal Wright Rylander, a former Katy ISD educator for whom the campus is named. Festivities included the opening of the original time capsule which was sealed in 2004 and the preparation of a new time capsule. Rylander Elementary is located at 24831 Westheimer Pkwy. In Katy.



Ivy Kids of Peek

APRIL 13 | 10 AM - 2 PM

Join us for a fun science adventure at the Ivy Kids of Peek Grand Opening! Tour our school, meet our awesome teachers, and check out the free, fun family activities.

Bounce House Balloon Artist Face Painting · Petting Zoo Trackless Train

IVY KIDS OF PEEK

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What Makes Suvida Different

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What We offer the **Suvida Family:**

- Your own dedicated "Guia," a go-to health guide to accompany you and your loved ones throughout your Suvida journey
- Transportation for established patients and complimentary on-site social/wellness activities
- Caregiver support & enablement services
- Larger-than-average exam rooms built to accommodate patients and their caregivers
- More time spent with your doctor and less time in a waiting room
- Bilingual healthcare providers who are experts in senior care

323 S. Mason Rd. Katy In the Fiesta Shopping Center just south of I 10 (888) 4-SUVIDA | Open Monday – Friday 8 to 5

Relay for Life of Katy set for April 20th to raise funds to help fight against cancer

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Relay for Life is a free local event designed to celebrate cancer survivors and caregivers and remember those we have lost, according to Brenda Hunter Martin, who serves as event lead for the Katy event, scheduled for April 20th from 4 to 10 p.m. at Katy City Park, 5720 Franz Road in Katy.

"Cancer has affected every one of us," said Martin in an interview with the Katy Times. "It began in 1985 with a doctor walking for 24 hours to bring attention to patients battling cancer and to raise money for a cure. Since then, there are relays in thirty-one countries."

"I have had a team for Relay for Life of Katy for twelve years since my husband, Tal, was diagnosed," Martin said. "I learned about Relay while I was sitting and waiting at M.D Anderson for his treatment. I had never heard of it and then was quite interested. I was impressed that it seemed to be a celebration along with fundraising. We formed 'Team KT' (for my Tal and my daughter's friend Kim). Sadly, we have lost them both, but we Relay On for them. I slowly got involved on the leadership team and this year have the pleasure of being the event lead."

"Our theme this year is simple – 'Ray of Hope," said Martin in describing the event. "I think it says it all."

The festivities are slated to start with a proclamation from Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele, followed by a flag ceremony from local Boy Scouts, and the national anthem sung by the Katy High School Choir.

Then – in one of the most moving ceremonies at the event -- survivors open the relay with a lap around the track, followed by a caregivers' lap. "It is beautiful to watch and participate in," said Martin. "I'll never forget our first relay and our 5-year old-granddaughter, KayLee Belle, running up and grabbing Papaw's hand to walk



COURTESY OF BRENDA HUNTER MARTIN

City of Katy Councilmembers (left to right) Dan Smith and Rory Robertson are "ready to Relay" with Katy Mayor Dusty Thiele (right) at the upcoming Relay for Life to take place at Katy City Park, 5720 Franz, on April 20th.

center of the track. There will be bounce houses, a trackless train, giant games, cotton candy, and more, said Martin. As team members continue walking laps others can enjoy talented entertainment on the pavilion or participate in the silent auction.

Food at the event's "snack shack" is available free of charge to participants and the menu includes hot dogs, burgers, frito pie, sausage, snacks, and other items.

The signature ceremony at Relay for Life is the lighting of luminarias, in honor of survivors, those who are fighting cancer and those who have lost their fight with cancer. White luminaria bags are decorated by Relay participants and then placed around the track. Lights sit in the white bags; the park lights are turned off and participants all join in a moving ceremo ny, scheduled to be held at 9:00 pm. The luminaria bags may be purchased onsite for \$10.00 each, said Martin.

Event sponsors this year include presenting sponsor Gulf States Financial Services; platinum sponsors, Rotary Club of Katy and Toyota of Katy; silver sponsors, Century 21 Western and Watts Pool Company; bronze sponsors, Mobile Dumps, Boardwalk Dental Studio, Ideal Air, Auto Check Elite, Stuff The Sleigh, and Amy Scarborough Real Estate.

Last year Relay for Life of Katy had 20 teams and raised \$45,000.00, Martin said. "We are looking to surpass that this year," she added. "Remember that much of the fundraising we do goes directly to cancer patients undergoing treatment, to support survivors and their families and to helping find a cure for this dreadful disease that surrounds us."

There is still time to sign up, said Martin. Register at www.relayforlife.org/katytx



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Wild West Brewfest chairman David Loesch thanked Katy Rotary Club members for their support of the 2024 event, which he said raised over \$135,000 for local causes. The announcement took place at the club's April 4th meeting at the Club at Falcon Point, 24503 Falcon Point Drive, Katy.

Rotary's Wild West Brewfest reports record-breaking results

FROM STAFF REPORTS

At the April 4th meeting of the Katy Rotary Club, held at the Club at Falcon Point, 24503 Falcon Point Drive, Katy, event chairman David Loesch reported a record weekend at the 2024 Wild West Brewfest.

Through the event, the Rotary Club of Katy was able to raise over \$135,000, Loesch announced, not including a total of \$110,000 which is held in reserve for future events. The silent auction alone raised over \$20,000.00, he said.

The event, held March 21-23 at Typhoon Texas, 555 Katy Fort Bend Road in Katy, was able to hit the record number despite a significant increase in expenses, he said, which included rising costs for advertising, security, tents/tables/chairs, generators, bands, beer, and rental of the facility at Typhoon Texas.

The 2024 event only adds to the success the craft beer festival's success in fundraising.

"In 2022, we crossed over \$1.20 million in proceeds from all previous WWBF events, and our goal is to hit the \$2 million mark by 2026 -- we currently sit at \$1.35 million," said Loesch. "Every dollar of proceeds is given back to the local community, and we are grateful that this year's 11th event was very successful yet again."

Over 7500 patrons attended the three-day festival to enjoy 75 brewers and over 612 beers, as well as ten different wineries.

"We would also like to recognize our 2024 WWBF winners again," said Loesch. "Our top restaurant winner was American Federal Grill, and Vallensons' took home the big trophy this year for best beer."

"A special thank you goes out to the 371 volunteers whose hard work and dedication ensured smooth operations and a memorable experience for all attendees," Loesch said in a subsequent press release. "We also extend our gratitude to the City of Katy and all the patrons, brewers, food trucks, and restaurants that contributed to the success of this event. Your support is invaluable, and we look forward to continuing this tradition of excellence."

Funds raised by the club are distributed to nonprofit organizations in the Katy area; Loesch showed a slide listing over 40 local beneficiaries who have received grants from the club.

The next Wild West Brewfest will take place March 20-22, 2025, Loesch said.



with him. That said it all." While participants circle

While participants circle around the track, a local family will lead activities in the "You can join a team, form a team or just come out," Martin said. "You won't regret it!"

SPAVIA JOIN US IN HELPING SINGLE MOTHERS

April 14th

Spavia Cinco Ranch is supporting Vital 2 Life's – Single Mother's Ministry We will donate 10% of all gift card sales from April 14th to May 12th (Mother's Day)

> Join us April 14th for our Kick-Off Event! We will have special offers and a chance to win our Grand Prize gift basket (Value \$1,000)



SPAVIA CINCO RANCH RSVP | 281.697.9544 www.spaviacincoranch.com 10705 Spring Green Blvd, Suite 600 Katy, TX 77494

Katy Times

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TO REPORT SPORTS SCORES: email sports@katytimes.com

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COMMUNITY & FAITH

TRIBUTE

Ronald L. Sparks, 71, passed away peacefully on Friday, December 1st, 2023. Ron was born on May 22nd, 1952, in San Angelo, TX, to Lamar Q. Sparks Jr. and Anna Corbet Sparks. He spent his childhood in San Angelo, where he and his brother Corbet Sparks enjoyed time spent on the ranch, exploring the inner workings of every machine they could find, and learning life lessons. He went on to receive a degree in Electric Engineering from Texas A&M University (Class of 74, Whoop!) and moved to Midland to begin his career. It was there he met his soul mate and married the love of his life, Inez Haggard Sparks. Their journey together took them around the world on innumerable adventures. Ron's career was multi-faceted and full of accomplishments. It reflected his staggering intellect, his passion for learning and teaching, and showcased the renaissance man that he was. He made many life-long friends during his career that he held very dear.

Ron was the best husband, father, grandfather, mentor, partner in crime, and friend anyone could ask for. Words cannot express how greatly he will be missed by all who



RONALD L. SPARKS 1952-2023

have had the pleasure of knowing him, however brief or long.

He was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his loving wife of 47 years; daughters CarrieLee Sparks, and Kimberly Craig and her husband Matthew Craig of Spring, TX; his two grandchildren, Miles S. Craig and Rhys L. Craig; brother Corbet Sparks and wife Cinda Sparks.

Private family services were held. In lieu of flowers the family requests that memorials be made to the Muster Foundation at Texas A&M University or a charity of their choice. The family wishes to extend special thanks to the Accardo, Voskuhl, and Gallagher families for all their support and care.



CELEBRATING EARTH DAY

SUSAN ROVEGNO

In celebration of Earth Day, Harris County Precinct 4 Commissioner Lesley Briones and Trees for Houston hosted a free "tree giveaway" on Saturday, April 6th at the Steve Radack Community Center, 18650 Clay Road in Houston. Residents of Precinct 4 were able to receive two trees free of charge, selecting from species including eastern redbud, loblolly pine, crepe myrtle, and Texas red oak. A long line of cars were already waiting when the event opened at 9 a.m.

KEEPING KATY BEAUTIFUL

Keep Katy Beautiful conducted its annual "Trash Off" event on Saturday, April 6th at Katy's First Baptist Church, 600 Pin Oak in Katy. The free recycling event allowed area residents to bring in electronics, paper, paper bags, plastic bags, scrap metal, appliances, and plastic packaging for proper disposal. The Lions Club also collected prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses. Sponsors included National Iron & Metals LLC, West Houston Document Destruction, PCL Construction, the Don't Mess with Texas program and Boy Scout Troop 1103, in addition to the City of Katy and Katy's First Baptist Church.

SUSAN ROVEGNO

KATY NATIVE IN THE NAVY



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Shelby White, from Katy, Texas, stands watch in the pilot house aboard the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Ralph Johnson (DDG 114) in the Philippine Sea, Mar. 29. Ralph Johnson is forward deployed and assigned to Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15, the Navy's largest DESRON and the U.S. 7th fleet's principal surface force.

U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS JAMAAL LIDDELL



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School board Q&A: Position 6 — Rebecca Fox and Donovan Campbell Position 6

What led to your decision to run for the school board?

FOX: My role as a Trustee is, and has always been, about serving the needs of the students of my community. In this very, very important time with all the struggles that face public education, it is vital to have experience and institutional knowledge to guide the future of Katy ISD and its wellknown exemplary reputation as a leading school district in Texas. Championing students, partnering with parents, valuing teachers, and caring for community will continue to be the pillars of my service.

CAMPBELL: I believe that at the heart of our republic are citizens who are willing to step into public service to help govern at the local level, and I want to do my part serving my community in this way. Specifically, I am running because two of my five children attend Taylor High School and because I believe that parents should be involved in the oversight of the district. No one has more interest in the outcomes of school policies than do parents with children in the system, and parents have the grounds-eye view of the impact of board choices.

What unique qualifications do you bring to the position?

FOX: I am a respectful, strong, caring person who supports public education. Service at all levels from classroom volunteer to district committees, to Master Trustee. Trustee President - 3 times. substitute teacher-6 years, president of PTAs, District Volunteer Exec Board, and numerous community organizations and awards. To be a better leader, I have 500+ hours of specific education training on issues and solutions. Governance is important. Rushed, unvetted policies without input from stakeholders make headlines, not success. I spend time in schools, with parents and in the community to understand the challenges and be available to listen to the people I serve.

CAMPBELL: 1. I have a record of service, with five years of active-duty service as a Captain in the US Marines, seven years as a co-founder and board member of veteran's non-profit NextOp, and a year as a foster parent. 2. I am an experienced technology entrepreneur, and I bring private-sector board leadership along with real-world insight into the impact of technology on the skills needed in our future workforce to the KISD board. 3. I am the father of five children - two of them in the district - and my family experiences the results of school

THE INCUMBENT



Rebecca Fox

Fox, a motivational speaker, has served as a member of the Katy ISD Board of Trustees from 2004-2019 and was elected again in 2021. She has held every officer position, including three times as president of the Board, according to the KISD website. Fox has lived in the district for more than 26 years and has two children who are graduates of Cinco Ranch and Seven Lakes High Schools.

THE CHALLENGER



Donovan Campbell

Campbell is the CEO of Medbridge, a digital healthcare company. According to his application for a place on the ballot, Campbell is a 10-year resident of Katy ISD. According to the Medbridge website, Campbell, who joined the company in 2023, Campbell began his career in the United States Marine Corps, serving for five years as a Ground Intelligence Officer with three combat deployments to the Middle East and Central Asia.

room discipline, ensure competitive pay, and seek to remove burdens that distract from core mission. 2. Fix the budgetary gap - The board must establish its top 3-5 strategic priorities, ensure funding appropriate to ensure success, and look to cut expenses in other less strategic areas. 3. Ensure student safety -I heard about safety concerns weekly from my children. We must ensure that we are disciplining minor infraction and not dis-incentivizing schools allocate the percentage of total planned revenues to those initiatives necessary for their success. With the remaining revenue, we should look at which departments have substantial non-payroll costs that can be reduced as a percentage of 2024-2025 budget in order to close the shortfall. Rather than take an "increase-revenue" approach that's dependent on uncontrollable state funding, we should look to trim the growth non-payroll expenses to close the gap.

How do you plan to address teacher shortages and teacher retention?

FOX: Pay teachers a market competitive salary, but more than that is classroom support. We have to lighten the load for as many tasks as possible to allow teachers to deliver high quality instruction. We can offer quality professional development, build a calendar that honors their time and gives them opportunities to step away and recharge. Allow teacher flex days to exchange for teacher training during the summer. Give back unused bad weather days. Katy ISD can provide support in numerous ways: classroom aides, instructional resources, technology help, district laptop for flexible work, etc. that is superior to what other districts offer.

CAMPBELL: The most important thing we can [do] is empower teachers to create ordered learning environments so that they can focus on doing what they love. Specifically, this approach means that the board must craft disciplinary policies that support the in-classroom teachers in establishing order. It also means that the board must support administration in ensuring that minor infractions are met with discipline, even if that approach causes overall incident metrics to rise. And where state-level policies tie teachers' hands, the KISD board must advocate for changes that allow greater empowerment of teachers to decide what to do at their level.

How do you plan to address student achievement?

FOX: I serve on the Academic Committee and have seen systems that support learners at every level, and they are robust. When there is a deficiency, the system dispatches a team of people to campuses and teacher teams to address any need. Standardized learning ensures all students are on a level playing field. Every student has a Chromebook with access to lessons, support and instructional materials. Parents can follow their child's progress and know what their child is learning. Soon each Chromebook with have customized curriculum cultivated for that student's classes and teachers CAMPBELL: Most importantly, the board must work with administration to laser-focus on retaining and attracting quality teachers. Second, the board and administration must partner to ensure that district remains focused on its core mission of teaching the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) standards. I also believe that the board must focus on ensuring that the district evolves its skills teaching - particularly as generative AI revolutionizes the future of knowledge work - even in advance of TEKS standards, through the introduction of future-focused elective courses. Finally, the district must reinforce top-quality education in the trades to capitalize on American reindustrialization.

gagement. This is not new for me. From my early days of [being a] campus volunteer all the way to trustee, I have lived it and know the importance of involvement. Parents being involved in their students' education is vital to success. Strategic Design involves all aspects of the community to build a multiple year plan to propel future success of the district. Leadership Katy ISD shows people the broad spectrum of the district and how it works from the inside. Katy ISD has endless opportunities to be engaged.

CAMPBELL: The board must ensure that they are visible and available to parents and the broader community. In addition to the public forums provide by monthly meetings and working groups, I believe that board members must spend time in the classrooms across the district and riding buses across it routes in order to be able to personally experience - and then effectively communicate - the real-world learning environment faced by students. Finally, the board can continue to evaluate and reinforce the on-line forums that are most effective at distributing critical information and facilitating constructive dialogue.

What are the top two reasons that voters should cast their votes for you?

FOX: Vision and experience. My vision is to continue to be a revered district with the strongest academics. People move here for the schools and that needs to continue. I want to protect the rights of students and their parents and give them the best future. Working as part of a board is challenging and I have done it successfully for many years. There is much division in our world, and I want our schools to be safe from that. The majority of the board are new trustees and my experience brings a very needed balance.

CAMPBELL: I have experience in national and local public service, and, as a father of two district students, I have significant "skin in the game." I began my adult life serving my country in uniform as a US Marine serving three combat deployments in intelligence, Special Operations, and infantry leadership. I love my country, my family, and my community, and I am deeply committed to the success of the students in our district. I am a technology executive who understands how to run large enterprises and how to innovate for success in an environment of limited resources.

What else should readers of the Katy Times know about you, your candidacy and your vision for Katy ISD?

policies every day.

What are your three top priorities and concrete plans -- for Katy ISD for the next two years?

FOX: 1. More career paths and opportunities for success after graduation by evaluating the needs of businesses and future job needs. 2. In a time when teachers are leaving the profession causing teacher shortages, I will focus on how to better recruit and retain world-class teachers. 3. Find a solution to discipline problems in classrooms because all children deserve high quality instructional time. Many of these concerns are tied to federal laws and have restrictions that the district cannot modify. I have built strong relationships with elected officials through the years to advocate for education issues such as this one.

CAMPBELL: 1. Address the teacher shortfall - Nothing is more important than retaining and attracting quality teachers. The board must promote policies that support teachers establishing in-classto ensure order.

How do you plan to address budgetary issues and the shortfall in state fundina?

FOX: Growing the district's fund balance has been a concerted effort of my service on the Board, to prepare for a time such as this. Katy ISD should be able to weather the financial storm until the legislature takes action. For next year's budget, we changed the model for in class support, increased secondary class size by 1/2 student, to alleviate the deficit. I prioritize giving our hard-working employees a raise. Every 1% raise for staff equals \$7.3 million. We have to make some painful sacrifices to the high standards people expect from KISD, but I am confident our education experts will continue high quality instruction.

CAMPBELL: As we look to set 2024-2025 budget, once the strategic priorities are established - one of which must be ensuring competitive total compensation for our teachers based on benchmarking - we next

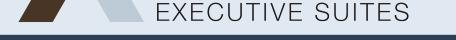
How do you plan to engage parents and the community in supporting **KISD**?

FOX: I have always been available to people and been a proponent of parent en-

FOX: During campaigns there are many strategies and rumors used to sway voters. My experience speaks of the trustee I am and have always been. I absolutely believe in parents' rights. I absolutely believe boys and girls should use separate bathrooms. Statements to the contrary are completely ridiculous. The vote on the gender fluidity policy was to PAUSE...because it was rushed, poorly written, not fully vetted and had zero plan for implementation. It excluded stakeholder engagement and legal advice for majority of the board. See the truth in the video from the Katy ISD Board meeting on Aug 28, 2023.

CAMPBELL: I truly believe that we can make Katy ISD the best school district in Texas, and where Texas goes, America follows. I love our community, and I care deeply about the success of the children, families, and educators in our district. I can promise Katy that I will work tirelessly to ensure that we have the best schools in the nation - and that, in so doing, we produce virtuous and knowledgeable citizens capable of carrying the torch of culture forward.





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School board Q&A: Position 7 — Dawn Champagne and David Olson

What led to your decision to run for the school board?

CHAMPAGNE: I am running for re-election this year because I want to continue to advocate for the students, parents and teachers. With my experience, I now know how to navigate the system and how to help parents and teachers help themselves or I can connect them to the people within the district who can help them. I have developed meaningful relationships with many of the staff, including both teachers and the administration. These relationships are beneficial to the community because my connections are the community's connections.

OLSON: Current trustees no longer share my beliefs and values, or that of the larger community, especially when it comes to parents' rights. I have a front-row seat into the district's policies over the past 15 years, as a parent and district employee spouse. I understand the challenges facing our students in school today. My family's discussions around the kitchen table as well as conversations with Katy ISD parents and community members is what motivated my desire to run.

What unique qualifications do you bring to the position?

CHAMPAGNE: I have the time, willingness, and enthusiasm that it takes to serve. My top qualifications are organization, time management, empathy, ability to know which questions to ask and when, intelligence, flexibility, open-mindedness, and kindness.

OLSON: I have spent the last 30+ years in the Petrochemical Industry. I understand the value of a high-quality public education, which is why my family settled in the Katy ISD area over 15 years ago. Managing people and managing relationships are essential to my current job. I want to bring these experiences and my background as a new voice to the board. The challenges in today's public education environment are much different than before the pandemic. We need board members who understand these changes and make decisions accordingly.

What are your three top priorities – and concrete plans -- for Katy ISD for the next two years?

CHAMPAGNE: 1. Safety and Security. It is important as a board member to keep abreast of all issues regarding safety, expressing concerns, and sharing ideas from other districts. 2. Teacher retention Teacher pay is important but so is their environment, which includes discipline and workload. The rules set forth in the discipline management guide need to be followed at the campus level, and the board should be given feedback from campus principals. 3. Increase school funding. There is not much we can do until 2025, but we can start planning now with the community as to what our next steps should be. OLSON: Parental Involvement, teacher retention and fiscal responsibility. We cannot expect parental involvement, a necessity to support our schools, when board members make voting decisions

THE INCUMBENT



Dawn Champagne

Champagne has served on the board since 2018 and is presently board secretary. She has lived in the district for more than 22 years and her three children all graduated from Taylor High School. She works at Karen's Hallmark.

THE CHALLENGER



David Olson

Olson, a chemical engineer who has lived in the district for 15 years. According to his campaign website, Olson's two children have both attended Katy ISD schools and David has been actively involved in their time at Stanley Elementary, Seven Lakes Junior High, Adams Junior High, Seven Lakes High School, and Jordan High School. His wife is an employee of Katy ISD within the Transportation department.

against parental rights. The district needs uniform and effective student discipline, so teachers and staff feel safe and respected in the school. The public expects the district to make necessary spending decisions like one's residents have faced in the three years of high inflation. Our current budget issues were predictable and we need to take corrective action while the state resolves its legislative items.

How do you plan to address budgetary issues and the shortfall in state funding?

CHAMPAGNE: The only way that we can truly control the budget, other than with budget cuts such as the one that was recently done which resulted in cutting half of the Instructional Coach positions, is to improve upon average daily attendance (ADA). We get paid based on ADA, not enrollment. We dropped 3 – 4 % after COVID. Each 1% equals about \$6 million dollars, which almost equals a 1% raise. Our campuses are involved in incentive plans now, to help with improving ADA, and we are already seeing an increase in attendance. I'm anxious to see the district continue to make strives with improving ADA. express our concerns for the state to fulfill or exceed its obligations to public education, the district needs to review expenses to make some short-term tough decisions. We need to ensure teachers continue to have the resources to educate our children. In addition, where there is duplication of efforts or excessive bureaucracy, we need to bring efficiency to the district. These budgetary issues are not a recent problem but have been part of a slow build over many years, now reaching a point where residents are feeling the impact.

How do you plan to address teacher shortages and teacher retention?

CHAMPAGNE: We need to aim to be ahead of the other neighboring districts on the pay-scale. This is something I continuously strived for from 2018-2021, when we were #10 from the bottom in Region 4, out of 44 school districts. In 2022, we went to #1 when we gave a 5% raise. Recently, I learned that there is one school district which crept ahead of us. It is my mission to get us back on top. We can also help retain teachers by improving work environments. I want to find ways we can improve work conditions by continuously reviewing 360 surveys and offering listening circles with teachers.

OLSON: I support the creation of the Teacher Retention Committee. As a district we need to understand the root cause of teachers leaving Katy ISD. Getting honest feedback from teachers without fear of retribution will allow us to determine those issues facing teachers and correct those items so teachers can get back to the basics of focusing on the education of our students.

How do you plan to address student achievement?

CHAMPAGNE: Student achievement tends to be tied to parental involvement. I know that many principals of schools who struggle with this issue work so hard to improve their parental involvement, but more can be done. Studies have shown that when schools partner with parents, scores improve. As a district, we need to keep our expectations high, track success (with reasonable, attainable goals), find creative ways to offer more instructional time, offering extra support for teachers, and keep looking for ways to engage with the parents.

OLSON: Student achievement is one area that Katy ISD excels. The academic success of this district is what continues to make it a high growth district in the state of Texas. I do want uniform curriculum from campus to campus so that all students are receive the same excellent yet rigorous education, preparing them for the future. I also want more emphasis on the Miller Career & Technology Center. With the shortage of people entering trade vocations, we need to do a better job communicating the benefits of these professions. board members should be bragging about the Premier School District that Katy ISD is. Katy ISD has earned so many accolades, so this should be easy to do. The way that I promote our district is by sharing about all of its achievements on social media. But also, the boardroom is a great place to show off our award-winning programs and students. I will just continue to shout from the rooftops about our fabulous district which includes the students, parents, and staff.

OLSON: There are many residents who remember the controversies in the district over the last decade. Getting new voices on the board that bring different perspectives and fresh ideas can help all of us to move on from the past. As I campaign, I hear from residents about their current concerns. These residents may have children or grandchildren in the Katy ISD schools. Each resident has their own concerns, concerns that we share, and some from their own perspective. We need the ability to have civil discourse when our beliefs may not align, something currently lost in today's political climate.

What are the top two reasons that voters should cast their votes for you?

CHAMPAGNE: 1. My experience. 2. My continued advocacy for and devotion to Katy ISD and the all the people who make up this district.

OLSON: First, like many of the residents of Katy ISD, I am a parent of a current student. Our family must deal with the same district issues as others in the area. We have much to be proud of in Katy ISD, but those positives can highlight the areas Katy ISD can do better. Second, the district is responsible to the people residing in its boundaries. We need to make decisions that are in the best interest of all Katy ISD residents, not just a select few who may have the loudest voices.

What else should readers of the Katy Times know about you, your candidacy and your vision for Katy ISD?

CHAMPAGNE: My vision for Katy ISD is that is remains the premier district that it already is, and to uphold the mission statement, which reads in part, "to provide unparalleled learning experiences." My promise to this community is that I will continue to represent you from the dais. When I am sitting on the dais, you are there with me, on the dais. I will use my experience and access to resources to make sure that their concerns are heard, accomplishments are acknowledged, and

OLSON: While we continue to lobby and speak with our local representatives to

How do you plan to engage parents and the community in supporting KISD?

CHAMPAGNE: Personally, I engage with the parents and community constantly. All

your ideas are shared.

OLSON: First, I am a father to children who have or are currently attending Katy ISD schools. Even with our busy schedule, I always managed to stay involved with my children's activities. As a former band member in high school, I have a passion watching my children in their years at Seven Lakes and Jordan High Schools. Staying involved by volunteering in the Band Booster Organizations let my children know that I would also be there to support them. Parental Involvement is essential to supporting our schools and we always need to keep our parents engaged and informed.

Katy Area Chamber of Commerce National Civics Bee finals held April 2nd

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Katy Area Chamber of Commerce held a "live quiz" event on April 2 to conclude the 2024 National Civics Bee[®], an initiative aimed at encouraging more young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. The Chamber of Commerce hosted the final round of the competition at Morton Ranch High School, 21000 Franz Road, Katy, with Charles Stein of AT&T serving as the emcee.

Organized in partnership with The Civic Trust[®] of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, the competition in Katy was designed to inspire 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to become better informed about American democracy, to engage respectfully and constructively in the community, and to build greater trust in others and institutions, said the chamber in a press release.

Middle school students from public, private, charter, and home schools were invited to take part in the first-round civics essay competition. The essay topic asked students to identify a problem facing your community and to describe how a citizen might solve the problem, including a recommendation and how to bring the recommendation to life.

Topics chosen by the participants included flood mitigation, reduction of plastics pollution,



Civics Bee judges (left to right) Ida Franklin of Venus Construction, Brookshire Mayor Pro Tem Jerimiah Hill and State Representative Stan Kitzman join third place winner Kunsh Kalra of Seven Lakes Junior High in Katy, second place winner Ritika Harish Krishnan of Bill Hays Middle School in North Dallas and first place winner Roshni Karunamurthy of Tays Junior High School in Katy onstage at the Civics Bee finals. The April 2 event was held at the Morton Ranch High School Performing Arts Center, 21000 Franz Road in Katy. Charles Stein of AT&T (far right) emceed the live quiz contest.

reduction of screen time during the instructional school day, and a proposed "immigration buddy" system, among others.

After a distinguished panel reviewed the 500-word essays, the

top 20 students were selected to move on to the next round of competition: a live quiz event to test their civics knowledge. The panel of judges included Ida Franklin of Venus Construction, whose company sponsored the event; State Representative Stan Kitzman and Brookshire Mayor Pro Tem Jeremiah Hill.

A 20-question multiple choice quiz narrowed the competition to

the top six contenders, who then individually answered questions from the judges on their essay topic.

The finalists and top winners received various prizes, including \$500 cash for the first-place student.

Finalists were:

• First prize of \$500.00: Roshni Karunamurthy, Tays Junior High School, Katy

• Second price of \$250.00: Ritika Harish Krishnan, Bill Hays Middle School, North Dallas

• Third prize of \$125.00: Kunsh Kalra, Seven Lakes Junior High, Katy

Each of the top 20 participants received a backpack and certificate.

The first-place winner will advance to the state competition hosted by the US Chamber of Commerce along with the other two finalists. The state winners will receive various prizes, including \$1,000 cash for the first-place student. The US Chamber of Commerce will host this event on June 15, 2024, at George W. Bush Presidential Center, 2943 SMU Boulevard, in Dallas, TX.

The contest began on November 13, 2023, and the deadline for student essay submissions was January 8, 2024. For more information on the essay topic, competition rules and prizes, visit: https:// www.katychamber.com/national-civics-bee/

EDUCATION

Katy ISD music education program receives national recognition

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

THE KATY TIMES THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

KATYTIMES.COM

Katy ISD has been honored with the "Best Communities for Music Education" designation from the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation for 2024, the district announced in an April 4th press release. This marks the 22nd year Katy ISD

has received this distinction, representing the district's outstanding commitment to providing exceptional music access and education to its students, the district said.

'We are thrilled to once again receive this prestigious accolade, which reflects our unwavering dedication to fostering a robust, world-class music program for our students," stated Damon Archer, executive director of fine arts at Katy ISD. "Year after year, our passionate music educators empower and inspire our students to strive for excellence, encouraging them to unleash their creative potential," Archer added.

To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Katy ISD answered comprehensive questions regarding funding, graduation prerequisites, participation rates in music classes, instructional hours, facilities, support for the music program and community music-making programs. All responses were verified by school officials and were subsequently reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

ROYAL STUDENT RECEIVES BVSCU SCHOLARSHIP



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROYAL ISD

Royal High School senior Monica Aguanaga (center) was awarded a \$2000 scholarship from Katy-based Brazos Valley Schools Credit Union (BVSCU) and presented with the award at BVSCU's annual meeting held April 3 at the Katy ISD Merrell Center, 6301 S. Stadium Lane in Katy. Monica plans to attend Texas A&M to study Chemistry before attending medical school to be a pediatrician. Monica is pictured with Yvonne Kershner, BVSCU CEO (left) and Royal ISD Superintendent Rick Kershner (right).

Royal STEM Academy now accepting applications

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Royal STEM Academy is currently accepting applications for all current first through seventh grade students who wish to transfer to STEM (Science, Technologov, Engineering

and Math) for the 2024-2025 school year. Applications must be submitted to the STEM front office by Friday, April 19th. For questions, please contact Eireily Gonzales at fgonzalesz@ royal-isd.net. Application link: https://5il.co/2hni3.

Two KISD students named to state all star cheer team

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Two Katy-area cheerleaders - Annie Pickett of Seven Lake High School and Tayor Reid of James E. Taylor High School - have been named to the Texas Girls Coaches Association's All Star Cheer team for 2024, the organization announced in an April 4th press release.

Reid's coach at Taylor, Audrey Buffy Brummett, was also named the head coach for the Division 5-6a All Star team.

TGCA selects a maximum of 24 All-Stars from conference 1-2-3-4A and 24 All-Stars from conference 5-6A. These individuals, who must be juniors, are selected by the TGCA Spirit Committee, which is composed of member coaches of the association. Selections are made from nominations submitted by member coaches. These all-stars will participate in the summer clinic allHere is the complete list of the members of the Division 5-6a team and their coaches:

Division	All-Star	School	Coach	Conf
5-6a Blue All-Star	Chloe Adame	Alamo Heights HS	Taylor Bailey	5A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Layla Calvillo	Tomball Memorial HS	Sarah Ellison	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Carlee Cooper	Midway HS	Kristie Blackwell	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Kaya Cromeens	Deer Park HS	Courtney McGlynn	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Chloe Gable	Tomball HS	Steven Weibel	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Ashley Hausmann	George Ranch HS	Kyra Scopel	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Emily Musgrove	Alamo Heights HS	Taylor Bailey	5A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Annie Pickett	Seven Lakes HS	Amy Weaston	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Logan Reeves	George Ranch HS	Kyra Scopel	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Taylor Reid	James E. Taylor HS	Audrey Buffy	
			Brummett	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Madison Tran	Clements HS	Katherine White	6A
5-6a Blue All-Star	Jacey White	Midway HS	Kristie Blackwell	6A

All-Star team Head Coach: Audrey Buffy Brummett, James E. Taylor HS

star activities.

The Texas Girls Coaches Association is one of the largest associations of coaches, and the largest association for coaches of girls' athletics in the United States, according to the

organization's website. Established in 1953 with a membership of less than 100, it has grown to more than 7,000 members and includes coaches and administrators in all levels of education.

Taylor student competes in national quiz bowl

CONTRIBUTED REPORT

The top single player competition for quiz bowl, National Academic Quiz Tournaments' Individual Player National Championship Tournament was held Sunday, April 7, in Rosemont, Illinois. Abdullah Dhafer, a student from James E. Taylor High School, competed in a 260-player field. Thirty-two states, the District of Columbia, and South Korea were represented in the sixth championship of its kind.

"This quiz bowl event is extraordinary in that it is an individual competition, without the support of teammates," said a press release from the organization. Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activity for teams of students. Ouiz bowl teams use buzzers and answer questions about science,

math, history, literature, mythology, geography, social science, current events, sports, and popular culture. Quiz bowl matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration, since no individual player is likely to be an expert in all subject areas. Participation in quiz bowl both reinforces lessons from the classroom and encourages players to develop new intellectual interests.

The competition day began with seeding rounds to determine position for qualification. After five seeding rounds, the top players competed in an elimination round to determine the overall winner. In addition, players who performed well in specific academic categories were honored for their performance.

The Individual Player National Championship Tournament was first held in 2018, and the 2020 championships were not held to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Dhafer is coached at Taylor High by Coach Rebecca Rodriguez, and Hannah Mancill, assistant coach.

ABOUT NAQT

National Academic Quiz Tournaments, founded in 1996, organizes the premier middle school, high school, and college quiz bowl championships in North America. In addition to its national championships, NAOT provides questions to invitational tournaments, league championships, and television shows throughout the year. NAQT operates out of the Twin Cities and Kansas City, but its members mentor coaches, host tournaments, volunteer their services, and share their expertise across the United States.

KISD schedules high school graduation ceremonies

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The 2024 Katy ISD spring graduation ceremonies at Legacy Stadium, 5070 Franz Road in Katy, have been scheduled as follows: Jordan High

Date:

Time:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Location:

April 30, 2024

11AM - 1:30PM

Katy, TX 77493

For more information please contact:

Rachel Campos

marketing@bvscu.org

Katy 📫 Times

School, May 15 at 8 p.m. · Paetow High School, May 16 at 8 p.m. • Katy High School, May 17 at 8 p.m. • Taylor High School, May 18 at 8 p.m.

 Mayde Creek High School, May 19 at 8 p.m.

 Cinco Ranch High School, May 20 at 8 p.m. • Morton Ranch High School, May 21 at 8 p.m.

 Seven Lakes High School, May 22 at 8 p.m. • Tompkins High School, May 23 at 8 p.m.



Aristoi Academy hosts skate park spirit night

FROM STAFF REPORTS

The Aristoi Academy Katy Booster Club will hold a Spirit Night at on Friday, April 19 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Mason Road Skate Park, 535 Applewhite Drive, Katy.

The public event, hosted by the academy's fifth and sixth grades, is open to all and the \$10.00 admission fee includes skates.









PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Left: Daniel Ejerenwa headers a ball during Saturday's Region III-6A Final between Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch. Right: Jessica Lopez makes a pass during Saturday's Region III-6A Final between Seven Lakes and Jordan in Deer Park.

Twice as Nice

Seven Lakes sends both soccer teams to state tournament

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes made school history in more ways than one Saturday.

It was an accomplishment that Seven Lakes hadn't achieved before and hadn't been done by a Katy ISD school since Cinco Ranch in 2015 and 2016 when the Spartans clinched state tournament appearances with both winning the Region III-6A Final on Saturday, which came in an All-Katy ISD regional final. Both Seven Lakes teams as well as the Jordan girls and Cinco Ranch boys advanced all the way to the fifth round.

"It's just so cool and so rewarding," said Seven Lakes girls head coach Kaitlyn Eidson after her team's regional final win. "This is why these girls do this. It's not just the winning but it's the playing together and being able to be around each other. They all did it together — it's the teamwork and positivity that got us here and I'm so proud of them."

It was a big moment for both programs. For the Seven Lakes girls, it clinched the program's first state appearance in 12 years and their third overall. The last time the girls got to the state tournament, they won in the semifinal before falling to Plano West in the Class 5A State Final. The Spartans had plenty of playoff success over the past few years but had found it tough to get past the third round. Once they did break through this year though, the Spartans (19-3-5) kept going and made it all the way to state, where they will face Prosper (24-2-2). The Eagles are riding a six game win streak and have been tough defensively in the playoffs,

See **STATE**, page B8



Sammy Harpole takes a shot during Saturday's Region III-6A Final between Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch.

Seven Lakes clinches third straight state tourney berth

Spartans beat Cinco Ranch 4-0 in the Region III-6A Final

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes is built for these moments. It's a team that has played in the biggest moments and on the biggest stages and they know how to up thier game when the time comes.

So when the Spartans went into a regional final ainst the only team that had beaten them all seas there were no nerves. This was a team that knew what to do and how they were going to win. The Spartans showed just that on Saturday, beating Cinco Ranch 4-0 in the Region III-6A Final and advancing to their third straight state tournament. "We just know how important it is," said junior winger Kortay Koc. "We know how important this is it hasn't been done in over 30 years and so we came out and played with everything we had. It's not an easy thing to do to win a region three years in a row. To do that feels really good." Seven Lakes came out and made a statement right away, scoring in the second minute when Daniel Ejerenwa put a low cross into the box that found Sean Carlos Rivera, who made no mistakes and put it in the back of the net past the keeper.

Seven Lakes overcomes Jordan in overtime to clinch spot at state

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Seven Lakes has been preparing for 20 extra minutes since August.

The Spartans knew when it came down to the tiniest advantages that they had to be the fittest team on every field, that they had to work just as hard and find a way to stay ready in those moments.

That work and conditioning paid its dividends for Seven Lakes on Saturday, as the Spartans were able to outlast Jordan in the Region III-6A Final 2-1 in extra time, finding their second gear in the extra period to score the winner and advance to the state tournament.

"We told them going into overtime that this is just about grits and guts and being able to apply everything that we've worked for," said Seven

See **SOCCER**, page B7

Seven Lakes celebrates a goal during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Seven Lakes and Pearland in Deer Park.



See SPARTANS, page B7



Kortay Koc dribbles during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Seven Lakes and Humble in Deer Park.

SCORES & SCHEDULES

WEEK OF APRIL 12



BOYS SOCCER

Scores

REGIONAL SEMIFINAL • Seven Lakes 4, Humble 1 • Cinco Ranch 2, Kingwood 1

REGIONAL FINAL • Seven Lakes 4, Cinco Ranch 0

SCHEDULE Friday

CLASS 6A STATE TOURNAMENT STATE SEMIFINALS • Seven Lakes vs. Duncanville 5 p.m. at Birkelbach Field

GIRLS SOCCER

Scores

Friday

REGIONAL SEMIFINAL • Seven Lakes 3, Pearland 0 • Jordan 3, Brazoswood 2

REGIONAL FINAL • Seven Lakes 2, Jordan 1

SCHEDULE

CLASS 6A STATE TOURNAMENT STATE SEMIFINAL • Seven Lakes vs. Prosper, noon at Birkelbach Field

SOFTBALL

Friday

Paetow vs. Seven Lakes, 6:15 p.m.
Cinco Ranch vs. Katy, 6:15 p.m.
Taylor vs. Jordan, 6:15 p.m.
Mayde Creek vs. Tompkins, 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday

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

BASEBALL

Thursday

Taylor vs. Jordan, 6 p.m.
Cinco Ranch vs. Katy, 6 p.m.
Seven Lakes vs. Paetow, 6 p.m.
Tompkins vs. Mayde Creek, 6 p.m.

Saturday

Paetow vs. Seven Lakes, noon
Jordan vs. Taylor, noon
Katy vs. Cinco Ranch, noon
Mayde Creek vs. Tompkins, noon

Tuesday

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

Early goal springs Cinco Ranch past Kingwood

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR

Cinco Ranch is always down for a physical battle.

It's something the Cougars faced every game in District 19-6A — it's what they try to do to their opponents and it's an environment they thrive in.

Cinco Ranch found itself in a battle on Friday, going up against a tough Kingwood team that matched them every step of the way. But the Cougars outlasted the Mustangs in the fight, and behind an early goal Cinco Ranch beat Kingwood 2-1, advancing to Saturday's regional final in a gutsy performance.

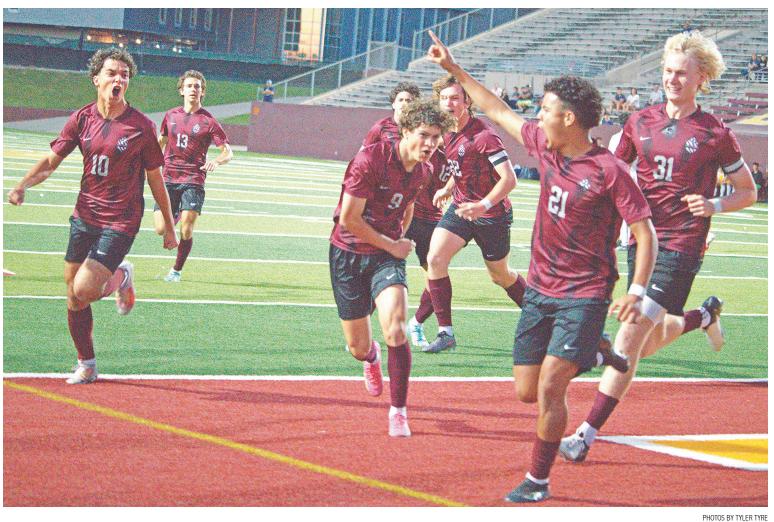
"That just comes from our district," said Cinco Ranch head coach Ryan Searle. "It comes from playing Katy ISD teams every week — you have a mindset that you have to grind out wins and always be mentally locked in, because if you're not, bad things can happen. It's night in and night out and it prepares you for games like this."

It took just 40 seconds for Cinco Ranch to score its first and what turned out to be the deciding goal in Friday's match. The Cougars earned a quick throw in deep in the Kingwood half and moved the ball around after the throw, where it fell to Adrian Correa. Correa shifted the ball on to his left foot, found space and took a shot from outside the box that beat the keeper and found the upper corner of the goal.

"That set the momentum for the rest of the game," said senior centerback Ossian Elgstrom. "I know that we probably had some nerves but that got it out of the way quick and gave us some excitement. It really helped us."

Cinco continued to dominate for the first part of the first half creating chances and pushing for a second but Kingwood was able to settle in. The Mustangs started being the aggressor late in the half and it carried over into the second. It was a physical battle, but one that both teams were ready for. Kingwood continued to press, but it was Cinco that scored again, finding the back of the net when Ossian Elgstrom latched on to a corner kick and put the ball in the back of the net. Kingwood scored with one minute remaining when Giovanni Duque scored on a centered pass into the box, but the Cougars held on in the final minute to secure the win.

"The guys at the back were huge, and that's what they've done all season," Searle said. "We've only allowed 22 goals all season



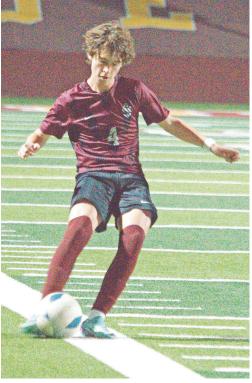
Cinco Ranch celebrates after Adrian Correa scored a goal during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Cinco Ranch and Kingwood in Deer Park.

HOTOS DI TILLIA TINL



and that's fantastic — they bring it every night for us and it's a big reason why we are in this position."

Cinco advanced to the regional final where they faced district foe Seven Lakes. The Cougars were unable to keep their season going, falling 4-0 to the Spartans. "You have to have a little bite and a little grittiness in games like this and I know that they boys have that," Searle said. "They remember the playoff game against Seven Lakes last year and that's bringing a lot of it for the game tomorrow. It's going to be a fight. We'll both put our best 11 out there and see what happens." Above: Andres Riera takes a shot during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Cinco Ranch and Kingwood in Deer Park.



Flynn Suther takes a free kick during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Cinco Ranch and Kingwood in Deer Park.

Jordan comes from behind to beat Brazoswood in regional semifinal

There isn't an ounce of give up

The Warriors are a team that has been through adversity, that has had to fight in every playoff game and a team that has come together to reach a higher level every week. So even after playing a poor first half in Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal and falling behind 2-1, the Warriors had no panic - if anything, it made them more determined and it showed as Jordan scored two late goals to beat Brazoswood 3-2 and advance to Saturday's regional final. "We just know that we are tougher than everyone out there with everything that's happened this year," said Jordan head coach

in this year's Jordan squad.

Kevin LaFollett. "It started in

August and they've just built that toughness since then. They knew

that this was going to be hard and I

think they've embraced that. Even

they keep going at it and they have

The Warriors came out on the

attacking and holding Brazoswood

at bay for the first 20 minutes of the

game. That pressure paid dividends

in the 16th minute when Madison

Lambert found space in the box

and ripped a shot that was saved,

the save rebounded and scored

defender.

on a nice shot after getting past a

and had Brazoswood on its heels,

but the Bucaneers got a break in

the 21st minute when a ball into

and hit a Jordan defender in the

the Jordan box took an odd bounce

arm. The Warriors were called for a

Things went back and forth after

that and both teams created chanc-

es, but the Buccaneers got another

handball and Maya Funk stepped

up to the spot and converted a

perfectly placed penalty.

but Alex Ledbetter got the ball after

Jordan kept pushing for another

when we aren't playing our best,

the confidence to get a result."

front foot and started very well,

BY TYLER TYRE SPORTS EDITOR



PHOTOS BY TYLER TYRE

Julia Cleary takes a shot that is saved during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Jordan and Brazoswood in Deer Park.

in the 30th minute on another lofted ball into the Jordan box that took a deflection off of a Warriors defender's head and bounced past the keeper for an own goal as Brazoswood went into the half with a 2-1 lead.

"The coaches' talk at halftime really inspired us because we realized that this could be our last game and we knew we couldn't let that happen," Ledbetter said. "We want to keep making history for our school and we wanted to make it to the regional final. We knew we had what it takes and we kept fighting to make it happen."

Jordan came out in the second half and pushed for an equalizer. The Warriors sent numbers forward and tried to break down the Brazoswood back line, but the Buccaneers played deep and did everything to hold on to their lead. Jordan kept prodding though and eventually in the 67th minute found the equalizer when Ledbetter laid off a pass for Julia Cleary, who got past a defender and fired a shot near post that got past the goalkeeper. Jordan found the winner in the 76th minute when Cleary got in the box and took a shot that was saved, but again Ledbetter came up with the rebound off the save and put it past the keeper to give Jordan the win.

"Alex just causes chaos — that's what she has done all year long," Lafolett said. "She was involved in three goals and a goal that was called back and she just is a weapon that always makes something happen. The team played off her and they all worked together. It just made us even better."

The Warriors move on to their first ever regional final, where they will play Seven Lakes in an all Katy ISD matchup. Jordan fell to Seven Lakes 2-0 in the team's last matchup and put up a strong fight in Saturday's regional final but just fell short, losing 2-1 in extra time.

"Last time around we were going through a tough time, but we've gotten stronger," Ledbetter said. "We know what we have to do to win this game and we are going to push through this time. We just have to focus on winning and not putting our heads down because we know we can do this."

Madison Lambert takes a corner kick Alex Ledbetter takes a shot during Friday's Region III-6A Semifinal between Jordan and Brazoswood in Deer Park.

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DISCOVER

850 950 950 950 950 950 950 950 950 PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES **HELP WANTED PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES** PUBLIC NOTICES SCHLUMBERG-ER TECHNOLO-**INVITATION TO BIDDERS INVITATION TO BIDDERS** GΥ CORPORA-TION seeks an Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. Sealed Electronic Bids addressed to Harris County Municipal Utility District No. RP Wellsite Ar-214, will be electronically received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, May 14, 165, will be electronically received, until 2:00 p.m. Local Time, Tuesday, May 7, chitect, EdgeOS 2024, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape 2024, and then publicly opened and read at the office of SWA Group Landscape Lead to work in Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for Construction of Architects, 712 Main St., 6th Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 for Construction of Katy, Texas to "Avalon at Cypress West Entry Channel Softscape" for Harris County Municipal "Avalon at Cypress West Avalon Landing Lane - Phase 2 Softscape" for Harris and decreate Utility District 165, Harris County, Texas" County Municipal Utility District 165, Harris County, Texas" hardware plov Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: concrete trails and wall, Scope of Work of the Contract includes the following: concrete trails, sprinkler and software solutions in the sprinkler irrigation, grading, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance. irrigation, grading, planting, grassing, and landscape maintenance. unique challeng-In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the In addition to the opening of sealed Bids at the address above, you may view the es of the Oil and public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. To join via Zoom call Telephone Number public opening of sealed Bids via Zoom. To join via Zoom call Telephone Number Gas environment, 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 948 3636 3179 and use Passcode: 335647 or 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 995 9650 4987and use Passcode: 070958 or such as low bandwidth, intermittent https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/94836363179?pwd=ZUFTMEYrQjhjMHFaaDVpU https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/99596504987?pwd=T1JxTkV3VG9HNzFrekpGaVlre connectivity, rug-WNrSllKdz09 HBqUT09 ged environmenconditions, Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A NON-MANDATORY Bids received after the closing time will not be considered. A NON-MANDATORY tal power pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at pre-bid conference will be held by teleconference on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at and con-**10:00 a.m.** Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 10:00 a.m. Local Time. To join call Telephone Number 888-475-4499, Meeting ID: straints. May telecommute. 987 3537 0245 and use Passcode: 564112 or 987 3537 0245 and use Passcode: 564112 or Apply online at: https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/98735370245?pwd=b2UwNnY1RHpWSzhEWGIY https://swagroup.zoom.us/j/98735370245?pwd=b2UwNnY1RHpWSzhEWGlY https://apply.slb. V0ZXNkw1dz09 V0ZXNkw1dz09 com/careers/ job/56349971 Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, Each Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Bond or a certified or cashier's check, 6577885 acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than two percent (2%) of the total 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 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 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 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 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 shall deliver, at the bid opening address, the original certified or cashier's check within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening. within one (1) business day of receipt of the bid opening. Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from Copies of the bidding documents may be reviewed and obtained from www.CivcastUSA.com: search SWA project name. Bidders must register on this www.CivcastUSA.com: search SWA project name. Bidders must register on this website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, and associated website in order to view and/or download specifications, plans, and associated documents for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents. documents for this Project. There is NO charge to view or download documents. Bidder submitting electronic Bids through Civcast must submit its Bid and Bid Se-Bidder submitting electronic Bids through Civcast must submit its Bid and Bid curities in compliance with Owner's Order Adopting Section 49.2731 Electronic 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 Bidding Rules and all electronic Bids and Bid Securities must be submitted through www.CivcastUSA.com. Bidder must register on this website to submit a Bid and Bid www.CivcastUSA.com. Bidder must register on this website to submit a Bid and Bid Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website. Security and there is no charge to submit Bids and Bid Securities on this website. **The Classifieds** By submitting a Bid, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Contract Documents By submitting a Bid, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that the Contract Documents RIGHT may be accepted, executed, or agreed to using an Electronic Signature, as defined may be accepted, executed, or agreed to using an Electronic Signature, as defined **ON THE** by and in accordance with Owner's Electronic Signature Rules for Construction by and in accordance with Owner's Electronic Signature Rules for Construction Contracts. Contracts. MONEY! The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive all defects and Trade your unwanted items for fast cash with the Classifieds. irregularities in bidding or bidding process except time of submitting a Bid. 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 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 judgment will be most advantageous to the District and result in the best and most PLACE YOUR AD TODAY economical completion of the Project. economical completion of the Project. 281-391-3141 The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply debbie.prejean@katytimes.c to this Bid and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the 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 Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that katytimes.com

NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO: THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS, WHO RESIDE IN FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2:

The Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 has issued an Order calling for an election to be held on May 4, 2024 from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., at which election all eligible voters residing within the boundaries of FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 will be entitled to vote on the following:

LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX -- Texas Health and Safety Code § 775.0751

subchapter.

Proposition A:

Katy 🗰 Times

FORThe adoption of a local sales and use tax in Fort Bend County Emergency
Services District No. 2 at a rate not to exceed two percent (2%)AGAINSTin any location in the district.

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES: Qualified voters residing in the Fort Bend County Emergency Services District No. 2 may vote in the appropriate polling place locations designated for the election. The consolidated county election precincts and the respective Election Day polling places are described in Attachment 1, below.

EARLY VOTING: Early voting shall be conducted by **Keri Reitenour,** the Early Voting Clerk, from April 22, 2024, through April 30, 2024. The consolidated county election precincts and the respective Early Voting polling places are described in Attachment 2, below.

The Early Voting Clerk's official mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent is Early Voting Clerk, Fort Bend County Emergency Services District No. 2, 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, Texas 77494. The phone number for the Early Voting Clerk is (281) 395-0011. The email address for the Early Voting Clerk is keri.reitenour@willowforkfire. com. The internet website for the Early Voting Clerk is www.willowforkfire.com. The location of the main early voting place is 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, TX 77494. The ballot applications must be received by the Early Voting Clerk no later than April 23, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

FORT BEND COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 2 By: /s/ Robert Miller, President ATTEST: By: /s/ Wes Noonan, Secretary

> ATTACHMENT 1 (Election Day)

Fort Bend County Precincts

1004, 1014, 1038, 1122, 1130, 1133, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1148, 1156, 1159 Polling Place

Fire Station No. 2 26950 Cinco Ranch Blvd. Katy, Texas 77494

ATTACHMENT 2 (Early Voting)

Fire Station No. 3 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, TX 77494

Days/Hours: Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

AVISO DE ELECCIÓN

PARA: LOS VOTANTES CALIFICADOS DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND, TEXAS, QUE RESIDEN EN EL DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND:

La Junta de Comisionados de Servicios de Emergencia del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND ha emitido una Orden que convoca a una elección para celebrarse el 4 de mayo de 2024, de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., en la que todos los votantes elegibles que residen dentro de los límites del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMER-GENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND tendrán derecho a votar por lo siguiente:

IMPUESTO LOCAL A LAS VENTAS Y AL USO -- Código de Salud y Seguridad de Texas § 775.0751

Proposición A:

subchapter.

A FAVOR	La adopción de un impuesto local a las ventas y al uso en el
	Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia del Distrito Nro. 2 del Condado de Fort
EN CONTRA	Bend a una tasa que no supere el dos por ciento (2%) en cualquier lugar en el distrito.
	distrito.

UBICACIONES DE LOS LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN: Los votantes calificados que residen en el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 2 del Condado de Fort Bend pueden votar en los lugares de votación correspondientes designados para la elección. Los precintos electorales consolidados del condado y los respectivos lugares de votación del Día de Elección se describen en el Adjunto 1, más adelante.

VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA: La votación anticipada la llevará a cabo **Keri Reitenour**, Oficial de Votación Anticipada, del 22 de abril de 2024 al 30 de abril de 2024, inclusive. Los precintos electorales consolidados del condado y los respectivos lugares de votación de Votación Anticipada se describen en el Adjunto 2, más adelante.

La dirección postal oficial del Oficial de Votación Anticipada a la cual se pueden enviar las solicitudes para boletas de votación y las boletas de votación por correo es Early Voting Clerk, Fort Bend County Emergency Services District No. 2, 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, Texas 77494. El número de teléfono de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es (281) 395-0011. La dirección de correo electrónico de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es keri.reitenour@willowforkfire.com. El sitio web en internet de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, TX 77494. Las solicitudes de boletas de votación deben ser recibidas por la Oficial de Votación Anticipada a más tardar el 23 de abril de 2024 a las 5:00 p.m.

DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 2 DEL CONDADO DE FORT BEND Por: /firma/ Robert Miller, Presidente ATESTIGUA: Por: /firma/ Wes Noonan, Secretario

> ADJUNTO 1 (Día de Elección)

Precintos del Condado de Fort Bend

1004, 1014, 1038, 1122, 1130, 1133, 1142, 1143, 1144, 1145, 1146, 1148, 1156, 1159 <u>Bugur de Votueron</u>

Estación de Bomberos Nro. 2 26950 Cinco Ranch Blvd. Katy, Texas 77494

ADJUNTO 2 (Votación anticipada)

Estación de Bomberos Nro. 3 2700 Spring Green Blvd., Katy, TX 77494

Días/Horarios: Lunes a viernes, de 9:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m.

Lugar de Votación

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO: THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF WALLER COUNTY AND HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, WHO RESIDE IN WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 200:

The Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 200 has issued an Order calling for an election to be held on May 4, 2024 from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M., at which election all eligible voters residing within the boundaries of WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 200 will be entitled to vote on the following:

LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX -- Texas Health and Safety Code § 775.0751

Proposition A:

FOR The adoption of an increased local sales and use tax in Waller-Harris Emergency Services District No. 200 at a rate not to exceed two percent AGAINST (2%) in any location in the district.

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES: Qualified voters residing in Waller-Harris Emergency Services District No. 200 may vote in the appropriate polling place locations designated by the Waller County Election's Office pursuant to the Waller County Notice of Election published by Waller County and as more specifically identified at www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

EARLY VOTING: Early voting shall be conducted by **CHRISTY A. EASON**, the Waller County Early Voting Clerk, from April 22, 2024 through April 30, 2024 and at the hours and locations designated by Waller County Election's Office pursuant to the Waller County Notice of Election published by Waller County and as more specifically identified at www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

The Waller County Early Voting Clerk's official mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent is **Waller County Early Voting Clerk**, **816 Wilkins Street**, **Hempstead**, **Texas 77445**. The phone number for the Early Voting Clerk is (979) 826-7643. The email address for the Early Voting Clerk is vote@wallercounty.us. The internet website for the Early Voting Clerk is www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current. The location of the main early voting place is Waller County R&B Annex, 775 Business 290, Hempstead, Texas 77445. The ballot applications must be received by the Waller County Early Voting Clerk no later than April 23, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

WALLER-HARRIS EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 200 By: /s/ Brenda Bundick, President ATTEST: By: /s/ Melinda Hashaw, Secretary

AVISO DE ELECCIÓN

THÔNG BÁO BẦU CỬ

GỬI: CÁC CỬ TRI HỘI ĐỦ ĐIỀU KIỆN CỦA QUẬN WALLER VÀ QUẬN HARRIS, TEXAS, HIỆN ĐANG CƯ TRÚ TRONG CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHẨN CẤP SỐ 200 CÁC QUẬN WALLER-HARRIS:

Ủy Ban Điều Hành Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp của CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHÂN CẤP SỐ 200 CÁC QUẬN WALLER-HARRIS đã ban hành Lệnh yêu cầu tổ chức một cuộc bầu cử vào ngày 4 tháng Năm, 2024 từ 7 giờ sáng đến 7 giờ tối, tại cuộc bầu cử đó tất cả các cử tri hội đủ điều kiện hiện cư ngụ trong phạm vi ranh giới của CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHÂN CẤP SỐ 200 CÁC QUẬN WALLER-HARRIS sẽ được quyền bỏ phiếu về các vấn đề sau đây:

THUẾ SỬ DỤNG VÀ DOANH THU BÁN HÀNG ĐỊA PHƯƠNG-- Bộ Luật Sức Khỏe và An Toàn Texas § 775.0751

Kế Hoạch Đề Nghị A:

THUẬN

CHÔNG

Phê chuẩn việc tăng mức thuế sử dụng và doanh thu bán hàng địa phương tại Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 200 Các Quận Waller - Harris ở mức không vượt quá hai phần trăm (2%) tại bất kỳ địa điểm nào trong cơ quan.

ĐỊA ĐIỂM CÁC PHÒNG PHIÉU: Các cử tri hội đủ điều kiện cư ngụ trong Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 200 Các Quận Waller - Harris có thể bỏ phiếu tại các địa điểm phòng phiếu thích hợp do Văn Phòng Phụ Trách Bầu Cử Quận Waller ấn định chiếu theo Thông Báo Bầu Cử do Quận Waller niêm yết và cụ thể hơn trên trang mạng www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

BỔ **PHI**ỀU **S**Ứ**M**: Thủ tục bỏ phiếu sớm sẽ được tiến hành bởi bà **CHRISTY A. EASON**, Thư ký phụ trách bỏ phiếu sớm quận Waller, từ ngày 22 tháng Tư, 2024 đến hết ngày 30 tháng Tư, 2024 và vào các ngày giờ và địa điểm do Văn Phòng Phụ Trách Bầu Cử Quận Waller ấn định chiếu theo Thông Báo Bầu Cử do Quận Waller niêm yết và cụ thể hơn trên trang mạng www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

Địa chỉ bưu tín chính thức của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm quận Waller nơi nhận đơn xin lá phiếu và các lá phiếu bầu qua thư là **Waller County Early Voting Clerk, 816 Wilkins Street, Hempstead, Texas 77445.** Số điện thoại của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm là (979) 826-7643. Địa chỉ email của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm là <u>vote@wallercounty.us</u>. Trang mạng của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm là <u>www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current</u>. Địa điểm bỏ phiếu sớm là Waller County R&B Annex, 775 Business 290, Hempstead, Texas 77445. Các đơn xin lá phiếu phải tới tay Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm quận Waller trễ nhất là 5 giờ chiều ngày 23 tháng Tư, 2024.

CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHẨN CẤP SỐ 200 QUẬN WALLER-HARRIS

PARA: LOS VOTANTES HABILITADOS DEL CONDADO DE WALLER Y DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS, TEXAS, QUE RESIDEN EN EL DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 200 DE WALLER-HARRIS:

La Junta de Comisionados de Servicios de Emergencia del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 200 DE WALLER-HARRIS ha emitido una Orden que convoca a una elección a realizarse el 4 de mayo de 2024 desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m., en la que todos los votantes elegibles que residen dentro de los límites del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 200 DE WALLER-HARRIS tendrán derecho a votar por lo siguiente:

IMPUESTO LOCAL A LAS VENTAS Y AL USO -- Código de Salud y Seguridad de Texas § 775.0751

Proposición A:

A FAVOR La adopción de un aumento al impuesto local a las ventas y al uso en el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 200 del Condado de Waller-Harris EN CONTRA a una tasa que no exceda de dos por ciento (2%) en cualquier lugar en el distrito.

UBICACIONES DE LOS LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN: Los votantes habilitados que residen en el Distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 200 de Waller-Harris pueden votar en los lugares de votación correspondientes, designados por la Oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Waller en virtud del Aviso de elección del Condado de Waller publicado por el Condado de Waller y como se identifican más específicamente en www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA: La votación anticipada estará a cargo de **CHRISTY A. EASON,** Oficial de Votación Anticipada del Condado de Waller, del 22 de abril de 2024 hasta el 30 de abril de 2024, en los horarios designados por la Oficina de Elecciones del Condado de Waller en virtud al Aviso de Elección del Condado de Waller publicado por el Condado de Waller y como se identifica más específicamente en www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current.

La dirección postal oficial de la oficial de votación anticipada del Condado de Waller a la cual se pueden enviar las solicitudes de boleta de votación y las boletas votadas por correo es **Waller County Early Voting Clerk, 816 Wilkins Street, Hempstead, Texas 77445.** El número de teléfono de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es (979) 826-7643. La dirección de correo electrónico de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es vote@wallercounty.us. El sitio web en internet de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current. La ubicación del lugar principal de votación anticipada es Waller County R&B Annex, 775 Business 290, Hempstead, Texas 77445. Las solicitudes de boletas de votación deben ser recibidas por la Oficial de Votación Anticipada del Condado de Waller a más tardar el 23 de abril de 2024 a las 5:00 p.m.

DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 200 DE WALLER-HARRIS Por: /firma/ Brenda Bundick, Presidenta ATESTIGUA: Por: /firma/ Melinda Hashaw, Secretaria CHÚNG THỰC: Bởi: /chữ ký/ Melinda Hashaw, Thư Ký

選舉通知

致:居住於WALLER-HARRIS緊急服務區第200區的TEXAS州WALLER縣和HARRIS縣之合資格 選民:

WALLER-HARRIS緊急服務區第200區之緊急服務委員會已發佈命令,要求於2024年5月4日 上午7:00至晚上7:00間舉行選舉,屆時,居住於WALLER-HARRIS緊急服務區第200區範圍 內的所有合資格選民均有權就以下事項作出投票表決:

地方銷售與使用稅 -- Texas州健康與安全法第775.0751條

提案A:

贊成	在Waller-Harris緊急服務區第200區
	中採納一項增加的地方銷售與使用
反對	税,税率在本區的任何地點均不超過
	百分之二(2%)。

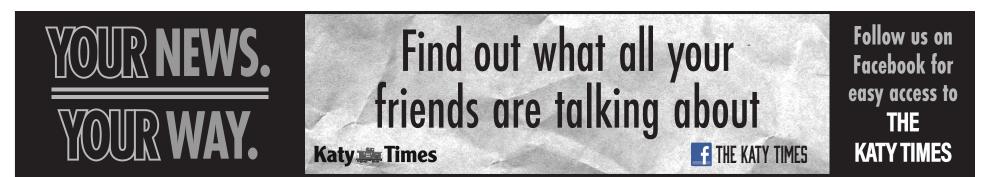
投票所地點:居住於Waller-Harris緊急服務區第200區內的合資格選民,可在Waller縣 選舉辦公室依照Waller縣發布的Waller縣選舉通知指定的相應投票所地點進行投票,詳 見www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current。

Harris**縣提前投票:**提前投票應由Waller縣提前投票書記官CHRISTY A. EASON於2024年4月22日至2024年4月30日,在Waller縣選舉辦公室依照Waller縣發布的Waller縣選舉通知 指定的時間和地點執行,詳見<u>www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current</u>。

選票申請與郵遞投票選票可寄至Waller縣提前投票書記官,其正式郵寄地址為: Waller County Early Voting Clerk, 816 Wilkins Street, Hempstead, Texas 77445。提前投 票書記官電話號碼是(979)826-7643。提前投票書記官電子郵件地址是 vote@wallercounty.us。提前投票書記官網站是 www.co.waller.tx.us/page/Elections.current。用於提前投票的主要投票所位於

Waller County R&B Annex, 775 Business 290, Hempstead, Texas 77445。選票申請必 須於2024年4月23日下午5:00前送達Waller縣提前投票書記官。

WALLER-HARRIS緊急服務區第200區 簽署人:/簽名/Brenda Bundick,主席 見證:/簽名/Melinda Hashaw,秘書長





NOTICE OF ELECTION

TO: THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, WHO RESIDE IN HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48:

The Board of Emergency Services Commissioners of HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48 has issued an Order calling for an election to be held on May 4, 2024, from 7:00 A.M., to 7:00 P.M., at which election all eligible voters residing within the boundaries of HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48 will be entitled to vote on the following:

BOARD OF EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMISSIONERS Texas Health and Safety Code § 775.0345

You, the voter, may cast no vote or may cast one vote for each of one, two or three candidates among those candidates whose name(s) are pre-printed on the ballot and/or written in by you, the voter, from the official list of certified write-in candidates.

LOCATIONS OF POLLING PLACES: Qualified voters residing in the Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48 may vote in the appropriate polling place locations designated for the election. The consolidated county election precincts and the respective Election Day polling places are described in Attachment 1, below.

EARLY VOTING: Early voting shall be conducted by **Jackie Harvey**, the Early Voting Clerk, from April 22, 2024, through April 30, 2024. The consolidated county election precincts and the respective Early Voting polling places are described in Attachment 2, below.

The Early Voting Clerk's official mailing address to which ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent is Early Voting Clerk, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. The phone number for the Early Voting Clerk is (281) 599-8888. The email address for the Early Voting Clerk is jackie.harvey@hcesd48.org. The internet website for the Early Voting Clerk is www.hcesd48.org. The location of the main early voting place is 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. The ballot applications must be received by the Early Voting Clerk no later than April 23, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

HARRIS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT NO. 48 By: /s/ Sam Henderson, President ATTEST: By:/s/ Scott Strait, Secretary

> ATTACHMENT 1 (Election Day)

Harris County Precincts

<u>ESD 48-A</u> 603, 618, 720, 785, 796, 813, 991, 1078, 1102, 1103

ESD 48-B 362, 509, 522, 547, 619, 644, 751, 772, 899, 1029, 1054, 1111, 1112 Polling Place

Administration Building 21201 Morton Rd. Katy, Texas 77449

Fire Station No. 3 1773 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

ATTACHMENT 2 (Early Voting)

Harris County ESD No. 48 Administration Building, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449

> Days/Hours: Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

AVISO DE ELECCIÓN

THÔNG BÁO BÀU CỬ

GỬI: CÁC CỬ TRI HỘI ĐỦ ĐIỀU KIỆN CỦA QUẬN HARRIS, TEXAS, HIỆN ĐANG CƯ TRÚ TRONG CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHẨN CẤP SỐ 48 QUẬN HARRIS:

Ủy Ban Điều Hành Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp của CO QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHÂN CẤP SỐ 48 QUẬN HARRIS đã ban hành Lệnh yêu cầu tổ chức một cuộc bầu cử vào ngày 4 tháng Năm, 2024 từ 7 giờ sáng đến 7 giờ tối, tại cuộc bầu cử đó tất cả các cử tri hội đủ điều kiện hiện cư ngụ trong phạm vi ranh giới của CO QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHÂN CẤP SỐ 48 QUẬN HARRIS sẽ được quyền bỏ phiếu về các vấn đề sau đây:

ỦY BAN ĐIỀU HÀNH DỊCH VỤ KHẨN CẤP Bộ Luật Sức Khỏe và An Toàn Texas § 775.0345

Quý vị cử tri có thể bỏ phiếu trống hoặc bỏ phiếu chọn mỗi một, hai, hoặc ba ứng cử viên trong số các ứng cử viên có tên ghi sẵn trên lá phiếu và/hoặc do quý vị cử tri viết thêm từ danh sách chính thức các cử tri ghi thêm đã được chứng nhận.

ĐỊA ĐIỂM CÁC PHÒNG PHIẾU: Các cử tri hội đủ điều kiện cư ngụ trong Cơ Quan Dịch Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 48 Quận Harris có thể bỏ phiếu tại các địa điểm phòng phiếu thích hợp được chỉ định cho cuộc bầu cử. Các phân khu bỏ phiếu kết hợp của quận và các địa điểm bỏ phiếu tương ứng cho Ngày Bầu Cử được trình bày trong Tài Liệu Đính Kèm 1, dưới đây.

BỔ **PHIỀU SỚM:** Thủ Tục Bỏ Phiếu Sớm sẽ được cô **Jackie Harvey**, Thư Ký phụ trách Bỏ Phiếu Sớm, tiến hành từ ngày 22 tháng Tư, 2024 đến hết ngày 30 tháng Tư, 2024. Các phân khu bỏ phiếu kết hợp của quận và các địa điểm bỏ phiếu tương ứng cho Thủ Tục Bỏ Phiếu Sớm được trình bày trong Tài Liệu Đính Kèm 2, dưới đây.

Địa chỉ nhận thư của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sóm để gửi đơn xin lá phiếu và nộp lại lá phiếu bầu qua thư là: Early Voting Clerk, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. Số điện thoại của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sóm là (281) 599-8888. Địa chỉ email của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sóm là jackie.harvey@hcesd48.org. Trang mạng của Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sóm là www.hcesd48.org. Địa Điểm Bỏ Phiếu Sóm Chính là 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. Các đơn xin lá phiếu phải tới tay Thư Ký Phụ Trách Bỏ Phiếu Sóm trễ nhất là 5 giờ chiều ngày 23 tháng Tư, 2024.

CƠ QUAN DỊCH VỤ KHẨN CẤP SỐ 48 QUẬN HARRIS Bởi: /s/ Sam Henderson, Chủ Tịch CHỨNG THỰC: Bởi:/s/ Scott Strait, Thư Ký

> TÀI LIỆU ĐÍNH KÈM 1 (Ngày Bầu Cử)

<u>Các Phân Khu của Quận Harris</u>

<u>ESD 48-A</u> 603, 618, 720, 785, 796, 813, 991, 1078, 1102, 1103

ESD 48-B 362, 509, 522, 547, 619, 644, 751, 772, 899, 1029, 1054, 1111, 1112 Địa Điểm Phòng Phiếu

Tòa nhà hành chính 21201 Morton Rd. Katy, Texas 77449

Sở Cứu Hỏa Số 3 1773 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

TÀI LIỆU ĐÍNH KÈM 2 (Bỏ Phiếu Sớm)

Tòa nhà hành chính Vụ Khẩn Cấp Số 48 Quận Harris 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449

Ngày/Giờ: Thứ Hai - thứ Sáu : 9:00 sáng - 6:00 chiều

PARA: LOS VOTANTES CALIFICADOS DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS, TEXAS, QUE RESIDEN EN EL DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 48 DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS:

La Junta de Comisionados de Servicios de Emergencia del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 48 DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS ha emitido una Orden que convoca a una elección para celebrarse el 4 de mayo de 2024, de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m., en la que todos los votantes elegibles que residen dentro de los límites del DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 48 DEL CONDADO DE HARRIS tendrán derecho a votar por lo siguiente:

JUNTA DE COMISIONADOS DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIAS § 775.0345 del Código de Salud y Seguridad de Texas

Usted, el votante, puede no emitir ningún voto o puede emitir un voto por cada uno de uno, dos o tres candidatos entre aquellos candidatos cuyo(s) nombre(s) estén preimpresos en la boleta de votación y/o escritos por usted, el votante, de la lista oficial de candidatos certificados por escrito.

UBICACIONES DE LOS LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN: Los votantes calificados que residen en el distrito de Servicios de Emergencia Nro. 48 del Condado de Harris pueden votar en los lugares de votación correspondientes designados para la elección. Los precintos electorales consolidados del condado y los respectivos lugares de votación del Día de Elección se describen en el Adjunto 1, más adelante.

VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA: La votación anticipada la llevará a cabo Jackie Harvey, Oficial de Votación Anticipada, del 22 de abril de 2024 al 30 de abril de 2024, inclusive. Los precintos electorales consolidados del condado y los respectivos lugares de votación de Votación Anticipada se describen en el Adjunto 2, más adelante.

La dirección postal oficial de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada a la cual se pueden enviar las solicitudes para boletas de votación y las boletas de votación por correo es Early Voting Clerk, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. El número de teléfono de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es (281) 599-8888. La dirección de correo electrónico de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es jackie.harvey@hcesd48.org. El sitio web en internet de la Oficial de Votación Anticipada es www.hcesd48.org. La ubicación del lugar principal de votación anticipada es 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449. Las solicitudes de boletas de votación deben ser recibidas por la Oficial de Votación Anticipada a más tardar el 23 de abril de 2024 a las 5:00 p.m.

DISTRITO DE SERVICIOS DE EMERGENCIA NRO. 200 DE WALLER-HARRIS Por: /firma/ Brenda Bundick, Presidenta ATESTIGUA: Por: /firma/ Melinda Hashaw, Secretaria

> ADJUNTO 1 (Día de Elección)

Precintos del Condado de Harris

<u>ESD 48-A</u> 603, 618, 720, 785, 796, 813, 991, 1078, 1102, 1103

<u>ESD 48-B</u> 362, 509, 522, 547, 619, 644, 751, 772, 899, 1029, 1054, 1111, 1112

Lugar de Votación

Edificio de Administración 21201 Morton Rd. Katy, Texas 77449

Estación de Bomberos Nro. 3 1773 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

ADJUNTO 2 (Votación anticipada)

Edificio de Administración del ESD Nro. 48 del Condado de Harris, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449

> Días/Horarios: Lunes a viernes, de 9:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m.

選舉通知

致: 居住於 HARRIS 縣緊急服務區第 48 區的 TEXAS 州 HARRIS 縣合資格選民:

HARRIS 縣緊急服務區第48 區之緊急服務委員會已發佈命令,要求於2024年5月4日上午7:00至晚上7:00間舉行選舉,屆時,居住於 HARRIS 縣緊急服務區第48 區範圍內的所有合資格選民均有權就以下事項作出投票表決:

緊急服務委員會 Texas 州健康與安全法第 775.0345 節

選民可以投反對票,或針對候選人中的一位、兩位或三位分別投以一票,上述候選人可 以是姓名預先印於選票上的人士,和/或是選民根據自填候選人認證名單所填寫的人士。

投票所地點:居住於 Harris 縣緊急服務區第 48 區的合資格選民可在本次選舉指定的相應投票所地點進行投票。縣合併選舉投票區與各選舉日投票所均載於下文的附錄 1 中。

提前投票:提前投票將由提前投票書記官 Jackie Harvey 於 2024 年 4 月 22 日至 2024 年 4 月 30 日執行。縣合併選舉投票區與用於提前投票的各投票所均載於下文的附錄 2 中。

選票申請與郵遞投票選票可寄至提前投票書記官的正式郵寄地址,即: Early Voting Clerk, Harris County Emergency Services District No. 48, 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449 。 提 前 投 票 書 記 官 電 話 號 碼 是 (281) 599-8888。提前投票書記官電子郵件地址是 jackie.harvey@hcesd48.org。提前 投票書記官網站是 www.hcesd48.org。 用於提前投票的主要投票所位於 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449。選票申請必須於 2024 年 4 月 23 日下午 5:00 前送達提前投 票書記官。

HARRIS 縣緊急服務區第48區 簽署人:/簽名/Sam Henderson,主席 見證:/簽名/Scott Strait,秘書長

> 附錄1 (選舉日)

<u>Harris 縣投票區</u>

<u>ESD 48-A</u> 603, 618, 720, 785, 796, 813, 991, 1078, 1102, 1103

ESD 48-B

362, 509, 522, 547, 619, 644, 751, 772, 899, 1029, 1054, 1111, 1112

<u>投票所</u>

Administration Building 21201 Morton Rd. Katy, Texas 77449

Fire Station No. 3 1773 Westgreen Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

附錄 2 (提前投票)

Harris County ESD No. 48 Administration Building 21201 Morton Rd., Katy, Texas 77449

> 日期/時間: 週一至週五:上午 9:00 至下午 6:00

Bates named finalist for Guy V. Lewis Award

STAFF REPORT

For the second straight year, A.J. Bates has been named a finalist for one of the biggest awards in the Houston area.

Bates was named one of 25 finalists for the Guy V. Lewis award last week after guiding Seven Lakes to a historic season.

The Guy V. Lewis Award is given annually to the best boys basketball player in the Houston area, with the winner being named the Great Houston Area Boys Basketball Player of the Year.

Lewis served as the head

coach of the University of Houston for 30 years, from 1956 to 1986, leading the Cougars to five final four appearances and twice winning the AP College Coach of the Year Award.

Bates was named a finalist after helping Seven Lakes 36-3 record, including an undefeated 16-0 record in district play. The Spartans then went on to reach the Region III-6A Semifinals, the second straight year they have reached the regional tournament.

It's Bates' second consecutive season being named a finalist for the award as he has consistently been one of the top players in the Houston area. Past winners of the

award were PJ Haggerty (Crosby), Rasheed Sulaimon (Duke), Aaron Harrison (Travis), Justice Winslow (St. John's), Galen Robinson (Westbury Christian), De'Aaron Fox (Cy-Lakes), Nigel Hawkins (Cy-Falls), Quentin Grimes (College Park), KJ McDaniel (Klein Forest) Tramon Mark (Dickinson) and Ramon Walker (Shadow Creek) and Jaland Lowe (Fort Bend Marshall).



Right: AJ Bates tries to get past Elijah Black during a game between Seven lakes and Jordan at the Jordan gym. Below: AJ Bates goes in between two defenders during a Class 6A Regional Quarterfinal between Seven Lakes and Stratford at the Merrell Center.

PHOTOS BY DOMENIC GREY SPECIAL TO THE KATY TIMES

2024 GUY V. LEWIS AWARD FINALISTS

	Player Chris Adlam Logan Alexander Anthony "AJ" Bates Jr Justin Begg Aiden Buckmon Trent Burns Odis Carter John Clark Michael Collins Braden East Stoney Hadnot Shelton Henderson Nathan Law	School Houston Christian C.E. King Seven Lakes Episcopal College Park Good Vision Academy Washington Klein Cain Shadow Creek Stafford Cypress Springs Bellaire St. Thomas Episcopal	Senior Junior Junior Senior Senior Junior Senior
A DA	Justin Mack Chris McDermott Robert Miller III Cameron Patterson Zion Pipkin Jakeel Registe Jason Scott Divine Ugochukwu Nigel Walls Bryson Wheatfall Montana Wheeler Sebastian Williams Adams	Travis Washington Pasadena Memorial Summer Creek Legacy SSS Episcopal Westbury Christian Clements St. Francis Episcopal Summer Creek Houston Christian St. John's	Senior Senior Senior Senior Senior Junior Junior Junior Junior



University of Houston's Sampson named National Coach of the Year

STAFF REPORT

University of Houston Men's Basketball Head Coach Kelvin Sampson was named the 2023-24 recipient of the Henry Iba Award, presented to the National Coach of the Year by the United States Basketball Writers Association, on Monday.

Sampson received the award for

winner in the 66-year history of the award joining John Wooden (UCLA, 1973, 1972, 1971, 1970, 1967, 1964); Tony Bennett (Virginia, 2018, 2015; Washington State, 2007); Fred Taylor (Ohio State, 1962, 1961); Bob Knight (Indiana, 1989, 1975); Ray Meyer (DePaul, 1980, 1978); Lou Carnesecca (St. John's, 1985, 1983). Gene Keady (Purdue, 1996, 1984); John Chaney

for me because of the impact of Coach Iba in the state of Oklahoma. Playing Oklahoma State in the gym with his name on it, I know the impact he had on the history of basketball in this country," Sampson said. "This is a great honor, and I accept it on behalf of our staff, our players, who poured their hearts and souls into this season, and our entire program.'



the second time during his career after first earning it after the 1994-95 season in his first year at Oklahoma.

He became the 10th repeat

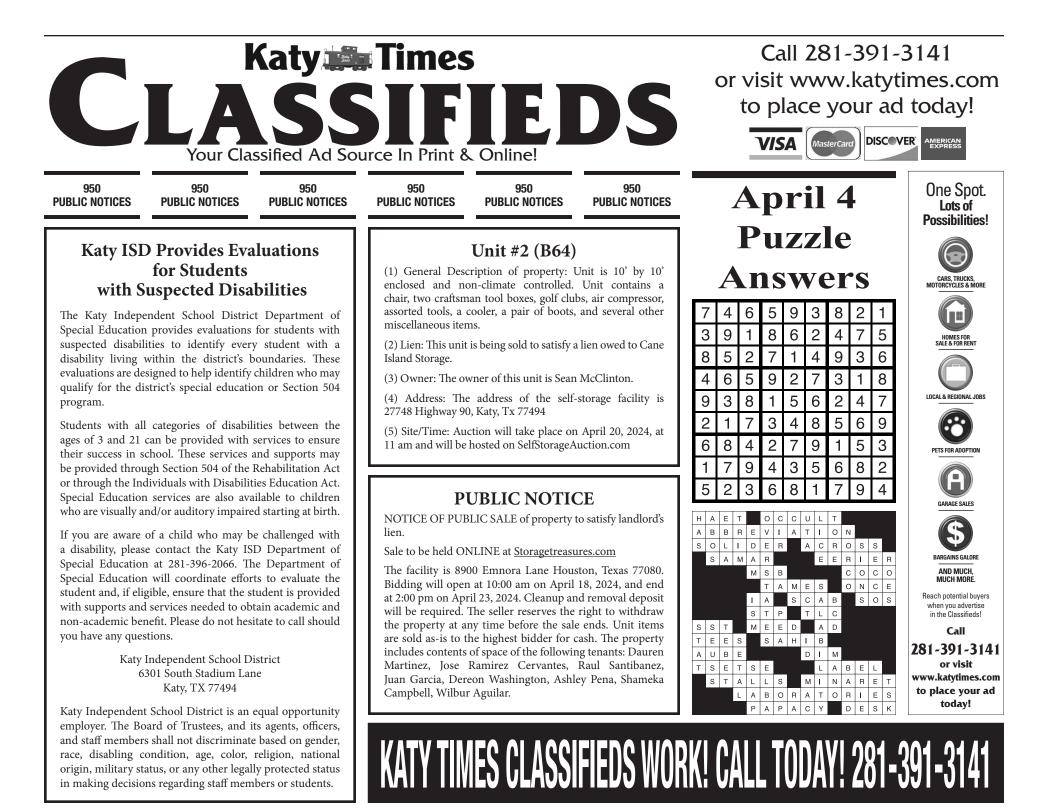
(Temple, 1988, 1987) and Roy Williams (North Carolina, 2006; Kansas, 1990).

"This award has special meaning

Sampson also became the second Houston coach to collect the honor after Hall of Fame Coach Guy V. Lewis following the 1967-68 season.



Houston head coach Kelvin Sampson during an NCAA college basketball game between Houston and Wichita State on Mar. 2, 2023, in Houston.



SPARTANS from page B1

The Spartans kept pushing and had chances at a second in the first half but weren't able to connect. Cinco slowly built itself into the game and got two chances late in the half on free kicks, but both were handled by Seven Lakes as the Spartans went into the half leading 1-0.

"We just learn from our games," Sammy Harpole, a senior midfielder said. "That was the key for this one — we knew what Cinco wanted to do and we learned from our loss to them. Then we came back out and played at our best."

With the wind at the Spartans' backs in the second half they dominated. They added a second in the 55th minute when Sammy Harpole was able to get on the end of a low cross and get a shot past the keeper before Koc added a third, dribbling past three defenders before finding the back of the net. Gael Gonzalez put the cherry on top with two minutes left in the game, scoring on a chipped pass from Eduardo Davalillo to make it 4-0.

A number of players have upped their games at the right time for Seven Lakes, Rivera has popped up in big moments with goals while Harpole has excelled in his midfield role as the playoffs have gone.

"We're playing our best with him out on the field and we were talking as a staff in the second half saying, 'we can't take Sammy out," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "He's been so big for us and for him to come online like this at this point in the season is huge. He's coming into his own and having a huge impact on this team."

The Spartans are the first team to win Region III three years in a row since Klein in 1991. There is still unfinished business for the Spartans though — they want to be the first boys team in the UIL to ever win back-to-back state titles, and they know they have to be ready for another test.

"These guys have been there and have experience and it's big that they know what to do," Krueger said. "We're going to take these next few days to recover and get our legs fresh and then it's time for a gauntlet. We have to be at our best if we want to advance."

Seven Lakes dominates Humble in regional semis

Seven Lakes always seems to raise its level come playoff time. The Spartans have been dominant this year, but there have been times they have been But every year when it gets to the regional tournament, Seven Lakes comes ready and ups its game. That is exactly what they did on Friday, beating Humble 4-1 and advancing to the regional final.

"It's just the experience we have here," said Seven Lakes head coach Jimmy Krueger. "I joked with the guys when we got here and said 'is this your first time here?' And most of them said no, they've played a number of games at this stadium in this atmosphere over the past three years. These guys understand the trip here, the stadium, the environment and what's at stake. These guys want to show up on the big stage and they did that today."

Seven Lakes came out and dominated from the start of the game and it only took four minutes for them to find their first goal when Noa Stasic got on the end of a low cross and put it across goal and past the keeper. Humble battled to get back in the game, but Seven Lakes doubled its lead in the 23rd minute on another Noa Stasic goal, as Stasic hustled and blocked a clearance from the Humble goalkeeper, redirecting it into the back of the net for a second goal.

"I've been working for that kind of goal the whole season," Stasic said. "To be here and get that type of goal and have a brace today is special. It was a cool moment."

Seven Lakes then added goals on either side of the half. Kortay Koc scored in the 38th minute when he got past a defender on the right side and lasered a shot into the opposite far post and 30 seconds into the second half, Sean Carlos Rivera scored when he split the center backs and placed a shot past the keeper. Lyon Hernandez pulled one back for Humble in the second half but that was all that Humble could manage as Seven Lakes was able to hold them off and seal the win.

"We have the talent to match any team and when we we match work rate like we did today it's very hard to stop us," Krueger said. "We're at 105 goals for the season now, we have the talent to go out and compete against any of these teams, we just have to match that work rate to our talent."

The win clinched a third straight appearance in the regional final for the Spartans.

"We want this badly," Stasic said. "This is what we have worked all year for and its no secret that we want to go back to back. We just can't wait for tomorrow no matter who we play."

SOCCER

from page B1

Lakes head coach Kaitlyn Eidson. "We just reminded them that they can do this and they are good enough and mentally strong enough to do it. I'm just so proud of their effort."

Jordan came out on the front foot and got an advantage in the 14th minute, when Madison Lambert fired in a shot from 39-yards out and it got past the Seven Lakes goalkeeper. Seven Lakes found its way back into the game though and found an equalizer in the 19th minute on a Wagoner Towsen free kick that hit the top bar and went in.

Both teams battled and created chances in the second half, with Seven Lakes maintaining possession better but Jordan countered and had made offense when it could. The Spartans weren't able to find a go ahead goal in regulation, but they kept pushing in extra time and found the game winner in the 86th minute, when Maria Lopez chased down a ball in the box by getting past a defender before slipping the ball into the net to put Seven Lakes ahead.

"That's pure Maria," Eidson said. "When we ran the fitness test we actually had to stop her because she just kept making it and setting a higher school record. It's a credit to her, she never stops going and that's what turned out to be the difference today."

The Spartans killed off the game the rest of the way, not allowing Jordan any chances while possessing the ball and keeping it away from the Warriors.

"We practice every week for that," Towsen said. "It was a lot of game management, kick it to the corners, don't make mistakes, keep them away from the ball but we know how to do that. This team has so much heart and that's what pushed us through."

It's the first state tournament appearance for Seven Lakes since 2012, when the Spartans made it to the state final before losing to Plano West. This group of Spartans may not have experience in Georgetown, but they are confident and cannot wait to get there.

"I'm so psyched," Towsen said. "This team is ready and we're all so excited. It's our first time at state but we are going to be ready. It means the world to all of us."

Seven Lakes downs Pearland to advance to regional final

Seven Lakes saved one of its best performances of the season for the biggest moment.

The Spartans knew it would take a special game to get them into the regional final and they delievered that on Friday, beating



Wagoner Towsen sends in a cross during Saturday's Region III-6A Final between Seven Lakes and Jordan in Deer Park.



Madison Holland takes a shot during Saturday's Region III-6A Final between Seven Lakes and Jordan in Deer Park.

Pearland 3-0 in the Region III-6A semifinals, advancing to the regional final on Saturday.

"It's a credit to the growth we have had this year," said Seven Lakes head coach Kaitlyn Eidson. "They have that mindset and they apply it to everything they do. It's all the players, they've been unbelievable and are the reason we are here."

Seven Lakes came out and pressed for the opening goal from the start of the game. The Spartans pushed and were rewarded in the `13th minute when they put a low cross into the box that was tucked into the net by Maria Castro. Seven Lakes added another in the 21st minute, when Castro played a give and go and made space in the box before passing it to Anu Aalona, who created space for her self with a beautiful fake shot before firing a shot from 16-yards into the bottom corner of the net to double the lead.

"I was just happy to play and support my team," Castro said. "To come in and score and assist just made it even better. I always try and go out there and do anything I can and to have played a part in this and help us reach the regional final means everything."

Seven Lakes continued to dominate in the second half and quickly put any thoughts of a comeback to bed when Kennedy Reed headed in a corner kick in the 49th minute for another goal.

"We just reminded them at halftime that this can change in an instant and it's all about how you come out in that second half," Eidson said. "Playoffs are not like district and you have to have that right intensity. They came out with that in the second half and got that third goal. They played for each other and it's what go us over the line."

The Spartans' defense held Pearland without any huge chances all game and had a tremendous day.

"Success isn't a straight line, but these girls are playing their best soccer right now," Eidson said. "They're so coachable and we can make adjustments and do whatever we need and they execute it. They apply everything on field and that's what we have to do if we want to keep moving forward."

pushed to their limits.

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STATE from page B1

only allowing four goals through their five games to make it all the way to the semifinals. It will be a tough task for the Spartans, but they are ready for a battle to try and keep making history.

"Every practice and every day we work harder and harder and that's what is going to keep us going," said senior captain Wagoner Towsen. "We've been prepared for anything and this team has so much heart. This means so much to everyone and we just have to keep pushing like we have been."

For the Seven Lakes boys, they continued to make history. The Spartans clinched their third straight regional trophy and state appearance in a dominant 4-0 win over Cinco Ranch. In doing so they became the first team in 33 years to win three straight regional trophies out of the region, going back all the way to Klein in 1991.

Seven Lakes has been on a tear all season and especially since suffering their only loss in the team's regular season finale to Cinco Ranch. Since the playoffs started, the Spartans have allowed just two goals and have scored 19, upping their season total to 109 goals in 26 games, while they have only given up 15 goals all season.

"It's a difficult thing to do this three times in a row — it hasn't been done in 33 years and to be able to share that kind of accolade with them is a wild thing," said Katy boys head coach Jimmy Krueger. "It just shows what we've been able to do with this program and I'm just ecstatic for these guys and everything that they have put into this program to get us here."

For Seven Lakes (23-1-2), this is about more than just a game. The Spartans want to put their place in

Texas history and cement themselves as a dynasty and the first boys program to ever win two state titles in a row. But it will be no easy task to do that. The Spartans will face a challenge in the state semifinals against Duncanville (20-2-3). The Panthers have been a force in the playoffs and have only given up one goal in five games, but have only managed four goals in their last four games as well. It will be a battle of strengths as Duncanville tries to hold a dominant Seven Lakes attack at bay, but the Spartans are excited for it, knowing exactly what it takes to advance.

"Our guys have been to Georgetown and have experienced this they know what needs to be done," Krueger said. "We have a plan for this upcoming week to recover and be ready. It'll be another gauntlet but they'll be ready."



Seven Lakes head boys coach Jimmy Krueger and Seven Lakes head girls coach Kaitlyn Eidson hold their Region III-6A trophies after both the Seven Lakes boys and girls clinched a spot in the state tournament.



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