

## PARTY WITH A PURPOSE



Above: Relay for Life of Katy organizer Brenda Hunter Martin kicked off the 2023-2024 fundraising campaign with a "Party with a Purpose" held at Midway Barbeque, 6025 Highway Blvd., Friday, August 18th. The kickoff fundraiser featured Touchstone Crystal by Swarovski Jewelry and all proceeds go towards The Relay For Life and will benefit the American Cancer Society. For more information, please call Brenda Hunter Martin at 832-455-4500. Right: Vicki Wiggins shops the Touchstone Crystal catalog at Friday's "Party with a Purpose" benefitting Relay for Life of Katy.

PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO



# Wan Bridge opens Enclave at Mason Creek in Katy

### CONTRIBUTED REPORT

Wan Bridge, a Texas-based builder and operator of build-to-rent (BTR) communities, officially opened the doors to its latest development Enclave at Mason Creek at 21455 Merchants Way, Katy, with a grand opening ribbon-cutting event on Thursday, August 17.

The Enclave community is the builder's first rental development in Katy and features 192 three-to-four-bedroom townhomes designed for luxury and elegance, ranging from 1,406 to 2,066 square feet.

"We are excited to bring this latest community to market, especially for potential residents who are looking for a more modern place to live in the area," said Ting Qiao, CEO of Wan Bridge. "The launch of Enclave at Mason Creek will provide residents relaxed suburban living in Katy with easy access to the many city thrills one can find in Houston."

Wan Bridge welcomed the Katy Chamber of Commerce, local elected officials and other community partners to celebrate the launch of its newest BTR neighborhood.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At their August 17th ribbon cutting with the Katy Area Chamber of Commerce, staffers from the Enclave at Mason Creek community by Wan Bridge presented a check for \$1000.00 to local nonprofit Sunshine Through the Rain, which is dedicated to helping children that have lost one or both of their parents by providing a safe environment for them to express and share their experiences and make new memories.

During the ceremony, The Wan Bridge Foundation presented a check to Sunshine Thru the Rain to recognize the organization's contribution to the local community.

The homes of Enclave at Mason Creek were designed with residents' wants and needs in mind and feature open floor plans, designer upgrades, and flexible layouts that fit the needs of families of all different stages, providing welcoming, versatile spaces that are

stylish and functional.

The community offers all residents a hassle-free lifestyle complete with quality on-site maintenance, which includes lawncare, air filter and bulb replacement, and pest control services.

For further information on Enclave at Mason Creek, please visit [www.enclaveatmasoncreek.com](http://www.enclaveatmasoncreek.com). To learn more about Wan Bridge and its impact on the build-to-rent industry in Texas, visit [www.wanbridge.com](http://www.wanbridge.com).

## HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT TODAY!



**Pablo from Spain, 17 yrs.**  
Loves soccer and would like to learn to play baseball. Pablo is a boy scout and enjoys the outdoors.

(for 3, 5 or 10 months)

Make this year the most exciting, enriching year ever for you and your family. Welcome a high school student, 15-18 years old, from Belgium, Italy, France, Ukraine, Norway, Denmark, Spain, Germany or Thailand as part of your family for a school year (or less) and make an overseas friend for life.

For more information or to select your own exchange student please call:



**Julie from Denmark, 16 yrs.**  
Enjoys gymnastics, swimming and photography. She's positive, fun loving and easy to get along with.

Please call Jayne at 817-851-8711 or e-mail me at [jayne@world-heritage.org](mailto:jayne@world-heritage.org)

For privacy reasons, photos above are not photos of actual students



[www.whhosts.com](http://www.whhosts.com)

World Heritage is a public benefit, non-profit organization based in Laguna Beach, CA.

## Friends of Willow Fork Park to offer tips for creating a pollinator garden

### FROM STAFF REPORTS

On Saturday August 26, from 9 to 10 a.m. the Friends of Willow Fork Park will host Master Naturalist, Diane Russell, when she will present "Six Steps to Creating a Backyard Pollinator

Garden."

The Master Naturalist will cover the six key steps to planning a backyard butterfly garden. The discussion will include planning, preparing, choosing the types of pollinator plants, and planting and maintenance.

The one-hour program starts at 9 a.m. at the pavilion at Willow Fork Park, located at the northwest corner of 99/Grand Parkway and Cinco Ranch Blvd., north of Cinco Ranch High School. This is a free family-friendly activity for all ages.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.522943 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the Commissioners Court of Waller County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.522943 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.493156 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.522943 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Waller County from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Waller County may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Waller County is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 6, 2023 at 9:00AM at the Waller County Courthouse Room 201 located at 836 Austin Street in Hempstead, Texas 77445.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Waller County is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Commissioners Court of Waller County at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE TAX RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:

- Carbett Trey J. Duhon III
- John A. Amsler, Commissioner Prct. 1
- Walter E. Smith, Commissioner, Prct. 2
- Kendric D. Jones, Commissioner, Prct. 3
- Justin Beckendroff, Commissioner, Prct. 4

AGAINST the proposal:  
PRESENT and not voting:  
ABSENT:

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](http://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Waller County, Texas this year.

	2022	2023	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	\$0.548445	\$0.5229435	decrease of -0.025502 or -4.65%
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$214,049	\$243,642	increase of \$29,593 or 13.83%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$1,173.94	\$1,274.11	increase of \$100.17 or 8.53%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$48,844,794	\$56,527,467	increase of \$7,704,673 or 15.78%

### No-New-Revenue Maintenance and Operations Rate Adjustments

#### Indigent Health Care Compensation Expenditures

The Waller County spent \$179,967 from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 on indigent health care compensation expenditures at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is \$24,680. This increased the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate by \$0.000251/\$100.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Waller County at 730 9th Street in Hempstead Texas 77445, phone 979-826-7620, email: [e.shelburne-tax@wallercounty.us](mailto:e.shelburne-tax@wallercounty.us) or visit <https://www.co.waller.tx.us/page/TAC.Main> for more information.

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