

# Highland Knolls Walmart reopens after remodel

Taylor High School Band, Blessed Hands Enrichment center among donation recipients

**FROM STAFF REPORTS**

On Friday, August 25, the Walmart Neighborhood Market at 20903 Highland Knolls Dr. welcomed the Katy community to its newly refurbished store. The celebratory morning included a ribbon cutting ceremony, remodel reveal and community activities. The JET Band from nearby Taylor High School and the choir from West Memorial Junior High School provided entertainment.

Other elements during the re-opening event included check presentations totaling to \$6,000.00 to local organizations, including \$1500.00 to the JET Band at Taylor High School, \$500.00 to Blessed Hands Enrichment Activities and Educational Center, a \$2,500.00 donation to Maud Smith Marks Branch Library and \$1,500.00 to



the Epiphany of the Lord Catholic Community. Customers also enjoyed cupcakes and face painting during the celebration.

Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, customers were invited inside the store to see the transformation that includes innovations and improvements

designed to elevate the Walmart shopping experience, including:

- Added self-check-outs
- New digital signage
- Grab-and-go food and beverage section
- Upgraded restrooms and new family restroom
- Expanded pick-up area



PHOTOS BY SUSAN ROVEGNO

The Walmart Neighborhood Market at 20903 Highland Knolls Dr. reopened after an extensive renovation. Below: The JET Band from Taylor High School revved up the crowd with their performance prior to the ribbon cutting for the Walmart Neighborhood Market on August 25th. The band also received a \$1500.00 donation from the store. Left: The choir from West Memorial Junior High School also performed at the special event.



# Katy Mills announces addition of new retailers and openings

**CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Katy Mills Mall announces the addition of Onyx, Slick City, Hey Dude, Doublju, and Sephora to its dynamic lineup of retailers. Katy Mills celebrated the opening of Stacks in July.

Established in 2019, Stacks is a locally known food joint, that provides a new and innovative way to serve food. Today, Stacks has more than four locations across the state, proudly serving thousands of Texans every day. Located near Bass Pro Shops.

Coming soon:

• **Slick City:** Slick City Action Park is the world's first indoor slide (with no water) and Sports Court designed for all ages. The new fun-filled, family action park features indoor slides, air courts, birthday parties, events and more.

Opening September 2023, near Tilt Studio.

• **Onyx:** Onyx is a buy, sell, and trade location for vintage shoes, sportswear, and apparel on a nonexclusive basis including items such as "Air Jordans", "Yeezys" and other highly sought out vintage branded sneakers from Nike, Supreme, Bape, and Anti-Social Club.

Opening September 2023, near Finish Line.

• **Hey Dude:** Hey Dude shoes are lightweight, comfortable, and affordable shoes that are made for both men and women. They are known for their versatility and easy slip-on styles.

Opening October 2023, near Off Broadway Shoes.

• **Doublju:** Doublju is committed to offering distinctive fashion products to customers all around the world. Doublju introduces over 1,000 new products weekly, ensuring shoppers can acquire the latest styles at budget-friendly prices.

Opening November 2023, near Burlington.

• **Sephora:** A part of the world's leading luxury goods group, LVMH, Sephora is a French multinational retailer of personal care and beauty products. The brand has locations in 36 markets with more than 3,000 points of sale and over 30 e-commerce sites.

Opening November 2023, near The Cheesecake Factory.

The mall is located at 5000 Katy Mills Circle in Katy. For store hours and promotions, please visit the Katy Mills website at <https://www.simon.com/mall/katy-mills>.

# Chipotle opens first Chipotlane in Cinco Ranch, second in Katy

**CONTRIBUTED REPORT**

Chipotle Mexican Grill opened a new location in Katy at 23660 Westheimer Pkwy, Ste 660A on August 16th. The restaurant will feature the brand's signature Chipotlane, a drive-thru pickup lane that allows guests to pick up digital orders without leaving their cars.

The new restaurant marks the first Chipotlane in Cinco Ranch, and the



second in Katy.

The restaurant is open every day from 10:45 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Chipotle is hiring at the Cinco Ranch location as well across the U.S. Competitive benefits include:

- A crew bonus with the opportunity to earn an extra month's worth of pay each year
- A debt-free college degree program; and English as a second language
- Access to mental healthcare for employees and their families.
- Find more at [chipotle.com/careers](https://chipotle.com/careers).

## WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The FORT BEND COUNTY M.U.D. #185 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2023 on September 20, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. at 9 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1000, Houston, Texas 77046. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://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.

**FOR the proposal:** Allen Thomas, Scott Donahue, David Wells, Al Menconi and Terrell Berger

**AGAINST the proposal:** None

**PRESENT and not voting:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$.85000/\$100 Adopted	\$.81500/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		\$.03500/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)		-4.11%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 398,713	\$ 440,776
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ 39,871	\$ 66,116
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 358,842	\$ 374,660
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 3,050.15	\$ 3,053.47
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$ 3.32 .10%

**NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE**

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and election tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

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.

**Bob Leared Interests 713-932-9011**

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