

THE Katy News

Katy's ONLY Locally Owned Newspaper

Volume 27 | Number 2

www.TheKatyNews.com

January 22, 2016 | FREE

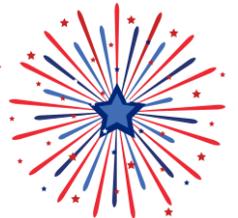
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Community Events

Send Calendar listings to:

Pat@TheKatyNews.com

JAN 22, 29

Mixed Greens on Fridays
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Katy Contemporary Arts Museum
805 Ave B.
Includes Lunch and Drinks
\$13 members
\$15 non-members.
Pre-purchase tickets at
KCAM.org/index.php/
events/healthy-fridays

JAN 22

Couples Night Multiplicity
6:30-9:00 p.m.
1306 Avenue A
Create a small craft. Light bites and drinks provided. Dinner catered by Los Cucos available for \$12 per person. For information, go to multiplicity.co.

JAN 26

Teddy Bear Clinic ER Katy
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
25765 Katy Fwy.
Visit with your teddy bear or stuffed animal and learn how medical tests and procedures are performed on their tiniest patients. To register please visit: <http://erkaty.com/teddy-bear-clinic-registration/>.

FEB 6

2016 KATY HALF MARATHON
6:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
KATY MILLS MALL
For more information go to www.athletpath.com/katy-half-marathon/2016-02-06

To See The Katy News Online, go to www.TheKatyNews.com and click on the Archive tab at the top of the page. It's FREE. No Subscription Required. Enjoy your community news from your phone or computer any time.

Katy Real Estate Icon Dies

Elizabeth (Liz) Ann Carter

(February 9, 1948 - January 13, 2016)

Katy real estate icon, Elizabeth Ann "Liz" Carter passed away on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, at the age of 67 years. She was born on February 9, 1948, in Denver, Colorado, to Carl Hamilton Rawls and Marie Walker Rawls. In August of 1990, she married Bill Gronvold in Fulshear, Texas.

Carter, known for her scuba diving "Sold" sign ad, had been a force in West Houston real estate since 1976, first as an independent agent, and then as co-owner of Century 21 Western Realty. In 2004 she founded Liz Carter & Team Realty which is a family operation of 3 generations working together.

The company is now run by great niece, broker/owner Sandy Acord. Folks in the area still remember the pumpkins Liz distributed from the back of a pick-up truck every year. Liz perfected the notion that a real estate transaction was not just about the

financial aspect, that it was also about developing personal relationships with clients and helping them achieve the American dream. The team is now helping the second generation of kids that call "because you helped my parents". The team has been a part of the phenomenal growth of the Katy area over the last 30+ years.

Carter is survived by her husband of 25 years, Bill Gronvold; sister, Sandra Parker; nieces, Regina Murray, Sandie Acord, and Keisha Dunn; and her nephew, Steven Murray. She was preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Marie Rawls.

The family received friends and family on Friday, January 15, 2016, at the Schmidt Funeral Home on Grand Parkway, where funeral services were held on January 16, 2016, with Chaplain Gary Butler officiating. A graveside service was held on Sunday, January 17, 2016, at the Ebenezer Cemetery in Jasper, Texas.



Elizabeth (Liz) Ann Carter

Taylor Trainer Named GHATS Exemplary Student Athletic Trainer of the Year



L-R are Daniel Young, GHATS Vice President, Debbie Decker, Katy ISD Athletic Director, Lindsey Porter, Catherine Marr, GHATS President, and Alton Frailey, Katy ISD Superintendent of Schools. Photo by Diana Porter.

The Greater Houston Athletic Trainers Society (GHATS) awarded the GHATS Exemplary Student Athletic Trainer of the Year \$500 scholarship to Lindsey Porter of Katy Taylor High School. The award is given as deemed by the Board to recognize a deserving student for distinguished service to athletic training and to their community. Porter was honored during the Annual GHATS Student Athletic Trainer Workshop held on January 9, 2016.

Lindsey is a senior and a 4 year veteran of Katy Taylor's Athletic Training program. She plans on attending Texas State in the fall and majoring in Athletic Training with a minor in Sports Psychology. She is the daughter of Diana and Jeff Porter.

Family Movie Night

Friday, January 29 at WFDD Central Green at LaCenterra at Cinco Ranch. The free, family-friendly, PG-rated movie starts at dusk.

Testimonials:

Liz Carter was a pillar of our community and contributed so much over the years. She was a visionary who demonstrated exceptional leadership and compassion. I have always admired her determination and professionalism. She will truly be missed by so many in the community. We have her family in our thoughts and prayers.

*Ann F. Hodge
President/CEO Katy Area
Chamber of Commerce*

Liz Carter is an icon of the Real Estate market in Katy. Long before Katy was a major market, Liz had perfected personal relationships as a part of the industry. Liz perfected the notion that a Real Estate transaction was not just financial it was about the American dream. Those of us who had the honor of watching Liz in action in the early 1980's will never forget how hard this trail blazing woman worked. She is an honor to the profession and will always be. Other Katy Realtors should pause in tribute. Liz was the first in the community. A Real Estate icon has passed away.

*George Scott, Former Co-Owner
of The Katy News.*

Liz Carter was one of the first advertisers with The Katy News. I remember when I first moved to this community, Liz and her team always put something on the porches or by the mailboxes for most holidays. I remember pumpkins with recipes and flags every year. She became a valued and respected part of the Katy community and she will be greatly missed.

*Pat Wilson, Owner
of The Katy News*

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| | | Military ID | \$5.00* |
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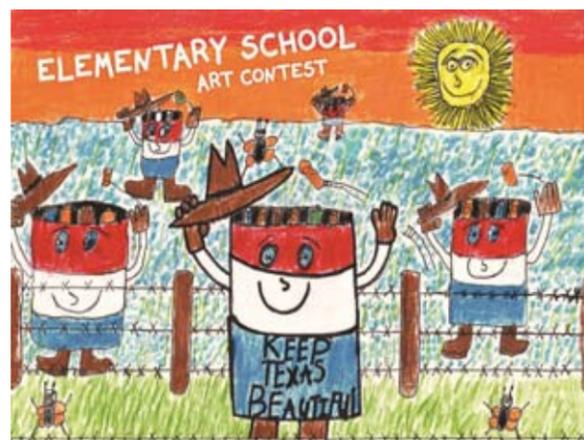


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www.worldtheater.us

2016 Don't Mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest

Texas elementary school students enrolled in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to participate in the Don't mess with Texas Elementary School Art Contest, presented by the Texas Department of Transportation and Keep Texas Beautiful, to create artwork for the 2017 Don't mess with Texas Calendar.

Winning students will receive an iDeaUSA 8 tablet computer and have their art featured in the Don't mess with Texas Calendar. Winning teachers receive a \$100 H-E-B/Central Market gift card. All submissions due April 8, 2016. For contest details go to www.hktb.org/.



JANUARY 11 - APRIL 8, 2016

Winning students will receive an iDeaUSA 8 tablet computer and have their art featured in the Don't mess with Texas Calendar. Winning teachers receive a \$100 H-E-B/Central Market gift card.

Memorial Hermann Stroke Support Group

The next meeting of Memorial Hermann Stroke Support Group will be held on Tuesday, February 16th. Jointly sponsored by Memorial Hermann Katy and Memorial Hermann Rehabilitation Hospital - Katy, the stroke support group is designed to educate individuals and family members about stroke and inspire hope on the journey to recovery. By bringing together stroke survivors, caregivers and experts in the field, the group's goal is to share information and offer fellowship among its participants.

Discussion topics may include: Medication management, Changes in relationships, Caring for the caregiver, Tips for diet and nutrition, Doctor Q&A, Depression and anxiety after a stroke.

Meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month from 6-7 p.m. at Memorial Hermann Katy, First floor conference room, 23900 Katy Freeway, Katy, TX 77494. For more information or to register, please call 713.222.CARE (2273).



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Job Fair for Professionals

Epiphany of the Lord Church at 1530 Norwalk Drive in Katy is hosting a Job Fair for Professionals on Thursday, January 28, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is free and there will be about 50 companies represented for jobs from Receptionist to Vice President in the areas of finance, healthcare, IT, engineering to name a few.

A list of the companies that are participating, and the openings they have, will be given to job candidates on the morning of the fair. To ensure we have the most current information from our participating employers, this list will not be distributed prior to the day of the event.

This event is geared toward degreed, career-minded, professional job candidates. Candidates with no/some college but substantial related work experience would also be well suited for this event. Bring plenty of resumes.

**Ask the Expert—
Veterans Memorial Benefits**



Sherry Ahart-Davies
Location Manager,
Katy Funeral Home

Q: I'm a United States Veteran. What kinds of memorial benefits are available to me and my family

A: First of all, thank you for your courageous, selfless service to our country. As a veteran, you may qualify for burial benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and it's essential to find a funeral or cemetery provider that understands these benefits and can help you design a memorial that not only reflects your personality and passions, but also honors your legacy of service and commitment. The following benefits may be made available to veterans and their survivors, as supplied by the VA:

- Burial and plot interment allowances
- Burial in a VA National Cemetery
- Headstones and markers
- Military honors
- Burial flags
- Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC)

Design a memorial that not only reflects your personality and passions, but also honors your legacy of service and commitment.

Q: How do I file for Veterans memorial benefits?

A: Ensuring that all available Veterans benefits are received is very important. Keep in mind that, like Social Security benefits, Veterans benefits are not paid automatically; you must apply for them. Here's what you will need when filing for Veterans benefits:

- Death certificate
- Discharge papers (DD-214)
- Marriage certificate
- Birth certificate(s) for Veteran's minor child(ren)
- Receipt of itemized funeral bill

A knowledgeable provider can walk you through this process and help you coordinate every detail of a final tribute that truly celebrates the life it represents. To help you plan, our funeral home offers a Veterans Planning Guide filled with useful information about the benefits available to you and how to apply for them, as well as a place where you can organize and record your final wishes. You can contact us to receive your complimentary planning guide today.

If you have more questions, visit your local funeral provider. They are a good source of information for funeral, cremation and cemetery options.

Sherry Ahart-Davies is the Location Manager at Katy Funeral Home, a member of the Dignity Memorial® network serving the Greater Houston community and families nationwide. Originally from St. Louis, Sherry has more than 20 years of experience providing families with compassionate care and professional service. She is an active member of the Katy Chamber of Commerce and KAEDC and is a Cinco Charities/Ballard House volunteer. For more information or any questions, contact Sherry at 281-395-7070 or Sherry.Ahart-Davies@Sci-us.com.

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Houssam Younes, MD, RPVI, Vascular and Endovascular Surgeon

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Find The Latest Design Trends At 10th Annual Katy Home & Garden Show

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While design trends and colors come and go, for 10 years, the Katy Home & Garden Show has provided its more than 62,000 visitors considering a home remodel, redesign, update or refresh the ability to comparison shop, with reputable companies, all in one location. It's the go-to source to hear from a wide-range of reliable experts about the latest tips and trends for every part of the home including: decorating; remodeling; window treatments; blinds & shutters; kitchens & baths; granite; heating & cooling; home theaters; do-it-yourself; flooring; landscaping; pools; outdoor entertainment and more. Attend expert seminars with guests like DIY Network and HGTV star, Matt Muenster from Bath Crashers, who will wow you with incredible bathroom transformations. A licensed contractor himself, Matt puts his personal touch on every house project.



Matt Muenster
DIY Network Host

Get a head start on your home and garden improvements at the largest show of its kind in West Houston with more than 300 exhibits. Don't miss the popular Garden, Landscape and Outdoor Extravaganza; Home Décor Marketplace; Home Improvement Stage; FREE Food Sampling; and Mini-Gift Market. New for 2016 are the People's Choice Awards for Outstanding Landscape Design presented by Community Impact News; a Kid's Activity Zone presented by Adventure Kids Playcare; Get Outdoors! saluting the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. National Parks with tickets to every 100th guest to the new Houston Museum of Natural Science giant screen film, National Parks Adventure; gourmet food trucks like Cousins Maine Lobster, The Lucky Fig and more.

Find out how to incorporate the 2016 Pantone colors of the year in your home decor. For the first time ever, Pantone has chosen two colors— Rose Quartz and Serenity, explaining that the two colors offer a soothing sense of order and peace.

On another colorful note, Robyn Cade, President of RJC Productions and founder of the show, recalls fondly the many wonderful guests the show has hosted

over the years including: Frank Bielec, Carter Oosterhouse, Lee Snijders, Dr. Lori, Randy Lemmon, Coupon Queeny, Steven Katkowski, John DiSilvia, Jason Cameron, Chip Wade. And a host of local speakers. "This show is really like a family reunion for visitors, exhibitors and staff where we gather each year to welcome a New Year in style. And there's one thing we know with certainty that investing in your home is money well spent," stressed Cade.

Shop, compare and save! Show dates and times are Saturday January 30; 10:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, January 31; 11:00 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Merrell Center in Katy, Texas. Tickets are \$9* for adults; \$8* for seniors and \$5* for military. Kids under 12 are FREE.

*Facility charges a \$1 per ticket fee – which will be added at time of purchase. Parking is FREE.

For ticket information, directions and hours visit www.katyhomeandgardenshow.com. Or call 832-392-0165. Sponsored by Superior Window Company.

Swimmers Ages 4 - 18 Wanted

The Cimarron Swordfish was established over 33 years ago and continues to be a growing team. Swimmers ages 4-18 from any neighborhood are welcome to join our team. Practices begin in late April, meets are in June. Regular swim season ends in late June with a fun after season party to attend. Registration is open and ends May 1. For information or to register go to www.cimstswordfish.swimtopia.com.

Houston Area Wood Carvers Club Monthly Meeting

The Houston Area Wood Carvers Club will hold its regular monthly meeting on Saturday, January 23, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Bayland Community Center (6400 Bissonnet). Mini carving classes are held at the meetings. Pete Reittinger will be teaching at the beginners' table. Members share their art at the monthly Show and Tell.

More information on the club's activities are on its web page: www.HoustonAreaWoodCarvers.com.

Carvers and those interested in learning to wood carve are invited to attend the monthly meetings.

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Katy Rotary Welcomes Rotary International President

Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Commissioner Andy Meyers and Katy Mayor Fabol Hughes as well as members of the Rotary Club of Katy and surrounding Fort Bend Rotary Clubs along with Katy Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9182 extended a warm welcome to the Rotary International President, K.R. Ravindran. Mr. Ravindran, and his wife, Vanathy, chose to visit the Freedom Park Memorial Tower as part of his tour across the United States and his stop in Texas. The monument was built in collaboration between Fort Bend County, Rotary Club of Katy, VFW Post 9182 and its Auxiliary and was dedicated on September 11, 2015 to the women and men who have served our county in the five branches of our Military Services: the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, as well as those who died on September 11, 2001. Commissioner Meyers, a long-standing Rotarian, presented the President with a proclamation which declared January 11, 2016 as Rotary International Day to commemorate the special occasion.



VFW Judge Advocate General, State of Texas, Vanathy Ravindran, Rotary International President K.R. Ravindran, Fort Bend County Precinct 3 Commissioner Andy Meyers, Past District Governor Rhonda Walls and Members of Katy VFW Post 9182.

Community Giving From Walmart Neighborhood Market



Taylor Band booster president Jack Travis and Band Director Michael Ary were presented a check for \$2,500.00 from Walmart Neighborhood Market Store Manager John Weatherly at the grand opening of the store. Photo by Debi Beauregard.

The grand-opening of the Walmart Neighborhood Market located at 20903 Highland Knolls Drive included presentations of \$8,000 in grants from Walmart and the Walmart Foundation to local community groups including Friends of the Maud Marks Library, Katy Community Hospital Volunteer Auxiliary, James E. Taylor High School Band Boosters, Katy Christian Ministries. The new store will also continue a commitment by Walmart and the Walmart Foundation to fight hunger in Katy and across the U.S. Walmart and the Walmart Foundation recently exceeded a \$2 billion goal to fight hunger one year ahead of schedule and have donated more than 1.5 billion pounds of food to those in need across the country.

2016 Winter Row Crops Meeting

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension offices in Fort Bend, Brazoria, and Waller Counties will be having a Winter Row Crops meeting hosted by the Fort Bend County Row Crops Committee. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 22, 2016 at the Rosenberg Civic Center located at 3825 Highway 36 South in Rosenberg. Program registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with the first presentation scheduled for 8:30. The program will conclude with a lunch. Information to be covered includes sugarcane aphid management, regulations for new cotton herbicides, an update on Waters of the U.S., budgeting and risk management, grain marketing strategies, detection and management of herbicide tolerant weeds, and a boll weevil eradication update. There is no charge for the program. To RSVP or if you have additional questions, please contact Brandy at 281-342-3034 or brandy.rader@ag.tamu.edu.

Newborns Receive Special Welcome During Children's Book Week, Jan. 24-30

In celebration of Children's Book Week, January 24-30, Fort Bend County Libraries (FBCL) will continue its annual tradition of welcoming newborns to the wonders of books. Every Fort Bend County baby born during this week may receive a special baby book bag, courtesy of the Friends of Fort Bend County Library. Each bag contains a book, a bib, a special certificate, a list of suggested reading for children, and information on parenting and on library services. These bags represent the library system's commitment to providing library services for county residents throughout their lives, beginning at birth.

"We hope to start every child born in hospitals in Fort Bend County on a successful road to life-long learning," says Susan King, Coordinator of Youth Services for FBCL. "We distribute the baby book bags to babies born during that week at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital, and OakBend Medical Center in Richmond, but ALL Fort Bend County babies who are born during Children's Book Week are eligible to receive one, while supplies last."

Families of Fort Bend babies born at other locations during Children's Book Week should call the Youth Services department, at 281-633-4762, to receive their book bag.

Even the youngest baby can benefit from the chance to develop eye focus by looking at the page of a book, while being comforted by the familiar voice of a parent. Reading aloud to children exposes them to the sounds and cadences of a human voice, resulting in an earlier and stronger grasp of vocabulary skills.

Parents may introduce infants to the library by bringing them to Mother Goose Time, a free weekly parent/infant



Library staff member Jamie McKenna shows some of the items in the Baby Book Bags.

activity program that takes place at many of the branches in the Fort Bend County library system. As the children mature, other programs with age-appropriate activities are designed to interest older children.

For more information, call the library system's Public Information Office at 281-633-4734.

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Katy's Got Talent!

After its recent Grand Opening, Katy's new World Theater kicks off its season with "Katy's Got Talent!" on January 30th. Burton Wolfe, World Theater's Executive and Artistic Director, is excited. "I believe Katy is filled with talent from children, to teens, to adults of all ages including seniors. People can audition as singers, dancers in all genres, acrobats, martial arts performers as soloists, partners or in groups. We look forward to hundreds of talented participants."

"Katy's Got Talent!" is a competition for children from 4 years-12years; teens from 13-18; young adults from 19-25 and experienced talent from 26 plus. The initial auditions will take place on January 30th. The audition application and procedures can be found on the World Theater website www.worldtheater.us.

"Katy's Got Talent!" will be a showcase for Katy talent and beyond. Many of the prize winners may have the opportunity to perform in World Theater's season of Broadway musicals which will feature performers of all ages. "Annie," not only includes little Annie and children but adult roles as well. Miss Hannigan and Daddy Warbucks. "Don't Kick Me, Kiss Me" will feature young adults with martial arts skills. "Jacques Brel" includes an adult singing and acting cast. "Evita" and "The Sound of Music" are also part of the World Theater season seeking Katy talent.

The winners in all categories of "Katy's Got Talent!" will receive trophies and prizes; a top prize sponsored by Singapore Airlines will be round trip airfare to any of Singapore Airlines' destinations in Asia.

Lawrence Wong, World Theater's Producer and Director of Operations feels, "Katy's Got Talent! is just the beginning. We look forward to bringing a variety of Broadway productions and Special Events including International Performances in Katy's World Theater. Katy's a great place. Let's all celebrate together."



Sunday Brunch

Starting Sunday, February 14th, 2016, The Courtyard Marriott Houston Katy Mills will serve a weekly Sunday Brunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Reservations strongly encouraged 281-665-3189

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Katy Area Ride Service



OKE Student Creates Own Service Project

A Kilpatrick Read, Deed, Run fourth grader, Shay Morris, recently led her own service project. Shay decided to forgo receiving birthday presents at her recent 10th birthday party and instead asked guests to bring donations. In doing so, Shay collected over 100 items that she then took to the Star of Hope in Houston. While Shay was there she also received a guided tour of the facility. Shay told the tour guide "it makes my heart happy to be able to come out and donate."

Shay is no stranger to service as she volunteers every year at "Rodeo in the Park", the Cinco Ranch 5K, and the fundraiser for The Brookwood Community. Way to go Shay.



Courtney Hill Khorrami, Star of Hope Volunteer Liaison, receives donations collected by Shay Morris in lieu of presents at her recent 10th birthday celebration.

Classifieds

Help Wanted

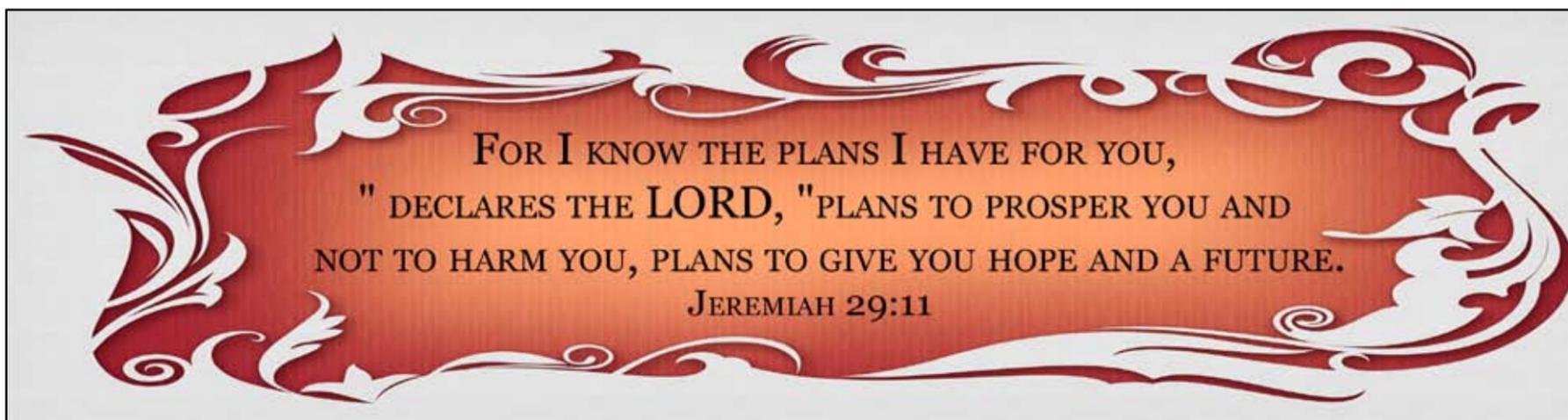
Expanding Family Practice office in Katy in need of a front desk medical clerk and a back office medical assistant. Generous package offered including benefits. Two years of experience and Spanish speaking is a must. Please send email with resume to masayita@yahoo.com c/o Dr. Jarquin or fax to 281-599-3030.

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Looking for Project Manager or Superintendent for mid to small size commercial construction projects. Commercial construction experience is preferred. Send resume to Rob@NavconGroup.com.

Devotional Page

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NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.
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Katy Sports

By Tom Behrens

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Girls Basketball

Can Seven Lakes Equal Last Year's Undefeated District Season?

The Seven Lakes girls basketball team went through the previous season without a district defeat. The Lady Spartans had little trouble with an improved Katy team in its first District 19-6A game cruising to a 49-26 win at Katy High School. The Lady Spartans improved to 3-0 in league play and ran their district winning streak to 19 games, dating back to Jan. 24, 2013.

Michelle Fokam led Seven Lakes with 13 points against Katy. Laura Rowe scored 11 to lead the Lady Tigers, who received their first district loss after double-digit wins against Taylor and Mayde Creek. The Lady Spartans previously opened 19-6A with a 54-51 triumph Dec. 11 against Tompkins, which defeated Seven Lakes in the semifinals of the Phillips 66 Katy Classic.

Cydney Varner's 14 points led a balanced scoring effort against Tompkins, with Anna Bowman 11, Bailey Brown 10, and Brooke Bigott 10 finishing in double figures. Seven Lakes defeated Taylor 62-33 a week later, led by Fokam 20 and Varner with 18.

Other Action

Katy and Cinco Ranch were tied for second place. Tompkins defeated Cinco Ranch 62-40 to improve to 1-1.

Morton Ranch is tied for fourth with Tompkins after two games, defeating Mayde Creek 48-31 as Samantha Washburn sunk 14 points and D'Andrea Hunter 12.

Boys Basketball

Taylor Loses Opener To Strake

The Taylor Mustangs dropped their season District 19-6A opener to Strake Jesuit Crusaders, 58-43. William Brueggeman led the Crusaders with 13 and Derrick Alston. Enzo Sechi had 10 for Taylor.

Taylor head coach Matt Brayton described Taylor's game against Strake as not a great game. But as always the Mustangs are fighting for one of the four playoff spots when it comes to the playoffs.

Brayton was expecting Max Wright, 6'4" to have a big imprint on this year's team. Unfortunately Wright suffered a knee injury during football and is out for the basketball season. Cameron Horry, 6'7" is also sitting out this season.

The Mustangs have made great progress in the last couple of years. Two years ago they ended the season 3-11 in district. Last year they rebounded and clinched the fourth playoff spot, winning the last five games.

Enzo Sechi, 6'5" forward, a second-team all district selection last year, is expected to have a bright future. Other returning starters include guard, James Yang, point guard, Troy Marasigan and guard/forward Blanchard Layton. Yang is the leading scorer, averaging 17 points per game. He's a 48 percent three point shooter.

Seven Lakes start strong

Seven Lakes started strong with a 56-44 win against Katy, leading by 14 at halftime. Nygal Russell led all scorers with 19 points as Kyle Howard added 10. Derrick Godley with 15 and Nathan Thormeahlen, 13 led the scoring for the Tigers.

Mayde Creek comes out on top

Mayde Creek turned a one-point halftime deficit into a 71-59 victory against Morton Ranch. J'Von McCormick dropped 33 to open 19-6A play, while teammates Keinann Ayers and Dez Barnes contributed 14.



Cinco's #35 Tyrus Perez goes for the basket drawing a foul from Tompkins #00 Aziz Fadika.

Can Cinco Ranch repeat in 2016?

The Tompkin Falcons gave Cinco Ranch, the defending champs a battle, leading 35-25 at halftime. Cinco Ranch's last-second basket, making the score 61-60, sealed the victory against Tompkins.

The Cougars led by the end of the third quarter before a see-saw final period. Jayjay Chandler poured in 26 points, including the game-winning lay-up with two seconds remaining.

Girls Soccer

Cinco Ranch Finding Their Identity

Cinco Ranch finished last year losing in the Texas state semifinals to Dallas Highland Park in penalty kicks, 4-3. Most of those players aren't back in the lineup this year. The Lady Cougars lost 10 players including midfielder Julianna Echavarry, forward Emily Halal, defender Madee Gallagher and forwards Halleanne Dure and Taryn Siegele. Eight of the seniors were starters. Coach Fredy Sanguinetti was reported as saying said that this year is about finding the team's identity.

Top returners for the Lady Cougars are goalkeeper Iliana Yanez, defender Lilly Bravenec, defender/goalkeeper Kendall Hollo, forwards Kamy Birk, Sophi Salverino, and middle forward, Shaylee Anaya.

Bravenec is a third-year letterman and the only starting defending back. Yanez split time in the goal with Hollo last season, but she'll be the full-time keeper for this year.

Sanguinetti said that Yanes was ready. She's been there before. She started a playoff game when she was a freshman. She's been with us for a long time. In her sophomore year, Yanez was the lone goalie for Cinco going into state competition.

Second Year In Varsity For Tompkins

For Tompkins, this will be their second season in varsity competition and had a shot of making the playoffs last year, but ended up losing to Taylor.

In the College Park game played on Saturday, Jan. 9, the Falcons scored in the first period when JoAnnie Ramos scored first on a free kick in the 26th minute on a free kick. In the second half, Maria Rossi for College Park corralled a loose ball in the box and fired it home in the 55th minute for the equalizer.

One thing that the Falcons have going for them this year is the return of virtually every one of their players from last year. A key player that head coach Jarrett Shipman is expecting a lot from is Kayla Roupp who suffered a leg injury last year and missed most of the season.

Coach Shipman uses a possession based attack that allows his midfielders to use their technical skills to create space and advance forward. Ruopp and midfielders Joannie Ramos and Miky York will be critical to Tompkins success.

Shipman was quoted as saying that his girls are known as underdogs in the tough 19-6A, but they know they have the ability to compete with any of the teams.

Seven Lakes Lady Spartans Ranked No. 1

The Lady Spartans of Seven Lakes, ranked No. 1 in Region III-6A by the Texas Association of Soccer Coaches defeated The Woodlands in the Lady Highlander (Woodlands) Invitational, dominating the first half, spending most of the time in The Woodlands defensive third, 1-0.

Boys Soccer

Mayde Creek Team Mostly Sophomores And Juniors

The Mayde Creek Rams boys soccer team finished second last year behind Cinco Ranch in District 19-6A. Overall they went 15-4-7 and 8-1-5 in district, with the season coming to a quick end with a 1-0 loss to Cypress Ridge. This year it's basically a new group.

Coach Art Trevino said the team this year has a lot of juniors and sophomores. Mayde Creek returns five players, but only two starters, junior defender Oscar Cuevas and sophomore goalkeeper Jesus Basurto.

Cuevas plays a key place in the backline. Trevino said he is good in getting his teammates in the right place, a good leader and very good in solo marking. Basurto shared time with a senior keeper last year and is expected to keep trending upward. He's someone who talks to his back line.

Trevino also expects midfielder Franklin Solorio to contribute to the 2016 team replacing four-year starter Ismael Lopez

Morton Ranch Wins With 25 Seconds Left

Morton Ranch in hard fought game with College Park, the Mavericks scored with 25 seconds left in the game. Junior forward Francisco Iglesia found the back of the net making the final score 1-0.

Coach Oscar Marquez said he always preaches to the team that they have to finish what they start. "We had a lot of possessions, but it just didn't go our way. We're here to fight until the whistle blows."

2016 McDonald's All American Games Panetti and McGusty

Brittany Panetti and Kameron McGusty have been nominated to play in the 2016 McDonald's All American Games, scheduled for March 30 at the United Center in Chicago. The two players are among 760 high school seniors from 49 states and the District of Columbia nominated.

Brittany Panetti from Tompkins is having a strong senior year after an injury shortened junior season. She has signed with the University of New Mexico to continue her education and basketball career.

Kameron McGusty was the District 19-6A MVP as a sophomore at Seven Lakes and led the Spartans to another area title last year. The University of Oklahoma signee is currently playing at Sunrise Christian Academy in Kansas.

The 2016 McDonald's All American Games will tip-off on March 30, 2016. The 39th annual Boys Game will be broadcast live on ESPN at 8:00 p.m. CT, and the 15th annual Girls Game will air live on ESPNU at 5:30 p.m.

Other sports notables

Wrestling

Katy Grapplers Grab Title

Katy boys wrestling team won the team title at the 14th Annual Cy-Fair ISD Invitational. The Tigers scored 172 points to edge second-place Oak Ridge 170.5. Sergio Nugent paced Katy's win with the 132-pound championship. He beat Clear Lake's Camden Fontenot 6-4 in the final.

Golf

Cinco Ranch Boys Golf Team Wins Tournament

The Cinco Ranch Boys varsity golf team of Cade Kiser, Jared Bray, Jamie Rogers, Will Speer and Lorenzo Siboro won their division of the Dick Hamon Memorial Golf Tournament at the Golf Club of Houston.

During the first day of competition, the boys shot 322 and were tied for second with nine shots off of first place. The second day all the boys shot scores in the 70s to shoot a team total of 312. Final score showed the team winning by three on a tough course in windy conditions.



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