

THE Katy News

Katy's ONLY Locally Owned Newspaper

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www.TheKatyNews.com

March 18, 2016 | FREE

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Community Events

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MARCH 18, 25

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

MARCH 19

Baskets and Bunnies
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Harvest Plaza
5701 Third Street
Free family fun. Photos
with the Easter Bunny.

MARCH 26

Magician Curt Miller
7 p.m.
WFDD Central Green
LaCenterra @Cinco Ranch
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd.
Amazing, hilarious, and
clean magic act appropriate
for all audiences.

APRIL 2 & 3

Heart of Katy Craft Show
Apr 2, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Apr 3, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Katy High School
6331 Highway Blvd.
Admission and parking are
free.

APRIL 3

Historical Katy
Crawfish Fest
12-3 p.m.
No Label Brewing Co.
5351 1st. Street
Admission \$10.
This event sells out.
For tickets go to www.
nolabelbrew.com

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Eagle Scout Award Presented To Kasey D. Hodge

Kasey Dean Hodge, 17 years old of Katy, Texas has earned the Boy Scouts of America's highest advancement award, the Eagle Scout Award.

Hodge was recognized in ceremonies on Saturday, January 30, 2016. The Court of Honor was held on January 30th at The Club at Falcon Point. Hodge was honored to have the following special guests join him at the Court of Honor Ceremony: U. S. Congressman Pete Olson, Texas State Representative Dr. John Zerwas, Former Waller County Commissioner Stan Kitzman, Matthew Conner representing U. S. Senator John Cornyn, Ron Servis representing Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, Great Grandmother – Marilyn Hodge of Fairfax, Virginia, Grandparents – Bob and Ann Hodge of Katy, Texas, Great Uncle and Aunt – Ron and Lisa Hodge of Great Falls, Virginia and Uncle – Sammy Alfano also of Great Falls, Virginia.

The following dignitaries participated in the Court of Honor Ceremony and helped to recognize Kasey's attainment of the Eagle Scout Award: Don Abrahamson, Randall Gardner, Paul Stirrup, U. S. Congressman Pete Olson, Texas State Representative Dr. John Zerwas, Ricky Nietzsche, Ryan Pever, Wilson Riddle, J e r e m y Smith, Stan Stanley.

A member of Sam Houston Area Council, Texas Skies District, and Troop #73, Hodge is one of only approximately 2% of all Boy Scouts who attain the Eagle rank, according to Sam Houston Area Council Vice Chair, Stan Stanley.

Each candidate must earn at least 21 merit badges and successfully complete a community, church, or synagogue-related service project to earn his Eagle; Hodge chose to enhance the City of Katy Dog Park. The project included building a shady spot for guests to sit and enjoy watching their dogs play in the City of Katy Dog Park. The trees were reshaped for easy accessibility to the custom bench Hodge built for the park. They also installed a paved four foot wide path from the concrete to the bench under the shade tree. Kasey also paved the entire area around the bench to add beauty to the area and provide easy access to



Eagle Scout Kasey Dean Hodge shown here being congratulated by Texas State Representative John Zerwas at his recent Court of Honor Ceremony.

the bench. Brad Barnes, Director of the City of Katy Parks and Recreation Department expressed the City of Katy's appreciation – "I am impressed with Kasey's commitment to this project that benefitted the community – the heart of Katy – his home town". Mr Barnes also added that Hodge went to great lengths to insure everything went smoothly and thank you to Kasey for allowing the City of Katy residents to be the beneficiary of his Eagle Project.

Hodge is involved in many community projects and is a Senior at Katy High School. He believes the Boy Scouts of America has taught him leadership, discipline, proper preparation and consideration to others.

Hodge credits his experiences with the Boy Scouts of America as being an instrumental part of strengthening the love and bond he has with his Dad, Richard Hodge.

He is the son of Richard and Jessica Hodge and Jackie and Bill Bay of Katy, Texas.

KCAM – Contemporary Art Museum Fort Bend Partners with FotoFest

KCAM – Contemporary Art Museum Fort Bend is pleased to announce their participation in this year's biennial FotoFest. This year's theme, Changing Circumstances: Looking at the Future of the Planet, features an array of breathtaking and intellectual work that offers important commentary on our world and its rapid evolution. Much of the artwork in the exhibitions of FotoFest center in the themes of science, philosophy, politics, and environmental issues along with other global topics.

FotoFest International, the international biennial of photography started in 1986 in Houston and is now celebrated throughout Fort Bend thanks to the Fort Bend Culture Alliance and the City of Sugar Land. The Katy area celebrates with four exhibitions:

Cuba Behind Open Doors, Kevin Douglas West to be shown at KCAM Contemporary Art Museum Fort Bend.

"I tend to seek out the stories most people don't or can't tell," states West. "Cuba has been on my bucket list for over 10 years and when travel restrictions were eased in 2015, three weeks later I was on a flight to Havana. I love the place, the music, art, people, history. It's a country frozen in 1959 and how lucky I was to see it."

People Drinking Beer, Debi Beauregard shown at No Label Brewing Company.

"I love photographing people", states artist Debi Beauregard. "When the subject makes eye contact with the photographer, magic happens and the image comes to life."

After The Rain, William Guaregua to be shown at Babaloo Gallery inside Babaloo International Cafe & Bar.

William Guaregua is originally from Venezuela. He is a published poet with five published books and more on the way. He resides in Katy and is an amateur photographer. His city scenes viewed through a wet window captured Villaronga-Roman's attention. She saw his poetry in each of these images of city life and offered him an exhibition. The title "After the Rain" says it all.

Speed, Ronnie Conlin to be shown at Bumbera's Performance Associates.

"I love the challenge of making a print, says artist Ronnie Conlin. "Working with the light, dodging and burning until I get it just right. It still amazes me every time I see the image come to life in the developer. There is just something about the way metal looks in black and white. How under the right light it has such incredible tonality. I just love a good burnout. It never gets old trying to capture someone shredding asphalt on film."

Ana Villaronga-Roman, now curator and director of KCAM initiated Fotofest in the Katy

Relay for Life

On April 29th, hundreds of Katy residents will join together at the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Katy/W Houston to help finish the fight against cancer. The event will take place from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. on April 30th at Katy City Park.

The Relay For Life program is a community-based event where teams and individuals set up campsites at a school, park, or fairground and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team has at least one participant on the track at all times. The funds raised support groundbreaking cancer research, education and prevention programs, and critical services for people facing cancer.

Relay For Life of Katy is also supported by many businesses and organizations. The event's 2016 sponsors include: Members Choice Credit Union, Katy Steel, and MD Anderson.

It is not too late to for community member to get involved in the event or make a donation to the Relay For Life of Katy/ W Houston. For more information, visit relayforlife.org/katytx or call 713-706-5652.



Cuba Behind Open Doors by Kevin Douglas West

area in 2012 thanks to a grant from the City of Katy for the Katy Culture & Arts Alliance. This

KCAM continued on page page 4

ADVERTISEMENT

Ask the Expert— Choosing a Funeral Home or Cemetery



Sherry Ahart-Davies
Location Manager,
Katy Funeral Home

Q: What should I look for when choosing a funeral home or cemetery?

A: The funeral home or cemetery you choose help you design a meaningful memorial that truly celebrates the life it represents. Whether you are in need of immediate assistance or interested in learning more about preplanning options, look for these basic characteristics:

- Qualified and caring professionals that will take the time to listen, address your concerns and work within your budget. Offering various packages allows you to select arrangements at the right price and the best value.
- A funeral home or cemetery with a good reputation within your local and business community and with grounds, roads and buildings that are in good physical condition.
- A full-service provider that can provide a range of funeral and cemetery options. From catering to cremation memorialization, look for a provider that will help you plan every detail of a personal, memorable tribute.

- A funeral home or cemetery that adheres to the law by providing you with a clear, itemized list of prices for merchandise and services offered and chosen.

Look for a provider that will help you plan every detail of a personal, memorable tribute.

Q: Do you have any other advice about making final arrangements?

A: In my experience, it's beneficial to choose a funeral home or cemetery in advance. Making your arrangements before the time of need helps to ease emotional and financial stress for your loved ones, and you can have true peace of mind in knowing your final wishes have been followed. When you plan ahead, your funeral or cemetery provider can help you coordinate every detail of a personal, meaningful tribute. When you're ready to get started, our funeral home offers a free Personal Planning Guide, a valuable planning tool with helpful information and 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.

www.prepaidfunerals.texas.gov

Chinese Musical Performance At Cinco Ranch Branch Library



Fort Bend County Libraries will host a musical performance by the North America Youth Chinese Orchestra on Saturday, April 9, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the Cinco Ranch Branch Library, located at 2620 Commercial Center Blvd in Katy.

Directed by Changlu Wu, the North America Youth Chinese Orchestra consists of talented young Chinese-American student musicians who are passionate about their culture and its music. Using the violin and clarinet, as well as Chinese instruments such as the pipa, guzheng, and zhong ruan, the musicians will perform a variety of traditional Chinese musical pieces.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Cinco Ranch Branch Library at 281-395-1311, or the library system's Public Information Office at 281-633-4734.

Into the Woods Presented by SLJH Theatre

Be careful what you wish for as Stephen Sondheim's and James Lapine's cockeyed fairytale comes to life in this adaptation of their groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical. Into the Woods JR. features all of your favorite characters – Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (and his beanstalk) and the Witch in this lyrically rich retelling of classic Brothers Grimm fables.

The musical centers on a baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's festival; and Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse and wind up changed forever. - Music Theatre International

The production will run from March 31st through April 2nd in the Seven Lakes Junior High School Cafeteria.

Purchase tickets at the door or during select lunch periods. Early Seating tickets available soon at www.sljhtheatre.com.



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Letters to the Editor
The Katy News publishes letters to the editor. Please send letters to Pat@TheKatyNews.com. The deadline is Friday before publication. Letters should include writers Full Name, Address, Daytime and Evening phone numbers. Please make letters as brief as possible. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Cane Island Celebrates Grand Opening

After months of anticipation, more than 5,000 visitors poured into Cane Island as the Katy master-planned community unveiled its sparkling, resort-style Amenity Village while presenting its showcase of 14 new model homes.

Based on discussions with visitors in the Cane Island Welcome Center, the crowd was evenly divided among first-time buyers, move-up buyers and those looking to downsize to a new home after raising their family in Katy, according to Dan Naef, president of Rise Communities, developer of Cane Island.

"From the moment we opened on Saturday morning, the crowds kept coming," says Naef. "The feedback from everyone was 'wow, you said you were going to open all of this, and you did.'"

Visitors to Cane Island's Grand Opening were the first to tour the community's Amenity Village where residents will enjoy a gorgeous family pool with cabanas, children's water playground, splash pad and ample shade. Other features include a lap pool, two-story fitness center rivaling the finest health spas, yoga studio, spectacular

glass-walled conservatory, poolside café, high-end event space serviced by a restaurant-quality commercial kitchen and cozy, fireside seating areas. The Amenity Village also offers a Community Lawn shaded by rescued, 75-year-old oak trees.

Cane Island's grand opening crowds also made their way to the community's 14 all-new model homes, each presenting the latest in luxury home designs to suit any budget and lifestyle. The community offers new homes from the \$200's to the millions, including those in gated sections and on cul-de-sac homesites from Coventry Homes, Toll Brothers, Ryland Homes, Shea Homes, David Weekley Homes, Perry Homes and Trendmaker Homes.

Rise Communities also is developing the Texas 288 master-planned community of Meridiana, scheduled to open later this year south of the Texas Medical Center.

For directions to Cane Island and to sign up for e-mail updates from the community, go to www.CaneIsland.com. Also, follow the community at www.Facebook.com/CaneIslandKatyTX and on Instagram and Twitter @caneislandkaty.



Dan Naef, president of Rise Communities, developer of Cane Island, with Debbie Berger of Keep Katy Beautiful.

Garden with Confidence

Garden with Confidence "Landscape Plants" will be held on March 19th from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Fort Bend County Extension Office located at 1402 Band Road, Suite 100, Rosenberg, Texas 77471. Cost for the class is \$15.

This class will help you find the right plant for the right place. We will explain the native and well adapted varieties that grow well in Fort Bend County, including Texas Super Stars. A portion of the class will be taught in our demonstration gardens. Refreshments will be served.

For more information and to download the registration form, go to <http://fortbend.agrilife.org/>.

Learn About Fiber Art And Needle Felting At Library Program

Fort Bend County Libraries' Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library will present a special fiber-art demonstration "Needle-Felting: What's the Point?" on Thursday, March 31, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Meeting Room of the library, located at 8100 FM 359 South in Fulshear.

Learn more about working with felt – one of the oldest textiles in the world – to create beautiful works of art. Betsy Mudra, fiber artist and owner of Felting by Betsy, will demonstrate how to use special needles as a sculpting tool to manipulate the fibers of the cloth into pieces of art. Materials for the demonstration will be provided.

Mudra is a retired educator from Fort Bend ISD. She has been working with fibers for six years, and has taught and demonstrated the art to both children and adults.

The program is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, however, and reservations are required. To register online at the library's website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), click on "Calendar," select "Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch," and find the program. Participants may also register by calling the library at 281-633-4675, or by visiting the library.

Katy City-Wide Spring Garage Sale

The Katy City-Wide Spring Garage Sale will be held on Saturday April 16th, promoting Reduce, Reuse & Recycle in yards and garages all over Katy. All Participants Must Register and can do so: In Person at 5718 Second Street (City Annex Building), by Fax: 281-391-4017 or by Email: kkb@cityofkaty.com.

The DEADLINE to register is 5:00 p.m., Friday, April 8th. No exceptions.

Don't Mess With Texas Trash Off - Katy Style! Seeking Volunteers

Keep Katy Beautiful is seeking volunteers for their 22nd community-wide clean up event known as the "Texas Trash Off" on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Volunteers may register individually or as teams. Scouts, youth/civic and professional groups are not only invited, but encouraged to join in on this immediate impact event. New this year are designated "Family Friendly" clean up locations specified for those wishing to get the kiddos involved in making a difference through this litter abatement outreach effort.

The Don't Mess with Texas Trash-Off is spearheaded by TxDOT and Keep Texas Beautiful and serves as Texas' signature event for the Great American Clean Up which is organized by Keep America Beautiful. This one day event allows

community members to join thousands of other Texans in their hometowns to make a big difference just by picking up harmful litter and debris along roadsides, in local parks and other places in the city. "This is one of those events where community members get to know their neighbors a little bit better, and those neighbors become friends in action helping to Keep Katy Beautiful" says KKB's Executive Director, Amy Reed.

Participants will not only receive supplies for their part of the clean-up, but are also invited to attend the After Trash Bash for a celebration of community, food, prizes and fun. Participants will want to make sure to enter their Most Unique Item found into KKB's contest for a great prize to walk away with. For more information, please email KKB@cityofkaty.com



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Into the Woods Jr.



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KCAM continued from page 1

year marks the third Fotofest in our area. Villaronga-Roman comments "the quality of our exhibitions and the art scene itself is improving and maturing with each year that passes. Having an arts alliance and an art museum are huge steps in guaranteeing the cultural future of this community. Collaborating with Fotofest International, a well established and internationally respected organization, working together with other museums and cultural venues allows us to grow our art scene at a faster pace, reach a larger public and attract more

visitors to our area." Local artists are Villaronga-Roman's main focus and all four exhibitions are by Katy residents. Through cultural partnerships, KCAM was able to curate more exhibitions giving our community more to see and giving these up and coming artists a great opportunity. Many of the artist all work in intriguing and groundbreaking ways in their medium. Each exhibition displays a view of vitality and talent through the medium of photography.

Letter About the Editor - Part II

By Jason Hodge
 Medical Fitness Pros

Previously we published a story about Pat Wilson, owner of The Katy News, detailing the various health issues she has had to overcome in the past, how she is exercising now, and the results she is achieving. Today we want to share more about her exercise program, specifically as it relates to back pain.

Having back pain is a pretty common problem that impacts 80-90% of the population at some point in their life. We all know that exercise is important for us, and can even be helpful for reducing back pain, but often times we don't know what is safe or harmful for us. In relating to Pat's workout program, I want to share a basic approach to exercising with back pain.

When exercising at the gym with back pain, focus on the following:

Pushing Exercises - Exercises that require you to push resistance forward, specifically while standing and engaging your core are great because they build strength and they translate to movements we engage in throughout the day.

Pulling Exercises - Exercises that allow you to engage your core and pull against resistance strengthen your back muscles and your core. Standing is preferred because it will translate better to everyday circumstances.

Lifting Exercises - As you advance, picking things up from the floor are great for engaging the gluteus maximus (butt) muscles and practical for when you are picking up items or kids from the floor.

Carrying Exercises - Picking up and carrying groceries is something we do on a fairly regular basis. When following a strength training routine, practicing exercises where you carry items to improve stability, strength, and endurance.

Core Strength - Despite the mention of activating core in some of the other points, some time should be spent working core specifically. Not crunches necessarily (some spine conditions get worse with crunches) but isometric ab exercises with a neutral spine position will help you improve your functional core strength. Planks are a common core exercises.

Glute Strength - Gluteus maximus (butt) muscles are your primary muscles you need to strengthen for spinal stability. It has a huge impact on your hip position and can create or alleviate pain in your back based on your strength and pelvis positioning.

Cardiovascular Endurance - Most of us don't hurt our back from lifting something too heavy. We are most likely to hurt from being fatigued throughout the day and then picking up something incorrectly because we are tired. Building up your cardiovascular endurance will help you protect you from yourself.

Those are the components that should be included in your program. If you understand the concept, but realize you need more help if you are going to stay injury free, contact Medical Fitness Pros at 281-500-6055 or visit our website at mfpros.com.



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Musical Theater Summer Camp with Children at Heart

After *World Theater* presents two marvelous musicals; the soulful *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well* and *Living in Paris* with April performances; and a martial arts-hip hop, *Don't Kick Me, Kiss Me!* in June; *World Theater* will host a full summer, or two sessions of Musical Theater Summer Camp; each session lasting two weeks. The experienced instructors and the choices of summer student performed musicals truly illustrate "Children at Heart."

Summer Camp SESSION ONE will instruct and present *Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.* Camp runs from June 6 - June 18 with performances on June 17 and June 18 on the World Theater stage.

Summer Camp SESSION TWO will instruct and present *Into the Woods Jr.* Camp runs from June 20 - July 2 with performances on July 1 and July 2 on the World Theater stage. The two Summer Camp Sessions offer children singing, dancing and acting experience, all based on musicals that are fun and filled with heart.

Musical auditions will take place at the World Theater Dance Studio, 1012 South Mason Road, on Sat. April 2 at 2 p.m. If children are registered on April 2nd, camp costs will be discounted. Children may also be registered for a Full Performing Arts & Dance Summer Camp Season between June 6 through August 12. Phone 832-552-5115 for more information.

The World Theater Musical Summer Camp Instructors all have "children at heart" and a proven record of worldwide experience teaching and presenting the performing arts. The Principal instructors below are joined by other guest instructors throughout the summer:

Burton Wolfe, Director of Theater Arts & Acting Coach; World Theater Founder: Mr. Wolfe has taught Elementary School, Junior and Senior High, and currently teaches Acting and Speech Communications at Houston Community College. He has directed most



Broadway Musicals and is author of over ten original musicals which have been performed in the U.S. and Internationally. He has worked with Audrey Hepburn, Mickey Rooney, Julio Iglesias and other noted celebrities. "I love teaching Theater Arts; it builds teamwork, heart and soul."

Laura Bettis, Music Director: Vocalist, Music Educator, Choral Director and Composer; Laura Bettis earned her Bachelor of Music Degree in Vocal performance from California State University at Northridge and a Master of Music Degree from Belmont University in Nashville, TN. She has performed and directed musicals with numerous professional Musical Theater Companies. She is the Founder and Director of Opera Elegant. Laura, her husband and three daughters are long term residents; all

contributing their musical talents to Katy, Texas. Brenden Winkfield, Dance Instructor and Choreographer: Brenden Winfield has won numerous dance awards and scholarships. He is a professional dance teacher of Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Acrobatic, Ballet and Hip Hop. Some of his major work has included: Tokyo Disney, Holland America, Zaandam Shows, Princess Cruises and Royal Caribbean Cruise lines; Radio City and Bette Midler's "Hulawee" project.

World Theater's Musical Summer Camp's Production and Administration team includes: Lawrence Wong, Victor Luviano, Justin Guidroz. The team at World Theater believes that students will have a fun filled experience performing in Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr. and Into the Woods Jr.

Book Sale

Annual Book Sale sponsored by Friends of Katy Library on Saturday, March 19, 2016 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Katy VFW Hall located at 6202 George Bush Drive in Katy. Used books for adults and children. Hardbacks \$1, Paperbacks 50 cents. Children's books 3 for \$1. All profits go to fund Katy Library children and adult programs.

Using LinkedIn

Learn what LinkedIn, a website designed for networking professionals, can do for you. Monday, March 21, at 10:30 a.m. This class is intended for people who possess basic computer expertise. The Katy Library is located at 5414 Franz Road. For more information call (281)391-3509.

Using Google Drive

Learn how to use Google Drive, an extension of G-Mail. We will learn its multiple uses, how to upload multiple files and organize them as well as using Google Sheets, Slides and Docs. This class on Wednesday, March 23 at 4:30 p.m. is intended for people with basic computer proficiency and an existing Google Mail account. The Katy Library is located at 5414 Franz Road. For more information call (281)391-3509.

Fort Bend County Libraries To Close In Observance Of Easter Holiday

All branches of Fort Bend County Libraries, which includes the Cinco Ranch Branch Library and the Bob Lutts Fulshear/Simonton Branch Library, will be closed on the weekend of March 25-27, in observance of the Easter holiday. Regular library hours will resume on Monday, March 28.

Your online library is always open at www.fortbend.lib.tx.us for searching the catalog, renewing books or placing holds, downloading e-books, streaming movies and music, or using the research databases.

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

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Katy Area Ride Service

Devotional Page

Easter Blessings

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life” John 3:16



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Hope For Three Weekend April 21-24

Hope For Three and the Santikos Palladium Theater will partner to host Hope For Three Weekend, a massive three-day series of events addressing the issues of autism, in Houston, April 21-24. April marks National Autism Awareness Month, a growing concern in the country as one in 45 children are now diagnosed on the autism spectrum, according to The Center for Disease Control.

Hope For Three has created a weekend of support, information and fun for the autism community. Events will be held at the Santikos Palladium Theater off Grand Pkwy and W Belfort in Richmond. Anticipated attendance is approximately 1,500-2,000 guests over the course of the three-day event.

“Hope For Three believes it is important to unite the entire community in one location to learn how we all can better support families living with the rising epidemic of autism spectrum disorder,” said Hope For Three Executive Director Matt Jackson.

Through a legacy gift established by the late John L. Santikos, Santikos Theaters, a subsidiary of Santikos Enterprises, now operates as a social enterprise that exists for the sole purpose of supporting its local communities. Through donations, grants, sponsorships and in-kind giving, Santikos supports initiatives such as this and many more to help strengthen the community and enrich lives.

“We are honored to partner with Hope For Three,” said David Holmes, Santikos Enterprises CEO. “This partnership embodies our commitment to actively support our local community. We invite the public to come out and support families and children with autism.”

The Hope For Three Weekend will include the following:

Film Premiere

Thursday, April 21, 2016
 A red carpet screening of the award winning, autism-related short film, *Keep The Change*. This invitation-only kickoff event will gather about 250 leaders in business and industry, government, medicine and media for a cocktail reception and show of this compelling movie.

State of Autism In Texas: A Family Forum

Saturday, April 23, 2016, 9-11 a.m.

The State of Autism In Texas: A Family Forum will assemble experts in the field of autism as it relates to education, insurance, treatment, government and law enforcement. Hope For Three organizers will moderate a lively and informative discussion around the issues of autism and its effects on the lives of individuals, families and our community. This event is free and open to the public. Registering online in advance guarantees participants a swag bag full of resources and information from local providers. Registration can be found at <http://www.hopeforthree.org/event/forum/>.

4th Annual Strike Out Autism

Sunday, April 24, 2016, 9 a.m.

Join the mayors of Fort Bend County and the community at large for the 4th Annual Strike Out Autism. This event is a celebration of the autism community through a family fun day, hosted for approximately 100 families with children on the autism spectrum. Families are asked to register in advance online at <http://www.hopeforthree.org/event/strikeout-autism-2016/>.

Hope For Three is still looking for and accepting sponsors for the weekend event. For more information on the weekend event and sponsorship opportunities, visit www.hopeforthree.org/events.

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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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We invite you to join us as we embark on the holiest of journeys to Easter. On Thursday, March 24, Maundy Thursday worship services commemorating the Last Supper of Jesus and his disciples will be held at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday worship services commemorating Jesus's death on the cross will be held on Friday, March 25 at 1 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. On Easter Sunday, March 27, the Easter resurrection celebration begins at 6:30 a.m.

with the Sunrise Worship Service. Traditional Easter Sunday worship services will be held at 8 am and 11 am and will feature the Living Word choir, bell choir and musicians. A Contemporary Easter Sunday worship service will be held at 9:30 a.m. Living Word Lutheran Church is located at 3700 S. Mason Rd. Katy, 77450. For additional information call 281-392-2300, or visit www.livingwordkaty.org.

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Katy Sports

By Tom Behrens

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Southland Conference Basketball Tournament

Stephen F. Austin Lumberjacks Do It Again



For the third consecutive season, Stephen F. Austin men's team will represent the Southland Conference in the NCAA Tournament.

The top-seeded Lumberjacks overwhelmed Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 82-60 at Merrell Center on Saturday night to become the first Southland team to win at least three straight tournament titles since former-member Louisiana-Monroe won four consecutive championships from 1990-93.

The Lumberjacks' defense set the foundation for victory. After Ehab Amin's basket tied the game at 10-all with 13:16 left in the first half, SFA held A&M-Corpus Christi (25-7) without a field goal for 9:59 until Joe Kilgore's dunk finally got the Islanders out of their quagmire.

By then, the Lumberjacks had just about put the game away, using a 33-10 run to put them up 43-20. Senior Clide Geffard was key to the offensive side of matters, as he hit a pair of 3-pointers that helped spark the Lumberjacks' outburst.

En route to taking a 48-29 lead at intermission, SFA had held the Islanders' starting five to just eight points on 5 of 15 shooting while also forcing 11 of A&M-Corpus Christi's 20 turnovers.

"We wanted to make them score through our defense in the half-court," Lumberjack coach Brad Underwood said. "Once we did that, through our last defense assignment, which was rebound the basketball, we really felt we could exploit them in transition. All of that combined was really what broke that stretch open."

"Transition baskets are most difficult thing to defend in basketball," said Islanders coach Willis Wilson, "When you have turnovers, typically what you don't have is defense and balance. It's really difficult to set your defense."

Sugar Bears (28-3) win their first trip into the NCAA Tournament

A concerted effort of rebounding, along with clutch free throw shooting in the closing seconds, helped carry top-seed Central Arkansas past seventh-seed Sam Houston State 69-62 at Merrell Center, which gave the Sugar Bears (28-3) their first trip into the NCAA Tournament since becoming a Division I program in 2010.

After being eliminated after one game in each of the past three seasons, Central Arkansas relentlessly attacked the glass all afternoon to assure themselves of avoiding a fourth straight year of heartache. The Sugar Bears outrebounded Sam Houston State 46-27, yet it was the 19-8 edge in offensive rebounding that was a huge difference in the contest.

Despite playing in their fourth game in as many days, the Bearkats (13-19) stayed within range of the Sugar Bears for much of the fourth quarter. Freshman Kamry Orr's 3-pointer pushed Sam Houston State to within 65-62 with 22

seconds left, but Central Arkansas first-team all-conference guard Maggie Proffitt hit four free throws and added a crucial rebound in a nine-second span that finally held off a Bearkats that fell short of its second Tournament title.

Brianna Mullins scored a team-high 17 points, while Kendara Watts added ten points, including a jumper late in the third quarter which put Central Arkansas up for good at 53-52. The bench also contributed greatly, as the quartet of Taylor Baudoin, Sandy Jackson, Olivia McWilliams and Taylor Strickland combined for 21 points and 16 rebounds.

The Bearkats kept finding ways to stay in the game, as they erased a 36-26 lead midway in the second quarter by closing out the first half with a 9-0 run that was capped off by a 3-pointer from Orr. Sam Houston State took the lead early in the third quarter and traded baskets with Central Arkansas until Mullins' go-ahead basket put them in catch-up mode.

Senior Angela Beadle had 25 points and 10 rebounds, closing out her career with the Bearkats with 10 straight double-doubles, which helped lead her to be named the Tournament's Most Valuable Player.

"I think the confidence from my teammates and my coaches played a factor," Beadle said. "Seeing that size was an advantage on my part, they kept telling me, 'keep working the inside.' It was great passing from all the players along with the confidence they gave me."

Soccer

Strake Jesuit, Cinco Ranch, Seven Lakes, And Tompkins Boys Soccer Teams Are Jockeying For Playoff Positions For District 19-6A.

For the girls, Seven Lakes and Cinco Ranch have playoff positions sewed up. The Lady Mustangs of Taylor are in the third position, with the Lady Falcons in fourth. Both boys and girls playoffs begin in one week, March 24.

Both boys (6-4-4) and girls (5-4-2) teams from Tompkins have earned playoff spots in their second varsity season.

Boys and girls teams at Cinco Ranch reached the state tournament last season, making Cinco Ranch the first Katy ISD school to do so since Taylor accomplished the feat in 2000.

Boys:

Cinco Ranch, Strake Jesuit, Seven Lakes and Tompkins earn playoff seeds

Alex Bruce, Jovan Prado and Steve Crawford scored for the Tompkins Falcons as they shutout Katy 4-0 to seal fourth place, six points in front of Mayde Creek. In the first year of varsity competition last year, the Falcons won 21 games. Falcon coach, Tom Jones said he expected his team to take a step forward this year and get into playoff contention. With every player back, Falcon fans viewed the Falcons as title contenders.

Against Katy on March 8, Alex Bruce scored twice and assists on goals from Jovan Prado and Steve Crawford, the Falcons shut out Katy 4-0.

Also on March 8 Strake Jesuit (9-2-2) pulled one point ahead of Cinco Ranch (8-1-4) with a 2-1 victory against the Cougars. The Cougars had not lost a district game since 2014. They began the season ranked seventh in topdrawersoccer.com 50 national rankings. Helping the Cougars this year compile

their impressive accomplishments are Dawson Palomar, Lyle Tiernay and Nic Fielden.

Seven Lakes Spartans are assured the number three seed with a solid 3-0 victory against the Morton Ranch Rams. Kanayo Anagbogo had three goals. Spartan coach, Jim Krueger describes his team as young, but doing their best to compete. Goal keeper Connor Paxton backs a defense that includes Anthony Romano, Jose Salinas and Carlos Ortiz Ramirez.

Girls:

Seven Lakes, Cinco Ranch, Taylor and Tompkins

On March 8 the Lady Falcons of Tompkins defeated the Lady Tigers of Katy, 3-1. Leanne Veary had a goal and an assist. Kayla Ruopp and Sydney Craig each scored, while JoAnnie Ramos and Elena Wolf added assists. The Lady Falcons split the season series with the Lady Tigers, avenging a 1-0 loss.

The Lady Cougars of Cinco Ranch started the season with questions after graduating 10 seniors that led the way to consecutive state tournaments and three regional finals. "It's a different team from last year," said coach Freddy Sanguinetti. "We're always going to be associated with the great teams of the past, but we just want to write our own story," said Coach Freddy Sanguinetti. The Cougars go into the playoffs with a 10-0-2 district record.

Seven Lakes, with a win over Mayde Creek, 4-1 makes up the list of girls' District 19-6A teams

Softball

Can the Lady Tigers Repeat as State Champions?

With five weeks left in the regular softball season, the Katy Lady Tigers (2-0) are in first place in District 19-6A. Following are Mayde Creek (2-1), Seven Lakes (2-1) and Tompkins (1-1).

Reigning state 6A champion Katy scored 10 runs or more 20 times last season. The Tigers' overall playoff margin was 113-53, with series wins against Reagan, Cy Woods, Cy-Fair, Alvin and Brazoswood.

Pitcher/cleanup hitter, Kourtney Coveney is at West Texas A&M, the only starter who graduated. Junior Kylie Redding is the leading candidate to take her place.

Katy returns seven all-district players including outfielder McKay Bloxham (Texas Lutheran), Kayla Garcia, catcher, Corey Burrough (Penn), Nicole Valdez, outfielder Katie Clark (Stephen F. Austin), Bailee Shashack and shortstop Emily Hitt (East Texas). Also back are Ashley Nassy (Edwards) and Kylie Redding, the winning pitcher in the state title game. Impact newcomers could be pitcher Chloe Cobb and catcher Cait Calland (Texas commit).

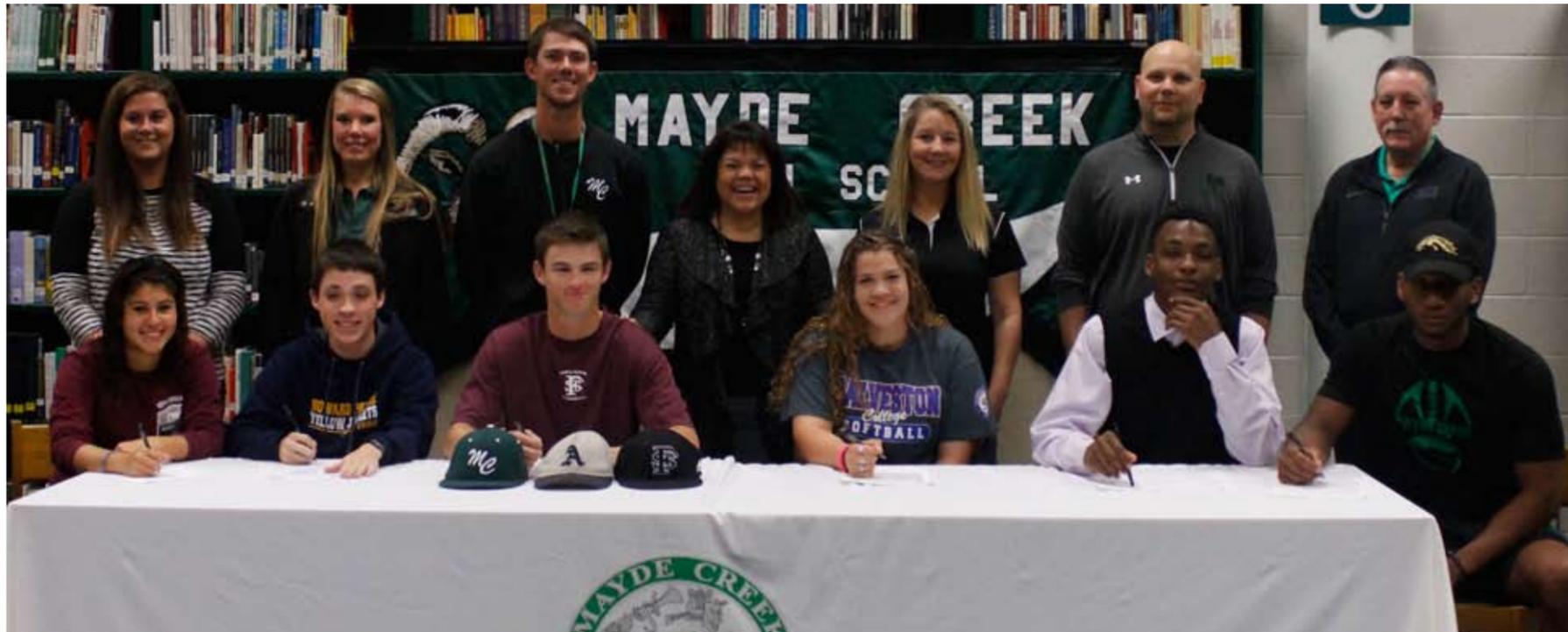
Chloe Cobb, a standout freshman is a huge addition. Haack describes her as the fastest player he has on the team, a good athlete. "She swings the bat really well, so she'll be on the field if she's not pitching."

Nicole Valdez, senior, is a Colorado State signee and earned first team all-district and academic all-district honors last year.

At the beginning of the season Lady Tiger's coach Kalam Haack said that one of the big things that this year's team needs to realize is that they have to show up every single day. Last year was an unforgettable experience, but this is this year. "They can't think that because we won it last year, it's going to be automatic for us this year. We are still focused on getting better every day."

Katie Clark adds, "People weren't expecting us to be as good as we were. Now they know we're good and we're going to get everybody's best game. We have to make sure we don't make any mistakes every time we step onto the field."

Mayde Creek Signing Day



Pictured are: (Top row, L-R) Head Girls Soccer coach Elise Karłowicz; Head Tennis coach Amber Allen; Head Baseball coach Patrick Pederson; MCHS Principal Dr. Cazilda Steele; Head Softball coach Jill Voss; MCHS Campus Athletic Coordinator and Head Football coach Mike Rabe; KISD Assistant Athletic Director Charlie Stevens. (Bottom row, L-R) Adaliz Alvarez (Soccer-Texas A&M International University); Brandon Patterson (Tennis-Howard Payne University); Owen Wilson (Baseball-Fort Scott Community College); Ashley Kriesel (Softball-Galveston College); Alex Brookins (Football-A&M Prairieview (preferred walk-on)); and Jaylen Brown (Football-Western Michigan University).



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AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES OF THE GREATER KATY AREA

Know the FACTS about why West I-10 Volunteer Fire Department had to sue ESD 48

We want to set the record straight on the misinformation about West I-10 Volunteer Fire Department's breach of contract lawsuit against ESD 48. The public has a right to know the facts.

FACT: West I-10 VFD has served the greater Katy area for 36 years, and we intend to continue this heritage of service.

FACT: ESD 48 is attempting to seize assets that are legally owned by West I-10 VFD. ESD 48 compensated West I-10 VFD for fire suppression and EMS services through binding service agreements, and West I-10 VFD bought fire apparatus and other equipment to fulfill our duties under those agreements and protect the public.

FACT: On August 14, 2015, West I-10 VFD offered to continue services or enter into a mutual aid agreement with ESD 48, until the dispute is resolved when it goes to trial in May 2016. ESD board president Marshall Kramer declined outright. Instead of awaiting the results of this trial, ESD 48 is building a duplicate organization; wasting millions of taxpayer dollars and squandering available existing assets.

FACT: Since breaching its contract with West I-10 VFD, ESD 48 has already committed over \$7 million in short and long-term debt. By contrast, West I-10 VFD operated more than \$1 million under budget over the past few years.

FACT: This is a classic example of out of control government. Any non-profit or business that hears about our situation should consider your own reaction if a government body tried to use its power to seize assets that you worked for decades to build and grow.

ESD 48: Abuse of power. Squandered resources.
To learn more and get involved, visit www.west i-10fd.org

