

THE Katy News

Katy's ONLY Locally Owned Newspaper

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Community Events

Send Calendar listings to:
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DEC 17

Live Music - Christmas Carols
St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church Confirmation Carolers

4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
WFDD Central Green Park
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd
Singers and instrumentalists from the Catholic Confirmation classes at St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church perform Traditional Christmas Carols. The group includes Violin, Viola, Saxophone, Trumpet, and Guitar as well as vocalists.

DEC 17

Movie Night - White Christmas
Dusk
WFDD Central Green Park
23501 Cinco Ranch Blvd
White Christmas is a 1954 American musical romantic comedy film directed by Michael Curtiz and starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Clooney, and Vera-Ellen. Filmed in VistaVision and Technicolor, it features the songs of Irving Berlin, the title song, "White Christmas."

DEC 17

A Katy Old Fashioned Christmas
Historic Downtown Katy
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
180 quality crafts, arts, antiques, and Christmas vendors. 50,000 pounds of snow will be sprayed in two large mounds for the kids to play in for free. Food Trucks and No-Label Brewery will have their beer garden open. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance. Bring canned goods for the food drive. For more information visit www.katymarketday.com.

THROUGH DEC 31

Holiday Lights Showcase
Cane Island Amenity Village
2100 Cane Island Pkwy.
Cane Island will be transformed into Candy Cane Island for the holidays. Open nightly, the community's Amenity Village will host a holiday spectacular complete with thousands of sparkling lights synchronized to holiday songs. For details, visit CaneIsland.com.

Katy's 1st Annual Recognition Dinner For Local Police Officers

The Texas Masons and the Lodges of District #108 held their 1st Annual Recognition Dinner for the Katy, Waller and Harris County Police officers on Monday, December 5th. The event was held at the Katy Elks Lodge #2628 located at 1050 Katy Fort Bend Road.

Dallas Kirkpatrick opened the meeting by introducing Bud Dumesnik who led the group in prayer, followed by the pledges to the American and Texas flags. Food was provided by Outback Steakhouse and dessert was provided by Sugarfoots Cupcakes.

Also present at the meeting was Waller County Crime Stoppers. The sponsors for the meeting with door prize donations were Radical Firearms, Orr Tactical, and Top Brass Military & Tactical.

When the meeting resumed after dinner Kirkpatrick introduced MW Wendell P. Miller who spoke about the Masons and the Lodges. Miller said that the Masons have provided \$50,000 for scholarships each year and also support Reading for Bikes. Masons work within the community in any capacity they can to support the community.

Jason Jackson, President of Master's, Warden's & Secretary's Association of Masonic District #108, introduced City of Katy Mayor Fabol Hughes. Mayor Hughes spoke a few minutes about the holidays and the importance of calling the season Christmas. "It should be Merry Christmas and a Christmas Tree," said the Mayor, "not Happy Holidays and a Holiday Tree." The Mayor went on to say, "We are so glad to be able to honor our police officers and the hard work they do." The Mayor also introduced the officers present from the Katy Police Department as well as his wife, Paula.

Lieutenant Donald Savell, Chaplain for Harris County Sheriff's Office, gave an inspirational talk on the support and dedication of our police officers and some of the things they go through on a daily basis.



Harris County Sheriff officers Blake Merrow, Shawn Woek and Greg Bryan attended the First Annual Recognition Dinner for Police Officers at Katy Elks Lodge #2628. Photo by Debi Beaugard.

He worked in the Harris County Jail, on patrol and then the family assistance unit, which he presently oversees. Savell has over 30 years in law enforcement and has been married for 31 years. He said that among police officers there is a high divorce rate due to the stress of the job. Savell said that the word BADGE stands for: B - Brave, A - Attitude, D - Dedication to what you do, G - God, and the E - Empathy.

Following on the agenda was the introduction of Becky Simon, Grand Worthy Advisor of Texas International Order of Rainbow for Girls. She talked about what the group does and read a poem about police officers. Closing remarks were made by Kirkpatrick and Jackson.

New Calendar Format

The Katy News recently changed the online calendar. It is just a little different to view and we wanted to take a moment to let our readers how to use it. The calendar is now broken down by categories to make searching easier such as choosing a specific library. First log onto www.thekatynews.com. Then go to the top of the page in the black section and click on view calendar. Once there you can either view by day or scroll down to view by Category. This makes looking for a specific location easier. There is also a general category that contains items that do not fall within the individual categories. Feel free to contact our office at 281-396-3333 if you have any questions.

Katy ISD Selects Academy Sports + Outdoors for Exclusive Naming Rights of Student Activities Complex

Katy Independent School District (ISD) announced that Academy, Ltd. (d/b/a Academy Sports + Outdoors), a premier sports, outdoor and lifestyle retailer, will receive exclusive naming rights to the school district's Student Activities Complex, as part of a new ten-year deal. The complex is home to Jack Rhodes Memorial Stadium and a second football stadium to be completed in summer 2017.

"As the Houston area's hometown sporting goods retailer, this partnership is especially meaningful to our team, as Katy is home to more than 3,000 of our team members, our corporate headquarters, two of our store locations, and one of our distribution centers," said J.K. Symancyk, President and CEO, Academy Sports + Outdoors. "Academy has partnered with Katy ISD for over 25 years, and we are proud to extend our support in the Katy community over the next decade."

Under the terms of the deal, Katy ISD Student Activities Complex will be named "Academy Sports + Outdoors Student Activities Complex." The state-of-the-art facility will host district-wide athletics, fine arts and extracurricular activities, as well as non-Katy ISD events at the local and regional level.

"We are grateful for Academy's support of Katy ISD's students and community and are proud to be able to grant the organization the naming rights for the Student Activities Complex," said Rebecca Fox, Board of Trustees President, Katy ISD. "This is an exciting time for our school district and we look forward to our long-term partnership with Academy on a complex that will be a destination for local residents to enjoy for many years to come."

The 10-year, \$2.5 million naming rights agreement will take effect on July 1, 2017.

"I want to commend the administration, staff and community members who worked so diligently with the Board to make this partnership a reality," said Lance Hindt, Superintendent, Katy ISD. "Community partnerships contribute largely to our legacy of excellence, and we couldn't be more excited to join forces with Academy."

Headquartered in Katy since 1990, Academy Sports + Outdoors is dedicated to supporting the community, particularly youth athletics. Through sponsorships, equipment donations and volunteer efforts, Academy supports more than 120 Houston-area youth sports organizations, serving more than 80,000 area kids.



**Fort Bend County
Precinct 3
Commissioner
Andy Meyers
Wishes Everyone**

*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year,*

Katy ISD Partners in Education Hosts Men Who Mentor Breakfast

Keep Encouraging Youth toward Success – KEYS – the Katy ISD mentor program, will host the Men Who Mentor Breakfast on Friday, January 13th from 7:30-9:00 a.m. at the Katy ISD Education Support Complex. This annual event provides support for existing male mentors and information for men interested in becoming a mentor. Campus liaisons and administrators will guide table discussions for learning and networking opportunities.

Every Katy ISD campus has boys and young men who are waiting for a male mentor to serve as a listener and encourager. Recent KEYS program statistics showed that:

- 88% of KEYS students increased grades
- 80% of KEYS students decreased absences
- 87% of KEYS student decreased discipline

Together those numbers prove that one hour a week can make a difference in a child's life.

If you're a guy who has ever thought about being a mentor, please join us. If you are a guy who already mentors, please join us. To RSVP please go to www.katyisd/dept/pie.org.

Whole Foods Supports the Arts in Katy Over \$8,000 in donations in 2016



Lindsay Harmon, store team leader presents Ana Villaronga-Roman, Director/Curator of KCAM with a check for \$8203.75 representing the donations made to KCAM throughout the year of 2016 by Whole Foods on Fry Road in Katy. Photo by Dwebi Beauregard.

KCAM Contemporary Art Museum Fort Bend has received over \$8,000 from Whole Foods Market this year. "We love giving back to our community and KCAM is a very community centric art museum." The painting above was painted live here at the Katy store location. Many kids helped KCAM's Artist in Residence, Mark Deleon complete this painting depicting Katy's iconic MKT Depot. This is just one of the many events that KCAM and Whole Foods Market have collaborated on and we are happy to donate to their creative cause. We need art in our lives and we love KCAM."

MCTC Practicum in Architectural Design Students Pitch to Real World Client

Students from Mr. Cooley's Practicum in Architectural Design met with local business owner, Mr. Kevin Franz, to discuss renovations to the shopping center located at 5315 U.S. HWY 90 in Katy. Mr. Franz is considering doing some exterior renovations to the property. Students walked the property with Mr. Franz for a little over an hour. He gave his detailed vision for the shopping center. Students took notes, reviewed blue prints,

took measurements, snapped photos, and asked questions while walking the site.

This opportunity gave students their first chance to work with an actual client. Students were given a budget and other design criteria that were important. Mr. Franz said he would consider incorporating some aspects of the students' work in the final renovation of the property. This opportunity provided an important learning experience for students.

Santa's Ranch

The holidays have arrived. Join at the Maud Smith Marks Branch of Harris County Public Libraries as they celebrate Santa's Ranch Open House on Friday, December 16 from 1-4:30 p.m. Listen to Christmas music and visit Santa. Join the elves in their workshop for fun crafts and other treats. For the complete schedule contact the library at 281-492-8592.

El Tiempo Cantina Fire Arson/Intentional Act Eliminated as Cause of Fire

Harris County – Harris County Fire Marshal's Office investigators have eliminated arson or an intentional act as the cause of the fire at the El Tiempo Cantina in Katy. Investigators were requested by Harris County ESD 48 on Nov. 24 to investigate the fire at El Tiempo Cantina, which is located in the 21000 block of Kingsland Blvd. The investigation into the cause of the fire is still on going.

The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office Investigations Division is responsible for fire, arson, and explosion investigations in unincorporated Harris County.



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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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Katherine Tyra Branch Library @ Bear Creek Presents Events and Activities for All

Katherine Tyra Branch Library @ Bear Creek is proud to present several exciting upcoming events and activities for the week of December 18—December 24. All are welcome to attend. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information call 281-550-0885 or visit www.hcpl.net

Teen Time: Family Holiday Movie

On Monday, December 19 at 4:00 p.m. Teens are invited to come to the library and have some fun. Watch a movie, make a craft, game, and more.

Computer Class: Beginning Word

Learn more about Microsoft Word in this basic computer class on Tuesday, December 20 at 10:00 a.m. The first six students will be accommodated. First come, first serve.

Tuesday Craft: Stained Glass Ornaments

Come and make something fun to take home at our Tuesday Craft for elementary and middle school-aged children. Next class is Tuesday, December 20 at 4:30 p.m.

Middle School Spot: Paper Circuit Holiday Cards

Come join the fun of Middle School Spot, a rotating program for ages 10-12 on Wednesday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m. Activities include Gaming, Writing Workshop, and Maker Programs.

ESL Reading Group

This group is open to individuals whose first language is not English. This free class will help ESL students learn to improve their reading skills. Open to people at all reading levels. No registration required. Next classes are Wednesday, December 21 and 28 at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday Craft: Popup Fireworks

Come and make something fun to take home at our Tuesday Craft for elementary and middle school-aged children. Final class for the year is Tuesday, December 27 at 4:30 p.m.

Middle School Spot: Board Gaming

Join the fun of Middle School Spot, a rotating program for ages 10-12 on Wednesday, December 28 at 5:00 p.m. Activities include Gaming, Writing Workshop, and Maker Programs.

Savvy Stitchers

Savvy Stitchers is a place to share ideas, to learn new knitting and crochet techniques or to teach someone else a new skill. Don't miss out on the weekly fun on Thursday, December 29 at 4:00 p.m. Make sure to bring your needles and yarn. All ages welcome.

New Year's Eve Party

Come to the library for crafts, stories, food & more to say goodbye to 2016 and say hello to 2017 on Friday, December 30 at 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday Craft: Snow Balls

Make something fun to take home at our Tuesday Craft for elementary and middle school-aged children. on Tuesday, January 3 at 4:30 p.m.

Library Holiday Closures

Harris county libraries will be closed 5 p.m. on December 22nd for the holiday and will reopen Tuesday December 27 for regular business hours.

They will close again for New Year's on Saturday, December 31 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3 for regular business hours.

MLK Day is January 16. Don't plan on going to the library that day either.

Maud Marks Library Activities Throughout the Holidays

E-Books: Hands on Help

Do you have an e-Device for books or audios and have questions? Did you know Harris County has hundreds of e-books and e-audios that can be checked out through our various databases? Never buy an e-book again. Instead, come to the library on Saturday, December 17 at 10 a.m. to learn how to download to your device. Just let us know which device you own when you call to register and don't forget to bring it with you to the class.

The Apple iPad

On Tuesday, December 27 at 10 a.m., you are invited to bring your iPad and follow along as library staff shows you how to make the most of your new tablet. Learn how to operate your iPad, explore some of the powerful built-in apps, and learn how to download additional apps, music, and more. This class is designed for new users of all iPad formats. Please see Tablets class if you have an Android Tablet.

Please call the Maud Marks Library at 281-492-8592 for more information and to register

Color Me Relaxed

What is the newest way for adults to relax and have a good time? Coloring. The Maud Marks Library now has an adult coloring hour on the fourth Tuesday of every month. Join us on Tuesday, December 27 at 2 p.m. as we color, chat, have a snack, and listen to relaxing music. We will provide plenty of pages for coloring and colored pencils, although, you are more than welcome to bring your own.

Apps

Need some help getting organized? Staying fit? Keeping in-touch? Or perhaps you need a new game to keep you occupied? Come to the Maud Marks Library on Tuesday, December 27 at 7 p.m. to learn about the most popular online apps for your iPad and Android tablets. Be sure to bring your mobile device to fully explore these apps. Seating for this class is extremely limited. Please call the Maud Marks Library at 281-492-8592 for more information at to register.

Basic Computer Class

On Tuesday, January 3 at 10 a.m., the Maud Marks Library will be offering a basic class on how to work a computer. Discover what a computer does, explore the various parts of a computer, familiarize yourself with Windows 7, and practice using the mouse. This class is designed for new computer users. Pre-registration is required. The class will fill up quickly, so don't delay. Please call the Maud Marks Library at 281-492-8592 for more information and to register.

Microsoft Excel Class

On Tuesday, January 3 at 1 p.m., the Maud Marks Library will be teaching the basics of how to use Microsoft Excel. Can't come then? Don't worry, the class will repeat itself Tuesday, January 10 at 7 p.m. egistration required. Participants may register by calling the library at 281-492-8592 or by visiting the library.

Pre School Explorers

Is your pre-schooler ready to explore the world? Children ages 2 ½ to 5 are invited to come to the Maud Marks Library on Wednesdays at 11:15 a.m. and explore the world. There will be plenty of stations for science and sensory exploration as they learn about the world.

Genealogy

Are you interested in learning more about your family's past? The Maud Marks Library is offering one-on-one instruction on how to use the FamilySearch.org website. These classes will take place every Wednesday at 10 a.m. This month meetings will be on January 4, 11, 18, and 25. Learn more about how to get started looking into your family's past and find out where you came from. Seating is extremely limited for this class.

Katy Library Upcoming Events And Activities

Baby Time

A fun program for children 3 months to 17 months on Monday, December 19 at 10:15 a.m.

Typing Skills

Learn standard typing techniques and improve your skills on Monday, December 19 at 10:30 a.m. No sign-up required.

Genealogy Squad

Join the Genealogy Squad on Monday, December 19, at 2:00 p.m. Learn how to do your own genealogy with other fellow researchers. The last Monday of the month will include a lesson or special speaker.

Toddler Time

A fun program for children 18 months to 3 years old on Tuesday, December 20, 10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Knotty & Nice Club

The Knotty & Nice Club is the place for you if you want to learn new techniques, teach someone else, or just hang out with other crafters on Wednesday, December 21, 1:00 p.m. Come & join the club.

Help with Apps

Stop by the library and get assistance with downloading, organizing and using applications on your mobile phone on Wednesday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m.. This class is designed for Android users.

Preschool Storytime

A fun program for children 3 to 6 years old on Thursday, December 22, 10:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

All programs are free and open to the public. The Katy Library is located at 5414 Franz Road. For more information call (281)391-3509 or log on to www.hcpl.net.

Cinco Ranch Library Movie Day Muppet Christmas Carol

Movie-goers will be treated to an animated family film starring Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, and the whole Jim Henson crew on Wednesday, December 21 from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. in the Cinco Ranch Branch Meeting Room 1. Academy-Award winner Michael Caine stars as the stingy miser Ebenezer Scrooge, who is about to get his holiday goose cooked in fun fashion by the famous puppet troupe characters in this fun-filled, musical event, based on a classic Charles Dickens tale. This movie is rated G.

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The Arc of Katy Jingle Bell Jam



Mr. & Mrs. Santa visit with Star Lathrop with an Arc of Katy program participant.

The Arc of Katy Jingle Bell Jam featuring a disability friendly Mr. & Mrs. Santa Breakfast was held Saturday, December 10th. Sponsors of this holiday event were Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Houston Council, Chick-fil-A Mason Road and Dr. Sandeep Mammenm Mint Dental. Participating to bring joy to those in attendance were Girl Scout Cadette Troop 17406, Katy Taylor FBLA and NCL Katy Chapter.

Katy Area EDC hires Rick Ellis as new Vice President of Economic Development

The Katy Area Economic Development Council is pleased to announce Rick Ellis as its new Vice President of Economic Development, bringing over 18 years of marketing, sales, and corporate relations experience to the Katy Area EDC team.

"We are very excited to bring Rick on as our new Vice President," said Lance LaCour, President/CEO of the Katy Area EDC. "He has a wealth of experience in business development and marketing which is a great fit for our organization and the growth of the Katy area."

Ellis will be replacing Frank Lombard, who will be voluntarily moving from his full-time position as Vice President to Director of Membership, a part-time position. Lombard has been with the organization since 2006, briefly serving as interim President/CEO of Katy Area EDC prior to the arrival of current President/CEO Lance LaCour.

"Frank has been a tremendous asset to our organization," said LaCour. "Without his leadership and dedication, our organization would not be what it is today. We look forward to his continued role with our organization."

Ellis is a Houston native and near lifelong Texan with an array of professional experience spanning the real estate, economic development, family entertainment, and senior living arenas. Rick's experience in economic development originates with his work with the Greater Houston Partnership's Economic Development Division where his responsibilities revolved around working with companies and site selectors in encouraging corporate relocations to the greater Houston area and 11 surrounding counties. Prior to his marketing and sales endeavors, Ellis worked in the built environment industry as a construction project manager and a real estate property manager and leasing associate. In addition to his professional career, Mr. Ellis has served as a Director on the Interstate Municipal Utility District board for 10 years and is an active representative of MUD boards in the Katy area.



Rick Ellis, Vice President of Economic Development Katy Area EDC

Ellis is a proud graduate of Texas A&M University, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Science and a Master of Science degree in Land and Real Estate Development. Rick is a 30-year member of the Texas A&M Century Club, and is recognized as a Life Member of the Greater Houston Partnership for his volunteer work as a Major Investor Ambassador.

"Having lived in the Houston area for the better part of 50 years, it has been amazing to witness up close the incredible transformation of Katy from a small, outskirts town to the thriving community it is today," Rick said. "I am excited to join the Katy Area EDC team and look forward to working with the Katy community and businesses to further promote growth and quality of life in the area."

Rick and his wife Kelly have two teenage daughters, Erin and Shea, who are very active in sporting and school activities.

Spark Park, Located At Winborn Elementary, To Benefit Students And Entire Community

At the recent grand opening ceremony, the Winborn Elementary Choir energetically sang a gratitude song to thank all those involved in creating the District's first SPARK Park on their school grounds.

"We are very grateful for this partnership with the SPARK program and the donors," said Katy ISD Superintendent Lance Hindt. "It's partnerships like these that make Katy ISD the premiere school district in the state."

The idea came to flourish when, Dr. Kris Mitzner, former Winborn Elementary principal, noticed a need for a community park to benefit all of the children in the surrounding neighborhoods. After lots of research, Mitzner came across the SPARK program, which dedicates its efforts to developing neighborhood parks on public school grounds, and made this park a reality for the community.

"I love math and other subjects, but the best part of my day is recess," said Hunter Ondrush, president of the Student Council



The SPARK Park at Winborn Elementary is a neighborhood park open to the public.

at Winborn Elementary. In addition to monkey bars, slides, a walking trail, benches, picnic tables and an outdoor classroom setting, the park also features a public art component which consists of multiple tile displays adorned with artistic drawings created by students.

To date, the SPARK program has helped to turn underutilized school playgrounds into neighborhood parks at more than 200 locations.

Katy Sports

FOOTBALL

All the Way to the State Semifinal

Football season comes to an end for the Cougars

By Tom Behrens

"They were a better team. Turnovers didn't help, but unfortunately they were just a better football team," said Cinco Ranch Head Coach Don Clayton after the Cougars lost to Cibolo Steele 35-14, Saturday night at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

The Cougars end their season at 11-4. The last time Cinco Ranch made it to the semifinals was in 2009 when they lost to Austin Westlake.

Steele Knights' mission: beat Cinco Ranch and make up for three losses to Katy in the semifinals three times in the last four years.

The Steele defense started the scoring in the first quarter when JayVeon Cardwell intercepted a James Klingler pass in the first quarter, returning it 65 yards for a touchdown. Matthew O'Brien made the extra point.

At 3:28 in the second quarter Steele quarterback Xavier Martin connected on a six yard pass to Onyx Smith for the Knights' second score. Everything kind of imploded on the Cougars at this point.

Steele capitalized on four Cinco Ranch turnovers. They scored on two and put 21 unanswered points on the scoreboard in just over three minutes.

The Cougars fumbled the ensuing kickoff, setting up the Knights at the Cougar 26. Brenden Brady capped a short drive with a three yard score. Caden Sterns intercepted a Klingler pass to give Steele another chance to stretch its lead. Martin connected with CJ Williams on a 50 yard pass completion on the next play and Brady scored to make it 28-0 at halftime.

To the Cougars' credit, Steele was held to only one touchdown in the third quarter, their last score in the game. In the fourth quarter, Brant Kuithe scored for the Cougars on a one yard run and an 18 yard pass from Klingler. Brandon Contreras made both points after touchdowns.

Mission accomplished: The Knights advance for a chance to play for the state championship, facing off against DeSoto, next Saturday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

Even though this wasn't the way the Cougars would have liked the season to end, it was great season for Cinco Ranch. If you had a chance to visit with Coach Clayton before the season began, I don't think he envisioned what this team was about to do this year.

Getting to the state championship semifinal game was made possible by wins over Fort Bend Bush, 31-17, Langham Creek 29-21, Friendswood 34-17 and Cy Ridge, 34-17.

The Cougars started the season 2-2 before winning the next nine of their next 10 games. Some critics would say that luck, or ordained destiny came into play to make it this far in the playoffs. Cinco Ranch faced off against Cy Ridge without the Rams having their standout running back, Trelon Smith, who had been injured the previous week. Against Friendswood, starting quarterback, Tyler Page, went down



Cougars lost to Cibolo Steele 35-14, Saturday night at the Alamodome in San Antonio. Steele High Knight #33 Terron Morris wraps up Cinco Ranch Cougar #14 Blake Kuithe who was held to only 88 rushing yards. Photo by Chris Brown, Rhode Island Red Photography.

on the first play of scrimmage.

Yes...these two players could have made the scores different, but in my opinion, the Cougars would have won even if both players had been able-bodied. At this point in their 2016 season the Cougars were playing inspired and tough football.

James Klingler, Cougar quarterback, finished the season with a 57.65 passing percentage, 2,584 yards and 23 touchdowns. In the ground game, Brant Kuithe piled up 1,891 yards and 24 touchdowns. You really needed to see what a powerful running back Kuithe was. One, two defensive players normally couldn't bring him down. Oh...and I forgot to mention he played quarterback in different offensive alignments, finishing with 17 passing completions in 30 attempts.

The "dynamic duo" of Klingler and Greg Williams, Jr. made a lot of games a treat to watch...Williams taking a Klingler handoff and sweeping around an end for big gains. Or, Klingler to Williams for key pass receptions. "Just throw it out there and I will run it down and catch it," was a familiar Williams' statement.

On the defensive side of the line of scrimmage, how about Jamie Wolfe with 102 tackles; Blake Kuithe, twin brother of Brant Kuithe, 107 tackles and six sacks. I would like to go on and list many more great players, but space doesn't allow. Just to let you know, Cougars, we watched and saw how great you played this year. Our hats are off to you on a great season. Hats off to all the Katy teams for a great football season.

BASKETBALL

Tournament Action

Seven Lakes and Tompkins boys' basketball teams are impressive

By Tom Behrens

Now that the lights are dimmed at Rhodes Stadium, the lights are bright and the action is fast at the different Katy high school gymnasiums around the city. Girls and boys basketball is the talk of the high school sports world.

In boys' basketball, so far the Tompkins Falcons and Seven Lakes Spartans have been impressive in tournament play. In the recently completed Philips 66 Katy Basketball Classic, Gold Bracket, the Falcons almost pulled an early season upset over power-house Klein Forest Golden Eagles. The Eagles have been averaging 86 points per game. The Falcons trailed only 28-27 after one quarter in the Gold championship game, and 40-32 at half time.

Tompkins defeated Klein Collins 70-40 and Cinco Ranch 70-65 earlier in the bracket.

Baskets by Nestor Daboin and Jamal Bieniemy gave Tompkins the initial lead, while C.J. Washington helped keep the game close. Josh Williams displayed his mid-range touch early and added a spinning driving lay-up to bring Tompkins early baskets. Emmanuel White's put-back cut the deficit back to one before Klein Forest closed the half with a 10-3 run.

In the second half the Golden Eagles took control of the boards. "We just didn't go get the ball like we should have," said Tompkins Head Coach Bobby Sanders. "Once they got rebounds they got second shots and started hitting threes. That put us in a hole."

In the Lufkin Holiday of Hoops Tournament at Lufkin High School the Seven Lakes Spartans had an easy time with Robert E. Lee High School, winning 50-28. Leading the way for the Spartans were Drew Bulawa, 10 points and Darius Alford, 11.

Seven Lakes record stands at 12-2. Tompkins record is 9-5.

The Lady Tigers of Katy High School and the Lady Mavericks of Morton Ranch look like the teams to beat in mid season. The Lady Tigers are 9-6; the Lady Mavericks are 9-7 at press time.

OUTDOORS

Fish On

Pre-frontal fishing tactics in East Matagorda Bay...

By Tom Behrens

Capt. Glenn Ging reports that previous to the latest frontal passage, he and his clients were catching fish under the birds, "kind of still in our fall pattern, mainly on soft plastics and topwaters, but with the advent of regular cold front passages, the bird pattern is probably going to start tapering off." There was still a lot of shrimp in Matagorda East Bay promoting solid fishing results.

He expects the Bay to lose water as it's pushed out into the Gulf by the strong north winds.

"The water will come back up some if the wind switches back around to the south, but usually the fronts hit frequently enough that the Bay doesn't fully recover; it stays low all winter.

"We (guides) have been waiting for the water to fall out for awhile. When it does fall out it will pull all of the shrimp out of the marshes. Then the trout will be eating mullet and pinfish."

He reports that the tides have not dropped much so far in the days of early winter. "You will have some days when it falls out, but then the wind switches around to out of the south, and a day later it's back to where it was."

So...how does he fish after the strong north winds blow, as we know they will?

"You have to think about where those fish are going to go when the tide falls out real hard. It will stack the fish up in some deeper areas. I will be fishing some places that funnel the shrimp as they leave the bay...from the intercoastal out to the Gulf

Some possible locations to start looking for fish ... "the intercoastal. A lot of times the fish will fall out into the intercoastal, the diversion channel, the river, and the deep shell in the middle of the bay.

"If we haven't had much rain and the Colorado River stays salty, the fish will move up into the river, and we will start catching them up there."

Baits or lures... "Once the water drops there are a

couple of different things we will be fishing...topwater She Dogs, Super Spook Juniors and Corkys.

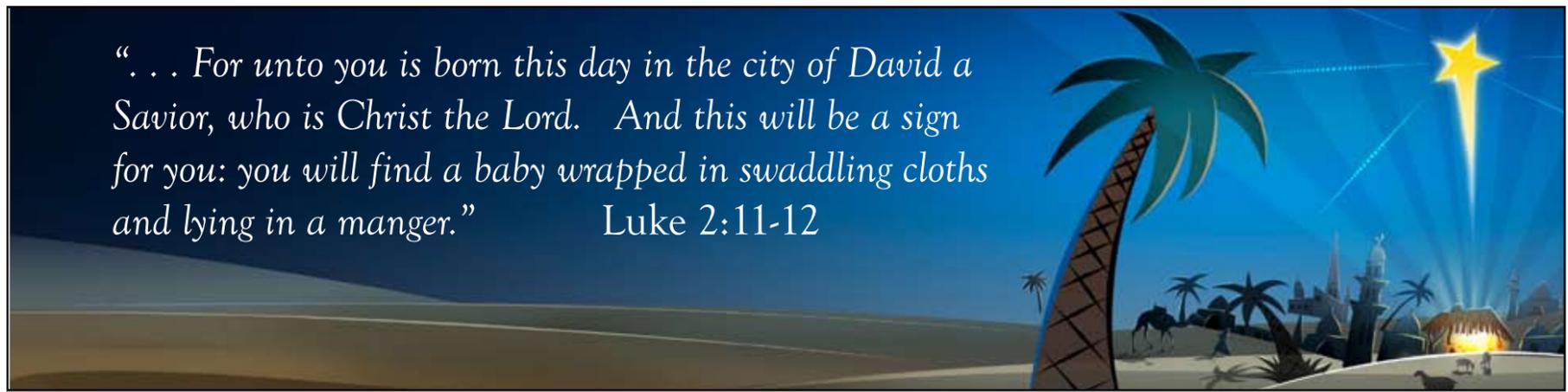
If you want to stay in the boat and not wade, you can catch them drifting the deep shell in mid bay. When we are doing that a lot of times we are throwing a popping cork with a Gulp under it, or fishing with a soft plastic with a heavier jig head, quarter-ounce to a three-eight ounce."

Colors... "I use Roach, plum/chartreuse, and Red Shad a lot. If the water is real clear, I will throw some of the more natural looking colors, like Chicken-on-a-Chain. On the Corkys we will use the Texas Chicken color. Chartreuse is good and I use baits that have the color pink in them a lot."



Down South Lures Plum Chartreuse are a favorite of Captain Glenn Ging Photo:www.downsouthlures.com.

Devotional Page



“ . . . For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” Luke 2:11-12

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Church Directory

Christmas Services

- First United Methodist Church**
 5601 Fifth Street • 281-391-2121
 December 18 “Looking for Love” 8:30 to 11 a.m.
 December 24 “Looking for Jesus”
 Children’s Service 4 p.m.
 Candlelight Service 6 p.m.
 Contemplative Communion 7:15 to 8:30 p.m.
 Candlelight & Communion Service 9 p.m.
- Grace Fellowship United Methodist Church**
 2655 S. Mason • 281-646-1903
 Kids Family Christmas December 23, 5 to 8 p.m.
 Come and go kid-friendly event.
- Holy Covenant United Methodist Church**
 22111 Morton Road • 281-579-1200
 Christmas Eve Service 4 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Service 7 p.m.
 Christmas Eve Service 11 p.m.
 Christmas Day 11 a.m.
 Christmas Day 12 p.m. – Signs of Yahweh
- St. Peters United Methodist Church**
 20775 Kingsland Blvd. • 281-492-8031
 Children’s Christmas Eve Service 3 to 3:45 p.m.
 The Element Christmas Eve Worship 4 to 5 p. m.
 Carols and Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship 5 to 6 p.m.
 West Campus Christmas Eve Worship 5 to 6 p.m.
 The Element Christmas Eve Worship 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- First Baptist Church of Katy**
 600 Pin Oak • 281-391-1100
 Christmas Eve Service 5 p.m.
 Christmas Day 10 a.m.
- Kingsland Baptist Church**
 20555 Kingsland Blvd • 281-492-0785 • 281-492-Note
 Christmas Eve Services 3, 4, 5 & 6 p.m.
 Christmas Day 11 a.m. Sunday Morning only.
- Second Baptist Church West Campus**
 19449 Katy Freeway • 713-465-3408
 December 23, 8 to 9:30 p.m.
 December 24, 3 to 6 p.m. and 8 to 9 p.m.
- Westland Baptist Church**
 1407 Grand Pkwy South • 281-392-5099
 December 24, 6:30 p.m.
 December 25, One Family Service at 11 a.m.
- Living Word Lutheran Church**
 3700 South Mason Rd • 281-392-2300
 December 24, Contemporary Service 2 p.m.
 December 24, Interactive Service 4 p.m.
 December 24, Candlelight Service 7 and 10 p.m.
 December 25, 10 a.m.
- Memorial Lutheran Church Katy**
 3rd Street & Avenue D • 281-391-0171
 December 24, Christmas Eve 6 and 8 p.m.
 December 25, Christmas Day 9 a.m.
- Epiphany of The Lord Catholic**
 1530 W. Norwalk Dr. (Nottingham) • 281-578-0707
 December 24, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 9 p.m.
 December 24, Midnight Mass, 12 a.m.
 December 25, 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
- St. Bartholomew the Apostle Catholic Church**
 5356 Eleventh St. • 281-391-4758
 December 24, Live Nativity & Meditation, 4 p.m.
 December 24,
 5 p.m. Children’s Mass (English)
 5:15 p.m. Parish Hall (English)
 7 p.m. (English)
 9 p.m. (Spanish)
 12 a.m. – Midnight Mass (English)
 December 25,
 7 a.m. (English)
 9 a.m. (English)
 9:15 a.m.(English) Parish Hall
 11 a.m. (English) Parish Hall
 1 p.m. (Spanish)
 1:15 p.m. (Spanish)
 3 p.m. (Spanish)
 No 5 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day

Classifieds

WINE CORKS WANTED

Looking for wine corks for art projects. If you have some you would like to get rid of please call me at 832-398-0710 between 9 and 5 p.m.

The Katy News Office Holiday Closure

The Katy News will be closed from December 23rd through January 1st. We will be checking emails periodically throughout and will return emails as soon as possible. We wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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Estate Sale

Estate Sale

Friday, December 16 and Saturday, December 17 from 8:30 a.m. to ? 623 Sancroft Court, Katy, 77450. Really Nice Furniture: 4 bedroom home, Mid-Century Danish Maple Baby Bed, Rattan Sofa/Daybed, lots of lamps, GE Dryer, Double Door Whirlpool Stainless Refrigerator, 5 ft Tall Gun Safe Vault. Yamaha CD Tuner set with Speakers, Rolling Tool box chest, Pro-form Crosswalk Treadmill, Vintage Christmas Decorations, Noritake Figurines, Signed Windbergs and other fine arts.

Legal Notice

LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcohol Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code For a Beer and Wine Retailers Permit With A Food and Beverage Certificate by LTF Club Operations Company Inc., DBA Life Time Fitness, located at 23211 Cinco Ranch Blvd., Katy, Fort Bend County, Texas 77494. Officers of said Corporation are Steve Kerzman, President, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer; Erki Lindseth, Senior Vice President and General Counsel; and James Spolar, Vice President and Secretary.

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*Happy Holidays to you and your families
from The Katy News*

Houston TAG Inaugural Transportation Panel



Pictured Left to Right: Maureen Crocker, Gulf Coast Rail District Executive Director; Harris County Judge Ed Emmett; Galveston County Judge Mark Henry; Brazoria County Judge Matt Sebesta; Montgomery County Judge Craig Doyal; Waller County Judge Trey Duhon; Fort Bend County Judge Robert Hebert

On December 5, 2016, Fort Bend County Judge Bob Hebert participated in the Houston Region Transportation Advocacy Group's (TAG) inaugural transportation panel. Participants also included Montgomery County Judge Craig Doyal, Waller County Judge Trey Duhon, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, Galveston County Judge Mark Henry, and Brazoria County Judge Matt Sebesta. Moderators of the panel of area county judges included TAG Chairman Jack Drake and Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Rail District, Maureen Crocker. The county judges were posed questions related to mobility and were asked to address the questions with a regional perspective.

County Judge Bob Hebert said, "With the growing pains counties in this region experience related to mobility, working together to establish a long-range transportation plan, including rail, highways, and port planning, is imperative to our ability to provide the future infrastructure needed to support the growing population."

City of Katy Holiday Office Closures

City offices will be closed for the following holidays:

- Christmas – Friday and Monday, December 23 and 26
- New Years – Monday, January 2

From Cotton, To Restaurant, To Learning Center Cotton Gin No. 116 STEM Gallery

By Tom Behrens

The Cotton Gin No. 116, located 15 miles West of Houston's Energy Corridor, 907 Bains St., in Brookshire, TX has had a varied background. The history of the gin began in 1913 when the original Lummus gin began operation. In 1928 Trettin and Trettin Gin Co. converted the gin from steam to electric power, and it was sold to H.P. Donigan. In 1948 the Donigan Cotton Gin was closed and was used for storage.

In 1977 Harris and Joann Garrett purchased the gin and it evolved into the renowned Cotton Gin Restaurant. In 1998 West Engineering Services purchased the gin and transformed it into their world headquarters.

After serving as the world headquarters for WEST Engineering Services from 1998 – 2012, the Cotton Gin is undergoing a remarkable transformation. A Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) Learning Gallery is the ultimate result and should be open to community around mid-year 2017.

The vision for the gallery includes breaking down complex STEM concepts into a simple, step-by-step format that engages and excites the minds of young people. Gallery visitors will be presented with experiences that connect with the five senses; what visitors can see, hear, touch, smell and taste while touring the facility.

The gallery will focus on important historical STEM concepts that are embedded deep into Texas history including water well drilling, offshore drilling, cotton ginning and flight.

Offshore Drilling:

A portion of the gallery will demonstrate how STEM discoveries relate to offshore drilling with focus on jack-ups, drill ships and semi-submersibles. A floating drilling rig's blowout preventer and riser will be part of the items on display. Visitors will be introduced to how these massive pieces of equipment work.

Clips, training videos, and movies will show the work environment for offshore drilling and what dropping a BOP stack looks like. Documentary footage from The Storm featuring Captain Ed Oonk's experiences is part of the display.

Water Drilling:

Gallery visitors will be introduced to Cotton Gin International, a company founded to improve safe water access globally through industry leading technical training and consulting.

The area includes a part of a water drilling rig and how a water well is drilled using a manually-operated pump. Visitors will see a cross section of a water well.

A Cotton Gin and Its Processing Cotton From Seed to Product:

Visitors to the Gallery will see the original Lummus gin stands, how the components of the gin work together and learn about the technology involved in ginning cotton.

Aviation and Spaceflight:

Visitors will share the aviator's alphabet and learn what Visual Flight Rules (VFR) and Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) mean; also how does a Global Positioning System (GPS) work and how the Garmin G 1000 is used in aviation. STEM gallery visitors can observe and/or try flight simulator equipment.

In 2014 Janet and Michael Montgomery witnessed the launch of the Soyuz spacecraft in Kazakhstan. Michael founded West Engineering. While visiting Kazakhstan, the Montgomerys picked up a model of the Soyuz, signed by astronaut Commander Barry "Butch" Wilmore which will be available for display in the STEM gallery. Visitors will have a chance to view video footage of Earth from International Space Station (ISS).

In addition to all the interesting displays and learning opportunities at the Cotton Gin No. 116 STEM Gallery the community can observe:

Water harvesting system with run-off water from the roof, communicate how the process works and provide measurement activity using calibrated sight glass...

Invite Westside Airmen and Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) to participate by encouraging young people to explore aviation (Young Eagles, Junior Airmen, etc.)

Teach Flight Ground School in the Cotton Gin

Adjacent to Cotton Gin No 116 is Discovery Park, which officially opened and was dedicated to the Brookshire-Katy Drainage District (BKDD) Saturday, June 4. The park is located at 4421 5th Street, at the corner of Bains and 5th Street, just South of the Cotton Gin. The Park is Waller County's newest attraction for youth and families. The park is open daily from dawn to dusk and offers a rocket-themed playground, 60-foot by 60-foot pavilion, community garden and soccer field.

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Katy ISD Board of Trustees Approves Attendance Boundary Modifications

Approved ABMs to impact six campuses during the 2017-2018 school year

During the Regular Meeting, the Katy ISD Board of Trustees approved the attendance boundary modifications (ABMs) presented to them on December 5, in preparation for the opening of Bryant Elementary, Stockdick Junior High and Paetow High School.

The approved ABM maps, which are designed to help balance enrollment at overcrowded campuses and ensure all students have equal access to a high quality

education, were updated based on the feedback provided by the public through the survey and other reviews of campuses that are currently overcrowded.

These ABMs will impact Morton Ranch High School, Katy High School, Katy Junior High, McDonald Junior High, Katy Elementary and Wolman Elementary. A letter will be mailed directly to all the impacted families by the end of January 2017. To view maps, go to <https://gis.katyisd.org/publicviewer/index.html>

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Ask the Expert— Making Your Final Wishes Known

Sherry Ahart-Davies
Location Manager,
Katy Funeral Home



Q: What are the benefits of making my final wishes known in advance?

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A funeral or memorial service not only gives your loved ones a sense of closure, it's a celebration of your life.

Q: What if I don't make my final wishes known?

A: On occasion, there are even family disputes about how someone would have wanted his or her remains to be

prepared for memorialization. In the absence of a written plan, this important decision—and many more—would be left to your surviving family members. Fortunately, all of this can be avoided by putting a plan together in advance.

Q: Do you have any advice about talking to my family about my final wishes?

A: Approaching the topic as a means of everyone being prepared in advance is one way to make the discussion less difficult. Set aside a time when your family can gather in a comfortable setting, and allow your loved ones to share their thoughts about your plans. To help start the conversation with your family, our funeral home offers a free Personal Planning Guide, a valuable planning tool where you can record and organize your final wishes. In it, you'll find many questions that you and your family may not have considered and that can help to prompt a real dialogue about your options. You can contact us to get your personal 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.