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# Friendswood Edition REPORTERNEWS

# Your Independent Local News Source Since 1984

VOLUME 53, ISSUE 27

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2022

USPS 013362

**50 CENTS** 

#### Around Town Now - July 8 CENTENNIAL PARK CLOSURE

For the safety of residents during preparation and clean-up of the July 4th Concert and Fireworks, Centennial Park (2200 South Friendswood Drive), will be closed now through Friday, July 8, except for the July 4th evening activities.

#### Now - August 1 CCISD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are now being accepted for annual awards for the 2022 Citizen of the Year, George B. Carlisle Distinguished Service, Distinguished Clear Creek Independent School District (CCISD) Alumni, Valor Award, Dennis Johnson Memorial Small Business Award. Recipients are selected by the Clear Creek Education Foundation. For more information contact mthomas@ccisd.net.

#### Now - August 12 KIDS PACZ FOOD PACKS

Kids Pacz will be available at the Friendswood Library June 6 - August 12. The free food packs are available for qualifying children ages 3-18. Registration required at 281-482-7135. The library is located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive. For more information visit www.galveston-countyfoodbank.org.

#### July 11 Plant society meeting

The Clear Lake Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas July Chapter Meeting will be July 11 at 6:30pm for business meeting and speaker at 7pm. Iris Poteet of the Coastal Prairie Conservancy will

focus on native and non-native plants found in the coastal prairie landscape with some discussion on selectively working to control non-native invasive species. Registration is required at uhcl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtdeCup z0jGdzZZkhi6NzQXKOrTzKVRTOC.

#### July 14 Tucker hart performs

Tucker Hart will be performing at the Friendswood Library on Thursday, July 14th at 7:00pm. Check out Tucker Hart on our Primary Source vlog where we present local and regional professionals in the fields of art and science. https://youtu.be/d5vvO6EazU4. Free and open to the public. The library is located at 416 S. Friendswood Dr.







# Parade, Park, Fun, & Fireworks

Perfect weather and a great schedule of events made a spectacular 4th of July program that featured a huge parade with over 125 entries, a park filled with fun for all ages and an evening to remember with music from the Party Crashers and a spectacular fireworks extravaganza.

A huge turnout set up chairs and tents all along Friendswood Drive for the 127th consecutive Fourth of July Parade. From entertaining performance groups to floats, vehicles, horses, and decorated bicycles and scooters, the parade was a colorful display of red, white and blue.

Stevenson Park offered shade and food, fun and amusement activities for kids. Climbing walls, jumping equipment and more put smiles on the faces of those who participated.

The evening brought music and a time to enjoy an evening in Centennial Park. The shuttle system worked well for the large crowd who attended.

Music was provided by the group The Party Crashers.

The fireworks lit up the sky to end a perfect day celebrating the nation's independence and the many things to be enjoyed in Friendswood.

Well done, Friendswood Parks and Recreation, Friendswood Chamber of Commerce and the City of Friendswood.







#### July 15 MOVIES IN THE PARK

Friendswood Parks & Rec presents Movies in the Park starting July 15. The feature movie will be "Paw Patrol The Movie". Movie begins at dusk in Centennial Park, 2200 S. Friendswood Dr. For more information call 281-996-3220 or email rec@Friendswood.com.

#### July 16 PRAYER BREAKFAST

Senator Larry Taylor will be the guest speaker at the Prayer Breakfast Saturday, July 16 at The Harbor from 7:30 to 9 am. The Harbor is located at 2821 W. Parkwood FM 528. For more information, call Byron Fulk at 713-408-4785.

#### August 7 SPIES FAMILY REUNION

The 66th annual reunion of the descendants of August Spies will be held on Sunday, August 7 at the Moravia Dining Hall across the street from The Ascension of Our Lord Catholic Church, 11134 FM 957, Schulenburg, TX, starting at 10am. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish and dessert, with lunch being served at 12:30pm. Plates, utensils, cups and tea will be provided. Please bring silent auction and door prize items. Kitchen Crew will be volunteers this year! For further info, please call Janet Spies @ 512-461-3236 or email at jspi456@yahoo.com. Check the August Spies FaceBook Page for more news!

When it's hot outside, soaring electric bills can pose a health risk. Texas residents will have to brace themselves for increasing electric prices, as they are already up 70% year-over-year.

Some community members experiencing crisis will be reluctant to use their air conditioners because of electricity costs, which can create health risks to those who may already be struggling in other ways.

Interfaith Caring Ministries' Rent and Utility Emergency Financial Assistance program can help community members keep their electricity on and can also provide resources for longer term solutions.

Please visit <u>icmtx.org/donate</u> to see how you can support ICM by donating money towards their programs, food to the ICM Food Bank, items to the ICM Resale Shop, or volunteer your time.

If you are in need of help, please visit icmtx.org/help

Best Overall winner for 2022 was the Keep Friendswood Beautiful float.

### Parade winners selected from over 125 entries

The Chamber has announced the winners from the 127th Freedom for One & All Fourth of July Parade.

Best Overall for 2022 was the Keep Friendswood Beautiful float.

In Best General Float, first place was awarded to Friendswood Youth Baseball 6U Allstar Team with second place American Heritage Girl TX 1835 and third place Bernardo De Galvez Society Children of American Revolution.

For Best Decorated Vehicle, first place was presented to Linda Sckittone, second place Bluebonnet Antique Tractor Club,

and third place Satterfield Family.

Best Performance Group was Carnes Parade Krewes, second place University Cheer Airforce and third place 4th Degree Knights of Columbus.

Best Mount first place was Rockin Riders.

For Decorated Bicycles (7 and under) first place was awarded to Bennett, second to Mia and third to Nathanial and Aiden. For ages 8-12, first place Devon, second Emma and third place Brooklyn. For those 13 and over, first place was awarded to Marie and Melanie.



Houston – Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) is seeking input on a conditionally approved preliminary Method of Distribution (MOD) for \$488,762,000 in U.S. Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Mitigation funds to provide funds to counties and local jurisdictions for risk mitigation projects related to flooding, hurricanes, and other natural disasters.

The conditionally approved preliminary MOD is available online at www.h-gac.com/go/cdbg.

The public comment period is open until 5 pm Thursday, July 28. Anyone wishing to make public comment may leave a voicemail message or may submit written comments by e-mail, postal mail, or handdelivery. Details about the public comment period are available at <u>www.h-gac.com/go/cdbg.</u>

H-GAC staff will also take oral and written public comments during a public hearing from 5:30 to 7:30 pm Thursday, July 21. The hearing will be at H-GAC, second floor conference rooms, and on Zoom. Registration is requested to attend in person and required to attend online.

For more information, visit <u>www.h-gac.com/go/</u> <u>cdbg</u> or make plans to attend an informational meeting from 5:30 to 7:30 pm Thursday, July 14. The meeting will be online, and registration is required. Register at <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vdeurpjI</u> <u>oG9K1ej\_Cfr21XURA18M3t\_db</u>.

Counties in H-GAC's service region are: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller, and Wharton



"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts ... " Isaiah 55:8-9

I'm charting a few thoughts while up in the air from Houston Hobby airport to Columbus, Ohio to visit family ... especially our grandson Henry... whom I've not seen face to face since Christmas 2019. Covid theft. Covid remission. Covid recovery. Patience is a gift of the Spirit and distance clarifies many things as in 35,000 feet above sea level offers a level of seeing that helps usher in a different perspective about how things truly are... think mountain ranges, winding rivers and the Nazca lines of South America or the thousands of pyramids discovered in northern Africa by LiDAR technology hiding under the sand... or... the patchwork quilt like farms with fallow acres side by side full, lush plots of green growth as well as planned subdivisions' twists and turns coupling the rooftops in a circuitous order or small towns with streets from all four directions meeting up at the town square...

Likewise... 35,000 days...about 95 years or even 35,000 minutes (24.3 days) later can offer up renewed perceptions of life... allowing stuff that might have been 'up in the air' to have been altered or completed or completely changed! Sometimes it's less and most likely it's more... as time and distance shape our daily routines along with the values and mores of any culture....

Some may think I'm way off base here but one of the goals of scripture and other holy writings is to help humanity keep its collective eyes on the ways of God and to place a lesser trust in the ways of humans... and this kind of thinking gets fleshed out in the knowledge that much of what we call the written words of God began totally in an

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88. Armageddon

**CROSSWORD PUZZLE** The Original Mobile Game

oral form... the open ended stories that pointed out humanity's relationship with itself along with the Creator and the Divine... lots of stories from the Bible told out loud over and over as a way to get at the daunting question in life, "now what?" as much of life can seem like what's next is persistently 'up in the air...' and not from 35,000 feet above... but right there staring us in the face!

Its personal and pervasive. Always. Everyone gets to play and sometimes we even get to play together... and actually it's better when we do...

Here are some examples of what I mean...

The man and the woman were evicted from the garden of God... as everyone hearing that story began to ask... 'now *what*?' including the man and the woman... or Jonah when he was told by God to tell the people of Nineveh to repent... he left for the opposite direction... only to be swallowed by a big fish... forcing Jonah to ask, 'now what?'... but he finally did go and the Ninevites did repent and the end of the story is just one big everything's still 'up in the air' saga... Go back and check it out!

Should I go on? What about David and Goliath? What do you think David or King Saul or the Israelite army was thinking when they watched Goliath fall to his death along with the Philistine army shouting in unison... 'now what?' See? So much of our lives are one story after another of connecting the 'up in the air' moments that people end up talking about at family reunions and at our funerals... and ... again...the Bible is full of those kinds of moments so many of us relate to... Daniel in the lion's den... or the time just before Jesus turned water into wine at the Cana wedding... or what the disciples faced at the news of Jesus' empty tomb... all pushing the connection of 'now what?' and 'up in the air!' Faith matters!

So... now as we face the 'up in the air' chapter of an almost post-Covid life...unfolding in us in bits and pieces and short stories of our own...may we keep our hearts and minds on the ways of God...ways higher and so much better than our own!

The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Gigee is a long-time resident of Pearland, having pastored four churches over the last four decades in Texas and Louisiana. Read more fol-'murmurings' lowing Brian's blog at https://briangigee.wordpress.com/. Send comments and/or questions to godworks247365@gmail.com.





#### MADERO

### **Madero named Pearland ISD Director of Communications**

Pearland Independent School District welcomes Cissa Madero as its new director of communications.

With nine years of experience in communication, four with Pearland ISD as a communication specialist, Madero is excited to support the department in achieving the vision of Superintendent Larry Berger. Previously, Madero served in various marketing roles, including cause marketing director with the YMCA of Greater Houston and before that as the events and communications coordinator for the Adult Reading Center.

"My vision is for our department to foster a collaborative environment in which we work together to provide the district with high quality work that we are proud of," she said. "I believe in always striving to offer the highest quality of service in a timely manner, while also focusing on building and maintaining strong relationships with our students, staff, parents and community along the way."

Madero holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil. Born and raised in Brazil, Madero made Texas her permanent home in 2013 and is proud be a part of the welcoming community of Pearland. During her time with the district, Madero was awarded one Crystal Certificate of Merit, three best of category, nine gold medals, four silver and

four bronze certificates from the Texas School Public Relations Association.

"The communications department has the privilege of working with 23 campuses and several

departments and offers a wide variety of services, ranging from crisis communication and

event planning to content creation and storytelling highlighting student and staff achievements," she said. "My goal is for our passionate and competent team to always seek innovative, creative and effective ways to communicate and serve our district."

# Water Quality Report is now available

The 2021 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report is

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out now.

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is a document that provides consumers information about the quality of drinking water in an easy to read format. The CCR summarizes information that Pearland staff collect to comply with federal and State regulations.

It includes information about the source(s) of water used (i.e., rivers, lakes, reservoirs, or aquifers), chemical contaminants, bacteriological contaminants, compliance with drinking water rules, educational health information, water system contact information and public participation opportunities.

Water quality is a measure of the suitability of water for a particular use based on physical, chemical, and biological characteristics. To determine water quality, scientists measure and analyze characteristics of the water such as temperature, characteristics are then compared to numeric standards and guidelines to decide if the water is suitable for a particular use.

Standards and guidelines are established to protect water for designated uses such as drinking, recreation, agricultural irrigation, or protection and maintenance of aquatic life. Standards for drinking-water quality ensure that public drinking-water supplies are as safe as possible.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the States are responsible for establishing the standards for constituents in water that have been shown to pose a risk to human health.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency is the federal agency that developed and implemented the mandate as an amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act. It requires the City of Pearland to provide customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered. More information can be found at the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act webpage.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is the state agency that oversees compliance. All public water system must generate and make available a CCR to their customers by July 1 of every year. TCEQ requirements for the CCR can be found in 30 Texa Annually, the City of Pearland produces a water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31 of each year. Over the years, the City has been dedicated to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards and continually strives to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to residents.

As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, Pearland remains vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation and community education while continuing to serve the needs of water users.

Pearland Public Works representatives are always available to assist if residents have questions or concerns about water.

Solution available online at myreporternews.com

56. Benefit

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**26.** Condo, e.g.



CAROLYN LOWE AND MELISSA NOVAK

# Lowe, Novak named **Teachers of the Year**

Friendswood ISD named Westwood's Carolyn Lowe as Elementary Teacher of the Year (TOY) and Friendswood High School's Melissa Novak as Secondary TOY.

Both teachers were chosen from six finalists from across the District. Once the six teachers of the year were named, it was up to the Friendswood ISD Education Foundation (FEF) to select which two teachers would move on to represent FISD for the Region 4 TOY selection process.

"We were lucky enough to have some outstanding teachers of the year from each of our campuses throughout the District," FEF TOY Committee Chair Kathryn Jenkins said. "These teachers show creativity and motivation to reach every child in their class."

Lowe is a special education inclusion teacher who is "an advocate for students to be fully included throughout their entire days at school, not just in the classroom, but in the greater school community," according to Jenkins.

"[Lowe] authentically engages her students in reaching their learning objectives and dedicates herself to finding success in each student academically and behaviorally," Jenkins said. "She also models and meets with other teachers to collaborate and help them grow in their disciplines and to consult with them about how to best support students and their needs. She values students' passions and strengths, whatever they may be, and grows those gifts. Carolyn is truly a gift to FISD."

Novak serves as the culinary arts teacher. She works with students to cater events throughout the District, hosts fun activities such as Cake Wars and operates Café Blue, a lunch program for teachers at FHS.

"[Novak] takes her CTE program to another level for her students and ensures that they make connections to real life skills, beyond cooking and hospitality," Jenkins said. "She empowers her students and focuses on learning opportunities that allow them to take ownership and showcase their leadership ability. She constantly pushes her students to identify and meet goals through innovative and authentic experiences that will benefit them in any future career choice. She is an advocate for her students, her teaching team and her program."

Congratulations to these outstanding educators and best of luck to them in the Region 4 selection.

# THE BUDDING GARDENER By MICHELLE THOMPSON

# **Preventing Heat Stressed Plants**

Before last week's rainfall many Texas cities were asking residents to conserve water. We had a historically warm June for the state as a whole with little rain and higher than normal temperatures. With 30-70 percent of drinking water going to landscape needs, heat proofing the garden can make a difference.

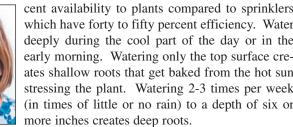
Some pre-summer tips start with appropriate placement of plants. Research the sun, soil and water needs of any new plantings and place plants with similar needs together. Nursery identification tags offer useful information. Texas native and adapted plants are good choices as they handle our hot climate and cold winters.

Healthy plants tolerate heat stress better, require less water and pest controls. A healthy soil goes a long way in helping plants grow and increasing water holding capacity. With each new planting mix in at least one organic soil amendment like compost, shredded leaves, composted manure or organic fertilizer in the planting site. Keep up on garden tasks of weeding, thinning, pruning, deadheading and monitoring pests.

I like to top dress around my landscape plants with an organic granular fertilizer before mulch is spread. Mulch is a welcome barrier from the sun and 2-3" makes a huge difference. Mulch will help to retain moisture, increase humidity around plants and decrease the soil temperature.

Proper watering helps to minimize evaporation. Irrigation that delivers water to the root zone conserves water. Soaker hoses and drip irrigation have a ninety per-





which have forty to fifty percent efficiency. Water deeply during the cool part of the day or in the early morning. Watering only the top surface creates shallow roots that get baked from the hot sun stressing the plant. Watering 2-3 times per week (in times of little or no rain) to a depth of six or I find that I can conserve some water with hand water-

ing specific areas that don't get efficient water from the irrigation system. It is usually new plantings and annuals that need a little more care as their root systems are not as deep as my established perennials and shrubs. When I see heat stressed plants, I push the mulch away from the plant and if the soil is dry I give the area a good watering, then return the mulch. When in doubt check the moisture in the soil, over watering won't help and can create new problems. Avoid wetting plant leaves when you can. The gardening principle is to avoid adding to the length of time that leaves stay wet. In our humid coastal region, this helps to reduce fungal diseases.

Containers may need more frequent watering as they get heat from all sides. Check the soil for moisture after watering. I have watered containers until they have puddled with 1-2" of water and yet after the water soaked in, I found large dry patches.

In the vegetable garden, correct watering is crucial in hot weather. Vegetables need water to produce. Tomatoes are especially unforgiving if they dry out. Going from dry to wet and back again creates problems like blossom end rot and cracked fruit.

Plants that wilt during the hottest part of the day and recover in the evening and early morning are likely suffering from heat stress. Low moisture in plants create a lack of water pressure that leads to wilting. Additional signs of heat stress include leaf rolling and cupping as plants, especially those with large leaves, try to reduce moisture loss by reducing the leaf surface. Dry leaf edges are another survival mechanism.

After the demise of several trees at the back of my property, my shade garden is no longer a shade garden. Plans for a new tree will be in the fall, but my shade loving ligularia and ferns needed some sun relief now. I provided some shade with a small patio umbrella placed in the garden. My heat stressed oakleaf hydrangea were shaded with a square tomato cage covered with wide strips of cloth. Other options include hanging shade cloth or placing a lawn chair over a heat stressed plant.

When you're out working in the garden be sure you stay hydrated as well to prevent heat exhaustion or heat stroke.

If you have a question that you would like answered by The Budding Gardener, please send them to me at TheBuddingGardenertx@gmail.com. Maybe your question will be selected to be answered in a future column.

# YMCA Operation Backpack kicks off

For 18 years, YMCA Operation Backpack has been providing school supplies for students in Pearland Independent School District and surrounding areas, inspiring them to thrive as they start the school year. The 2022 campaign partners include The YMCA of Greater Houston, ABC13,

H-E-B and Citgo.

Making a difference is easy. From July 5 through

August 5, donate online at www.ymcaoperationbackpack.org, text "YMCABACKPACK" to 24365, or make a donation at your local HEB either in-store or online when shopping curbside.

Funds raised will be used to purchase packaged school supplies that will be donated to Pearland ISD students in need. Give today and help to fill a student's backpack with supplies and hope for a brighter future.



## Friendswood Historical Society seeking new docents for museum

By KAROLYN GEPHART

The Friendswood Historical Society (FHS) is seeking new docents for the Frank J. Brown Heritage Museum.

Docents play important roles in sharing Friendswood's history. Docents must be 18 years or older.

The FHS is a non-profit organization who incorporated in the State of Texas on November 22, 1968. The membership is composed of those who appreciate the unique history of Friendswood and choose to support the Society's mission with their dues and/or their volunteer labor. The participation of former residents is also appreciated.

Their mission includes the following: to preserve and maintain Friendswood's history and heritage, to preserve and maintain the Frank J. Brown Heritage Museum in keeping with the pioneer spirit and Christian ideals of the founding families by collecting and displaying the original artifacts and personal effects of the Frank J. Brown family and other early settlers of Friendswood, Texas; to identify, preserve, support and display other historical buildings and sites that also reflect the heritage of the community; and to acquire and maintain a historical library and archive to preserve Friendswood's history.

They also work to educate the membership and the community about history through tours, lectures, seminars, printed materials and events.

Current board members include Acting President David Smith; Vice President Mel Measeles, Secretary Mary Perroni, Sally Branson, Tim McCall, Steve Rockey, David Greif, Barbara Holt, Chris McIntosh, and Matt Robinson.

Anyone interested in becoming a docent can pickup an application at the Friendswood Library and the Senior Activity Center.



- Private & Semi-Private Rehabilitation Suites
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- Post Joint Replacement Rehab IV Therapy
- Wound Care Services
- Excellent Outcomes in Post Stroke Rehabilitation
- · Member of the CHI St. Luke's, Memorial Hermann, and the Methodist Hospital Preferred Skilled Nursing Facility Networks
- Accepting Medicare and Many Private Insurances

For more information please contact our Admission Director John Lozica, LVN at



# Friendswood Celebrates July 4<sup>th</sup>

















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### From the **Cluttered Desk** by Dr. David Davis

A few helpful tips On occasion - I receive some helpful tips that are useful in every day life.



quickly in File 13 - if you know what I mean!

Some tips I receive I label: The noise you make when you're eating soup.

However - there are some great tips that you might not have ever heard of - so I want to share some from my File of Great Tips!

#### Did you know?

• Peel a banana from the bottom and you won't have to pick the little 'stringy things' off of it. That's how the primates do it.

• Take your bananas apart when you get home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem...they ripen faster. (Saw a new gizmo at Wal-Mart that you can hang your bananas on to support this theory).

• To really make scrambled eggs or omelets rich add a couple of spoonfuls of sour cream, cream cheese, or heavy cream in and then beat up the eggs. • Heat up leftover pizza

in a non-stick skillet on top of the stove, set heat to med-low and heat until warm. This keeps crust crispy - no more soggy microwave pizza.

• Easy Deviled Eggs: Put cooked egg yokes in a zip lock bag. Seal, mash till they are all broken up. Add remainder of ingredients (mayo, mustard, chopped pickles) re-seal, keep mashing it up thoroughly — cut the tip of the baggy, squeeze mixture into egg white. Just throw away the bag when finished. • Here's a gardening tip: Start putting in your plants, work the nutrients in your soil. Wet newspapers, put layers around the plants overlapping as you go. Cover with mulch and forget about the weeds. Weeds will get through plastic, but not through wet newspapers. • To reduce static cling — pin a small safety pin to the seam of your slip or inside your pants and you will not have a clingy skirt, dress, or pants. • Hate foggy windshields? Buy a chalkboard eraser and keep it in your glove box in your car. When the windows fog - rub with the eraser...works better than a cloth.

# Friendswood faces big challenge for the 2022 football season

#### **By DR. DAVID DAVIS** Reporter News Staff

Friendswood head coach Robert Koopmann enters his 11th season at the helm of the Mustang football program after taking over for former head coach Steve Van Meter who led the Mustangs for 20 years.

The Mustangs have fared well with Koopmann in charge as the veteran coach, who was the Friendswood offensive coordinator for over a dozen years before taking the reins in 2012, has advanced to the playoffs nine of the past 10 years while carving out an 84-40 overall record.

Friendswood has only missed the post-season and posted a losing record once under Koopmann and that was in 2020 when schools were dealing with COVID-19. The Mustangs finished 3-6 that season.

In 2022, the Mustangs may face one of the most challenging seasons they have had in recent memory.

The UIL realignment dealt the Mustangs to a very tough district that also will require the team to travel a much greater distance than in the past. Koopmann and his gridiron warriors don't have the reputation of backing down from the competition as they have always accepted the challenge with great leadership and courage and that can be expected for the 2022 football season.

The Mustangs find themselves in District 10-5A Div I with nine teams which means they only get to play one non-district game before they begin league action.

The teams and their pre-season picks for the season include Manvel, Magnolia West, Richmond Foster, Angleton, Magnolia, Friendswood, Fulshear, Rosenberg Terry, and Fort Bend Kempner.

The top four teams advance to the playoffs, so the pre-season picks have no bearing on the actual playoff positions.

In 2021, Friendswood lost their first four nondistrict games and then the Mustangs ran the table with six consecutive wins to share the district title with Port Arthur Memorial.

So the real season begin in district play and with nine teams in the league, anything is possible.

The two non-district games for Friendswood will be against the Texas City Stingarees and the Willowridge Eagles.

Friendswood will open the 2022 football season at Texas City on Friday, August 26 at 7:00 p.m.



sive starters to go with 30 returning lettermen from a team that was 10-2 in 2021 while advancing to the area round of the playoffs.

The Stings will have a new head coach in Shone Evans who played high school football for the Pearland Oilers and played at the collegiate



HEAD COACH - Friendswood head coach Robert Koopmann begins his 11th season guiding the Mustangs football program.



LB JAXSON RUSSO

Texas City returns six offensive and six defen- level at McNeese State in Lake Charles, Louisiana. His brother. Anthony Evans, who was an All-State running back for the Pearland Oilers and a standout player at UH, is the offensive coordinator.

> The Stings will be led on offense by junior RB Caleb Bell (5-10, 235, 4.5) who had 1,123 and 19 TDs his sophomore season.

> Texas City and Friendswood have a long history as former district foes and this will be a challenge for both teams to open the season.

> The Mustangs will travel to face the Willowridge Eagles on Thursday, September 1 at Hall Stadium at 7:00 p.m.

> Willowridge returns six offensive and eight defensive starters to join 20 returning lettermen from a 4-5 team in 2021. The Eagles were young last season and missed the playoffs so they will have a more experienced team in 2022 that will be more competitive.

> Friendswood returns five offensive and seven defensive starters with 34 returning lettermen which will give the Mustangs some depth on both sides of the ball.

> The offense should display some early firepower as the Mustangs will return several skill players led by senior quarterback Matthew Dupuis, running back Jackson Rhodes (6-0, 185, 4.7) who had 148 carries and 714 yards with 8 TDs, and wide receivers Kale Koopmann (6-2, 170, 4.8) and Aiden Stokes (5-8, 150, 4.6).

> Others that will make an impact on the offensive side of the ball include: TE Hunter Smyrl ((6-3, 220, 4.7) who had 32 catches for 508 yards and 2 TDs, QB/TE Brock Foster (6-4, 220, 4.8), OL Brandon Schirck (6-1, 255), OL Kyle Gardner, and WR Adam Buffington.

> Defensively, the Mustangs will be a force to reckon with, especially in the early part of the season as the offense develops as a strong unit.

> Senior LB Braylan Shelby (6-5, 230, 4.6) is a four-star FBS recruit who had 48 tackles, 8 sacks, and 1 INT last season. He will move around to different places on the field to disrupt opposing offenses.

> LB Jaxson Russo (6-0, 225, 4.8) will also be a force to deal with as he has the skills to be disruptive in his own right. He registered 100 tackles and 2 sacks last year.

> Others who will make Friendswood a strong defensive unit include: DE Caleb Allen (6-1, 185), DT Caden Spiller, LB Jaxson Oliver, CB Ben Chapman, and DB Eli St. John.

#### Here are some words of wisdom:

• No one ever chokes to death swallowing their pride.

• He who burns his bridges better be a great swimmer.

• It's hard to soar like an eagle when you're dressed like a turkey.

Old friend Robert said, "We are judged by what we finish - not by what we start. If you win - say little; If you lose - say less."

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Photo by Olyn Taylor FRIENDSWOOD SIGNAL-CALLER - Senior QB Matthew Dupuis returns to lead the Friendswood offense this season. The Mustangs have some talented returning starters that are ready to compete in a new district.

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PUBLIC NOTIFICATION FOR FLOOD HAZARD REVISIONS

The City of Pearland Engineering Department and the City of Houston Floodplain Management Office, in accordance with National Flood Insurance Program regulation 65.7(b)(1), hereby gives notice of the City's intent to revise the flood hazard information for Clear Creek and A100-00-00 (Clear Creek), generally located east of Cullen Boulevard. Specifically, the flood hazard information shall be revised along Clear Creek from a point approximately 1,610 linear feet downstream of Cullen Boulevard to Cullen Boulevard.

As a result of the revision, the 1% annual chance water-surface elevations decrease. The floodway and 1% annual chance floodplain shall narrow within the area of revision.

Maps and detailed analysis of the revision can be reviewed at the City of Pearland Engineering Department located at 3519 Liberty Drive Pearland TX 77581 or the City of Houston Floodplain Management Office located at 1002 Washington Ave. Houston TX 77002. Interested persons may call the City of Pearland Engineering Services Department at (281) 652-1600 or the City of Houston Floodplain Management Office at (832) 394-8854 for additional information

# **FOR MORE HIGH** SCHOOL SPORTS **NEWS VISIT** reporternewssports.com



Representing KPB at the 55th Annual Keep Texas Beautiful State conference held in Austin recently, Director of KPB Operations Lenora Tollefson and YEC alumna Alexis Reves spoke on

# 2022 Pearland Oiler Football Camp

Date: Monday, July 11th through Wednesday July 13th, 2022 Ages: Camp is for 1st grade through 8th grade students. Time: 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM Where: Pearland ISD Stadium QR code to register online Cost: \$95.00 (Payment Collected on the first day of Camp) Campers will need: Athletic shorts, Cleats, and water Email Registraion Form Coach Gotte: gottew@pearlandisd.org

The Pearland Oiler football camp is designed to teach young players the basic fundmentals and techniques of the game. Our goal is to provide a fun, competitive atmoshpere where our campers can learn and improve the skills of the game so they have a solid foundation for the future.



2022 FOOTBALL CAMP July 26, 27, 28

COST:	\$50
WHO:	Incoming 9th grade athletes at SCHS
	Incoming 7th and 8th grade athletes zoned to SCHS
DATES:	Tuesday Jul 26 - Wednesday Jul 27 - Thursday Jul 28
TIME:	8 am to 11 am
LOCATION: S	Shadow Creek HS Athletic Facility and Fields (Kirby Entrance)

We would like to invite you to join the Shadow Creek Football Staff for the 2022 SCHS Football Camp. We are excited to have the opportunity to work with you. Campers will benefit from three days of fundamental instruction and drill work. This camp is a great asset to you before the 2022 season begins.

> Online payment available June 1 - July 24 www.myschoolbucks.com Registration and payment are due the first day of camp. After July 25 Cash or check payable to Alvin ISD Athletic Dept.

# **Native Plant Society to discuss prairies**

#### **BV KAROLYN GEPHART** Reporter News Editor

How Does Your Prairie Grow will be the speaker's topic at the Clear Lake Chapter Native Plant Society of Texas July Chapter Meeting July 11 at 6:30 pm.

The Business meeting begins at 6:30 pm and the speaker begins at 7 pm. The meeting is presented online.

Registration is required in order to receive the information needed to join the meeting online. https://uhcl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwtdeCupz0jGdzZZkhi6NzQXKOrTz KVRTOC. After registering, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Iris Poteet of the Coastal Prairie Conservancy will deliver the keynote for the meeting and will focus on native and nonnative plants found in the coastal prairie landscape. She will offer discussion on selectively working to control non-native invasive species.

Poteet serves as a board member for the Coastal Prairie Conservancy, formerly

known as Katy Prairie Conservancy. Since 1999, she has devoted volunteer efforts to preserving the Katy Prairie.

After a 34-year banking career, she retired in 2017, joined NPSOT and completed levels 1 & 3 of its native landscaping program.

As a Texas Master Naturalist since 2018, Poteet focuses her advanced training and volunteer hours on all things prairie, and devotes most of her time at CPC's Katy Prairie Preserve.

The meeting will be hosted by the Environmental Institute of Houston, University of Houston-Clear Lake

The Native Plant Society of Texas is a non-profit organization run by volunteers who work through local chapters around the state to preserve our rich biological heritage for future generations.

The Clear Lake Chapter of the Native Plant Society focuses on promoting the benefits of native plants. The Chapter continues to strive for a diversified membership, and stand for inclusivity through education, outreach and example.

#### an educational panel during the event. The YEC members of KPB brought home a state award. **KPB's YEC wins State award**

By KAROLYN GEPHART

Youth members of the Keep Pearland Beautiful Youth Environmental Council program brought home a special award from the 55th Annual Keep Texas Beautiful conference held in Austin June 27-29.

They won the 2022 KTB Ruthe Jackson Youth Organization Award which was presented to the KPB Youth Environmental Council Program.

In 2021, as the schools went virtual and social distancing was a must in the community, the council voted to create social media committees to educate followers on environmental issues/activities.

The KPB TikTok was created and more videos were added to their YouTube channel.

Other YEC members researched and created social media posts for Facebook & Instagram.

Members participated in YEC socials that focused on picking up litter at three local parks, collecting over 106 pounds of litter. This gave members an opportunity to get to know each other while maintaining social distance during an uncertain time.

Members felt the need to have these social events to get members' minds off things unknown and find time to relate with each

Back Main Street Roundtable event returns

The program Bringing Back Main Street Roundtable will be returning Tuesday, July 26 from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Waller City Hall and Civic Plaza, 1218 Farr, Waller. The event will be in person, and registration is requested. The event is hosted by the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC).

The topic will be *Persistence Pays Off:* A Long-Term Plan for Revitalizing Downtown. Those interested are invited to attend as the City of Waller and the Waller Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) discuss the planning process and available resources they're using to revitalize their downtown and attract developers to the community.

New businesses in town include Location 6 (a craft brewery), EJI's Culinary (chef's other, to help with their mental health.

YEC members also participated in KPB volunteer events and a collection drive at each High School campus. Diverting over 400 pounds of textiles and 165 pairs of shoes from the landfill.

YEC members from 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years were recognized for their service and contributions to KPB and KTB.

Director of Operations Lenora Tollefson, has managed the YEC program since 2017, and refers to the members as her "Big Kids."

Also representing KPB at the conference, Lenora Tollefson and YEC alumna Alexis Reves spoke on an educational panel during the event.

Keep Texas Beautiful is a network of dedicated Texans working together to make the state the best place to live, work and play. They equip local partners and affiliates with the tools they need to build vibrant, engaged communities.

Founded in 1967, Keep Texas Beautiful has 55 years of experience deploying resources for local clean-up, recycling and youth engagement activities. Everything they do is focused on preventing litter and mobilizing volunteers to take action across the state.

ghost kitchen), and Finishes Solutions (a housing and construction development company)

Participants will hear from representatives of the city, WEDC, and the developers. The event will conclude with a brief walking tour of downtown. Breakfast and networking begin at 9:30 am and program begins at 10 am.

H-GAC hosts quarterly roundtables to help local governments, chambers of commerce, and economic development interests promote the economic revitalization of downtown areas.

Waller City Hall and Civic Plaza is located at 1218 Farr, Waller.

For more information, contact Andrea Tantillo at andrea.tantillo@h-gac.com.



Sally Branson of Friendswood held her first meeting of H-GAC as board chair June 21. She is joined by William H. King III who received a special resolution for service and H-GAC contributions, and H-GAC Executive Director Chuck Wemple.

### Branson to serve as H-GAC Board Chair

At the Houston - Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) Board of Directors meeting on June 21, Sally Branson of Friendswood held her first meeting as the new board chair. Branson is also a Friendswood City Council member.

At the meeting Judge Trey Duhon of Waller County was sworn in as Chair-Elect.

H-GAC members presented a resolution to Mayor Pro Tem William King, III as a recognition for his distinguished service and contribution to the H-GAC region. King is the immediate past chair of HGAC.

H-GAC is the regional organization through which local governments consider issues and cooperate in solving area wide problems. Through H-GAC, local governments also initiate efforts in anticipating and preventing problems, saving public funds. The 13-county H-GAC service region is growing, becoming more diverse, and constantly changing.

In order to address the needs of citizens and businesses, local governments are providing leadership to guide regional development wisely and manage change constructively.

In other H-GAC news, the communications team received the 2022 Public Relations Society of America Houston's Government Communications Team of the Year Award. The H-GAC Communications Team consists of Meagan Coughlin, APR, communications and outreach director; Ashley Seals, communications manager; Keith Garber, principal outreach coordinator; Crystal Thomas, outreach specialist; Stephanie Sanchez; communications coordinator; Robyn Egbert, outreach coordinator; Alexandria Brock Watson, MBA, communications coordinator; and Kristina Michel, senior writer and editor.

Achievement Awards are presented each year to various organizations from all over the country to recognize excellence in programs and services of regional councils and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). H-GAC's Public Services department won the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) 2022 Achievement award in recognition of H-GAC small business assistance.

For more information on H-GAC contact them at 713-627-3200.