

## Around Town

### Thursday, April 27

#### PRESCHOOL STORY TIME

Preschool story time is 10:30 a.m. in the public library meeting room, 3522 Liberty Drive. All public library events are free. Call 281-652-1677 or email [pearland@bcls.lib.tx.us](mailto:pearland@bcls.lib.tx.us) for information.

#### KNAPP CENTER

##### LUNCH & LISTEN

Lunch and listen featuring musician John Armour is 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Ave. Membership at the Knapp Center is \$25 per year for Pearland residents and \$50 for non-residents. For information, call 281-652-1890.

#### ADULT BOOK CLUB MEETING

Adult book club meets at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times" by Jane Goodall and Douglas Abrams with Gail Hudson at the West Pearland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway. For information, call 713-436-0995.

### Friday, April 28

#### ALVIN FRONTIER DAYS

Alvin Rotary Club hosts the second day of the three-day Frontier Day Car and Bike Show. The carnival opens at 5 p.m. Friday with a kickoff dance from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Chameleon Event Center, 319 W. Willis St., Alvin. Visit [www.alvinrotary.org](http://www.alvinrotary.org).

#### PEARLAND FFA WAREHOUSE

##### SALE FUNDRAISER

The Pearland FFA Warehouse Sale Fundraiser will be held Friday, April 28 from 8am to 3pm and Saturday, April 29 from 8am to 12pm at Koza's Inc. Warehouse, 3908 First St. in Pearland. 100% of sales fund Pearland FFA Booster Club Scholarships. Prices range from 50¢ to \$8.00.

### Saturday, April 29

#### COWBOY LIFE FAIR

Brazoria County Historical Museum hosts a cowboy life fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the county fairgrounds, 901 S. Downing in Angleton. The fair will include hands-on crafts and demonstrations as well as interactive sessions on calf roping, Dutch oven cooking, fur trading and more. For information, visit the Brazoria County Historical Museum's Facebook page, or call 979-864-1208.

#### GARDEN TEA PARTY

Silverlake Lions Club hosts a Mother Daughter Garden Tea Party at 2 p.m. at 3550 S. Main St. Tickets are \$35 per couple and \$10 for additional guests. For tickets, visit <https://one.bidpal.net/lionstea23>

#### TEEN CRAFT TIME

Teen Craft time featuring pet rocks is 3:15 p.m. at the West Pearland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway. For information, call 713-436-0995.

### Monday, May 1

#### BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB

Pearland Bookworms Book Club meets from 6:30 to 9 p.m. to discuss "True Biz" at the Tom Reid Library, 3522 Liberty Drive. Call 281-652-1677 for more information.

#### ADULT TINY ART SHOW KITS

Adult tiny art show kits will be available from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the front desk of the West Pearland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway. Submission for art show are due May 22. For information, call 713-436-0995.

### Wednesday, May 3

#### SENIORS PAINTING CLASS

An acrylic painting class for seniors is now offered at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Ave. Membership at the Knapp Center is \$25 per year for Pearland residents and \$50 for non-residents. For information, call 281-652-1890.

# Decision draws near for bond projects

By N. BRADFORD

Reporter News Staff

If voters approve them all, Pearland's four bond propositions would impact the tax rate by about two cents — but that's based on a worst-case scenario, city officials say.

"None of us knows what (property values) are going to be next year or the year after," Mayor Kevin Cole told city residents gathered at Independence Park for an April 18 "Talk of the Town" session. "We assume an extremely conservative valuation growth. If values are higher, the two pennies would be lower."

Totally approximately \$181.3 million, the four propositions will be decided in the May election. Early voting began Monday.

The mayor and several council and city staff members attended the quarterly session to provide information and answer questions about the bond election.

The largest piece is Proposition A, which designates \$105.5 million for drainage projects.

"We wanted to move the needle," said Seth Thompson, chairman of the Citizen's Drainage Bond Committee, which researched and ultimately recommended the projects. "There's too many people who have been

**"We wanted to move the needle. There's too many people who have been waiting too long to get their drainage issues addressed."**

*- Seth Thompson, chairman of the Citizen's Drainage Bond Committee*

waiting too long to get their drainage issues addressed."

The drainage projects recommended are all those that can be completed within five years, "so the people can see the fruits of what they're voting on," Cole added.

The majority of projects are east of Cullen Road.

"We've grown from east to west," Cole said. "The older areas of our town are east of Cullen; the bulk of our city has aged on this east end of town. All these projects are infrastructure that is quite old. The criteria we use today didn't exist then."

Proposition B would provide \$26.14 million for city streets, bridges and sidewalks, including the city's sidewalk gap program.

About \$500,000 is allocated to maintain sidewalks annually, but this hasn't been enough to address all that need attention.

"This will really help us get a jump on the backlog of those sidewalks," interim City

Manager Trent Epperson said, "as well as take a look at areas in town where we've got gaps in the sidewalk system.

Proposition C includes \$33.7 million for parks and recreation, include a second phase of the Hickory Slough Sportsplex, which is expected to double its size and provide lighting for fields.

Another large project in Proposition C is a second phase of Independence Park, which would expand the park's pond into a usable water amenity, extend walking trails and expand the playground into one for all abilities.

Proposition D would fund \$15.96 million in construction for Fire Station No. 7, to be located on Bailey Road between the water tower and city natatorium.

"What this fire house does for us is it changes the game from a response standpoint," Fire Chief J. Taylor said. "Seven and a half minutes are the threshold we try to be under."

The city launched the quarterly Talk of the Town series as a way for residents to interact and ask questions about city issues. Questions for future events can be submitted at [pearlandtx.gov](http://pearlandtx.gov).



## No. 1 STATE-RANKED OILERS

**Pearland senior shortstop Anthony Avalos crosses home plate for a run vs Strake Jesuit. Avalos was MVP for the Oilers with a walk, three hits, five RBI's and a run scored for the Oilers in an 8-1 victory. The win sealed up the District 23-6A title for the second year in a row for No. 1 state-ranked Pearland. Up next is two final regular season games vs Alief Hastings before beginning the post-season where the Oilers look to make another deep run.** Photo by Lloyd Hendricks

# PISD to implement strategic teacher hiring

By N. BRADFORD

Reporter News Staff

The Pearland ISD school board this month OKed just over a million in new hires, five of which to replace teachers who haven't left.

But if patterns of summer resignations hold true, Pearland ISD will be ahead of the game, the district's superintendent says.

"Some concern may be why are you (adding) personnel when we haven't approved the budget yet," Superintendent

Larry Berger told the board during its April meeting. "Part of that is to be aggressive in hiring and filling positions where we know that the teacher and employee pools out there are difficult, and we want to make sure we get the best and the brightest."

Positions OKed included five elementary school "overage" teachers, or teachers who won't yet have an assignment in the district. The request was somewhat abnormal, Berger said. Since these are designed as replacement positions for teachers who leave, it would have no budget impact.

"Knowing that between now and the start of school, I'm going to have teachers that either resign, retire or go somewhere else, and I want to make sure we are hiring those teachers now," he said. "I want to get the best out

there and have them on the bench, so we are not hiring teachers in July or August."

Should one of the teachers not placed, they will be used as a certified daily substitute until placement is found.

Also during the April meeting, a Pearland High assistant principal position was also added back after being removed for budget purposes.

Increased enrollment has pushed administrative ratios to the highest in known years, PISD staff said, since recommendations call for seven assistant principals for approximately 3,200 students.

"If we do not replace the (assistant principal) at Pearland High School, they will be at one to 521 students," Berger said. "Right now at Dawson they are one to 468."

Also added were speech language and school psychology staff and six instructional aides.



# Early voting under way for bonds, races

By N. BRADFORD

Reporter News Staff

Early voting began this week ahead of the May 6 Pearland City Council and area school board elections, as well as four bond propositions totaling approximately \$181.3 million.

Voters may cast early ballots from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Friday, and from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 29 and May 1-2.

Locations for early voting include the Tom Reid Library, 3522 Liberty Drive; West Pearland Community Center, 2150 Countryplace Parkway; West Pearland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway and at the North Annex, 7313 Corporate Drive.

## Bond election

City residents will vote for or against on four separate bond propositions labeled A through D.

Proposition A designates \$105.5 million for drainage, Proposition B would provide \$26.14 million for city streets, bridges and sidewalks, Proposition C includes \$33.7 million for parks and recreation and Proposition D would fund \$15.96 million in construction and repair for Fire Station No. 7.

## Council race

In the city council race, Position No. 3 Councilman Alex Kamkar is being challenged by Jai Daggett.

Candidates Rushi Patel and Antonio Johnson are vying for position No. 7, the seat currently held by longtime councilman Woody Owens, who is not seeking reelection.

Mayor Kevin Cole did not draw a challenger, so will be declared reelected.

## Pearland ISD

In the Pearland ISD, Trustee Kristofer Schoeffler is being challenged by financial advisor Steve Bumgardner for Position No. 2.

Also up for reelection is Position 1 Trustee Toni Carter, who did not draw a challenger.

Pearland ISD trustees serve three-year terms and hold annual elections. There are no run-offs; the candidate who gets the most votes is declared elected.

## Alvin ISD

In the Alvin ISD, incumbent Earl Humbird is seeking reelection and being challenged by Craig Kettler for Position No. 6, while Vivian Scheibel is the lone unopposed candidate for Position No. 7.

For more election information including sample ballots, a video on how to use paper ballots and a list of Election Day polling places, visit [brazoriacountyclerktx.gov](http://brazoriacountyclerktx.gov) online. For questions, call 979-864-1662, or email [CclerkElections@brazoriacountytx.gov](mailto:CclerkElections@brazoriacountytx.gov).

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# PEARLAND POLICE REPORT

Below are highlights from reports filed during the past week by Pearland Police. Incident and arrest reports are public record and are available in full online at [p2c.pearlandtx.gov](http://p2c.pearlandtx.gov).

• **Tuesday, April 18**

DWI arrest at 2 a.m., 12100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

Death investigation at 3:17 a.m., 16100 block of South Freeway.

Two people were arrested and charged with robbery, 4:35 p.m., 3200 Wonard Drive.

Burglary of vehicles reported at 10 p.m., 3800 block of Mountford Drive.

• **Wednesday, April 19**

DWI arrest at 1:29 a.m., 2300 block of Cullen Parkway.

Burglary of vehicles reported at 1:45 a.m., 3500 block of Belmore Lane.

An arrest for theft of service at 2 a.m., 11200 Broadway St.

An arrest for violation of a protective order, 4:41 a.m., 4800 Bailey Road.

Two people were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, 4800 Bailey Road.

Terroristic threat reported at 8:18 a.m., 11500 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

Two people were arrested for family violence assault, 12:41 p.m., 14700 South Freeway North.

Theft of vehicle reported at 1 p.m., 11200 block of Broadway St.

An arrest for criminal trespass, 6700 block of Paigettree Lane.

An arrest for assault family violence by physical contact, 300 block of Elder Grove Drive.

Two people were arrested for burglary of a habitation around 10 p.m., 2300 block of Granite Shoals.

• **Thursday, April 20**

A building was burglarized, 3:19 a.m., 3500 block of Main St.

Theft of vehicle parts reported at 1 p.m., 2900 block of Oak Road.

Death investigation at 1 p.m., 11100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 5 p.m., 3400 block of Pearland Parkway.

Investigation of criminal activity, 5:18 p.m., 4600 block of W. Orange St.

An arrest for assault causing bodily injury

of a family member, 9 p.m., 1300 block of Birch St.

An arrest for DWI at 9:28 p.m., 1700 Old Alvin Road.

An arrest for DWI, second offense, at 11:13 p.m., 19200 Highway 288.

• **Friday, April 21**

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 1:12 a.m., 7100 Broadway St.

An arrest for assault by physical contact, 2:32 a.m., 2800 block of Field Hollow Drive.

An arrest for criminal mischief, 4:37 a.m., 17500 block of Highway 6.

Death investigation at 8:45 a.m., 11100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

An arrest for possession of a dangerous drug, 7:08 p.m., 3700 Manvel Road.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 9 p.m., 4100 Dixie Farm Road.

• **Saturday, April 22**

Death investigation at 12:42 a.m., 16100 block of South Freeway.

DWI arrest, second offense, at 1:22 a.m., 3700 Hampshire Drive.

DWI arrest at 2:16 a.m., 2000 Isla Drive.

An arrest for disorderly conduct at 10:50 a.m., 2900 block of W. Russett Place.

An arrest for pocket-picking, 3:20 p.m., 1919 Main St.

An arrest for assault causing bodily injury of a family member, 4:14 p.m. 2400 Business Center Drive.

An arrest for deadly conduct, 11 p.m., 9000 block of Broadway St.

• **Sunday, April 23**

DWI arrest at 3:36 a.m., 2700 Smith Ranch Road.

An arrest for unlawful carrying of weapon in prohibited place, 2555 Cullen parkway.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 5:39 a.m., 7400 block of Woodward Springs Drive.

An arrest for failure to identify/giving false information, 10 a.m., 1900 Main St.

An arrest for public intoxication, 6:30 p.m., 3500 block of Broadway St.

• **Monday, April 24**

An arrest for assault causing bodily injury, family member, 12100 block of Dickinson Road.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia, 2300 block of Scarsdale Blvd.

DWI arrest at 6 p.m., 1300 Broadway St.

## Lineup announced for country showcase

The Pearland Country Music Showcase is planned for June 25 in the open air pavilion at the Pearland Town Center. The event is 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the center, 11200 Broadway St.

Coolers and lawn chairs are welcome at the outdoor event featuring headliner Britt Godwin, a Bridge City, Texas, native now based in Beaumont. Godwin has been featured on the Grand Ole Opry, Louisiana Hayride, David Letterman Show and Charlie Pruitt Country Music Show and previously performed with the B.B. & Company band.

For more information visit [VisitPearland.com/CountryMusicShowcase](http://VisitPearland.com/CountryMusicShowcase).

# Letters to the Editor

*Dear Editor,*

It is my pleasure to lend my support to Joe Matranga on his bid to be a Friendswood City Council Member, Position 5. Joe has a giving heart for Friendswood. He is a lifelong resident of our community having graduated from Friendswood High School. He has made his home here, raised his family here, and now volunteers in our community.

Serving as a member and most recently as Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Joe has been able to view the growth from a very unique perspective. In short, he has actively helped mold and make decisions on issues related to growth in our city. I have appreciated his thoughtful approach to leadership and decision making. He has a calm demeanor and is able to weave his way through very important decisions without drama or rancor.

Just as Joe has been successful on the P&Z Commission, I know he will be very successful serving on the City Council. Knowing he will do what is in the best interest of the citizens and that he has no agenda but to

serve is why I will cast my vote for Joe Matranga.

Ron Cox  
Friendswood

*Dear Editor,*

How do you really know that someone has the integrity you're looking for? It's found in their actions and decisions. Fortunately, we have a candidate for City Council who actually has a track record of "doing the right thing" for the citizens of Friendswood.

Joe Matranga has already served as a volunteer for the people of Friendswood for over 10 years, as a member of planning and zoning, animal advocates, school district initiatives, West Ranch and more. We have watched him volunteer and give back to our community tirelessly, without benefit. He is truly a public servant, not a politician.

His heart is in the right place, yet equally important, he brings a sharp intellect and experienced business sense to the Council table. We need someone who will watch the bottom line and is able to cooperate with others. We need a leader who doesn't care for special

interest or influence, only for what's best for the people of Friendswood.

Former Friendswood  
Mayors Dave Smith and  
Kim Brizendine

*Dear Editor,*

Joe Matranga is running for Friendswood City Council Position 5. I have had the opportunity to experience how well Joe Matranga conducted the Planning and Zoning meetings in Friendswood. In a plan to approve a PUD (Planned Unit Development), he was very efficient and fair throughout the entire process. While waiting to present my plans I observed his management skills to always bring out all the issues for discussion before any decision by the Board would vote on the proposal.

Joe is a long term citizen of Friendswood and has served the city well. His experience in dealing with large budgets during his career will add to his credentials to be a highly qualified member of Friendswood City Council. Please vote for Joe Matranga.

Harold Benson  
Friendswood

## Pearland ISD Communications wins 20 state PR awards

The Pearland Independent School District Communications Department celebrated 20 awards, including one top distinction and a crystal commendation certificate of merit, at the Texas School Public Relations Association conference in late February.

Pearland ISD won one prestigious Best of Category award for a printed flyer and a crystal commendation certificate of merit for the 2022 Pearland ISD Big Art Day. The Best of Category award goes to the top Gold Star entry in each competition category, with school districts competing against same-sized districts.

Pearland ISD won the following awards:

**Best of Category and Gold Star:** Flyer - Prop A One-Pager

**Crystal Commendation Certificate of Merit:** District/Association Special Event/Celebration – Big Art Day

**Gold Star:** Program - 2021 Employee Service Awards Program

**Gold Star:** Invitation - 2021 Employee Service Awards Invitation

**Gold Star:** Poster – Big Art Day

**Gold Star:** Print Materials in a Language Other than English - 2021 Employee Service Awards Invitation (Spanish)

**Gold Star:** Photo Academic/Classroom Subjects - Graduation Excitement

**Gold Star:** Logo, Trademark, Symbol - Prop A Logo – 2021 Pearland ISD VATRE

**Gold Star:** Miscellaneous Digital Media - Prop A Presentation

**Gold Star:** Miscellaneous Digital Media - Social Media Roll Out Presentation

**Gold Star:** Marketing Campaign - One-Stop Shop

**Gold Star:** Special Event - 2021 Employee Service Awards There's No Place like Pearland

**Silver Star:** Flyer - One-Stop Shop Pearland ISD Auxiliary Job Fair

**Silver Star:** Writing - Prop A Video Script

**Silver Star:** Published New Release or Feature - Dr. Waters Retirement

**Silver Star:** Photo Other Subjects - Maintenance and Operations Pep Rally

**Silver Star:** Prop A Mailer - Published Print Ad

**Silver Star:** Video, Promotional - Berger Time: Introduction of Superintendent Larry Berger

**Silver Star:** Video Marketing - Prop A Video

**Bronze Star:** Print Materials in a Language Other than English - One-Stop Shop Pearland ISD Auxiliary Job Fair

Fostering an open relationship between Pearland ISD and the public, the Communications Department manages many avenues of district communication and community relations, including the website, social media, print and electronic newsletters, press releases, media relations, emergency communications and district event planning.

Communications team members include Sundie Dahlkamp, Cissa Madero, Victor Bushfield, Aliana Peska, Laura McClellan, Tamara Hanson, Christine Merritt, Martha Stanley and Cindy Brown.

## Fifteen Pearland ISD students receive Texas Theatre Scholars Awards

Fourteen Pearland High School and one Glenda Dawson High School theatre students have recently earned Texas Theatre Scholars Awards. PHS Pearland Theatre students include

**Jase Holas, Abigail Cantu, Ashlie Gomez, Diego Caraballo, Adam Harrington, Siara Woods, Tomas Joseph Washington, Rossi Rodriguez, Bob Alva,**

**Geneva Cline, Chidinma Kanu, Nhu Nguyen, Hayley Vo and Haley Carew.** DHS Ovation Theatre student is **Abby Gibson.**

The Texas Theatre Scholars program recognizes and honors high school theatre students who demonstrate achievement in theatrical performance, exhibit high academic success, and outstanding citizenship. To

qualify for the Texas Theatre Scholars Award, students provide information about their academic performance, citizenship and their involvement in their campus theatre department.

**Cody Edgar** directs DHS's Ovation Theatre and **David Barker** directs PHS's Pearland Theatre.

### About Texas Thespians

Texas Thespians, an affiliate chapter of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA), is the largest chapter in the nation. The Texas Thespians chapter provides local, state, and regional support for adult members, Thespians, and Junior Thespians. With over 600 troupes, Texas Thespians represent over 16,000 middle school and high school students. Texas Thespians, named an EdTA Gold Honor Chapter, offers educational festivals, workshops, and competitions for students, as well as conferences and professional development for teachers and administrators. As an affiliate of the International Thespian Society, Texas Thespians follows the national model for promoting excellence in theatre education and student achievement.

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Across

1. Plant life

6. Hollywood salad

10. Plain in Spain

14. Buenos \_\_\_\_

15. Berry in diet pills

16. Passing notice

17. Eight producers?

19. Type of ferry

20. Lessee

21. Deception

22. Feds

23. Audition tapes

25. "Yippee!"

26. Deteriorates

30. Clothing

32. Barbaric

35. Cast member

39. Spectacles

40. Potted dwarf

41. Chief stagehand

43. Identity crisis?

44. Tablecloths and such

46. X-ray units

47. Up, in baseball

50. Fill anew

53. English limestone

54. Director's cry

55. Astronomer's sighting

60. Captures

61. Not mutual

63. Advocate

64. Abounding

65. Bring up

66. 1951 N.L. Rookie of the Year

67. Quite a while

68. Impatiently eager

Down

1. So-so

2. Vermin

3. \_\_\_\_ Ishii ("Kill Bill" character)

4. Break

5. Appealed

6. Clawed

7. Leopardlike cat

8. Coffeehouse server

9. Alpine wind

10. Yankee

11. Fat Man or Little Boy

12. Bird that builds a hanging nest

13. Lack of muscle firmness

18. "\_\_\_\_ you kidding?"

24. Fortify

25. "What the Butler Saw" playwright

26. Hazard

27. Story starter

28. Unnamed ones

29. Shades

31. Nuclear missile, for short

33. Excellence

34. A \_\_\_\_ apple

36. She, in Italy

37. Expressed

38. New Mexico Indians

42. Hanging basket bloomer

43. Cleopatra biter

45. Alert

47. Vinyl collectible

48. Crown

49. Loose

51. Italian article

52. Kind of dish

54. Congeal

56. Exhausted

57. Certain acid

58. Whip

59. Like a malt beverage

62. " \_\_\_\_ Miserables"

Solution available online at [myreporternews.com](http://myreporternews.com)

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# AREA BRIEFS

## Ducks Unlimited gala set

Pearland Ducks Unlimited will hold its annual Dinner for the Ducks fundraiser on May 5 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2320 Hatfield Road.

The evening gala will include a live auction, door prizes, silent auction and raffles, games, dinner and drinks. A Ducks Unlimited membership comes with each ticket purchased. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets are \$60 for individuals, \$90 for couples and \$35 for “greenwings.”

Tables are available at \$650 for corporate table and \$1,000 for a sponsor table.

For more information, call Keith Majors, 830-556-6273 or visit the website at [www.pearlandducks.org](http://www.pearlandducks.org).

## Cowboy event planned at fairgrounds

A free and family friendly Cowboy Life fair is scheduled this Saturday, April 29, at the Brazoria County Fairgrounds, 901 S. Downing in Angleton. The fair will include hands-on crafts and demonstrations as well as interactive sessions on calf roping, Dutch oven cooking, fur trading and more. Hosted by the Brazoria County Historical Museum, the fair is 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with parking in back of the fairgrounds. Admission is free and open to the public.

For information, visit the Brazoria County Historical Museum’s Facebook page, or call 979-864-1208.

## Boat turn-in program scheduled

A free turn-in program for inoperable boats will be May 30 through June 3 at the Clear Lake Park Community Center parking lot, 5002 NASA Road 1 in Seabrook.

Hosted by Texas Parks and Wildlife and Harris County, the event is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. all five days and is free of charge for anyone wanting to dispose of an inoperable vessel. The state sponsors the removal of al fuel, oil and batteries and Parks and Wildlife verifies ownership and clears vessels for disposal.

For information, call 713-274-2222.

## Lineup announced for country showcase

The Pearland Country Music Showcase is planned for June 25 in the open air pavilion at the Pearland Town Center. The event is 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the center, 11200 Broadway.

Coolers and lawn chairs are welcome at the outdoor event featuring headliner Britt Godwin, a Bridge City, Texas, native now based in Beaumont. Godwin has been featured on the Grand Ole Opry, Louisiana Hayride, David Letterman Show and Charlie Pruitt Country Music Show and previously performed with the B.B. & Company band. Other performers include Shalane, Ellie Townley, Zac Clifton, Allie Rae and Blair Kudelka.

For more information, go to [VisitPearland.com/CountryMusicShowcase](http://VisitPearland.com/CountryMusicShowcase).

## Wildlife photo contest underway

Keep Friendswood Beautiful Photo Contest is underway and will run through May 12.

Entries will be accepted using the Keep Friendswood Beautiful Facebook page. The page will have photo content, community updates and uploading requirements for the contest entries.. Take a photo of wildlife inside Friendswood City limits. Wildlife is any living creature that is not domesticated. Wildlife mammals (such as deer, squirrels, opossums, etc) as well as birds, insects, reptiles and amphibians are acceptable. No photos of pets please. Wildlife photo must be taken inside the city.

Instructions for the contest include the following:

- Make sure to LIKE the Keep Friendswood Beautiful Facebook.
- Submit your photo in a comment on the Keep Friendswood Beautiful Facebook.
- Make sure to hashtag #FriendswoodProud

Release forms can be completed online at [friendswood.com/photo](http://friendswood.com/photo). Release forms must be submitted by 5/12/23. Photos without a release form will not be considered for the contest.

Winners can receive up to \$800 in prizes.

For contest tips and release form, visit [www.friendswood.com/photo](http://www.friendswood.com/photo).

## Pearland lands second for coveted award

The City of Pearland was edged out by McAllen, Texas, for the recently announced Keep Texas Beautiful Governor’s Community Achievement Awards.

“This year’s GCAA was competitive,” the organization states in a release. “We want to congratulate the communities that came in second and third place.”

Pearland and Lewisville, Texas, tied for second place its population category. The 10 winning communities — Collinsville, Chandler, Nolanville, Dickinson, Henderson, Lake Jackson, Burleson, Pflugerville, McAllen and Frisco — will share \$2 million in landscape funding to be completed by TxDOT along a state roadway.

Described as one of the most coveted annual environmental awards in Texas, the Governor’s Community Achievement Award has been presented for the past 50 years. Communities in 10 categories are based on population size and their environmental program is examined by a panel of judges on achievements in seven environmental and improvement criteria.

## Area ponds to be stocked with catfish

Texas Parks and Wildlife announced it will stock 18 lakes with thousands of catfish this month, include four lakes in the Houston area.

The closest designated “Neighborhood Fishin’ Lakes” are Community Park Lake, 1700 Glenn Lakes Lane in Missouri City; and Burke Crenshaw Park, 4950 Burke Road, Pasadena.

“Neighborhood Fishin’ lakes are conveniently located in urban and suburban areas so that Texans don’t have to travel far to have a great experience,” said Craig Bonds, director of Inland Fisheries.

Each lake will receive channel catfish every two weeks through the end of October - with a brief pause during the heat of August - to ensure there are plenty of angling opportunities for everyone throughout the spring, summer and early fall.

Neighborhood Fishin’ lakes are located in city and county parks with ample parking, restrooms, lighting and other recreational amenities, in addition to fishing.

Anglers can keep up to five catfish of any size per day. Children under 17 fish for free, but adults who fish must have a fishing license.

For a list and map of all lakes, stocking locations or email updates, visit [neighborhoodfishing.org](http://neighborhoodfishing.org).



Heritage Gardeners will showcase the private gardens of Adeel and Nayab Khan in the Forest of Friendswood.



The tour will also spotlight the Heritage Gardeners’ own yard, Briscoe Gardens.

# Heritage Gardeners prepare for Spring Home Tour, events

By KAROLYN GEPHART  
Reporter News Staff

Heritage Gardeners will showcase the private gardens of Adeel and Nayab Khan in the Forest of Friendswood as part of their 2023 Spring Garden Tour April 29-30.

The Khans moved there July 2022 and in less than a year have transformed the yard into a gardener’s paradise. Their theme for the tour is The Fragrance of Joy. It is displayed in a large pergola with Butterfly Pea and Honeysuckle vines, a beautiful pool with waterfall, Purple Martin houses, raised beds, and a vase shaped fountain. The Khans have planned, designed and created the amazing sights that tourgoers will enjoy viewing.

The tour will also spotlight the Heritage Gardeners’ own yard, Briscoe Gardens. The members have lovingly planted and maintained the area which has a large variety of plants, trees, vines, and an educational area created and enjoyed by a group of Heritage Junior Master Gardeners. Club members will be on hand during tour hours to answer questions and identify plants for tourgoers interested in learning more about them.

The Khan’s yard and Briscoe Gardens are part of six garden areas on the tour. Tickets are available now at businesses in the area, including the Chamber of Commerce and will be available at the Heritage Gardeners Clubhouse on the days of the tour. The tickets are each good for both days. Tours are 1-5 pm each day.

The tour is part of the weekend with several other activities happening.

Three garden related presentations will be offered. On Saturday at 9:30 to 10:30 am Galveston County Master Gardener Ira Gervais will speak on *Tips on Growing Better Tomatoes*. Galveston County Master Gardener Herman Auer will speak on *Growing Citrus in Your Own Backyard* from 11 to noon. On Sunday, Heritage Gardener and Floral Design Judge Sherrill Burge will show those present how to be *Creative Using Items for Your Backyard*. Presentations

are free and held indoors in the garden clubhouse. Anyone interested can attend.

The garden club is hosting a huge plant sale from 9 am to 5 pm each day.

The Spring Market with a huge variety of vendors will open each day from 9 am to 5 pm. The market is outdoors at the clubhouse and on adjacent properties. Food vendors are also planning to attend.

Location is 112 W. Spreading Oaks in Friendswood.

The events are fundraisers for the garden club and will be used for garden club programs and projects.

Follow Heritage Gardeners of Friendswood on Facebook.





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Heritage Gardeners presents their

SPRING GARDEN TOUR

A Garden Path

April 29-30, 2023

Get inspired

Garden Tours of Private Homes in Friendswood

1-5 pm Saturday and Sunday

Tickets sold at local businesses & Garden Clubhouse

Shop

Spring Market

9 am to 5 pm each day



**Huge Plant Sale**  
9 am to 5 pm  
**Win**  
**Great Raffles**  
**112 W. Spreading Oaks**  
**Friendswood**



# SPORTS

## From the Cluttered Desk

by Dr. David Davis

**Time and Treasures**  
Time is a beast that will either chase you toward or away from the better things.

When I was young, television was just coming into its own. I spent the early part of my life listening to the radio.

My constant companion was the music pumped in by KOMA in Oklahoma City. The DJs who cranked out the top-40 hits called themselves the World's Happiest Broadcasters. Every-one listened to KOMA.

The radio station followed me home, where I lay in bed at night, smiling as I waited for the grueling howls of Wolfman Jack and knowing that life was good.

Looking back, I'm caught off guard by what I used to deem important and by the things I treasured.

I don't know if we all go through this process, but God has used time to point me to the more valuable things of life.

I don't treasure possessions as much as I used to, unless you count my highly prized 45 R.P.M.'s "Hanky Panky" by Tommy James and the Shondells or "Hey Little Cobra" by The Rip Chords records. (Some of us will have to explain to this digital generation the difference between 33 1/3s and 45s.)

I treasure friendships, old and new. Time has taught me that friendships are the spice of life. Some of them you use every day and others only on occasion, but they are nice to have when needed.

Time has not only taught me the value of having friends, but of being a friend. When someone needs me, I'm not in as much of a hurry as I was in the past.

Over the years, I've learned that the things I thought were demanding and important will still be demanding and important ... next week.

All in all, time has taught me to treasure two things.

First, I have learned to treasure relationships above worldly things. But I still have lots of things I hold dear.

Old, yellowed papers and cards with pictures my kids drew in school, with the word "Dad" scrawled below them in crayon, or the first time they wrote the words, "I love you."

The Hopalong Cassidy lunch box that my mother bought me as a young child which is on display in my kitchen at home.

I value these items, but I treasure the relationships with my family and friends more.

Time has also taught me to treasure the things of God and His blessings in life.

As we get older — the more I realize that time is fleeting, and I don't have as much time as I did when I was 40 years younger.

I guess what I want to say to all young people is to take it from those who are closer to the end of the road than you: Let time take you not to the good things of life but to the best: relationships and God.

Old friend Robert said, "What really matters is not what we bought but what we built; not what we got but what we shared; not our competence but our character; and not our success, but our significance."

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Twitter: @drdavis111



Photo by Lloyd Hendricks

The No. 1 state-ranked Pearlland baseball team (25-5) recently claimed the District 23-6A championship for the second straight year with a sweep over the Strake Jesuit Crusaders. The Oilers hope to make a deep run in the playoffs with the ultimate goal to advance to the 6A state baseball tournament.

## No. 1 Pearlland sweeps Strake Jesuit for District 23-6A crown

By DR. DAVID DAVIS  
Reporter News Staff

For the second straight year, the Pearlland baseball team has claimed the 23-6A championship after sweeping the Strake Jesuit Crusaders 4-1 and 8-1 to close out the league schedule with a perfect 12-0 record.

The No. 1 state-ranked Oilers improved their season record to 25-5-1 and get ready to make their playoff run with the ultimate goal to advance to the 6A state baseball tournament.

Pearland has won their last 12 games and have outscored their district opponents, 110-10, and in their last 10 games, Pearlland has won by a combined margin of 85-4.

In recent weeks, the Oilers have found their offensive muscles while the pitching staff has performed masterfully on the mound.

### Pearland 4 - Strake Jesuit 1

Pearland scored the first run against Strake Jesuit in the top of the second inning after neither team was able to score in the open-

ing frame.

Cade Adams drew a one out walk, pinch runner Franco Aguilar advanced to third on a double by Brett Smajstrla and would score on a sacrifice fly to right by Caden Ferraro for a 1-0 Pearlland lead.

Strake Jesuit would tie the game at 1-1 in the bottom of the fourth frame.

The Oilers would take a 2-1 lead in the fifth inning when Ferraro doubled on a line drive to center-field, pinch runner Matthew Leal would score on a double by Damian Landry to left field.

Pearland would seal the game with two more runs in the sixth inning Anthony Avalos opened the frame getting hit by a pitch, John Moya would reach base on an error by the third baseman which moved Avalos to third. Isaiah Castaneda would plate Avalos with a sacrifice fly to right while Moya moved to second.

Smajstrla hit a 1-2 pitch to centerfield for a two-out single that scored Moya for a 4-1 advantage.

Top hitter for Pearlland was

Smajstrla who went 2-for-3 with one RBI.

Nicholas Partida got the win for the Oilers pitching seven innings while allowing only three hits, one run, striking out nine and walking one.

### Pearland 8 - Strake Jesuit 1

Pearland took advantage of a 3-for-3 and five RBIs by shortstop Anthony Avalos that resulted in an 8-1 romp by the Oilers over Strake Jesuit for the District 23-6A crown.

The Oilers scored four runs in the opening frame and added two more in the second inning to set a 6-0 pace against the Crusaders who managed a single run in the third frame without the benefit of a hit.

Pearland sent nine batters to the plate in the first inning with Avalos belting a two-run triple for a 3-0 lead. Avalos then scored on a fielder's choice on a ball hit by Isaiah Castaneda for the 4-0 advantage.

In the second inning, Nico Partida doubled and Braeden Morse beat out an infield hit before Avalos ripped a two-run single to

left for a 6-0 cushion.

Pearland scored its final two runs in the eighth when Caden Ferraro reached on a dropped fly ball to left, on which he advanced to second. Damian Landry followed with a run-scoring double to make it 7-1, and Avalos then capped his banner night with an RBI-single to right.

Junior Ryler Smart, a Tennessee commit, earned the win with a two-hitter in four innings while striking out 11, walking three and surrendering one run.

Junior reliever Jaden Barfield then entered the game and struck out the side in the fifth before pitching a scoreless sixth.

The third pitcher of the night, Jake Mader-Cooper, then retired the Crusaders in order in the seventh.

Leading hitters for Pearlland included Ferraro (2-for-4, 1 run), Landry (1-for-3, 1 run, 1 RBI), Partida (1-for-3, 2 runs), Morse (2-for-4, 2 runs), and Avalos (3-for-3, 1 run, 5 RBIs).

## Pearland roundballers in good hands under Delrick Brown

By DR. DAVID DAVIS  
Reporter News Staff

Replacing a coaching legend is never easy and that was certainly the task of replacing Pearlland head basketball coach Steve Buckelew after 28 years at Pearlland High School.

In this day and time, coaches never stay at one school for 28 years, but Buckelew found a home in Pearlland and built a successful program that produced 598 wins, most in PHS history, and also gave him 830 career wins.

It didn't take long for a new coach to be selected which certainly met the approval of Buckelew when it was announced that Dawson varsity assistant Delrick Brown would be the next Oiler head coach.

"I am so excited that Delrick was chosen to be the next Pearlland basketball coach," Buckelew said. "They couldn't have found a more deserving young man that will continue the tradition we have built here in Pearlland."

Brown played basketball under coach Buckelew in high school, led the Oilers to the 1998 Region III championship and the 1998 state basketball tournament his senior season.

After graduating from Pearlland in 1998, Brown played at Cen-tenary College in Shreveport, La., before transferring to St. Edward's University in Austin, where he graduated.

"I then got my first coaching job at Pearlland Junior High West with Virgil Mikeska," Brown said. "He was actually my junior high coach in seventh and eighth grade."

After spending five years at the junior high level, Brown transitioned to Dawson, coached three years at the junior varsity level before replacing David Koonsen on the Dawson varsity staff when Koonsen took the Angleton head coaching job.

"Yes, I definitely feel like I've come full circle," Brown said. "I feel like Pearlland High School is simply where I am meant to be."

"From playing varsity basketball as a freshman and the team not being very good to play-



DELRICK BROWN

ing in the state tournament as a senior to having the opportunity to help re-establish Pearlland as a contender definitely feels full circle."

Brown appreciates the impact that coach Buckelew had on his career choice and ultimately his coaching philosophy.

"I think the biggest influence that I took from coach Buck is the importance of committing to defense," Brown said. "When he came into Pearlland in 1995, he brought a defensive mentality that was unfamiliar to us and it was one of the things that helped make us one of the best teams at the state. "Committing to defense is definitely something I will be bringing back with me to Pearlland basketball."

Brown has also had the influence of Dawson head coach Mark Barre who became the head coach when Dawson opened in 2007. Barre was an assistant under Buckelew at Pearlland High School before moving to Dawson where he has

set his own bar of success with the Eagles basketball fortunes.

Dawson has won or shared the district title the last 11 out of 12 years so Brown has played a strong role in the success of the Eagles basketball program.

"Coach Barre has been a great friend and mentor to me over the past decade and I have been fortunate to learn many things while working alongside him," Brown said. "I think some of the biggest things that I will take from him is his passion and preparation."

"When at Dawson, we took pride in being more prepared than the other team and that is something that will also continue to do. As for passion, I think it's important to provide positive energy for the team to embrace."

Ultimately, Brown hope to make an impact in the lives of his current and future players that he will coach.

The first player he will influence will be his own son, Devan, who played for Dawson this season as a freshman and was named District 23-6A "Newcomer of the Year."

"I just did his paperwork so he will be a Pearlland Oiler," Brown said. "He's struggling with it a little bit since he's grown up at Dawson since he was four or five years old."

"It's a big shift for him, but he's excited for me. The same applies for Mark (Barre). He's super happy for me, and it's a tough change for both of us."

Brown is committed to teaching his players life lessons that they will learn through hard work, commitment, and perseverance that they can take beyond basketball to help them be men of character and excellence.

"The best feeling as a coach is when ex-players come back, and you get to see their growth, maturity, and success," Brown said. "Building relationships and feeling you had the privilege of positively impacting young lives is really the best part of the job!"

There is no doubt that the Pearlland basketball program is in good hands.



# SPORTS



## SAFE AT HOME

Dawson senior pitcher Hayden Laughlin slides into home for a run vs Alief Elsik on Tuesday. Laughlin had a terrific all-around game, with three innings on the mound giving up just one hit and tallying four strikeouts while also getting one hit of his own for two RBI's and scoring a run. The game ended with a 20-1 run-rule victory for the Eagles who have moved up to third place in district heading into the final week of the regular season. Dawson will face Alvin in the final two games with a chance to overtake the Yellowjackets and move into second place seeding heading into the playoffs. The deciding game will be Friday April 28, 6 p.m. at Dawson HS.

Photo by Lloyd Hendricks

## Alvin edges Dawson 6-5 to secure No. 2 playoff seed

By DR. DAVID DAVIS

Reporter News Staff

Each team in District 23-6A faces one another twice in league play. Alvin beat Dawson 7-1 in the first round to hand the Lady Eagles their only district loss in the opening round. With the No. 2 seed on the line and both teams supporting 9-2 records in the final regular season contest while Pearland had secured the district crown, there was a lot on the outcome of this game.

The Lady Yellowjackets (20-8, 10-2) were able to hang on to get the 6-5 win for the No. 2 seed leaving Dawson (25-7, 9-3) in the No. 3 slot entering the post-season. Shadow Creek (6-6) advances to the playoffs with a 17-15 mark. No. 7 state-ranked Pearland (29-3, 11-1) is the No. 1 seed.

The Alvin bats continued their success against Lady Eagles' pitcher Gigi Solis, knocking out the right-hander after four innings, which featured the senior surrendering a first-inning home run off Lady Jackets' catcher Abby Ptak's bat.

Alvin wasted little time unloading on Solis with Kylie Huffman leading off with a single to left field. After Huffman moved to second base on a wild pitch, Matthews promptly slapped a single up the middle to score Huffman for a 1-0 lead. Matthews also advanced to second base on the throw home.

Solis retired Reagan Jones on a grounder back to the circle, but Ptak then crushed the first offering she saw over the centerfield

fence for a two-run blast and a 3-0 Alvin advantage.

Bri Wetmore then got Alvin started in the second inning by drawing a lead-off walk and moving to second on a passed ball. Solis got Mary Barber on a foul pop to the catcher and Huffman on a fly ball to left, but Matthews once again took the Dawson hurler up the middle to plate Wetmore to make it 4-0.

Dawson finally got in the scoreboard in the third when Caroline Roth blooped a lead-off single to right field and Sa'Mya Jones walked to put a pair of runners on for Carissa Anaya, who belted a three-homer to centerfield to bring Dawson within 4-3.

However, the Lady Jackets got two of those runs back in the fourth, as hits by Alana Ramos and Barber and a walk to Huffman loaded the bases with one out. The Eagles appeared to have a force play on Matthews' grounder to first base, but Elana Luna's throw home was dropped by catcher Stephanie McClain, allowing Ramos to cross with Alvin's fifth run.

Jones then lofted a sacrifice fly to center, bringing in Barber for a 6-3 Alvin edge.

Anaya's two-run double in the sixth pulled Dawson within a run again at 6-5 but that's as close as the Lady Eagles could get down the stretch.

Leading hitters for Dawson were two freshman, Caroline Roth (2-for-4, 2 runs) and Carissa Anaya (2-for-4, 1 run, 5 RBIs).

## No. 8 state-ranked Lady Mustangs nip Manvel 1-0

The No. 8 Class 5A state-ranked Friendswood Lady Mustangs (21-9) finally broke a scoreless stalemate on the road against a Manvel team to formally clinch an outright district championship.

The game's lone run came in the top of the sixth inning when Nevaeh Cason beat out an infield single and then scored all the way from first base when Charleigh Esparza

ripped an RBI double for the 1-0 lead that turned out to be the winning run.

Friendswood pitcher Janelle Wilson tossed a complete-game, one-hit shutout with only one walk and 11 strikeouts in seven innings.

The Lady Mustangs recorded six base hits led by Esparza's 2-for-3 effort that included a double, a triple and the game's sole RBI.

## No. 3 state-ranked Friendswood thumps Ball High 19-7

By DR. DAVID DAVIS

Reporter News Staff

Friendswood hosted Ball High in a district contest and used a 12-run sixth inning to put away the Tors 19-7 at Bobby Black Field to improve to 24-3 on the season and 11-1 in league play.

Down 3-1 after three innings, the Tors rode Jonah Williams' infield hit for a two-run fourth, but the Mustangs answered right back as Dawson Hinson smoked a two-run homer to fuel a four-run burst in the bottom half to make it 7-3.

But Ball High wasn't going to go down that easy as they tied up the game 7-7 in the top of the sixth as Sully Mixon smashed a bases-loaded double as the key hit.

However, the Mustangs sent 14 batters to the plate in their half of the sixth inning to explode for 12 runs to ice the game 19-7 and end the contest via the 10-run rule.

"It's a testament to my guys. We talk about being mentally tough and staying in it, and especially on defense, we didn't have our best," said Cory Benavides, Friendswood's head coach. "The little mis-

takes, it just never seemed like we had a clean inning.

"They did a good job of capitalizing on our mistakes."

The Mustangs, who finished their district season at 10-2, logged 19 hits to match their 19 runs. Peyton Adams led the way with four hits, including a first-inning homer, while Boots Landry (fourth-inning homer) and Goolsby stroked three hits apiece.

Dane Perry delivered the exclamation point to the victory with a towering three-run home run over the left-field wall to end the contest via the 10-run rule.

Prior to Perry's game-ending blast, Kyle Lockhart and Drew Smith lashed two-run singles, Colin Goolsby and Ryan Duncan had run-scoring hits, and Ayden Pearce added a fly ball out which produced yet another run.

"Team game. It's individuals, but team game," Benavides said. "The offense picked up the defense. The past few games, we haven't played well defensively, but we've been able to put some runs on the board.

## SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS



**PEARLAND LADY OILERS vs Clear Brook Lady Wolverines**  
**Best of Three Series**  
Wednesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.  
at Clear Brook HS  
Thursday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m.  
at Pearland HS  
Friday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m.  
at Clear Brook HS (if needed)



**DAWSON LADY EAGLES vs Clear Springs Lady Chargers**  
**Best of Three Series**  
Wednesday, April 26 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Dawson HS  
Thursday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Clear Springs HS  
Friday, April 28 at 6:00 p.m.  
at Dawson HS (if needed)



## FAITH MATTERS

...because everyone believes in something!

By Rev. Dr. Brian Giguee

### DOES GOD PRAY?

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, **10** your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. **11** Give us today our daily bread. **12** And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. **13** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one ..."

Matthew 6:9-13

"Does God pray?" I was asked recently. "Who would God pray to?" I replied... something good to consider when there seems to be so much around us falling apart... and something to do in the midst of all that... pray... that is! Jesus prayed... and Christians believe that Jesus is God... God in the flesh (*Emmanuel*... 'God with us') to be exact... 100% God and 100% human... and maybe just maybe... Jesus was the only fully human who ever lived... and so if Jesus prayed... well then... God prayed... and if Jesus prayed... like in the Garden of Gethsemane or in the wilderness or in the Temple... which he called his father's 'house of prayer'... did Jesus pray to himself or God as Father? And right now I'm thinking about how many angels can dance on the head of a pin ... knowing the answer is... 'all of them!'

As true as I can reach... I can't find any references of God praying. As far back as Genesis... the man and the woman prayed... it's right there in Genesis chapter 4... when men and women began worshipping God... and Noah prayed... after he got off the ark with his family... building an altar... but the Bible doesn't say Noah prayed for mercy while building the ark... on all the people who would die in the flood... and then Abram prayed... as did Moses... as did King David and the prophets... so you and I can count ourselves to be amongst good company when it comes to our prayer life... as individuals or if we pray with a group of friends or on a 'prayer team' at work or as part of a church. There's an old adage that says... "*as long as teachers give exams... there will always be prayer in school!*" Word. Faith matters!

But... the question was about God praying... does God do that...?

## Meet children book author at Spring Market

Author Peg Sundberg, an Alvin native and Friendswood High School graduate, will be signing books at the Heritage Gardener Spring Market event on April 29.

Known nationally to thousands of children, parents and educators as Cowgirl Peg, she visits hundreds of schools around the country, presenting her books and preserving the importance of Western Heritage. Each book delivers positive character messages through entertaining stories including her horses and dogs.

After experiencing a horrific shooting, the Santa Fe ISD schools invited her to spend five days working with their students on empathy, kindness, tolerance of differences, etc., using her books for open discussions.

Her eighth book, *Crooze On Croozer*, arrived five weeks ago. Croozer, a little blind dog, tells his own true story. He shares his adventures and challenges, using his superpowers of hearing, smelling, tasting, feeling and touching. The author's goals for

Well... maybe so... in fact... I want to believe God does pray. I think it depends on the prepositions we choose when we talk about this... asking... as in ... when I pray TO God because do I believe it's good for me and for the world in which I live? YES! And as I pray TO God, I know God hears my prayers FOR others... and that I often do that with groups of people... publicly on Sunday morning and in zoom chat meetings or in an ICU room at the hospital ... most folks understand that...

So... when I think about God praying... I don't think it's necessary for God to pray TO anyone... but certainly God prays for us... in a very BIG way... especially when we are so lost and in lack of words of our own... as St. Paul wrote to his friends in the Roman church... "*In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness... interceding for us through wordless groans.*" (Romans 8:26) and that means God prays for peace on earth and good will to all... and God prays we continue the covenant made with humans to care for the world... and God prays that each generation teaches values and mores' to the generation which follows... and God prays for us to love God... and love our neighbor like we love ourselves... and God prays that as God's own we would fight against injustice and use our energy and resources to attack global hunger and when I think about all this I realize that God must never get tired of praying because we really need those prayers...

On Thursday May 4 at 8:00 AM at Pearland's Independence Park and at 12:00 noon at Stevenson Park in Friendswood... the area pastors are announcing the National Day of Prayer... to come pray together... and ... I pray you will!

*The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Giguee is a long-time resident of Pearland, having pastored four churches over the last four decades in Texas and Louisiana. Read more following Brian's blog 'murmurings' at <https://briangiguee.wordpress.com/>. Send comments and/or questions to [god-works247365@gmail.com](mailto:god-works247365@gmail.com).*

this feel-good, thought-provoking story were two-fold for readers of all ages:

- Increasing the awareness and appreciation of being blessed with sight.
- Encouraging and inspiring readers who "see" through their superpowers instead of their eyes.

This new book was publicly presented by Peg, along with Croozer & his "Mom," on CBS's Good Morning Sacramento (CA), followed by city-wide receptions and fund raisers. Royalties from Croozer's book sales will be donated to the four non-profits that are part of the story and collectively saved him. Endorsements include Ruth & Nolan Ryan, and the TX School for the Blind, which plans to convert the text to Braille for their students.

Peg's books can be viewed at [www.cowgirlpeg.com](http://www.cowgirlpeg.com). Stop for a meet and greet and view her books on the April 29 at the Heritage Gardener Spring Market at 112 W. Spreading Oaks in Friendswood.

Join Heritage Gardeners  
for their

## Spring Gardening Presentations

April 29-30, 2023



### Tips for Growing Better Tomatoes



9:30-10:30 am  
Sat. April 29



**Ira Gervais**  
Galveston County  
Master Gardener



**Herman Auer**  
Galveston County  
Master Gardener

### Successful Citrus in Your Own Backyard



11 am to Noon  
Sat. April 29

### Creativity Using Backyard Beauty

11 am - Noon  
Sun. April 30



**Sherrill Burge**  
Floral Design Judge  
& Heritage Gardener



**Free Indoor Presentations**  
**112 W. Spreading Oaks Friendswood**  
**(Behind the Library)**



# CLASSIFIEDS 281-485-7501

## LEGALS

Published April 19 & April 26, 2023

**CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3523 Liberty Dr., until **2:00 PM on Wednesday May 17, 2023**, and all bids will be read aloud via virtual meeting. Interested parties may join meeting by calling: #281-652-1775; Meeting: #1790, Access Code: #0971 on that date for:

**ITB 0423-11 Traffic Signal Material**

Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Vendors are encouraged to return the bid response electronically using the City's e-bid system, but may submit by hard-copy, with either manner due by the closing date and time stated above.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at Council Chambers located at 3519 Liberty Drive, Pearland, Texas 77581 at **2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 3, 2023**. See bid solicitation for virtual link option if preferred.

Vendors should register on the City's e-bid system <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Once registered on the City's e-bid system, bid documents may be viewed on the site. If further assistance is needed, please email [ebids@pearlandtx.gov](mailto:ebids@pearlandtx.gov) no later than 5:00 PM Monday, May 8, 2023, and refer to ITB 0423-11. Bid Closing Date: **2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 17, 2023**.

First Publication: **April 19, 2023**  
Second Publication: **April 26, 2023**

## LEGALS

Published April 19 & April 26, 2023

**CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS**  
**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed bids will be received by the City of Pearland Purchasing Division, 3523 Liberty Dr., until **2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 24, 2023**, and all bids will be read aloud via virtual meeting. Interested parties may join meeting by calling: #281-652-1775; Meeting: #1790, Access Code: #0971 on that date for:

**RFP 0423-10 Custodial Services at The City of Pearland Facilities**

Bid forms, specifications and all necessary information may be obtained from the following website: <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Vendors are encouraged to return the bid response electronically using the City's e-bid system, but may submit by hard-copy, with either manner due by the closing date and time stated above.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at Council Chambers located at 3519 Liberty Drive, Pearland, Texas 77581 at **3:00 PM on Wednesday, May 3, 2023**. See bid solicitation for virtual link option if preferred.

Vendors should register on the City's e-bid system <https://pearland.ionwave.net>. Once registered on the City's e-bid system, bid documents may be viewed on the site. If further assistance is needed, please email [ebids@pearlandtx.gov](mailto:ebids@pearlandtx.gov) no later than 5:00 PM Monday, May 15, 2023, and refer to RFP 0423-10. Bid Closing Date: **2:00 PM on Wednesday, May 14, 2023**.

First Publication: **April 19, 2023**  
Second Publication: **April 26, 2023**

## LEGALS

Published April 26, 2023

**CITY OF BROOKSIDE VILLAGE**  
**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID / REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The City of Brookside Village, Texas will accept Sealed Bids – Request for Proposals for **Debris Monitoring Services until 4:00 p.m., on May 18, 2023**, in the City Secretary's Office.

At the location, date, and time stated below, timely proposals will be announced at that time.

All interested persons are invited to attend the opening. Attendance is not required.

Proposal Title: **DEBRIS MONITORING SERVICES**  
Location: **Brookside Village City Hall, 6243 Brookside Road, Brookside Village, Texas 77581**  
Opening Date: **May 18, 2023**  
Opening Time: **4:00 P.M. CT**

Request for Proposals with attachments may be obtained beginning April 24, 2023, in the office of the City Secretary located at Brookside Village City Hall, 6243 Brookside Road, Brookside Village, Texas 77581.

The documents are also available on the City's website at [www.brooksidevillage-tx.org](http://www.brooksidevillage-tx.org). Further information or questions can be addressed to the Cleo Rodriguez, City Secretary at [crodriguez@cobvtx.org](mailto:crodriguez@cobvtx.org) or by phone at 281-485-3048.

## HELP WANTED

**HIRING FOR**  
**COMMERCIAL BUILDING**  
**MAINTENANCE POSITION**  
**Please call 281-485-3211**  
**if interested**

## LEGALS

Published April 26 & May 3, 2023

**CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS**  
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 2023-11**  
**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INSURANCE BROKER AND CONSULTING SERVICES**

Request for Proposals (RFPs) shall be submitted via one (1) paper copy, along with one (1) electronic copy in PDF format on a flash drive. The flash drive must contain only one (1) file in PDF format and must match written response identically. Submittal shall be signed by a person having authority to bind the qualified professional in a contract. All submitted materials must be clearly marked with **"RFP NO. 2023-11, EMPLOYEE BENEFITS INSURANCE BROKER AND CONSULTING SERVICES"** the vendor's name, and addressed to the City of Friendswood, Attn: City Secretary, and are to be received at Friendswood City Hall, City Secretary's Office, 910 S. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX, 77546 on or before **2:00 P.M., THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023**.

The City of Friendswood (the "City") reserves the right to reject any or all proposals. Any contract resulting from this RFP shall be awarded to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the City considering the relative importance of price and the other evaluation factors included in this request for proposals.

Specifications and related information may be downloaded from the City of Friendswood's website at <https://www.ci.friendswood.tx.us/Bids.aspx> or may be reviewed/inspected during regular business hours in the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 910 South Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546.

For additional information, please contact Jeff Spears, at (281) 996-3274 or via email to [jspears@friendswood.com](mailto:jspears@friendswood.com).

/s/ Leticia Brysch,  
City Secretary  
City of Friendswood

## LEGALS

Published April 26 & May 3, 2023

**Public Notice:** Pear Self Storage, 3512 1/2 E. Broadway St., Pearland, TX 77581, (281) 310-0542, in compliance with the TX State Storage Act, and due to repeated failure to pay monthly lease, the following self-storage units' contents containing household & other goods will be sold for cash to satisfy the lien for rental on May 13, 2023 at 10:00am on **[www.storageauctions.com](http://www.storageauctions.com)**. Unit: A36 - Kristen King; D10 - Christopher Spossey

## LEGALS

Published April 26, 2023

**CITY OF BROOKSIDE VILLAGE**  
**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID / REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The City of Brookside Village, Texas will accept Sealed Bids – Request for Proposals for **Debris Management & Removal Services until 4:00 p.m., on May 18, 2023**, in the City Secretary's Office.

At the location, date, and time stated below, timely proposals will be announced at that time.

All interested persons are invited to attend the opening. Attendance is not required.

Proposal Title: **DEBRIS MANAGEMENT & REMOVAL SERVICES**  
Location: **Brookside Village City Hall, 6243 Brookside Road, Brookside Village, Texas 77581**  
Opening Date: **May 18, 2023**  
Opening Time: **4:00 P.M. CT**

Request for Proposals with attachments may be obtained beginning April 24, 2023, in the office of the City Secretary located at Brookside Village City Hall, 6243 Brookside Road, Brookside Village, Texas 77581.

The documents are also available on the City's website at [www.brooksidevillage-tx.org](http://www.brooksidevillage-tx.org). Further information or questions can be addressed to the Cleo Rodriguez, City Secretary at [crodriguez@cobvtx.org](mailto:crodriguez@cobvtx.org) or by phone at 281-485-3048.

## LEGALS

Published April 26 & May 3, 2023

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
**CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS**

Sealed Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, May18, 2023 and read aloud into the public record for the following project:

**Sleepy Hollow Street Reconstruction - Repackaged Storm Sewer Drainage Easement**  
**City of Pearland, Texas**  
**COP PN: TR2002**  
**ITB NO.: 0223-06**

The project will entail the replacement of the storm sewer system located in the drainage easement to Clear Creek (Drainage Easement near the intersection of Sleepy Hollow Drive and Washington Irving Drive) in the Sleepy Hollow Subdivision.

An in-person mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the City of Pearland Engineering & Public Works Building at 2016 Old Alvin Rd., Pearland, Texas 77581 at 2:00 pm on May 4, 2023.

All bids should be submitted through the E-Bid system located on the City's website at: <https://pearland.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>. All interested Bidders are advised to register as a "supplier" on the City's E-Bid System at the above website by clicking on "Supplier Registration" and completing a short registration questionnaire. Electronic Bid Documents, including Plans, Technical Specifications and Bid Forms are available for download after registration is approved by City Purchasing office. No plan fees or deposits are required for bid documents obtained through the City's E-bid System. Questions regarding electronic bidding should be directed to City Purchasing Office at [ebids@pearlandtx.gov](mailto:ebids@pearlandtx.gov).

Bid Documents are also available for review at the following plan houses:

Amtek Plan Room	(713) 956-0100
The Associated General Contractors of America, Inc.	(713) 334-7100
Associated Builders & Contractors of Greater Houston	(713) 523-6222
Dodge Reports	(713) 316-9411

Bid Security, in the form of Cashier's Check, Certified Check, or Bid Bond, payable to the City of Pearland in the amount of 5% of the total base bid price, must accompany each Bid proposal. See Instructions to Bidders for Bond submittal information and instructions.

The City of Pearland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Frances Aguilar, TRMC, MMC  
City Secretary, City of Pearland

First Publication date April 26, 2023  
Second Publication date May 3, 2023

Published April 26 & May 3, 2023

**CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS**  
**NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID NO. 2023-10**  
**DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL SERVICES FRENCHMAN'S CREEK**

Sealed Competitive Bids shall be submitted via two (2) electronic copies, each copy on one flash drive or CD. Each copy must match identically and must include the signature of a person with the authority to bind the contractor into a contract. All submitted materials must be clearly marked with **"BID NO. 2023-10**, along with the name of the contractor and addressed to the City of Friendswood, Attn: City Secretary. Said submissions are to be received at Friendswood City Hall, City Secretary's Office, 910 S. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX, 77546 on or before **9:00 A.M., MAY 17, 2023**, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud.

The City of Friendswood (the "City") reserves the right to reject any or all bid and to waive any informality in the bids received. The contract, if any, will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. The City pays for goods and services according to the provisions of Chapter 2251 of the Government Code.

This project is federally funded by a Community Development Block Grant. Attention is called to the fact that the successful bidder must comply with:

- Paying not less than the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Department of Labor H.U.D. and contained in the contract documents.
- Ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or national origin.
- Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, the regulations set forth in 24 CFR Part 135, and all applicable rules and orders.

Specifications and related information may be downloaded from the City's website at <https://www.ci.friendswood.tx.us/Bids.aspx> or may be reviewed/inspected during regular business hours in the City Secretary's Office, City Hall, 910 South Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546.

A bid guarantee in the form of a bidder's bond, certified check or a cashier's check made out to "City of Friendswood" in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the greatest amount bid must accompany each submission. BIDS THAT DO NOT HAVE THE ACCOMPANYING BID GUARANTEE WILL BE RETURNED TO THE BIDDER. For contracts in excess of \$25,000, payment, performance, and maintenance bonds along with a bid guarantee are required by the City.

A **Site Visit** is scheduled for **MAY 9, 2023**, at **9:00 A.M.**, at Frenchman's Creek Townhomes, 100 block of Moss Point Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546.

All questions must be submitted to [jspears@friendswood.com](mailto:jspears@friendswood.com), no later than **9:00 A.M., MAY 11, 2023**.

For additional information, please contact Jeff Spears, Purchasing Coordinator at (281) 996-3274 or via email to [jspears@friendswood.com](mailto:jspears@friendswood.com).

/s/ Leticia Brysch, City Secretary



## Kaye Corey receives Beautify Texas Award

Keep Texas Beautiful (KTB) recently announced Kaye Corey as a winner of the 2023 OP Schnabel Volunteer of the Year Award for her work to preserve and enhance Texas's environment and make their community stronger.

The Beautify Texas Awards recognize the efforts of those working to enhance their community and protect the Lone Star State. These awards range in honoring extraordinary volunteers, professionals, youth, educators, businesses, local/civic governments, organizations, and specific projects and programs.

The O.P Schnabel Volunteer of the Year Award is one of ten categories and recognizes The OP Schnabel award recognizes an adult individual whose extraordinary volunteer effort supports the mission of KTB and contributes to the betterment of their community. Kaye Corey is incredibly deserving of this recognition.

Corey is long time Friendswood resident and active member of many local organizations. She has been involved with beautifying her community for over 20 years. She is a Galveston County Master Gardener, a board member of Keep Friendswood Beautiful (KFB), a member and past officer of Heritage Gardeners of Friendswood, San Joaquin Parkway HOA secretary, and instructor for the Heritage Junior Master Gardeners (JMG) program in Galveston County. She also volunteers with Friendswood Methodist Church on the landscaping committee and mentors scouts with their Eagle Scout or Silver projects.

The amount of volunteer hours Corey has put in towards her community is unimaginable. She is the most senior board member of KFB and is by far the most active and accomplished.

At KFB, Corey heads up the Beautification committee. She was the lead person in the design, installation and maintenance of the Pollinator Garden at Stevenson Park. She organizes and supervises Pollinator Garden volunteers. She teaches youth and adults classes on plant purpose and function, container gardening, and fairy gardening. She's chair of the Beautification Matching Grant committee, which annually awards \$2000 in matching grant money. Corey works at every community event KFB has including the clean-up events, tree giveaway, and the city-wide Christmas celebration.

"We are proud to honor and recognize Texans who are making a difference in our state," Suzanne Kho, Executive Director of Keep Texas Beautiful, said. "Their actions do more than protect the environment: they inspire community members to get involved and help us keep Texas beautiful."

For more than 20 years, Keep Texas Beautiful has recognized extraordinary Texans and Texas institutions that are committed to keeping Texas beautiful. Today, these awards serve as a continued reminder of the hard work and dedication of our supporters across the state.

Corey will be honored at the KTB Annual Conference, which will take place in Houston from June 26 through June 28. A full list of winners and award descriptions, as well as information about the conference, can be found at [www.ktb.org](http://www.ktb.org).

## DHS students to compete at State VASE Competition

Student artists from Dawson High School are set to compete at the State Visual Arts Scholastic Event to be held April 28-29. Students qualified after participating in the regional event held in February. Advancing students include DHS's **Sion Joo** (teacher Teri Zuteck) and **Lelanie Turcios** (teacher Cydney White).

Texas High School VASE began its 29th season in January of 2023. The first VASE event was held in 1994 with just over 400 student entries; currently, more than 30,000 pieces of artwork are entered in VASE every year. Students create artworks, write about their creative processes and understanding of visual art, and articulate information about their artwork during an interview with a VASE juror, who evaluates their work using a standards-based rubric. Art jurors look for originality, technical expertise, understanding of visual art and interpretation of the student's stated intent.

Only the top 10% of each division's artworks at the Regional level are selected to advance to

the High School VASE State Event. At the State Event, artwork will be adjudicated with higher standards; students who receive a top State Event rating earn All-State Artist designation. Of these top-rated artworks, a percentage will be selected for the prestigious Gold Seal Award, making up the Gold Seal Exhibit, which travels the state for several months.