

THE *Pearland Edition* REPORTER NEWS

Your Independent Local News Source Since 1984

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022

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50 CENTS

Around Town

Thursday, Dec. 8

MHS STUDENTS PRESENT "ELF!"
Manvel High students present "Elf!" at 7 p.m. at the campus auditorium. Tickets will be available in the lobby along with Santa photos, carolers, ornament making and a hot chocolate bar.

Friday, Dec. 9

ADULT WRITERS GROUP
Pearland Adult Writers Group meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pearland Library, 3522 Liberty Drive. Call 281-652-1677 or email pearland@bcls.lib.tx.us for information.

SENIORS FIELD TRIP

A field trip for seniors to Christmas Village at Bayou Bend departs at 4:30 p.m. from the Melvin Knapp Activity Center, 2424 South Park Avenue. Fees include \$5 transportation and \$23 ticket. Registration is required. For information, call 281-652-1890.

Saturday, Dec. 10

CHRISTMAS IN OLD LEAGUE CITY
Christmas in Old League City is 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. featuring demonstrations, live music, vendors and more. Hosted by the League City Historical Society and West May Common School Children's Museum, it includes Walkabout tours and the traditional airing of quilts at 210 N. Kansas Avenue in League City. For information, call 210-554-2994 or email leaguecityhistory@gmail.com.

HOLIDAY MARKET

Local vendors set up under the Pearland Town Center Pavilion, 11200 Broadway, for a holiday market from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and continuing Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, visit pearlandtowncenter.com.

CHRISTMAS PARADE

Brookside Village holds its annual Christmas Parade at 5:30 p.m. beginning at 6953 Brookside Road and proceeding west and then north on Sunbrook, south on Max Road to Brookside Road and then east to Lawhon Elementary School, 5810 Brookside Road.

Sunday, Dec. 11

BROOKSIDE FARMERS MARKET

Brookside Village Farmers Market vendors offer fresh produce, eggs, meat, honey, baked goods, crafts, coffee and more with food trucks and live music at Lawhon Elementary, 5810 Brookside Road, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month. For information, visit BrooksideVillageMarket.com.

ACC HOLIDAY PLAY

Alvin Community College Theater presents its final performance of Charles Dickens classic, "A Christmas Carol" at 2:30 p.m. at 3110 Mustang Road, Alvin. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. To purchase online, visit acctheatre.ludus.com. For more information, call 281-756-3606.

PTG HOLIDAY PRODUCTION

Pearland Theatre Guild stages the final production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" at 3 p.m. the Pearl Theatre, 14803 Park Alameda Drive. Box office opens an hour before the show. Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. Call 832-459-4674.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

Scott M. Brown & Associates has partnered with Toys for Tots to help bring toys to needy children in the community this Christmas season. If you would like to and donate, please bring a new, unwrapped, and unopened toy to 6302 W. Broadway St, Ste 250, Pearland during regular business hours. The last day to donate will be Dec. 14. If you require legal services and would like to consult with one of our attorneys, please bring a toy to our toy drive before Dec. 14 and your consultation fee will be waived.

City tightens belt to offset \$10M error

By N. BRADFORD
Reporter News Staff

Pearland City Council on Monday took official steps to shore up a recently uncovered valuation blunder resulting in a \$10 million shortfall.

"This is step one to address the immediate impacts of the property tax reevaluation," interim City Manager Trent Epperson said Monday. "The next steps will be worked on over the next few months as we better understand the long-term impacts and how to address those impacts."

According to the city, the budget shortfall occurred after data provided by the Harris County Appraisal District was incorrectly input on a tax rate calculation worksheet in Brazoria County, and that worksheet was used by Pearland city staff to create the city's current budget and tax rate.

"Thankfully we caught this evaluation issue one month into our budget, not five or six months," Mayor Kevin Cole said. "We have some opportunity to adjust on the front end of it."

He compared the city's situation with finding oneself in an emergency room after an accident.

"We sustained a hit, and we've got to do

"Thankfully we caught this evaluation issue one month into our budget, not five or six months."

~ Mayor Kevin Cole

what's appropriate to stabilize and ultimately find out a course of action, a treatment scenario," he said.

Approved at Monday's meeting was the first reading of budget amendments for the current fiscal year that include using the city's fund balance, lowering equipment and vehicle lease transfers into the city's motor pool fund, and delaying a scheduled \$300,000 update to the city's Unified Development Code.

Also applied to the budget gap is the city's expected interest earnings are estimated at \$478,000 more than budgeted, and PEDC reimbursement for the Lower Kirby Regional Detention System will increase revenues by \$622,513 more.

The impact of the shortfall, particularly on the city's debt service fund, remains unclear.

"We may have to look at delaying certain projects — certainly there are projects like

Smith Ranch Road that have funding in place and need to move forward," Cole said.

Councilman Alex Kamkar maintained that he did not support the budget when it was passed, emphasizing that it was the city's largest to date. He continued to express frustration that the budget amendments brought forward to close the gap don't address ballooning recurring expenses.

"These kind of solutions get us through a moment, but don't address the long-term structural issues," Kamkar said. "There's two ways to address a hole; Stop spending money or bring in more money. We can control the spending piece."

Before the council's 6-1 approval of the budget amendments, Kamkar made a motion that the council ask city staff to cut \$4.7 million in recurring expenses from the existing budget. His motion died for lack of a second.

"If you have a plan, offer the plan," Cole said. "Staff has a plan. It does address the immediacy of the shortfall."

A second reading of the budget amendments will be held this Monday, Dec. 12.

More information and documents regarding the budget shortfall are available at the city's site at pearlandtx.gov.



Hometown Christmas Parade

Crowd favorites from Saturday's Christmas Parade will be announced this week after online "likes" are tabulated in a new People's Choice Award. Photos of all the entries are posted on the Pearland Parks and Recreation's Facebook page. The 40th annual lighted parade down FM 518 was also live-streamed on YouTube.

Photos courtesy of Pearland Parks and Recreation Dept.

Council, neighbors shut down rezone

By N. BRADFORD
Reporter News Staff

Hearing objections from neighboring residents, Pearland City Council turned down a request to rezone a tract on Dixie Farm Road for business uses.

"This rezoning benefits one property, to the detriment of 32 residential, several more neighborhood commercial properties and potentially more," neighboring resident Greg Nelson told the council Monday.

The request to rezone nine acres at 3205 Dixie Farm Road from a more "neighborhood services" zoning to "general business" zoning states that doing so would add more potential uses and thus make the land more marketable.

"That's not the function of this council," Nelson said, referring to the request. "I would ask for the same consideration: Make the existing taxpayers' more marketable by denying this request."

Homes in the neighboring subdivision were purchased more than 20 years ago, he

added.

Other neighbors spoke against the rezone, citing flooding and noise concerns.

Mayor Kevin Cole, a real estate professional who assisted the property owner with a 2017 rezone to Neighborhood Services, said he no longer works with that owner and was not on the council at that time.

Planning and Zoning voted against recommending approval at its Nov. 21 meeting.

The council did note that the property remains zoned as neighborhood services and will eventually be developed. Neighborhood Services zoning allows certain retail and commercial uses that can exist alongside residential.

"A certain amount of retail can go there now," Cole said.

"The reality is that acreage is not going to be fallow in 2030," Councilman Alex Kamkar said.

"There needs to be a balancing act."

Lighted bike ride, concerts coming up

By N. BRADFORD
Reporter News Staff

The annual Tour de Lites bike tour this Saturday and a showcase of students' talents highlight upcoming holiday events in Pearland.

Registration is still available for the 39th annual Tour de Lites through the Green Tea Terrace community, where some of the area's best holiday lights are on display.

Riders gather at 4:30 for a decorated bike contest. As in past rides, lighted bicycles are encouraged, and helmets are required. The pace is slow enough for all ages, and volunteers provide assistance and technical support throughout the approximately 90-minute ride. A hayride is also available and travels along with cyclists.

Proceeds from each \$20 entry fee go to the nonprofit Forever Parks Foundation. The event begins and ends at Independence Park, 3449 Pearland Parkway.

To register, visit eventbrite.com and search Tour de Lites 2022.

In Pearland ISD, concerts and holiday programs continue until classes dismiss for the winter break Dec. 16.

Upcoming programs include the following:

Thursday, Dec. 8:

8 a.m. Pearland Junior High East Winter Concert at the PJHE Cafeteria.

8:30 a.m. CJ Harris Elementary fourth grade program in the campus cafeteria.

1:30 p.m. Fourth grade Christmas Program at Rustic Oak Elementary.

6 p.m. Rogers Middle School Winter Concert at Pearland Junior High South.

6:30 p.m. Fourth grade Christmas program at Rustic Oak Elementary; Choir Winter Concert at Berry Miller Junior High Miller Cafe; Fourth grade Christmas Program at CJ Harris Elementary.

7 p.m. Winter Concert at Dawson High School; Pearland Junior High West Winter Band Concert at Nelson Auditorium; and second grade holiday program at Challenger Elementary cafeteria.

Monday, Dec. 12:

6 p.m. Junior High West Ensemble, Symphonic and Honors Band Concerts at the Nelson Auditorium; Holiday program at Silverlake Elementary.

6:15 p.m. Junior High East Symphonic and Honors Band concerts in the campus cafeteria.

6:30 p.m. Pearland Junior High West Symphonic Band Concert followed by Honors Concert at Nelson Auditorium.

7:30 p.m. Berry Miller Winter Band Concert No. 1 at Dawson High School.

Wednesday, Dec. 14

6:30 p.m. Jamison Winter Choir Concert at the Jamison Gym; Winter Recital Night, Concert No. 2 at Berry Miller Junior High Band Hall.

7 p.m. Jamison Winter Band Concert at Pearland Junior High South Auditorium.

Thursday, Dec. 15

6:30 p.m. Sablatura Winter Concert at Nelson Auditorium.



BAÑUELOS CELEBRATES NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Pearland ISD Benefits Specialist Carrie Bañuelos celebrated #NativeAmericanHeritageMonth by participating in the 29th Annual Austin Powwow, a gathering in which people of all tribes come together to sing, dance, pray and see friends. Eighteen years ago, after Bañuelos' father passed away, she was taken under the wing of a family and was taught how to jingle dance. They taught her how to make a jingle dress, how to bead, and the respect and protocols at powwows.

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Five Heritage Junior Master Gardener members received their certification for completing the three year course with leader Kaye Corey, a Heritage Gardener member and Texas Master Gardener (Galveston County). Extension Agent, Horticulture, Stephen Brueggerhoff conducted the graduation ceremony at the Dec 1 meeting of Heritage Gardeners at their clubhouse in Friendswood. The JMGs include Jasper Dengel, Liam Shelley excepting for his sister, Caroline Shelley who was ill, Avery Dengel, Chase Dengel, and Savannah Alley.

Garden Club thanks holiday participants, hosts JMG graduation

By KAROLYN GEPHART
Reporter News Staff

Heritage Gardeners met December 1 and held a thank you luncheon, awards presentation, Junior Master Gardener certification/graduation program and a brief general meeting for the garden club. Their Christmas Home Tour with bakery, boutique, Holiday Market and raffles was held Nov. 19-20 and the December meeting is planned to thank the many who participated.

Tour Chair Nannette Samson presented plaques to the four homeowners who opened their doors and welcomed the community to their decorated homes. The four include Lois Peden (The Nutcracker Hut), Meg Crowley and Rich Delgado (Yours, Mine & Ours), Joanne and Ron Juren (Merry and Bright) and Paula Durrett (Christmas in Paradise).

Friendswood Historical Society President Dave Smith was thanked for his work with the Frank Brown Museum and Perry Home. This was the first time the two museums were included in the Christmas event held by Heritage Gardeners. Friendswood alumna and representative of Friendswood Schools Museum, Cheryl Bouillion was also thanked for her participation in the tour with the alumni museum (A Mustang Christmas).

Library Director Matt Riley was also extended a thank you for allowing the garden club to use the library parking lot Sunday for vendors due to inclement weather.

Recognition was also given to the many chairs of the committees involved in the holiday event. These people included Nannette Samson, Millie McElya, Elisa Williams, Paula Oddo, Deena Metaxas, Karolyn Gephart,

Garden club hostesses for the meeting and luncheon included Paula Oddo (Key hostess), Carol Nowak, Pam Grossman, Marti Schumacher and Norma Torok.

A special graduation ceremony was held for five Heritage Junior Master Gardener participants. The five have completed their three years of study through the Texas A&M AgriLife

The Junior Master Gardener program is an international youth gardening program of the university cooperative Extension network. Heritage Junior Master Gardeners program is through the Galveston County Extension network and sponsored by Heritage Gardeners. Their leader is Kaye Corey, a Heritage Gardener member as well as a Texas Master Gardener (Galveston County Extension). She is assisted by Heritage Gardener member Paula Matranga.

Junior Master Gardener curricula engages children in novel, "hands-on" group and individual learning experiences that promote a love of gardening, develop an appreci-



Friendswood Historical Society President Dave Smith and Friendswood Schools Museum director Cheryl Bouillion were honored and thanked by Heritage Gardeners for their participation in the annual 2022 Christmas Home Tour. Not pictured are Friendswood ISD Superintendent Thad Roher and Friendswood Library Director Matt Riley who were also thanked for their support and generous use of their facilities.

Friendswood Council gets update on new water meter interface

Friendswood City Council was presented an update on the new water meter interface for residents at their regular meeting Dec.

As of Nov. 14, a total of 13,477 meters have been changed out to automated ones; approximately 95 percent of the City's active connections.

Separate but related, a pilot program has been up and running for City Council members and staff who live in Friendswood to test the WaterSmart interface. The test would be to see consumption history, set limits/alerts, and more.

The pilot program has been ongoing since mid-October. Council members were told the staff was set to open up the user interface to utility customers starting Dec. 5.

ation for the environment, and cultivate the mind.

The young graduates included Savannah Alley, Caroline Shelley, Chase Dengel, Jasper Dengel and Avery Dengel. Their certification ceremony was conducted by Stephen Brueggerhoff, Extension Agent, Horticulture.



JOANNE JUREN



LOIS PEDEN



MEG AND RICH DELGADO

Pearland ISD junior high singers win seats in all-region choir

Following an intense competition, 70 Pearland Independent School District students from all four Pearland junior high schools won places in all-region choir during the Texas Music Educators Association Region 19 auditions on Oct. 21 and 22.

"I am absolutely thrilled at the quality of our junior high choirs," Tom Bell, Pearland ISD Director of Fine Arts, said. "It all starts with great instruction from very talented and dedicated directors and ends with hard-working students pushing themselves to become a little better every day."

The four Pearland ISD junior high choirs have much to be proud when it comes to their very talented and dedicated students.

"All of the students in the region receive the same pieces of music at the beginning of the school year. Each choir director has their own unique method of teaching the music but common practices are to work on the music in class, perform the music at their fall concert, work on it with their private lesson teacher, after school sectionals, etc. But mostly, the students have to spend time on their own developing the vocal skills needed to perform the pieces," Bell said.

Participating in the auditions not only allows singers to qualify for the all-region choir but also empowers them with life-long skills.

"Since this is an individual activity, all students become better musicians by going through the process, regardless if they make it or not. Beyond that, they learn how to work on a long-term project that concludes with them performing, by themselves, in front of their peers and judges. Time management and organizational skills, perseverance and grit are also developed by going through the region audition process," Bell said.

Pearland junior high students who won spots in the all-region choir include:

Miller: Rohini Ahearn, Reagan Anderson, Kayla Hale, Kate Kannady, Hannah Le, Naveah Lewis, Danielle Padilla, Andie Sellers, Lily Venske, Naomi Bisrat, Brittny Bland, Dasialynn Buck, Megan Del Rio, Yaretzi Munoz, Elizabeth Murz., Gabrielle Quintayo, Omkar Dasgupta, Ethan George, Samuel Homan, Gage Lively and Kaden Hilahan.

West: Natalie Mull, Corina Argueta Salamanca, Meredith Russell, Rylee Johnson, Zaara Khan, Brianna Hammons, Emily Holloway, Emma Thompson, Riley Strother, Isabel Paredes, Emily Townzen, Aria Salas, Paige Houston, Ava Sherrill, Stevin Ellankil, William Simmons, Nathan Daquioag and Andrew Nguyen.

East: Isabella Fidler Navarro, Christine Burcham, Madison Taylor, Mithali Kadur, Esthela Salinas, Esmac Macneish, Olivia Kirtley, Julianna Martinez, Ashley Diccio, Laila Valdez, Jennie Mancuso, Myla Cameron, Miranda Martinez, Ireland White, Britney Solomon, Cerenity Douglas, Kara Tompkins, Ethan Richardson, Andrew Brown, Michael Walton, Jaylen Clark, Anietie Udoh and John Torres.

South: Joaquin Gonzales, Martin Serrano, Hailey Anderson, Ashley De La Fuente, Bernard Simmons, James Galbraith, Carter Thomas and Brenda Mosso Andrade.



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FAITH MATTERS

By Rev. Dr. Brian Gige

ANNUNCIATION

28 The angel Gabriel went to Mary and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." **29** Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. **30** But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God." **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

-St. Luke 1:28-33

I was talking to a friend about how God sent an angel to Mary... the young woman of Nazareth who would become the mother of Jesus. "Annunciation?" my friend asked. "Pastor, didn't you mean... E-nunciation... as to speak clearly? Clearly... I needed a do-over. Sometimes we do need to speak things more than once for others to hear and understand. The Bible says that when God spoke...stuff happened! Perhaps then it's both here... God's enunciation through an angel and then an annunciation worth noting as the words came from God!

God works because God works and when God speaks—even when there is no one to hear... or just a few...God makes stuff happen! "Let there be light!" "Eat from the garden except from the tree in the center;" "You shall have no other gods;" "love the Lord your God with all your heart; strength and mind" are all one liners we can give God credit for expressing with such importance...

Perhaps... God's best-known one-liner was when he spoke to young Mary in Nazareth and said, "you will have a son and you will call his name, "Jesus." God used an angel to share that message but it seemed clear to Mary that it was a word from the Lord. In fact, it's such a memorable occasion that some Christians many years ago built a chapel near the spot where those words were spoken... and it's still known today as the Church of the Annunciation. Of all the

things that God could say to us, he spoke words that told us that he would be one of us and live with us—just like one of us and even if one doesn't enunciate that truth all too well... it's still a great word to cling to. The other one-liner I give thanks for are the words, "This is my beloved son, listen to him..." spoken to the disciples in a cloud on a mountain top. God at work again! And if that kind of scene didn't have enough power on its own, Moses and Elijah showed up to provide the necessary two witnesses to a spoken truth of God.

It seems ... annunciations change the world. They change our world. Those annunciations change us and they change those around us. "Love God; love your neighbor; love yourself." And I like how Jesus provides a certain amount of imperativeness to those kind of proclamations... "Take, eat; take, drink; do this for the remembrance of me." As if we have a choice!

In the end, God keeps working—through us! The last annunciation of Jesus comes to us after the resurrection... "all power in heaven and on earth are mine—go, preach teach and baptize!" Wow! God spoke in the beginning when there was no one to hear and now Jesus speaks so that everyone will hear!

As I drive around town...it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and it's safe to say we are all bombarded with all kinds of announcements about how we should celebrate the days ahead. What we hear and what we say are vitally important...both our annunciations and our enunciation of them...faith matters...we all believe in something...so hear the angel's words again... "be not afraid!" God is with us!

The Rev. Dr. Brian K. Gige 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://briangige.wordpress.com/>. Send comments and/or questions to godworks247365@gmail.com.

Area Briefs

Nature workshop set Saturday

Adults interested in touring the Delores Fenwick Nature Center and meeting other nature lovers are invited to a morning workshop this Saturday, Dec. 10.

Scheduled from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the nature center, 5750 Magnolia Parkway, the session is \$5 per person and open to ages 18 and up.

Future adult workshops include a Bat Box making session from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 17. That program is \$30 for residents and \$37.50 for non-residents. Participants learn about bat species native to South Texas and create a bat house to install at their own homes. Those who register may bring a guest at no extra cost to assist.

Children's programs include Nature Nesters: Marsupials session from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Dec. 14; and Fenwick Fledglings: Clouds and Weather session from 10 to 10:30 a.m. Dec. 17. These are free but pre-registration is required.

For more about programs or to register, visit parks.pearlandtx.gov.

Roadwork begins on FM 528 bridge

Roadwork on the FM 528 bridge at the Irrigation Canal is being performed to help extend the life of the bridge. The \$615,000 project is anticipated to be completed in early 2023. To facilitate the work, crews have temporarily closed one lane in each direction, which will be in place throughout the duration of the project.

For more information, please call the TxDOT Houston District Public Information Office at (713) 802-5076. Closure information will be posted at www.houstontranstar.org.

Santa letter drop-offs announced

Letters to Santa will be accepted and routed to the North Pole at several Pearland locations through Dec. 11, providing ample time for them to be delivered before Christmas Day deliveries.

Local drop-off points include the Pearland Recreation Center and Natatorium, Deloris Fenwick Nature Center, West Pearland Library, West Pearland Community Center, and the Tom Reid Library. As these are designated as magical mailboxes, no U.S. postage is necessary. However, officials at Santa's Workshop have requested that each child's name, address and ZIP code are printed in the return address.

Boat Parade, party scheduled in Kemah

The 61st annual Christmas Boat Parade in Galveston Bay is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 10, with hundreds of lighted boats decked out for the holidays.

The procession is expected to pass the Kemah Boardwalk, 215 Kipp Ave., between 7 and 8 p.m. The weekend is also part of the Jingle on the Boardwalk with holiday music, visits with Santa, a toy drive and holiday films. Jingle on the Boardwalk wraps up the weekend of Dec. 17 with a Rock the Dock holiday party.

For detailed information and times, visit kemahboardwalk.com.

Brazos Bend offers holiday activities

Brazos Bend State Park will hold a daylong "Holiday in the Park 2022" on Saturday, Dec. 10.

Located at 21901 FM 762 in Needville, the park will begin its holiday celebration at 8 a.m. with a guided birding hike followed by a pet parade at 9 a.m. at Creekfield Lake.

An alligator program will be held in the amphitheater at 11:15 a.m., followed by an Audubon Society presentation at 1 p.m. and snake program at 2:15 p.m.

A Christmas craft, hayride, photos with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and more will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. and the event will conclude with S'mores at 5 p.m.

For more information, call 979-553-5124 or email jessica.bullard@tpwd.texas.gov.

Gingerbread Build-Off set Saturday

The 13th annual Gingerbread Build-Off hosted by the Architecture Center Houston will be Dec. 10 at Levy Park, 3801 Eastside, Houston.

The event is free and open to the public as teams compete to build the best architectural masterpieces that are 100 percent edible. More than 4,000 spectators typically gather to see the entries, play in the kids' zone and visit Santa.

Building will take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., when a Kid's Construction Zone and scavenger hunt are also held. Awards are announced at 5 p.m.

For more information on sponsorships, contact Judy Morse at judy@aiahouston.org.

For more on the Architecture Center Houston or upcoming events, visit aiahouston.org.

Few surprises in state traffic study

As far as mobility on Texas roadways, effects of the COVID-19's pandemic lingered throughout 2021, with congestion still below pre-pandemic levels, according to study by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

Since 2009, the institute annually reviews the state's most crowded highway segments, 1,860 roadways in all, measuring traffic congestion by determining delay per mile vs. the same trip in uncontested conditions. Houston's West Loop has remained the state's most gridlocked stretch for the past several years. In 2021, it was followed by Woodall Rodgers Freeway in Dallas, I-35 in Austin, Houston's Eastex and Southwest freeways.

The portion of State Highway 288 from I-45 in Houston to the South Loop 610 ranked at No. 29.

Eight of the ten most overcrowded road sections have stayed in the top ten for the last three years.

"Traffic congestion isn't just a big-city problem, and that problem is almost sure to get worse as our population surges by almost 20 million in the next 25 years," says David Schrank, lead researcher on the annual study. "With that kind of growth, Texas needs to use every possible means to keep people and goods moving. We need to add capacity, operate the system efficiently, and give people options for how to travel."

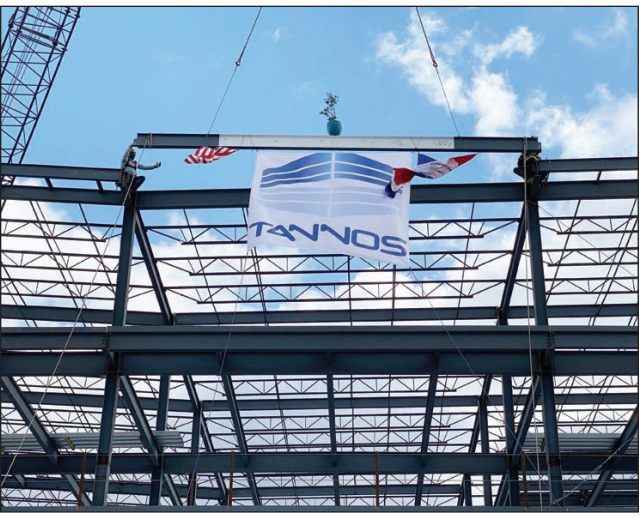
Funding for TxDOT's Clear Lanes initiative launched in 2015 is supplemented by a pair of voter-approved actions designed to funnel more cash to the State Highway Fund. Thus far, \$29 billion has been assigned to Texas Clear Lanes non-tolled projects in the four largest metro regions. Since 2015, 13 projects have been completed, 27 are under construction and another 58 projects are planned.



Louis Tannos poses with his family and Friendswood Mayor Mike Foreman after signing the final beam for the topping out.

Tannos Development celebrates "Topping Out"

Tannos Development celebrated a major milestone in the construction of their latest project at 1715 S. Friendswood Drive with a "Topping Out" ceremony on Monday. The



Steelworkers place the final beam, completing the framing for the new building at 1715 S. Friendswood Dr. The tree placed on top of the beam is a part of the "topping out" tradition.

final beam was signed by staff, City representatives, and other attendees before being raised and set into place with a Meyer Lemon tree on top.

There are a number of conflicting stories about the origin of "topping out" but the most widely accepted is the ancient Scandinavian religious rite that came about when first using timber construction. It was said that placing a tree on top of the wood structure would help appease any forest spirits who might have been displaced in the process. The tradition was carried on by American iron workers who continued to place a tree atop their steel structures.

While the tradition of "topping out" has a long and storied history in construction, they are a rare occurrence in Friendswood. Presently, only one other building in town stands as tall and it, too, was built by Tannos at 505 S. Friendswood. However, more buildings are slated to break ground in 2023 including the Albritton Building by Tannos Development and Banfield Properties' 161 Project, both in Downtown Friendswood.

The 105,000 square foot, four story office building at 1715 S. Friendswood Drive is currently seeking tenants and expected to be completed by late 2023.

Santa to arrive by WWII Stearman to Flight Museum for breakfast

By KAROLYN GEPHART

Reporter News Staff

Santa is arriving at the Lone Star Flight Museum Dec. 10 for breakfast but he won't be in a sleigh with reindeer.

The North Pole native is giving his reindeer a break and arriving in the museum's PT-17 Stearman airplane.

Children attending the event will see Santa taxi on the museum's ramp and then be able to enjoy photos, crafts and more.

The Breakfast with Santa event will begin at 8:30 am for ticket holders. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for children ages 0-12 years. Museum members save 10 percent on Breakfast with Santa tickets. The ticket includes seeing Santa arrive in the plane, breakfast with Santa mingling with diners, photos with Santa and the holiday market along with full museum access.

Santa will arrive on the LSFM Ramp at 9 am. Breakfast will follow from 9:30 to 10:30 am. The event is sponsored by Houston Event Planning. Breakfast will include French toast sticks, muffins, hash browns, sausage links, scrambled eggs, water, juice and Minuti Coffee.

From 10:30 am to 12:30 pm, Santa will visit with all in the Heritage Hangar. This event is open to all at the museum. Santa will be available for photos and Mrs. Claus will offer a special story time for children. Themed aviation crafts will also be underway.

The Holiday Market in Heritage Hangar will run from

10:30 am to 2 pm.

For those who cannot attend the breakfast, Santa will return to visit the Lone Star Flight Museum on Dec. 17. He will arrive again by PT-17 Stearman and will visit with families immediately afterwards. There will also be story time with Mrs. Claus and holiday crafts for all at the museum from 11 am to 12:30 pm.

Santa's arrival in the PT-17 is weather permitting. Should weather conditions not allow Santa to ride in our PT-17 on Dec. 10 or Dec. 17, he will make his grand entrance on the Heritage Hangar overlook.

Lone Star Flight Museum is located at 11551 Aerospace Ave. in Houston. For more information on tickets for the breakfast or on the Santa events and Holiday Market, call 346-708-2517 or email info@lonestarflight.org.

According to information from the Lone Star Flight Museum, the PT-17 Stearman was a primary trainer flown by the United States and several Allied nations during World War II. Made primarily out of wood and fabric with a steel tube fuselage, the Stearman was one of the strongest trainers built during World War II.

From 1934 until February 1945, the Stearman Aircraft Company, a division of the Boeing Aircraft Company, built a total of 8,428 model 75 airplanes for the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy for use as primary trainers. During this 11-year span, more American military pilots learned to fly in the Stearman model 75 primary trainers than any other airplane.



SPORTS

From the Cluttered Desk

by Dr. David Davis

The effects of social media

A daughter emailed her dad: "Dearest Dad, I am coming home to get married soon, so get your checkbook out! As you know, I am in Australia...and my fiancé lives in Scotland. We connected on eHarmony.com, became friends on Facebook, had long chats via email. He proposed to me on Skype, and now we've had two months of a virtual relationship. My beloved Dad, I need your blessing, your good wishes, and a really big wedding. Your favorite daughter, Lilly."

Her dad wrote back: "My Dear Lilly, Like Wow! Really? I suggest you two get married on Twitter, have fun on Snapchat, buy your kids on Amazon, and pay for it all through PayPal. And when you get fed up with this new husband, sell him on eBay! Love, Your Dad."

The Influence of Social media is being used in ways that shape politics, business, world culture, education, careers, innovation, and more.

Almost a quarter of the world's population is now on Facebook. In the U.S., nearly 80% of all internet users are on this platform. Because social networks feed off interactions among people, they become more powerful as they grow.

I, personally, don't do Facebook. I'm not against it - I just don't want to take the time to mess with it.

Without social media, social, ethical, environmental, and political ills would have minimal visibility. Increased visibility of issues has shifted the balance of power from the hands of a few to the masses.

One of the effects of social media is encouraging people to form and cherish "social media friendships" over actual friendships. The term 'friend' as used on social media is a weak shadow of traditional friendship. Real friends actually know each other, frequently interact face to face, and have a personal bond.

This has also affected the way we interact with our families.

The next time you go out to a restaurant - look around at others sitting at their table and chances are you will see almost all on their phones while waiting for their food.

It seems no one knows how to enjoy visiting with each other anymore and if a family goes out - the parents might be talking to each other, but the children are all on their phones - completely oblivious to those at their own table.

Social media hampers emotional bonds. Everything is conveyed through texts digitally, which can stunt expressions. Ingenuity is lost when people who would ideally visit one another to convey greetings only send text messages instead of hugs.

I know this to be true when I am sitting in my chair and I get a text from my wife, who is in another room, to see if I could do something. I just shake my head and wonder why is it too much trouble to walk around the corner to ask instead of sending a text. That's why I leave my phone in my home office so I don't have to answer a text.

With the decrease in real face-to-face conversations and in-person chats, quick-wittedness is rare. The sense of love, friendship, fun, and enjoyment have all disappeared due to the effects of social media on human mental health.

Spending time with each other is about being 'present' and in the moment. As friends and family gather, create memories by speaking to one another about times past, present and future. Unfortunately, today with social media being made available on the mobile phone, people spend time with each other 'scrolling' through posts.

As we approach Christmas time - I hope we can take the time to spend with each other and not so much time on our phones.

We need to remember the Reason for the Season. Trust me - the reason is not on our phones but enjoying our time with each family member and loved one.

Old friend Robert said, "Social media has given us this idea that we should all have a posse of friends when in reality, if we have one or two really good friends, we are lucky."

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Twitter: @drdavis111



CALEB ALLEN



TRENT BAKER



MATTHEW DUPUIS



KYLE GARDNER



KALE KOOPMAN



JACKSON RHODES



JAXSON RUSSO



BRAYLAN SHELBY



HUNTER SMYRL



AIDAN STOKES

Friendswood gridiron players

By DR. DAVID DAVIS
Reporter News Staff

The 2022 football season didn't quite turn out like Friendswood wanted as the Mustangs finished sixth in the tough District 10-5A Div I standings while missing the post-season with a 4-6 record.

The Mustangs found themselves, in what many believe, is the toughest 5A district in the state. At one point late in the season, five of the district teams were ranked in the top 10 in the Houston area with three teams in the top five.

One thing that has always characterized the Mustangs is showing a no quit effort which is a tribute to head coach Robert Koopmann and his coaching staff. Koopmann, who is retiring in January, has always seen his teams give a 100 percent effort no matter who they were playing.

The post-season All-District honors were

announced by the district coaches.

Most Valuable Player honor was given to senior Ashton Ojiaku of Foster.

The Offensive MVP was junior Davion Godley of Fulshear while the Defensive MVP was senior Tyler Harsch of Magnolia West.

Special Teams Player of the Year went to senior Caylon Dygert of Magnolia West.

Newcomer of the Year was shared by sophomore Caleb Allen of Friendswood, sophomore Chance Bryant of Fulshear, and sophomore Brandon Mills of Magnolia West.

Utility Player of the Year was senior Seth Smith of Fulshear.

Coach of the Year was Jason Brittain of Angleton.

Friendswood had four players named to the offensive All-District first-team. They are senior fullback Jaxson Russo, senior wide receiver Kale Koopmann (19 catches - 273 yards - 2 TDs), senior tight end Hunter

Smyrl (30 grabs - 344 yards - 3 TDs) and senior offensive line Kyle Gardner.

Named to the defensive All-District first-team is senior OLB Braylan Shelby (u) who is a USC commit.

Named to the offensive All-District second-team is senior running back Jackson Rhodes and senior wide receiver Aidan Stokes.

Named to the defensive All-District second-team is senior LB Jackson Russo, senior punter Matthew Dupuis, and junior deep snapper Trent Baker.

Named honorable mention on offense is junior OL Brandon Schireck, junior OL Sam Reihle, and sophomore RB Walker Winters.

Named honorable mention on defense is senior DL Isaac Rodriguez, senior S Michael Stafford, and junior CB Sawyer Skeele.



2022-2023 Dawson Lady Eagles Basketball Schedule

ROUND ONE					ROUND TWO				
Tue	Dec. 13	Alief Elsik	Home	7:00 p.m.	Wed	Jan. 18	Alief Elsik	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	Dec. 16	Alvin	Away	7:00 p.m.	Sat	Jan. 21	Alvin	Home	1:00 p.m.
Tue	Dec. 20	Alief Hastings	Home	1:00 p.m.	Tue	Jan. 24	Alief Hastings	Away	7:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 4	Alief Taylor	Away	5:00 p.m.	Fri	Jan. 27	Alief Taylor	Home	7:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 11	Pearland	Home	5:30 p.m.	Fri	Feb. 3	Pearland	Away	5:30 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 14	Shadow Creek	Home	1:00 p.m.	Tue	Feb. 7	Shadow Creek	Away	7:00 p.m.

Head Coach - Sharee Griffin
Assistant Coaches - Tate Riley and Ryan Woods



2022-2023 Pearland Lady Oilers Basketball Schedule

FIRST ROUND					SECOND ROUND				
Fri	Dec. 16	Alief Hastings	Home	5:00 p.m.	Sat	Jan. 21	Alief Hastings	Away	1:00 p.m.
Tue	Dec. 20	Shadow Creek	Away	1:00 p.m.	Tue	Jan. 24	Shadow Creek	Home	7:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 4	Alief Elsik	Home	7:00 p.m.	Fri	Jan. 27	Alief Elsik	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 7	Alvin	Away	1:00 p.m.	Tue	Jan. 31	Alvin	Home	7:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 11	Dawson	Away	5:30 p.m.	Fri	Feb. 3	Dawson	Home	5:30 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 14	Alief Taylor	Away	1:00 p.m.	Tue	Feb. 7	Alief Taylor	Home	7:00 p.m.

Head Coach - Jere' Adams
Varsity Assistant - Andre Stokes

JV Coach - Corey Grays
Freshman Coach - Damita Hampton

CLASSIFIEDS 281-485-7501

LEGALS

Published Dec. 7, 2022

Pursuant to the provisions of the Transportation Code Chapter 683 this is notice to the owner and lien holder of the following vehicle impounded item that you have 20 days after this notice to reclaim the item upon payment of towing and storage charges accrued by the impound facility. Failure to do so is a waiver of all your right, title, and interest in the item and consent to sale of the item at a public auction.

2007 HONDA 4W AVT
VIN:1HFTE359174004042

This item is being stored at:
LANDON'S HEAVY WRECKER SERVICE
2242 N SACRAMENTO PEARLAND, TX 77581
TDLR VSF Lic. No.0617873VSF • Ph# 281-485-7328
Total: \$578.24
Total charges cannot be computed until vehicle is claimed. Storage charges will accrue daily until vehicle is released.

LEGALS

Published Dec. 7, 2022

Pursuant to the provisions of the Transportation Code Chapter 683 this is notice to the owner and lien holder of the following vehicle impounded item that you have 20 days after this notice to reclaim the item upon payment of towing and storage charges accrued by the impound facility. Failure to do so is a waiver of all your right, title, and interest in the item and consent to sale of the item at a public auction.

2019 KAWA MC
JK1AFCP12KB506790

This item is being stored at:
RED'S WRECKER SERVICE
3029 WAGON TRAIL PEARLAND, TX 77584
TDLR VSF Lic. No.0508303VSF • Ph# 281-485-9457
Total: \$357.21
Total charges cannot be computed until vehicle is claimed. Storage charges will accrue daily until vehicle is released.

LEGALS

Published Dec. 7, 2022

Pursuant to the provisions of the Transportation Code Chapter 683 this is notice to the owner and lien holder of the following vehicle impounded item that you have 20 days after this notice to reclaim the item upon payment of towing and storage charges accrued by the impound facility. Failure to do so is a waiver of all your right, title, and interest in the item and consent to sale of the item at a public auction.

UHAUL TOW DOLLY
VIN: 14HU12206JNAT5979

This item is being stored at:
INTEGRITY COLLISION LLC, 2315 FRIO DR, ROSHARON, TX 77583
TDLR VSF Lic. No.0657277VSF • Ph# 832-453-6821
Total: \$525.45
Total charges cannot be computed until vehicle is claimed. Storage charges will accrue daily until vehicle is released.

LEGALS

Published Dec. 7, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF PEARLAND

Community Development Block Grant
Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPERs)
HUD Program Year 2019 (City of Pearland FY 2020)
HUD Program Year 2020 (City of Pearland FY 2021)
HUD Program Year 2021 (City of Pearland FY 2022)
2nd Public Comment Period

A 2nd Public Comment Period is being provided by the City of Pearland for its HUD Program Years 2019, 2020, and 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Reports (CAPER). Drafts of these reports will be available for review for an additional 15 days, from December 8 – December 22, 2022, by residents, public agencies and other interested parties. The reports will be available online at www.pearlandtx.gov, and/or printouts may be requested by contacting the City's CDBG Program Administrator:

Joel Hardy
Administration
3519 Liberty Dr.
Pearland, TX 77581
281-652-1795
Email: jhardy@pearlandtx.gov

Please notify the Finance Department at 281-652-1795 two days (48 hours) in advance of the end of the 2nd Public Comment Period (December 22, 2022), if special assistance is needed for translation and/or other interpretation for those that are hearing or visually impaired. Any person wishing to make written or oral comments regarding the applicable CAPERs should submit them to:

City of Pearland
Administration
3519 Liberty Dr.
Pearland, TX 77581
281-652-1795
Email: jhardy@pearlandtx.gov

A Public Hearing was held at the 6:30pm Regular Meeting of the City of Pearland – City Council on December 5, 2022, where a presentation was made on the overall outcomes of the City's CDBG Program for the 2019, 2020, and 2021 program years. That presentation information is also available online at www.pearlandtx.gov. This second Public Comment Period is being held due to the multiple years of reporting that is due to HUD, as a courtesy to those that are further interested in reviewing the reports. All comments must be received by December 22, 2022 to be included with a copy of the CAPER that will be submitted to HUD by December 29, 2022.

LEGALS

Published Dec. 7 & 14, 2022

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS
NOTICE OF INVITATION TO BID NO. 2023-01
2023 TANK REHABILITATION PROJECT

Sealed Competitive Bids shall be submitted via one (1) paper copy and one (1) electronic copy in pdf format on a flash drive or CD. Each copy must match identically and must include the ink signature of a person with the authority to bind the vendor into a contract. All submitted materials must be clearly marked with "BID NO. 2023-01 – 2023 Tank Rehabilitation Project" 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 **Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.**, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. A tour of the facilities will be conducted immediately following the completion of the bid opening.

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.

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 five percent (5%) 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 \$50,000, payment, performance, and maintenance bonds along with a bid guarantee are required by the City.

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.**, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 910 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546. A tour of the facilities will be conducted immediately following the completion of the bid opening.

For additional information, please contact Jildardo Arias, Director of Engineering at (281) 993-3411 or via email to engineering@friendswood.com.

/s/ Leticia Brysch, City Secretary
City of Friendswood

Check out our new updated website at www.myreporternews.com or find us on Facebook



2022-2023 Pearland Oilers Basketball Schedule

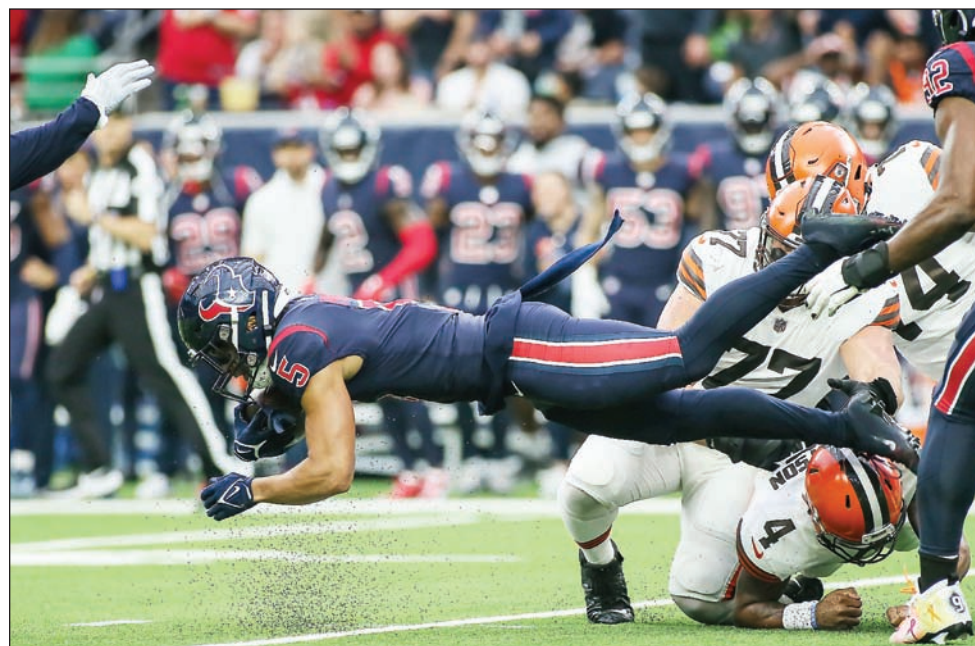
ROUND ONE				
Tue	Dec. 20	Shadow Creek	Home	1:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 4	Alief Elsik	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 7	Alvin	Home	1:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 11	Dawson	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 14	Alief Taylor	Home	1:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 18	Strake Jesuit	Away	7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 21	Alief Hastings	Home	1:00 p.m.
ROUND TWO				
Tue	Jan. 24	Shadow Creek	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	Jan. 27	Alief Elsik	Home	7:00 p.m.
Tue	Jan. 31	Alvin	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	Feb. 3	Dawson	Home	7:00 p.m.
Tue	Feb. 7	Alief Taylor	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	Feb. 10	Strake Jesuit	Home	7:00 p.m.
Tue	Feb. 17	Alief Hastings	Away	7:00 p.m.

Head Coach: Steve Buckelew
Varsity Assistant: David Koonsen
Junior Varsity: Brent Derrick
Sophomore: Marwan Singleton
Freshman: Matthew Alvarez

2022-2023 Dawson Eagles Basketball Schedule

ROUND ONE				
Tue	Dec. 20	Alief Hastings	Away	1:00 p.m.
Wed	Jan. 4	Alief Taylor	Home	7:00 p.m.
Sat	Jan. 7	Strake Jesuit	Away	1:00 p.m.
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Sat	Feb. 3	Pearland	Away	7:00 p.m.
Tue	Feb. 7	Shadow Creek	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	Feb. 10	Alief Elsik	Away	7:00 p.m.
Tue	Feb. 14	Alvin	Home	7:00 p.m.

Coaching Staff: Mark Barre, Delrick Brown, Jordan Rose, Connor Cox



GREAT INTERCEPTION

Houston Texans rookie safety Jalen Pitre [5] dives forward after returning an interception for 29 yards vs the Cleveland Browns on Sunday. Pitre ended the day with the interception, 16 tackles and another pass defended. The Texans defense got the job done, giving up only two field goals to the Browns offense. Unfortunately, the Browns defense was able to put up two touchdowns off turnovers and the special teams added another in the form of a punt return. The 27-14 loss officially eliminates the Texans from playoff contention. Photo by Lloyd Hendricks

IT IS A CRIME TO IMPROPERLY DISPOSE OF A BOAT OR VESSEL

FREE PROGRAM OFFERED BY GLO, TPWD, & GALVESTON COUNTY

FREE VESSEL TURN IN PROGRAM

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY JANUARY 13TH

IN ORDER TO QUALIFY, VESSELS MUST BE:

- Less than 26 feet in length, preapproved, and evaluated prior to event
- Transported by owner on the day of the event
- Boat trailers and trash will NOT be accepted

CALL 409-766-4509 OR 409-766-4512 TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT