

REPORTER NEWS

Pearland Edition

Your Independent Local News Source Since 1984

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023

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50 CENTS

Around Town

June 27

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET
Brazoria County Commissioners meet at 9 a.m. at the courthouse, 111 E. Locust St., Angleton. Meetings are open to the public and public comment time is allotted. For information, minutes, video and agendas, visit brazoriacountytx.gov.

PAJAMA STORYTIME
Family Pajama Storytime is 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. at West Pearlland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway. Library programs are free and open to the public. For information, call 713-436-0995.

June 28

CHICKS TO CHILDREN
Educational program titled "School Age: Chicks to Children" presented by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension will be 10:15 to 11 a.m. at the Tom Reid Library, 3522 Liberty Drive. All library programs are free. Call 281-652-1677 or email pearland@bcls.lib.tx.us for information.

ARMADILLO'S DREAM OPERA
Houston Grand Opera: The Armadillo's Dream is 2:30 p.m. at the West Pearlland Library, 11801 Shadow Creek Parkway, for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. All library events are free. For information, call 713-436-0995.

June 29

ROTARY CLUB MEETING
Rotary Club of Pearlland meets at 7:30 a.m. Thursdays at the Pearlland Chamber, 6117 W. Broadway St. Call 832-293-9860 for information.

SAN JACINTO FIELD TRIP
Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Ave., hosts a field trip for seniors to the San Jacinto Monument east of Houston with participants meeting at 10 a.m. Registration is required and can be made by calling 281-652-1890. Membership at the Knapp Center is \$25 per year for Pearlland residents and \$50 for non-residents.

MOVIES ON THE LAWN
Outdoor free screening of "Sing 2" begins at 7 p.m. in the parking lot of Baybrook Mall, 500 Baybrook Mall, Friendswood. Blankets and lawn chairs recommended. Baybook's Movies on the Lawn series is held Thursdays during the summer through Aug. 31. Baybrookmall.com.

June 30

NATURE TRIVIA NIGHT
Delores Fenwick Nature Center hosts Nature Trivia Night for families from 6 to 8 p.m. at 5750 Magnolia Parkway. Cost is \$5 for ages 5 and up. For information, call 281-652-1960, or visit parks.pearlandtx.gov.

CONCERT IN THE PARK
Concerts in the Park series winds up for the summer with Hybrid 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Independence Park, 3449 Pearlland Parkway. Smoking and glass containers prohibited; pets must be on a leash. Picnics, lawn chairs and blankets are encouraged and food vendors will be on site.

July 1

ALMOST, MAINE
Pearland Theatre Guild presents an 8 p.m. performance of the play, "Almost, Maine" at the Pearl Theatre, 14803 Park Alameda Drive, Houston. Tickets are \$18 adults, \$16 for seniors and students. For information, call 832-459-4674.

ANGLETON FREEDOM FIREWORKS
City of Angleton presents Freedom Fireworks display at 9:15 p.m., synchronized to patriotic music at the County Fairgrounds, 901 Downing Road, Angleton. The display is free and open to the public.

July 3

BOOKWORMS ADULT BOOK CLUB
Bookworms adult book club will discuss "The Christie Affair" at 6:30 p.m. at Tom Reid Library, 3522 Liberty Drive. All library programs are free. Call 281-652-1677 or email pearland@bcls.lib.tx.us for information.

July 3

CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM
Celebration of Freedom presented by Bayway Chevrolet is 6 to 10 p.m. with live music, food and fireworks at Independence Park, 3449 Pearlland Parkway.

City facilities such as the Knapp Activity Center, recreation center and local libraries will be closed for Independence Day.

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Pearland Mourns Former Mayor Tom Reid

By JIM FOREMAN
Reporter News Staff

Tom Reid, the iconic former mayor of Pearland, Texas, passed away yesterday, June 24, 2023. He was 97. Known for his dedication to the city and his tireless work in public service, Reid's death has left a profound sense of loss throughout the community.

Mayor Kevin Cole said "The void that is left by Mayor Reid's passing will never be filled, and he will be sorely missed. We will continue his legacy and work every day to match his level of dedication for the Pearland community."

Born on August 14, 1925, Reid was a stalwart of Pearland's civic life, serving as mayor for more than three decades. A former NASA engineer, Reid was first elected mayor in 1978 and, apart from a few short breaks, served in the role until 2020.

Reid oversaw a period of significant growth in Pearland, helping transform it from a small bedroom community into a booming suburb of Houston. Under his leadership, the city saw a number of infrastructural improvements and increased commercial development, placing Pearland on the map as one of the fastest-growing cities in Texas.

Before his time in public office, Reid worked



as a project engineer and manager for the NASA Johnson Space Center, contributing to the Apollo and Skylab missions. His experience and passion for science and engineering informed his leadership style, bringing a methodical and forward-thinking approach to city management.

Reid was known for his personal touch, reg-

ularly making time to attend local events, parades, and school functions. His commitment to the people of Pearland was evident in every aspect of his work.

Friendswood Mayor Mike Foreman expressed his grief over the passing of Reid, whom he considered not just a contemporary, but also a mentor.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of my friend and mentor, Tom Reid," Foreman said. "From my early days in office, Tom was there when I had a question or concern. His wisdom, experience, and unending love for his community shaped my own approach to leadership. He had a unique ability to make complex issues relatable, always finding a way to put the people first."

As Pearland mourns the loss of this civic giant, his legacy of stewardship and passionate commitment to community remains as a reminder of the lasting impact one person can have on the lives and heart of a city. His tenure in public service stands as a testament to his love for Pearland and its people, a love that will continue to inspire the city's growth and prosperity.

A come-and-go memorial will be 4 to 8 p.m. this Friday at First Church of Pearland, 1850 Broadway St. A celebration of his life will be held Saturday at 10 a.m. at the same location.

PISD Considers Tax Ratification Election

By N. BRADFORD
Reporter News Staff

Facing a daunting list of needs along with a budget deficit, Pearland ISD leaders this year are considering a tax ratification election.

"I've been struggling," Trustee Crystal Carbone said, "with how do we go back and ask the community for additional money when we passed a [tax ratification election] just two short years ago. How do we explain that we're still in a place where we're struggling with budget deficit?"

Carbone said she doesn't believe the district's staffing is bloated.

"The difference in where we were in 2021 to now is huge inflationary costs," she said. "Everyone at home has felt that. We are no different."

Trustees on Friday adopted a budget for the coming fiscal year -- the school tax rate won't be determined until August. State law requires

school districts get voter approval if they opt to raise their maintenance and operations tax rate above a set amount.

"How do we explain that we're still in a place where we're struggling with budget deficit? The difference in where we were in 2021 to now is huge inflationary costs."

~Crystal Carbone, PISD Trustee

Certified property values, which are used to calculate tax rates, won't be available until July 25.

"We will need to decide whether to consider holding a voter approval tax rate election," PISD Chief Financial Officer Jorgannie Carter told the board Friday.

PISD's general fund budget includes revenues of \$202.3 million and expenditures of \$215.1 million -- leaving a deficit of \$12.7 million.

"Since I've taken the seat as superintendent, we have entertained the idea of pushing out a (tax ratification election)," Superintendent

Larry Berger said. "That first requires the board to say, 'Yes, we give you permission to put it on the ballot' and have the community vote."

Enrollment at Pearland ISD has stopped growing, but the district still has 23 campuses, he said.

"Pearland ISD has cut 31 campuses positions and 19 central administration positions over the last three years," Berger said. "While

the general student population has decreased and has plateaued, we have increased in our at-risk students and our students served by special programs. These are students that don't necessarily fit into a student-teacher ratio."

In addition, the district hasn't raised substitute teacher pay since 1920, needs \$30 million in facilities maintenance and has another \$20 million in technology needs.

"Paper costs alone have gone from \$20 to \$40 a case," he said.

Included in the budget are 2 percent salary increases and starting teacher pay of \$60,500. Payroll makes up just over 80 percent of the district's budget.

A successful ratification election would bring in \$11 million.

"It's not the single answer and not the only answer," Berger said. "We may also need to look at a technology bond or facilities bond."

Independence Park to Host 4th of July Celebration

Don't miss this year's Celebration of Freedom Proudly Presented by Bayway Chevrolet as the City of Pearland celebrates Independence Day on Tuesday, July 4, 2023, from 6 to 10 p.m. The family-friendly event is free to attend and fun for all ages!

Attractions at Celebration of Freedom include a spectacular firework display and live music on the H-E-B Entertainment Stage featuring the Junior Gordon Band.

"Celebration of Freedom represents the ability of our diverse country to come together as one and celebrate the freedoms we have as Americans," said Kevin Carter, Assistant Director of Pearland Parks & Recreation. "I look forward every year to the Celebration of our Pearland community, to meeting new families."

Additionally, children can enjoy entertainment such as bounce houses, rides, and other attrac-



tions. A \$5 wristband ticket is required and can be purchased in advance or when you arrive at the event.

"These events would not be possible without the support of our sponsors, the value and importance of them being actively involved in the community is very much recognized and appreciated," said Special Event Coordinator Lindsey Taylor.

"We would like to make a huge shout out to our returning partner Bayway Chevrolet - presenting sponsor for the Celebration of Freedom and to our long-term partner H.E.B, our entertainment sponsor."

Attendees can bring food and drinks or purchase from a variety of food and beverage vendors at the park. The public is also encouraged to bring their own seat-

ing, such as camp chairs and picnic blankets. Don't forget, tents and canopies are not allowed. Additionally, please note that glass containers, tobacco and pets are prohibited. For additional information, please consult the FAQ located on the Celebration of Freedom website page.

The vision of the City of Pearland Parks & Recreation is to be the leader in providing quality services that connect the community through people, parks and programs. The department is dedicated to multiplying the Q4 factor: quality facilities, quality programs and quality service for your quality of life. More than one thousand programs, events and activities are planned and produced by the department every year, in service to the City of Pearland and surrounding communities. Pearland Parks & Recreation is a CAPRA accredited agency. Visit pearlandparks.com for more information.

School Board Appoints Retired Administrator

By N. BRADFORD
Reporter News Staff

The Pearland ISD school board this month appointed retired school administrator Bob Richter to fill the unexpired term of Trustee Lance Botkin.

Richter, who took the oath of office on June 23, is a frequent community volunteer who is well

known in Pearland ISD.

"If you walk into Jamison Middle School, his picture is hanging on the wall because of what he has given to that school and our district," Superintendent Larry Berger said. "He has served in every administrator capacity in Pearland ISD that you can."

Richter will serve in the role of

trustee until Botkin's original term expires.

Botkin says he is resigning due to personal and health reasons.

First elected in 2013, Botkin is a former Pearland High School teacher and coach. He and his family have lived in Pearland since 1997. During his 11 years on the board, he was a staunch advocate

for mental health resources for students and often brought a teacher's perspective to board meetings.

"I've always loved helping teachers and students," Botkin said. "I always wanted to see Larry Berger as superintendent. I knew when he was assistant principal he was destined for greatness. We're going to go from good to great."

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.

Tuesday, June 20

A Pearland teenager was arrested around 1 a.m. for evading detention with a vehicle, 2020 Business Center Drive.

An arrest for misdemeanor drug possession was made at noon, 2000 MyKawa Road.

Death investigation conducted at 6 p.m., 11100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

An arrest for family violence assault by contact was made at 6:40 p.m., 2800 block of Field Hollow Drive.

A 56-year-old massage parlor employee was arrested at 8:36 p.m. and charged with prostitution, 5730 Broadway St.

DWI arrest was made at 9 p.m., 2300 Dixie Farm Road.

Two people were arrested for theft at 9 p.m., 1919 Main St.

A local man, 21, was arrested at 10:38 p.m. for family violence assault causing bodily injury, 1409 O'Day Road.

Wednesday, June 21

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 12:46 a.m., 1900 Main St.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 4:26 a.m., 15000 block of South Freeway.

An aggravated assault was reported at 10:27 a.m., 2800 block of Business Center Drive.

A report of theft of service and arrest for misdemeanor theft were made at 10:47 a.m., 11100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

Two people were arrested for shoplifting at 3:55 p.m., 1919 Main St.

Two more people were arrested for shoplifting at 9 p.m., 1919 Main St.

Thursday, June 22

An arrest for assault by physical contact was made at 2:21 a.m., 12000 block of Linden Rose Court.

A Port Arthur man, 31, has been charged with assault causing bodily injury.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 12:06 p.m., 145000 South Freeway.

Shoplifting arrest made at 1:48 p.m., 11200 Broadway St.

Two people were arrested for shoplifting at 3:25 p.m., 1919 Main St.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 6:56 p.m., 8100 block of Broadway St.

Assault family violence reported at 7 p.m., 2800 block of Oak Road.

Death investigation conducted at 10:54 p.m., 16100 block of South Freeway.

Family violence reported at 11:44 p.m., 400 block of Anacacho Lane.

Friday, June 23

A 21-year-old local college student was arrested at 1:23 p.m. for family violence assault by

physical contact, 400 block of Anacacho Lane.

A Houston man, 22, was arrested at 2 a.m. for public intoxication, 2700 Cullen.

A Houston man, 38, was arrested for felony drug possession and evading arrest with a previous conviction at 3:16 a.m., 2700 Cullen.

An arrest for unlawful carrying weapon was made at 3:18 a.m., 16200 South Freeway.

An arrest for unauthorized use of temporary tag at 8:33 a.m., 1600 Main St.

An arrest for fictitious drivers license made at 9:40 a.m., 2800 Dixie Farm Road.

An arrest for no drivers license at 3:26 p.m., 3900 Halik Road.

Two people were arrested for burglary of vehicles at 4 p.m., 11151 Shadow Creek Parkway.

A Houston man, 39, was arrested for family violence assault by physical contact at 8:30 p.m., 11900 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

A 56-year-old Pearland woman was arrested at 10:36 p.m. for injury to a child, elderly or disabled person, 3200 block of Berryfield Lane.

Saturday, June 24

A League City man, 32, was arrested for enhanced DWI with blood alcohol level above .15 at 1:24 a.m., 2500 Pearland Parkway.

Death investigation conducted at 7:58 a.m., 3300 block of E. Walnut St.

An arrest for failure to maintain financial responsibility, 2000 Main St. at 9:32 a.m.

An arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 3:11 p.m., 2300 Main St.

Death investigation at 10:07 p.m., 11100 block of Shadow Creek Parkway.

DWI arrest at 10:22 p.m., 11400 Shadow Creek Parkway.

One person was arrested for drug paraphernalia and another arrested for felony drug possession at 10 p.m., 2000 Cullen Parkway.

A Pearland woman, 43, was arrested at 11:39 p.m. for abandoning or endangering a child, 3600 block of Kale St.

Sunday, June 25

DWI arrest with open alcohol container at 1:41 a.m., 1900 Main St.

DWI arrest was made at 1:49 a.m., 6601 Broadway St.

An arrest for no drivers license made at 3:20 a.m., 2000 Cullen Parkway.

Arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia at 5:09 a.m., 9700 Broadway St.

Death investigation at 7:50 a.m., 16100 block of South Freeway.

An aggravated robbery was reported at 10:47 a.m., 1900 block of Main St.

A Pearland teenager was arrested at 2:13 p.m. for terroristic threat, 2300 block of Granite Shoals Court.

Death investigation conducted at 2:45 p.m., 2900 block of S. Peach Hollow Circle.

A Pearland man, 29, has been charged with cruelty to animals and two counts of interference with child custody.

Indecent exposure was reported at 3:48 p.m. in the 2000 block of Vineyard Creek Lane.

An arrest for family violence assault by contact was made at 5 p.m., 12500 block of Broadway St.

Monday, June 26

An arrest for assault by contact was made just after midnight, 2526 Business Center Drive.

FRIENDSWOOD POLICE REPORT

JUNE 20 thru JUNE 26

Burglary

June 25 (8:58 a.m.) A burglary was reported at Intents Party Supply located at 109 Laurel. A DVR used to record the security cameras was stolen. After going through the building, the owner discovered that two rifles were stolen from an office area and cash was stolen from the center console of a vehicle.

Theft

June 21 (9:35 a.m.) A package theft was reported in the 200 block of Brandywyne. The package was delivered by an Amazon driver who took a picture of the package and then picked it back up and walked off with it.

June 21 (10:53 a.m.) A Friendswood businessman mailed an envelope containing a check from the Friendswood Post Office located at 310 Morningside Drive. Several days later when the intended recipient did not get the check, the account was checked. Three forged checks have been processed through the business account.

June 24 (12:43 a.m.) A theft was reported at Vape City located at 1542 Sunset Drive. A Hispanic male wearing a black cut-off shirt and black shorts, accompanied by a Hispanic female wearing a white tank top, entered the store at 11:10 p.m. on June 23rd. While the clerk was distracted, the Hispanic male stole two vape cartridges and a torch lighter. Then, the female stole a torch lighter from the display.

June 24 (9:08 a.m.) A theft of a ladder was reported in the 1600 block of Brill Drive. The victim left his 5-foot-tall aluminum fold-

ing ladder on the front curb of his house. He went inside his house for approximately 5 minutes, returned, and the ladder was gone.

Fraud

June 20 (1:44 p.m.) An 18-year-old Friendswood resident sent nude photos to a person on Snapchat. He did not have personal knowledge of this person, just the person's online presence. Soon after sending the nude photos, the victim began receiving requests for money in exchange for the person not sending the photos to the victim's friends and family.

June 23 (9:12 a.m.) A Friendswood woman was scammed in an online dog selling scheme. She paid using Venmo on Facebook Messenger, for a French bulldog.

Criminal Mischief

June 22 (12:14 p.m.) Four windows and a vehicle sustained damage when a 22-year-old Friendswood woman allegedly broke the windows, broke a vehicle windshield, and dented a vehicle at a home in the 400 block of Brandywyne Drive. The victim believes the criminal mischief was done in retaliation for an incident that occurred 6-years ago. The suspect is a family member.

June 25 (6:35 p.m.) A 17-year-old Alvin teen was driving in the 300 block of N. Friendswood Drive when he observed a white Chevrolet pickup truck driving erratically. The victim passed the truck to get some distance between him and the vehicle. At that point, the passenger in the truck began throwing items at his vehicle causing a dent in the pas-

senger side rear fender and a scratched rear window.

Driving While Intoxicated

June 22 (1:08 a.m.) A female suspect, 35, of Friendswood, was charged with Driving While Intoxicated in the 3600 block of Friendswood Link Road. The woman was stopped when she was observed driving without headlights and taillights. During the contact she exhibited signs of intoxication and failed a field sobriety test.

June 22 (8:47 p.m.) A 43-year old Friendswood man was charged with Driving While Intoxicated in the 2100 block of W. Parkwood Avenue. A witness reported a reckless driver speeding and swerving on the roadway near the intersection of W. Parkwood and Moore Road. The suspect vehicle was located, and an officer followed behind the vehicle to assess the driver's actions. The suspect was unable to maintain a single lane and when attempting to make a lane change, he narrowly avoided crashing into one vehicle and caused another vehicle to brake hard to avoid a crash. The suspect exhibited signs of intoxication and failed to complete a field sobriety test.

June 26 (2:53 a.m.) A 33-year old man from Houston was charged with Driving While Intoxicated in the 1400 block of E. Winding Way. The man was driving erratically, breaking, and swerving for no apparent reason before stopping for a green light. The officer got behind the vehicle as he drove into oncoming traffic and conducted a traffic stop. The man exhibited signs of intoxication and failed a field sobriety test.

Heat Advisory Likely to Affect 4th of July Events

As the mercury continues to soar, Friendswood residents are encouraged to take extra precautions ahead of this year's much-anticipated 4th of July celebrations. The National Weather Service has issued a prolonged heat advisory for the region, where temperatures are expected to surpass 100 degrees in the coming days, making this year's festivities not just a celebration of independence, but a test of resilience as well.

The National Weather Service has issued daily heat advisories with heat index values repeatedly exceeding 110 degrees Fahrenheit.

Citizens are urged to be mindful of the risks associ-

ated with high temperatures, including heat exhaustion, heat stroke, dehydration, and other heat-related illnesses. Symptoms to watch out for include fatigue, dizziness, nausea, rapid heart-beat, and dry, hot, and red skin.

If you are planning to participate in outdoor events, remember to drink plenty of water, wear light-colored, loose clothing, and apply sunscreen regularly. The CDC recommends a water intake of at least eight 8-ounce glasses per day during a heat wave, and more if you are physically active.

Lastly, don't forget about your furry friends. Pets can

be just as susceptible, if not more so, to the heat. Ensure they have plenty of fresh, cool water and a shady place to rest. Never leave them in a parked car, even for a few minutes, as temperatures inside can quickly become lethal.

Parents should also be especially mindful of children this week. Friendswood police recently responded to a child who was left inside a hot vehicle. Here are some reminders for parents and caregivers:

1. Never leave a child in a vehicle unattended for any length of time. Rolling windows down or parking in the shade does little to change the interior temperature of the vehicle.
2. Make it a habit to check your entire vehicle — especially the back seat — before locking the doors and walking away.
3. Ask your childcare provider to call if your child doesn't show up for care as expected.
4. Place a personal item like a purse or briefcase in the back seat, as another reminder to look before you lock. Write a note or place a stuffed animal in the passenger's seat to remind you that a child is in the back seat.
5. Store car keys out of a child's reach and teach children that a vehicle is not a play area.



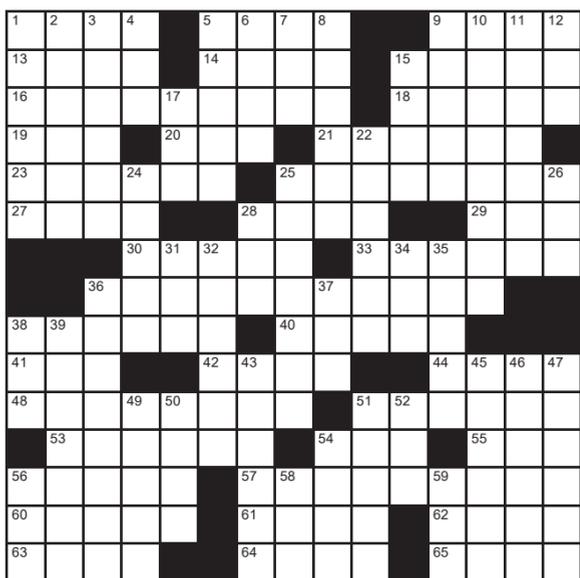
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- Across**
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 14. The "A" of ABM
 15. Drive
 16. Unabomber's crime
 18. About
 19. Apprentice
 20. ___ gestae
 21. Human-powered watercraft
 23. Spiels
 25. Baked beans, e.g.
 27. O. Henry's "The Gift of the ___"
 28. Fashion
 29. Barely make, with "out"
 30. In a fog
 33. Toyota compact
 36. Concert pieces
 38. Deli offering
 40. Oscar Wilde lover, ___ Douglas
 41. "___ to Joy"
 42. Sound prefix
 44. Data
 48. Eradicated disease
 51. Don't believe it
 53. Some wood designs
 54. Linger chain
 55. Little piggy
 56. Suffix with sect
 57. Preliminary tests
 60. Pasta choice
 61. A long, long time
 62. Song and dance, e.g.
 63. "Cogito ___ sum"
 64. Opera house box



- Down**
1. "Cheers," for one
 2. Lung membrane
 3. Potential lifesaver
 4. Deface
 5. Fast runners
 6. Cuckoos
 7. "___ alive!"
 8. Clear
 9. One-celled organism
 10. Artist studios
 11. Relative of a snowboard
 12. "If the ___ is concealed, it succeeds": Ovid
 15. Earned
 17. Bauxite, e.g.
 22. Moisture overload results, in plants
 24. Beauty pageant wear
 25. Oration station
 26. Bewitch
 28. ___ school
 31. Cap
 32. Curt
 34. Black cuckoo
 35. Front wheel alignment
 36. Taking in
 37. Carbonium, e.g.
 38. "Send help!"
 39. Fan
 43. Lodge
 45. Character
 46. Facades
 47. "Potemkin" setting
 49. Grassy plain
 50. Channel
 51. "Cut it out!"
 52. Afflict
 54. Diminutive suffix
 56. "Tarzan" extra
 58. "Winnie-the-Pooh" baby
 59. Butt

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SPORTS

Rogers, Partida Headline All-District 23-6A Selection

By DR. DAVID DAVIS
Reporter News Staff

Pearland head baseball coach David Rogers was honored as the District 23-6A "Coach of the Year" by his coaching peers after he led the Pearland diamondmen to the district title, the 6A Region III crown, and the 6A state finals.

The Oilers posted a sparkling 38-7-1 season record. Pearland thrashed Austin Westlake 11-1 in the state semifinals before falling short 6-4 in the state title contest.

After the state championship game, Rogers said, "Effort did not equal outcome. At no time did I question this team and these guys' effort at any moment in this game."

"The mistakes we made were mistakes that were trying to make us better. Mistakes trying to put us on the board. Sometimes it's just not in the cards."

Pearland sophomore pitcher/third baseman Nico Partida had a breakout year for the Oilers as he was named as the District 23-6A Co-Most Valuable Player. The Oiler ace led Pearland to the District 23-6A title, 6A Region III crown, and to the 6A state tournament where he beat Austin Westlake 11-1 in the state semifinals.

On the mound, Partida was perfect on the year with a sensational 13-0 record with a 1.08 ERA over 77 1/3 innings of work. He struck out 82 while walking only 24. He was also instrumental at the

plate as he hit .285 with four doubles, one triple, five home runs, 30 RBIs, 20 runs scored, and 11 stolen bases.

The accolades continued for Partida as he was recently named to the 6A Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association All-State first-team. The Arizona State commit was also named Newcomer of the Year by the Houston Chronicle.

Named also to the All-District first-team was pitcher Ryler Smart (7-3, 45 innings, 2.33 ERA, 59 strikeouts), Texas A&M commit senior first baseman/pitcher Caden Ferraro (.389, 14 doubles, two home runs, 27 RBIs, 24 runs scored; 24.2 innings pitched, 3-1 record, 34 strikeouts, 2.83 ERA), senior second baseman Braeden Morse (.248, three doubles, three home runs, 18 RBIs, 22 runs scored), UH signee senior shortstop Anthony Avalos (.360, three doubles, three triples, two home runs, 32 RBIs, 35 runs scored, 17 stolen bases), Sam Houston signee senior outfielder Brett Smajstrla (.369, 11 doubles, one home run, 19 RBIs, 28 runs scored, 15 stolen bases), and Damian Landry (.280, four doubles, 17 runs scored, 16 stolen bases).

Named to the All-District second-team was junior pitcher Jaden Barfield, senior pitcher Caden Schmidt, sophomore catcher Cade Adams, junior outfielder John Moya, and junior outfielder Isaiah Castaneda.

Teams Compete at State 7-On-7 Tournament

By DR. DAVID DAVIS
Reporter News Staff

The Dawson Eagles, Manvel Mavericks, and Shadow Creek Sharks competed at the 7-on-7 state tournament in College Station.

The teams were assigned to Pool Play comprised of four teams that would play each other with the top two teams advancing to the championship bracket and the bottom two teams advancing to the consolation bracket.

Dawson (2-1) finished in a three-way tie for first place against Lake Belton, (2-1) McAllen Rowe (0-3), and McKinney (2-1). Lake

Belton and Dawson advanced to the championship bracket for winning the tie breakers. Dawson beat McKinney 12-6 and McAllen Rowe 27-20 but came up short against Lake Belton 31-25.

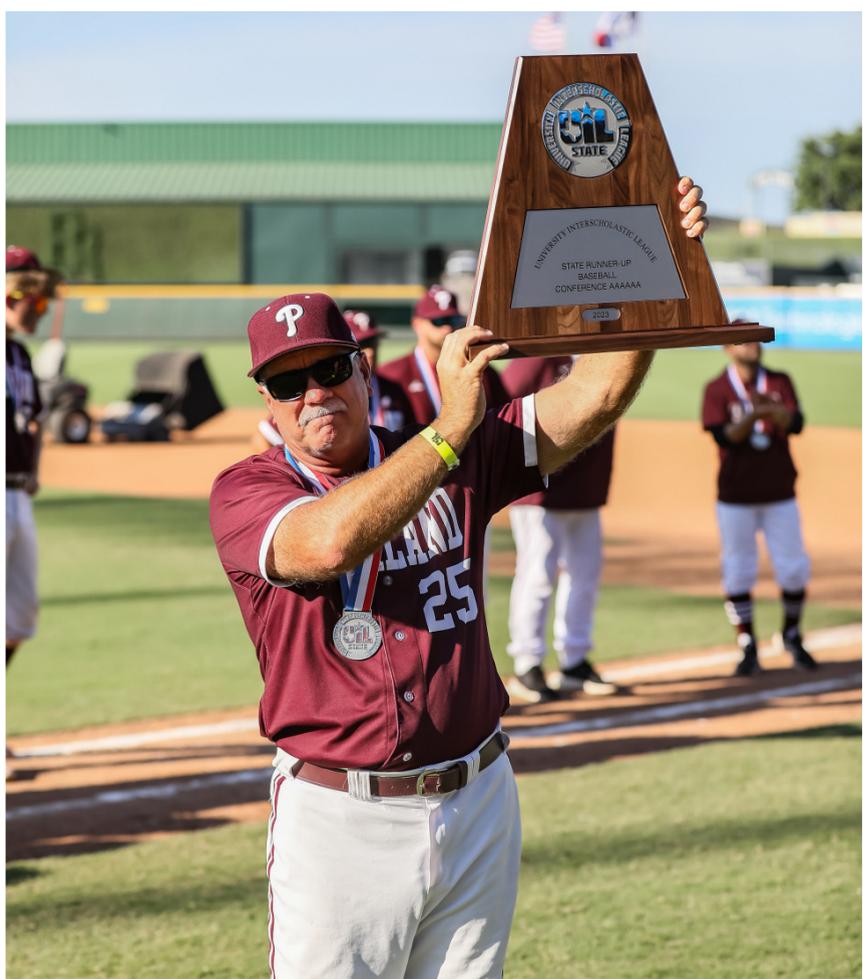
The Eagles faced Wakeland in the first game of the championship bracket and fell 27-14 that ended their tournament.

Manvel was in Pool Play against North Crowley, SA Johnson, and Westwood. The Mavs beat SA Johnson 25-19 and Westwood 26-20 while losing to North Crowley 26-20. Manvel and North Crowley advanced to the championship bracket.

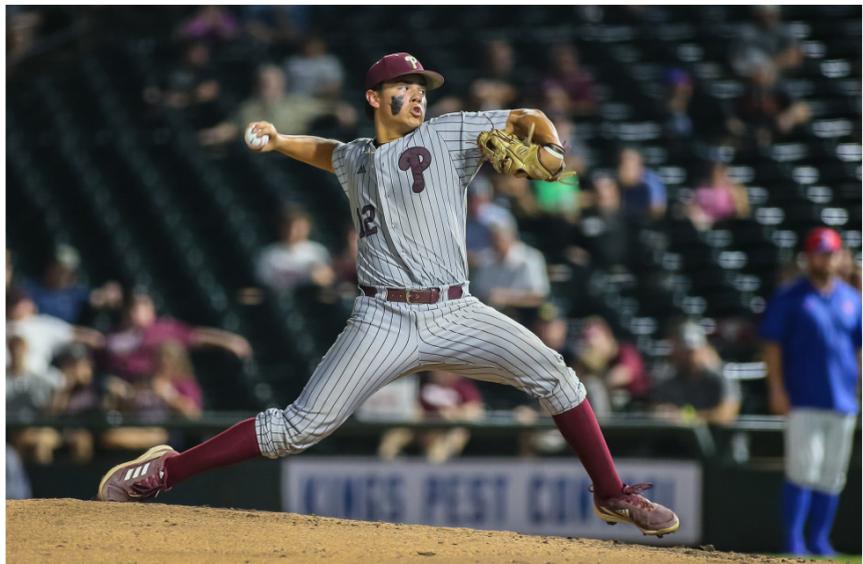
The Mavs faced Round Rock in the first game of the championship bracket and fell 26-19 to end their tournament.

Shadow Creek was in Pool Play with Eastwood, Lake Travis, and Wakeland. The Sharks beat Eastwood 20-12 but fell to Wakeland 32-13 and Lake Travis 27-20 to finish with a 1-2 record that sent them to the consolation bracket.

The Sharks stepped up their game as they beat Rowe (26-19), College Park (13-6), Pearce (39-21) and Westwood (32-7) to advance to the consolation finals where they fell to Nelson 25-0.



DISTRICT "COACH OF THE YEAR" - Pearland head baseball coach David Rogers was honored as the District 23-6A "Coach of the Year" by his coaching peers after he led the Pearland diamondmen to the district title, the 6A Region III crown, and the 6A state finals. Rogers is lifting the UIL runner-up trophy after the Oilers fell to Flower Mound 6-4 in the 6A state finals. (Photo by Lloyd Hendricks)



DISTRICT CO-MVP - Pearland sophomore pitcher/third baseman Nico Partida had a breakout year for the Oilers as he was named as the District 23-6A Co-Most Valuable Player. The Oiler ace led Pearland to the District 23-6A title, 6A Region III crown, and to the 6A state tournament where he beat Austin Westlake 11-1 in the state semifinals. (Photo by Lloyd Hendricks)

FROM THE CLUTTERED DESK

by Dr. David Davis

Bringing home vacation souvenirs

I was visiting with someone this past week and we were discussing vacations -- particularly souvenirs that people bring home for themselves and others.

It seems that one of the favorite souvenirs that people buy for themselves, and others are T-shirts. Especially those that tell you where you went on vacation.

But one headline recently caught my attention. American nabbed leaving India without souvenirs.

Since I have been to India 15 times -- I can assure you that I have returned home with plenty of things from that country. But the story I saw said:

An American woman was detained at Oakland Airport when she attempted to return from an India vacation without any souvenirs.

"I went to Jaipur on business," protested the woman. "I checked into a hotel, had my meeting and left."

I've returned from India with hand-carved elephants, leather goods, hand-painted brass, peacock feathers, etc.

Anyway - there are a couple of things that have always disturbed me regarding souvenirs.

As you are reading this - you are either a collector or you know someone who has collected these items.

One is a state silver spoon. You walk into someone's house and there they are - displayed on the wall in a wooden container.

Those silver spoons have no purpose. You will never use them to eat food. Even if you did -- you would only get a bird's helping.

Which reminds me of a story.

A pastor had dinner at the home of a couple in his church. After he left, the wife said to the husband, "I think he stole our spoon!" This bothered her for

a while. A year later the couple had the pastor for dinner again. Unable to resist, the wife asked, "Did you steal our spoon last year?"

The pastor said, "No -- I put it in your Bible."

One of the other souvenirs are the state plates that people buy. Same thing -- you will never use them -- they wouldn't hold enough food to feed a rat -- and they are simply worthless.

For my money -- buy a mug. It can show what state you visited - what amusement park you went to - what restaurant you ate at - what museum you toured. Doesn't that make more sense? You can use your mug at any time. It doesn't fade - it doesn't lose its size -- and it will last a lifetime unless you break it.

As an example -- I made a brief tour in my kitchen and I found mugs from the Carlsbad Caverns, Roaring River Restaurant in Cassville, Missouri, a mug with the flag of India, an IHOP mug (No I didn't steal it), Blue Bell Ice Cream mug, a "Yeah Man!" cup from Jamaica, a cup that reads, "You're the bestest Daddy!" a cup from Kawai, Hawaii, a cup from The Alamo, a D.A.R.E. mug from Wisconsin, a mug from the Excalibur in Las Vegas, and a beautiful mug from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

These are just a few of over 150 mugs that I have collected over the years. Many are in boxes, but I can get them out at any time to serve a lot of people.

My latest mugs have pictures of my nine grandchildren on them. I like those!

Spoons and plates -- naw! Give me a mug any day. You know - it just dawned on me -- I have been around the world and in 36 states -- but I don't have a Pearland mug. I need to do some hunting around to see if I can find one.

Old friend Robert said, "'A mug of coffee shared with a friend is happiness tasted and time well spent."

E-mail: drdavidavis@yahoo.com
www.reporternewsports.com
Twitter: @drdavis111

2023 Dawson Eagles Football Schedule

Sat	8/26	Hightower	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sat	9/2	Klein Collins	Away	6:00 p.m.
Sat	9/9	Tomball	Home	6:00 p.m.
		OPEN		
Fri	9/22	*Alief Hastings	Home	7:00 p.m.
Thur	9/28	*Alief Taylor	Away	6:00 p.m.
Fri	10/6	*Strake Jesuit	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/13	*Pearland	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/20	*Shadow Creek	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/27	*Alief Elsik	Away	7:00 p.m.
Thur	11/2	*Alvin	Home	7:00 p.m.

* Denotes District 23-6A Game

2023 Pearland Oilers Football Schedule

Fri	8/25	Clear Falls	Home	7:00 p.m.
Sat	9/2	SB Memorial	Away	6:00 p.m.
Fri	9/8	C.E. King	Home	7:00 p.m.
		OPEN		
Fri	9/22	*Shadow Creek	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	9/29	*Alief Elsik	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/6	*Alvin	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/13	*Dawson	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/20	*Alief Taylor	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/27	*Strake Jesuit	Home	7:00 p.m.
Thur	11/2	*Alief Hastings	Away	6:00 p.m.

* Denotes District 23-6A Game

2023 Shadow Creek Sharks Football Schedule

Fri	8/25	Manvel	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	9/1	Clear Springs	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	9/8	Bridgeland	Home	7:00 p.m.
		OPEN		
Fri	9/22	*Pearland	Home	7:00 p.m.
Thur	9/28	*Alief Hastings	Away	6:00 p.m.
Thur	10/5	*Alief Elsik	Away	6:00 p.m.
Fri	10/13	*Alvin	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/20	*Dawson	Away	7:00 p.m.
Fri	10/27	*Alief Taylor	Home	7:00 p.m.
Fri	11/3	*Strake Jesuit	Away	7:00 p.m.

* Denotes District 23-6A Game

CLASSIFIEDS (281) 485-7501

LEGALS

Published June 21 & 28, 2023

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 2023-09 CITY GROUP MEDICAL INSURANCE

Sealed Request for Proposals (RFPs) for Fully Insured and Chapter 172 Group Medical Plans, including Group Life/ADD, Medical, Dental, and LTD plans, and effective October 1, 2023, 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 "RFP NO. 2023-09 City Group Medical Insurance" along with the name of the company 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 **Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.**

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.

The City is not requesting the services of a Consultant/Agent/Broker. Forms and specifications for this proposal may be obtained from the City's consultant/agent of record, **Shaina Miller, Higginbotham, 1400 FM 528, Suite F, Webster, TX 77598, 713-439-5233, Email: smiller@higginbotham.net.**

/s/ Leticia Brysch, City Secretary

LEGALS

Published June 28 & July 5

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Pearland Economic Development Corporation

Sealed bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, July 20, 2023, and read aloud into the public record for the following project:

ENTRYWAY & CORRIDOR PRESSURE WASHING SERVICES: Pearland Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) RFP NO.: 2023-06

The project entails performing pressure washing of select appurtenances and flatwork at two (2) City entryways and corridors, maintained by PEDC on behalf of the City of Pearland or Texas Department of Transportation, to be completed and billed in full by September 30, 2023, in accordance with the specifications, terms and conditions contained in the bid. The areas of focus are the entryways of Dixie Farm Road and SH 35/ Main Street, and intersection seat walls and islands on SH 35 from Beltway 8 to Broadway Street. Electronic Bid Documents, including Technical Specifications, Diagrams, and Bid Forms may be obtained from Pearland Economic Development Corporation via email request to jbyerly@pearlandedc.com, mentioning the bid number in the subject line, or via hard copy pick up at 3519 Liberty Drive, Suite 350, Pearland, Texas 77581 by appointment (281) 997-3000.

A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the Pearland Economic Development Corporation at 3519 Liberty Drive, Suite 350, Pearland, Texas 77581 at 2:00 p.m. on July 6, 2023.

All bids should be submitted as one (1) hard copy and one (1) electronic copy to Pearland EDC, 3519 Liberty Drive, Suite 350, Pearland, Texas 77581. No plan fees or deposits are required for bid documents. PEDC reserves the right to reject any or all bids. No late submissions will be accepted.

Questions should be submitted in writing no later than 2:00 p.m., CST, Tuesday, July 11, 2023. Questions may be directed to Jess Byerly by emailing jbyerly@pearlandedc.com or in hard copy delivered to 3519 Liberty Drive, Suite 350, Pearland, Texas 77581 and discussed by appointment (281) 997-3000.

Jess Byerly, MPA
Development Manager, Pearland Economic Development Corporation

LEGALS

Published June 28 & July 5

CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS NO. 2023-14 2023 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN

Request for Qualifications (RFQs) shall be submitted via one (1) paper copy, along with one (1) electronic copy in PDF format on a flash drive. Each 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 **RFQ NO. 2023-14, 2023 COMPREHENSIVE MASTER DRAINAGE PLAN**, 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. WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023.**

The City of Friendswood (the "City") reserves the right to reject any or all submittals and waive any informality in submittals received. Any contract resulting from this RFQ shall be awarded to the responsible offeror whose qualifications are 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 qualifications.

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

/S/Leticia Brysch, City Secretary
City of Friendswood, Texas

LEGALS

Published June 21 & 28, 2023

NOTICE TO OFFERORS CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS

Request for Proposal for Construction Manager at Risk Hillhouse Road Annex Phase II City of Pearland, Texas Project # FA2106 RFP # 0423-11

Hillhouse Road Annex Phase II

Phase II will complete the buildout of the Hillhouse Road Complex and centralize services with the construction of approximately 20,000 square foot Fleet facility and a 14,000 square foot Parks Maintenance facility. Including offices, locker rooms, and material and equipment storage. The site will conform to all City Building Standards.

A **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting** will be held at the City of Pearland Engineering and Public Works Building, 2016 Old Alvin Road, Pearland, Texas 77581 in the **Rio Grande 1st floor Training Room at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 29th, 2023.** This meeting is a **Mandatory** Pre-Proposal Meeting. Attendance at this meeting is a requirement for successful submittal of a Proposal for this Project.

All Proposals should be submitted through the "E-Bid" system located on the City's website at: <https://pearland.ionwave.net/Login.aspx>. All interested Offerors 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 Proposal Documents and Forms are available for download after registration is approved by the City's Purchasing Department. No plan fees or deposits are required for Proposal Documents obtained through the City's E-Bid system. Questions regarding electronic bidding should be directed to City Purchasing Department at ebids@pearlandtx.gov.

Proposal Documents may also be 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 Pre-Construction Services price, must accompany each Proposal. See Instructions to Offerors for Bond submittal information and instructions. The City of Pearland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

LEGALS

Published June 28

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PEARLAND, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that the Planning and Zoning Commission of the City of Pearland, in Brazoria, Harris and Fort Bend Counties, Texas, will hold a public hearing on Monday, **July 17, 2023**, at 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3519 Liberty Dr., Pearland, Texas 77581; and that the City Council of the City of Pearland will hold a public hearing and first Ordinance adoption consideration on Monday, **August 14, 2023**, at 6:30 p.m., at City Hall, 3519 Liberty Dr., Pearland, Texas 77581, for the following cases:

1. **Zone Change Application No. ZONE23-06:** A request by Adam Client, Beacon Land Services, applicant, on behalf of PRD Land Development Services, representing BAHAM Interests Limited Partnership, owner, for approval of a zone change for 3.8452 acres of land from General Business (GB) District to General Commercial (GC) District, to wit:

Legal Description: Being a 3.8452-acre tract of land out of a called 4.846-acre tract out of Lots 63 and 64 of the Allison Richey Gulf Coast Home Company Subdivision of Section 9, H.T. & B.R.R. Co. Survey, Abstract 234, Brazoria County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof recorded in Volume 2, Page 24 of the Plat Records of Brazoria County, Texas.

General Location: 7029 Broadway Street, Pearland, Texas.

At said hearing, all interested parties shall have the right and opportunity to appear and be heard on the subject. For additional information, please contact the Community Development Department at 281-652-1765.

Mohamed A. Bireima, AICP
Senior Planner

LEGALS

Published June 28 & July 5

BRAZORIA DRAINAGE DISTRICT NO. 4 NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioners of Brazoria Drainage District No. 4 will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. at the offices located at 4813 West Broadway, Pearland, Texas 77581 for purposes of presenting and reviewing the District's proposed Revised Rules, Regulations & Guidelines.

The proposed Revised Rules, Regulations & Guidelines apply generally accepted engineering criteria to control flooding and detain excess runoff of orderly development by providing the means of near zero downstream impact after development in order to achieve adequate retention, detention, and conveyance of storm and flood waters through the District's jurisdiction, in accordance with its Flood Protection Plan. They address the review and approval procedures of drainage plans for construction activity within the District and the issuance of permits for construction of improvements.

You may contact John Genaro, Superintendent, at the District's office at (281)485-1434 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, if you are interested in reviewing these documents.

LEGALS

AREA BRIEFS

Longtime Pearland ISD staffer retires

Pearland ISD's Chief academic officer Dr. Nyla Watson announced retirement plans earlier this year.

A 41-year employee of PISD, she will be officially retired at the end of June. Watson joined the district as a teacher in 1981 and served as the first principal of the Pearland Ninth Grade Center before being named executive director of instructional programs, assistant superintendent of instructional programs and eventually chief academic officer.

Watson was named Rotarian of the year in 2013 and subsequently was presented by the Pearland Masonic Lodge with the Community Builder Award for outstanding community service.

She said she plans to spend time with family, traveling and enjoying her ranch.

Variety band closes concert series

Hybrid 7 will perform variety music to wind up the Concert in the Park Series this Friday at Independence Park 2449 Pearland Parkway.

The 7 p.m. show is suitable for all ages and free to the public. Lawn chairs and pets on a leash are welcome. Food vendors on Friday will include Cousin's Maine Lobster.

Weather-related updates will be posted on the city website, parks.pearlandtx.gov/special-events/concerts-in-the-park or on the event hotline, 281-412-8989. For more information, email events@pearlandtx.gov.

Fireworks set Tuesday at Independence Park

The Celebration of Freedom at Independence Park begins at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 4, with fireworks display after sunset.

Headline entertainment is planned by the Junior Gordon Band, along with strolling entertainers, a teen zone, booths and food trucks.

The evening is free to the public courtesy of Bayway Chevrolet. Families are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, or blankets, sunscreen and bug spray. Outside food and beverages, non-motorized vehicles are allowed. Large tents or canopies, barbecuing or personal fireworks are prohibited.

Annual Airshow returns to Ellington

The Wings Over Houston Airshow returns to Ellington Airport this fall, celebrating its 39th consecutive year Oct. 14-15.

"We're thrilled to welcome the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds back to the Wings Over Houston Airshow after their fan-favorite performance in 2021," said show executive director Bill Roach.

The event includes displays of vintage aircraft and interactive areas for children and adults.

Led this year by a Houston-native, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds will perform enhanced maneuvers in their crowd-favorite demonstrations.

"On our 70th anniversary, the 2023 Thunderbirds team built a demonstration worthy of our core mission: to unite in divided times, grow the American people's trust in our institutions, and create a beacon of excellence in the name of service to something greater than ourselves," said Lt. Col. Justin Elliott, Thunderbird 1, commander/leader.

The event will also include performances by the A-10 Thunderbolt II Demonstartion Team, Aftershock Jet Truck, C-17 demo, Debby Rihn-Harvey, John and Shane McGillis, U.S. Coast Guard Search and Rescue, U.S. Navy Growler Airshow Team, ReMax Skydiving Team, Tulsa National Guard and more.

Other special elements include a "Military Might!" drive-in style show Oct. 13 and the Guitars N' Cars featuring a classic guitar auction benefitting U.S. VETS-Houston. For updated schedules and information, visit www.wingsoverhouston.com.

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FAITH MATTERS

By Rev. Dr. Brian Gige

WORDS TO LIVE BY

"May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works— who looks at the earth, and it trembles, who reaches to the high mountains, and they smoke. I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live. 34 May my meditation be pleasing to him, as I rejoice in the LORD. 35 But may sinners vanish from the earth and the wicked be no more. Praise the LORD, my soul. Praise the LORD. - Psalm 104:31-35

What does one do once one has figured it out? When you learned to ride a bike, did you help your friend learn how to ride theirs? Sure, you did! When you figured out how to grill a great steak or cook some fall-off-the-bones-melt-in-your-mouth baby back ribs... did you keep the secret to yourself? Of course not! You let everybody know! And what about that stock tip or 60% sale on that thing you knew a friend was looking for... you kept quiet, right? Nah! You texted them as soon as you found out!

But, truth be told... most folks in our culture are far quicker to tell a neighbor or friend about the new electric

hybrid car sitting in their driveway than they are to share thoughts about the case for Christ and what a difference it makes to follow in the way of Jesus. Faith matters.

And what about this faith of yours? Everyone believes in something. Is it a struggle? Have you figured it out? Do you have friends and family members who struggle with their faith? Because they haven't figured it out? Is it as easy as riding a bike? Not always. Does it take an effort? Certainly! How many ribs did you burn before you got it right? Isn't that why the point of "practicing our faith" is perfected by "practicing our faith?" Because faith isn't magic and we just don't "POOF" (magic pixie dust kind of "poof") ourselves into a deep relationship with God over a 4-day weekend... we practice our faith so when we need a faith, we have one that we can depend on... now, we're talking...

QUESTION: So, what does it take for the world to get its faith posture in good order?

ANSWER: Repeat the sounding joy! You know like the repeat the sounding joy in the song... 'Joy to the World' when the Lord has come! God knew the world needed to have the love of God... so the love of God

was brought to us by God in the flesh... by Jesus... The Emmanuel... the one we know as "God with us!"

Have you ever looked carefully at the song, "Joy to the World"? Even though we sing it loud and proud at Christmas... it wasn't written as a Christmas song at all. It is based on Psalm 98 and particularly verses 4-9... go ahead... look it up... and the words point to the love and power, joy and purpose of God and how the whole world cannot keep silent... in fact, it really is a song about the mission of God's people... that WE... repeat the sounding joy... to let the world know that God is love... and God's love is trustworthy above all things... and the path of God (Jesus did say... "follow me!") is a path that leads to righteousness and blessedness... not as brag or goal... but just the simple way God desires...

The difficult part however is one cannot repeat the sounding joy if one doesn't know or have any of the sounding joy the Psalmist speaks of... and this all proves true when we get to the third verse of the song... "No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow... Far as the curse is found... We repeat the sounding joy simply because God's joy replaces our sin and sorrow... always... and his blessings we do claim... despite life's difficulties... Yes! So... let's repeat the sounding joy all Summer and all the way to Christmas!

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.