NOTES & NEWS

EXCITING NEWS AND EVENTS FROM KATY BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS



Patsy Stanley Receives Namesake Recognition

Patsy Stanley's name has been added to Stanley Elementary. The Katy ISD Board of Trustees presented her as a namesake not only to highlight the memory and legacy of Stan Stanley, but to honor everything she has done for Katy ISD. She has been a constant supporter to the students, staff, and parents, contributing countless hours to the school and the district. The new school name is Stan C. and Patsy Stanley Elementary.

Houston Methodist West Hospital Receives High Marks

The Leapfrog Group, a nonprofit organization which assigns letter grades to hospitals nationwide, rewarded Houston Methodist West Hospital an "A" for its commitment to reducing errors, infections, and accidents that can harm patients, ranking among the safest hospitals in the U.S.

Katy ISD is Awarded for Digital Equity

The Consortium for School Networking honored the district for its work in bridging the digital divide by helping students who do not have high-speed internet or devices at home. Katy ISD loans devices to students and offers WiFi hotspots at each campus library.

University of Houston Names Director of Engineering Programs at Katy Campus

Phaneendra Kondapi, a veteran engineering educator who helped develop the nation's first subsea engineering program at the University of Houston, has been named founding director of engineering programs at the University of Houston at Katy. The UH Cullen College of Engineering began offering two energy-focused engineering courses at the Houston Community College (HCC) Northwest-Katy Campus last fall, in advance of the planned opening of a new UH System facility in Katy in 2018. The graduate-level course offerings are focused on areas in high demand in Houston's Energy Corridor. Five graduate-level classes will be offered at the HCC Katy campus this fall.



Four Memorial Hermann Nurses Receive Specialized Certification

Carolyn Allsen, Sylvia Brown, Jessica Burgess, and Deidra Teoh are the first nurses in Houston, and among the first in the nation, to become certified by the Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN). The team will service all eight Memorial Hermann Cancer Centers, including the one in Katy, ensuring oncology patients throughout the Greater Houston Area receive specialized attention.



KARE Attends Education Rally

Members of the Katy Area Retired Educators group joined the 1,100 Texas Retired Teachers Association members at the annual convention in Austin, Texas. This was followed with a day of advocacy at the Texas Capitol where members convened to rally and meet with legislators regarding proposed changes to TRS healthcare and the pension fund.

YMCA, UT Health, and National MS Society Create Unique Fitness and Education Program

Moving Stronger, an exercise and education program specifically designed for people with multiple sclerosis, was launched by three institutions that are national leaders in their respective fields. The program is free of charge and the first of its kind in the country. The 12-week program will be held at the Monty Ballard YMCA at Cinco Ranch and will include 24 sessions of exercise, education, and bonding discussions around subjects relevant to people with MS.

Katy ISD Education Foundation Rewarded

Rusty Wylie, operator of the Cinco Ranch, Mason Rd., and Katy Green locations; and marketing directors, Wendy Reinwald and Amy Lehr nominated the Katy ISD Education Foundation for the True Inspiration Award given out by The Chick-fil-A Foundation. The Katy Education Foundation was one of 22 organizations and the foundation received \$15,000. – Only if this fits the space and isn't too much trouble.

Katy Area 2020 Plan

The strategic plan, facilitated by TadZo consulting firm, will identify and target new industries, build relationships with real estate officials, retain expanding local employers, and market the area. The Katy Area EDC (KAEDC) received input from the public about what was important to them and how the KAEDC can help the city grow.

New Buc-ee's Katy Store to Build Largest Car Wash in the World

The popular Texas convenience store and gas station will have a 225-foot long car wash which will accompany a 56,000-square foot store and 120 gas pumps. The store was originally scheduled to open this spring, but construction timelines have been pushed back due to the installation of a generator powerful enough to keep the store running in the event of a power outage. The new anticipated opening is set for this fall, and will provide approximately 200 jobs to the area.



Eagle's Trace Residents Volunteer

A group of residents and employees from the Erickson Living retirement community donated their time at the Houston Peanut Butter Cannery of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-day Saints in Houston. The team produced over 8,600 jars of peanut butter which will be shipped to food banks in Harris and Montgomery counties and the City of Houston.

Katy Area EDC International Partnerships

Lance LaCour traveled to Aberdeen, Scotland and Munich and Mannheim, Germany to visit with businesses to help bring growth to the Katy Area. The three are home to numerous energy companies, and LaCour took part in events and meetings to explore how to create more relationships and continue to advance Aberdeen, Katy, and Germany as worldwide leaders in the energy industry.

Katy Boardwalk Under Construction

The city broke ground on the Katy Boardwalk District, and the first phase is scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2017. The mixed-use project will include a boardwalk, nature trails, two loft-style apartment complexes, retail stores, and restaurants. Developers of the living complexes are expected to begin building in June or July.

Cinco Ranch Tops The List Of Great Places to Live

Niche, an online ranking site for colleges, K-12 schools, and places to live, has ranked the Katy suburb of Cinco Ranch as the second best place to live in Texas for 2017. Coming in second only to Rollingwood, a suburb of Austin, Cinco Ranch was given four out of five stars for it's safety, clean streets, schools, and friendly neighbors.



Future Golf Stars Compete at the Masters

Maye and Treed Huang, students in Katy ISD, competed in the annual Drive, Chip, and Putt National Finals in Augusta, Georgia during the Masters Golf Tournament. Maye won the putting contest in the 7 to 9-year-old division.

Got news? Email us at editor@katymagazine.com



Katy ISD Student Meets Senator Kolkhorst

Peter, a student in Katy ISD, was granted a meeting with Senator Lois Kolkhorst. He spoke to her about repealing the STAAR test and said that he would rather have district assessments. Senator Kolkhorst discussed the emphasis on testing and how it benefits both the students and teachers.

Scholarship Program Available

State Representative Mike Schofield is accepting applications for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program (TASSP) for the 2017-2018 academic school year. TASSP is for students entering college in the fall of 2017 and will provide funding towards an undergraduate degree at any Texas university with an active ROTC program. For more information, visit hhloans.com.

New Goddard School Location

Construction has started in northwest Cinco Ranch, next to Jenks Elementary School and will be operational in August 2017. They are now accepting applications for enrollment.

New Park Coming to Katy

John Paul's Landing Park, located off of Katy Hockley Road, is open to the public, but some amenities are still under development. The hiking trails are available for walking and a pavilion is currently being built. Fishing piers, picnic areas, and restrooms will be available soon.

Fort Bend County Sheriff's Office Awards

Two telecommunicators received statewide recognition at the Texas Public Safety Conference. This conference was a joint venture between the Texas chapters of National Emergency Number Association (NENA) and Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Both of the representatives were nominated and received Texas Chapter NENA awards.

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