

Benbrook Fire Department

Chief Tommy Davis Retires After 38 Years, Chief Jason Tate to Take the Helm

The Benbrook Fire Department celebrates the remarkable career of Fire Chief **Tommy Davis** (right), who is retiring after 38 years of dedicated service to the community. Chief Davis's leadership, commitment, and unwavering service have made a lasting impact, and his legacy will continue to inspire for years to come. The Department and community are deeply grateful for his years of service and all he's done to keep this town safe.

As we say farewell to Chief Davis, the department is proud to announce the promotion of Chief **Jason Tate** (left) as the new Fire Chief. Chief Tate has been an essential part of BFD team for 25 years, and we are excited for the direction he will lead the department as we continue to uphold the highest standards of safety and service.



Benbrook Council Action by John English

Dec. 19 Meeting Review

The Benbrook City Council meeting was held on Dec. 19 as scheduled. Mayor Jason Ward called the meeting to order. An invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Time was then allowed for citizen comments on any agenda item, but there were none.

The minutes for the meeting held on Dec. 5 were then approved unanimously.

The first item of the evening was a motion to accept an ordinance rezoning 8.82 acres of land, also known as the Whitestone Point Addition, from "PD" Planned Development District (Ord. 1461) to "BR-PD," a One-Family Reduced Planned Development District.

If approved, the maximum lot coverage allowed on a property in the district will increase from 45 percent to 55 percent.

All other existing zoning regulations would remain unchanged for this subdivision.

The Whitestone Point Addition is located northwest of the Jerry Dunn Pkwy and Green Links Dr intersection.

Dr. Larry Marshall asked how many homes there were in the (continued on page 4)

From the Sports Desk with John English

Wrestling: Benbrook Teams Compete at Aledo Tri Meet

The Benbrook wrestling team had a strong showing at the Aledo Tri Meet this past weekend, and coach Wade Cribbs said his team competed well despite facing some adversity.

"I was really pleased with how we competed against Aledo. We had a couple starters out with injuries on the boys side that I think would've made a difference. We lost by 12, which is just one match being flipped. The boys did defeat Paschal though. The girls did awesome winning handily against Aledo and Paschal," Cribbs said.

Standouts were Nataleigh Zapata, Emily Lonsford, and Kas Stevens on the girl's side.

The Bobcats had strong efforts on the boy's side at the tournament as well.

"The boys were led by Dominic Nunez, Landry Wilkinson, Desmond Chambers and Jacob Carpenter," Cribbs said. "Those four have a combined record of 40-3 on the season."

Benbrook is competing in the Lamar Invitational starting tomorrow, and Cribbs expects it to be an opportunity to continue to acclimate for his team.

"We're hoping at Lamar to just continue to work on the fundamentals and adjust into our new weight classes. We're still trying to get everyone and healthy and ready for State Duals In Wichita Falls in two weeks," Cribbs said. (continued on page 3)

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From the Project Linus Blanketeers

First Monday Quilt Club

Volunteers Needed

Start the New Year off right by coming to join the fun and have fellowship with the Project Linus Quilt Club volunteers as you make a difference in our community by being a blessing to others.

The First Monday Quilt Club meets on the first Monday of each month at Bethany Christian Church located at 1500 Meadow Park Drive in White Settlement from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Instead of a potluck lunch, ladies are asked to bring brunch or snack items. Their next meeting is on Monday, Jan. 6.

Project Linus is a non-profit service organization. The members of this group are Tarrant County Chapter Project Linus volunteers who create handmade quilts and blankets that provide love, warmth, and comfort for local children who have suffered trauma, tragedy, or illness. Volunteers also make coverlets for veterans, nursing home residents, and the homeless. Unfor-

tunately, the need for these blankets increases each month. They desperately need volunteers with portable sewing machines to help assemble the quilts.

No experience is needed - there is a place for you. Anyone can help if you can follow instructions, sew, tie a knot, crochet a blanket, or tell a good joke. Volunteers have lots of fun and develop fantastic friendships.

High school students can receive community service credits for participating. Materials (fabric, batting, thread, and yarn) are provided. Donations of fabric, yarn, thread, or money to purchase materials are greatly appreciated.

For more information about the mission of Project Linus, visit www.projectlinus.org.

For more information on this group and meetings, call Virginia Biela at 817-244-1263 or Virgie Anderson at 817-244-5276.

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Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

On the court, the Benbrook boy's basketball team competed in the Leonard Tournament this past weekend, and coach Blake Mendez said the competitions had its ups and downs.

"Coming into the tournament, we felt like we had a pretty good chance to come home with some hardware," Mendez said. "It started off exciting with a buzzer beater by Jayden Hall to put us in the winners bracket. Our second round game was a great game by our guys. We beat Howe 49-20. Our next two games were tough losses. We lost by 5 to a really good Perrin Whitt team and then couldn't hold on to a lead against Whitesboro so we finished fourth."

The Bobcats finished 2-2 in the tournament and Jacorey Head made the all-tournament team.

"He had to step into a starting role due to one of our kids being out for the tournament and he played amazingly," Mendez said. "I was very proud of him."

With district getting underway, Mendez is happy with how his team is competing.

"I think we are playing really well," Mendez said. "We are competing in every game we play. If we can figure out the last 4 minutes of these close games, we're going to be dangerous."

Over at Western Hills, the Cougars defeated Petrolia by a score of 55-45 last Saturday.



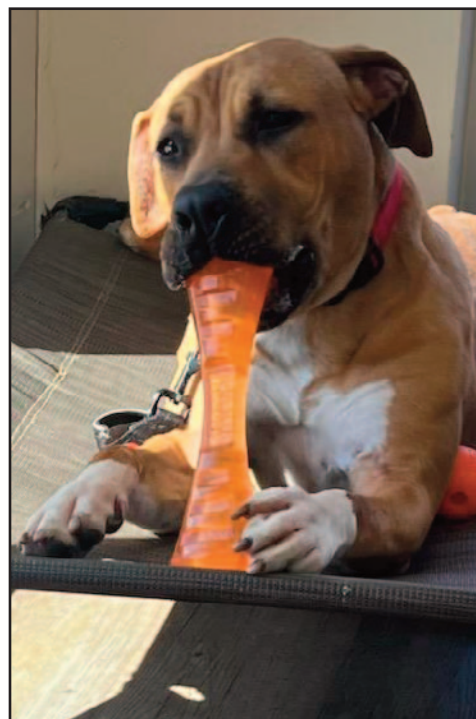
On the girl's side, **Benbrook Lady Cats** finished second at the Castleberry Tournament this past weekend, and coach Leta Lofton said she feels like the competition was necessary to keep the team in rhythm.

"The tournament gave us an opportunity to knock off the holiday dust," Lofton said. "We were able to win two tournament games and advance to the championship round of the tournament. We were faced with a very talented and well-rounded THESA home team. I am proud of the way the team fought and gave great effort. Hopefully, what we got from the tournament will carry over to our district games for continued growth, experience and victory."

Grace Klaerner was selected to the all-tournament team.

Over at Western Hills, the Lady Cougars defeated Carter-Riverside by a score of 30-20 before the Christmas holiday.

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Council Action (continued from page 1)

addition and was informed that there were currently 11 existing or under-construction residences. A public hearing followed, but there were not comments and the motion passed unanimously.

Next up was a motion to consider accepting the finance report for the period ending on Nov. 30. General Fund revenues for the month of November totaled \$1,827,580 and year-to-date revenues totaled \$2,598,991. Expenditures for the month of November totaled \$2,060,520 and year-to-date expenditures totaled \$4,030,606. For the Economic Development Corporation, revenues for the month of November totaled \$198,950 and year-to-date totaled \$412,804, while expenditures for the month of November totaled \$37,231 and year-to-date totaled \$66,600. Investments for the City of Benbrook totaled \$29,954,031 and for the EDC totaled \$6,698,664. The finance report was accepted unanimously.

Next up was motion to make appointments to various boards and commissions.

According to the agenda, the even numbered positions on the City's various boards and commissions will expire on Dec. 30. Applications were received and submitted to City Council at their Nov. 21 meeting, and the city council conducted interviews with candidates on Dec. 11.

Council member Renee Franklin made the following recommendations: For the Planning & Zoning Commission Place 2, Sandra Lee, Place 4, Brandon Ellison, Place 6, Jon Craver and Place 8 Leah Rodriguez.

For the ZBA Board of Appeals, Place 2

Ghias Dean, Place 4 Thomas Fitzsimmons, Alternate B, Carol Stacy, and Alternate D Stephen Hickey.

For Parks and Recreation, Place 2 John James, Place 4 Mary Adelman, Place 6 Cameron Potter.

For the EDC, Place 2 Danyelle Ackall, Place 4 Thomas Casey and Place 6 Phyllis Harkins.

Those members were all approved unanimously.

The next item of the evening was a proposal to approve a contract with Freese and Nichols for the Low Water Crossing Culvert Replacement Project at Dutch Branch Park.

The Lake Shore Drive low-water crossing, located southwest of the Benbrook Stables is frequently closed during rain events for safety reasons. The culverts beneath the crossing are deteriorating and require replacement. Staff recommended that the council approve the design contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for the Low Water Crossing Improvement Project for \$138,260.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Time was then allowed for informal citizen comments, but there were none.

Time was then allowed for council member and staff comments, and Franklin thanked all of the citizens who came out to the postponed tree-lighting and fireworks event, as well as all the staff and volunteers who worked the event.

The meeting adjourned.

To submit an obituary, email suburbannews@sbcglobal.net



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From Benbrook Library Epic Decks Card Trading Saturday

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Participants can enjoy snacks, trade cards, and hang out with other fans.

Drop in anytime between 1 to 3 p.m. to join in on the fun and make like-minded friends.

This event is intended for all ages!

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From Benbrook News Staff Writers City Council Meets Tonight

The Benbrook City Council meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (with a pre-meeting work session at 7 p.m.) in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 911 Winscott Road in Benbrook, 76126.

View the Jan. 2 agenda [here](#).

Epic Decks Card Trading
Saturday, January 4
1-3 pm

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From National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

Mary Isham Keith Chapter Honors Veterans on Wreaths Across America Day



The Mary Isham Keith Chapter, NSDAR, honored the veterans interred at Pioneers Rest Cemetery in Fort Worth for Wreaths Across America on Saturday, Dec. 14.

Mary Isham Keith Chapter members were joined by scouts from Trail Life USA and American Heritage Girls, veterans' family members, and other civic and community members for the dedication ceremony and placing of wreaths on 168 graves. The ceremony opened with greetings from Pioneers Rest Cemetery Board President Melanie Smith and the National Anthem was led by Sheila Randolph. Historic Preservation Committee Chair Virginia Brown explained how Wreaths Across America came about and introduced historic Camp Worth reenactors, Ray Thomas and David K. Hilton, who told about various historic people buried at Pioneers Rest.

Honorary Regent Diana Lussier called for representatives from each branch of the various Military Services to respectfully place a wreath on each of eight wreath stands. The crowd was invited to place the remaining wreaths on veteran graves throughout the cem-

etry, saying the veteran's name aloud, thanking them for their service and sacrifice, and reflecting on that person and their life.

It was a beautiful day for such an honorable tribute to our nation's veterans.

In 2007, Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, along with the support of veterans organizations and a variety of other groups and individuals, formed Wreaths Across America, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. The wreath-laying that began more than 30 years ago is still held annually, on the second or third Saturday of December.

The United States Congress unanimously voted to nominate Dec. 13, 2008 as Wreaths Across America Day. WAA's annual pilgrimage from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery has become known as the world's largest veterans' parade. See <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/> for more information.

The next National Wreaths Across America Day will be held at Pioneers Rest Cemetery on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025.

For more information, contact mikregent@gmail.com.



Historic Camp Worth reenactors Ray Thomas and David K. Hilton with Liliane and Ethan Lollar, members of the Captain William Scott Society, Children of the American Revolution.



Pictured: Regent Charley Holler, Historic Preservation Committee Chair Virginia Brown and Katrina Lorenzen.

Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

VFW Post 8235 Celebrates the Holidays!

VFW Post 8235 was very busy organizing holiday events for members and the community leading up to Christmas Day.

The annual festivities began with karaoke, 50/50 raffles, the Post Christmas Party and Gift Exchange, Steak Night and Queen of Hearts.

On Christmas Day, the Post prepared a free dinner open to the public. The menu included turkey, ham, sausage, stuffing, mashed and scalloped potatoes, gravy, rolls, cornbread, kolaches, corn, pea and garden salads, baked beans, green bean casseroles, fresh tamales, a variety of chili, cranberry sauce and an array of desserts.

The spirit of the holiday season was enjoyed by everyone who participated at the events.

Happy New Year from VFW Post 8235!



Jennifer Walker dons her festive attire.



Canteen Manager Brenda Agee and Commander Randall High.



Cook Shack Chef's Amberlee Gerhart and Manny Hermsillo prepared mouth-watering steaks!



Randy and Patricia Graef drove from Austin and wound up at VFW Post 8235!



Dennis Hubert and Scott Hummel.



Martha Scott, Paul Walker and Shawn Glover participated at one of the many events.



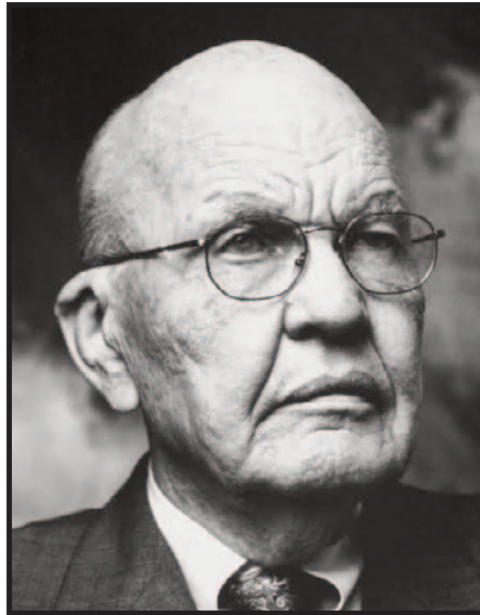
Ned Gorman, Bartender Rene Jones and David Babbs.



Tim Eastman and Laurie Weaver wait for karaoke to begin.

American Electrical Engineer, Jack Kilby

One person with the world in ways no one can imagine. One invention, coming from one person tinkering in a lab or workshop can go from science fiction fantasies to an indispensable part of modern life in only a short time now. Some of these remarkable devices, such as the integrated circuit and the handheld calculator were largely the result of the dedication and imagination of one man, adopted Texan and Nobel Prize winner **Jack Kilby**.



Kilby was born in Jefferson City, Missouri, in 1923. When he was still very young, the family moved to Great Bend, Kansas, where his father ran an electrical supply company. This, coupled with his father's interest in short-wave radio, nurtured a fascination with electronics. He spent hours studying the field and putting together different gadgets. After his graduation from high school, Kilby enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and earned a bachelors degree in electrical engineering in 1947.

After his college graduation, he landed a job with an electronics manufacturer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Anxious to further his education while working full-time, he went to night school where he eventually earned a masters degree in electrical engineering the Milwaukee Extension of the University of Wisconsin in 1950. Three years later, he created his first invention: a plug-in circuit that helped computer engineers expand the capacity of computers. It would become the first of ten patents he would hold when approved in 1959.

Texas Instruments, a still fairly new Dallas company, was interested in his ideas on circuit miniaturization and hired him as a researcher and developer in 1958. Within a few months of his arrival, he made a revolutionary breakthrough. He helped develop the integrated circuit, a forerunner of the microchip that allows

modern computers to operate. Kilby's invention, for which he secured three patents for different parts of the design, allowed computers to perform calculations faster and for computers to start becoming smaller and cheaper. Shortly afterward, the U. S. Air Force began contracted with Texas Instruments to experiment with Kilby's integrated circuit, which were soon being incorporated into new computer designs. Three more patents were secured as Kilby perfected the initial design. With Kilby's breakthrough, engineers raced to top one another to make circuit designs smaller, faster, and more efficient.

In 1965, Kilby and his team invented the thermal printer, using heat for printing with industrial devices instead of the cumbersome mechanical keys used in typewriters for decades by this point. This allowed for increased speed and efficiency and fewer mechanical problems. It was soon being used in the new computers that Texas Instruments was producing.

By 1967, one of the earliest practical applications of the integrated circuit was developed by Kilby for the general public, the handheld electronic calculator. Homes and businesses across the nation were transformed as it became an essential device for everything from household budgets to schoolwork. The patent for this invention was granted in 1974.

From 1978 to 1984, he served as a distinguished professor of electrical engineering at Texas A&M University. Kilby formally retired from Texas Instruments in 1983, just as the computer revolution he had helped inaugurate was getting underway. As the world embraced computers in the 1980s, an increasing number of the new generation of designers, engineers, and programmers pointed to the importance of Kilby's work in making new computer technology possible. He often spoke to colleges and businesses around the world in his retirement years.

In 2000, he received the highest honor in science for his lifetime of achievement when he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics, sharing the award with Z. I. Alferov of Russia and Herbert Kroemer of Germany, who had also made major breakthroughs in semiconductor research. The mild-mannered engineer for TI was now recognized as one of history's most brilliant minds. Kilby died in Dallas in 2005 at age 82.

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From Benbrook News Staff Writers

Benbrook City Hall Closed

Monday, Jan. 20

Benbrook City Hall, located at 911 Winscott Road, will close all day on Monday, Jan. 20 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

City Hall will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at regular time.

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Weekend Forecast



Friday, Jan. 3:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 59. N/NE wind around 5 mph becoming E/SE in the afternoon.
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 45. E/SE wind around 5 mph.



Saturday, Jan. 4:

AM - Mostly cloudy, with a high near 59. S/SE wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.
PM - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. S/SE wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.



Sunday, Jan. 5:

AM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 65. South wind 15 to 20 mph becoming W/NW in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 30 mph.
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 29. N/NW wind around 15 mph, with gusts as high as 25 mph.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)