

*Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt*

## Benbrook Youth Shine During National Lemonade Day, VFW Post 10429 Honors Vietnam War Milestones



Pictured are: Renae Applegate with Marisa Ricketts (above, left) and Jaxon Brown at their lemonade stands!

Young entrepreneurs across Benbrook put their creativity and business skills on display during National *(continued on page 4)*

*From the Sports Desk with John English*

## Bobcats Dominate Bridgeport Behind Lights-Out Pitching

The Benbrook baseball team opened the post-season with a bang last week, shutting out Bridgeport in two straight games to advance to the area round of the playoffs.

The Bobcats defeated Bridgeport by a score of 5-0 in game one and 1-0 in game two, and Coach Justin Chavez said that his team played especially well in one phase of the game.

“I felt like our pitchers did outstanding,” Chavez said. “Sebastian Martinez had a no hitter and 15 strikeouts in game one. Dan Stiefvater and Trentin Hornbeck had a combined 10 strikeouts in game two. We knew we were the better team but Bridgeport never laid down and competed really well on the weekend.”

Chavez said he did have a few players step up offensively in the game for the Bobcats as well. *(continued on page 6)*



Pictured above are: (l-r) VFW Post 10429 volunteer, Bill Johnson, Commander Eddie Terry and Chaplain John Berry.

Veterans and community members gathered May 1 at VFW Post 10429 for the organization’s regular Burger Night, paired with a meaningful tribute recognizing the Vietnam Peace Accords and the fall of Saigon.

Post Commander Eddie Terry led a solemn presentation reflecting on the significance of this period in U.S. and world history. His remarks highlighted the sacrifices of those who served and the lasting impact of the Vietnam War on veterans, their families and the nation.

Attendees shared in an evening that balanced camaraderie with remembrance, expressing gratitude for the opportunity to honor those who lived through the era. The event underscored the post’s ongoing commitment to preserving history and supporting the local veteran community.

VFW Post 10429 continues to host regular events in Benbrook that bring residents together while recognizing the service and legacy of America’s veterans. *(continued on page 3)*

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Mistakes in stories or ads must be reported by Friday at 4 p.m. following Thursday's edition for corrections. Advertising payments are due by 10 a.m. Monday.

# Around the Town (photos continued from page 1)

Speech given by VFW Post 10429 Commander Eddie Terry:

*“In January of 1973, the Vietnam Peace Accords were signed. For many Americans, it meant one thing: our troops were finally coming home.*

*After years in the jungles, in the heat, in the uncertainty of a war that asked everything of them, our men and women began their return. They came home with honor. But we all know, the war didn't truly end there.*

*Fighting continued. South Vietnam stood on its own, and many who had fought beside us remained in harm's way. Then came April of 1975. Saigon fell. We all remember the images, helicopters lifting off rooftops, crowds reaching, hoping, desperate not to be left behind.*

*For those who served, that moment wasn't just history, it was personal.*

*It was the faces of the people you worked with. The brothers you stood beside. The mission you carried out, day after day, doing exactly what your country asked of you.*

*And when it ended, it didn't feel like victory. It felt unfinished. For too long, many Vietnam veterans came home without the welcome they deserved. They carried the weight of that war, physically, emotionally, and in silence.*

*But here, in places, Post 10429, that silence is understood.*

*Here, we know that service is not defined by the outcome of a war, but by the courage to answer the call. By the loyalty to the person next to you.*

*By the willingness to go, when others could not, or would not. The Vietnam War, and its ending, taught this nation hard lessons. About leadership, limits and the cost of war.*

*But it also showed us something else, something enduring. It showed us the strength, resilience, and brotherhood of those who served.*

*So today, we don't just remember the Peace Accords, or the Fall of Saigon. We remember the warriors. We remember the sacrifices made in places far from home. And most importantly, we stand together to say what should have been said long ago, and can never be said enough: Welcome home. And thank you.”*

*Benbrook News Staff Writers*

## Benbrook City Council Meets Tonight

The Benbrook City Council meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, located at 911 Winscott Road in Benbrook, 76126.

For questions or more information, contact City Secretary Beth Fischer at 817-249-6086.

The May 7 agenda is available to view [here](#).

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# Around the Town (photos continued from page 1)



Pictured (l-r) are: Mayor Jason Ward visited with “H&S Lemonade” Chance Hines, Easton Sharp and Colton Sharp.



City Council Place 2 Renee Franklin with (l-r) Thompson Haggard and Jayce McNeal.



Pictured (l-r) are: Tammi Cauthen, Faith Powell and Regional Director for Lemonade Day in Central USA and International Samantha Ricciardi.



Karli Brooks adorned her stand with eye-catching balloons!



Hudson and Hopkins Hengler leaned into the fun yellow lemonade theme for their stand!

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Lemonade Day, drawing hundreds of residents out to support the community event.

Lemonade has a long global history, dating back to ancient Egypt, but the modern Lemonade Day movement began May 3, 2007, in Houston. Founder Michael Holthouse launched the initiative after his daughter, Lissa, set up a lemonade stand to earn money for a pet turtle, sparking a broader mission to teach children financial literacy, goal-setting and responsibility.

In Benbrook, that mission came to life as children designed and operated their own stands throughout the city. Many featured colorful, imaginative setups offering not only lemonade in a variety of flavors, but also snacks such as chips and cookies. Some stands included handmade items like bracelets and themed decorations.

Participants had the opportunity to present their ideas and business plans to visiting judges, while Mayor Jason Ward presented “secret awards” to standout young entrepreneurs.

Families and neighbors turned out in large numbers, creating a festive, supportive atmosphere on a sunny day. The event highlighted both the ingenuity of Benbrook’s youth and the strong sense of community pride that continues to define the city.

## *From the City of Fort Worth*

# Fort Worth Urges Lights Out to Protect Migrating Birds

As peak bird migration moves through North Texas, city officials are asking residents and businesses to turn off nonessential lights overnight to help protect traveling birds.

Through June 15, the city encourages switching off unnecessary indoor and outdoor lighting between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Most migratory birds travel at night using moonlight and stars to navigate, but artificial lighting can disorient them, increasing the risk of deadly collisions with buildings.

Conservation groups estimate up to 1 billion birds die annually in the United States from building and glass strikes. Officials say reducing light pollution during migration can significantly lower

that number.

The city recommends turning off porch, landscape and unused indoor lights, especially near large windows. Businesses are also urged to dim or switch off nonessential lighting after hours.

In addition to protecting wildlife, the effort can reduce energy use and lower utility costs.

Spring and fall migrations bring millions of birds through Texas along the Central Flyway, making urban areas like Fort Worth particularly hazardous.

Officials say broad participation is key, noting that even small actions, like flipping a switch, can make a measurable difference.

From Suburban Newspapers, Inc. Staff Writers

# DIY Mosquito Buckets Offer Pet & Pollinator-Safe Control for North Texas Yards

As spring rains and rising temperatures return to North Texas, so do mosquitoes, a seasonal nuisance that can quickly overtake outdoor spaces. For homeowners and neighborhood residents seeking a safe, low-cost solution, mosquito buckets made with organic materials and a biological control agent are gaining attention as an effective alternative to chemical sprays.

The method is simple: a standard 5-gallon bucket, water, yard trimmings and a small portion of a mosquito control product containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, or BTi. This naturally occurring soil bacterium targets mosquito larvae without harming people, pets, birds or pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

To assemble a mosquito bucket, residents can fill a 5-gallon bucket with water and add roughly 2 cups of organic material, such as fresh lawn clippings, ground weeds or other plant trimmings. This organic matter begins to decompose, creating an attractive environment for female mosquitoes to lay their eggs.

Once the bucket is prepared, half of a BTi mosquito dunk, widely available at home improvement stores and garden centers, should be added to the water. As the dunk dissolves, it releases bacteria that specifically attack mosquito larvae after they hatch, preventing them from maturing into biting adults.

“The goal is to lure mosquitoes to lay eggs in a controlled environment where the larvae won’t survive,” said local gardening advocates who promote the method. “It’s about reducing the population before it becomes a problem.”

Proper placement is key to maximizing effectiveness. Buckets should be positioned around the perimeter of a property rather than near patios, doorways or other high-traffic areas. This helps draw mosquitoes away from spaces where people gather, creating a more comfortable outdoor environment.

Experts recommend using multiple buckets for larger yards or community spaces. Shaded areas tend to work best, as standing water in direct sunlight may evaporate more quickly and become less appealing to mosquitoes.

Maintenance is minimal but important. About every three weeks, or sooner if mosquito activity appears to increase, the bucket water should be partially dumped and refreshed. The process does not require completely emptying the bucket; leaving some of the existing water helps maintain the organic infusion that attracts egg-laying mosquitoes. After refreshing, another portion of a BTi dunk can be added as needed.

Because BTi specifically targets mosquito larvae, it does not harm beneficial insects, wildlife or domestic animals that may come into contact with the water. This makes mosquito buckets a practical option for households with pets and for residents who prioritize pollinator-friendly practices. Local environmental groups note that mosquito buckets work best as part of a broader

control strategy.

Residents are still encouraged to eliminate unintended standing water sources, such as clogged gutters, plant saucers, old tires and birdbaths that are not regularly cleaned.

North Texas’ warm climate allows mosquito populations to thrive from early spring through late fall, especially following periods of rain. By interrupting the breeding cycle early and consistently, mosquito buckets can significantly reduce the number of adult mosquitoes over time.

For neighborhoods, the approach can be even more effective when adopted collectively. Placing buckets throughout a community, in shared green spaces, along fence lines or near drainage areas, can help suppress mosquito populations on a wider scale.

While no single solution can completely eliminate mosquitoes, mosquito buckets offer a practical, environmentally conscious tool for managing them. With minimal cost, simple setup and pet- and pollinator-safe ingredients, the method provides North Texas residents with a proactive way to reclaim their outdoor spaces throughout the warmer months.

## Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailers off premise permit (BQ) by Jenin Voyage, LLC DBA Jenin Mart. To be located at 4400 Southwest Blvd., Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas. Officer of said corporation is Hanan Hasan, the business Owner and Manager.



## BABY BAT SEASON IS HERE

MAY THROUGH AUGUST

### FACTS:

- This is when mother bats give birth and raise their pups.
- Bat pups can't fly for several weeks — they depend entirely on their mothers.
- Common roosting spots include attics, barns, shutters, and other warm, quiet places.

### BEWARE:

- Avoid evicting bats during this time — moms may leave pups behind.
- If you find a bat indoors, contact a local wildlife rescue for guidance.
- Never handle a bat with bare hands — even babies are still wild animals.

### WHY BATS MATTER:

Bats are natural pest control, eating thousands of mosquitoes and insects every night.

#BatPupSeason #WildlifeAwareness #CoexistWithNature #BatsAreFriends



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## Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

**Look, Don't Touch: Leave Baby Wildlife Where You Find Them**

Warmer weather across Texas means more time outdoors and more encounters with wildlife. Spring and early summer are also when many species give birth and raise their young, which can lead to confusion when animals appear to be alone.

Each year, well-meaning Texans pick up young wildlife, especially fawns and baby birds, believing they have been abandoned. In most cases, that is not true. Removing these animals from the wild can do more harm than good and, in many cases, is against the law.

"People want to help, but intervening is often the worst thing you can do," said Richard Heilbrun, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Wildlife Division Deputy Director. "Most young animals are not abandoned, their parents are nearby and will return. The best thing you can do is give them space."

Under Texas law, it is illegal to possess most native wildlife without the proper permits. It is unlawful to take, capture, possess, or attempt to relocate wildlife except as allowed by state regulations.

White-tailed deer fawning season typically begins in early to mid-May. Fawns are

born with spotted coats that help them blend into their surroundings. Does will often leave their fawns hidden for hours at a time while they feed, returning periodically to nurse. A fawn found alone, lying quietly in grass or brush, is likely not abandoned.

Baby birds are also commonly mistaken for being abandoned. Many species, including doves, blue jays and mockingbirds, spend time on the ground as they learn to fly. These young birds, known as fledglings, may appear vulnerable but are still being fed and watched by their parents nearby. If the bird has feathers, open eyes and is moving around, it is likely in a normal stage of development and has not been abandoned. Remember, most native bird species are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, so it's important to avoid disturbing or injuring them.

The public is encouraged to observe wildlife from a distance and avoid approaching or handling animals. Getting too close can prevent a parent from returning and may place the young at greater risk.

Turtles are also frequently encountered this time of year, particularly on roadways. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has infor-

mation about helping turtles cross the road. Remember, wild animals do not make good pets and removing them from their habitat can harm their survival and health.

If a wild animal appears sick, injured or orphaned, the first step is to contact a TPWD permitted wildlife rehabilitator to see if they are able to receive that species. TPWD advises against attempting to handle or transport wildlife yourself.

While not currently in Texas, New World Screwworm (NWS) has recently been detected about 60 miles from the Texas-Mexico border. Newborn mammals are very susceptible to infestations by NWS. If you see maggots on a live animal, immediately report the sighting to your local wildlife biologist. Early detection and reporting are key to managing and eradicating a NWS infestation.

Learn more about what to do upon encountering orphaned or injured wildlife on the TPWD Wildlife Division website. Tips from biologists regarding fawns and baby birds are available on the TPWD YouTube channel.

**Sports Desk** (continued from page 1)

"Tanner Madara, Austin Cross, and Evan Smith hit the ball well in both games," Chavez said.

Benbrook will not face the No. 3 team in the state in Brock.

The Bobcats came up short in the area round last season against Brock, and Chavez said his team is looking forward to the opportunity to turn the tables.

"We are right back where we wanted to be after last year," Chavez said. "We knew they would be here. Now it's time to compete and see where the chips may fall. We are excited about another opportunity to play against the best team in our region."

And Chavez said he believes his team is as prepared as it can be for the Eagles.

"This is why we played 6A Boswell, Mansfield Legacy, two Arlington schools, Top 10 Corpus Christi Vets, Lake Belton in 5A, and other ranked schools in the state," Chavez said. "We never shy away from the competition. Of the 19 non-district teams we played this year, only three of them didn't make the playoffs. We are prepared and will give Brock everything we have."

# BENBROOK BOBCATS

## BASEBALL

**CLASS 4A REGION 1 • AREA PLAYOFF SERIES**



**GM 1 - Benbrook vs Brock 7:00pm Thursday, May 7th**

**GM 2 - Brock vs Benbrook 7:00pm Friday, May 8th**

**GM 3 - If Needed 1:00pm Saturday, May 9th** *(Teams will flip for Home Team)*

\* All Games will be played at Weatherford College, Weatherford, TX  
- 398 College Park Dr, Weatherford, TX 76086

*Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges*

## Patrick Henry Emerges as Fiery Voice for Independence in Revolutionary Era



“The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the active, the vigilant, the brave!”

Patrick Henry became one of the most outspoken defenders of American independence. His words rang out across the colonies and later the pages of history as the colonies banded together to fight for their rights as citizens and the for the cause of independence.

Patrick Henry was born in Virginia in 1736. His father was a Scottish immigrant and planter. He attended local schools until he was 10 until his father hired a tutor for him at home. He worked briefly as a clerk as a teenager and at age 16, briefly owned and operated a small store with his older brother.

At 18, he married Sarah Shelton, and her father gave the newlywed couple 300 acres and six slaves. He also operated a tavern where he began studying law. In 1760, he was admitted to the Virginia bar and opened a practice. In 1765, he was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses.

As a legislator, he never had a lot of influence. As a speaker in an age of great orators, he quickly soared above the rest. He immediately became a critic of the Stamp Act that the British parliament had imposed on the colonies. In one speech, he loudly condemned the British government in the legislature. Loyalists jumped up to defend the king, shouting “Treason!” Without hesitation, Henry shouted back, “If this

be treason, make the most of it!” Months later, the combined efforts of the colonists forced the British to repeal the Stamp Act. Patrick Henry remained interested in education and building the economy of the state. In 1775, he co-founded Hampden-Sydney College, the tenth founded in the colonies and served on the board of governors. Henry was an outspoken advocate of religious freedom, calling for cooperation between the major denominations. He periodically spoke out against slavery, but he would continue to own slaves for the remainder of his life.

As Parliament continued to impose restrictions on the colonies, Henry continued to speak out, insisting that the rights the colonists had as English citizens were under attack. “Show me that age and country where the rights and liberties of the people were placed on the sole chance of their rulers being good men, without a consequent loss of liberty?” he declared. “The liberties of a people never were, nor ever will be, secure when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them.”

After the Boston Tea Party in December 1773, Parliament had imposed harsh punishments on Boston in response through the Intolerable Acts. This had prompted the colonists to call for the Continental Congress to convene in 1774. In 1775, by the time that fighting erupted between the colonists in Massachusetts and the British, Henry called on all colonists to support the war and independence. In his famous speech, he cried out, “Give me liberty or give me death!”

By 1776, Virginia was at its breaking point and agreed with him. Henry continued to speak passionately for American independence, and the legislature urged Virginia delegates at the Continental Congress in Philadelphia to declare independence. Virginia broke away and formed a new government, swearing in Henry as governor on July 5. He would continue in the position until 1779 when he was succeeded by

Thomas Jefferson.

During his time as governor, he faced the difficult steps of leading the state in a time of war while working to recruit troops for the cause of independence and keeping the state functioning. In 1778, he led the successful effort to ban slave importation from Africa into Virginia. After his terms ended, he returned to the House of Delegates as a representative. In 1784, voters returned him to another term as governor where he called for a system of canals and internal improvements to help trade. In 1786, he once again returned to the legislature.

When the Constitutional Convention convened in 1787 to draft a new governing document for the nation, Henry was selected as a delegate. Fearing what a new national government could look like under a new constitution and fearing a repeat of Britain’s abuses, Henry declined to participate. When the debate over ratification of the constitution ensued in the fall of 1787, Henry was an outspoken opponent of ratification, preferring the loose alliance of states under the Articles of Confederation.

In 1790, only 54, he stepped down from the state legislature and retired from politics. He invested in real estate and practiced law, hoping to pay off the many debts he had incurred over the years. He had married in 1777 to Dorothea Dandridge following his first wife’s death, and between his two marriages had 17 children. Despite his retirement, Henry remained in high demand. When Thomas Jefferson stepped down as secretary of state in 1793, President George Washington offered him the position. Though the two had great respect for one another, Henry declined. Washington also offered to nominate him as a justice on the US Supreme Court in 1794 and as ambassador to Spain. Again, Henry declined both, feeling he was needed by his family more.

He died at his home in Virginia in 1799 at age 63.

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY



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## Weekend Forecast



**Friday, May 8:**

**AM** - A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, high near 81. South wind around 5 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**PM** - A slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, low around 63. South wind around 5 mph becoming calm. Chance of precipitation is 20%.



**Saturday, May 9:**

**AM** - A slight chance of showers. Partly sunny, high near 85. Calm wind becoming S/SE around 5 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

**PM** - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, low around 66. S/SE wind around 5 mph.



**Sunday, May 10:**

**AM** - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Light E/NE wind becoming north northeast 5 to 10 mph in the afternoon.

**PM** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 60. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)**