



City of Benbrook ★ A Texas Star City

Benbrook News

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From the Sports Desk with John English

Bobcats and Lady Cats Prepare to Put in Work in Post Season

Things did not look good for the Benbrook baseball team following last Tuesday's loss to Diamond Hill-Jarvis in a series that would ultimately determine the district champion.

The Bobcats dropped game one to Diamond Hill by a score of 6-3, and it appeared that the Eagles might just emerge as the kings of district 9-4A in 2023. But Benbrook was not done yet.

On the backs of two freshman hurlers, the Bobcats rallied to win the second game on Friday and then defeated Diamond Hill on Saturday in the game that would determine which team was the top seed from 9-4A.

Coach Justin Chavez was nothing but complimentary toward Benbrook's opponent.

"Diamond Hill has a great team and they are very well-coached," Chavez said. "I expect them to get past round 1 and even to round 3. We lost game one, 6-3 and were flat. However, they had a lot more energy and took it to us. On Friday, we won 3-0 and had a dominating performance on the mound by freshman Sebastian Martinez (CG, 3H, 9Ks). So we are Co-district champions. On Saturday, we played them again to determine seeding for the playoffs and we won 4-2. Freshman Hudson Stockton was on the mound and did a great job. He gave up 0 earned runs and we had a couple of mistakes on defense. We need to clean it up next week. We have two games to tune up for the first round again Hillsboro."

In softball, the Lady Cats defeated Western Hills last Tuesday, and coach Emilie Blair said her team is ready for the post-season.

"Every day, our goal for that day of practice is to get one percent better than the day we were before," Blair said. "If we can stick to that and really bite into that saying as we approach playoff season, I think the opportunities are endless. Nobody will out-work this team. The grit they have

(continued on page 4)

Benbrook Council Action by John English

April 20 Meeting Wrap Up

The Benbrook city council meeting held on April 20 was conducted 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.

Minutes from the previous meeting held on April 6 were then approved unanimously.

The first item of the evening was a presentation by the Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the adoption of an ordinance to rezone 0.27 acres of land located mainly North of the intersection of Mercedes Street and San Angelo Avenue from a one-family district to a multiple-family district. The address is 221 San Angelo Avenue and is about a quarter of an acre in size.

A public hearing followed, but there were no comments. The motion passed unanimously.

The next agenda item was to consider accepting the finance report ending on March 31. For the general fund, revenues for the month of March were \$1,587,416 and expenditures were \$1,799,505. Year-to-date, revenues were \$19,866,383 and expenditures were \$8,686,176.

For the Economic Development Corporation, revenues for the month of March were \$183,437 while expenditures were \$76,752. Year-to-date, revenues totaled \$1,136,860 and expenditures totaled \$382,585. The finance report was accepted unanimously.

Next up was a motion to accept the investment report ending on March 31. For investments, the City of Benbrook had \$57,226,161 and the EDC had \$6,949,214. The investment report was accepted unanimously.

Next up was informal citizen comments.

Benbrook resident Jerome Hildebrand approached the podium and expressed concern about some of the residences along Mercedes Street that need to be cleaned up.

Mayor Ward said he could have someone speak to him privately about that issue.

Time was then allowed for council member and staff comments, but there were none.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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Earth Day at the NASJRB

Members from the American Legion Post 297 Auxiliary Unit along with employees from the Bxtra at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base hosted an Arts and Crafts event at the facility recently recognizing Earth Day. Tables were set up with colored markers, jewels, pipe cleaners, stickers and colored confetti to decorate rocks and clay pots to plant sunflower seeds. Cupcakes and gold fish were provided for those who participated.

It's unclear who had the most fun, the kids or the adults!



Niyah Clark and her mother **Tamera Clark** get creative with their clay pot.



Thornton Wager, E5 Petty Officer, U.S. Navy, got in on the action at the event.



Ms. Brown, Grocery Manager; **Claudia Acuna**, BXtra Department Manager; **Laura Brown**, BXtra Shift Manager; **Christine Willesen** and sitting **Lisa Hoote**, American Legion Post 297 Auxiliary Unit members all enjoyed helping and making crafts.



Nicholas Clark, Sr. helps his son **Nicholas Clark, Jr.** with hot glue gun work.



Gina Zarate brought her daughters **Sophia** and **Selena** to the occasion.

From the Project Linus Blanketeers

First Monday Quilt Club - Project Linus Volunteers Needed

Come join the fun and fellowship with the Quilt Club volunteers while you make a difference in our community and bless others by making quilts for Project Linus.

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, May 1.

Project Linus is a non-profit service organization, and 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. Unfortunately, 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, sewing machines, sergers, or money to purchase materials are greatly appreciated.

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

For more information about the First Monday Quilt Club, call Virginia Biela at 817-244-1263.

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Sports Desk

(continued from page 1)

developed over the last three months is amazing to see and it has been a blessing to watch them all really dig into the mental side of the game and figure out just how far they can be pushed without breaking. If we can stay mentally prepared and take each game one at a time, I think the possibilities of making a playoff run are highly in our favor.”

In track and field, Western Hill's Aaron Martin won the area championship in the 100 meter dash with a time of 10.87 and teammate Armani Perry Brown finished second in the 400 meters with a time of 27.77 last week.

Keyon Butler finished second in the 110 meter hurdles with a time of 15.82 and Trishtan Willis was third with a time of 15.86.

Butler was also second in the 300 hurdles with a time of 42.61 and the 4X100 relay team was third with a time of 43.31.

Over at Benbrook, Justin Frater finished third in the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.36, and teammate Antonio Johnson was second in the triple jump with a result of 41-02.75.

Landry Wilkinson finished third in the pole vault with a leap of 11-09.00.

On the girl's side, Abby Moilan finished third in the shot put with a throw of 36-11.75 for Western Hills.

Breezy Butler brought home an area championship in the 100 hurdles with a time of 16.82.

Zoe Frater finished third in the 100 meter dash with a time of 12.72, while teammate Jayla Davila finished third in the 400 (59.07) and Carley Couch finished third in the 800 meters with a time of 2:33.68.

Couch also finished third in the 1600 meters with a time of 5:45.49 and in the 3200 with a time of 12:28.98.

From StatePoint

Easy Hacks to Live More Sustainably

Ninety percent of Americans want to live more sustainably, but only 11 percent consistently do. Why? Research from Procter & Gamble conducted in 2023 found that Americans think sustainable habits at home are too difficult (82 percent), too expensive (89 percent) and sacrifice product performance (73 percent).

Sustainable choices don't have to be a burden though, especially if you know where to prioritize your efforts. For example, the highest environmental footprint of many everyday products, like laundry and dish detergents, comes from the water and energy needed to do the job, like when you wash your dishes in the sink or use your washing machine.

As part of the #ItsOurHome campaign, Cascade and Tide have partnered with digital creators to offer the following easy hacks to help you live a more sustainable lifestyle, continue to get great results and save money on household bills:

Skip the Sink

Did you know that a dishwasher uses four gallons of water per cycle while the sink can use the same amount in just two minutes? In fact, each week you use an Energy Star-certified dishwasher you can save up to 140 gallons of water versus washing dishes at a running sink for 11 minutes per day.

You can also skip some of the traditional dishwashing steps when you select differently formulated detergents. Brands like Cascade are building a water-positive future and helping to reduce daily water use in American households by offering options that provide a high-quality clean without the need to pre-rinse dishes. With its innovative formula, the enzymes within Cascade Platinum ActionPacs latch on, break down and wash away food so you can skip the sink and save water.

“We know people want to save water, but they also want clean dishes. That's why we created a sustainability hack, not a trade-off,” says Marchoe Northern, senior vice

president and general manager of North American Home Care at Procter & Gamble.

Beyond ecology-minded product innovation, Cascade has also joined the Change the Course initiative to support several water restoration projects in the United States. Over their lifetime, these projects are expected to restore nearly 2 billion gallons of freshwater in water-stressed regions.

Clean on Cold

Washing laundry in cold versus hot water uses over 90 percent less energy in every load. Put another way, that's enough energy savings to power the entire average American household for over an hour. Consider the 30 billion loads of laundry done in the United States and Canada annually. That's an enormous amount of energy that could be saved with a simple turn of the dial.

If you're concerned about the cleaning performance of a cold wash cycle, consider this, Tide has innovated its products to clean on cold, every load, every cycle. Tide is on a mission to turn three out of four washes to cold water by 2030, which will help prevent an estimated 27 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the Earth's atmosphere.

Washing in cold water with Tide means lower emissions, more financial savings on your energy bills, and a gentler wash that helps preserve clothes longer.

“At Tide, we want to reduce the environmental impact of a load of laundry and increase the impact of clean clothes,” says Amy Krehbiel, brand vice president of Fabric Care Innovation at Procter & Gamble. “We are proud to be helping families live more sustainably.”

Learn more about Tide's sustainability initiative by joining the conversation on social at #TurnToCold.

With today's current climate crisis, you may be looking for ways to lower your carbon footprint at home, and thanks to product innovation, that's easier today than ever before.

Mosquito Control

Citizens can win the war against mosquitoes and the diseases they carry by finding and eliminating their breeding sites. Citizens are encouraged to control mosquitoes in the following ways:

- Get rid of old tires, tin cans, bottles, buckets, drums and other containers or keep them empty of standing water.
- Empty plastic wading pools weekly and store them indoors when not in use.
- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets.
- Move water cooler drain hoses frequently.
- Change water in birdbaths and scrub them twice each week.
- Empty pets' watering pans daily.
- Stock ornamental ponds with mosquito-eating fish.
- Clean clogged roof gutters and drain flat roofs.
- Treat standing water that can't be drained with larvicide tablets (or Bti - see below).

Remember, mosquitoes breed and multiply in any water that lasts more than four days.

Contrary to popular opinion, not all bodies of water serve as abundant mosquito breeding areas. For example, ponds with steep banks that are relatively free of organic matter, and have little or no vegetation extending into the edge of the water will typically produce very few mosquitoes.

The City of Benbrook no longer carries mosquito dunks, but they can be purchased at home improvement stores. The product is appropriate for use by residents living near larger areas of standing water that cannot be drained and are highly vegetated. The product comes in tablets or donut shaped discs and contains a natural killer of mosquito larvae called BTi. For treatment, the tablets or donut shaped discs are placed in the standing water.

The City does conduct its own aggressive larvicide program in selected creeks and other bodies of water throughout Benbrook.

Because it is probably impossible to totally eliminate adult mosquitoes, citizens

can further protect themselves by preventing mosquito bites in the following ways:

- Stay indoors at dawn, dusk, and in the early evening.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants whenever you are outdoors.
- Spray clothing with repellents containing permethrin or DEET since mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing.
- Apply insect repellent sparingly to exposed skin. An effective repellent will contain 35% DEET. DEET in high concentrations (greater than 35 percent) provides no additional protection.
- Repellents may irritate the eyes and mouth, so avoid applying repellent to the hands of children.
- Whenever you use an insecticide or insect repellent, be sure to read and follow the manufacturer's DIRECTIONS FOR USE, as printed on the product.

The City conducts mosquito fogging on a very limited basis and only when indicators of mosquito borne disease are present in an area.

When fogging is scheduled (normally late night or in the early morning), signs are strategically placed at key entrance and exit points in the fogging area.

From the City of Benbrook

Touch-A-Truck

May 22

Join us at the Benbrook YMCA parking lot May 22, for Benbrook's Touch-A-Truck from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Attendees can interact and explore a variety of service vehicles and meet the people who protect and serve the Benbrook community. This free event is great for kids of all ages!

There will be an Ambulance, Patrol Car, Tractor, Ladder Truck, Fire Engine, and more. In-N-Out Burger will be on-site serving meals to the first 400 attendees. Donations for meals are appreciated.

For more information, call 817-249-6008.

From the City of Benbrook

Help Prevent

Stormwater Pollution

Stormwater is rainwater - plus anything the rain carries along with it (e.g., chemicals) - that winds up in the storm drain. Unlike sanitary sewage, stormwater is not treated at a wastewater treatment plant. The storm drainpipes lead directly to Benbrook Lake and other local creeks. Follow these 10 easy steps to ensure we do not pollute our drinking water source:

1. Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it at home.
2. Properly dispose of motor oil at an oil recycling center.
3. Check your vehicle, boat, and motorcycle for leaks. Use an absorbent material (e.g., cat litter) to absorb oil-based products, and then sweep it up.
4. Never dump or sweep anything into the storm drain.
5. Pick up after your pet.
6. Limit the use of pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides on your lawn. If you must use them, don't apply them before it rains.
7. Use non-toxic or organic alternatives to pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides.
8. Drain your pool into the sanitary sewer where it can be treated. If this option is not available, then the pool water must be dechlorinated prior to draining into the storm drain. Make sure your pool service does this job.
9. Dispose of paint and other household hazardous waste at a Benbrook recycling event or take it to the City of Fort Worth's Environmental Center (6400 Bridge St.), with proof of residency, for free disposal. Leave old paint cans open to dry completely before disposing in the trash.
10. Reduce, reuse, and recycle.

To learn more about stormwater pollution and how you can help prevent it, visit our website at www.benbrook-tx.gov/546/Storm-Water-Runoff.

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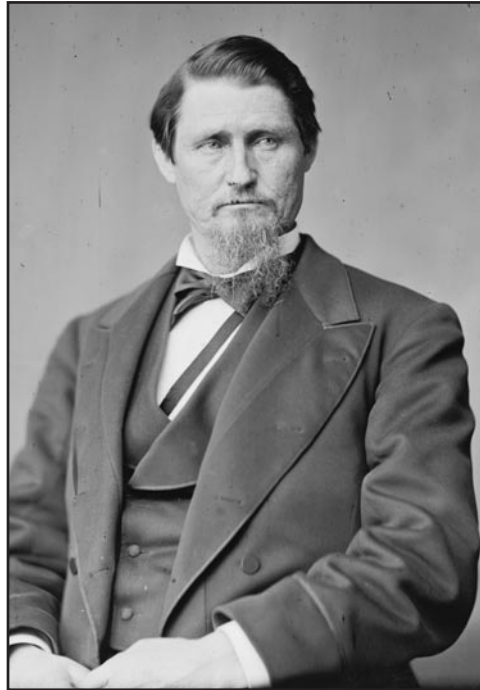
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Former Governor of Texas, James Throckmorton *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

James Throckmorton was a pioneer, doctor, lawyer, congressman, and governor. In spite of an impressive career, he often found himself caught between the great forces of history that were tearing the nation apart.

Throckmorton was born in 1825 in Sparta in central Tennessee. His father was a physician and moved often. Eventually, the Throckmortons made their way to Texas, and the family became early settlers of Collin County, settling not far from what is now Melissa in 1841 near the modern US Highway 75.



Throckmorton's father died in 1842, and he had to help care for his seven brothers and sisters. Later, he went to Kentucky to study medicine. He returned to Texas in 1847 when the Mexican War erupted and served as an army surgeon. After the war, he established a successful medical practice in Collin County and helped establish a private school in Mantua. However, he grew disenchanted with medicine and turned to law.

He served three terms in the Texas House of Representatives from 1851 to 1857. While in the legislature, he focused on education and railroad development, two causes that would mark his career. In 1857, Throckmorton rose to the state senate and allied with Sam Houston against the rising forces of secession in Texas. Throckmorton became a close advisor to Houston, now governor, as the Civil War loomed, but the election of Abraham Lincoln as president in 1860 prompted a wave of secession that engulfed Texas.

In 1861, he was a delegate to the secession convention and became one of only eight delegates to reject disunion. He remained close to Houston in the desperate weeks as Houston crossed the state pleading to save the Union. Because of their efforts, Collin, along with several counties along the Red River (including Fannin, Lamar, and Grayson), voted against secession in a February referendum. However, in the fevered atmosphere, most voted in favor of secession.

Throckmorton stepped forward and volunteered to defend Texas during the Civil War, rising from captain to general by 1864. In 1866, he chaired a convention of Unionists to draft a new constitution for the state, one that recognized the realities of the postwar South. The new constitution was ratified and Throckmorton was elected governor with 79 percent of the vote.

The war wrecked the state's economy and violence plagued both whites and freedmen alike. Texas contended with this chaos as Union troops attempted to re-establish order. Throckmorton attempted to rebuild the state, emphasizing new schools and railroads. While the slaves had been freed, the policy of the United States government was that giving the freedmen the vote and equality under the law was essential to preserving the freedoms of the former slaves. While Throckmorton accepted the end of slavery, giving African-Americans the vote was a step

he could not take, and he clashed with federal officials. Barely a year after Throckmorton became governor, Gen. Philip Sheridan ordered him and other elected officials removed from their posts for opposing Reconstruction.

In 1872, his ban on holding office was lifted and he plotted his political comeback. He was elected to Congress in 1874 and re-elected in 1876. A respected figure, he was named Chairman on the Committee on Pacific Railroads in 1877, an important position as the railroads surged westward across the frontier. He soon moved for higher offices. In 1878, he ran for governor but lost the nomination. In 1881, he lost a bid for U. S. Senate. The next year, however, he ran for Congress and won easily.

In 1886, he announced his retirement and returned to Texas. He resumed his law practice in McKinney as his health declined. He died in 1894. Throckmorton remained widely respected in his community, with residents later naming a street after him and erecting a statue in his honor.

From the City of Benbrook

Summer Reading at Benbrook Public Library

Registration for the Benbrook Public Library's 2023 Summer Reading Club will begin Saturday, June 3.

The library offers reading programs for all ages, and there are multiple options for the whole family to participate in the Summer Reading Club. Participants may play online or in person at the Library for a chance to win prizes. Players will also have opportunities to win gift cards from local businesses and library services as they play.

The Benbrook Public Library offers a multitude of summer programs that are sure to encourage family fun activities to keep you occupied through the heat of summer.

Visit benbrooklibrary.org for more information.

From the City of Benbrook

Benbrook Artisans and Farmers Market

The Benbrook Artisans and Farmers Market is back! Visit this open-air market the first Sunday of each month at Dutch Branch Park, near the Benbrook Community Center/YMCA located at 1899 Winscott Rd.

A variety of vendors will be on-site offering fresh seasonal produce, plants and flowers, and specialty items to include sweet treats, local honey, artisanal cheeses, meats, preserves, tamales, dog treats, candles, soaps, artwork, and much more.

The May market will be held Sunday, May 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, follow the Benbrook Artisans and Farmers Market's Facebook page.

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Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, April 28:

AM - Showers and thunderstorms. Sunny; high near 81. S/SE wind 5-15mph, gusts as high as 20mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

PM - Possibility of a thunderstorm. Mostly cloudy; low around 55. SE wind around 15mph becoming N after midnight. Wind gusts as high as 25mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%.



Saturday, April 29:

AM - A 30% chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 68. N/NW wind around 20mph, with gusts as high as 30mph.

PM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy; low around 52. N/NW wind 10-15mph, with gusts as high as 25mph.



Sunday, April 30:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 76. NW wind 10-15 mph, with gusts as high as 20mph.

PM - Clear; low around 52.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)