

# Benbrook News

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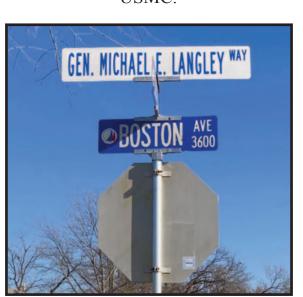
84th Year, No. 3 • 7820 Wyatt Drive, White Settlement, Texas 76108 • www.suburban-newspapers.com • January 18, 2024

Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt

# Western Hills High School Graduate Honored with Street Sign Topper



4-Star General Michael E. Langley, USMC.



The General's topper on the street he grew up on was unveiled with an overwhelming applause.



General Langley's family in attendance are: (l-r) Willie Langley (father), Cheryl Killette (sister), Ola Langley (mother), Tamara Sanford (sister); (back) Wendell Killette (brother-in-law).

Michael E. Langley is the first black 4-Star General in the United States Marine Corps.

A dedication of a Street Topper was held on Jan. 11 at the street where Langley grew up, across from Western Hills High School, where he graduated in 1980. Langley is also an alumni of the University of Texas in Arlington.

General Langley's home is still occupied by his parents, and his father is an Air Force veteran.

Due to his assignment in Germany he was unable to attend, however, an enormous crowd of attendees came out to support this Worth Chapter acknowledged the dedamazing milestone that was enjoyed by all. ication.



Estella Williams with the NAACP Fort (photos continued on page 3)

From the Sports Desk with John English

# High School Basketball: BMHS Bobcats and Lady Cats Bring Home Wins

The Benbrook boy's basketball team won their fourth straight get back on defense and they hurt us in transition. Give credit to game on Friday night with a 65-21 victory over Carter-Riverside. Coach Blake Mendez said his team played well as a unit.

"This was a great team win," Mendez said. "We were able to do lenging." what we needed to do on both sides of the ball. We did a good job turning them over and getting easy transition points that lead to a big win."

Corbin Dilday, Jayden Hall, and Jayden Bradshaw all ended the task at hand. with double digits in points for Benbrook. "Everyone got in the

Benbrook plays Dunbar on Friday, and Mendez said his team will really have to step up.

will be long and athletic and they play fast. They are going to put ings. pressure on us from tip until the final horn, so we have to take care of the ball and make sure every possession ends with a shot at- Friday, and coach Leta Lofton said it was a good all-around effort tempt."

ern Hills last week, and coach Blake Dunson said it was about what and defense began to take effect. We were able to pull away and he expected from the top-ranked 4A team in Texas.

"Eastern Hills gave us some serious match up problems with their overall size and team speed," Dunson said. "We struggled to players for Benbrook in the game.

them, they are a very good team. We knew going in playing the number one ranked team in the state for 4A was going to be chal-

Brandon Hawkins led the Cougars with 15 points in the game.

Western Hills plays the Young Men's Leadership Academy tomorrow night, and Dunson said his team needs to be focused on

"YMLA is young this year, but they have gotten better as the stat book, which is always a great feeling for the kids," Mendez season has gone on, and I anticipate them to give us a good game on Friday," Dunson said.

On the girl's side, the Lady Cats went 2-0 last week to improve "We know Dunbar really well," Mendez said. "We know they to 3-2 in district play and move into third place in the district stand-

> The girls defeated the Young Women's Leadership Academy on from he team.

"The YWLA game was competitive game for us in the first Over at Western Hills, the Cougars came up short against East- quarter," Lofton said. "However, in the second quarter, our pressure secure the win."

> Samantha Lindsey and Sharon Mpinda were the standout (continued on page 4)







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### Around the Town (continued from page 1)



The WHHS Air Force JROTC participated at the event (front l-r) Nemganga Muya, Gabriella Theas, Rosalinda San Juan and Janette Meza. (back l-r) Russ Makesky, Sr. Instructor; Shelby Robinson, Jesus Mendoza Lopez, Jose Mendieth Rubio, David Curry-El, Jose Torres Rodriguez, Kerr Roberts and Isabella Fierro.



Benbrook Mayor Jason Ward spoke at the occasion.



Members from General Langley's Fraternity Kappa Alpha Psi hold the Chapter's magazine in honor of their Brother (l-r) JB McGinnis, Gary Daniels, Raymond Dukes, Charles Brent and Byron Williams.



The Western Hills High School Cougar Mascot and Cheer Squad supported the affair.



Pictured left: A large crowd gathered to witness the street topper unveiling.

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# High School Seniors Invited to Apply for AFA's Teen Alzheimer's Awareness Scholarship Contest

America's (AFA) Teen Alzheimer's Awareness Scholarship Contest. Students can enter the contest by visiting www.alzfdn.org/scholarship.

College-bound high school seniors are invited to apply for the scholarship by submitting an essay (1,500 words maximum) or submitting a video (four minutes in length or less), describing how Alzheimer's disease has impacted their lives and what they have learned about themselves, their family and/or their community through their experience with Alzheimer's. Entries can be submitted by visiting www.alzfdn.org/scholarship. The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2024, at 5 p.m. (Eastern Time).

Experiences that students can write about include:

- Having a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia-related illness
- Helping care for someone with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia-related illness
- Volunteering or working in a care setting that serves individuals with dementia

The first-place winner receives a \$5,000 scholarship. Additional

High school seniors impacted by Alzheimer's disease can earn prizes awarded for runners up and honorable mentions. More than up to \$5,000 for college through the Alzheimer's Foundation of \$428,000 in college scholarships have been awarded since the program's inception.

> AFA is able to provide scholarship funds through the generous support of charitable donors. Individuals wishing to support this and other programs and services for families affected by Alzheimer's disease can do so by visiting www.alzfdn.org/donate or calling AFA at 866-232-8484.

## Sports Desk (continued from page 2)

"Samantha was able to hit on a few 3-pointers, and Mpinda led with her leadership and scoring," Lofton said.

Benbrook will play Dunbar tomorrow and Lofton said her team will need to be prepared.

"It will be competitive game," Lofton said. "Dunbar is skilled and very athletic. We will have to all be on the same page work together and decrease turnovers that Dunbar causes with their quickness and athleticism."

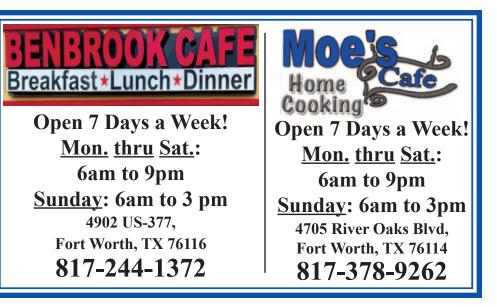
Over at Western Hills, coach Monicia Gardner's team struggled against Eastern Hills last week, but the Cougars coach said she was proud of how the Lady Cougars persevered.

"I think the girls played hard," Gardner said. "We had some key calls, that changed the moment of the game. I thought all of them did a good job of playing hard the whole game. Even when I was down to four post players, and Eastern Hills was still pressing, they continued to work hard and play together. They didn't quit."

Western Hills plays YWLA on Friday, and Gardner said her team will have it's hands full.

"We really need to make sure we are ready for YWLA," Gardner said. "The girls fight hard and are coached well, so we have to make sure we do out part to win the game."





From Tarrant County

# Avoid Penalties - Pay Property Taxes by Jan. 31

interest is Wednesday Jan. 31, 2024.

"All eight of the Tarrant County Tax Office locations are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to assist taxpayers with their property tax payments, but we encourage taxpayers to pay online whenever possible to avoid the crowds," said Wendy Burgess, Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector.

day, we recommend you start the online process earlier in the month to avoid complications and not waiting until Jan. 31. Please to pay in person."

- Property taxes can be paid online at Tax Payer website
- for online payments and in person at all branch locations. A convenience fee\* will be added to debit and credit card payments.
- Online e-Check payments can be made with no additional convenience fee.
  - Pay-by-phone is available 24/7 at 817-884-1110.
- Payments made by mail are posted according to the US Postal Service postmark date. Ensure that your payment is postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by January 31, 2024, to avoid penalty and interest. Take extra precautions when paying by mail due to

From Tarrant County

# **Election Notice for the Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors May 4 Election**

Application for Place on the Ballot for Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors At-Large Place 1, At-Large Place 2, and At-Large Place 3 are filed with the office of Tarrant County Judge Tim O'Hare, at 100 E. Weatherford St., Suite 501, Fort Worth, Texas 76196.

Applications may be filed now through Feb. 16, 2024. Our office is open during these dates from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday only.

Application for Place on the Ballot and additional information can be found at the Secretary of State link here.

Other important links and filing information may be found at the Tarrant County website.

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The last day to pay 2023 property taxes to avoid penalty and occurrences of checks stolen, washed, cashed and ultimately not delivered to the Tax Office.

- Online and phone payments must be **completed** by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on Jan. 31, 2024. Incomplete and pending payments completed at or after midnight Central Standard Time on February 1, 2024, will be posted accordingly.
- Except under very specific circumstances, the Texas Property "As online systems become heavily used in the last hour of the Tax Code does not authorize the Tax Assessor-Collector to waive penalty and interest.
- There is no provision in the Tax Code for a delayed payment plan around inclement weather and other emergencies if you intend or extended due date due to inclement weather conditions or other emergencies.

The Tarrant County Tax Office Customer Service Center is • Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover is accepted available at 817-884-1100 to assist citizens with property tax and motor vehicle questions.

> Phone lines are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with extended hours on January 29, 30, and 31 until 7 p.m.

> "Please do not hesitate to contact us with your questions," Burgess said. "The Tarrant County Tax Office encourages citizens who cannot pay in full to make partial payments. Partial payments will be applied and only the remaining balance will be subject to penalties rather than the full original amount due."

> Due to a high call volume, taxpayers may experience a delay in speaking with a customer service representative over the phone. An alternative method of contact for taxpayers is to email taxoffice@tarrantcountytx.gov. Please allow a 48-hour response time for emails.

> Visit the Tarrant County Tax Office website or call the Customer Service Center at 817-884-1100 if you need additional assistance or visit us in person at any of our branch locations.

> \*Convenience fees are charged by the credit card service company for all debit and credit transactions.

> Values, exemptions, and ownership/address updates are handled by Tarrant Appraisal District. You can reach them by phone at 817-284-0024 or through their website at TAD.org.



## American Soldier, Actor, and Songwriter - Audie Murphy



In Texas, 76 men have been awarded the Medal of Honor for their courage above and beyond the call of duty since the inception of the medal. Perhaps the most recognizable of those figures from World War II was Audie Murphy.

Murphy was born into a desperately poor family in Hunt County in 1925. His father abandoned the family when he was young, and he, his mother, and his sister moved between Farmersville and Greenville often for work. He quit school in the fifth grade in order to help support the family, and in 1941, his mother died.

When World War II started, Murphy tried to enlist in the Marines and the navy, but both rejected him because of his short height and thin build. The army, however, accepted him in 1942. In 1943, he fought in Italy before being transferred to France in 1944. High casualties in his platoon and his own gallantry resulted in a series of promotions from private to lieutenant.

On Jan. 24, 1945, Murphy was wounded in both legs as his division held off an attack by Nazi forces near the German border. High casualties led him eventually to take command of his company.

On Jan. 26, his company came under attack by advancing Nazi troops accompanied against the Germans.

When a tank destroyer was hit, Murphy ordered the men to safety, climbed atop the symptoms. burning destroyer, and started firing its .50-For nearly an hour, he single-handedly pinned down the Germans, killing nearly 50 enemy troops while being injured in the leg himself. He then ordered his men into a counterattack that repelled the German force, saving the day.

the Congressional Medal of Honor. Por- remains a daunting problem for many vettions of the incident were recreated in the erans. popular 1955 autobiographical film To Hell and Back, which starred Murphy.

He was honorably discharged in 1945. As one of the most decorated American soldiers of World War II, he also earned two silver stars and two bronze stars for bravery, the Distinguished Service Cross, and three Purple Hearts for injuries sustained in combat. In spite of his own gallantry, Murphy was quick to point out the heroics of others whom he felt never got credit. "There were so many guys who should have gotten medals and never did -- guys who were killed."

His fame led his to appear in more than 40 movies after the war. Most of his movies were westerns. He would sometimes laugh about his acting. "I'm working under a great handicap -- no talent," he would quip. He also returned to military service in the Texas National Guard in the 1950s, eventually reaching the rank of major.

While he enjoyed success as an actor and rancher after the war, the post-war years were very chaotic for Murphy. He engaged in very impulsive behavior such as addictions to gambling and problems with alcohol and prescription pain-killers and developed money problems. He also devel-

oped severe problems with anxiety, violent outbursts, and migraines.

Murphy often talked about his own isby six German tanks. Not willing to see any sues with what he called "shell shock," a more of his men injured, he ordered them to common name at the time for the condition fall back to defensive positions in the which is more properly understood as Postnearby woods while he directed artillery Traumatic Stress Disorder today. In the 1960s, he began urging the military to take more action to help veterans cope with these

He died in a plane crash in 1971 at the caliber machine gun against the Germans. age of 45. In honor of his service, the Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital in San Antonio was dedicated in 1973, and the Audie Murphy American Cotton Museum was later established in Greenville.

In recent years, the military has worked to establish new programs to help combat For his gallantry, Murphy was awarded veterans cope with PTSD issues, but it still







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# Weekend Forecast



### Friday, Jan. 19:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 35. North wind 10 to 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph. **PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 19. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.



### Saturday, Jan. 20:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 36. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph. **PM** - Mostly cloudy, with a low around 25. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.



### Sunday, Jan. 21:

**AM** - Cloudy, with a high near 38. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. **PM** - A 50% chance of showers. Cloudy, with a low around 33.

### **Extended Forecast Click Here**