

*Around the Town with Denise Honeycutt*  
**Independence Day at  
 American Legion Post 297**

An unexpected crowd gathered at the American Legion Post 297 to celebrate the Independence Day on July 4.

Hot dogs, hamburgers with all the trimmings, baked beans, potato salad and chips were available for patrons.

A raffle with amazing items, hole-in-one golf putt, a cake walk, an arts and crafts table, fun and fellowship was enjoyed by everyone who participated.



**Latanya Davis, Ahmad Miller and Tierra Jackson** came to celebrate the day.



**Dwight Saunier, Evelyn Saunier, Johnnie Daws and Legionnaire Danny Daws** participated at the event.



**Gianna Banks** won this Unicorn cake! She is pictured with her great-grandmother, **Nancy Ashcraft**.



**Jacob Queen, James Queen and Charlotte Queen** wait for a game to begin. (photos continued on page 5)

*Benbrook Council Action*  
**July 2 Meeting  
 Review** by John English

The Benbrook City Council meeting was held on Tuesday, July 2 as last Thursday was Independence Day. 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 from the previous meeting held on June 20 were then approved unanimously.

The first item of the evening was a proposal to authorize an interlocal agreement with the Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) for residential refuse and stormwater utility fee and payment collection. According to the agenda, the proposed agreement establishes a reimbursement to the BWA of 49.58 cents per bill, which is identical to last year's rate. In addition, the City is assessed its proportionate share of the credit card processing fee for residents paying with credit cards. The BWA processes credit card payments through a merchant services provider. The provider charges a percentage (normally between 1.5% and 3%) on each transaction based on the type of card and transaction. The term of the proposed interlocal agreement is one year, beginning Oct. 1, 2024, and ending Sept. 30, 2025. The agreement was unanimously approved.

Next was a motion to authorize an interlocal agreement with the BWA for street repair services. The proposed agreement renews Benbrook's longstanding agreement with the BWA allowing the City of Benbrook to complete street cuts for the BWA. The repair cost (continued on page 4)

From the Sports Desk with John English

# Benbrook MHS Athlete Spotlight - Jax Stockton



was named the 9-4A Pitcher of the Year.”

Chavez said his goals for Stockton next season are the same as his ace's goal.

“I know he wants to go undefeated on the mound,” Chavez said. “He also wants to win a state championship for his teammates.”

Stockton said he could not have asked for more from his junior year.

“I was extremely grateful for how the season unfolded because of the way we played as a team and that we made it as far as we did,” Stockton said.

Stockton, who also plays football at Benbrook, said his main goal was to win a play-off game, so it was nice to advance all the way to the fourth round of the postseason.

“We had to continue the tradition that the program has set with previous teams,” Stockton said. “It’s what we do.”

The incoming senior said his best moment this past season came when he threw the third consecutive no-hitter in a row for Benbrook during the playoffs.

Stockton said his biggest challenge this past season was coming back from a hand injury that kept him out for most of the year, and said when it comes to his objective for 2025, it's pretty straightforward.

“Win state, that’s the goal,” Stockton said. “We have unfinished business.”

Chavez said he has a couple of areas he would like to focus on this off-season.

“I want Jax to continue to grow into a leadership role,” Chavez said. “He has all the tools to be successful on the field, but I would like for him to be a leader on and off the field. No matter how many games he wins or we win, our goal is to make these young men great citizens in our society and that’s no different for Jax.”

### *Stockton's Favorites*

- Favorite Athlete: Adrian Rodriguez
- Favorite Sports team: Texas Rangers
- Favorite Food: pizza
- Favorite Musical Group or Performer: Brent Faiyaz

The Benbrook baseball team hammered its way to a district championship and regional semi-final appearance this year and Jax Stockton was a big part of the reason why.

The Bobcats pitcher/outfielder was an all-district selection this past season, and coach Justin Chavez said he is competing at a very high level.

“Jax had a great season, but his success started last summer and continued through our fall program,” Chavez said. “Jax bought into the weight room and really had huge gains, going from being injured most of last season to being our number one guy on the mound. With all the hard work he put in, Jax

**Come Eat!**

## FISH FRY

**Benbrook VFW Post 10429**  
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Dinner includes: 3 pieces of fried fish, 2 hush puppies, french fries, choice of 2 sides (macaroni & cheese, coleslaw or hominy) and dessert!

\$20 Donation

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From the American Red Cross

## Blood and Platelet Donors Critically Needed in July

This July, the American Red Cross continues to stress that blood and platelet donors are critically needed right now to support life-saving transfusions this summer. Donors of all blood types are in demand, especially those with type O blood and donors giving platelets.

Every donation counts in the mission to keep blood products stocked for patients, including those facing life-threatening situations. More than a quarter of all blood products each year are used in critical care and emergency room cases, highlighting the importance of generous blood and platelet donors. Be a force for good. Book a time to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App.

How to donate blood: simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation

From 4PAWS and the Benbrook Animal Shelter

## Adopt a Best Friend Today



Baby, 2812, is a two-year-old, 85-pound Rottweiler.

He came to the Benbrook Animal Shelter, located at 469 Winscott R., as a stray in mid-May.

He is neutered and heartworm-negative. He is a gentle giant, so friendly and quiet. He will love to sit and watch TV with you or ride in a car.

Adoption hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Call 4PAWS: Ursula at 817-262-3086 or Lynda at 682-279-0760, to visit Baby or any of the adoptable dogs.

by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

### Tarrant County Donation Dates and Locations

- Friday, July 12: 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Azle Lions Club, 412 Commerce Street, Azle, TX 76020
- Friday, July 12: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., American Red Cross, 6000 Western Pl, Ste 100, Fort Worth, TX 76107
- Friday, July 12: 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Amon G. Carter, Jr. Downtown YMCA, 512 Lamar Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102
- Tuesday, July 16: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Bass Pro Shop Grapevine, 2501 Bass Pro Drive, Grapevine, TX 76051
- Wednesday, July 17: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Invited - Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151 Country Club Dr, Mansfield, TX 76063
- Wednesday, July 17: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., The Parks Mall Donor Coach, 3811 S Cooper St, Arlington, TX 76015
- Wednesday, July 17: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Courtyard by Marriott Arlington South, 711 Highlander Blvd, Arlington, TX 76015
- Thursday, July 18: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., USMD Burleson Clinic, 12608 South Fwy, Burleson, TX 76028
- Friday, July 19: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., George W. Hawkes Library Arlington, 100 S Center St, Arlington, TX 76010
- Friday, July 19: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Loews Arlington Hotel, 888 Nolan Ryan Expy, Arlington, TX 76011
- Friday, July 19: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Baylor Scott & White Medical Center, 1650 West College Street, Grapevine, TX 76051
- Friday, July 19: 12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Central Market, 1425 E Southlake Blvd, Southlake TX 76092
- Saturday, July 20: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saginaw United Methodist Church, 209 S Blue Bonnet St, Saginaw, TX 76179
- Thursday, July 25: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., YMCA Northpark Donor Coach, 9100 N Beach St, Fort Worth, TX 76244
- Thursday, July 25: 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., Hulen Mall, 4800 South Hulen Street, Fort Worth, TX 76132
- Thursday, July 25: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Medical City North Hills, 4375 Booth Calloway Rd, Suite 202, North Richland Hills, TX 76180
- Friday, July 26: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., American Red Cross, 6000 Western Pl, Ste 100, Fort Worth, TX 76107
- Friday, July 26: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Lowe's of Keller, 600 North Tarrant Parkway, Keller, TX 76248
- Saturday, July 27: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3921 Turner Warnell Road, Arlington, TX 76001
- Tuesday, July 30: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Lowe's, 201 N. Kimball Ave, Southlake, TX 76092
- Tuesday, July 30: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Medical Office Building at Alliance, 3025 N. Tarrant Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177

# Plan for the Texas Sales Tax Holiday

## Aug. 9-11

The Comptroller encourages all taxpayers to support Texas businesses while saving money on tax-free purchases of most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (sold for less than \$100) during the annual Tax-Free weekend.

Qualifying items can be purchased tax free from a Texas store or from an online or catalog seller doing business in Texas. In most cases, you do not need to give the seller an exemption certificate to buy qualifying items tax free.

This year's sales tax holiday begins Friday, Aug. 9, and goes through midnight Sunday, Aug. 11.

The sales tax exemption applies only to qualifying items you buy during the sales tax holiday. Items you buy before or after the sales tax holiday do not qualify for exemption, and there is no tax refund available.

### Additional Charges Affect the Sales Price

Delivery, shipping, handling and transportation charges by the seller are part of the item's sales price.

Since clothing, backpacks and school supplies have to be less than \$100 to qualify, you have to look at the item's total sales price to determine if you can buy it tax free.

For example, you buy a pair of jeans for \$95 with a \$10 delivery charge for a total price of \$105. Because the jeans' total price is more than \$100, tax is due on the entire \$105 price.

If a delivery charge is billed per item, and an invoice has both exempt and taxable items, only the qualifying exempt item's delivery charge is exempt.

If the delivery charge is a flat rate per package, and the amount charged is the same regardless of how many items are included in the package, the total charge can be attributed to any one of the items in the package.

### Sales Tax Holiday Refund Requests

If you pay sales tax on qualifying items during the sales tax holiday, you can ask the seller for a refund of the tax paid. The seller can either grant the refund or provide their customer with Form 00-985, Assignment to Right to Refund (PDF), which allows the purchaser to file the refund claim directly with the Comptroller's office.

### Qualifying Items

[Click Here](#) to view the list of clothing, footwear and other qualifying items.

[Click Here](#) to view the list of school supplies.

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**BenbrookNews**

## Council Action

(continued from page 1)

is \$8.91/square foot, which is identical to last year's cost. The term of the proposed agreement is one year, beginning Oct. 1, 2024, and ending Sept. 30, 2025. 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 council member Renee Franklin reminded Benbrook residents of local Fourth of July events going on.

The meeting was then adjourned.



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## Legal Notice

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUMMONS</b> (Parentage—Custody and Support) NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (Name): SERGIO AVELAR AVISO AL DEMANDADO (Nombre):</p> <p>You have been sued. Read the information below and on the next page. Lo han demandado. Lea la información a continuación y en la página siguiente.</p> <p>Petitioner's name: BRENDA LOBATOS El nombre del demandante:</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 8px;">CASE NUMBER (Número de caso)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">FL-210 CITACIÓN (Paternidad—Custodia y Manutención) FOR COURT USE ONLY (SÓLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ELECTRONICALLY FILED 12/28/2022 4:33 PM Kern County Superior Court By Karissa Rodman , Deputy</p>
<p>You have 30 calendar days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-220 or FL-270) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearance will not protect you.</p>	<p>Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presentar una Respuesta (formulario FL-220 o FL-270) ante la corte y efectuar la entrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo.</p>
<p>If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your right to custody of your children. You may also be ordered to pay child support and attorney fees and costs.</p>	<p>Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar órdenes que afecten la custodia de sus hijos. La corte también le puede ordenar que pague manutención de los hijos, y honorarios y costos legales.</p>
<p>For legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Get help finding a lawyer at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp), at the California Legal Services website (www.lawhelpca.org), or by contacting your local bar association.</p>	<p>Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar un abogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www.lawhelpca.org), o pidiéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.</p>
<p>NOTICE: The restraining order on page 2 remains in effect against each parent until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. This order is enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of it.</p>	<p>AVISO: La orden de protección que aparecen en la página 2 continuará en vigencia en cuanto a cada parte hasta que se emita un fallo final, se despida la petición o la corte dé otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de esta orden puede hacerla acatar en cualquier lugar de California.</p>
<p>FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.</p>	<p>EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS: Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.</p>

(SEA)

1. The name and address of the court are: (El nombre y dirección de la corte son:) SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF KERN - METRO DIVISION  
1215 TRUXTUN AVE.  
BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93301

2. The name, address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney, are: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante si no tiene abogado, son.)  
SAM VAN EERDEN, ESQ. (SBN 283069)  
CAMPBELL WHITTEN  
5401 BUSINESS PARK SOUTH, STE. 201  
BAKERSFIELD, CA. 93309

Date (Fecha): 12/28/2022 4:33 PM Clerk, by (Secretario, por) TAMARAH HARBER-PICKENS, Deputy (Asistente) K. RODMAN

Page 1 of 2  
www.courts.ca.gov

**SUMMONS**  
(Parentage—Custody and Support)

FL-210

**STANDARD RESTRAINING ORDER**  
(Parentage—Custody and Support)

**ORDEN DE RESTRICCIÓN ESTÁNDAR**  
(Paternidad—Custodia y Manutención)

Starting immediately, you and every other party are restrained from removing from the state, or applying for a passport for, the minor child or children for whom this action seeks to establish a parent-child relationship or a custody order without the prior written consent of every other party or an order of the court.

This restraining order takes effect against the petitioner when he or she files the petition and against the respondent when he or she is personally served with the Summons and Petition OR when he or she waives and accepts service.

This restraining order remains in effect until the judgment is entered, the petition is dismissed, or the court makes other orders.

This order is enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of it.

En forma inmediata, usted y cada otra parte tienen prohibido llevarse del estado a los hijos menores para quienes esta acción judicial procura establecer una relación entre hijos y padres o una orden de custodia, ni pueden solicitar un pasaporte para los mismos, sin el consentimiento previo por escrito de cada otra parte o sin una orden de la corte.

Esta orden de restricción entrará en vigencia para el demandante una vez presentada la petición, y para el demandado una vez que éste reciba la notificación personal de la Citación y Petición, o una vez que renuncie su derecho a recibir dicha notificación y se dé por notificado.

Esta orden de restricción continuará en vigencia hasta que se emita un fallo final, se despida la petición o la corte dé otras órdenes.

Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto una copia de esta orden puede hacerla acatar en cualquier lugar de California.

<p>NOTICE—ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE Do you or someone in your household need affordable health insurance? If so, you should apply for Covered California. Covered California can help reduce the cost you pay toward high-quality, affordable health care. For more information, visit www.coveredca.com. Or call Covered California at 1-800-300-1506.</p>	<p>AVISO—ACCESO A SEGURA DE SALUD MÁS ECONOMICO Necesita seguro de salud a un costo asequible, ya sea para usted o alguien en su hogar? Si es así, puede presentar una solicitud con Covered California. Covered California lo puede ayudar a reducir al costo que paga por seguro de salud asequible y de alta calidad. Para obtener más información, visite www.coveredca.com. O llame a Covered California al 1-800-300-0213.</p>
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# Around the Town (continued from page 1)



## Water 2X a Week or Less

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Kitchen crew: (l-r) **John Berry**, **Lois Riley**, **Commander Lora McGee**, **Geoff Crewe** and **Bill Kuehner**.



Auxiliary members: (l-r) Vice President **Theresa Byers**, District 12 Adjutant **Lois Riley**, President **Christi Barnicle** and Executive Board member **Nancy Wyatt**.



**Kingston Gwyn** tried his luck at hole-in-one golf game.



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When you support your local newspaper, you support your community.

Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges

## The First French King to Claim Texas - Louis XIV



Texas has been a land under control of many different flags in its long history. From the early Native American tribes to the European colonial powers to the United States, each era has left an impact on the state. One of those figures to claim Texas was Louis XIV, king of France. He was the first French king to claim Texas, an important moment in Texas History, and would greatly influence all of Europe.

The future Louis XIV was born in 1638 at the royal palace of his father, King Louis XIII, and his mother, Queen Anne. Born into ostentatious luxury and unlimited power, he wanted for nothing. In 1643, his father died after a prolonged illness. As the oldest surviving male heir, he became king while only four years old.

Since he was so young, a regency was declared by his father's ministers. At such a young age, he could not begin to understand even the most basic functions of the government. Cardinal Jules Mazarin, who had been chief minister to Louis XIII and a senior official in the Roman Catholic Church, would retain his position and make decisions in the young king's name. In spite of his church position, Mazarin was a veteran European politician and diplomat, known for his skills and his cunning far more than his faith. Louis XIV's widowed mother doted on him.

Both his mother and Cardinal Mazarin made sure he grew up with the idea of the "divine right of kings," a system of absolute

and unquestioned power of the king that meant he answered only to God for his actions since God gave him the throne. It was a system that would allow corruption to inevitably work its way into the system and would leave him and his successors completely disconnected from the needs of his subjects.

In 1651, at age 18, he was allowed to rule but continued to have Mazarin at his side. Civil unrest had marked much of his childhood, and he was determined to restore order. After the death of Mazarin in 1661, he immediately embarked on a series of financial reforms to curtail embezzlement within his government.

"I am the state!" he once bellowed, declaring that France was his and his alone. He often referred to himself as the "Sun King," styling himself as the source of all light and goodness and prosperity for his people. He stripped Protestants of their rights and their property, forcing many to flee and others to convert to Catholicism.

He became a great patron of the arts, and he commissioned dozens of works from some of the most famous artists of the seventeenth century. He founded the Royal Academy of Dance and the Academy of Opera, and along with his major building campaigns made France one of the most important centers of art in Europe for centuries afterward.

In the 1660s, he transformed his father's hunting lodge outside Paris into the palace of Versailles, moving his official residence to the grounds in 1682. Versailles became an overwhelming display of wealth, with each room riddled with gold, silver, crystal, and exquisite displays of art. It included running water and hundreds of acres of expertly manicured gardens. The palace could hold thousands of guests and dignitaries. It became a model for other royal palaces across Europe.

France steadily expanded its power under his reign. Warfare was common, and France fought wars with Spain, England, and Holland. The New World was in the midst of a scramble for power between the

European states. Under his father's reign, France had established colonies along the St. Lawrence River Valley of what is now Canada and the Great Lakes region.

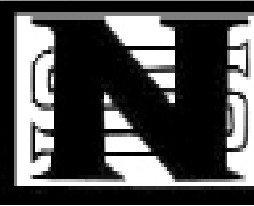
His influence spread even further with the efforts of French explorers Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet down the Mississippi River all the way to Arkansas in 1673. This claim was solidified with Robert Cavalier, Seuer de la Salle laying claim to all the Mississippi River and its tributaries in 1682. La Salle called the area Louisiana in honor of Louis XIV. The king's government gave its blessing for La Salle's plan to settle Louisiana. In 1685, La Salle and his party of colonists missed the mouth of the Mississippi River and went further west, landing on the coast of Matagorda Bay in Texas. Though Spain claimed the area, the Spanish were stretched thin and unable to enforce the claim. La Salle nevertheless established Fort St. Louis. The settlement proved to be a disaster and was wiped out by the neighboring Native American tribes by 1687.

While Louis XIV welcomed the enlarged realm, he gave little thought to the strategic importance of the Mississippi River Valley and the claims on Texas. He made no further attempts to settle the Texas coast. Though Spain contested the French claim, France continued to claim portions of the Red River Valley and East Texas until the Louisiana Territory was sold to the United States with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803.

He died in 1715 at the age of 76. Of his six children with his wife, he had outlived all of them. He had outlived most of his grandchildren. He had more than a dozen children out of wedlock with numerous mistresses, none of whom could be in line to the throne. Instead, his successor would be his five-year-old great-grandson, King Louis XV.

France had established itself as a major center of European diplomacy, culture, and politics under Louis XIV. It had cemented its position as a major military power and greatly expanded its influence in the Americas.

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## Weekend Forecast



**Friday, July 12:**  
AM - Sunny, with a high near 98. Heat index values as high as 102. South wind 5 to 10 mph.  
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 75. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.



**Saturday, July 13:**  
AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 97. South wind 5 to 10 mph.  
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 77. South wind 5 to 10 mph.



**Sunday, July 14:**  
AM - Mostly sunny and hot, with a high near 99. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.  
PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 78. South wind 5 to 10 mph.

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