



City of Benbrook ★ A Texas Star City

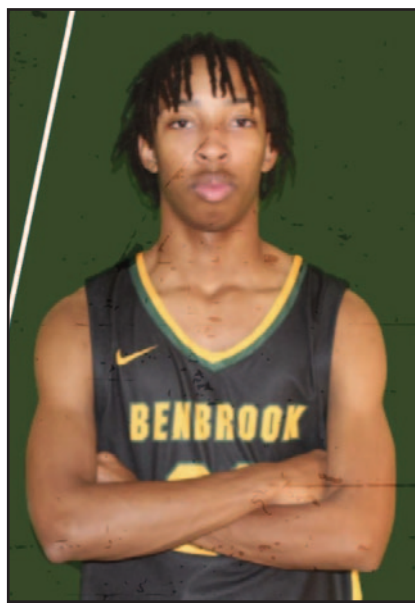
# Benbrook News

Established 1939 • A Publication of Suburban Newspapers, Inc.

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*From the Sports Desk with John English*

## Athlete Spotlight: Bobcat Jayden Hall



The Benbrook boy's basketball team clinched a playoff berth this past season and a strong effort from a freshman point guard is part of the reason why.

**Jayden Hall**, 15, started on the varsity team for the Bobcats in 2023, and coach Blake Mendez said he definitely held his own.

"We knew he was going to be special," Mendez said. "As an eighth-grader, he helped lead his team to a city championship. He started the year on JV because we wanted to see how he transitioned to high school ball. After the first couple of games, we knew we had to bring him up to varsity. We brought him to the Lake Worth tournament with us early in the year and after one game he solidified his spot as our starting point guard. He earned second team all-district honors as a freshman, which is pretty impressive in our district."

Mendez said Hall conducts himself well on and off the court.

"Jayden brings toughness to our team and leads by example," Mendez said. "He is an aggressive on-ball defender, and we

rely on him to be just that. He gives other teams fits. He is a laid back, mild mannered kid, but on the court he isn't afraid of anyone. More importantly, he's coachable. He doesn't argue, doesn't think he's too good to be coached, and is just one of those culture building kids that we are lucky to have."

Hall said he was pleased with how things unfolded for Benbrook this season with making the playoffs, but wanted to go further in the post-season.

"I was ecstatic throughout the season knowing our potential, but was not okay about our end result," Hall said. "I was grateful that I had the opportunity to build a bond with my teammates."

Benbrook lost in the bi-district round of the playoffs.

Hall, who also runs track and enjoys reading in his spare time, said it meant a lot to him to earn a spot on the varsity team this year.

"It was more than an honor because it showed that my hard work, commitment and dedication paid off from my eighth-to-ninth grade season," Hall said.

The Benbrook sophomore said what stands out most of all to him from this past season was something that happened following an important win for the Bobcats.

"Getting hyped in the locker room after we won against Carter-Riverside to proceed to the playoffs," Hall said. "We were excited, but knew we had to perform to the best of our abilities."

Mendez said he wants to see a few things from Hall in 2024.

"Our goal for him next season is to take the next

(continued on page 2)

*From Suburban Newspapers Staff Writers*

## Benbrook City

### Council Meeting 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.

The June 15 agenda is available to view [here](#).

*From the City of Benbrook*

## Doggie Costume Contest at Benbrook Heritage Fest Sept. 30

Show off your dog's cutest costume during Benbrook Heritage Fest on Sept 30 at Dutch Branch Park.

Prizes will be awarded! Participants must complete the [dog costume contest entry form](#) online at by Sept 1.

For questions, call 817-249-6091.

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# Obituary



Gaylon Wayne Wilson, 94, went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, June 10, 2023, surrounded by his loving family.

Visitation will be held 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2023, at Winscott Road Funeral Home, 1001 Winscott Road, Benbrook Texas 76126.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, June 16 at Winscott Road Funeral Home. Graveside services will follow at Laurel Land Memorial Park, 7100 Crowley Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76134.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations in honor of Wayne Wilson to The Benbrook United Methodist Church, 1122 Bryant St., Benbrook, Texas 76126 for the support of their AED Units.

Wayne was born on Nov. 21, 1928, in Stephens, Arkansas. He was the first of two children of Bert Wilson and Selma Wilson. He served in the U.S. Army and U.S. Army National Guard and retired as a Lt. Colonel. He also retired from the US Postal Service. Wayne was an active member of the Benbrook United Methodist Church. He served as President of NAPS, served on Benbrook Water Authority board, and as Benbrook Mayor. He held memberships in the Benbrook Jaycees, Benbrook Lions Club, and Benbrook Volunteer Fire Department. Wayne loved flying his private planes, spending his spare time traveling all over the world, including yearly visits to Hawaii for 21 years.

Wayne was preceded in death by his father, Bert Wilson; his loving mother, Selma Wilson; brother, Bert Wilson Jr.; and sister, Freda Moore.

Survivors include: his devoted wife, Martha Jane Wilson; his loving children, daughter, Debbie Wilson of White Settlement; son, Gary Wilson and wife, Leslie of Benbrook; daughter, Mindy Markum and husband, Trey of Paradise; grandchildren, Tracie, Chris, Amanda, Nathan, Chad, Chase, Alison, Holt, and Tiffany; 20 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild; brother-in-law, David Hooten and wife, Jeanie and many other loving family members and friends.

Pallbearers will be Trey Markum, Chase Markum, Holt Markum, Nathan Wilson, Chris Henninger, and Iain Yockov.

## Sports Desk

(continued from page 1)

step towards becoming a leader,” Mendez said. “It’s tough as a freshmen surrounded by upper classmen, but next season we’re going to be young. We will be very sophomore heavy, so as one of our few varsity returners, I’d like to see him become more vocal and not shy away from that leadership role. He’s got the potential to be a first team all-district guard for the next three years, and with the point guard position being sort of your quarterback of the offense, it is comforting knowing that spot is going to be well taken care of moving forward.”

### Hall's Favorites

- Favorite Athlete: Donovan Mitchell
- Favorite Sports team: Cleveland Cavs
- Favorite Food: burger
- Favorite Movie: *Pirates of the Caribbean*
- Favorite TV Show: *Stranger Things*
- Book Currently Reading or Last Book Read: “*Swallowing Stones*”
- Favorite Musical Group or Performer: Sleepy Hallow

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# Donate Plasma to Save Lives this Summer

Plasma donation is an impactful, meaningful way to give back to your community this summer. By donating plasma, you can help people like Machel Pecoraro.

Pecoraro lives with Hereditary Angioedema (HAE), a rare disease that can cause attacks of swelling, and often pain, in specific parts of the body, including the stomach, hands, feet, arms, legs, genitals, throat and face. Like with many serious and rare diseases, the therapies used to treat HAE require human plasma donations.

## Donors' Impact

"Plasma donors directly impact my ability to live a full and productive life. Therapies made from these donations allow me and my son, who also lives with HAE, to receive ongoing treatment for our conditions," says Pecoraro.

Plasma, a straw-colored liquid that carries red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets, helps to maintain a steady level of blood pressure, supports the immune system and delivers critical nutrients to cells.

Plasma donations are used to replace crucial proteins people living with rare and serious diseases lack, and to produce therapies that treat diseases such as primary immune deficiencies, hereditary angioedema,

hemophilia, Alpha-1 Antitrypsin deficiency and various bleeding and neurological disorders.

There is a critical and ongoing need for plasma donations, as these life-saving medicines treat people in more than 100 countries around the world. Every year, it takes more than 1,200 plasma donations to treat one hemophilia patient, more than 900 plasma donations to treat one alpha-1 patient and more than 130 plasma donations to treat one primary immune deficiency patient.

"Plasma donors do the amazing, as plasma is used to develop life-saving therapies for people living with rare and serious diseases. We encourage those who can donate to visit a nearby CSL Plasma donation center," says Rachpal Malhotra, MD, head of plasma donor safety, CSL Plasma.

Eligible, qualified plasma donors also receive payments in connection with donating plasma.

## The Donation Process

To donate, you must be in good health, between the ages of 18-74, weigh at least 110 pounds, and have had no tattoos or piercings within the last four months. You must also meet the health and screening requirements and have valid identification

with a permanent address.

Although wait times may vary at each location, the collection process takes approximately 90 minutes after the first donation.

It is recommended that you drink four to six 8-ounce glasses of water, fruit juice or other caffeine-free liquid at least two to three hours before donation, avoid caffeinated beverages, avoid alcohol of any type for 24 hours beforehand, eat a meal prior to donation and get adequate sleep.

CSL Plasma has 320 plasma donation centers across the United States.

Visit [cslplasma.com](http://cslplasma.com) for more information and to find a center near you. The CSL Plasma donor app is also available for Apple and Android device users.

"I thank all donors and encourage anyone who is considering donating to remember that doing so does make an impact for people like me and my son," says Pecoraro.



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Happy Father's Day



Though the date changes every year, Father's Day is always on the third Sunday in June.



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From the City of Benbrook

# 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 Benbrook Public Library

## Family Game Night June 24 at Benbrook Public Library



Come join us as we break out our collection of board games, playing cards, and dominoes on Saturday, June 24 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Our giant versions of Connect 4, Jenga, checkers and Kerplunk offer big gaming fun you won't find hardly anywhere else.

Game Night is a potluck affair, so attendees are encouraged (though not required) to bring food to share so that everyone can snack while they play.

The library provides soda, juice, and water for all. The games are set out for you to browse, and you're welcome to play whichever one(s) you'd like, either with your friends and family or with other game lovers from the community.

Occasionally, we'll have a themed Game Night. Such nights will be noted on the schedule.

The Benbrook Public Library is located at 1065 Mercedes St. in Benbrook.

For more information, contact Cullen at 817-249-6632 or email [cullen@benbrooklibrary.org](mailto:cullen@benbrooklibrary.org).

### Photo Permission

Staff often take pictures during library programs. The library uses photos in its publicity, in social media, and on its website. If you do not want your photo used, please contact the library and the library will honor that request.

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# Tips to Make Summer Safer for Anyone Riding a Bicycle

Bikes have been the mode of summer transportation for children and teenagers for decades. They allow them to independently move around without a car.

Summer has begun, and with that comes more children and teens on their bikes on neighborhood streets and trails.

It is important for children and teens to have proper knowledge about bike safety to ensure a fun and memorable summer. This is not just a message for North Texas youth.

Bike safety is important for riders of all ages. Here are some tips to help North Texans have an active, fulfilling and safe summer on bikes:

- Obey traffic signals and stop signs at intersections.
- Use hand signals when turning, changing lanes or stopping.
- Be aware of your surroundings and don't wear headphones/ear buds while bicycling.

- Ride as far to the right as practicable without jeopardizing your safety.
- Always ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Claim space at intersections by riding in the rightmost lane going in your destination direction and position yourself at intersections to be seen by drivers.
- Be visible, especially at night. Turn on your front and rear bike lights and wear bright or reflective clothing.

In addition to the tips mentioned above, there are other ways to increase safety. Make sure children and teens know how to check their brakes, tire pressure, and how to inflate tires to their recommended pressure. Additionally, always send children and teens out with a water bottle (or two!).

In Texas, dehydration can happen quickly. Remember that the combination of cycling and the sun will cause everyone to have to drink more water to remain safe.

For more information and valuable tips, visit [www.lookout-texans.org](http://www.lookout-texans.org).

From the North Central Texas Council of Governments

## Continue Your Clean Air Commitment Through Ozone Season



If you made a commitment on Clean Air Action Day to help improve the region's air quality, consider adopting it as part of your routine. Whether you worked from home, combined errands, limited idling, took your lunch to work or opted for another ozone-reducing measure, you can carry that commitment through ozone season, which ends Nov. 30. And share it with others. Your actions may inspire your friends or colleagues to become part of the solution.

Be sure to use #CAAD2023 and tag @NCTCOGtrans on social media to show your commitment to clean air in your community. A full list of clean air strategies individuals, businesses and governments can enact is available at [www.airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday](http://www.airnorthtexas.org/cleanairactionday).

Sign up for air quality alerts at [www.airnorthtexas.org/signup](http://www.airnorthtexas.org/signup) to stay informed of when action is encouraged.

2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE provides free and confidential information and referral services to those in need, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

2-1-1 Texas/United Way HELPLINE specialists have information about virtually every community resource you can imagine and can provide help in 150 languages. Referrals are based on the most comprehensive database of social services in the state.

You do not need to face your problems alone. HELPLINE specialists are always available to listen and to provide the information that will guide you through life's challenges.

### Community resource information includes:

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • Basic Needs       | • Employment Services |
| • Senior Services   | • Health Care         |
| • Veterans Services | • Legal Services      |
| • Child Care        | • Disaster Resources  |

If you need help, dial 2-1-1 or 1-877-541-7905. Community resource information is also available online at [www.211texas.org](http://www.211texas.org).

### 2-1-1 TEXAS/UNITED WAY HELPLINE

Need help? Dial 2-1-1 (Alternate number 1.877.541.7905)

A free helpline operated by United Way of Greater Houston, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in many languages.



[www.211texas.org](http://www.211texas.org)

# Former Governor of Texas, Joseph D. Sayers *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

Adversity, it is said, is the truest test of character. When times are flush and problems scarce, few will have to find a way to rise to the occasion when the occasion has risen for them. Gov. Joseph Sayers was a man who faced many crises in his life and faced even greater crises as governor as the state weathered a number of natural disasters. Even in the face of disaster, Sayers found ways to pave a path forward for Texas.



**Joseph Draper Sayers** was born in Granada, in northern Mississippi, in 1841. It was a family of farmers, as most families were at that time. Tragedy befell the family while he was still young. His mother died in 1851; and as a result, his distraught father moved him and his younger brother to Texas to start over. Eventually, the family settled in the Bastrop area, and the two brothers both attended the Bastrop Military Institute.

When the Civil War erupted, he and his brother both enlisted in the Confederate army. As it turned out, Sayers would become one of the last Civil War veterans to serve as Texas governor. He served in the 5th Texas Cavalry and was noted for his bravery in actions in New Mexico and Louisiana. The war put his life in danger often, but he pressed on in the face of steadily advancing Union armies. He was twice wounded in combat and rose to the rank of major before the Confederate surrender in 1865.

After returning to Bastrop, Sayers decided not to live a life of bitterness and regret but instead chose to give back to the community and build a future. Though Sayers never attended college himself, he nevertheless continued his own education and worked to bring opportunities to others. He opened a school in Bastrop and began studying law at night. Within a year, he gained admission to the state bar and began practicing law.

In 1872, Sayers was elected to the state senate and steadily moved up the political ladder. He would go on to serve as chairman of the State Democratic Committee; and in 1878, he was elected lieutenant governor. He was elected to the first of seven terms in Congress in 1884, eventually rising to chair the House Appropriations Committee for the 1893-1894 term, one of the most coveted and respected positions in Congress. In 1898, he was elected as the state's twenty-second governor.

In the spring of 1899, Texas faced major flooding as spring rains relentlessly soaked the state. The Brazos River overflowed its banks, causing many people to flee for their lives. Sayers stepped forward immediately to make sure state authorities helped those in danger and later helped those rebuild.

In 1900, Galveston was devastated by the deadliest hurricane in American History when more than 6,000 people died. Sayers immediately dispatched food, medicine, and state personnel to the devastated city to help survivors in the face of impending starvation, disease, and riots. Impressed with his response to these disasters and management of the state, voters re-elected Sayers in 1900.

He advocated a number of reforms as governor, most concentrating on anti-trust laws. He worked to ban railroad rebates to preferred customers, insisting customers be treated equally.

Labor unions were exempted from anti-trust laws as they had become targets of many early anti-trust lawsuits. He also worked to expand education funding.

*From Benbrook Public Library*

## *Adulting 101: Self Defense Spaces Filling Quickly*

Join us for this interactive two-hour session to learn self defense on Saturday, June 24 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Kathy Ledford meeting room at Benbrook Public Library located at 1065 Mercedes St. Special guests Brian Cole and Kevin Capps will teach you the basics of protecting yourself and understanding core moves of self defense. Participants must be 16 years of age or older and registration is required - [find the online registration form here](#). Registration for this event will close on June 23 at 2 p.m.

### **Adulting 101**

Kind of confused about car maintenance? Fretful over finances? Stressed about crafting the perfect resumé?

Worry not! Adulting 101 is a series of presentations aimed at young adults who want to hone the skills necessary for navigating the tasks of the adult world. Those ages 16 and older are encouraged to attend and learn about different topics to make adulting a little easier. Whether you're just starting out or need a refresher, join us monthly for new skills and topics.

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**Sunday, June 18**

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# Three Day Weekend Forecast



## Friday, June 16:

**AM** - Sunny and hot, with a high near 101. Heat index values as high as 107. S wind around 10mph becoming W/SW in the afternoon.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 75. N/NE wind around 5 mph becoming SE after midnight.



## Saturday, June 17:

**AM** - Partly sunny and hot, with a high near 100. S wind around 10 mph.  
**PM** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 77. S wind 10-15mph, with gusts as high as 25mph.

HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
DAY

## Sunday, June 18:

**AM** - Sunny and hot, with a high near 100. W/SW wind around 15mph, with gusts as high as 20mph.  
**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 76. W/NW wind around 10mph becoming SE in the evening.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)