



Benbrook News

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From the Sports Desk with John English

Western Hills Defeats Eastern Hills; Bobcats to Face Bulldogs

The Western Hills football team edged Eastern Hills by a score of 30-28 last Thursday night to improve to 2-1 in district competition and remain firmly in the hunt for a playoff spot.

Coach Blake Moilan the Highlanders gave his team all it could handle.

“It was a back and forth game that came down to the last six seconds,” Moilan said. “Eastern Hills came out and gave us all they had. The kids played hard and never gave up on the game.”

Eastern Hills took a 28-27 lead with just over three minutes to play in the fourth quarter.

The Cougars then drove down the field, and with six seconds to play Emmanuel Nshimiyimana kicked the game-winning field goal.

Western Hills plays Castleberry at 7 p.m. tonight at Handley Field, and Moilan said it should be another good challenge.

“Castleberry always gives us a tough game,” Moilan said. “They got a big win over Diamond Hill-Jarvis and are playing well. It should be a good game for us.”

Over at Benbrook, the Bobcats came up a little short against Hillsboro last week and coach Cody Slater said the loss came down to poor execution.

“I thought we started way too slow and we made a lot of mistakes,” Slater said. “We will have to start fast and clean up our mistakes to give ourselves a chance verses Venus this week.”

Benbrook will play the Bulldogs at 7 p.m. this evening, and Slater said, “I expect Venus to come out and try to get after us,” Slater said. “On offense, they will use a lot of formations, shifts, and motions to try and get us mis-aligned. On defense, they like to bring a lot of pressure on every snap.”

(continued on page 2)

Benbrook Council Action

Oct. 6 Meeting Wrap Up

by John English

The Benbrook city council meeting on Oct. 6 was conducted as scheduled. Mayor Jason Ward called the meeting to order. An invocation was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ward allowed an opportunity for citizen comments on any agenda item, but there were none.

Minutes for the meeting held on Sept. 15 were then approved.

The first item of the evening was a presentation by the Economic Development Corporation to adopt an ordinance approving the sale of 1.183 acres (continued on page 3)

From the City of Benbrook

Electronic Waste/Document Shredding Event Saturday

The City of Benbrook will host an electronic waste and document shredding event on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 8 a.m. until noon at the Dutch Branch Park rear parking lot behind YMCA, follow the signs off of Winscott Rd.

The Electronic Waste/Document Shredding event is a free event for residents of Benbrook (proof of residency required). Residents can recycle electronics and appliances, as well as shred documents.

The following is a list of common items that citizens can bring for recycling: Radios/telephones, computers/printers (the hard drive will be destroyed), fax machines/copiers, microwaves/dishwashers/washers/dryers/refrigerators, gaming systems, and vacuums. Please limit shredding to a reasonable household amount. No large amounts of business documents. Please do not place plastic materials such as credit cards or compact discs with documents to shred.

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From the Benbrook Public Library

Upcoming Events at Benbrook Public Library

Adults who would like to practice and improve their Spanish are encouraged to attend free beginner/intermediate level, conversation-based classes on Thursday, Oct.13 and Thursday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m. Classes are held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

The library holds weekly GED preparation classes every Wednesday at 6 p.m. Anyone 18 years of age or older who is not currently enrolled in school may register. Attend any class to register and begin preparing to take and pass the GED exams.

For questions, contact the library at 817-249-6632.

From the City of Benbrook

Application Deadline for Various Boards and Commissions Nov. 8

The City of Benbrook is accepting applications from citizens interested in serving on various Boards and Commissions. These Commissions include: Planning and Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustments/Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation Board, and the Benbrook Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

Applications and information are available at City Hall, 911 Winscott Road, Benbrook, TX or by download at www.benbrook-tx.gov or by email to jking@benbrook-tx.gov.

Application deadline is Nov. 8.



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Sports Desk (continued from page 1)

On the court, Benbrook defeated Dunbar by a score of 26-24, 25-17, 25-15 last Friday and coach Frances Davies said it was a good all-around effort.

“The girls performed really well,” Davies said. “We have a tendency to start off a little slow in the first set just to test things out, then they turn it on and just go. We had a lot of really good moments and were able to adjust and play with different line-ups and make the most of our entire roster!”

Davies said she had a number of good performances in the game.

“I’d have to say my two sophomores really stood out in this time,” Davies said. “Martha Greene (middle blocker) is really coming along quickly. She’s averaging around four kills per match and 5-7 solo blocks. She’s really picked up the speed of the game and is improving every single match. Maile Petty (DS/Pin) has taken on new role the past week and has helped us out of some jams with her aggressive serving and strong defense. She was a crucial part of our win against NCTA, as well as

against Dunbar.” Benbrook will play Western Hills tomorrow night, and Davies expects it to be a good one.

“The Western Hills game is always expected to be a big one,” Davies said. “The competition is always at peak performance and the crowds are great just due to the Benbrook rivalry. The team has been busy breaking down film, looking for areas of improvement from the last time we matched up, and trying to find weak spots that we can capitalize on. Because it’s such a big game for both schools, our main focus points are to stay calm, play one point at a time, as well as not getting caught up in the craziness of the crowds.”

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City Council Action (continued from page 1)

described as the Evans Addition Lot 1 Block 1, generally known as 9005 Vista Way, City of Benbrook, Tarrant County, Texas, and authorize the City Manager to enter into an Economic Development Performance Agreement. The City of Benbrook acquired the 1.183 tract of land as part of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) developer's agreement with BBT Crossing, Ltd. The city has determined that this is a surplus property and has elected to sell the land. The goal of selling the property is to promote quality development along Vista Way and bids were opened on Sept. 7. Ballard Family Investments, LLC, was the sole bidder, offering \$324,645 for the land. The sale was approved unanimously.

Next up was a proposal to deny Oncor's rate change application. On May 13, Oncor filed an application seeking to increase system-wide transmission and distribution rates 4.5 percent over present revenues, and asked Benbrook to approve an increase in residential rates by 11.2 percent and 1.6 percent for street lighting rates. The impact on the average customer would be \$6.02 per month. The resolution denying the rate change finds that the application is unreasonable and should be denied, the current rate should remain unchanged and that Oncor will reimburse the city for any reasonable rate case expenses. The proposal carried unanimously.

Next was a proposal to award employee health insurance to United Health Care. Staff recommended the approval of a 1-year contract with United Health Care effective Nov. 1, and it was approved unanimously.

Next up was a motion to award employee dental insurance to United Health Care. Staff recommended the approval of a 1-year contract with United Health Care effective Nov. 1, and it was approved unanimously.

The next item was a proposal to award the municipal complex construction contract to JE Dunn Construction. According to the agenda, On May 1, 2021, voters authorized the sale of \$22 million worth of General Obligation Bonds for the public purpose of constructing, improving and equipping a new municipal building for the police department, senior citizen center, municipal court and city administration offices, and necessary demolition of existing facilities. On Aug. 5, 2022, the Benbrook city council approved an owner's representative contract with Broaddus and Associates to assist with the selection of a qualified design-build team to design and construct the project, and to assist with contract negotiations and other cost saving strategies. Following a review from 11 construction/design teams, JE Dunn Construction and Randall Scott Architects were selected as the design-build team. JE Dunn Construction has completed over 136 design-build projects in the last five (5) years, worth over \$4.8 billion. Randall Scott Architects has designed over 1,000,000+ square feet of municipal space including the Prosper Town Hall, Boerne City Hall, Granbury City Hall and Police Department, and the Anna City

Hall and Police Department, which were all presented to the city council as inspiration for this project. On March 3, 2022, City Council awarded the municipal complex for professional design and pre-construction services to JE Dunn Construction and Randall Scott Architects. Staff recommended that the city council award the municipal complex construction contract to JE Dunn Construction for the guaranteed maximum cost of \$23,760,523. The proposal was approved unanimously.

The next item was a proposal to purchase new police vehicles. Staff recommended that City Council approve the purchase of four police package vehicles from the low bidder, Texas Buy Board, in the total amount of \$179,500. The motion passed unanimously.

Next up was informal citizen comments, and Benbrook resident Phyllis Harkins addressed the council about an incident she saw the previous week in which she was stopped by a "very long, and very slow train," out on Vickery Street where traffic was backed up. Harkins said it got her to thinking about the new businesses that were moving to Benbrook.

"I would just like to know from you, what is the city's plan for Vickery and the railroad crossing?" Harkins asked. "I dealt with something like this in another place that I lived and I know it can take 10 years to get done...I just think it's something that the city should be looking at."

Then David Stonecipher approached the podium and talked about how he and his family first moved to Benbrook in 1987 when his father was stationed at Carswell Airforce Base and said he considers Benbrook home. Stonecipher said he moved away for a number of years and recently moved back and said the city feels different.

"I got to go to Heritage Fest for the first time, and I can't tell you how good of a job the city of Benbrook did," Stonecipher said. "That place was just awesome. I didn't see a single can or bottle of alcohol out there, and everybody had a good time. I was also a police officer for 16 years, and I have never seen a nicer, kinder, friendlier group of cops anywhere...they are a great example and great ambassadors for the city."

Stonecipher did express some concerns about Jackson-Shaw moving to Benbrook and whether Benbrook residents were going to get the jobs that the company has stated it will create.

Pastor Lynn Bullock then approached the podium and discussed the need for a 4-way stop sign in the White Stone Ranch neighborhood where there is construction.

Time was then allowed for Council member comments.

The meeting was then adjourned.

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From the City of Benbrook

Code Compliance

The Code Compliance Department works to keep Benbrook safe, clean, and attractive by inspecting properties, investigating complaints within city limits and enforcing Benbrook municipal codes related to nuisances and zoning violations. The City is authorized to pursue criminal and civil remedies to abate nuisances within Benbrook. Common violations include:

- High grass and weeds
- Junk and rubbish accumulation
- Trash and recycling violations
- Junked vehicles
- Stagnant water
- Fences
- Vehicles parked on grass.

Concerned citizens who take good care of their property and notify the City of code violations help:

- Maintain neighborhood desirability
- Reduce vandalism
- Prevent fire, health, and safety hazards
- Encourage continued development
- Help fulfill a shared community vision to Keep Benbrook Beautiful!

When contacting Code Compliance, please leave a detailed

Compassion Program

Many common code violations such as overgrown grass, trash and rubbish accumulation, or junked vehicles are resolved through notice to residents of a violation. However, some residents may be unable to correct a violation because of a physical or financial hardship.

Compassion-Based Code Compliance connects local volunteers with residents in legitimate need of assistance with property clean-up, maintenance, small repairs, and/or beautification projects. If you or someone you know is having difficulty maintaining your property due to a financial or physical hardship, please call Director of Public Services Bennett Howell at 817-249-6063, or email bhowell@benbrook-tx.gov. Our team of volunteers may be able to assist you.

Individuals, churches, schools, businesses, civic and non-profit organizations are encouraged to participate in this volunteer effort.

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From the North Central Texas Council of Governments

NCTCOG to Offer Online Public Input Opportunity

Residents will have a chance to comment on regional transportation and air quality planning activities as the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) opens an online public input opportunity.

Information on car care awareness and modifications to the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) will be posted at www.publicinput.com/nctcogOct22, where North Texans can provide comments until Tuesday, Nov. 8.

October is Fall Car Care Month, and NCTCOG invites residents to ensure their vehicles are properly taken care of and are contributing to the regional air quality solution. More information about car care awareness can be found at www.ntxcarcare.org.

The UPWP provides a summary of transportation and air quality planning activities that will be conducted in the 12-county Dallas-Fort Worth area. Proposed modifications for the UPWP will be posted online for review and comment.

NCTCOG will also highlight several resources available as part of the October public input opportunity. Resources for the Regional Smoking Vehicle Program (RSVP) can be found at www.smokingvehicle.net, and vehicle incentive and funding opportunities are available at www.nctcog.org/aqfunding.

NCTCOG is also accepting public input through Map Your

Experience, an online mapping tool used to guide transportation planning efforts. To explore Map Your Experience, visit www.nctcog.org/mapyourexperience.

For special accommodations due to a disability or for language interpretation, contact Jackie Castillo at 817-695-9255 or jcastillo@nctcog.org at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

To submit comments and questions to NCTCOG, email nctcogoct22@publicinput.com or visit publicinput.com/nctcogOct22.

From the American Legion Post 297

American Legion to Host Harley-Ween Event Oct. 29

More and more families are looking for a safe place to trick-or-treat, even when you live in a small town with a big backyard like Benbrook. The Paul Mansir American Legion Post 297 located at 8201 Old Benbrook Rd. in Benbrook is answering the call by providing “a safe place to trick-or-treat” for all of the children in the community and beyond.

“Harley-Ween” is so-named because the Riders of American Legion Post 297 are hosting the event. They will be dressed up in costumes, with their motorcycle saddlebags stuffed full of candy, and will provide free hot dogs and punch. Children and families can stop by, do a little trick-or-treating then rest, relax, and chat a bit with friends and family while enjoying a light dinner.

“We started doing this event during COVID, because so many other places weren't able to host events that usually took place inside. We have a nice outdoor venue, with horseshoe pits, and a great green yard for the kids to come and run around. They get to see the motorcycles, walk right up to them even, chat with veterans, and have a great time with family and friends,” says Rachel Rogstad, Road Captain for the American Legion Post 297 Riders. She mentions that in years past, many kids have marveled at the motorcycles, and really seem to enjoy being there.

The American Legion is a not-for-profit veteran organization, dedicated to serving all those who have served, as well as the community that supports them. The American Legion is America's largest veterans service organization, and works tirelessly every day to support and serve our active and retired military personnel. If you are interested in learning more about the American Legion, you can visit legion.org. Learn more about the local post, Paul Mansir American Legion Post 297 by visiting us on Facebook @legionridersbenbrook, or Instagram @legionrider-spost297.

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Former Governor of Texas, John Ireland *by Dr. Ken Bridges*

John Ireland lost more political races than he won, but he had an important role in state history. He rose from an impoverished background to become a Civil War officer, judge, and governor. Along the way, he helped create two icons of Texas: the University of Texas and the State Capitol.

John Ireland was born on New Years Day 1827 in rural central Kentucky. His parents were Irish immigrants and farmers. He grew up working hard but had little formal education, as very little education was available. He was seen as reliable and was appointed deputy sheriff of Hart County in 1845 at age 18.

Ireland developed a fascination with the law and began studying it at age 24 by apprenticing himself to a local attorney. He was admitted to the bar later in 1851. The next year, he moved to Texas for a fresh start and an opportunity to establish his own law practice. He settled in the town of Seguin where he soon became an important figure in the community. Ireland served as mayor of Seguin briefly in 1858.

Ireland had fought for secession and participated in the 1861 secession convention. After Texas pulled out of the Union, Ireland immediately enlisted as a private in the Confederate Army. He saw little action during the Civil War as his assignments kept him within the state, patrolling the coast and the borders. Nevertheless, he dramatically rose through the ranks, ending the war as a lieutenant colonel.

The chaos of Reconstruction politics swept up Ireland. In 1866, he was part of the state constitutional convention. Shortly afterward, he was elected judge. However, Texas and many other southern states were placed under martial law in 1867 for failing to uphold the rights for freedmen and impeding Reconstruction. Ireland and many other politicians were thrust from office.

As Reconstruction was winding down, Ireland re-entered politics and was elected to the state legislature in 1872. While serving in the legislature, Ireland was the sponsor for the legislation that allowed the University of Texas to finally become a reality. The creation of the university was an effort shared by many over a long period of time. He lost a race for U.S. Senate in 1874, but in 1875, he was appointed to briefly serve as an appellate judge.

In 1878, Ireland challenged Congressman Gustav Schleicher for the Sixth District congressional seat, which then included the San Antonio area. Schleicher, a German immigrant and businessman, faced a formidable challenger in Ireland. He was able to win his second term, but he died just months after his victory, in January 1879. Ireland chose not to run in the special election to fill the remainder of the term, a race ultimately won by attorney Christopher Upson.

In 1882, he won the election easily to become the state's 18th governor. As governor, he pushed for property taxes and faced the Fence Cutting Wars. With the 1874 invention of barbed wire, large ranchers started fencing in their properties, blocking in small farms and ranches. In response, fences began getting cut,

and violence erupted on the frontier. Ireland sent in the Texas Rangers to maintain order and pushed legislation in 1884 to give the Rangers special powers in these cases.

The other major issue of his administration was construction of the new State Capitol. Fire destroyed the old Capitol in 1881. Money had been appropriated for a new building, and construction started after Ireland's 1884 re-election. The distinctive pink granite look of the State Capitol is due in part to Ireland. He insisted on Texas limestone instead of importing limestone from Indiana. After using this stone to lay the foundation, iron particles in the stone rusted and discolored the stone. Learning of the problem, owners of Granite Mountain near Marble Falls in Burnet County approached Ireland with a solution. They owners donated the pink granite to complete the building, an offer Ireland happily accepted. The new State Capitol was formally dedicated in April 1888.

He chose not to run for a third term in 1886 and instead ran for the U.S. Senate. He challenged incumbent Sen. Samuel B. Maxey. At that time, the state legislature still elected Senators rather than the voters. Legislators rejected both Gov. Ireland and Sen. Maxey in favor of veteran Congressman John H. Reagan. Ireland never ran for election again.

After Ireland finished his terms as governor in January 1887, he quietly resumed his law practice in Seguin, where he remained a respected figure. He had made a tidy profit in the stock market over the years, but this was all wiped out in the Panic of 1893, a deep economic depression that crushed stocks and left millions unemployed nationally.

John Ireland died deeply in debt in 1896 at the age of 69.

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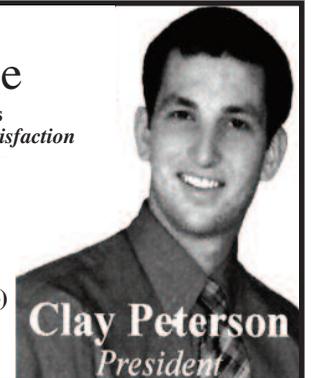
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COMPUTERS MICHAEL'S PC Repair 817-945-2667 michaelspcs@hotmail.com	LANDSCAPE/LAWNS I MOW 4 YOU 817-988-2249 corvetteron@hotmail.com ALEX'S Lawn Care 817-793-9096	APPLIANCES CALLAHAN'S APPLIANCE 8120 White Settlement Rd 817-244-5404	ROOFING ECE ROOFING LLC 817-831-2600 817-615-7164
TREE SERVICE CHAD GREEN Tree Service 817-246-5943 C THREE Lawn & Tree Service 817-249-YARD (9273) WWW.C3LAWNAND TREE.COM	PAINTING HAYWOOD Painting 817-371-8597		

Three Day Weekend Forecast



Friday, Oct. 14:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 86. East wind 5-10mph becoming south in the afternoon.
PM - Mostly clear, with a low around 64. South southeast wind 5-10mph.



Saturday, Oct. 15:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 89. South southwest wind 10-15mph, with gusts as high as 25mph.
PM - A 20% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Mostly cloudy; low around 68.



Sunday, Oct. 16:

AM - A 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 82.
PM - A 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 57.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)