

# White Settlement Bomber News

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From the Sports Desk with John English

## Brewer Lady Bear Athlete Spotlight: Julie Kasonga



Julie Kasonga helped the Brewer girls basketball team to an undefeated district championship this past season and could be even better in 2024-25.

The incoming junior was a first-team all-district selection and a member of the district's all-academic team and coach Teranie Lewis said she is pleased with the player Kasonga has become.

"I absolutely love Julie's game when she is in her mode," Lewis said. "You may not know she is there, but she gets her job done. Julie is a natural leader and she can really take over...I think she really matured this past season, on and off the court."

Looking back on 2023-24, Kasonga she was happy to have the experience.

"I was pretty happy with the way our season unfolded," Kasonga said. "I got to

play with the girls I have been playing with since I was little for the last time."

Kasonga, 16, said her goals coming into the season were to be a leader and "do my job on the court," which she felt she accomplished.

"My objectives for the next season are to look to score more and focus on all the other things I need improvement on," Kasonga said.

While she was selected as one of the top players in the district this past season, Kasonga said it was not easy.

"My biggest challenge as a basketball player has been not being as big as the other girls that play my position," Kasonga said.

Besides basketball, Kasonga will participate in PALS and The Principals Leadership team at BHS, and what stands out most to her from this past year was something that took place off the court.

"My fondest memory of this season was when we went to Main Event to celebrate that we were going to playoffs," Kasonga said. "It was so fun being around all my friends at a place that wasn't a basketball court."

Lewis said there are a few things she would like to see Kasonga work on during the off-season.

"I really want her to work more and more on her shot, 3-point range included and her ball handling," Lewis said. "I think the ball will be in her hands a lot more than it has had to be in the past. I also want her to get mentally stronger. Like I said we are talking a lot about how mentally tough she and Aolani will have to be this upcoming season.

They both have accepted the challenge. I'm excited."

For next school year, Lewis said she has a couple of expectations.

"My goal is for her to be an all-around threat this season," Lewis said. "She will be able to score from multiple places and she is a great defender. She is long and her shot is not bad all. She will play a lot more roles and we've discussed that a lot. She is ready for the challenge."

### *Kasonga's Favorites*

Favorite Athlete: Luka Doncic

Favorite Sports Team: Dallas Mavericks

Favorite Food: Chicken Curry

Favorite Movie: *The Lorax*

Favorite TV Show: *Blacklist*

Book Currently Reading: *"Emmett Till"*

Favorite Musical Group or Performer:  
Adele

From the City of White Settlement

## **Planning and Zoning Board**

### **Meeting Rescheduled**

The Planning and Zoning Board meeting originally scheduled for Tuesday, June 11 has been rescheduled to Tuesday, June 25 at 6 p.m.

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From StatePoint Media

## Furry Friends Can Cause Distracted Driving - a Few Tips to Stay Safe



Summer road trip season is here! Whether your vacation plans include national parks, sandy beaches or major metropolitan areas, you may be thinking of bringing the entire family along, even your four-legged companions.

While we love having them near, dogs aren't always safe passengers. A recent poll commissioned by Selective Insurance, a leading home, auto and business insurance carrier, found that in the past 12 months, dogs caused a majority of drivers to be distracted on U.S. roadways.

The study, conducted online by The Harris Poll, found that of licensed drivers who recently (over the last 12 months) drove with their dogs, 91 percent admitted to interacting with them while driving, including interactions requiring the driver to take their hands off the wheel or eyes off the road, and 48 percent acknowledged that they are more distracted when their dog is in the vehicle than when it is not.

"We love our dogs. However, some of their behaviors in the car, such as sitting on drivers' laps, jumping between seats, or sticking their heads out the window, divert drivers' attention from operating a vehicle," said Scott Smith, vice president and director of Safety Management at Selective Insurance. "To help keep our roads safe, drivers need to minimize distractions. That means our beloved pet passengers should be restrained in the back seat, and if they need tending, drivers should first pull over to a safe place."

Some of the more hazardous behaviors that drivers engaged in while recently on the

road with their dog include giving them food/treats/water (36 percent), taking a photo/video of their dog (27 percent) or holding them in place (23 percent) while driving. In addition, 40 percent of drivers who have ever driven with their dog confessed to various reckless driving behaviors as a direct result of having their dog in the vehicle, including swerving out of the lane (11 percent) and hard braking (13 percent).

This summer, as you head out with your dog on journeys near and far, help minimize driving distractions in your vehicle with these tips from Selective Insurance:

- Have your dog ride in the back seat and consider using a partition between the front and back seats.

- Use a dog seatbelt, safety harness or anchored crate to prevent distractions and provide your dog with some protection if there is an accident. A significant 70 percent of licensed drivers who recently drove with their dogs say their dogs were unrestrained in the vehicle. Yet, 82 percent of drivers who recently drove with their dogs agree that having an unrestrained dog in a moving vehicle can distract the driver. Not using a

restraint is risky and could put you in violation of the law. Some states have animal restraint laws for vehicles to help keep drivers safe and focused. However, only 24 percent of licensed drivers who recently drove with their dogs say they are very familiar with such laws in their state. That's compared to 34 percent who say they didn't know these laws existed.

- Plan ahead and identify rest stops along your route so you and your dog can take a break. If you need to make an unplanned stop, avoid the side of the road and instead look for a quiet parking lot. Use these occasions to give your dog food, a little exercise and most importantly in summer, plenty of water.

For additional survey findings, along with tips to keep roadways safe and K-9 companions secure, visit [Selective.com](http://selective.com). For survey methodology, visit [selective.com](http://selective.com).

"More pets in homes, especially with the introduction of the pandemic puppy, means more Americans than ever may be hitting the roads with their pooch on road trips this summer. Drivers should understand the risks associated with taking them along for the ride," said Smith.



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From Tarrant County

# Half-Payment Property Tax Deadline July 1

Wendy Burgess, Tarrant County Tax Assessor-Collector, reminds Tarrant County taxpayers that they have an option when paying property taxes.

Taxpayers may pay their current year property taxes in two equal installments. To qualify for this half payment option, taxpayers must have paid one half of the total property taxes owed by Nov. 30, 2023.

If a taxpayer makes a qualifying and timely first installment payment, the second payment is due by July 1, 2024. No penalty or interest will accrue on the second half until after July 1, 2024.

The Tarrant County Tax Office began mailing property tax statements in mid-October. Most taxpayers should have received their statement by now. We are in the process of mailing statements to taxpayers with an Over 65 or Disability Exemption, and it may be mid-November before they are received. Failure to receive a notice does not impact the validity of the tax or penalty and interest imposed.

If your mortgage company escrows your taxes, the property tax statement was sent to the mortgage company the second week of October.

If a statement hasn't been received, one can be printed from our new payment portal at Tax Online, or email [taxoffice@tarrantcountytx.gov](mailto:taxoffice@tarrantcountytx.gov) to request one. Sign up for Paperless Billing on our

Property Tax page and have future statements delivered electronically to your email.

Partial payments are accepted at any time after statements are mailed.

Payments can be made in person at any of the eight Tax Office locations. Operating hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There is no additional fee for e-checks. Electronic checks and credit cards are accepted over the internet at Tax Online or by phone at 817-884-1110.

There is a fee for the use of debit and credit cards payable directly to the card provider. We highly encourage feeless payment by e-check to avert any potential issues with a physical check while in transit to our office.

Contact us with questions at 817-884-1100 or by email at [taxoffice@tarrantcountytx.gov](mailto:taxoffice@tarrantcountytx.gov).

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June 14: ~~Adventure of the Lost Treasure~~  
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 July 19: David Slick, Juggler  
 July 26: Pirate Adventure  
 August 2: Creature Teacher

From White Settlement ISD

# Invicta Mental Health Services Offers Counseling to Students, Families and Faculty

## Introducing Invicta Mental Health Services

White Settlement ISD partners with Invicta Services Group to provide mental health counseling services to our district's students, families, and faculty.

Invicta provides traditional mental health services on campus to support those struggling with issues such as anxiety, depression, anger management, eating disorders, trauma, concentration, self-esteem, and academic stress.

## How It Works

Invicta Counseling offers the same licensed therapists that you would expect to see at most clinics, but they bring the service directly to our school campus! This on-campus approach minimizes the time away from class and mitigates the parent's time away from work.

Some students may require multiple sessions, and the Invicta staff

will coordinate that effort directly with the parents. Flexible and immediate appointments are available at each school campus with extended hours and evening appointments at some locations, including the WSISD Family Resource Center, located at 8500 Rockway Drive.

## How to Register

Register for Counseling Services at <https://www.therapyportal.com/p/invicta3/?e>.

Select your school location and the preferred time slot for your appointment.

The registration site includes a parental consent form as well as insurance information.

You can also find registration forms at your campus. Please complete and return your forms to the school counseling office.

Clients can conveniently and discretely request an appointment using the mobile application, web address or QR Code.

## Mental Health Coverage

Invicta believes that every student should have access to mental wellness. Invicta collects the student's insurance information and seamlessly files insurance for the visit.

For students without insurance coverage, Invicta will work directly with you to file for uninsured coverage.

Contact [resilience@invicta-3.com](mailto:resilience@invicta-3.com) for specific billing and coverage questions.

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### BE CARING

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Small businesses contribute to the unique identities of communities.



## 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 Mabelle 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.

From Tarrant County

## Tarrant County's Homeowner Repair Program

Tarrant County's Homeowner Repair Program is available for those who live outside of Fort Worth while still remaining inside Tarrant County lines. Some repairs available with this program include electrical, plumbing, roofing and weatherization.

Your home must be valued under \$239,000. There are also certain income guidelines that must be carefully followed. In addition to those, you must have owned and lived in your house for at least one year, have a clear title to the property, have paid your real estate taxes, and more. You can [view the brochure for the program at this website](#).

If you have any questions or need more information, please call Tarrant County Community Development at 817-850-7940.

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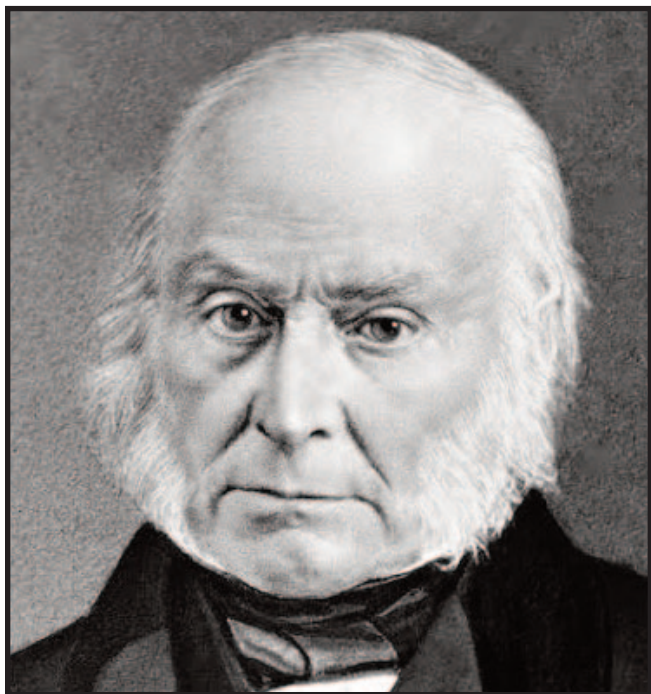
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Texas History Minute by Dr. Ken Bridges

## The Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819



Before the Texas Revolution and the annexation debates of the 1830s and 1840s, portions of Texas were briefly considered part of the United States, all stemming from the Louisiana Purchase. With the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, the United States doubled in size overnight. America had pushed far to the West into the wide expanses of the High Plains and to the frontiers of Texas.

The French government was very evasive in what they considered to be the extent of the Louisiana Territory. The question of whether the United States owned any portion of Texas was ultimately put in the hands of one of America's top diplomats, **John Quincy Adams**.

The French connection to Texas dated back into the 1600s. In 1682, French explorer Robert Cavalier, Seuer de la Salle, claimed the entire Mississippi River Valley and all of its tributaries for France. This, by default, included the Red River, stretching to include the entire modern Texas panhandle and the watershed in the counties all along the modern North Texas border with Oklahoma. It also came to include the French claim on the Sabine River and the lands of what is now most of East Texas and the failed colony in Matagorda Bay.

John Quincy Adams, born in 1767, was the son of John Adams, the nation's second president and part of the committee that wrote the Declaration of Independence with Thomas Jefferson. Like his father, he was

a skilled attorney and learned the art of diplomacy while his father served as the American ambassador to The Netherlands and later to Great Britain.

In 1794, President George Washington appointed Adams as ambassador to The Netherlands, at only the age of 27. Two years later, Washington also named him to double as ambassador to Portugal. He would serve as ambassador to Prussia from 1797 until 1801 before returning to the United States. He became the U.S. Senator from Massachusetts in 1803.

Not long after Adams arrived in Washington, DC, Congress learned about the treaty with France purchasing Louisiana. France had turned the entire area over to Spain after the end of the French and Indian War in 1763.

Forty years later, with Spain under control of French leader Napoleon Bonaparte, Spain was forced to give the land back to France. Uncertain what to do with the territory and needing money to finance his wars, Napoleon had his ministers sell the territory to an eager United States for \$15 million (or about \$335 million in 2019 dollars). There was brief debate over what territory was included with Louisiana, whether France was the rightful owner of the territory, and whether the federal government had the authority to even purchase the land. Seeing the overwhelming opportunity, the United States Senate, including Adams, voted to approve the treaty by a vote of 26-6.

Adams had become Secretary of State under President James Monroe in 1817. By 1818, the United States faced a Spain that had regained its independence but was a rapidly weakening power. Spain faced rebellion in its colonies from Argentina to Mexico. Spain was unable to control Florida, and raids by the Seminoles into the United States had become a contentious issue.

Spanish control in the area included the entire modern state of Florida, but the areas of the Alabama and Mississippi panhandles and the far eastern reaches of Louisiana east

of the Mississippi River and north of Lake Pontchartrain had been seized by American settlers in 1810, even though Spain still had legal ownership. Adams entered into negotiations with Spanish Ambassador Luis de Onis to purchase Florida. Spain had rejected earlier offers, but with Spain facing a collapsing position in the Americas and the threat of American military power, Onis reluctantly gave in.

Onis, however, was not willing to give up everything in exchange for nothing. As negotiations continued, Onis pressed for clear border between the U.S. and Spain, a request that Adams was willing to support. As American claims on East Texas were shaky at best, Adams gave ground on claims into the Sabine and Red River Valleys.

The Adams-Onis Treaty would acquire East Florida and also set a western border at the Sabine River to the Thirty-Second Parallel and North to the Red River. The border would then run along the Red River to the One-Hundredth Meridian to the Arkansas River and then to the Rocky Mountains and to the Pacific Ocean. The treaty was signed on Feb. 22, 1819.

The treaty was approved by the Senate though there were many expansionists upset by what they saw as the "giveaway" of Texas. When the subject of annexing the independent Texas arose in the 1830s and 1840s, many supporters loudly called for the "re-annexation" of Texas. The treaty nevertheless gained Florida for the Union and gave East and North Texas its modern boundary. It also gave America a solid claim on the Pacific Ocean as a boundary. Texas would later be admitted, becoming the 28th state admitted into the Union on Dec. 28, 1845.

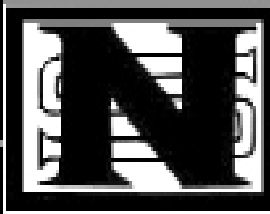
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817-945-2667  
[michaelspcs@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelspcs@hotmail.com)

### ELECTRIC

**E-CONN ELECTRIC**  
(817) 831-2600  
(817)-615-7164

### REAL ESTATE

**TAMMY WRIGHT, BROKER**  
Wright Realty Services DFW  
Cell: 682-472-9041  
[wrightrealtyservicesdfw@gmail.com](mailto:wrightrealtyservicesdfw@gmail.com)

### FENCING

**LYNCO Fencing**  
817-246-5641

**BOB YOUNG Fencing**  
817-495-5543

[bobyoungfences@hotmail.com](mailto:bobyoungfences@hotmail.com)

### INSURANCE

**PETER POLINSKY Insurance**  
817-560-9400

[peter@polinsky-insurance.com](mailto:peter@polinsky-insurance.com)

### IRRIGATION/SPRINKLERS

**TIGERT & DAUGHTERS**  
817-480-8465

[irrigator4543@gmail.com](mailto:irrigator4543@gmail.com)

### TREE SERVICE

**CHAD GREEN Tree Service**  
817-246-5943 or 817-800-6059 (cell)

### ROOFING

**ECE ROOFING LLC**  
817-831-2600  
817-615-7164

### LANDSCAPE/LAWNS

**I MOW 4 YOU**  
817-988-2249

[corvetteron@hotmail.com](mailto:corvetteron@hotmail.com)

**ALEX'S Lawn Care**  
817-793-9096

### SERVICES PROVIDED

**AMERICAN LEGION Post 297**  
817-249-2791

[alpost297@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alpost297@sbcglobal.net)

Medicare Supplement Insurance

Turning 65 Help & Under 65 Plans

Marilyn-Kaye.com or 817-874-7569

**CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING**

3290 Lackland Rd.  
Fort Worth, Tx 76116

Every Sunday worship at 9:30am

### PAINTING

**HAYWOOD Painting**  
817-371-8597

### REMODELING

**ECE Construction LLC**  
817-831-2600  
817-615-7164

### PLUMBING

**LONNIE BRAVO Plumbing**  
817-715-6747

[lonniebravo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lonniebravo@sbcglobal.net)

[www.lonniebravoplumbingllc.com](http://www.lonniebravoplumbingllc.com)

### PLUMBING BY RICHARD

Texas Master# M15853, credit cards accepted.

817-907-0472

**Business Directory Listings - \$10 per month!**  
[suburbannews@sbcglobal.net](mailto:suburbannews@sbcglobal.net)

## Weekend Forecast



### Friday, June 21:

**AM** - Mostly sunny, with a high near 92. Light southeast wind becoming east southeast 5 to 10 mph in the morning.

**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 74.



### Saturday, June 22:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 94.

**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 76.



### Sunday, June 23:

**AM** - Sunny, with a high near 97.

**PM** - Mostly clear, with a low around 78.

[Extended Forecast Click Here](#)