

# HILL COUNTRY NEWS

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 43

SERVING CEDAR PARK, LEANDER AND NORTHWEST AUSTIN SINCE 1968 ■ [hillcountrynews.com](http://hillcountrynews.com)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021



## FUN at the FAIR

Thousands of people packed the Williamson County Expo Center in Taylor for the county's first-ever fair and rodeo. The event featured a professional rodeo, live music from big-time artists Roger Kreeger and Tracy Byrd, a full-blown carnival and midway, a creative arts fair and local vendors. Organizers estimated that more than 11,000 people attended the three-day event.

PHOTOS BY RICHARD STONE

## Early voting ends Friday

BY RICHARD STONE  
EDITOR AT LARGE

The last time Leander ISD asked voters to approve a slate of school bond proposals, fewer than 6,000 people bothered to vote.

Those bonds, about \$450 million worth at the time, passed with 65% of the vote.

Right now, district administrators are asking voters to approve three propositions, worth about \$775 million. If approved, those bonds will finance the construction of five new elementary schools, a middle school and a new "school of choice" that will allow those students who want to put in the work to graduate high school with an associates degree.

Also on the ballot are eight proposed amendments to the Texas constitution. Those proposals include initiatives to strengthen the ability of counties to finance economic development potential, freeze taxes on surviving spouses of veterans and disabled Texans, set new standards for elected judges and prohibit any governmental agency from closing a place of worship in the event of a public emergency.

At press time on Tuesday, fewer than 3,000 votes had been cast at the four Leander ISD-specific voting locations. That represents about 26% of the nearly 11,000 votes cast across WilCo — but, as is often the case in odd-year elections in Texas, turnout remains low. Only about 2.75% of the county's 392,000 registered voters had voted.

See **VOTING**, page A2

## New political districts represent opportunity, challenges

BY JOSH MONIZ  
SENIOR REPORTER

It will be a wide-open field for next year's elections as a growing number of open seats in the newly drawn election districts continue to pile up in Williamson County and the surrounding region. The trend is already shaking up established lawmakers in the county and will ultimately result in a new delegation representing the county in the Texas Legislature and the U.S. Congress.

The remixing of the congressional, Texas House of Representatives and Texas Senate election seats under the new redistricting maps signed into law Monday by Gov. Greg Abbott either create never-before-seen districts or change their political composition so radically that some of the lawmakers

See **REDISTRICTING**, page A7

## What you need to know if the FDA approves Pfizer shot for kids

A woman receives a dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at a clinic held in partnership between the Central Texas Food Bank and the University of Texas in Austin on July 21, 2021. SOPHIE PARK/THE TEXAS TRIBUNE



BY KAREN BROOKS HARPER AND BRIAN LOPEZ

An advisory panel of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was expected to vote Tuesday on whether the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine should be used on children ages 5 to 11.

In Texas, that amounts to about 2.9 million children who are in this age group — which is more than 10% of the national population of children who are ages 5 to 11.

The FDA's advisory panel was

expected to vote favorably for the emergency use of the vaccine on children. That move would open the door for final approval by the agency, which could happen as early as this week, depending on the panel's recommendation.

Rules for administering the vaccine to children from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention could follow as early as next week. Once the CDC's guidance is released, shots could be going into the arms of younger kids in Texas by the first weekend in

November, state health officials say.

Here's what all of this means and what happens next.

**THE DETAILS — COST, SAFETY, EFFECTIVENESS, DOSAGE**

Only the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine has been recommended for use in minors, including the 5-11 age group. Moderna and Johnson & Johnson are still authorized for use only in adults.

The child-sized version of the

See **VACCINES**, page A7

HAVE A NEWS TIP?  
[news@hillcountrynews.com](mailto:news@hillcountrynews.com)

GET THE PAPER DELIVERED  
[hillcountrynews.com/delivery](http://hillcountrynews.com/delivery)



October 28, 2021  
12 pages in one section

50 cents

**Probate?** *Voted Best Lawyer by Hill Country News Readers*  
**Divorce?**  
**Wills?**  
**DWI?**

Call for an appointment  
**512-918-3958**  
[www.terrydavis.com](http://www.terrydavis.com)

**Terry Davis & Associates**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**RESEARCH PEST CONTROL**  
Locally Owned & Family Operated  
[www.ResearchPest.com](http://www.ResearchPest.com)  
Residential • Commercial  
512-258-5228

**Keep your home protected year-round!**

Serving Cedar Park & surrounding communities for over 40 yrs

**AUSTIN ENTER to WIN**  
Don't miss your last chance to see Verde & Black at Q2 Stadium this year

Enter for your chance to win a pair of FREE tickets to see Austin FC vs Sporting Kansas City Q2 Stadium Wednesday, Nov. 3, 8 p.m.

To enter, visit [www.hillcountrynews.com/austinfctickets.html](http://www.hillcountrynews.com/austinfctickets.html) or scan code at right

# Call now for ADT home security + get a \$100 ADT Visa® Reward Card\*



\*With 36-month monitoring contract. Early termination and installation fees apply. Reward card issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC. Card terms and expiration apply. For full terms, see below.



**\$100 Visa Reward Card**  
It pays to choose ADT to help protect your home and family.



**Cameras**  
Choose from indoor, outdoor & doorbell cams so you can keep watch even when you aren't there with upgrade to ADT Video.

**Touchscreen panel**  
Open up a world of smart home capabilities for you and your family with ADT Secure or higher.



**1-844-597-0748**

Redemption code:  
DF-CD-NP-Q321

Reply by:  
October 15, 2021

## Voted most trusted home security in America

2021 BrandSpark® American Trust Study



**Theft Protection Guarantee\*\***  
Certain restrictions apply



**24/7 ADT Monitoring**



**#1 Smart Home Security provider**



**ADT 6-Month Money-Back Guarantee†**  
Certain restrictions apply

### YOUR EXCLUSIVE SAVINGS OFFER

Get a \$100 ADT Visa Reward Card\*



Call now to redeem your exclusive offer!

**1-844-597-0748**

Redemption code:

DF-CD-NP-Q321

Reply by:

October 15, 2021

We're available 24/7. See if you qualify for same-day service!

\*\$100 ADT Visa Reward Card: Requires 36-month monitoring contract starting at \$28.99/mo. (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees from \$695.76), and enrollment in ADT EasyPay. Requires minimum purchase price of \$449. One (1) Visa Reward Card valued at \$100 is redeemable seven (7) days after system is installed, wherein an email is sent to the customer's email address associated with their account with a promo code. The customer must validate the promo code on the website provided in the email and a physical card will be sent in the mail. Installation must occur within 60 days of offer expiration date to receive card. Applicable to new and resale sale types only. Card is issued by MetaBank®, N.A., Member FDIC, pursuant to a license from Visa U.S.A. Inc. No cash access or recurring payments. Can be used everywhere Visa debit cards are accepted. Card valid for up to 6 months; unused funds will forfeit after the valid thru date. Card terms and conditions apply. Reply by 10/15/2021.  
\*\*Theft Protection Guarantee: Customer may receive reimbursement of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) of Customer's homeowner's insurance deductible (if any) if, and only if, ALL requirements for Theft Protection Guarantee are met to ADT's reasonable satisfaction. Customer must request reimbursement within 60 days of property loss. Request must be mailed to ADT and include: Theft Protection Guarantee certificate signed by Customer, a letter from Customer requesting reimbursement, a copy of the police report, and a copy of the accepted insurance claim. ADT reserves the right to reject any application for reimbursement that does not comply with all of the requirements.  
†ADT Money-Back Guarantee: Money back guarantee only applies after ADT has made attempts to resolve a system related issue and has not been able to resolve that issue within the first 6 months of your contract. Equipment must be fully removed before a refund will be processed. Conditions preventing normal system operation cannot be caused by the customer.  
Interactive Services: ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36 month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo with QSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT Easy Pay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire.  
General: Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.  
©2021 ADT LLC dba ADT Security Services. All rights reserved. ADT, the ADT logo, 800.ADT.ASAP and the product/service names listed in this document are marks and/or registered marks. Unauthorized use is strictly prohibited. Third-party marks are the property of their respective owners. License information available at www.ADT.com/legal or by calling 800.ADT.ASAP. CA ACO7155, 974443, PPO120288; FL EF0001121; LA F1639, F1640, F1643, F1654, F1655; MA 172C; NC Licensed by the Alarm Systems Licensing Board of the State of North Carolina, 7535P2, 7561P2, 7562P10, 7563P7, 7565P1, 7566P9, 7564P4; NY 12000305615; PA 09079, MS 15019511.  
DF-CD-NP-Q321

## PROTECT YOUR HOME 365 DAYS A YEAR

**LeafFilter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

BACKED BY A YEAR-ROUND  
**CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**



**WE INSTALL YEAR-ROUND!**



- 1 — Micromesh
- 2 — uPVC Frame
- 3 — Hanger
- 4 — Existing Gutter



**Stay Off The Ladder**  
Eliminates gutter cleaning for life – guaranteed.



**Keeps Out All Debris**  
Completely sealed system protects your gutters — and entire home — from damaging debris.

### EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

**15% OFF** + **10% OFF** + **5% OFF**  
YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE\* SENIORS & MILITARY! MADE IN THE USA TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS ONLY!†

**FINANCING THAT FITS YOUR BUDGET!\***

Promo Code: 285

\*Subject to credit approval. Call for details.



"LeafFilter was a great investment for our home."  
—Bill & Jan M. ★★★★★

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

**1-855-945-1184**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only †The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Mercer Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSLB# 1035795 DOPL #10783658-5501 License# 7656 License# 50145 License# 41354 License# 99338 License# 128344 License# 218294 WA UBI# 603 233 977 License# 2102212986 License# 2106212946 License# 2705132153A License# LEAFFNW822J2 License# WV056912 License# WC-29998-H17 Nassau HIC License# H01067000 Registration# 176447 Registration# HIC.0649905 Registration# C127229 Registration# C127230 Registration# 366920918 Registration# PC6475 Registration# IR731804 Registration# 13VH09953900 Registration# PA069383 Suffolk HIC License# 52229-H License# 2705169445 License# 262000022 License# 262000403 License# 0086990 Registration# H-19114

# Getting into the 'spirit' of the spooky season

## Local residents prepare for Halloween

BY JOSH MONIZ  
SENIOR REPORTER

Local residents throughout the area are already getting into the "spirit" of the spooky season by purchasing costumes and putting elaborate displays outside their homes ahead of Halloween.

With new coronavirus cases slowing down and 71% of Williamson County's eligible population now vaccinated compared to last year, it is anticipated that this year's Halloween will be a return to normal Trick-or-Treating for residents, although with pandemic precautions still in effect. Comparatively, local residents sought out elaborate methods last year to keep delivering their candy to children despite a rising number of cases with a variety of impromptu devices, ranging from strategically placed slides and tubes to more tech-savvy residents catapulting the candy to children with a remote-controlled robot.

Residents have already been busy picking up pumpkins for Jack-O-Lanterns at Cedar Park and Leander pumpkin patches, including at Community Gardens, Farmer Dave's, Hamilton Pool Vineyards, Nomad Ranch and Rockbridge Church.

The City of Cedar Park will host its "Halloween at the Hall" from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29, at its City Hall location at 450 Cypress Creek Road. City staff from the Police, Fire and Public Works departments will participate, including having their vehicles at the event, along with hosting a pumpkin patch, candy stations and photo opportunities.



Cameron Craine of Liberty Hill grabs his son Lyric to surprise him just as a prop sprang to life on Friday, Oct. 22, inside the temporary Spirit Halloween store being hosted in Lakeline Mall.

In the meantime, the City will be lighting up City Hall buildings with Halloween displays through the day of Halloween, which will provide a background for local residents to snap a safe, socially distanced family photo in the area.

For more advanced activities, the family-friendly "Thriller Chiller at Chaparral Ice" event will be held at the Crossover in Cedar Park starting at 4 p.m., which includes "Trunk or Treat," a costume contest and a haunted

house. Public skate will also be held until 7:15 p.m. followed by Late Skate from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Meanwhile, Leander will also have a family-friendly "Last Stop Haunt" haunted house hosted from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Oct.

30 and Oct. 31 at Hutton Lane in Blockhouse Creek. In order to give back to the community, the event will be taking non-perishable food donations in exchange for admission, which will be donated to HCCM Food Pantry.



Halloween masks line the walls of the temporary Spirit Halloween store inside Lakeline Mall. Far left, Karter Lane, 4, chases Bella Lane, 5, of Austin last Friday, Oct. 22, while they were shopping inside the temporary Spirit Halloween store being held in Lakeline Mall.

## LISD trustees revising Board Operating Procedures

BY LILLY CHANDLER  
HCN CONTRIBUTOR

The Leander ISD Board of Trustees intend to revise their board operating procedures, largely an update to the citizen comment policy but also revisions to the language related to internal committees. Trustees will consider formally adopting the changes on Nov. 4.

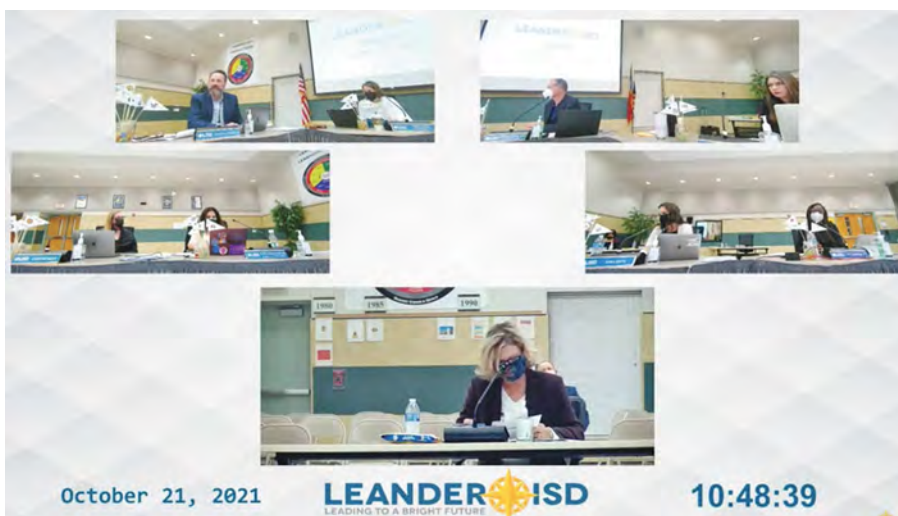
If the board approves the revisions, the changes will go into effect in January 2022.

The three-minute allotment for citizen comment will still stand as long as there are fewer than 30 people who need to address the board. In that case, the comment period could be reduced to a minute and a half or shorter.

"Most school districts our size ... only use one minute," Place 4 Member Anna Smith said. "There's no ill intention of trying to silence voices. Around the state of Texas, most school boards of our size have a one minute [time allotment]."

The sign-up sheet for citizen comment will be available online and at the district administration building from noon the day before the meeting until noon the day of the meeting.

Speakers will be notified after the deadline via email of their speaking order and amount of time they will have to address the Board. Additionally, current LISD students will be placed at the top of the speaking order.



The Board will consider a formal adoption of the updated processes at its Nov. 4 meeting.

"Citizen comment is an excellent time to hear from our community, but again, it should not be the only time we're hearing from our community," Board President Trish Bode said. "Whether via Let's Talk, Listening Leaders or emailing the governance team, we welcome feedback and ideas about how best to serve our students, families, and staff."

The board plans to discuss and possibly update language related to internal committees that serve the board in an advisory

capacity on Nov. 4.

"These committees are already operating right now," Bode said. "This just kind of starts adding some polish to that process."

Earlier this year trustees implemented a clear bag policy as a safety measure for members of the public at all Leander ISD board meetings. The policy permits small clear plastic bags, one-gallon clear plastic freezer bags and purses smaller than the size of a hand.

***"Citizen comment is an excellent time to hear from our community, but again, it should not be the only time we're hearing from our community. Whether via Let's Talk, Listening Leaders or emailing the governance team, we welcome feedback and ideas about how best to serve our students, families, and staff."***

— Trish Bode, LISD Board President

## VOTING

from page A1

"We hope as the second and final week of early voting progresses that more voters will take the opportunity of shorter lines to vote on these important ballot items," said WilCo elections administrator Christopher Davis. "The last two days of early voting, Thursday and Friday, [we] will have 7 a.m.-7 p.m. voting to facilitate a higher turnout than we've seen so far."

Early voting ends on Friday. Election day is Tuesday.



### AREA EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

#### AUSTIN

- Anderson Mill Limited District, 11500 El Salido Pkwy
- Hartfield Performing Arts Center, 5800 McNeil Dr

#### CEDAR PARK

- Cedar Park Public Library, 550 Discovery Blvd
- Cedar Park Randalls, 1400 Cypress Creek Rd

#### LEANDER

- Leander Public Library Annex, 1011 S. Bagdad Rd
- The Crossover, 1717 Scottsdale Dr

# Inaugural 'She Thrives' to include half-day summit

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

AGE of Central Texas will host the first annual She Thrives: The Art of Aging (She Thrives) events on Nov. 9 and 11.

The dual virtual and in-person event is dedicated to equipping women of all ages and backgrounds with resources, information, and support on matters related to mental health and wellness, aging and caregiving, and financial and legal health.

The event will include a free half-day summit on Nov. 9 – supported by St. David's Foundation – taking place at The Junior League of Austin, located at 5330 Bluffstone Lane in Austin, with expert panels from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with a free Resource & Information Fair.

"AGE is a leader in addressing the needs of older adults and caregivers in Central Texas," said Andrew Levack, MPH, Senior Program Officer for St. David's Foundation. "One such example is the She Thrives Summit, which takes proactive measures to help women as they manage what is often a disproportionate burden of family caregiving duties. St. David's Foundation is proud to support this new venture, which aligns with our commitment to engage the community on aging issues."

The free She Thrives Summit aims to acknowledge the unique experiences that women encounter as they age, facilitate healthy and honest conversations about these experiences, and provide a community of support that allows women to make the best decisions for themselves and for their loved ones. The event is rooted in a deep belief that when the woman thrives, the community thrives, and features expert panels discussing Mental Health & Wellness, Legal & Financial Health, and the Experiences of Caregiving.

The She Thrives Dinner, scheduled for Nov. 11, will be Emceed by Kim and Mike Barnes and feature keynote speaker Kate Washington, the author of *Already Toast: Caregiving and Burnout In America*.

Washington will share her observations of the role unpaid family caregivers play in a society that fails to provide

## Meet the Panelists



Kate Washington will keynote the 'She Thrives' dinner on Nov. 11.

them with structural support as seen through her own harrowing caregiving experience. Attendees will enjoy Kate's keynote address, as well as a plated dinner, followed by live entertainment by Marcia Ball. Tickets are on sale now for \$150.

All funds raised by the She Thrives Dinner will go toward supporting AGE's caregiver support services, which include emotional support groups, caregiver education classes, consultations with AGE's expert staff, and respite so

that caregivers can take needed breaks from their responsibilities.

"Data shows that women are the predominant caregivers in our society, but they remain ill equipped and underprepared for their caregiving journeys," said Suzanne Anderson, AGE's Executive Director. "This lack of preparedness can significantly impact a woman's mental, physical, and financial health as she herself ages."

Free registration for the She Thrives Summit – along with tickets for the Dinner – are available online at [www.AgeSheThrives.org](http://www.AgeSheThrives.org).

AGE of Central Texas is a regional nonprofit dedicated to helping older adults and their caregivers thrive as they navigate the realities and opportunities of aging and caregiving. More information can be found at [www.AGEofCentralTX.org](http://www.AGEofCentralTX.org).

# Cedar Park trap tests positive for West Nile

## FROM STAFF REPORTS

A mosquito trap sample collected in the City of Cedar Park has tested positive for West Nile Virus. This testing is part of Williamson County and Cities Health District's (WCCHD) Integrated Vector Management program. The positive test was indicated in lab results received on October 21 from the Texas Department of State Health Services lab in Austin.

The positive sample was taken from a trap site near Cypress Creek Road and Sun Chase Boulevard. This is the first time this season that a sample from that location has tested positive for West Nile virus. The last date a positive sample was collected was November 2020.

In 2021, there have been nine mosquito trap samples that have returned as positive for West Nile Virus in other parts of Williamson County. There have been no human cases of West Nile virus reported in Williamson County this year.

Symptoms of infection may include fever, headache, and body aches, a

skin rash on the trunk of the body, and swollen lymph nodes. Those age 50 and older and/or with compromised immune systems are at a higher risk for severe symptoms, which may include stiffness, disorientation, coma, tremors, vision loss, paralysis, and in rare cases, death.

Mosquitoes are present in Central Texas year-round, but the population is largest and most active from May through November. During this period, WCCHD monitors the mosquito population and tests for mosquito-borne viruses.

"Cooler temperatures prolong wet breeding areas for mosquitoes," said Jason Fritz, WCCHD Integrated Vector Management Program Lead. "Dumping any amount of standing water around your home and using insect repellent when outdoors, especially at dawn and dusk, is highly recommended to keep yourself and your family safe from mosquito-borne illness."

The best way to prevent West Nile Virus is to reduce the number of mosquitoes where people work and play.

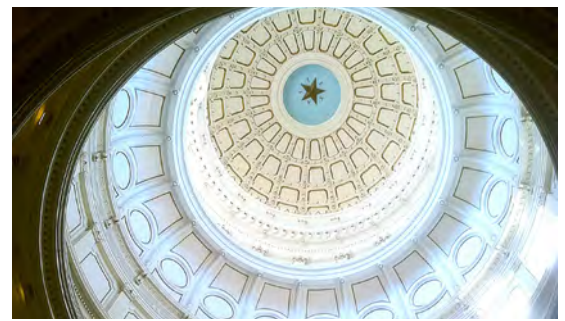
Health officials strongly encourage everyone to remain vigilant about protecting themselves from mosquito bites and preventing mosquito breeding on their personal property.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Eliminating places where mosquitoes can breed and reducing the chances of mosquito bites are the most effective lines of defense against exposure to West Nile Virus. As part of its Fight the Bite campaign the Health District recommends the 3 Ds of mosquito safety:

- Drain standing water in flowerpots, pet dishes, or clogged gutters so mosquitoes don't have a place to breed and treat water that can't be drained,
- Defend by using an EPA-approved insect repellent, and
- Dress in long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

For more information, go to the WCCHD website at [www.wcchd.org](http://www.wcchd.org) or visit the Texas Department of State Health Services West Nile website at [txwestnile.org](http://txwestnile.org).



## CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

### Gas prices topping \$3 across state

The price of a gallon of gasoline tops \$3 across much of the state, which is up more than \$1.20 from a year ago, according to AAA. The average price for regular gas in Texas stood at \$3.03 per gallon on Sunday as crude oil prices continue to creep up, closing above \$80 per barrel. Crude oil price is one of a quartet of factors that influence the cost of gasoline, reported The Dallas Morning News. The cost of refining, distribution expenses and taxes also affect the price at the pump.

"Things have really picked up steam in terms of national gas prices in the last two-and-a-half to three weeks," Patrick De Haan, head of petroleum at fuel savings app GasBuddy, told the newspaper. "The national average had been stable for a long period of time, but suddenly the price of oil surged, and the price of gasoline followed along with it."

Cheaper prices can be found, although it takes some searching. Gasbuddy.com reported prices hovering around \$2.45 per gallon at locations in Dallas, Houston and Round Rock, but these appear to be exceptions to the prevailing price increases.

### Scott appointed Texas Secretary of State

John Scott has been appointed Texas Secretary of State, in which he serves as the state's chief election officer. The veteran Fort Worth attorney served previously as a deputy attorney general for civil litigation when Abbott was attorney general. He subsequently served as the chief operating officer of the state Health and Human Services Commission, with a \$50 billion biennial budget and 56,000 employees.

Scott briefly represented former President Donald Trump in a lawsuit challenging the 2020 election results in Pennsylvania, along with state Sen. Bryan Hughes. Both withdrew from the case a few days later, reported the Texas Tribune.

The secretary of state slot has been vacant since May, when Rita Hughes resigned after the state senate declined to consider her confirmation. Since the Legislature isn't scheduled to meet again until 2023, Scott will serve in an interim capacity until then.

### DSHS launches COVID-19 vaccination push

The Texas Department of State Health Services has launched a new statewide COVID-19 media campaign to encourage Texans aged 12 and over to get vaccinated against COVID-19. The campaign features Texans describing in their own words why they were initially hesitant to get the vaccine and later changed their minds.

"Any Texan who has not been vaccinated against COVID-19 because of safety or other concerns can be assured that the authorized vaccines are safe and effective," said Dr. John Hellerstedt, DSHS commissioner. "The data gathered shows the benefits of vaccination far outweigh the risks of rare side effects. Most importantly, vaccination is proven to greatly increase our protection against severe COVID-19 illness, hospitalization and even death."

One ad features a woman who contracted a moderate to severe case of COVID-19. That experience led her to change her mind and get vaccinated following her illness to try and prevent a reinfection that could make her sick again or threaten those around her, according to a DSHS press release.

Another ad features a man who resisted vaccination because of his distrust in the safety of the vaccines and of those who encouraged their use. But as millions across the state, nation and globe have become fully vaccinated and adverse events remain very rare, he reviewed the data and has since been vaccinated.

Meanwhile, the number of new COVID-19 cases in Texas continues to drop, with 30,276 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week. That is down nearly 75% from about a month ago. New deaths also dropped to 1,267 in the past week, reflecting national trends as the delta variant wave appears to be finally waning. State hospitalizations of lab-confirmed COVID-19 patients dropped to 4,382 as of Sunday, down two-thirds from a month ago.

Texans who are fully vaccinated topped 15.3 million, according to DSHS, with more than a million having also received an additional dose.

### TPWD predicts a productive hunting season

It could be a fruitful season for Texas waterfowl hunters with millions of ducks in the Central Flyway.

"Duck production in prairie potholes of North Dakota, South Dakota, Saskatchewan and Alberta were reported to be below average due to extensive drought this summer," said Kevin Kraai, TPWD Waterfowl Program Leader. "With that said, there are still millions of ducks in the Central Flyway, and we are on the heels of multiple excellent breeding seasons for ducks over the last few years."

Wetter-than-average conditions during the first half of the year are leading to more surface water for ducks and geese. Hunters should purchase their 2021-2022 hunting license before hitting the field.

In addition, TPWD biologists says deer hunters can expect an excellent 2021-2022 white-tailed deer season. Late spring rains alleviated drought conditions at the end of 2020, leading to accelerated growth of weeds and flowering plants attractive to deer. The Edwards Plateau, at the crossroads of Central, South and West Texas, has the highest deer population in the state.

The general season runs from Nov. 6 through Jan. 2, 2022, in the North Zone and Jan. 16, 2022, in the South Zone. A special youth-only gun deer season is set for Oct. 30-31 and Jan. 3-16, 2022. Go to [tpwd.gov](http://tpwd.gov) for more information.

*Gary Borders, a veteran award-winning Texas journalist, compiled this report. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and, once upon a time, the Hill Country News in Cedar Park. Email: [gborders@texaspress.com](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).*



### • WILLIAMSON COUNTY – WILCO.ORG

The Williamson County Commissioners Court is the county's governing body. Commissioners meet beginning at 9:30 each Tuesday morning at the Williamson County Courthouse in downtown Georgetown. Agendas and packets are available, and the meetings are streamed live, on the county's website. Meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register.

### • LEANDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT – LEANDERISD.ORG

Leander ISD Board of Trustees meet the third and fourth Thursday each month at 6:15 p.m. at 1900 Cougar Country Dr. in Cedar Park. Meetings

are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register. You can find agendas, board meeting packets and a live stream on the district's website.

### • LAGO VISTA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT – LAGOVISTAISD.NET

Lago Vista ISD Board of Trustees meet at 6:15 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at 8039 Bar-K Ranch Road in Lago Vista. Meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register. You can find agendas and board meeting packets on the district's website.

### • CITY OF CEDAR PARK – CEDARPARKTEXAS.GOV

Agendas and minutes for all boards and commissions are available, and many meetings

are streamed live, on the city's website.

### • CEDAR PARK CITY COUNCIL

Meets at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month at City Council Chambers, 450 Cypress Creek Road, Building 4. Council agendas and packets are available on the city's website. Meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register.

### • CITY OF LEANDER – LEANDERTX.GOV

Agendas and minutes for all boards and commissions are available, and City Council meetings are streamed live, on the city's website.

### • LEANDER CITY COUNCIL

Meets at 6 p.m. the first and

third Thursday of each month in the City Council Chambers, Pat Bryson Municipal Hall, 201 N. Brushy Street. Council agendas and packets are available on the city's website. Meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register.

### • CITY OF LAGO VISTA – LAGOVISTATEXAS.ORG

Agendas and minutes for all boards and commissions are available on the city's website.

### • LAGO VISTA CITY COUNCIL

Meets 6:30 p.m. the first and third Thursday of each month in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird Drive. Council agendas and packets are available on the city's website. Meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak, arrive early and register.

## LETTERS POLICY

■ Reader letters are welcome and will be run as soon as possible after they are received.

■ Letters must be limited to 350 words or less. "Thank you" letters must be no more than 300 words.

■ The Hill Country News reserves the right to reject letters deemed libelous, in poor taste, solicitous or produced on a mass basis.

■ Anonymous letters will not be published. Please include an email address, city of residence and telephone number for verification.

### Send letters to:

**USPS** Hill Country News, P.O. Box 1777, Cedar Park, Texas 78630  
**EMAIL** editor@hillcountrynews.com

## HILL COUNTRY NEWS

### SCOTT COLEMAN

■ Publisher  
publisher@hillcountrynews.com

### RICHARD STONE

■ Editor  
editor@hillcountrynews.com

### GINNY BROCK

■ Bookkeeper/Ad Sales/Circulation  
bookkeeper@hillcountrynews.com

### ZACH SMITH

■ Sports Editor  
sports@hillcountrynews.com

### JOSH MONIZ

■ Senior Reporter  
josh.moniz@hillcountrynews.com

### LILLY CHANDLER

■ Content Editor  
news@hillcountrynews.com

### OFFICE HOURS:

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday  
715 Discovery Blvd, Suite 304  
Cedar Park, TX 78613  
(512) 259-4449

### TO REPORT NEWS:

Call (512) 259-4449  
or email:  
news@hillcountrynews.com

### TO REPORT SPORTS SCORES:

email scores@hillcountrynews.com

### ADVERTISING:

For information on advertising in the Hill Country News, in print or online, call 512-259-4449 or email advertising@hillcountrynews.com

### BILLING:

Address billing inquiries to:  
billing@hillcountrynews.com

### CORRECTIONS:

We strive for accuracy and transparency in our reporting. If you believe that we have made a factual error in reporting, please call (512) 259-4449 or email editor@hillcountrynews.com with a link to the story in question, along with information on what you believe is factually incorrect in the reporting. Individual columns in the Hill Country News do not necessarily reflect the newspaper's editorial opinion.

### FULL ACCESS SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

- \$35.00 per year in the Hill Country News Designated Market Area including Cedar Park, Leander, Jonestown, Lago Vista, and portions of Round Rock and northwest Austin.
- \$40.00 per year throughout Williamson and Travis counties.
- \$46 per year throughout Texas.
- \$58 throughout the contiguous U.S.

All subscriptions must be prepaid. Delivery inside Cedar Park and Leander may be made by carrier or mail. Full access subscriptions include access to hillcountrynews.com as well as full digital replica (e-edition) which may include updated content and advertising.

### POSTMASTER:

Periodicals postage paid at: Cedar Park, TX (USPS 019423)  
Send address changes to:  
P.O. Box 1777, Cedar Park, TX 78630

### PUBLISHED BY:

Chionsini Children, LTD  
715 Discovery Blvd, Suite 304  
Cedar Park, TX 78613  
© 2021 Hill Country News  
All rights reserved.



## EDITORIAL CARTOON



## TEXAS TRIBUNE ANALYSIS

# Are you more — or less — confident in elections?

**J**ohn Scott, a Texas lawyer who briefly worked on a Trump campaign challenge to the 2020 elections, is Gov. Greg Abbott's pick for Texas secretary of state — the person who runs state elections.

In El Paso on Thursday, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton agreed with a member of a crowd who contended that Donald Trump beat Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election and that putting Biden in the White House amounted to an "overthrow."

"We're sick of the overthrow," the woman said, according to The Dallas Morning News. "This has been an overthrow, and we expect actually all of you to stand up and proclaim this. With 50 Republican senators, well at least maybe 40 of them, it's time to do that, take the bull by the horn. We won, we know that. This is an overthrow."

"So, let me just say that I agree with you," Paxton responded, according to the report.

Last month, a new law that restricts voting and election practices used in the 2020 election was signed by the governor, after stalling during the regular legislative session and one special session earlier this year. Similar to laws passed this year in other states with Republican-majority governments, the Texas law tightens state election laws and limits local governments' power to expand voting options.

Texas lawmakers just capped a marathon year of legislating, ending that long march by approving new political maps that reflect the growth of the state in the latest census, but that don't match the state's politics or its demographics.

Those maps are more Republican than the last elections. Trump got 52% of the vote in 2020, but in the new maps, he'd have won in



**ROSS RAMSEY**

TEXAS TRIBUNE

57% of House districts, 61% of Senate districts and 66% of congressional districts.

Those districts don't look like Texas, either. The state has about the same number of white and Hispanic residents in the new census, and people of color made up 95% of the growth of the population over the last decade. But 59% of the 150 Texas House districts on the new maps have white majorities, while Hispanic residents are the majority in 20%. In the 31 Senate districts, 20 have white majorities, seven have Hispanic majorities and Black Texans have the majority in one district.

All of that adds up. After conservative complaints about the national result in the 2020 election, Texas Republicans have tried to anticipate everything that might play against them in 2022.

This is no way for leaders to convince everyone that elections are impartial and encourage voters' confidence in their democracy — not all voters, anyway. But it's enough to convince the majority party's voters.

In a February University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll, most Texans said they believe the election results in the state were accurate, an assessment shared by 88% of Democrats and 76% of Republicans. But doubts about the national result are strong within the Texas GOP ranks: 73% of Texas Republicans said they thought the national results were inaccurate, compared with 89% of Democrats who said the results were

accurate.

Scott's appointment as the state's next SOS got a thumbs-up from state Rep. Briscoe Cain, R-Deer Park, who said the state Senate should confirm Scott if it gets a chance.

Cain was among the Texans who went to Pennsylvania looking for voter fraud last year. He tweeted and then deleted a photo of himself in a cowboy hat and vest at a Houston airport three days after the 2020 election with the line, "This Texas lawyer is flying to Philadelphia this morning to link up with a team of attorneys from across the country to fight for a fair and honest election in Pennsylvania. #lawyersfortump"

On Friday, Cain, the chair of the House Elections Committee, issued a statement on official state letterhead calling Scott "the perfect pick to lead the Secretary of State's Office."

During the regular legislative session earlier this year, Cain was the sponsor of the elections and voting bill that prompted a walkout by Democratic House members. When lawmakers came back for special sessions, that legislation had a new House author — Rep. Andrew Murr, R-Junction — and was routed through the newly formed House Select Committee on Constitutional Rights and Remedies instead of Cain's Elections Committee.

State Sen. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, was the Senate sponsor throughout the year, and he and Murr eventually got that legislation to Gov. Greg Abbott, who was eager to sign it. Hughes was also in that Pennsylvania group of Trump lawyers last year. He is Scott's law partner.

*Ross Ramsey is the executive editor of the Texas Tribune, a non-profit, reader-supported news organization focused on statewide legislative and policy issues.*

## GUEST VIEWPOINT

# Make Halloween great again!

**N**ow that we are elbow-deep in the pumpkin guts of October, I'm starting to feel the holiday season kick-off excitement. It has captured my imagination ever since I was a young lad overdosing on Brach's Mellowcreme Pumpkins and memorizing the Sears Holiday Wish Book when I should've been diagramming sentences or deciphering the dark sorcery of fractions.

But like Sears, which is currently in retail ICU, Halloween just ain't what it used to be — especially since my three daughters are now teenagers and barely acknowledge me as a semi-solid state of matter.

When the girls were little, one of the highlights of my year was helping them get dressed up to go trick-or-treating, always watching out for their wellbeing as I conducted random taste tests of their treats — just the chocolate ones — for safety.

For the past few years, though, instead of some innocent trick-or-treating, my two older daughters have focused on the frightening and macabre side of the holiday — namely teenage boys. And due to the COVID-19 pandemic spoiling last year's Halloween night, my youngest daughter had to settle for staying home and seeing how many Kit Kats



**JASE GRAVES**

GUEST COLUMNIST

she could consume without throwing up on her iPhone.

Even our family tradition of gathering in the garage a few days before Halloween night to carve jack-o'-lanterns has been disrupted by the ravages of puberty (theirs-not mine). For 17 years straight, we would scrape, gouge and slice until the floor of our garage looked like the Great Pumpkin just gave birth. And once the carving was finished, I'd chase the girls around the front yard in an old sheet listening to them squeal with delight and trying not to trip and rupture a major organ (mine, not theirs).

Last year, nobody was interested in carving a single pumpkin, and my wife wouldn't let me wear a sheet and run around the front yard by myself — or chase her.

And speaking of ghosts, it's a lot tougher to give the girls a harmless scare these days (except when I walk through the house shirtless).

I used to enjoy giving them the willies with my story of the giant "ghost skunk" that lurked around outside, waiting to spray young girl children who complained about their dad's jokes and fashion choices. Since the girls all became teenagers, though, I'm the one constantly terrified that one of them is going to come home holding hands with some dude named Blade, Diesel or Maximus.

Yes, I understand that change is inevitable, and it's usually best to embrace it — or at least give it a side hug. And I do love my teen daughters dearly, even if they would rather spend time with boys who still don't have to shave their ears.

I'm not giving up on Halloween quite yet, though. In fact, since Dr. Fauci recently released the holiday out of quarantine from his basement, I was thrilled when my youngest daughter asked me to take her trick-or-treating this year (maybe for the last time) — if I promise to stay out of her Kit Kats.

*Graves is an award-winning humor columnist from East Texas. His columns have been featured in Texas Escapes magazine, The Shreveport Times, The Longview News Journal, and The Kilgore News Herald. Contact Graves at susanjase@sbcglobal.net.*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### The Constitution is the answer to our prayers

This time in history is unparalleled. We are no longer asleep. From the time Trump won the primary, we watched first in shock and later in horror as our servants in DC, the media and industry brazenly colluded, becoming more and more multifarious in their criminal acts; gaslighting an entire country, and not just any country: America. We were sure that Trump would be our savior but that wasn't to be.

Conservative groups are forming to try and stop the downward trajectory of America but

most of what they do won't change a thing. We don't understand the hierarchy of legal authority, and for six generations we've gotten lazy and passed on our responsibilities and duties to those with nefarious intent. They will not let go of their ill-gained power easily.

We The People and our U.S. Constitution is the answer to our prayers. We don't need to amend it, preserve or protect it; defend, honor or support it. We need to enforce it. Our Founding Fathers blessed us with a constitutional republic that is incomparable in the history of the world. It is our responsibility and duty. Now we must unite across our

Sovereign States and step up and do our duty, so long neglected.

We need a full-spectrum God-inspired mission to unite and educate conservative Americans in every county across America to take back what the criminals have stolen, peacefully and lawfully. A grand jury and also stated a well regulated Militia as it reads in Article I Section 8 Clause 15-16 of the Constitution is what's necessary to put the power into the hands of the collective sovereign; We the People!

*Mike Lemerise  
Tactical Civics, Williamson County Chapter Leader*

# Facebook staff: Core products worsen misinformation

BY DANIEL ZUIDIJK AND MICHAEL RILEY  
BLOOMBERG NEWS

For years, Facebook has fought back against allegations that its platforms play an outsized role in the spread of false information and harmful content that has fueled conspiracies, political divisions and distrust in science, including COVID-19 vaccines.

But research, analysis and commentary contained in a vast trove of internal documents indicate that the company's own employees have studied and debated the issue of misinformation and harmful content at length, and many of them have reached the same conclusion: Facebook's own products and policies make the problem worse.

In 2019, for instance, Facebook created a fake account for a fictional, 41-year-old North Carolina mom named Carol, who follows Donald Trump and Fox News, to study misinformation and polarization risks in its recommendation systems. Within a day, the woman's account was directed to "polarizing" content and within a week, to conspiracies including QAnon.

"The content in this account (followed primarily via various recommendation systems!) devolved to a quite troubling, polarizing state in an extremely short amount of time," according to a Facebook memo analyzing the fictional U.S. woman's account. When a similar experiment was conducted in India, a test account representing a 21-year-old woman was in short order directed to pictures of graphic violence and doctored images of India air strikes in Pakistan.

Memos, reports, internal discussions and other examples contained in the documents suggest that some of Facebook's core product features contribute to the spread of false and polarizing information globally and that suggestions to fix them can face significant internal challenges. Facebook's efforts to quell misinformation and harmful content, meanwhile, have sometimes been undercut by political considerations, the documents indicate.

"We have evidence from a variety of sources that hate speech, divisive political speech, and misinformation on Facebook and the family of apps are affecting societies around the world," an employee noted in an internal discussion about a report entitled "What is Collateral Damage?"

"We also have compelling evidence that our core product mechanisms, such as virality, recommendations and optimizing for engagement, are a significant part of why these types of speech flourish on the platform."

The documents were disclosed to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and provided to Congress in redacted form by whistleblower Frances Haugen's legal counsel. The redacted versions were obtained by a consortium of news organizations, including Bloomberg. The documents represent a selection of information produced mostly for internal Facebook audiences. The names of employees are redacted, and it's not always clear when they were created. Some of the documents have been previously reported by the Wall Street Journal, BuzzFeed News and other media outlets.

## FACEBOOK PUSHES BACK

Facebook has pushed back against the initial allegations, noting that Haugen's "curated selection" of documents "can in no way be used to draw fair conclusions about us." Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg said the allegations that his company puts profit over user safety are "just



A demonstrator poses with an installation depicting Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg surfing on a wave of cash and surrounded by distressed teenagers, during a protest opposite the Houses of Parliament in central London on Monday, Oct. 25, 2021, as Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen is set to testify to British lawmakers.

not true."

"Every day our teams have to balance protecting the ability of billions of people to express themselves openly with the need to keep our platform a safe and positive space," Joe Osborne, a Facebook spokesman said in a statement. "We continue to make significant improvements to tackle the spread of misinformation and harmful content. To suggest we encourage bad content and do nothing is just not true."

The experimental account for the North Carolina woman is just the kind of research the company does to improve and help inform decisions such as removing QAnon from the platform, according to a Facebook statement. The increase in polarization predates social media and despite serious academic research there isn't much consensus, the company said, adding that what evidence there is doesn't support that idea that Facebook — or social media more generally — is the primary cause.

Still, while the social media giant has undoubtedly made progress in disrupting and disclosing the existence of interference campaigns orchestrated by foreign governments — and collaborated with external organizations to address false claims — it has often failed to act against emerging political movements such as QAnon or vaccine misinformation until they have spread widely, according to critics.

## CHALLENGES

The documents reflect a company culture that values open debate and disagreement and is driven by the relentless collection and analysis of data. But the resulting output, which often lays bare the company's shortcomings in stark terms, could create a serious challenge ahead: a whistleblower complaint filed to the SEC, which is included in the cache of documents, alleges, "Facebook knows that its products make hate speech and misinformation worse" and that it has misrepresented that fact repeatedly to investors and the public.

Those alleged misrepresentations include Zuckerberg's March appearance before Congress, where he expressed confidence that his company shared little of the blame for the worsening political divide in the U.S. and across the globe. "Now, some people say that the problem is the social networks are polarizing us," Zuckerberg told the lawmakers.

"But that's not at all clear from the evidence or research."

But the documents often tell a different story.

"We've known for over a year now that our recommendation systems can very quickly lead users down the path to conspiracy theories and groups," a Facebook employee wrote on their final day in August 2020. Citing examples of safeguards the company had rolled back or failed to implement, the employee wrote, "During the time that we hesitated, I've seen folks from my hometown go further and further down the rabbit hole of QAnon and COVID anti-mask/anti-vax conspiracy on FB. It has been painful to observe."

Facebook said in its statement selecting anecdotes from departing employees doesn't tell the story of how changes happen at the company. Projects go through rigorous reviews and debates, according to the statement, so that Facebook can be confident in any potential changes and its impact on people. In the end, the company ended up implementing many of the ideas raised in this story, according to the statement.

\*\*\*\*

Like other major social media platforms, Facebook has for years struggled with the problem of false information in part because it doesn't necessarily contain slurs or particular phrases that can be easily screened.

Facebook relies on artificial intelligence to scan its vast user base for potential problems and then sends flagged posts to a collection of fact-checking organizations spread around the world. If the fact checkers rate something as false, Facebook adds a warning label and reduces the distribution so fewer people can see it, according to a March 2021 post by Guy Rosen, vice president of integrity.

The most serious kinds of disinformation, including false claims about COVID-19 vaccines, may be removed. It's a process that is complicated by crushing volume from nearly 3 billion users.

Facebook has provided some details on ways it has succeeded at curbing misinformation. For instance, it disabled more than 1.3 billion accounts between October and December 2020 — amid a contentious U.S. presidential election. And over the past three years, the company removed more than 100 networks for coordinated inauthen-

tic behavior, when groups of pages or people work together to mislead people, according to Rosen's post.

And yet, aside from the challenges of trying to monitor a colossal volume of data, the company's system for screening and removing false and potentially harmful claims has significant flaws, according to the documents. For instance, political concerns can shape how Facebook reacts to false postings.

In one September 2019 incident, a decision to remove a video posted by the anti-abortion group Live Action was overturned "after several calls from Republican senators."

The video, which claimed incorrectly that "abortion was never medically necessary," was reposted after Facebook declared it "not eligible for fact-checking," according to one of the documents.

Politicians, celebrities and certain other special users are exempt from many of the company's content review procedures, through a process called "whitelisting." For example, videos by and of President Donald Trump were repeatedly flagged on Instagram for incitement to violence in the run up to the Jan. 6 Capitol riots, the documents indicate.

"By providing this special exemption to politicians, we are knowingly exposing users to misinformation that we have the processes and resources to mitigate," according to a 2019 employee post entitled "The Political Whitelist Contradicts Facebook's Core State Principles."

Facebook employees repeatedly cite policies and products at Facebook that they believe have contributed to misinformation and harmful conduct, according to the documents. Their complaints are sometimes backed by research or proposals to fix or minimize the problems.

For instance, employees have cited the fact that misinformation contained in comments to other posts is scrutinized far less carefully than the posts themselves, even though comments have a powerful sway over users.

In its statement, Facebook said it demoted comments that match known misinformation, are shared by repeat offenders or violate its community standards.

Many of the employees' suggestions pertain to Facebook's algorithms, including a change in 2018 that was intended to encourage more meaningful social interac-

tions but ended up fueling more provocative, low-quality content.

The company changed the ranking for its News Feed to prioritize meaningful social interactions and deprioritize things like viral videos, according to its statement. That change led to a decrease in time spent on Facebook, according to the statement, which noted it wasn't the kind of thing a company would do if it was simply trying to drive people to use the service more.

In internal surveys, Facebook users report their experience on the platform has worsened since the change, and they say it doesn't give them the kind of content they would prefer to see. Political parties in Europe asked Facebook to suspend its use, and several tests by the company indicate that it quickly led users to content supporting conspiracy theories or denigrating other groups.

"As long as we continue to optimize for overall engagement and not solely what we believe individual users will value, we have an obligation to consider what the effect of optimizing for business outcomes has on the societies we engage in," one employee argued in a report called "We are Responsible for Viral Content," posted in December 2019.

Similarly, after the New York Times published an op-ed in January 2021, shortly after the raid on the U.S. Capitol, explaining how Facebook's algorithms entice users to share extreme views by rewarding them with likes and shares, an employee noted that the article mirrored other research and called it "a problematic side-effect of the architecture of Facebook as a whole."

"In my first report 'Quirios about QAnon,' I recommended removing/disallowing social metrics such as likes as a way to remove the 'hit' that comes from watching those likes grow."

Instagram had also previously experimented with removing likes from their posts, which culminated in a May 26 announcement that the company would begin giving users of the platform the ability to hide likes if they chose.

The documents do provide some details, albeit incomplete, of the company's efforts to reduce the spread of misinformation and harmful content. In a literature review published in January 2020, the author detailed how the company already banned "the most serious, repeat violators" and limited "access to abuse-prone features" to discourage the distribution of harmful content.

Teams within the company were assigned to look for ways to make improvements, with at least two documents indicating that a task force had been created to consider "big ideas to reduce the prevalence of bad content in the News Feed" to focus on "soft actions" that stopped short of removing content. It's not clear how many of those recommendations were instituted and if so, whether they were successful.

In the goodbye note from August 2020, the Facebook employee praised colleagues as "amazing, brilliant and extraordinary." But the employee also rued how many of their best efforts to curtail misinformation and other "violating content" had been "stifled or severely constrained by key decision-makers — often based on fears of public and policy stakeholder responses."

"While mountains of evidence is (rightly) required to support a new intervention, none is required to kill (or severely limit) one," the employee wrote.

©2021 Bloomberg L.P. Visit [bloomberg.com](https://www.bloomberg.com). Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

**MG FLOORS**  
WOOD TILE CARPET

Your friendly hometown floor store!

- Call or email today for a free estimate
- Visit our 5,000 sq ft showroom & browse our samples
- Professional installation
- 30+ years experience

*Flooring for every need!*

8863 Anderson Mill Road, #102-104 | Austin, TX 78729  
512-238-6190  
MGFloors@yahoo.com | www.mgfloors.com

## SUDOKU

							9	
	1				6			
				5			3	2
				9			6	
				7	2			5
5		7	3					
4	7				1	2		3
	6	2	5			8		
	8							4

Level: Intermediate

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test.

**Here's How It Works:**  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

4	7	9	2	3	8	5	1	6
3	6	2	5	4	7	8	1	9
4	7	9	8	1	2	5	3	6
5	4	7	3	8	9	6	2	1
8	3	1	7	2	4	8	5	6
6	2	1	4	7	5	3	9	8
7	7	6	3	9	4	1	8	2
2	1	3	5	7	2	7	4	1
8	4	9	2	6	2	5	4	8
2	5	4	8	1	3	7	9	6

ANSWER:

BEST DEALS FOR EVERYONE

Ask how to get the  
**iPhone® 12 mini**  
for as low as

**\$0** with trade-in



Find out how to get our most popular phones, call now!

Iv Support Holdings LLC

**(877) 354-1759**



Call AT&T sales rep for details. For trade-in instructions visit [tradein.att.com/offer-details](https://tradein.att.com/offer-details)

Limited time offer. All products and services are offered, supplied and performed by AT&T Services, Inc. ("AT&T"). AT&T is not an affiliate of or endorsed by Sam's Club. AT&T is solely responsible for the products and services advertised. Sam's Club has no obligation to perform any responsibilities of AT&T, and Sam's Club does not guarantee the performance of AT&T's obligations.



# Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce

Log onto  
[CedarParkChamber.org](http://CedarParkChamber.org)  
for more information  
512.260.7800

1460 E. Whitestone Blvd. Suite 180

## Cedar Park Chamber continues to be your business advocate



**Tony Moline, IOM, PCED**  
President and CEO

The Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce has been busy working for the business community on several items. Being a representative of the business community is something we do not take lightly, and we want to serve the greatest number of businesses and individuals we can with each item. The Chamber advocated during the Regular and Special Called Sessions of the Texas Legislature to let our elected officials know our positions on things like opposing HB 4072 which would have changed sales tax from origin based to destination based, working with our regional and state partners on pro-business initiatives and working on other state issues as well.

The Cedar Park, Georgetown, Hutto, Leander, Round Rock, and Taylor Chambers of Commerce co-hosted a virtual Legislative Day at the Capitol because we were unable to bring a delegation down this year. We heard from several elected officials and were able to get some questions and answers during the session.

Locally, I had the privilege of being asked to be on the Leander ISD Citizens Facilities Advisory Committee, and the Leander ISD Bond Advisory Task Force. This allowed them to have a person on the committee and task force who would speak out about business interests and have that "voice of business" represented. I was proud to be involved with those and the Chamber adopted a Resolution Supporting the LISD Bond Package. This Bond Package is good for our future workforce. A well-educated workforce is obviously attractive to employers. These bonds will not raise the effective tax rate. That is a fact – no

matter what you may see or hear on social media from other groups or individuals.

Finally, I wanted to take a moment to remind everybody that the Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce is opposed to any mandate that prevents employers from enacting thoughtful workplace health and safety measures. We believe these are business choices made at the business level and should not be mandated one way or another.

I wrote a statement on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce stating we are opposed to Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-40 mandating that businesses cannot enact those workplace and safety measures. As we have communicated with local, state and federal leaders, we are also opposed to the Federal mandate which states businesses with federal contracts, certain healthcare related fields and businesses with over 100 employees must either enact a vaccine mandate or a weekly COVID test for their employees. In many ways, the federal mandate only impacts a very small portion of the businesses in Cedar Park. However, it puts those businesses in an impossible situation. If a business abides by the federal order, they will be in violation of the state order – and vice versa.

Please know that this is not political, it comes down to policy. The Cedar Park Chamber of Commerce is YOUR business advocate. We are advocating that the business has a right to choose that policy. Each workplace is different. The needs inside an office, are different than the needs at a senior living facility, and those are different than the needs inside a chemotherapy room. We must allow businesses to enact thoughtful workplace health and safety measure that they deem appropriate. This is not something the federal or state government can micro-manage.

We will continue to advocate on behalf of the business community in and around Cedar Park. For more information, please visit our website at [CedarParkChamber.org](http://CedarParkChamber.org).

### Past Events



**Leadership Cedar Park** - On October 7th the Leadership Cedar Park Class of 2021-2022 stopped by to visit their Presenting Sponsor, Toyota of Cedar Park, as part of their Economic & Development Day.



**Cash Mob at Jeremiah's Ice** - The CASH MOB met at Jeremiah's Ice on September 21st. The business located at 700 E Whitestone Blvd serves a cool tasty treat available in many delicious flavors. Stop by and give them a try!



**Turnaround Church** - Congratulations to Turnaround Church located at 304 W. Whitestone Blvd. on their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony! Pastor James Hooper and his wife are doing amazing things for the Community, and we are thrilled to have them in Cedar Park!



**Lunch Connect** - Williamson County Tax Assessor Collector Larry Gaddes spoke at the October 13th Lunch Connect meeting at Hill Country Bible Church, Austin. The event was well attended and a great success.

### Renewing Members:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| ABC Home & Commercial                        | Hill Country Endoscopy Center             |
| Allstate Insurance – Catherine Murphy        | Homewell Care Services                    |
| American Legion Hunter-Morris                | KVUE                                      |
| Austin Board of Realtors                     | La Quinta Inn & Suites Austin Cedar Park  |
| Austin Christian Fellowship                  | Law Office of Joshua P. Murray            |
| Austin Spurs                                 | Miller Climate Control, LLC               |
| Bartlett Cocke General Contractors           | Mission of Hope                           |
| Batsell Mickey                               | MODE Design Company                       |
| CDN Systems, LLC                             | Moonshine Comfort & Cocktails             |
| Cedar Park Public Library Foundation         | Mouton's Bistro & Bar                     |
| Chick –fil-A Cedar Park                      | Nationwide Insurance HALO Insurance Group |
| Clean, ETC. LLC                              | Perardi Development                       |
| Collins Advanced Dermatology Institute       | Propane Plus LLC                          |
| Cook-Walden Chapel of the Hills Funeral Home | Renken Dentistry of Crystal Falls         |
| Cross Creek of TX LTD                        | Reveal Resource Center                    |
| Dietz & Jarrard, P.C.                        | Quest Apartment Homes                     |
| Dos Salsas Cedar Park                        | Smile Doctors Braces                      |
| Dr. Mikaela Rush                             | Texas Stars Hockey Club                   |
| Duprey Enterprises                           | The Pointe at Cedar Park                  |
| Freedom Orthodontics                         | Williamson County Crisis Center           |

### Welcome New Members:

- Perfect Game (PG Cedar Park)
- Precision Garage Door of Austin
- The Esport Cave
- Top Notch Roofing
- Kopa Real Estate
- UBEO Business Services
- Austin Tree Surgeons
- Yoga Six
- Anderson Rogers Insurance
- The Cochrun Insurance Group
- Courtyard Austin NW Lakeline

For information on becoming a member, contact  
**Andrea Kornegay,**  
Membership Manager  
[andrea@cedarparkchamber.org](mailto:andrea@cedarparkchamber.org)

### Upcoming Events:

**October 28th**  
Ribbon Cutting – Premier Martial Arts of Lakeline  
1:30 p.m.  
1850 S Lakeline Blvd #100

**November 2nd**  
Business After Hours – Springhill Suites Austin Cedar Park  
5 p.m.  
1110 Discovery Blvd.

**November 8th**  
Inaugural Freeze Your (Golf) Balls Off Golf Tournament  
8:30 a.m.  
Balcones Country Club  
8600 Balcones Club Drive, Austin

**November 10th**  
Lunch Connect  
11:30 a.m.  
Hill Country Bible Church Austin

**November 19th**  
Power Networking Breakfast  
8 a.m.  
Cedar Park Rec Center  
1435 Main Street  
\$5 to attend

For more information on our upcoming events please go to [CedarParkChamber.org](http://CedarParkChamber.org)



NEWS

# REDISTRICTING

from page A1

plan to move. These changes to Cedar Park, Leander and the rest of Williamson County carry the potential of raising their statewide profile and political influence - and carry a new set of challenges for being heard.

Several Cedar Park and Austin sections within the county could see new candidates running for between three and four open seats on the three different levels of elected office. Several elected officials interviewed for this article said it is the highest number of open seats in the area that they have seen in recent redistricting cycles.

On the congressional level, Republican incumbent U.S. Rep. John Carter will continue to represent most of the county in the 31st Congressional District.

However, the most heavily Democratic voting precincts along Williamson County's southern border have been moved out of his district. Instead, Republican incumbent U.S. Rep. Michael McCaul's new 10th Congressional District extends a long, narrow tendril out that snatches out a portion of southern Cedar Park as it passes through the county while all of the blue votes south of it are tightly packed together with Travis County's bluest precincts into the newly created, unoccupied 37th Congressional District, which is one of the two new congressional districts Texas gained this year.

Long-time Democratic lawmaker Lloyd Doggett has announced his plans to run for the seat. No Republican candidates have officially announced yet.

In the Texas Senate, the new map extends an unusual, octopus arm-shaped section of the new, massive District 24 into Williamson County that vacuums out Cedar Park into another, far-flung district. WillCo has been traditionally contained entirely within District 5.

Republican-leaning Liberty Hill and Leander were pulled out of their current district as a consequence of this move. The district is so large that citizens of these three cities could be represented by individuals as far away as Coryell County to the north, to Sutton County to the west and Atascosa County to the far south of San Antonio, where former Texas Senator Pete Flores (R- Pleasanton) has already announced his bid.

Republican candidate Raul Reyes of Castroville in Medina County, who lost his 2020 Republican primary bid for the 23rd Congressional District by 45 votes, also announced his interest in running for the seat.

No Democratic candidates have announced yet.

An analysis by The Texas Tribune found the district leans 62% in favor of Republicans, well above the 2020 statewide average of leaning of 54.8%.

On the House level, the new maps finally accomplish the long-sought goal of consolidating Williamson County's three districts to only within its county boundaries. However, it also paradoxically causes two of the districts to simultaneously become open seats and incumbent-occupied seats at the same time.

First, District 20 is an actual

open seat after the consolidation cut Republican incumbent Rep. Terry Wilson of Fredricksberg out of his district. District 20 is the one to most closely resemble its formation prior to the changes, retaining roughly two-thirds of its original shape.

Wilson plans to move into Williamson County to continue running for his seat, which will make him the seat's incumbent at that point and allow him to keep his seniority in the Legislature.

District 52 will retain Democratic incumbent Rep. James Talarico but it will become an open seat in the next election after Talarico's Oct. 13 announcement that he plans to move south over the county border to run for the new District 50. His district was the most fundamentally changed with most of it unrecognizable, gutting the Democratic voting population by shifting it from representing 98% of Round Rock to just 34% of the city.

He claimed the maps were redrawn to push him out of his district by packing almost all of the Democratic precincts into Rep. John Bucy's new District 136, including his Round Rock home, while adding a swath of area he has never before represented. He argued his district largely doesn't exist anymore and it made more sense to move into District 50, where he has an actual connection from his time growing up in the Wells Branch area.

"Republicans have gerrymandered me out of my district," Talarico said in his tweet. "If they think they can keep me off the House floor, they better think again."

"It wasn't a choice I made. It was forced on me by the Republican Party...which wants to get rid of me because I'm an outspoken, effective progressive voice. So, they drew me into a district that Trump would have won by 12 points."

He vowed to continue to fight for the interests of his current district even when he eventually moves into his new one.

Lastly, Democratic incumbent Rep. John Bucy will remain in District 136, which is now heavily weighted in his favor for a reelection bid. He said he was deeply saddened to lose Leander in his new district, especially since he worked hard last legislative session to help pass the city's priorities, and to see his share of Cedar Park reduced to only one-third.

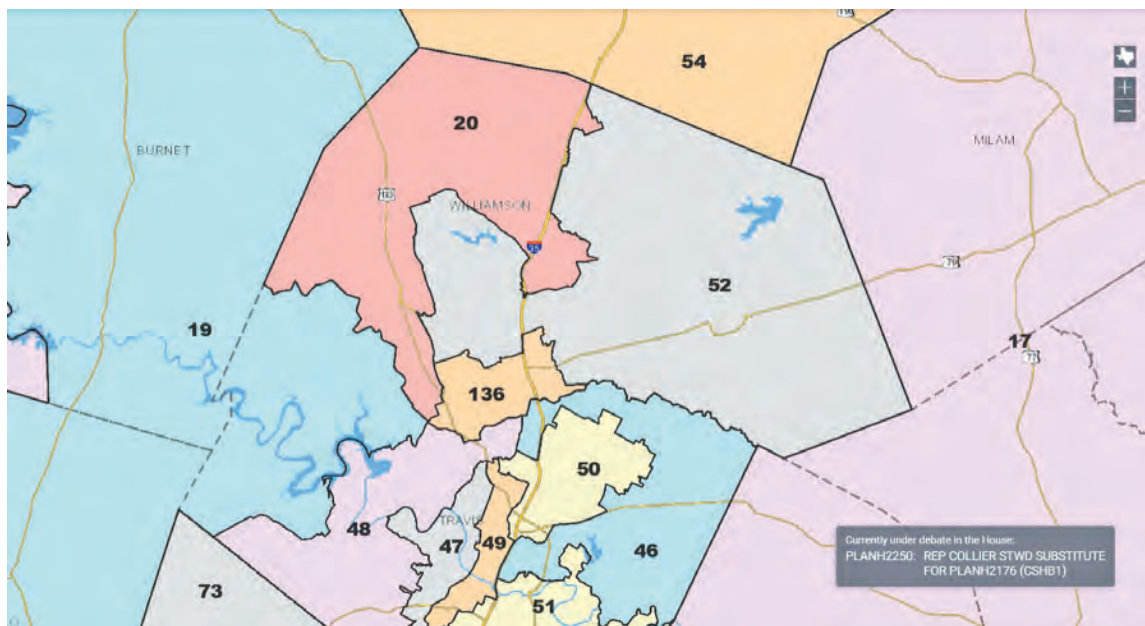
Looking forward, he vowed to work hard to earn votes of Round Rock and other new voters he will be representing for the first time.

An analysis by The Texas Tribune shows District 20 will shift from 70% favoring Republicans to 60% while District 52 will flip from 53% favoring Democrats to 55% favoring Republicans.

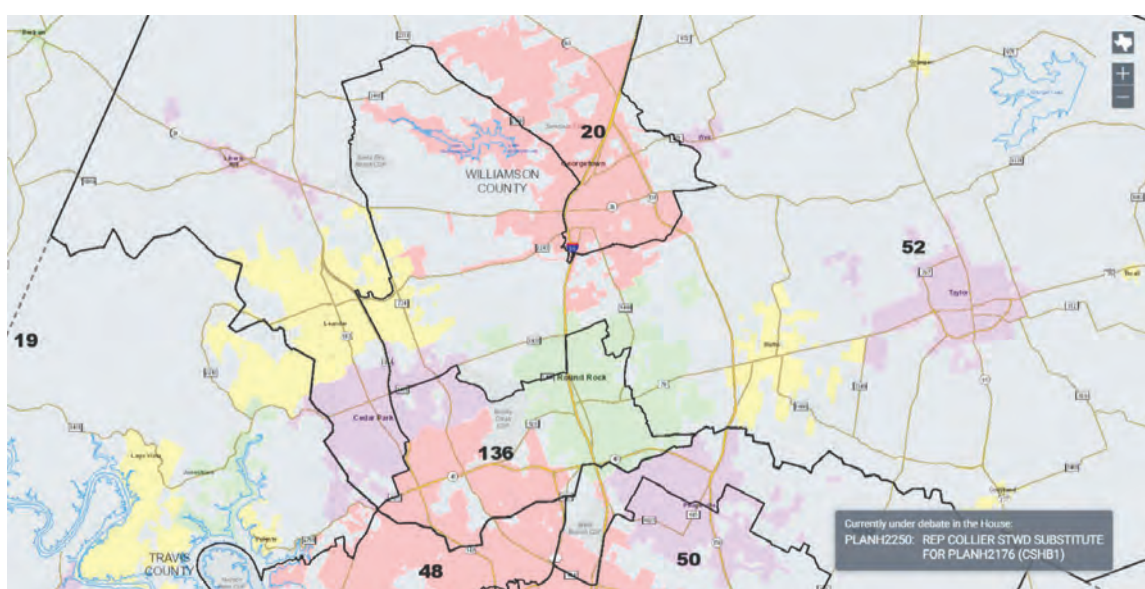
District 136 will shift from 55% in favor of Democrats to 60% favoring Democrats.

## NEW REPRESENTATION

Regardless of who will represent the citizens of Williamson County, the massive swell in the number of elected officials will have a major impact on how its cities are represented in Legislature and U.S. Congress, especially when their districts' boundaries split up these cities across multiple districts.



The newly passed Texas House redistricting map dramatically realigns Williamson County's three districts while achieving the long-sought goal of bringing them all within the county's borders.



Cedar Park and Leander heavily split up among the new redistricting maps, including Cedar Park being split three ways in this new Texas House map.

Similarly, these cities will be impacted by these new districts being less compact, meaning some cities might end up being represented by an elected official who lives nowhere near them and has no prior experience with the towns. Large, expansive districts can also limit how much time an elected official can spend on any individual city's needs because he or she might have a large number of cities' interests they have to juggle, especially if the city is only partially in the district and represents a very small fraction of the total population.

Cedar Park is the most heavily impacted city in the county by these measures because of the way the new maps are divided up.

The most notable instances include the Texas House map splitting up the city three ways at the intersection of U.S. 183 and White-stone Boulevard, the Texas Senate map pulling it into the far-reaching District 24 and the congressional map pulling out a southern chunk of Cedar Park into the 10th Congressional District.

Leander is likewise split for the first time with most of its sections east of U.S. 183 being left behind as a tiny fraction of a different map across all the different political levels, most notably with it being the only chunk left behind by Texas Senate District 24.

Both will also have the section of their cities over the border into Travis County represented by an entirely separate set of lawmakers.

The elected officials interviewed

for this article were divided about how this will affect how effectively Cedar Park and Leander will be at getting legislation passed over the coming decade, although they largely feel it will be a benefit.

Talarico argued that it will hold back the cities by minimizing how much sway they have over an individual lawmaker, and that the specific ways Cedar Park, Round Rock and Georgetown are split is designed to dilute the representation of minority communities in each district.

His argument echos allegations made in lawsuits filed against the maps noting that they ignored that the population growth in Texas was driven by people of color and used it to divide their communities, reducing the number of districts where they represent a majority.

Cedar Park Mayor Corbin Van Arsdale, who is a former state lawmaker, and Bucy both agreed it can create some of the challenges and significantly increase the workload for cities and mayors, who will have to spend more time building strong relationships with these elected officials to ensure the city's needs are prioritized.

However, they believe having a net increase in the number of elected officials will ultimately mean the cities, such as Cedar Park, will be better represented and have a stronger legislative position.

"Most elected officials do want to represent all parts of their district, contrary to what skeptics might assume," Van Arsdale said.

"So, having more elected officials means there's more people to represent you."

In fact, he argued having more lawmakers of diverse backgrounds and different parties has a tactical benefit for cities, meaning one lawmaker can still effectively push a bill even if the other lawmakers are in the minority party or not in the right committee.

Bucy and Van Arsdale also argued that almost all of cities' legislative priorities are nonpartisan, so there is minimal area to create conflict between the elected officials.

However, all three argued it will ultimately rest on the voters to hold these elected officials accountable and attentive to their needs.

Looking forward with the new Texas House map, it will be very difficult to prevent the new seats to flip from two Democratic seats and one Republican seat to two Republican seats and one Democratic seat over the next two election cycles.

However, all of the officials interviewed noted that the moves made to favor District 52 and District 20 towards Republicans also came at the expense of making them have less depth and resilience to new Democratic voters continuing to move into the county, eventually spreading the number of blue voting precincts northward into their boundaries. They said there is a real chance that all three districts could ultimately flip for Democratic lawmakers by the later half of the coming decade.

# VACCINES

from page A1

Pfizer vaccine is one-third of the amount given to people ages 12 and up. But Pfizer officials say it still offers the same level of antibody response that is found in 18- to 24-year-olds. The Pfizer data is based on a test sample of about 2,200 children.

Pfizer told the FDA in briefing documents that its vaccine is 91% effective in preventing symptomatic transmission in kids.

The test group showed no new side effects — nothing worse than had been seen in older groups — and no incidents of myocarditis, a rare heart inflammation that occurred in some male adolescents and young adults after taking one of the mRNA vaccines.

Any side effects were described by Pfizer in its documents as "mild to moderate" and typical of those experienced by children after common childhood vaccines. If symptoms appeared, they arose in the first two days and went away quickly. Most common among them was pain at the injection site, while other reactions sometimes included fatigue, headache, muscle pain and chills.

The shot is free and requires two doses to be fully effective. Providers will be strictly prohibited against administering diluted adult-sized doses to children. The kid doses are being packaged differently, with smaller needles and the correct dosage. Providers who violate these instructions could have their COVID-19 vaccine provider authorization pulled.

## WHERE TO FIND IT

The state has been allocated 1.3 million initial doses of the vaccine by the federal government.

The doses will start arriving in Texas this week after the expected FDA authorization but may not be administered until after the CDC issues its guidelines some time next week.

The state will continue to receive additional doses, and supply isn't expected to be a problem.

Shots may be given at the offices of pediatricians and family-practice doctors, pharmacies, school and rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers.

Asking your family doctor or pediatrician about how to find one is recommended. If you don't have a family doctor, contact your local public health office or pharmacy or a family physician.

## WILL SCHOOLS BE INVOLVED AS VACCINATION SITES?

School districts cannot require children to get the vaccine, but some will make it easy for children to get vaccinated.

The Leander Independent School District has already hosted five vaccine clinics for the general public since the school year began, and has planned a sixth for Monday, Nov. 1, at the Leander Extended Opportunity Center.

That event will have first and second doses of both the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines as well as booster shots for those who qualify.

A spokesperson for the district said that the district is ready to host a seventh clinic as soon as the vaccine is approved for the 5-11-year-old age group.

The Austin Independent School District will host vaccine clinics just as it did when COVID-19 vaccines were first approved for children over the age of 12 at the beginning of summer. Since then, these clinics have vaccinated more than 9,000 children.

## HOW HIGH IS THE RISK OF YOUNG CHILDREN CATCHING COVID-19?

While DSHS maintains unreliable information on age breakdowns of positive COVID-19 cases, schools have regularly reported infections on campus and can offer an idea of the spread among minors.

Three months into this school year, the number of total cases reported among students surpassed the total from the entire 2020-21 school year. As of Oct. 17, there were 202,186 total student cases reported, or 3.8% of students, since the beginning of this semester.

As of Tuesday morning, Leander ISD reported 1,375 cases among its more than 40,000 students since they began keeping records Aug. 5.

After reaching their highest hospitalization numbers of the entire pandemic earlier this summer, the number of kids showing up at hospitals with COVID-19 is starting to decrease. But kids still account for nearly 25% of cases, experts

say, and the numbers are not going down as fast as those in the adult population.

As of Oct. 22, 31 out of nearly 69,000 reported Texas COVID-19 deaths were children younger than 10 — a very small fraction of the statewide death toll — according to DSHS.

## WHY IT MATTERS — EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE KIDS

Children ages 5 to 11 make up about 10 percent of the entire Texas population.

Their eligibility for vaccination, combined with strong vaccine acceptance among their parents, will go a long way in increasing Texas' level of herd immunity and reducing the risk of children catching the virus and passing it along to compromised family members or friends, experts say.

Unvaccinated populations are also reservoirs for the virus to grow and mutate, risking new variants that could overpower the current vaccines.

People without kids often have relationships with family members or friends who do have children. Vaccinating younger children will also allow parents to go to work if they have been staying home with an immunocompromised child who was at high risk for COVID-19. By extension, a parent's return to work benefits the economy and childless Texans.

"I think this has the potential to really improve their lives," said Dr.

Seth Kaplan, a Frisco pediatrician and immediate past president of the Texas Pediatric Society.

## WILL PARENTS GET THEIR KIDS VACCINATED?

Kaplan's office in conservative Frisco, north of Plano, has about 600 patients. Based on what their parents are telling him, about one-third of them will likely get the shot as soon as they can. Another third will take a little convincing, he said, but will mostly likely get it. And the last third have said they are a hard no and won't be budged, Kaplan said.

"From what I've seen reported, that's pretty much how it shakes out everywhere," Kaplan said. "It's completely, completely understandable to be nervous. At the same time, the facts really are that as far as we know, this should be a really good thing to move forward with. But the emotions and the nerves are completely understandable. That's why we've got to keep having these conversations."

*Mandi Cai with the Texas Tribune and Richard Stone with the Hill Country News contributed to this report, which has been edited for length and to add local context.*

*You can find the original story at [TexasTribune.org](https://www.texastribune.org). The Texas Tribune is a non-profit, reader-supported news organization focused on statewide legislative and policy issues.*

# McDONALD'S LISD HIGH SCHOOL ALL "A" HONOR ROLL - 1ST 6 WEEKS

**Cedar Park High School Grade 9**  
 Charlotte Adair  
 Rania Ali Adil  
 Abdullah Al-Jumaili  
 Erin Alexander  
 Cassandra Allen  
 Pearl Bailey  
 Kaylin Baker  
 Avni Balakrishnan  
 Juan Banda Castillo  
 Ashley Blair  
 Ann Bombeck  
 Ingrid Bonner  
 Olivia Bonner  
 Riley Brockway  
 Kaylee Buratto  
 Haley Burton  
 Olivia Castilla  
 A'Miyah Collington  
 Alison Cooper  
 Mason Crews  
 Lily Culp  
 Alexandra D'auria  
 Amia De Leon  
 Anastacia Decuir  
 Dhruvi Desai  
 Tyler Duong  
 Novali Evelyck  
 Adhit Eswaramoorthi  
 Emeric Farnachon  
 Elizabeth Fear  
 Brooke Ferguson  
 Hannah Fielding  
 Makena Filippoff  
 Benjamin Ford  
 Alyssa Fox  
 Zachary Ghormley  
 William Gray  
 Anya Gudipati  
 Carlos Guerrero  
 Reagan Guidry  
 Gulin Gurbuz  
 Mila Gutierrez  
 Lanie Hall  
 Jaylen Han  
 Kaylee Hebert  
 Kadence Herrera  
 Blake Hillis  
 James Hollander  
 Sanya Hoskere  
 Parker Huang  
 Samantha Jameson  
 Adalyn Johnson  
 Katelyn Jordan  
 Andrew Kim  
 Annabelle Koltak  
 Charlotte Koltak  
 Meredith Koltz  
 Amelia Lettang  
 Katie Long  
 Jamie Lopez  
 Alaina Marsh  
 Elena Mayfield  
 Dawson McCabe  
 Kyle McClure  
 Patricia McGann  
 Cadan McNabb  
 Chance Meyer  
 Erica Mihealsick  
 Kacey Miller  
 Ella Mongenel  
 Ezra Morales  
 Blake Musfeldt  
 Avery Nelson  
 Dustin Nguyen  
 Roselyn Nguyen  
 Garrett Nichols  
 Isabella Oduori  
 Alper Ozbey  
 Brooke Pack  
 Dayton Pape  
 Nolan Park  
 Ethan Paull  
 Sofia Peters  
 Taylor Peterson  
 Abigail Petzey  
 Mia Petty  
 Emily Pinkerton  
 Sophie Poulsen  
 Ava Poulter  
 Chloe Pratt  
 Hayden Price  
 Layla Prowse  
 Madailein Quinn  
 Clara Rabago  
 Jacob Raspberry  
 Zane Rasmussen  
 Owen Renner  
 Diego Reyes  
 Jack Reynolds  
 Olivia Robinson  
 Gabrielle  
 Romero Cardenas  
 Sara Sadic  
 Hannah Salinas  
 Tanvi Sankolli  
 Evan Schmitt  
 Carlee Selin  
 Taylor Shumate  
 Samuel Sloan  
 Lauren Small  
 Jacob Snyder  
 Katherine Spinneweber  
 Lukas Spratt  
 Annabelle Staples  
 Grace Stehling  
 Logan Streit  
 Emery Taylor  
 Holden Taylor  
 Troy Thompson  
 Helene Grace Townley  
 Ethan Tran  
 Itzel Trejo  
 Mia Trejo  
 Kenzie Vo  
 Lola Walter  
 Kimberley Walters  
 Emma Weltns  
 Cassidy West  
 Harrison Whitfield  
 Helashi Wijayawardhana  
 Kassidy Wilkinson  
 Kaydence Wilkinson  
 Ryder Wilkinson  
 Abigail Williams  
 Heidi Williams  
 Andrea Winans  
 Cooper Wingate  
 Brayden Yerks  
 Juliette Yonezawa  
 Eden Yu

Haylee Foster  
 Madeline Foster  
 Kylee Foulds  
 Braeden Fuller  
 Christian Gamez  
 Diego Garcia  
 Alyson Gargiulo  
 John Garrett  
 Nicolas Gaus  
 Hope Gibbs  
 Alexander Gilsbach  
 Aidan Gonzales  
 Jade Gonzales  
 Brooklyn Grant  
 Parker Greene  
 Anna Greiner  
 Kira Griffin  
 Grant Hager  
 Amanda Harbers  
 Aidan Hearnshberger  
 Logan Hedges  
 Hutson Hefner  
 Kyle Helliison  
 Ridgley Hernandez  
 Zachary Hertzberg  
 Kathryn Higdon  
 Caroline Howard  
 Yulin Huang  
 Carter Hughes  
 Jenna Jacobs  
 Vivien Jennison  
 Emma Johnson  
 Asa Johnston  
 Mason Kassel  
 Hannah Khandekar  
 Noa Kim  
 Yongjune Kim  
 Sean Rakan Kindy  
 Isaiah King  
 Elianna Knaggs  
 Miles Koch  
 Andrew Kovaric  
 Brooke Kramer  
 Nathaniel Kunze  
 Tiffany Luan  
 Alyssa Lassiter  
 Emma McCracken  
 Benjamin McDaniel  
 Carver McDonald  
 Isabel McGarry  
 Brooklyn Meacham  
 Ty Meyer  
 Camden Michalek  
 Jonathan Minjarez  
 Sindhua Madala  
 Eliza Maham  
 Ruby Maham  
 Megan Malmquist  
 Jack Malouf  
 Maddux Marcom  
 Emery Martin  
 Jacqueline Martin  
 Carlo Martinez  
 Katie Mason  
 Leticia Mathedi  
 Mia Matthews  
 Abigail McDaniel  
 Claire McGrath  
 Madison Meservy  
 Emily Mincemoyer  
 Mollie Mitchell  
 Kamilah  
 Morales-Carbajal  
 Jady Morgan  
 Zoey Moulton  
 Matthew Mueller  
 Aahana Mulchandani  
 Natalie Murray  
 Michelle Nguyen  
 Jaxson Noren  
 Luke O'Malley  
 Drew Oconnor  
 Ethan Oconnor  
 Grace Oh  
 Ainsley Opland  
 Andres Ortega  
 Cameron Parks  
 Isabel Peters  
 Daniel Prabhu  
 August Pritzlaff  
 Labib Rahman  
 Brady Richardson  
 Julianna Richter  
 Marisol Rios  
 Nathan Ryan  
 Katherine Sanderson  
 Saxon Schroeder  
 Jared Siebert  
 Samantha Sigala  
 Reagan Singleton  
 Adriana Slack  
 Nicolette Slobodnik  
 Suzanne Smith  
 Phoebe Solberg  
 Sophia Standerfer  
 Shaw Stanley  
 Adalia Stiglich  
 Lillian Stone  
 Sydney Storm  
 Tyler Streit  
 Luke Swoboda  
 Emma Tapia  
 Grace Taylor  
 Cadence Teicher  
 Trey Thompson  
 Danielle Tran  
 Frances Tran  
 Khoa Tran  
 Sean Tran  
 Bethany Tschorner  
 Maci Tu  
 Oshrat Turjeman  
 Jannery Valladares  
 Sanjitha Vattikuti  
 Linda Vermillion  
 Roman Victoria  
 Reid Vines  
 Trevor Von Wupperfeld  
 Austin Waldbusser  
 Olivia Ward  
 Lauren Washburn  
 Autumn Watson  
 Kai Welch  
 Stevie White  
 Jackson Whitmire  
 Ainsley Wiegand  
 Abigail Williams  
 Heidi Williams  
 Andrea Winans  
 Michael Zolidis  
 Hannah Zuntag

**Grade 11**  
 Jocelyn Adair  
 Hamzah Al-Jumaili  
 Nathan Alexander  
 Enrique Alvarado  
 Olivia Alvis  
 Leaya Arellano  
 Isaya Arclano  
 Morgan Arthur  
 Salvatore Ayyadurai  
 Ariana Balakrishnan  
 Megan Ballard  
 Ethne Barnes  
 Arnav Batra  
 Eshan Bharadwaj  
 Claire Bitner  
 Brynn Boatright  
 Kira Boehme  
 Isaac Breaux  
 Alexander Brown  
 Eliska Bujnochova  
 Skye Bustamante  
 Kendall Calhoun  
 Ty Cathey  
 Kate Cazalas  
 Mia Chaplin  
 Ashley Chikkala  
 Tyler Clifton  
 Olivia Chavez  
 Daniel Cloward  
 Andrew Coleman  
 Avery Conover  
 Dora Anne Cooper  
 Blake Courtright  
 Grace Courtright  
 Charity Cox  
 Jackson Cox  
 Makayla Cox  
 Kaci Craddock  
 Katrina Cribbs  
 Kylie Currutt  
 Logan Davis  
 Stefan De Araujo  
 Antonio Delarosa  
 Erinn Denis  
 Delaney Deruiter  
 Maggie Dillman  
 Nicholas Doluisio  
 Samuel Edwards  
 Ramy El-Sharkawi  
 Aliza Elliott  
 Jack Elliott  
 Emilia Flores

Sydney Fielding  
 Jackson Fortney  
 Samuel Fowler  
 Benjamin Fox  
 Nicole Franklin  
 Luke Fusilier  
 Bendik Gaiser  
 Jordan Garza  
 Ashlyn Gazlay  
 Julia Gharib  
 Parker Grabbe  
 Kai Gray  
 Ryan Green  
 Tessa Griffin  
 Noah Gross  
 Alexa Hamad  
 Ainsley Harlan  
 Emmaree Hernandez  
 Kamber Hill  
 Sophia Hilton  
 Evan Howell  
 Laura Hunter  
 Branae Jackson  
 Noah Jacobson  
 Austin Jia  
 Jonah Jordan  
 Kartik Kalra  
 Greta Klein  
 Hyunsoo Koh  
 Callista Kohn  
 Jaden Kolenbrander  
 Colin Kraemer-Martinez  
 Tyler Kukla  
 Mary Lawler  
 Peyton Leach  
 Jamie Lee  
 Winson Lin  
 Ryan Liu  
 Iris Lo  
 Anthony Luparello  
 Ayden Maki  
 Scott Marsh  
 Sabina Martin  
 John Matistic  
 Alexandre Mazet  
 Magdalena McClure  
 Emma McCracken  
 Benjamin McDaniel  
 Carver McDonald  
 Isabel McGarry  
 Brooklyn Meacham  
 Ty Meyer  
 Camden Michalek  
 Jonathan Minjarez  
 Mason Moore  
 Ian Morris  
 Miranda Moser  
 Chase Mutschink  
 Erin Nam  
 Charlotte Newman  
 Keegan Oakley  
 Katelyn Orozco  
 Cecily Ortiz  
 David Parr  
 Daniel Pelley  
 Coen Perrill  
 Ryan Poulsen  
 Claire Poulter  
 Julian Rabago  
 Hope Rasberry  
 Jacob Rhine  
 Isabella Rivera  
 Brooke Rowe  
 Levi Rutledge  
 Mikaili Sadic  
 Natalia  
 Sanchez Mejorado  
 Gautham Saravanan  
 Victor Sauers  
 William Schmitt  
 Devin Schupbach  
 Alyssa Selin  
 Ryder Senko  
 Yash Shah  
 Claudia Shen  
 Pukhraj Shergill  
 Brennen Sherrod  
 Shaurya Shukla  
 Janah Sibai  
 August Sistrunk  
 Adah Skaiff  
 Andrew Smaistrila  
 Colton Smith  
 Evan Sprahr  
 Caden Sprague  
 Savannah Strader  
 Bradley Sun  
 Dylan Tam  
 James Thompson  
 Alexander  
 Thummalappalli  
 Nadia Torres  
 Minh-Phuong Tran  
 Audrey Truman  
 Julian Tsujii  
 Lilah Tucker  
 Alexander Underwood  
 Sarah Vorndran  
 Zeb Weiland  
 Kathryn Whitmarsh  
 Chloe Wilkins  
 Jackson Woods  
 Clayton Yeoman  
 Olivia Young  
 Sandra Ziegler  
 Bethany Zittner

**Grade 12**  
 Kevin Adams  
 Harshini Addepalle  
 Grace Aggen  
 Fairouz Ahmed  
 Kassidy Alexander  
 Slava Andrianov  
 Carmelo Asuncion  
 Braden Bailey  
 Reese Barucky  
 Karisa Bassett  
 Aaron Baugh  
 Gavin Bernard  
 Bella Birdsley  
 Sabrina Blount  
 Ethan Boecker  
 Collin Borenstein  
 Hailey Bowermon  
 Daisy Brant  
 Isaac Brunson  
 Leah Bulblitz  
 Colby Buggi  
 Blake Burton  
 Kellen Cao  
 Abigail Castelli  
 Kalob Cervantes  
 Luke Chavez  
 Kailey Cheng  
 Ana Childress  
 Julia Childress  
 Sarah Childress  
 Eunbin Cho  
 Brynn Clare  
 Anna Clark  
 Karis Clifton  
 Christian Cockrell  
 Jacob Cohen  
 Makayla Collins  
 Luke Conness  
 Elizabeth Cox  
 Lauren Dane  
 Vy Dao  
 Joel Davis  
 Lauren Dedominico  
 Caitlyn Delay  
 Emma Duong  
 Matthew Egner  
 Quinn Eivens  
 Katherine Errett  
 Isabella Fernandez  
 Andrew Finklea  
 Asha Fischer  
 Sydney Fleniken  
 Michelle Frobish  
 Sydney Fuller  
 Austin Garcia  
 Sarah Ghormley  
 Hemani Goje  
 Brandon Grasty  
 Dylan Greene  
 Zane Hagler  
 Kendall Shuck  
 Shelby Hayes  
 Jessica Hector  
 Tristan Hernandez  
 Ethan Hexter  
 Callie Hobbs  
 Samin Hoskere  
 Kathryn Householder  
 Dylan Hufford  
 Katelynne Hunter  
 Joliese Hushka  
 Annika Johnson  
 Sarah Johnson  
 Jeremy Jones  
 Jani Jung  
 Jayanth Kannam

Sahvanna Kidd  
 Seojeong Kim  
 Beverly King  
 Lucas Labrador  
 Jillian Lach  
 Diego Lamour  
 Raniya Laneau  
 Olivia Laster  
 Briana Lemaire  
 Lainie Lepkowski  
 Lindsey Lopez  
 Juliana Lozano  
 Charlotte Maham  
 Evelyn Maib  
 Matthew Malecha  
 Bryson Mann  
 Kira Martinez  
 Connor Mason  
 Christopher Masters  
 Jaden Mathews  
 Natalie Mayo  
 Jake McAnally  
 Miles Merrill  
 Sophia Migchelbrink  
 Morgan Miller  
 Klaudia Misztal  
 Hailey Moulton  
 Madison Mueller  
 Rachel Nesbitt  
 Taylor Nguyen  
 Angelica Nichols  
 Grant Nichols  
 Pathiphan Nichols  
 Michael Norton  
 Alex Nunnellee  
 Luke O'Connor  
 Lukas Orawetz  
 Grace Ornelas  
 Gerald Parker  
 MacKenna Peacock  
 Joshua Pell  
 Michael Peterson  
 Justin Pham  
 Amanda Pinkley  
 Riley Pritzlaff  
 Aashna Ravi  
 Alan Reyes  
 Luisa Rico  
 Logan Roberts  
 Madelyn Roberts  
 Reed Roberts  
 Dylan Rodgers  
 Sydney Rowe  
 Angelena Sacco  
 Ganesh Sadasivan  
 Ashlyn Sanders  
 Madyson Sanders  
 Kylie Seaback  
 Omotolani Segun  
 Aiden Seibel  
 Megan Sheehan  
 Mia Sheffield  
 Alexa Simco  
 Jase Simon  
 Madyn Singleton  
 Katherine Smith  
 Jaycob Sniffen  
 Paige Stark  
 Ryan Strader  
 Jacob Swoboda  
 Barbara Sylvester  
 Bryce Taylor  
 Gwenevere Tharp  
 Isabella Tirloni  
 Ryan Turner  
 Cole Valiente  
 Natalia  
 Sanchez Mejorado  
 Gautham Saravanan  
 Victor Sauers  
 William Schmitt  
 Devin Schupbach  
 Alyssa Selin  
 Ryder Senko  
 Yash Shah  
 Claudia Shen  
 Pukhraj Shergill  
 Brennen Sherrod  
 Shaurya Shukla  
 Janah Sibai  
 August Sistrunk  
 Adah Skaiff  
 Andrew Smaistrila  
 Colton Smith  
 Evan Sprahr  
 Caden Sprague  
 Savannah Strader  
 Bradley Sun  
 Dylan Tam  
 James Thompson  
 Alexander  
 Thummalappalli  
 Nadia Torres  
 Minh-Phuong Tran  
 Audrey Truman  
 Julian Tsujii  
 Lilah Tucker  
 Alexander Underwood  
 Sarah Vorndran  
 Zeb Weiland  
 Kathryn Whitmarsh  
 Chloe Wilkins  
 Jackson Woods  
 Clayton Yeoman  
 Olivia Young  
 Sandra Ziegler  
 Bethany Zittner

**Glenn High School Grade 9**  
 Alejandro Aguilera  
 Lilian Anderson  
 Emerson Barrow  
 Scarlett Becvar  
 Marckos Benavidez  
 Matthew Bernard  
 Gage Blackerby  
 Steven Boyce  
 Abigail Buentello  
 Madelyn Butler  
 Brynn Camacho  
 Isabel Cardona  
 Shyann Carrillo-Prickett  
 Kaelis Chaney  
 Animesh Chhetri  
 Ashlyn Chia  
 Julian Christen  
 Andrew Claridge  
 Jackson Cohen  
 Addison Conly  
 Hannah Crabtree  
 Emma Crissey  
 Gabriel De Oliveira  
 Alexandro DeLeon  
 Amayah Diaz  
 Jaslyn Dobbins  
 Yoselin Estrada Cruz  
 Layna Farley  
 Emma Farnsley  
 Joshua Fuentes  
 Mackenzie Galbraith  
 Alaena Garcia  
 Samuel Gilmore  
 Sun Gonzales  
 Blayne Gunderson  
 Kaelyn Heil  
 Marissa Hernandez  
 Ellie Hernandez-Cruse  
 Sawyer Homec  
 Ally Johnson  
 Cooper Johnson  
 Nicholas Johnson  
 Rose Johnston  
 Kathryn Jones  
 Kimberly Jones  
 Sangit Kaffle  
 Olivia Kerman  
 Leah Kumwenda  
 Jesse Letts  
 Greyson Lomeli  
 Kamryn Lowery  
 Emma Ludwig  
 Isabel Mahan  
 Priyesh Manikandan  
 Nathaniel Mann  
 Danica McDonald  
 Brooklynn Menchaca  
 Madalynn  
 Metoyer-Cartwright  
 Judah Morgan  
 Christopher Muster  
 Kamryn Netherton  
 Ethan Nguyen  
 Jordyn Nguyen  
 Lucinda Niederauer  
 Tofunmi Okimi  
 Alex Owen  
 Noah Perkins  
 Logan Phipps  
 Leilani Preciado  
 Sofia Ramirez  
 Savannah Rasmussen  
 Karina Regino-Gerardo  
 Jenna Richie  
 Blake Rickmers  
 Eduardo Rodriguez  
 Ayden Rupley  
 Sahana Harshini  
 Sankaradoss  
 Nathaniel Schlung  
 Madeleine Shangreux  
 Cooper Sheppard  
 Kendall Shuck  
 Zosja Sitkiewitz  
 Messiah Smith  
 Alina Soto  
 Joe Prince  
 Stephen Jeyaraj  
 Meadow Stevens  
 Jacob Stolt  
 Alina Stempel  
 Dominic Tanyag  
 Puneeth Thota  
 Caleb Tholer  
 Nicolas Truong  
 James Vaughan  
 Joshua Vincik  
 Mia Viveros

Aaron Wagner  
 Owen Walrond  
 Julia White  
 Linda Whitmyer  
 Natalie Wilson  
 Sofia Wolfard  
 Kiersten Zyla

**Grade 10**  
 Eshaan Ali  
 Farhan Ali  
 Jesus Santiago Alonso  
 Isabella Anderson  
 Ellie Arellano-Reyna  
 Tyler Austin  
 Maya Barrios  
 Maya Beauchea  
 Catalina Bello  
 Emmerich Benavides  
 Remy Berlinger  
 Emma Bowland  
 Jasmin Bryant  
 Cheyenne Buckley  
 Vivien Burrows  
 Elizabeth Bushman  
 Jhonatan Callison  
 Natalie Carrola  
 Alissyn Chan  
 Lathan Coffee  
 Arianna Cofield  
 Rowan Conley  
 Jenae Conner  
 Emma Criminger  
 Russell Curtis  
 Michael Daniel  
 Aniyah Davis  
 Layla Diaz  
 Julianna Dohring  
 Gabrielle Duff  
 Kaiana Entrekinn  
 Jade Cindy Foka  
 Dylan Fortin  
 Jolie Franklin  
 Natalia Fujita  
 Kaylan Funk  
 Luke Garcia  
 Nahum Garcia  
 Hunter Garza  
 Abigail Gifford  
 Scarlet Giovinazzo  
 Brandon Gonzales  
 Lucianna Gonzalez  
 Danielle Grande  
 Alyna Guerrero  
 Brian Guerrero  
 Soraya Gunera  
 Jose Gutierrez  
 Yasmin Gutierrez  
 Jakob Haddock-Scates  
 Lillian Harrold  
 Tristan Heimann  
 Quinn Heinrich  
 Avery Heiss  
 Riley Hendricks  
 Valerie Hernandez  
 Melinda Hester  
 Jaylin Hinojosa  
 Caden Hodge  
 Mia Honeyman  
 Jacqueline Hopkins  
 Charles Horwedel  
 Isabella Huetson  
 Kumba Jagne  
 Diego Jaimez  
 Maely Jffcoat  
 Remi Jobi  
 Stormy Johnson  
 Kya Jones  
 Katherine Klauk  
 Jacob Kooppi  
 Bryce Lamb  
 Caden Latouf  
 Kayley Lee  
 Ayden Leiva  
 Titus Loftin  
 Olivia Logue  
 Gabriela Macias  
 Jada Mallory  
 Alan Martinez  
 Phance Masiga  
 Riley Mauldin  
 Noah Medina  
 Ricardo Medrano  
 Gilberto Moreno  
 Cameron Morrison  
 Brenden Neely  
 Sierra Nunberry  
 Ava Ortiz  
 Abbie Owens  
 Bowen Painchaud  
 Katelyn Parker  
 Kimberly Parra  
 Eleanor Peters  
 Maya Pham  
 Lily Picon  
 Armando Luis Plunkett  
 Michael Razo  
 Emily Resendiz Diaz  
 Madison Rich  
 Kaden Richardson  
 Sean Richie  
 Syed Rizvi  
 Vince Rodriguez  
 Makayla Ruiz  
 James Sanchez Sarot  
 Jasmine Schlinger  
 Julia Schoonover  
 Katelyn Schuch  
 Addison Scott  
 Kaely Smith  
 Wren Smith  
 Kameron Spaulding  
 Samuel Steere  
 Cameron Steger  
 Taylor Steger  
 Liliana Stokes  
 Roberto Stokes  
 Gabriel Tanzer  
 Lauren Taylor  
 Jaecyn Taylor-Ward  
 Jerico Uzzef Bulos  
 McKenna Burkman  
 Blake Butler  
 Erik Carmona  
 Jacy Carrejo  
 Isabella Casso  
 Ciara Catton  
 Aaliyah Corbin  
 Kylie Coufal  
 Sarah Daugherty  
 Nikolai Day  
 Trevor Dishongh  
 Sepria Doherty  
 Jessica Egelsee  
 Christopher Elkins  
 Kyra Emerson  
 Greyson Erwin  
 Talin Evers  
 Lindsay Fernandes  
 Ava Foster  
 Luke Fugate  
 Trinity Garcia  
 Isis Gauthier  
 Scarlet Geurin  
 Haven Gier  
 Gwendolyn Gleinser  
 Avrie Glick  
 William Greer  
 Julia Grover  
 Avery Hamilton  
 Kalia Handy Bosma  
 Emma Hans  
 Liliana Hardie  
 Virginia Hart  
 Dean Hellmann  
 Richard Hew  
 Lauren Lee  
 Sarai Jacobson  
 Sabrina Jansta  
 Ryan Joseph  
 Oliver Jozwiak  
 Arnav Kamath  
 Ryan Kazmir  
 Calvin Kesler  
 Kayla King  
 Samuel Klein  
 Kylee Koch  
 Roman Kocheisen  
 Karthik Kurapati  
 Jaesly Lazcano  
 Keira Leday  
 Avery Linden  
 Alexander Lucero  
 Deborah Madden  
 Alexander Marquez  
 Sage Martin  
 Sienna Martin  
 Aylin Masiga  
 Lainey Mason  
 Emilee McCoy  
 Sahil Mehta  
 Alison Mendoza  
 Ricardo Mendoza  
 Kayla Metcalf  
 Christina Milne  
 Sophia Minney

Drake Sheehy  
 Riley Shuck  
 Alyssa Valdes  
 Bianca Velazquez  
 Kai Walls  
 Amanda Weeks  
 Elisa Winters  
 Mackenzie Wood  
 Alyssa Zukowski

**Grade 12**  
 Parisa Akhtar  
 Adrian Alcala  
 Braeden Arp  
 Mikayla Austin  
 Alexander Barr  
 Afec Barragan Hurtado  
 Norah Barry  
 Benjamin Beasley  
 Ruth Beasley  
 Maren Bell  
 Benigno Bello  
 Ethan Berumen  
 Derek Black  
 Samuel Blake  
 Kaitlyn Boelter  
 Kiera Boggs  
 McKenna Bowland  
 Bryan Branly  
 Ayanna Briggs  
 William Briseno  
 Tiana Brown  
 Amber Calhoun  
 Isabella Castillo  
 Catherine Chaison  
 Keyannah Chavez  
 Constantinos Christou  
 Madeline Cicero  
 Sofia Cisneros  
 Bryce Clements  
 Jonathan Cortes  
 Kyle Crawford  
 Annabel Curtis  
 Max Dodson  
 Jaylin Dubose  
 Kyra Ecklund  
 Cole Ferguson  
 Ethan Fischer  
 Dara Francois  
 Lydia Franks  
 Tyler Fujita  
 Xia Garcia  
 Luis Guerrero Mata  
 Indigo Hall  
 De'Jeannae Harvey  
 Chantal Hernandez  
 Natalie Hoffman  
 Madison-May Hogan  
 Ryan Hopkins  
 Summer Howell  
 Isabella Hunstock  
 Cheyanne Hunt  
 Anita Idemudia  
 Allison Kamouie  
 Kiyomi Kanai  
 Alice Kang  
 McKenzie Kelly  
 Sofia Kendall  
 Gavin Lantis  
 Kendyll Lindsey  
 Kendall Lipscomb  
 Sebastian  
 Loreda Awmiller  
 Kylie McClain  
 Savannah Mears  
 Micaela Montoya  
 Tayli Morgan  
 Wyatt Moye  
 Jacob Naumann  
 Stella Niederauer  
 Alexandra Nuez  
 Abdias Ortiz-Saldana  
 Sophia Parmenter  
 Angelina Pham  
 Samantha Portilla-Cortes  
 Elle Pulley  
 Avery Puumala  
 Jonathon Ramirez  
 David Rhone  
 Ian Rivenbark  
 Danny Rivera  
 Saliah Robinson  
 Isabella Rodriguez  
 Mona Rosas  
 Tamera Rusdell  
 Serena Salinas-Garza  
 Lillie Sedlacek  
 Gabriele Shaw  
 Kaci Skinner  
 Chloe Smith  
 Kali Thomas  
 Alana Tisdale  
 Jonathan Valdes  
 Adam Wagner  
 Ian Walrond  
 Amalea Warr  
 Brandon Watkins  
 Kenneth Wilburn  
 Keelie Wise  
 Ayla Wiseman

**Leander High School Grade 9**  
 Simon Accola  
 Jonah Acevedo  
 Ojaswi Acharya  
 Shreyas Ananth  
 Erin Anderson  
 Reese Anderson  
 Gabriella Baade  
 Amani Badarpura  
 Saket Balaji  
 Tanuj Balaji  
 Callie Barrientz  
 Charles Batts  
 Matthew Hayes  
 Eileen Bercu  
 Cadence Bernal  
 Abhinam Bhandari  
 Lola Bird  
 Kylar Bowden  
 Ella Bowman  
 Ryder Bradley  
 Sydney Brand  
 Jerico Uzzef Bulos  
 McKenna Burkman  
 Blake Butler  
 Erik Carmona  
 Jacy Carrejo  
 Isabella Casso  
 Ciara Catton  
 Aaliyah Corbin  
 Kylie Coufal  
 Sarah Daugherty  
 Nikolai Day  
 Trevor Dishongh  
 Sepria Doherty  
 Jessica Egelsee  
 Christopher Elkins  
 Kyra Emerson  
 Greyson Erwin  
 Talin Evers  
 Lindsay Fernandes  
 Ava Foster  
 Luke Fugate  
 Trinity Garcia  
 Isis Gauthier  
 Scarlet Geurin  
 Haven Gier  
 Gwendolyn Gleinser  
 Avrie Glick  
 William Greer  
 Julia Grover  
 Avery Hamilton  
 Kalia Handy Bosma  
 Emma Hans  
 Liliana Hardie  
 Virginia Hart  
 Dean Hellmann  
 Richard Hew  
 Lauren Lee  
 Sarai Jacobson  
 Sabrina Jansta  
 Ryan Joseph  
 Oliver Jozwiak  
 Arnav Kamath  
 Ryan Kazmir  
 Calvin Kesler  
 Kayla King  
 Samuel Klein  
 Kylee Koch  
 Roman Kocheisen  
 Karthik Kurapati  
 Jaesly Lazcano  
 Keira Leday  
 Avery Linden  
 Alexander Lucero  
 Deborah Madden  
 Alexander Marquez  
 Sage Martin  
 Sienna Martin  
 Aylin Masiga  
 Lainey Mason  
 Emilee McCoy  
 Sahil Mehta  
 Alison Mendoza  
 Ricardo Mendoza  
 Kayla Metcalf  
 Christina Milne  
 Sophia Minney

**Way To Go!**  
**LISD Honor Roll**  
 sponsored by:   
**Three Locations To Serve You!!!**  
 1445 South HWY 183 (Gateway at Leander)  
 1103 N. Bell Blvd. 1410 Cypress Creek Rd. (183 & FM 1431) (Randall's Shopping Center)

Gianna Mitchell  
 Stephan Montez  
 Mia Moore  
 Oscar Morin  
 Kathryn Mustafa  
 Nikitasri Nagendran  
 Minh Nguyen  
 Sara Nishimura  
 Jack Nowicki  
 Jilianne Nuevo  
 Rachel Olson  
 Adrian Ortiz  
 Siri Pemberton  
 Madalyn Pirri  
 Maya Reddy  
 Sydney Reisdorph  
 Chloe Rhee  
 Peyton Rhoton  
 Blake Runyan  
 Kaden Sako  
 Jack Serrano  
 Hossain Shawn  
 Marc Sherry  
 Tristan Shoemaker  
 Ayush Singh  
 Arnav Sivakumar  
 Claire Smith  
 Keona Sotomayor  
 Aiden Spicer  
 Bryson Suggs  
 Thor Sunde  
 Samantha Svetlik  
 Trevor Swanson  
 Kianna Thompson  
 Elizabeth Torres Socorro  
 Satwika Vasepalli  
 Pavithra Vellengar  
 Luis Vences  
 Logan Vurek  
 Brody Wafford  
 Jackson Whiteis  
 Sadie Wiebe  
 Sydney Wiebe  
 Diptee Yadav  
 Abigail Yeung  
 Mac Zweschper

**Grade 10**  
 Elise Afflitto  
 Ashalina Ali  
 Esha Ali  
 Emery Bell  
 Krish Bharal  
 Mackenzie Borie  
 Langston Brady  
 Avery Breland  
 Kelsey Brower  
 Mariana Cano-Arias  
 Christopher Capers  
 Julian Carpenter  
 Hannah Carrasco  
 Kelsey Clark  
 Jaya Coats  
 Courtney Cole  
 Andrew Crozier  
 Hunter Crozier  
 Alyssa Curry  
 Sean Dalberg  
 Ishaan Dalvi  
 Paige Davis  
 Emma Detweiler  
 Teresa Dinh  
 Gabrielle Edo  
 Jensen Eichenauer  
 Ella Farmer  
 Elizabeth Flores  
 Maria Frazier  
 Herath Galagoda  
 Anikta Ganesch  
 Sachin Gangireddy  
 Kayla Garnett Suckut  
 Sydney Gillen  
 Natesh Gurram  
 Siena Gutschow  
 Sophia Harper  
 Cameron Hayes  
 Matthew Heald  
 Rylie Heil  
 Keely Hernandez  
 Marisol Hernandez  
 Jocelyn Higas  
 Genesis Holmes  
 Susie Huh  
 Emily Jensen  
 Olivia Jimenez  
 Christian Johnson  
 Madeline Johnson  
 Isabelle King  
 Morgan King  
 Kensley Knauf  
 Austen Kuhn  
 Datta Kurapati  
 Adrianna Land  
 Mollie Laws  
 Dylan Haines  
 Jose Santos Hernandez  
 Felicity Hesters  
 Gabrylla Lazcano  
 Elery Leavitt  
 Julia Lemes  
 Ethan Liu  
 Reese Longbine  
 Sibusiso Magombo  
 Asiya Maredia  
 Joseph Marro  
 Taylor Marshall  
 Landry Maydon  
 Julian McDonald  
 Rachel McNew  
 Ryan Miner  
 Mason Miranda  
 Amira Mistkawi  
 Aanya Momin  
 Aliza Momin  
 Payal Mugunda  
 Natikadan Munoz  
 Jackson Nance  
 Chelsea Name  
 Lucas Nasipak  
 Lukas Osborn  
 Aidan Parker  
 Savannah Paschall  
 Dishant Patel  
 Seryna Payne  
 Rohit Pentakota  
 Gabrielle Perez  
 Anthony Phan  
 Emilia Piangerelli  
 Zara Pinkerton  
 Avery Polnaszek  
 Taylor Porter  
 Adrian Raj  
 Karenta Ramirez  
 Kassandra Raquet  
 Nida Rathichith  
 Amber Reser  
 Kate Roseberry  
 Jorge Ruiz Williams  
 Maarken Saxer  
 Shresth Shivashankar  
 Sri Lahari Siddabathala  
 Haadi Siddiqui  
 Thomas Smedley  
 Coral Spicer  
 Madalyn Strader  
 Ashlyn Tannehill  
 Liam Thompson  
 Mary Thompson  
 Kyle Tran  
 Ishaan Trehan  
 Sebastian Villarreal  
 Aziah Walker  
 George Wesson

**Grade 11**  
 Jaden Acevedo  
 Rahin Ali  
 JT Anderson  
 James Brittain  
 Cecelia Burke  
 Jean Jacques Chirat  
 Matthew Chouteau  
 Kirby Cowser  
 Anthony Disimone  
 Mustafa Eltgani  
 Savannah Geurin  
 Dylan Haines  
 Jose Santos Hernandez  
 Felicity Hesters  
 Gabrylla Lazcano  
 Elery Leavitt  
 Julia Lemes  
 Ethan Liu  
 Reese Longbine  
 Sibusiso Magombo  
 Asiya Maredia  
 Joseph Marro  
 Taylor Marshall  
 Landry Maydon  
 Julian McDonald  
 Rachel McNew  
 Ryan Miner  
 Mason Miranda  
 Amira Mistkawi  
 Aanya Momin  
 Aliza Momin  
 Payal Mugunda  
 Natikadan Munoz  
 Jackson Nance  
 Chelsea Name  
 Lucas Nasipak  
 Lukas Osborn  
 Aidan Parker  
 Savannah Paschall  
 Dishant Patel  
 Seryna Payne  
 Rohit Pentakota  
 Gabrielle Perez  
 Anthony Phan  
 Emilia Piangerelli  
 Zara Pinkerton  
 Avery Polnaszek  
 Taylor Porter  
 Adrian Raj  
 Karenta Ramirez  
 Kassandra Raquet  
 Nida Rathichith  
 Amber Reser  
 Kate Roseberry  
 Jorge Ruiz Williams  
 Maarken Saxer  
 Shresth Shivashankar  
 Sri Lahari Siddabathala  
 Haadi Siddiqui  
 Thomas Smedley  
 Coral Spicer  
 Madalyn Strader  
 Ashlyn Tannehill  
 Liam Thompson  
 Mary Thompson  
 Kyle Tran  
 Ishaan Trehan  
 Sebastian Villarreal  
 Aziah Walker  
 George Wesson

**Rouse High School Grade 9**  
 Abhishek Aithabathala  
 Yuliana Albrecht  
 Lucia Alemana  
 Cynthia Anaya  
 Ciana Argujio  
 Maya Armenious  
 Mason Azios  
 Eunji Bae  
 Mya Barry  
 Neil Barton  
 Aaron Bergman  
 Daa Bharde  
 Arudhya Bharti  
 Mackenzie Blackstock  
 Akshara Bommi Reddy  
 Aryan Boujabad  
 Tiffany Brinkman  
 Parker Brown  
 Bailey Butler

Chase Weyerman  
 Carson Wheeler  
 Robert Wiese  
 Dayana Wilcox  
 Elise Wilson  
 Jude Wilson  
 Katy Zamora

**Grade 11**  
 Ayden Alexander  
 Nuha Ali  
 John Allen  
 Sreeja Arora  
 Ayaan Badarpura  
 Kylie Bartusek  
 Lynnord Bercu  
 Emily Blair  
 Caden Brannan  
 Rheet Bronstad  
 Gavin Brzezinski  
 Jack Serrano  
 Hossain Shawn  
 Marc Sherry  
 Tristan Shoemaker  
 Ayush Singh  
 Arnav Sivakumar  
 Claire Smith  
 Keona Sotomayor  
 Aiden Spicer  
 Bryson Suggs  
 Thor Sunde  
 Samantha Svetlik  
 Trevor Swanson  
 Kianna Thompson  
 Elizabeth Torres Socorro  
 Satwika Vasepalli  
 Pavithra Vellengar  
 Luis Vences  
 Logan Vurek  
 Brody Wafford  
 Jackson Whiteis  
 Sadie Wiebe  
 Sydney Wiebe  
 Diptee Yadav  
 Abigail Yeung  
 Mac Zweschper

**Grade 10**  
 Elise Afflitto  
 Ashalina Ali  
 Esha Ali  
 Emery Bell  
 Krish Bharal  
 Mackenzie Borie  
 Langston Brady  
 Avery Breland  
 Kelsey Brower  
 Mariana Cano-Arias  
 Christopher Capers  
 Julian Carpenter  
 Hannah Carrasco  
 Kelsey Clark  
 Jaya Coats  
 Courtney Cole  
 Andrew Crozier  
 Hunter Crozier  
 Alyssa Curry  
 Sean Dalberg  
 Ishaan Dalvi  
 Paige Davis  
 Emma Detweiler  
 Teresa Dinh  
 Gabrielle Edo  
 Jensen Eichenauer  
 Ella Farmer  
 Elizabeth Flores  
 Maria Frazier  
 Herath Galagoda  
 Anikta Ganesch  
 Sachin Gangireddy  
 Kayla Garnett Suckut  
 Sydney Gillen  
 Natesh Gurram  
 Siena Gutschow  
 Sophia Harper  
 Cameron Hayes  
 Matthew Heald  
 Rylie Heil  
 Keely Hernandez  
 Marisol Hernandez  
 Jocelyn Higas  
 Genesis Holmes  
 Susie Huh  
 Emily Jensen  
 Olivia Jimenez  
 Christian Johnson  
 Madeline Johnson  
 Isabelle King  
 Morgan King  
 Kensley Knauf  
 Austen Kuhn  
 Datta Kurapati  
 Adrianna Land  
 Mollie Laws  
 Dylan Haines  
 Jose Santos Hernandez  
 Felicity Hesters  
 Gabrylla Lazcano  
 Elery Leavitt  
 Julia Lemes  
 Ethan Liu  
 Reese Longbine  
 Sibusiso Magombo  
 Asiya Maredia  
 Joseph Marro  
 Taylor Marshall  
 Landry Maydon  
 Julian McDonald  
 Rachel McNew  
 Ryan Miner  
 Mason Miranda  
 Amira Mistkawi  
 Aanya Momin  
 Aliza Momin  
 Payal Mugunda  
 Natikadan Munoz  
 Jackson Nance  
 Chelsea Name  
 Lucas Nasipak  
 Lukas Osborn  
 Aidan Parker  
 Savannah Paschall  
 Dishant Patel  
 Seryna Payne  
 Rohit Pentakota  
 Gabrielle Perez  
 Anthony Phan  
 Emilia Piangerelli  
 Zara Pinkerton  
 Avery Polnaszek  
 Taylor Porter  
 Adrian Raj  
 Karenta Ramirez  
 Kassandra Raquet  
 Nida Rathichith  
 Amber Reser  
 Kate Roseberry  
 Jorge Ruiz Williams  
 Maarken Saxer  
 Shresth Shivashankar  
 Sri Lahari Siddabathala  
 Haadi Siddiqui  
 Thomas Smedley  
 Coral Spicer  
 Madalyn Strader  
 Ashlyn Tannehill  
 Liam Thompson  
 Mary Thompson  
 Kyle Tran  
 Ishaan Trehan  
 Sebastian Villarreal

NEWS

# Pandemic surge continues to recede

BY RICHARD STONE  
EDITOR AT LARGE

If the current metrics are to be believed, Williamson County is on the back side of the most recent wave of coronavirus infections.

Most of the metrics used to gauge the spread of the virus are in decline.

Wilco health officials reported 196 new cases over the weekend of Oct. 24. Of those, 89 were reported on Friday, 57 on Saturday and 50 on Sunday. That spiked on Monday with a report of 115 new cases. That brings the October total to 2814 new cases, far off the marks set in August and September.

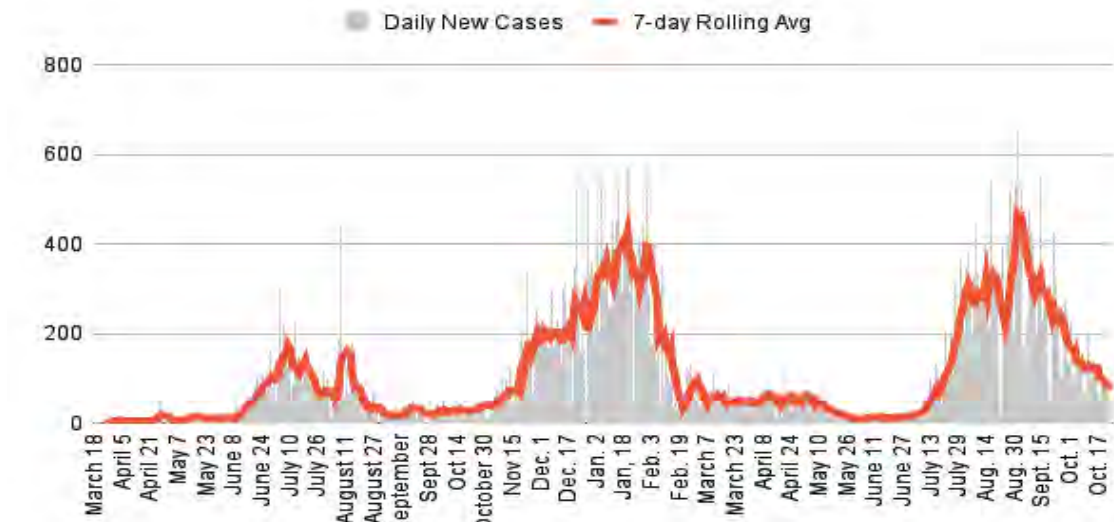
Another positive data point is the county's seven-day average infection rate. After flattening last week at about 20 per 100,000,

it was down to about 15.5 per 100,000 by Monday.

For the week ending Oct. 22, Leander ISD reported 48 new cases. That's up from the previous report of 42 cases but, still, the rate of spread is slowing at the school.

Monday, there are only 174 people with a lab-confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in one of the 11-county regional trauma service area hospitals, a region that includes Williamson County. Last week, there were 226 in hospital. That represents roughly 4.2% of the region's total hospital capacity. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) reported Monday that 66 staffed adult and 11 staffed pediatric beds were available.

Since the beginning of August,



DSHS said that there have been more than 100,000 vaccine doses distributed in WilCo. That's an average of about 6,400 a week, though that has pace has slowed a bit in the last two or three weeks. DSHS reports that nearly 24,000 people in Williamson County have received a booster dose since Aug. 13.

More than 71% of eligible WilCo residents are fully vaccinated and nearly 80% have had at least one dose of a vaccine. Nearly 60% of the county's total population is fully vaccinated.

That leaves about 250,000 WilCo residents unvaccinated, including the nearly 100,000 children under the age of 12 not yet eligible

for a vaccination. DSHS reports that nearly 9 million Texans have yet to get a vaccine.

The only major metric not showing a positive trend is fatalities. Williamson County has reported 11 more COVID-related fatalities in the last week, pushing the death toll to 699. Of those, 56 have been reported this month.

## McDONALD'S LISD HIGH SCHOOL ALL "A" HONOR ROLL - 1ST 6 WEEKS

Madelyn Cooper  
Thomas Cunyus  
Kadence Davis  
Abigail De Mascio  
Audrey De Mascio  
Mitchell Dequeiroga  
Karen Diaz  
Saipreetam Earanti  
Caleb Ellison  
Hana Elzayat  
Tyler Espinosa  
Jace Faminu  
Matthew Farris  
Jon Flores  
Cole Fuller  
Vaishvik Gilakattula  
Piper Gomez  
Caleb Goodwill  
Hannah Gray  
Anastasia Grygorieva  
Sophie Gwaldo  
Rebekah Hall  
Brooklyn Harlow  
Rayner Heinrich  
David Hoo  
Noor Imran  
Nathaniel Jefferson  
Chad Johnson  
Bennett Jones  
Naya Judy  
Ardan Kani  
Saavnika Katakam  
Ashley Kim  
Sai Aditya Koduri  
Catherine Krempin  
Erin Leach  
Claire Lee  
Daniel Lee  
Emma Logan  
Abdussalam Malik  
Ryan McDonald  
Robert McLauchlan  
Alyson McWilliams  
Eyan Meier  
Jonas Meintrup  
Avery Meyer-Phillips  
Owen Mietus  
Landon Miller  
Merrill Moore  
Hannah Moulton  
Sahithi Myana  
Ishani Namadurai  
Owen Nichols  
Cody Nieft  
Alexis Nielson  
Kent O'Pella  
Natalie Okunowo  
Parthiban Parthasarathy  
Chelsea Perez  
Megan Peterson  
Braden Petzold  
Ryan Pfenning  
Saomai Pham  
Maria Pitts  
Celena Polanco  
Shriya Praveen  
Emerson Pugh  
Arul Reddy  
Simran Reddy  
Lane Rockhold  
Isaac Rodgers  
Avery Ross  
Teuila Ross  
Edwin Rotich  
Colton Rupe  
Oscar Salazar  
Trey Schluteter  
Emma Schoening  
Talise Segrets  
Nathaniel Shaw  
Isaac Shen  
Dillon Sinha  
Elizabeth Smith  
Foster Snell  
Dawson Snow  
Rachel Song  
Mahita Shree Srinivasan  
Rameshbabu  
Benjamin Stacer  
Taylor Stephenson  
Xavier Stewart  
Cora Suchoemel  
Naara Tanco  
Robert Terbay  
Hannah Thompson  
Jacob Troller  
Andrew Truong  
Sara Tusken  
Edward Tyson  
Joshua Wager  
Kaylee Walker  
Brooke White  
Carter Wilson  
Parker Wolski  
Kylie Womack

Hudson Elkjer  
Heaven Eskandar  
Savanna Farris  
Brendon Fournier  
Avery Franklin  
Isabella Franklin  
Julie Galvan  
Dylan Goertz  
Abigail Gordon  
Mary Graham  
Kelci Grahmann  
Katherine Griffith  
Bryan Guerrero  
Lance Hairston  
Brooke Hatch  
Ashley Hehenberger  
Avery Hoffmann  
William Hold  
Ty Hollingsworth  
Zane Holmes  
Shruthi Jaishankar  
Delainey Jones  
Bryce Jordan  
Sai Sathvik Katta  
Benjamin Keppler  
Saisrikar Kichili  
Celine Kim  
Nathan Kim  
Jacob Kipley  
Jack Knight  
Christopher Kopen  
Anika Koppula  
Rylie Lambert  
Langston Lee  
Ella Lewis  
Elli Lilledahl  
Ella Litherland  
Jacob Loofs  
Kayla Lopez  
Carson Massey  
Noah Matthews  
Parker Mazzola  
Kaylyn McClatcher  
Emma McDonald  
Blake Meyer-Phillips  
Virginia Mitcham  
Bradley Moegelin  
Armand Morosanu  
Kayla Nance  
Claire Nobles  
Sreenidhi Palaniappan  
Om Pandharipande  
Rylie Peck  
Katie Pedley  
Breana Pelbath  
Santhoshi Akshita  
Penmetsa  
Ethan Perry  
Rebecca Peters  
Hailey Philpot  
Michael Phuong  
Kyra Piper  
Kai Pitkanen  
Celeste Polanco  
Meghana Pulimi  
Enmalyn Ramirez  
Yashita Singh Rathore  
Claire Reed-Green  
Courtney Roark  
Kennedi Rucker  
Manisha Sahu  
Mara Sanchez  
Ahan Saripalli  
Thomas Schmitt  
Landon Sean  
Julie Simpson  
Hudson Stauffer  
Cameron Stewart  
J'Quan Talbert  
Lucy Tinsley  
Alexis Trachtenberg  
Evan Turner  
Dharma Uppuluri  
Timothy Urban  
Kira Utter  
Kyliegh Vandyke  
Rishi Veeramani  
Alyssa Vega  
Deeksha Vivek  
Lauren Wells  
Calina Whitney  
Benjamin Williams  
Kirstin Williams  
Madeline Yeager

**Grade 12**  
Yara Alam  
Lohitaksh Allampalli  
Taylor Allen  
Angeline Aloysius  
Tessa Altum  
Zachary Alvernaz  
Benjamin Armstrong  
Tamzhiniyan  
Arunachalam  
Gaia Baccarini  
Brooke Barber  
Lauren Bass-Lopez  
Jordan Beatty  
Jalen Becerra  
Natalie Benavides  
Jared Bennett  
Stefan Bernstein  
Akhilesh Britla  
Makenzi Arldt  
Sofia Auguste  
Amrutha Balla  
Shannon Barton  
Rithvik Bavanla  
Hailey Bazyn  
Jack Bezy  
Annie Bell  
Samantha  
Benitez-Rodriguez  
Derya Bizra  
Gage Blackwell  
Abigail Boyles  
Blake Brinkman  
Emily Brooks  
Emma Brown  
Demasio Bryant  
Caroline Burch  
Davis Burrell  
Mckenzie Butler  
Michael Caputo  
Hannah Carey  
Wyatt Childre  
Fernando Cifuentes  
Ryan Clanton Pimentel  
Mackinley Cole  
Grace Cornwell  
Evan Coupar  
Swagat Das  
Annabelle Dimayuga  
Garrett Driggers  
Sai Sriya Duggirala  
Tanushree Duggirala  
Jacqueline Ekman

**Grade 9**  
Adithi Aavula  
Finn Abramson  
Aarav Ahuja  
Colby Diaz  
Elisa Diaz-Rocha  
Zachary Dommengue  
Skye Duncan  
Corbyn Durbin  
Mckenna Dyer  
Kaylin Esparza  
Mendall Featherstone  
Vincent Fedele  
Davyn Fontenot  
Karis Fortner  
Samuel Fousek  
Ellen Freireich  
Jackson Fries  
Samuel Fries  
Bailey Garcia  
Nitika Girish  
Bria Glaser

Gracelyn Grady  
Daisy Greggio  
Sarah Grissom  
Karissa Hasfurter  
Lily Hatter  
Mary Haynes  
Jenna Haynie  
Jacob Hellman  
Kylie Hernandez  
Colton Hesser  
Maximilian Hesson  
Lane Hile  
Alyssa Holt  
Ava Holt  
Ashley Huang  
Natalie Huang  
Jordyn Huber  
Holden Hutcherson  
Ammar Imran  
Allyson Ingram  
Reese Keeling  
Sheyenne Kelch  
Bryce Kelley  
Maddox Kelly  
Brenna Kenney  
Bohdan Khoruzhenko  
Cailyn Kieper  
Marley Kingsbery  
Zoe Kirchner  
Sophie Klepner  
Kendra Kramer  
Julia Krempin  
Abhiram Krovvidi  
Bailey Lafavers  
Mythri Lakkireddy  
Piper Leleux  
Emma Loesch  
Jacob Lopez  
Sherry Lu  
Olivia Lukes  
Christian Lyons  
Nika Mankivska  
Aubreygh Marsh  
Kaylee Matic  
Kyle Mazzola  
Anais McCarty  
Grace McDorman  
Abigail McKane  
Kynkadee McLachlan  
Ryan McNair  
Summer McNair  
Luke Mietus  
Avery Miller  
Kaitlyn Minney  
Sarah Moffitt  
Allison Navarrete  
Sebastian Neff  
Chloe Nguyen  
Kendall Nieburg  
Kareem Nour  
Nihar Nukala  
Jackson Ocampo  
Tyler Ocampo  
Jonivan Otero  
Liesel Papenhause  
Krishna Patel  
Ilan Pechman  
Lily Pettit  
Jacob Peterson  
Amber Pettit  
Kristina Peugh  
Viviana Phan  
Pranav Pizzi  
Emily Pizzola  
Ryan Popejoy  
Dillen Pressly  
Adrian Ramirez  
Reagan Ramsey  
Emily Reid-Mojica  
Lacey Rexmoque  
Logan Riggs  
Ellen Ringo  
Chloe Rouse  
Lauren Rowden  
Brittany Rupe  
Spencer Russell  
Poojitha Sajja  
Jace Salinas  
Megan Schulz  
Bevyn Scott  
Rafah Shaik  
Keaton Shaw  
Brianna Shawhan  
Emma Shockley  
Kaitlyn Silva  
Katelyn Simpson  
Cheyenna Singleton  
Olivia Sinha  
April Smith  
Breckin Smith  
Gavin Snell  
Hannah Solomon  
Mikayla Stasny  
Ryan Stein  
Chelsea Steiner  
Samuel Stoddard  
Emily Stokes  
Jeremiah Sudarmanto  
Lauren Tate  
Nathan Thurman  
Makenna Tilson  
Angela Truong  
Areg Vartanian  
Sarah Varughese  
Sneha Vayugandla  
Varshitha Vegi  
Chiara Wallace  
Samuel Walsh  
Evan Weaver  
Kendra Wilcox  
Aidan Wilson  
Elijah Woodson  
Tanush Yarram

**Vista Ridge High School**  
**Grade 9**  
Adithi Aavula  
Finn Abramson  
Aarav Ahuja  
Colby Diaz  
Elisa Diaz-Rocha  
Zachary Dommengue  
Skye Duncan  
Corbyn Durbin  
Mckenna Dyer  
Kaylin Esparza  
Mendall Featherstone  
Vincent Fedele  
Davyn Fontenot  
Karis Fortner  
Samuel Fousek  
Ellen Freireich  
Jackson Fries  
Samuel Fries  
Bailey Garcia  
Nitika Girish  
Bria Glaser

**Grade 9**  
Adithi Aavula  
Finn Abramson  
Aarav Ahuja  
Colby Diaz  
Elisa Diaz-Rocha  
Zachary Dommengue  
Skye Duncan  
Corbyn Durbin  
Mckenna Dyer  
Kaylin Esparza  
Mendall Featherstone  
Vincent Fedele  
Davyn Fontenot  
Karis Fortner  
Samuel Fousek  
Ellen Freireich  
Jackson Fries  
Samuel Fries  
Bailey Garcia  
Nitika Girish  
Bria Glaser

Saylor Bourland  
Elayna Brokhoff  
Mark Caltagirone  
Mckenna Campbell  
Sophia Caramanica  
Francisco Cazarian  
Jordyn Chang  
Brandon Chen  
Aryan Chirayath  
Meredith Chisholm  
Harin Choi  
Owen Clark

Luke Collins  
Kaley Conkle  
Reagan Conner  
Jacob Cook  
Mason Cox  
Bryce Coyne  
Gabrielle D'Souza  
Khang Dang  
Sruthi Dasika  
Kai Dauphin  
Ashley Davis  
Miller Dawkins  
Miyah DeLesus  
Steven Dennis  
Kavya Devani  
Emmy Dinh  
Jasmin Dion  
Logan Duffey  
Kaylee Duran  
Abigail Durin  
Sophia Ely  
Astoria Ernst  
Rhea Erukulla  
Sophia Esselman  
Luke-Junqing Fan  
Benjamin Farrar  
Keara Fellows  
Ian Fiore  
Isabella Flores  
Meredith Foley  
Kylie Fortenberry  
Zoe Fossey  
Wynona Foyt  
Caleb Francis  
Natalia Gamez  
Ambri Garner  
Alexander Gatica  
Katya Gatica  
Michael Gearing  
Daniel Gil  
Juliette Goussset  
Fallon Green  
Avery Gregg  
Catherine Groh  
Elizabeth Groh  
Erin Grove  
Ridhima Gupta  
Jeesitha Halari  
Akemi Hansen  
Patrick Harrison  
Jason Hatheway  
Alexis Hawkins  
James Henderson  
Lucas Henriques  
Isabella Hinojosa  
Caden Hoffman  
Audrey Hooper  
Riley Horn  
Caroline Howard  
Stephanie Huang  
Bailey Huner  
Khavya Thendral  
Jaganmani  
Adarsha Jeyakumar  
Audryna Jimenez  
Rylee Johnson  
Ankur Jonnalagadda  
Justin Jung  
Woojin Jung  
Seth Jupe  
Genevieve Jurajda  
Srinirek Kakumaru  
Eunchae Kang  
Zara Kapasi  
Srivinya Karsuala  
Quinn Keller  
Sofia Kesel  
Romit Khanna  
Atharva Khanolkar  
Lianah Kim  
Joshua Kisner  
Chet Krusheski  
Delia Krusheski  
Amay Lakhankar  
Sophia Lara  
Vince Le  
Isabella Leandro  
Griffin Lee  
Seoyoung Lee  
Johnny Lin  
Devon Lopez  
Enrique Lopez  
Grace Love  
Isabel Lowery  
Natalia Lyle  
Katelynn Lule  
Brian Maguire  
Aaditya Mahadevan  
Arf Maknojijya  
Miranda  
Maldonado Andrade  
Gowri Maracany  
Ariadna Cristina  
Marquez Mata  
Alexander McCarthy  
Madelyn McGahey  
Madison McKenzie  
Isabela Mejia  
Kartik Mididoddi  
Tarkyn Miller  
Ethan Millican  
Richard Mires

Sanjay Mistry  
River Molina-Garrett  
Jedidiah Montoya  
Masi Moosavi  
Alexis Morrison  
Nicolas Murphy  
Ada Myrick  
James Nance  
Kayli Negrette  
Sergio  
Nigaglioni Jimenez  
Elenora Nixon

Sevilya  
Nurmukhamedova  
Emma Orozco  
Sascha Ostrowski  
Nicola Pacelli  
Alyssa Parisi  
Madison Parisi  
Bohan Park  
Chanseung Park  
Si Woo Park  
Lizzie Parker  
Emma Parsons  
Krish Patel-Shah  
Hera Paterno  
Connor Peacock  
Hannah Peeze  
Isaiah Pendleton  
Miguel Perez  
Aidan Pham  
Sophia Pham  
Vinh Pham  
Anjali Philip  
Rhea Rerick  
Nishil Polishetty  
Ethan Pope  
Sri Amit Pranav Posina  
Aden Postelnik  
Jacob Powers  
Ayushi Priyadarshani  
Simran Rajeshirke  
Julia Ramsey  
Neev Rathod  
Avery Reich  
Risa Riojas  
Bryce Ritchie  
Audrey Robinson  
Kristina Rodriguez  
Eleanor Ronan  
Sylvie Ruseva  
Zehra Sahin  
Yaseen Salman  
Isabella Sanchez  
Ethan Sanders  
Jose Sandoval  
Ruby Sandoval  
Arthur Santos  
Pranav Sarma  
Austin Sassenberg  
Anna Scassa  
Adalyn Schlung  
Brett Secrist  
Bella Seitz  
Donovan Selvera  
Ayushi Sharma  
Sierra Shaw  
Ryan Silva  
Sarada Varshini  
Sivasailam  
Sidney Smiley  
Summer Smith  
Ryan Sovich  
Marian Jean Stahl  
Brian Stewart  
Abhilash Sunkara  
Neha Suresh  
Aaron Swor  
Laura Szabo  
Jacob Taira  
Katharine Terry  
Ananya Thondapu  
Abhijay Thunga  
Alexis Travis  
Lillian Vandiver  
Aubrey Vanlandingham  
Christopher Veloz  
Maya Veloz  
Natalie Vuong  
Ava Wallace  
Caeleb Wamsley  
Daniel Warmerdam  
Maximilian Webb  
Jacob Weikum  
Tyler Williamson  
Brylie Wolfe  
Douglas Womack  
Jason Wood  
Robert Woodward  
Sahith Yamani  
Adelaide Yao  
Jasmine Yen  
Nikhila Yenarum  
Swadhini Yerragudi  
Emily Yoo  
Caitlyn Zacharias  
Leena Zala

**Grade 10**  
Hiba Al Hudhud  
Kendell Alford  
Sujith Kumar Alluru  
Yasmine Ally  
Esther An  
Grant Anderson  
Ivan Antezana  
Zachariah Antezana  
Ella Armstrong  
Aubrey Atkinson  
Aashrith Attelli  
Sedimam Azameti  
Kaelyn Bagley  
April Bahena  
Aayush Baniya

Shaun Beakley  
Joshua Bennett  
Josiah Bishara  
Amelia Borchert  
Julie Bowen  
Danika Bryson  
Leonard Buckel  
Bridgid Burdick  
Savana Caldwell  
Tyler Calkins  
Carly Cancila  
Elizabeth Cantu

Jarell Capacio  
Sriya Chalasani  
Samiha Challagulla  
Nicholas Chang  
Byla Chapman  
Surya Chidambaram  
Nathaniel Choe  
Sabrina Cole  
Lauren Collins  
Karlie Connor  
Sophia Contreras  
Caden Cornwell  
Jonathan Cotten  
Hailey Cummings  
Trinity Dale  
Gavin Danis  
Jayachandra Dasari  
Raina Desai  
Annette  
Dessommes Recio  
Jaeden Devlin  
Ty Duchouquette  
Farah El-Zein  
Hayden Erickson  
Sobeida Espinoza  
Tommy Figueroa  
Nadia Flores  
Jocelynn Flores Silva  
Jacob Fowler  
Juan Fuentes Saldana  
Anvitha Gangineni  
Helena Garcia  
Kyleigh Gasbarro  
Maya Gervais  
Tyler Gilliland  
Joaquin Gomez  
Lindsey Gonzalez  
Karli Gouner  
Dylan Greathouse  
Hayley Gregerson  
Reese Gunderson  
Gaurav Gunnia  
Devansh Halari  
Mikala Ham  
Timothy Hamby  
Mariemadeleine Han  
Campbell Harkness  
Cade Hartley  
Qays Hawwar  
Sophia Hinojosa  
Kiefer Hoang  
Ella Hoffman  
Joshua Hogenmiller  
Helaina Holder  
Rebecca Hong  
Tai Hooper  
Brihan Hopkins  
Telci Huynh  
Nicholas Iglehart  
Nicole Izzo  
Eliana Jagen  
Jake Jecker  
Colton Jeffrey  
Jelaluddin Jindani  
Hayoon Jung  
Yewon Jung  
Cerise Kalter  
Gracie Karabinas  
Rishikrit Kasireddy  
Armaan Khatwani  
Nikhil Kommuri  
Evan Krause  
Deniz Kucuk  
Tyler Kuehn  
Tranette Le  
Logan Lear  
Akela Leauanae  
Sarah Lellis  
Karol Lopez  
Katie Luu  
Samira Mannan  
Elliana Martin  
Sidney Masgras  
Ty Mastrian  
Jordyn May  
Zoe McCaskey  
Dylan Meath  
Alyssa Miller  
Hailey Miller  
Nicholas Miller  
Jacob Mills  
Maxfield Mohney  
Sebastian Molnar  
Eugenio  
Morales Tijerina  
Diego Morote  
Cole Morrice  
Leyla Morris  
Isaac Mote  
Bennett Moyer  
Nisha Mulji  
Tian-Ming Murray  
Risha Myadalla  
Harper Neal  
Ahmed Neematallah  
Gabriel Neubauer  
Zara Nemazie  
Katie Nguyen  
Noah Nguyen  
Vinh Nguyen  
Paige Norling

**Grade 10**  
Hiba Al Hudhud  
Kendell Alford  
Sujith Kumar Alluru  
Yasmine Ally  
Esther An  
Grant Anderson  
Ivan Antezana  
Zachariah Antezana  
Ella Armstrong  
Aubrey Atkinson  
Aashrith Attelli  
Sedimam Azameti  
Kaelyn Bagley  
April Bahena  
Aayush Baniya

Pierce Nowell  
Neel Oak  
Saniya Oak  
Elizabeth Oberhoff  
Jorge Ochoa  
Elizabeth Orona  
Regan Ostermiller  
Danika Packard  
Daniel Park  
Johan Park  
Cameron Perry  
Minh Pham  
Leon Poh  
Emilia Prado  
Mate'o Presas  
Owen Prewitt  
Clara Proulx  
Medha Pulluru  
Rian Quirke  
Adhya Ramprasad  
Ty Rangnow  
Pranav Rao  
Rachel Raring  
Lauren Roberts  
Luke Robertson  
Grecko Rodarte  
Madison Roemisch  
Brandon Rolfe  
Sydney Ross  
Peyton Rowley  
Nicholas Saied  
Maliha Samad  
Brian Samuels  
Alexis Sanchez  
Sasha Sanchez  
Parth Sangani  
Isaiah Schill  
Addison Sees  
Iha Sehgal  
Diya Shetty  
Madison Sifuentes  
Hannah Simonson  
Isaac Sipes  
Hailey Smith  
Karly Smith  
Noah Smith  
Noah Sobotka  
Matthew Stalberger  
Christopher Stephens  
Lauren Summers  
Brock Sutter  
Steven Talbott  
Catherine Tankersley  
Austin Theriault  
Indrajith Thyagaraja  
Kaitlyn To  
Brynna Tripp  
Presley Vance  
Mario Vangeli  
Atharv Vani  
Nasseem Vares  
Isabel Vargas  
Brock Vaughan  
Victoria Vaughan  
Kaarthikeya Vedere  
Katherine Votruba  
Chloe Wallace  
Jackson Wallerstein  
Christopher Webster  
Landy Webster  
Brooke Wells  
Bella Williams  
Tony Williams  
Emma Winward  
Dylan Woo  
Andrew Yoo  
Hanna Yoon  
Tyler Yount  
Jordyn Zink

**Grade 11**  
Ashley Acuna  
Ashritha Aki  
Rod Laurence Alcos  
Rachel Alexander  
Reyna Almquist  
Ema Anderson  
Meryem Apil  
Zachary Aronson  
Rajvi Babaria  
Anika Bahri  
Nishika Bajaj  
Arushi Balasundaram  
Leslie Barrera  
Jacob Bergers  
Rance Blancafort  
Eduardo Borges Issa  
Mark Brown  
Taryn Brune  
Sydney Camilletti  
Patrick Capesius  
Mariana  
Castellanos Lopez  
Qiwen Chen  
Valentino Chen  
Matthias Cherry  
Halley Compuesto  
Paige Conner  
Akilah Cook  
Rachel Cooke  
Anslee Copeland  
Aidan Cruz  
Arianna Cumming Arias  
Isabella Dale  
Arul Dhar  
Sruvi Dhar  
Jake Dusing  
Cecelia Ebersole  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

**Grade 11**  
Ashley Acuna  
Ashritha Aki  
Rod Laurence Alcos  
Rachel Alexander  
Reyna Almquist  
Ema Anderson  
Meryem Apil  
Zachary Aronson  
Rajvi Babaria  
Anika Bahri  
Nishika Bajaj  
Arushi Balasundaram  
Leslie Barrera  
Jacob Bergers  
Rance Blancafort  
Eduardo Borges Issa  
Mark Brown  
Taryn Brune  
Sydney Camilletti  
Patrick Capesius  
Mariana  
Castellanos Lopez  
Qiwen Chen  
Valentino Chen  
Matthias Cherry  
Halley Compuesto  
Paige Conner  
Akilah Cook  
Rachel Cooke  
Anslee Copeland  
Aidan Cruz  
Arianna Cumming Arias  
Isabella Dale  
Arul Dhar  
Sruvi Dhar  
Jake Dusing  
Cecelia Ebersole  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

Julianne Insall  
Ian Ixha  
Justin James  
Cassidy Janda  
Rachel Jenkins  
Elizabeth Kang  
Aneesha Khan  
Jiwoo Kim  
Parker Knudson  
Johan Park  
Suyog Kuikel  
Sri Dhriti Kuram  
Alyssa Ledesma  
Aaron Lee  
Claire Lee  
Hyoeonjin Lee  
Jangwon Lee  
Tianran Lindauer  
Korben Lutter  
Stacey Maddela  
Aaron Maginel  
Mia Mallingner  
Surya Manivannan  
Gabriela Martin  
Luke Mastrian  
Benjamin Medina  
Allieson Mendoza  
Rohith Middoddi  
Isabella Miller  
Lauren Minick  
Charulekha Mohan  
Ayraa Momin  
Evelyn Nathanson  
Sabina  
Nurmukhamedova  
Sebastian Ochoa  
Alexis Padilla  
Chanyoung Park  
Si Yeon Park  
Gabriella Patrocino  
Hannah Patton  
John Plant  
Hailey Podolak  
Llyen Poh  
Allison Prause  
Ana Sofia  
Puentes Ospina  
Steven Quach  
Vishva Ramprasad  
Rebekah Renfro  
Olive Reuter  
Sofia Reyes  
Renee Roca  
Alarice  
Rodriguez Nieves  
Akshat Rohella  
Sofia Rullan  
Sophia Saenz  
Owen Sanders  
Kara Sanford  
Rylee Sassenberg  
Connor Savely  
Kylie Sees  
Kaarthikeya Vedere  
Katherine Votruba  
Chloe Wallace  
Jackson Wallerstein  
Christopher Webster  
Landy Webster  
Brooke Wells  
Bella Williams  
Tony Williams  
Emma Winward  
Dylan Woo  
Andrew Yoo  
Hanna Yoon  
Tyler Yount  
Jordyn Zink

**Grade 12**  
Abdulhameed  
Abdulhameed  
Samad Ahmad  
Andrew Alexander  
Sherwin Amal  
Kali Aman-Carrier  
Nitin Anish  
Kyria Arshad  
Medha Arumala  
Caydence Aug  
Emily Augustine  
Emily Bailey  
Dylan Balto  
Sofia Batista  
Rachel Cooke  
Melia Beasley  
Alexandria Bell  
Siya Bhakta  
Talon Blottin  
Melija Bosch  
Carley Brandon  
Rachel Braswell  
Delaney Briggs  
Ethan Brissenden  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

**Grade 12**  
Abdulhameed  
Abdulhameed  
Samad Ahmad  
Andrew Alexander  
Sherwin Amal  
Kali Aman-Carrier  
Nitin Anish  
Kyria Arshad  
Medha Arumala  
Caydence Aug  
Emily Augustine  
Emily Bailey  
Dylan Balto  
Sofia Batista  
Rachel Cooke  
Melia Beasley  
Alexandria Bell  
Siya Bhakta  
Talon Blottin  
Melija Bosch  
Carley Brandon  
Rachel Braswell  
Delaney Briggs  
Ethan Brissenden  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

Zoe Fisher  
Alejandra Flores  
Tanner Glazier  
Emma Gomez  
Ivett Gomez Rabago  
Grace Goodwin  
Ethan Green  
Sierra Griffith  
Dhruv Halderia  
Ryan Hammersmith  
Guinivere Hansen  
Evan Hartman  
Joaquin Herrmann  
Ryan Ho  
Megan Holcomb  
David Homiller  
Mackenzie Howton  
Mary Ji  
Kaidyn Johnson  
Theodore Johnson  
Kailah Jones  
Peyton Jones  
Saeram Jung  
Jade Kahle  
Parker Kaifesh  
Mahad Kalim  
Jonah Kasza  
Matthew Kershaw  
Dana Kim  
Nayeon Kim  
Eunice Kim-Guzman  
Miranda King  
Colton Knight  
Olivia Knox  
Nijan Koirala  
Kennedi Kosh  
Abigail Krause  
Katelyn Krienke  
Carolyn Krusheski  
Cayden Kytola  
Landon La Spina  
Jatyn Lacki  
Andrew Lear  
Vianka Zoe Lechadores  
Erin Lee  
Jonathan Lee  
Kwanwoo Lee  
Mariia Likhacheva  
Annie Linnell  
Alexandro Lopez  
Jason Ly  
Danielle Lydick  
Ethan Lydick  
Naomi Madrid  
Graham Martin  
Nathaniel Martin  
Ethan Mason  
Janelle Rae Mata  
Sami Melhem  
Shivani Menon  
Evan Miller  
Tyler Miller  
Connor Mills  
Walker Moody  
Shivani Mruthyunyaja  
Manikanta Munagala  
Isabella Murphy  
Sally Musial  
Katherine Naugle  
Aparna Naveen  
Laney Nguyen  
Trish Nguyen  
Sarah Nicholson  
Jackson Nutt  
Gavin O'Dell  
Ximena Ochoa  
Aarjav Vani  
Eliana Varela Aponte  
Tomás Vasquez  
Gavyn Vela  
Maria Jose  
Velasquez Talero  
Kimberly Vo  
Paula Warren  
Victoria Welch  
Zachary Whitworth  
Emma Williams  
Ana Wojcik  
Krista Wolfpoone  
Brandon Wong

**Grade 12**  
Abdulhameed  
Abdulhameed  
Samad Ahmad  
Andrew Alexander  
Sherwin Amal  
Kali Aman-Carrier  
Nitin Anish  
Kyria Arshad  
Medha Arumala  
Caydence Aug  
Emily Augustine  
Emily Bailey  
Dylan Balto  
Sofia Batista  
Rachel Cooke  
Melia Beasley  
Alexandria Bell  
Siya Bhakta  
Talon Blottin  
Melija Bosch  
Carley Brandon  
Rachel Braswell  
Delaney Briggs  
Ethan Brissenden  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

**Grade 12**  
Abdulhameed  
Abdulhameed  
Samad Ahmad  
Andrew Alexander  
Sherwin Amal  
Kali Aman-Carrier  
Nitin Anish  
Kyria Arshad  
Medha Arumala  
Caydence Aug  
Emily Augustine  
Emily Bailey  
Dylan Balto  
Sofia Batista  
Rachel Cooke  
Melia Beasley  
Alexandria Bell  
Siya Bhakta  
Talon Blottin  
Melija Bosch  
Carley Brandon  
Rachel Braswell  
Delaney Briggs  
Ethan Brissenden  
Laura Ely  
Megan Erway  
Amanda Farrar  
William Flanders  
Matthew Flores  
Emma Flores-Cestari  
Kelson Flynn  
Tatyana Theresa Foster  
Mechak Gaba  
Stephan Galvez  
Uma Gangatkar  
Madison Ganoe  
Ryleigh Garis  
Anushri Ghosh  
Carson Gilly  
Saira Goraya  
Charlotte Goussset  
Zachary Gray  
Ryder Griffith  
Chenia Hajovsky  
Jackson Harrell  
Michael Hawes  
Emma Henderson  
Sofia Hernandez  
Preston Ho  
Natalie Holley  
Chance Hooper  
Amanda Hosseini  
Jake Howerton  
Sofia Imler

300 miles

>> How a silver lining forms

>> It starts at sea.  
>> Tropical waters heat up.  
>> Warm air soars skyward.  
>> Cold air rushes to the void.  
>> Cold air warms up.  
>> Cycle repeats.  
>> Faster and faster—a 50,000 foot engine of air.  
>> At seventy four miles per hour it earns a name.  
>> Harvey, Irma, Katrina.  
>> Then landfall.  
>> Roads rendered useless.  
>> Buildings destroyed.  
>> Families stranded.  
>> But for a brief moment,  
>> A silver lining appears.  
>> People see neighbors instead of strangers.  
>> And labels that divide are forgotten.

>> But when rains ease,  
>> when clouds part,  
>> silver linings need not fade.

>> Let's embrace our shared humanity.  
>> Let's connect with one another.  
>> Let's find our love for each other.  
>> Every single day.

>> Come together at [lovehasnolabels.com](http://lovehasnolabels.com)



# CLASSIFIEDS

PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

CALL, EMAIL OR VISIT:

**(512) 259-4449**

Kirsten.Foltz@HillCountryNews.com  
HillCountryNews.com

## CLASSIFIED LINE AD RATES

\$14.00 minimum charge for 15 words.  
54¢ each additional word.  
As low as \$8.50 per issue with discounts for consecutive weeks.

## DISPLAY AD RATES

Starting at \$16.00 per column inch with discounts for multiple consecutive weeks.

## DEADLINES

Thursday Edition

Display Ads are due Friday by 5 p.m.  
Word Ads are due Monday by Noon

## PAYMENT

Pre-payment required on all line ads.



### 010 ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COME JOIN THE** Leander Church of God for our Harvest Fest on Saturday, October 23rd, 2021! There will be music, bounce houses, games and more at 202 Sonny Drive Leander, TX 78641. We hope to see you there!

### 040 AUCTIONS

**PUBLIC ONLINE AUCTION LEANDER ISD** Site: Saegert Bus Terminal 3300 Jones Rd., Sunset Valley Preview: Thurs., 10/28/21 Auction Ends: Mon., 11/1/21  
**FEATURED ITEMS**  
(2) 2003 Ford Cutaway Buses, (9) 2008 Int'l. School Buses, 2005 Freightliner School Bus, 2009 Int'l. School Bus, (4) 2006 Ford Cutaway Buses - 14% B.P. www.onlinepros.com #7341 www.lemonsauctioneers.com (800)243-1113 OR (281)357-4977

### 470 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**DENTAL INSURANCE FROM** Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-716-0950 www.dental50plus.com/hill #6258.

**PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR** May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 877-461-2914.

**DIRECTV - EVERY** live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS - 1-855-978-0159

**DISH NETWORK. \$64.99** for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100 Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-855-977-7145.

**HIGH-SPEED INTERNET. WE** instantly compare speed, pricing, availability to find the best service for your needs. Starting at \$39.99/month! Quickly compare offers from top providers. Call 1-833-360-1757.

### 470 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

**DONATE YOUR CAR TO UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION!** Your donation helps education, prevention & support programs. FAST FREE PICKUP - 24 HR RESPONSE - TAX DEDUCTION 1-833-536-0904.

**TWO GREAT NEW offers** from AT&T Wireless! Ask how to get the new iPhone 11 or Next Generation Samsung Galaxy S10e ON US with AT&T's Buy one, Give One offer. While supplies last! CALL 1-877-354-1759.

**BECOME A PUBLISHED author!** Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. 1-844-932-0845.

**DONATE YOUR CAR, truck or van.** Help veterans find jobs or start a business. Call Patriotic Hearts Foundation. Fast, FREE pick-up. Max tax-deduction. Operators are standing by! Call 1-855-945-2873.

**UP TO \$15,000.00** of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 855-611-3907 or visit www.Life55plus.info/hill.

**DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND.** Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-888-684-1097.

**GENERAC STANDBY GENERATORS** provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-460-4051.

**ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING forever!** LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-945-1184.

### 740 WANTED TO RENT

**SEEKING HOME ON** Land/Farm to Rent. Hi Community, my name is Sara, and I'm seeking to rent a home on a farm, ranch, or just land with farm animals on it. Solid local and non-local landlord references, stable finances, and I don't smoke or do drugs. No kids or pets, 12 month lease preferred, need internet. Please call/text Sara if interested: 512-886-6319. I can't wait to meet you! Thank you!

### PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

### 850 HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED. POSITION:** Cattle Vet Tech. Monthly salary \$2,275. Education: Bachelors in veterinary medicine. Experience: None. Please call Capital Land of Livestock for inquiries 254-527-3342.

### 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

**ABANDONED VEHICLE NOTICE**  
CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
19790 TX-29, LIBERTY HILL, TEXAS 78642  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
Black VOLVO  
NO PLATE  
NO VIN  
\$384.90  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

### POLICE TOW NOTICE

CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
13300 WIRE ROAD, LEANDER TX 78641  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
2009 TOYOTA COROLLA (GRAY)  
5VIW888 (CA)  
1NXBU40E99Z115469  
\$333.25  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

### POLICE TOW NOTICE

CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
13300 WIRE ROAD, LEANDER TX 78641  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
2011 YAMAHA YZF R6 (WHITE)  
161B48 (TX)  
JYARJ16Y5BA0004786  
\$411.60  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

### POLICE TOW NOTICE

CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
13300 WIRE ROAD, LEANDER TX 78641  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
2011 YAMAHA YZF R6 (WHITE)  
161B48 (TX)  
JYARJ16Y5BA0004786  
\$411.60  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

**ADVERTISE! 512-259-4449**

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

### 900 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

## TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK



**TexSCAN Week of Oct. 24-30, 2021**

### ACREAGE

**Hunting/investment/recreational property.** We have some of the best in Texas, from the Hill Country (Edwards, Menard, Coke, Val Verde County, free ranging exotics) to South Texas (Kinney, Duval, Live Oak County, whitetail, hogs). Large acreage or small. 30-year fixed rate owner financing, only 5% down. Call toll-free or email for individual prices and terms, www.ranchenterprisesltd.com, 800-876-9720.

### AUCTION

**Online Only Estate Auction** - Mon., Nov. 1, soft close at 6:01 p.m. 8464 W. 580 Rd., Inola, OK. Silverado LT 4 Door Truck, Ford F250 Truck, Ford EcoSport Car, 1929 Model A, 2 Horse Slant - Horse Trailer, Bumper Pull Trailers, Dodge Ram 2500 Truck, 2 Kiotti 4x4 Tractors, Yanmar Tractor, 5 Buggies, 3 Zero Turn Mowers, Riding Lawnmower, Lots of 3 pt Farm Implements, Belltec Post Hole Digger, 2 Shipping Containers, Tool Boxes, Blacksmith Forge & Table, and more. Preview Date: Mon., Nov. 1, 9 a.m.-noon. Load Out: Tue., Nov. 2, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Chupps Auction Co., www.chuppsauction.com, 918-630-0495.

### EVENTS

**Comfort - A Haunting** on High Street in Comfort's Historic District, Oct. 30. Young Trick or Treaters, 1-3 p.m. along High. Adult Costume Part at Food for the Soul, 7-11 p.m. Best costume wins \$100. Music dancing, fortunes told, food, adult beverages and more. Haunted Garden at The Rusted Feather, \$5. Proceeds benefit Comfort Park. More information at 830-995-3131.

**Texas Renaissance Festival** - Oct. 9 to Nov. 28, Saturdays, Sundays and Thanksgiving Friday. 47th annual festival. Kids get in free on Sundays. Discounted tickets available at TexRenFest.com.

### 950 PUBLIC NOTICES

**Notice of Public Hearing to Consider Possible Adoption of Impact Fees**  
The Lago Vista City Council will hold Public Hearings to consider possible adoption of an impact fee for water, wastewater, and roadway facilities as part of their regular meeting on December 2, 2021, at 6:30 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird Street, Lago Vista, Texas. Any member of the public has the right to appear at the public hearing and present evidence for or against the adoption of any or all of the impact fees. Copies of the impact fee are available from the Office of the City Secretary. Questions may be directed to the City Manager, Tracie Hlavinka at (512) 267-1155.

### POLICE TOW NOTICE

CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
13300 WIRE ROAD, LEANDER TX 78641  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
2014 FORD FIESTA  
7DBB336 (CA)  
3FADP4TJ0EM177280  
\$341.60  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

### POLICE TOW NOTICE

CEDAR PARK WRECKER 512-267-5100  
13300 WIRE ROAD, LEANDER TX 78641  
VSF#0596469  
HTTPS://WWW.TDLR.TEXAS.GOV  
2014 FORD FIESTA  
7DBB336 (CA)  
3FADP4TJ0EM177280  
\$341.60  
If the vehicle is not claimed 30 days after the date this notice is sent it will give this vehicle storage facility the right to dispose of the vehicle. Additionally, failure to claim the vehicle is waiver of all right, title, or interest in the vehicle and personal property and a consent to sell the vehicle at the public sale.

### INVITATION FOR BID

Sealed responses addressed to the Purchasing Department, City of Leander, 105 N. Brushy Street, Leander, Texas 78641, for:  
**CITY OF LEANDER PUBLIC WORKS FENCE INSTALLATION**  
will be received prior to 9:00 A.M., November 5, 2021 then be publicly acknowledged.  
The City of Leander seeks an agreement with a qualified Individual, Firm, or Corporation to provide construction services for the delivery of the installation of fencing and relocation of the entry gate at the Public Works Facility located at 607 Municipal Drive, Leander, Texas 78641.  
Questions can be directed to the City of Leander Purchasing Department at kwenzel@leandertx.gov or 512-528-2792. Solicitation documents and complete specifications may be downloaded from the City website at https://bids.leandertx.gov/.

### GENERATORS

**GENERAC Standby Generators** provide backup power during utility power outages, so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-855-704-8579.

### MAINTENANCE

**Eliminate gutter cleaning forever!** LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off and 0% financing for those who qualify. PLUS Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-815-5722.

### MEDICAL

**Portable Oxygen Concentrator** May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983.

**Life Alert.** One press of a button sends help FAST, 24/7! At home and on the go. Mobile Pendant with GPS. FREE First Aid Kit (with subscription.) CALL 844-831-1525. FREE Brochure.

**DENTAL INSURANCE from** Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.dental50plus.com/txpress #6258

### WANTED

**FREON WANTED:** We pay \$\$\$ for cylinders and cans. R12 R500 R11 R113 R114. Convenient. Certified Professionals. Call 312-291-9169 or visit RefrigerantFinders.com.

### LEGAL

**NEED TO PLACE A LEGAL NOTICE?**

Call the HILL COUNTRY NEWS 512-259-4449

**Texas Press Statewide Classified Network**  
221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads  
Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

hillcountrynews.com

# Rouse volleyball clinches sixth straight district title

BY ZACH SMITH  
HCN SPORTS EDITOR

Rouse clinched its sixth straight district title with a pair of wins last week.

The Raiders swept Cedar Park 3-0 (25-14, 25-16, 25-18) on Tuesday, and followed that up with a 3-2 (25-13, 25-14, 23-25, 16-25, 15-9) win over Georgetown on Friday.

"It was a great team effort," Rouse head coach Jacob Thompson said Tuesday. "We stepped up."

According to Thompson, the Raiders weren't their normal, focused selves since they lost their first district game a couple of weeks ago against Liberty Hill.

Junior Kayla Lopez is in her third year on varsity, so she's seen first hand what makes Rouse

great, so she knew the team would respond.

"The loss was rough, it wasn't where we wanted to be," Lopez said. "We knew we could have beat them and played harder. We had a big conversation the next day about how we need to push ourselves more and play for the team."

Lopez and Karley Black each had nine kills to lead the Raiders on Tuesday. Sophomore Savannah Skopal had 34 assists, while freshman Mary Schirpik had 14 digs and junior Breana Pelbath had a pair of blocks.

Rouse combined for 10 service aces but had 15 service errors. The Raiders didn't commit a receiving error the entire match.

See **VOLLEYBALL**, page A12



Rouse Raiders junior outside hitter Kayla Lopez (2) digs the ball during a high school volleyball match between Rouse and Round Rock on August 31, 2021 in Round Rock, Texas.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN



Rouse Raiders junior running back Marques Waldman (27) carries the ball during a high school football game on August 25, 2021 in Leander, Texas.

SCOTT W. COLEMAN

## Experience, style put Austin FC midfielder in good shape

BY ZACH SMITH  
HCN SPORTS EDITOR

Dani Pereira knows how crucial the deep-lying midfielder position is in the Austin FC system, and it's one he feels responsible to master.

"It's the heart of the team," Pereira said. "If I play bad, the team plays badly. (Head coach Josh Wolff) and the rest of the staff and team put a lot of trust in me. It's about development as well. It's been good, but I've still got a lot to learn."

The rookie has appeared in 23 games — 16 starts — for the Verde & Black this season with one assist. He was tasked as the lone deep midfielder in Sunday's 2-1 win over the Houston Dynamo.

Austin FC is eliminated from the playoffs and has three games remaining, so, especially for young players like Pereira, development and game minutes are huge going into next season.

"We selected him first in the draft because we saw quality," Wolff said. "He's going to take his lumps, every first-year player does. I see him being a flexible player. He has more quality in the final third that we need to see develop."

When Alex Ring joined Austin FC in a trade that sent nearly \$2 million in General Allocation Money to New York City FC last December, it was clear he was going to play a key role as a deep-lying playmaker.

For the first stretch of the season, Austin FC went as Ring went. When he was sent off in a loss to Sporting Kansas City, the team went on a seven-game winless streak that was too much for them to overcome in the race for the playoffs.

But the team also added attacking midfielder Sebastian Driussi, which allowed Tomás Pochettino to drop deeper alongside Ring or Pereira.

"It's a position that I've worked to feel comfortable in," Pochettino said. "I've communicated that with Josh. Here, we usually play a double (pivot), which is something I wasn't always

See **SOCCER**, page A12

# Rouse, Glenn set to face off in all-Leander rivalry game

BY ZACH SMITH  
HCN SPORTS EDITOR

Playoff spots have already started to be clinched, and now it's time for district titles to be decided.

Vandegrift (8-0 overall, 5-0 District 25-6A) is in the playoffs but can clinch at least a share of the district title with a win against Hutto (4-4, 3-2). Round Rock (7-1, 4-1) and Cedar Ridge (6-2, 4-1) need to win to keep their title shots alive.

Cedar Park (5-3 overall, 4-1 District 11-5A-DI) will have its hands full with the dynamic Weiss (7-1, 5-0) offense as it needs a win to stay alive for a district title. Leander (2-6, 0-5) has been eliminated from playoff contention.

Rouse (7-1 overall, 5-0 District 13-5A-DII) needs to be careful not to overlook its rivalry game against Glenn (4-4, 4-1) with a potential district-title game next week against Brenham (6-2, 5-0) on the schedule.

### GAME OF THE WEEK

**GLENN AT ROUSE**  
Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Bible Stadium

Rouse has already locked up a playoff spot, and Glenn needs a win in one of its final two games or a couple of other teams to lose to clinch a postseason berth.

Rivalry games always have a little more excitement, and this all-Leander showdown is no different. The Raiders won 27-26 last year to clinch an undefeated district title.

Rouse, once again, enters this week's game against Glenn without a district loss and finishes off the regular season against Brenham, who is also unbeaten in district play.

The Rouse offense has been electric this season, scoring more than 50 points in all but one district game. Mason Shorb has

See **FOOTBALL**, page A12

### FULL SCHEDULE

**LEANDER AT HENDRICKSON**  
Thursday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
The Pfield, Pflugerville

**WEISS AT CEDAR PARK**  
Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Gupton Stadium

**VANDEGRIFT AT HUTTO**  
Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Hutto Memorial Stadium, Hutto

**MCNEIL AT STONY POINT**  
Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Kelly Reeves Athletic Complex

**WESTWOOD AT CEDAR RIDGE**  
Friday, Oct. 29, 7 p.m.  
Dragon Stadium

# Longhorns focus on finishing games ahead of trip to Baylor

BY ZACH SMITH  
HCN SPORTS EDITOR

The message from Texas football coach Steve Sarkisian for more than a week has been the same: finish the job.

The Longhorns blew fourth-quarter leads in their last two games before a bye on Saturday, falling to Oklahoma in the Red River Rivalry on Oct. 9, before stumbling late in a loss to Oklahoma State on Oct. 16.

"It's not about our capability to perform, we've shown our ability in the first few quarters," Sarkisian said Monday. "We tried to get them to understand that the circumstance shouldn't determine your ability to do something or not."

Texas travels to face No. 16 Baylor on Saturday and follows that up with a trip to Ames to take on No.

22 Iowa State on Nov. 6.

"This is going to take a good week of preparation," Sarkisian said.

There was a level of frustration among the coaches and players. Sarkisian said he'd be more concerned if there wasn't anyone upset about the back-to-back losses that dropped Texas to 4-3 on the year.

Sarkisian admits the 'one play at a time' mantra is coach speak, but said it's really that simple to create a good rhythm.

"When we focus on one play and give it a life of its own, generally, we're better," he said. "If we can get to that point and understand it, regardless of whether it's the first play of the game or the 70th play of the game, it takes that same focus and detail and trusting the guys around you."

The bye week was good for the Longhorns to heal up a bit — most notably, linebacker DeMarvion Overshown returning to practice Monday after suffering a concussion against the Cowboys.

It's also been good to focus on doing more of what is working and tabling any lessons or schemes that aren't for the final few weeks of the season.

But it all goes back to building confidence.

"Finishing games and winning those tight games is kind of contagious," Sarkisian said. "When you can do it once or twice, you start to build that confidence and believe that you can do it. Then it starts to become who you are."

Casey Thompson will continue to start at quarterback.

The receiving corps is look-

ing different from the start of the season after Jordan Whittington went down with an injury. Xavier Worthy (29 receptions, 542 yards, six touchdowns) and Joshua Moore (17 receptions, 169 yards, two touchdowns) lead a group that Sarkisian needs to step up.

"What we're looking for from that room is a little bit more level of consistency," he said. "We're a little up and down, and that's been the story of our passing game in general. It's been a rollercoaster."

Baylor has been playing well — including an upset win over Iowa State — and is led by quarterback Gerry Bohanon, who has 12 touchdowns with just one interception and a rushing attack that averages more than 230 yards per game.

"Bohanon is a really efficient player," Sarkisian said. "He clearly

takes care of the ball. They do a good job of moving the pocket and getting him outside the pocket. They're a run-first offense, and that sets up a lot of what they do."

Even if the frustrations are real, the Longhorns aren't out of the running for a Big 12 title. Their next two opponents are ahead of them in the standings, win a couple of games and the story of the season is much different.

Sarkisian isn't interested in talking about the end of the road until it's in the rearview mirror.

"So many times, we like to define a team by one moment or game, when in reality, the story is never really told until it's complete," he said. "We've got some great games ahead of us. We think we can play better than we've played all year."

# Mix of youth, experience help No. 21 Texas surge ahead in Big 12 action

BY ZACH SMITH  
HCN SPORTS EDITOR

Texas soccer coach Angela Kelly didn't do her huge freshman class any favors at the beginning of this season.

The first five games of the 2021 season included a pair of road games against senior-laden UCF and Florida, plus games against No. 11 Georgetown (who made it to the College Cup just three years ago) and No. 19 Rice.

"It was a baptism by fire," Kelly said.

But soon after that difficult stretch, something clicked, and the Longhorns have been rolling ever since, riding an 11-game unbeaten streak into the regular-season finale against Kansas on Thursday and the Big 12 Tournament, which begins Sunday in Round Rock.

"We always knew we had tons of talent, it's just a jump to the next level, and there's an acclimation period," Kelly said. "There was a period of time when we just had to have patience and keep supporting everybody."

"It's a credit to the upperclassmen, they had to bring them in and nurture them. This is the byproduct."

The 11-game unbeaten streak is tied for the second-longest in school history, and No. 21 Texas is unbeaten in its first eight Big 12 matches for the third time in program history, joining the 2001 and 2002 squads.

The Longhorns didn't allow a goal in more than 550 minutes until a second-half goal in the 2-1 win over Oklahoma State on Sunday afternoon, a new program record.

They're doing it all with as many as six freshmen starters, including the dynamic attacking duo of Lexi Missimo and Trinity Byars leading the line. They're tied for the team lead with eight goals apiece, while Missimo has 10 assists to become the third Texas

player to record double-digit assists in a season.

"I feel more confident," Missimo said. "I feel like we're finishing our chances more. Us just doing that and putting the other team out of it early is a big sign that we're getting better as a team. We're getting closer every day, and I think that shows on the field."

The duo has been playing together for a long time, having been teammates with Solar SC near Dallas and were the top two recruits in the Top Drawer Soccer 2021 recruiting rankings.

Kelly's 2021 class was ranked No. 2 overall and included No. 9 overall recruit defender Emily Jane Cox and No. 10 forward Tatiana Fung, both of which have appeared in all 17 games for Texas this year.

It's been an easy fit with senior Julia Grosso, who scored the decisive penalty to win the gold medal for Canada at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games over the summer and is a three-time All-Big 12 Selection.

"We're really close with the freshmen," Grosso said. "I'm really happy they came in, and they've really changed our program for the better. It's been really good to work off of them, and we're all similar players, so that helps as well."

Originally picked to finish fifth in the Big 12, the Longhorns can win the conference title with a win at Kansas and a TCU loss or tie against Texas Tech on Thursday.

The Big 12 Tournament begins with the quarterfinals on Oct. 31 at the Round Rock Multipurpose Complex. The semifinals will be held on Nov. 4, and the Championship is on Nov. 7.

"Every team we play in the conference is talented, and everyone has film on us," Kelly said. "At Texas, we're getting everybody's best. I'd like to see us boss the game and continue to create more and more chances."

## FOOTBALL

from page A11

thrown for 2,491 yards and 35 touchdowns, while Troy Oliver (840 yards, 12 TDs) and Jalen Becerra (861 yards, 14 TDs) lead the receiving corps.

Justin Cannon (648 yards 5 TDs), E.J. Moore (323 yards, 1 TD) and Calvin Daniels (218 yards, 1 TD) make up a dynamic, three-headed rushing attack.

The Rouse defense is allowing 24 points a game.

For Glenn, the season started with four straight losses. But the Grizzlies have been rolling through the second half of district play and gaining confidence, beating their last two opponents by a combined score of 109-14.

Defensively, Glenn has allowed an average of 17.3 points per game with a pair of shutouts.

### OTHER GAME TO WATCH

**VISTA RIDGE AT ROUND ROCK**  
Thursday, Oct. 28, 7 p.m.  
Dragon Stadium

Round Rock can clinch a playoff spot with a win. Vista Ridge needs to pull an upset to keep its playoff hopes alive.

The Dragons' effective rushing attack has been slicing through opposing defenses all season. In the last two games — wins against McNeil and Stony Point — Round Rock has rushed

for a combined 670 yards and 14 touchdowns.

Tray McCoy-Gay has 1,159 yards and 17 touchdowns on 120 rushes for the Dragons this season.

Vista Ridge needs a win to keep pace with Hutto in the race for the final playoffs spot. The Rangers lost to the Hippos 31-7 last Friday night.

The Rangers' offense took a step back from last season, averaging just 19 points per game, but the defense has remained stout, allowing just 23.3, good for fourth-best in the district.

Round Rock beat Vista Ridge 31-28 last year on its way to the district title.

## SOCCER

from page A11

used to, but I've got more comfortable in as the season has gone on."

Pochettino struggled to start the season, but after he was challenged by the coaching staff and spent a few games on the bench, he's returned to the starting XI with a vengeance and played well in the last few games with nine shots in his last five starts.

Even if he doesn't show up in the final stats or the scoresheet, Ring said Pochettino's work rate is getting noticed.

"He works a lot for the team," Ring said. "The way we play, there's a lot of running, and I think he's helped us tremendously. He's gaining more and more confidence to bring out those strengths."

Austin FC was eliminated from the playoff after its loss to Minnesota United a couple of weeks ago. The Verde & Black followed that up with a lifeless 4-0 loss on the road against San Jose.

But this team can still come away from its inaugural season with some silverware. Thanks to Saturday's win against Houston, Austin FC can still win Copa Tejas — the supporter-created intrastate competition between the three Texas MLS teams — with a win Saturday against FC Dallas.

For Ring, the last three games of this season can create a wave of positive momentum headed into year two at Austin FC.

"You want to preserve your dignity and play to win every game," Ring said. "There are the things you have to bring always, and I think that's something where everyone has to look in the mirror and ask themselves if they got it all."

## VOLLEYBALL

from page A11

"We missed a lot of serves, but we also served with enough pace on the ball, so we got them uncomfortable," Thompson said. "We served well enough to get them out of their system and covered our hitters really well tonight."

Black had a team-high 16 kills on Friday, while Lopez finished with 16. Pelbath and Jady Wilgus each had four blocks and Skopal had 50 assists in the win over the Eagles.

Rouse used a run through the mid-way part of the opening set to take an early 1-0 lead against the Timberwolves.

The second set was tied 11-11 early on, but the Raiders finished strong, winning nine of the final 11 points to win the set and go up 2-0. Lopez and Black each had four kills for Rouse in the set.

The Timberwolves tried to squelch the Raiders' momentum in the final set, but Rouse held on for its second win over Cedar Park this season.

"We just played really well tonight. All the energy on the court felt great," Lopez said. "We were able to get the ball at the net and had all three of our hitters as an option, and we were just terminating balls."

Rouse finishes the regular season at Glenn on Tuesday.

"We've got to close it out and then turn our intensity up," Thompson said.



**ENTER to WIN**

Don't miss your last chance to see the Verde & Black at Q2 Stadium this year

Enter for your chance to win a pair of FREE tickets to see Austin FC's final home match of the season

**Austin FC vs Sporting Kansas City**  
Q2 Stadium  
Wednesday, Nov. 3, 8 p.m.

To enter, visit [www.hillcountrynews.com/austinfctickets.html](http://www.hillcountrynews.com/austinfctickets.html) or scan code at right





512-302-5555 | [www.atfcu.org](http://www.atfcu.org)  
24 Austin Metro Locations

**Now Hiring!**



Join Our Team!!

**Part-Time Tellers**  
**\$16+ Per Hour**

Apply Online at [www.atfcu.org/about/careers](http://www.atfcu.org/about/careers)  
An Equal Opportunity Employer



**Auto Loans**  
New, Used, and Refinance

as low as **1.75%** APR<sup>1</sup>  
Up to 66 Months

<sup>1</sup>Annual Percentage Rate. Actual rate may vary depending on credit qualifications. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. This Auto Loan rate is applicable for the purchase of a new or used vehicle, or the refinancing of an existing vehicle loan from another lender. New auto loan of \$20,000 for 66 months at 1.75% APR will have a monthly payment of \$318. Federally Insured by NCUA.



**AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

On the Fast Track

Mark S. | Manufacturing

**START HERE**

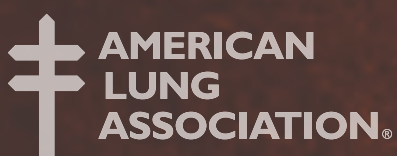
APPLY NOW [austincc.edu](http://austincc.edu)

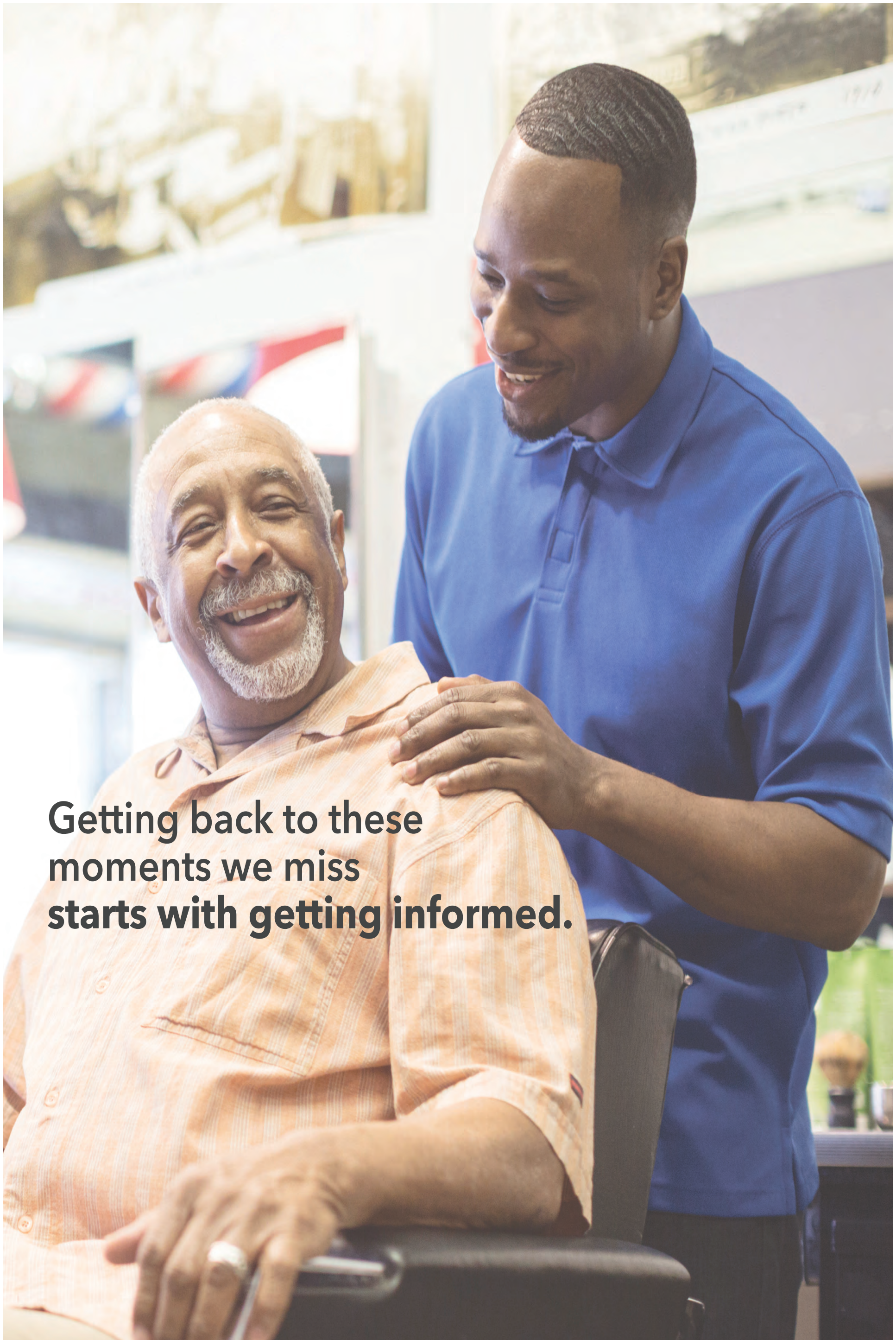


LUNG CANCER WON'T QUIT,  
EVEN IF YOU DID.

Thanks to a new scan, lung cancer can be detected early when it's more curable. If you smoked, get scanned.

Talk to your doctor or visit [SavedByTheScan.org](https://www.savedbythescan.org)





Getting back to these moments we miss starts with getting informed.

**IT'S UP TO YOU** ::  
COVID-19 VACCINATION



Get the latest information about COVID-19 vaccines at [GetVaccineAnswers.org](https://www.getvaccineanswers.org)