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HILL COUNTRY NEWS

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 44

SERVING CEDAR PARK, LEANDER AND NORTHWEST AUSTIN SINCE 1968 ■ hillcountrynews.com

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Ronnie Caldwell, Jr., a former Cedar Park football player was found suffering from multiple gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead in the early morning hours of Oct. 12, just three days after his parents say their son's new roommate pulled a gun on him.



NORTHWESTERN STATE ATHLETICS

Parents of slain football player say his death was preventable

Northwestern State cancels rest of season, head coach resigns after former Cedar Park football Ronnie Caldwell's death

BY JOSH MONIZ
SENIOR REPORTER

Northwestern State University has canceled the remaining four games of its season and its head coach has submitted his resignation following the Oct. 12 death of one of its football players - 21-year-old Cedar Park native Ronnie Caldwell.

The university cited concern for the mental health and wellbeing of its student-athletes as its primary driver for cancelling the remaining four games scheduled against McNeese, Incarnate Word, Houston Christian and Texas A&M-Commerce.

Head coach Brad Laird, who was in his sixth season in the position leading the Demons football team, also submitted his resignation. He compared Caldwell's death to "losing a son."

"Due to the loss of Ronnie and the emotional burden it has caused me, I don't feel I can give my all to these players or this program," Laird said in a statement. "Any coach will tell you that their players become like family, so the

See CALDWELL, page A5

Texas' disabled students have few options — with no change on the horizon

The few private schools that offer special education for disabled students have strict conditions and are clustered in metropolitan areas.

BY NEELAM BOHRA
THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

As lawmakers consider creating a school voucher system, one set of Texas students — disabled kids — could face larger fallout. Where laws still require the worst public schools to provide special education, there's no similar obligation for private schools.

The proposed voucher bills in both the Senate and House to funnel taxpayer dollars to families to pay for private school tuition could put accessibility at risk for the more than 700,000 students enrolled in Texas' public special education programs.

See EDUCATION, page A3

Cedar Park PD adds new police officer, upgrades two positions

BY JOSH MONIZ
SENIOR REPORTER

The Cedar Park Police Department added an additional officer dedicated to criminal investigations back on Oct. 13 following the Cedar Park City Council's approval of an adjustment to the city's Strength of Force

ordinance, which authorizes the number of civil services in the police department.

Additionally, the approved changes will upgrade two positions by converting two corporal positions into two sergeant positions. According to city staff, the change was sought to ensure adequate supervision for certain shifts.

The cost of the position changes is already covered by the fiscal year 2023-24 city budget.

Following the approved changes, the department consists of one assistant chief, two commanders, six lieutenants, 17 sergeants, 14 corporals and 68 police officers.



COMMUNITY TURNS OUT FOR WILCO FAIR AND RODEO

Above and below: Scenes from the Midway of the WilCo Fair & Rodeo at the Williamson County Expo Center Oct. 26, 2023. Left: The Old West Gun Fight Show during the WilCo Fair & Rodeo at the Williamson County Expo Center Oct. 26, 2023.

PHOTOS BY RICHARD STONE



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Scheels to open second Texas location in Cedar Park

BY JOSH MONIZ
SENIOR REPORTER

Fargo, N.D.-based all sport retailer Scheels announced Friday, Oct. 20, that it plans to open its second Texas location in Cedar Park in the fall of 2026. The company, which is employee owned, will employ over 500 associates with hundreds of them being hired locally.

The store plans to build in the large CedarView development planned for the area near the H-E-B Center, which will also be the home of the planned Nebraska Furniture Mart (NFM) location, convention center and hotel. The Scheels store will serve as a second core anchor for the development, featuring 240,000 square-feet of retail space.

The Cedar Park location will also have entertainment attractions in addition to the store's usual retail offerings, including a 65-foot Ferris Wheel, a 16,000-gallon saltwater aquarium featuring 600 fish, a wildlife mountain, a candy shop, an in-store restaurant and a variety of arcade games and sport simulators.

"The people of North Texas have welcomed SCHEELS with open arms and we could not be



Scheels plans to open one of its all sport retail stores in Cedar Park in the fall of 2026. The planned store will feature a 65-foot Ferris Wheel and a 16,000-gallon saltwater aquarium featuring 600 fish inside the store itself, along with a variety of other unique entertainment options.

more excited to bring another location to the state," said Scheels CEO Steve M. Scheel. "Our location in The Colony at Grandscape

is another NFM development, and we could not pass up the opportunity to work alongside the NFM team again. We look forward to

building upon our partnership and bringing another unmatched retail experience to the Austin community when we open our doors in



Fargo, N.D.-based all sport retailer Scheels announced Friday, Oct. 20, 2023, that it will be opening its second Texas location in Cedar Park in the fall of 2026.

Cedar Park." Additionally, the location will feature specialty shops and boutiques showcasing premium products it sells through its stores.

"Scheels is a one-of-a-kind destination retail experience that showcases not only an incredible selection of the best brands, but also the best in customer service," said NFM Chief Strategy and Development Officer Jeff Lind. "They truly offer a unique experience in the area of sporting goods and so much more. I'm so proud to welcome them to CedarView and look forward to them being neighbors of NFM."

Scheels's first Texas location opened in 2020 at The Colony in a north suburb of Dallas.

Williamson County reports ballot error in ESD 9 election

STAFF REPORTS

The Williamson County Elections Department reported that it was notified of a ballot error by a voter in Emergency Service District 9. The voter reported that their ballot for the current election did not have the ESD 9 sales and use tax proposition.

"A review showed that 879 voters live in homes that were annexed into ESD 9 in 2021 but had not been programmed to receive a ballot with the ESD 9 sales and use tax proposition," the county said in a news release. "For the first three days of early voting, 18 people had completed early voting or submitted a mail-in ballot who were not given this proposition on their ballot.

According to the county, "human error" caused ballots to be incorrectly programmed for 879 voters in the ESD 9 Leander area, and 861 have not yet voted.

ESD 9 has a total of 22,915 registered voters. A total of 263 ballots have been cast, and 18 voted by mail, in the ESD 9 election during the first three days of early voting.

The county said it is working closely with the Secretary of State's Office,

"This mistake was caused by human error, and the individual responsible is no longer working for Williamson County."

—BILL GRAVELL,
Williamson County Judge

ESD 9 board and the chairs of the Republican and Democrat parties on a solution to the issue.

Beginning last Friday, the 879 voters are able to vote in the ESD 9 sales tax proposition on a separate ballot. The county said those ballots will be put into a separate ballot box and will be counted in a separate tabulation machine on election night.

"Today, I stand before you indignant that this happened and resolved to use all resources at our disposal to ensure that this does not happen to another Williamson County voter. This mistake was caused by human error, and the individual responsible is no longer working for Williamson County," said County Judge Bill Gravell. "To those 18 voters, I want to say that there is nothing worse that can happen

than for you not to be able to vote in an election when you should. To you, we apologize and pledge to be laser focused on the solution today and for elections in the future."

"The ESD 9 Board understands that this is an isolated and unfortunate occurrence. We are working closely with Williamson County Elections on the best solution for our voters," said Ken Campbell, legal counsel for ESD 9.

Williamson County Elections recommends if a voter is voting, and their ballot does not contain an election option they feel that it should contain, then the voter should stop immediately and tell a poll worker. If a ballot is cast, a voter's ballot cannot be changed after that. In addition, voters can go to their website www.wilcox.gov/elections to review their sample ballot prior to voting.

A phone bank at (512) 943-3820 has been set up to answer questions for impacted voters regarding the ESD 9 sales and use tax election.

An Emergency Services District (ESD) is a local government agency created by a vote of the public to provide fire protection and/or emergency medical services (EMS) in specific areas in unincorporated Williamson County.

Leander, Cedar Park celebrating first major Diwali celebrations

BY JOSH MONIZ
SENIOR REPORTER

The cities of Leander and Cedar Park are preparing to celebrate their first major Diwali celebrations this month.

Diwali, the five-day Festival of Lights, is celebrated by millions of people of the Hindu, Sikhs and Jains faith worldwide every year. The actual day of the event can vary from year to year depending on the cycle of the Moon, although it typically occurs between October and November. The main day of celebration occurs on the third day of the celebration, which will be Nov. 12 this year.

Hindus celebrate the return of deities Rama and Sita to Ayodhya after their 14-year exile. Although they celebrated it before this event, Sikhs typically celebrate the 1619 release from prison of the sixth guru Har-gobind Singh. Lord Mahavira, the founder of Jainism, is celebrated for the moment he reached a state of Moksha - nirvana or eternal bliss - during Diwali.

The Leander Diwali Festival, which is being organized by community members, will be held 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, at Lakewood Park. It will feature over 40 live performers, regional food offerings and an Indian Bazaar along with other vendors.

The City of Cedar Park is organizing and hosting its own Diwali event at its library from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Nov. 5.

According to the 2020 Census, Williamson County has grown significantly more culturally and religiously diverse from 2010 to 2020 as groups from across the country have moved into the county, including the county's Asian population doubling to 9% of the total county population. Leander and Cedar Park, which have been the fastest-growing cities in the county, have become home to high concentration of this growing diversity, leading to a growing awareness and recognition of major cultural and religious events like Diwali.

LEANDER

"Over the last couple of years, Leander has grown and become more diverse... We wanted something to bring everyone together," Leander resident Vedant Garg, the main organizer of the Leander event. "The Festival of Lights is not specific to any group. We want the event to be open to everyone in Leander and the neighboring towns. We want everyone to come and enjoy!"

When living back in Massachusetts, Garg organized an annual Diwali event and he wanted to bring the same event to his



Leander Mayor Christine DeLisle (right) attends a private Diwali celebration back in October 2022 with its organizer, Vedant Garg (center left).

new home when he moved to Leander. The planned event will be significantly closer for people on the western side of the county than the only other major Diwali celebration in Williamson County, which is held annually in Round Rock.

After successfully advocating for the City of Leander to issue a Diwali celebration last year and another for Hindu Heritage Month, he felt the time was right this year to create a formal event in Leander.

He said they have already seen "a heart-warming response" with over 4,500 people already registering to attend the event. The event has grown fast enough that organizing it has gone from just him to 15 people volunteering with him to organize and run the event.

He hopes the city will eventually adopt an official, annual Diwali celebration it will run itself. He said the city process requires the event to be privately organized for two or three years first before it could be considered to potentially be adopted as a city event.

"This is a great opportunity to bring the city together," Garg said.

CEDAR PARK

Amanda Cawthon, the youth services manager with the Cedar Park Public Library, told the Cedar Park City Council on Oct. 26 that the library is excited to host their first Diwali Celebration, which is being held in partnership with the Indian American Association of Austin.

The event will feature music and dance performances, crafts, yoga demonstrations, cultural exhibits by area students and food options for attendees.

Cedar Park has similarly issued Diwali proclamations for several years.

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

ANSWER:

EDUCATION

from page A1

No one feels these programs are perfect: families of disabled children often have to fight for equipment, resources and inclusion. But the system of checks and balances on public schools gives them a place to start.

The federal laws that give disabled students a right to education, though, don't apply in private schools. And for the fraction of private schools that do specialize in serving children with different types of disabilities, several obstacles stand in the way of making it through their doors.

For one, there are only 67 of these schools in total. A majority of them are concentrated in urban areas: the Dallas-Fort Worth area, Harris County and San Antonio.

To arrive at this number, The Texas Tribune used data provided by Texas Private School Accreditation Commission and Texas Private School Association and found schools that offer programs for students with special needs or those who are misbehaving or struggling with dangerous behaviors programs. Those programs were then confirmed through each school's website or by phone.

Many of them have limits on the types of disabilities they can accommodate. Several of these schools explicitly state they prefer students with "above average to average intelligence" on their websites. And if one school can only serve students with dyslexia and not those with behavioral or complex medical issues, they still exclude countless other disabled students in their surrounding areas.

Finally, many of them would still be too expensive for most Texans even with the voucher system in place, as their tuitions range as high as \$40,000 per year. And for those who could afford these prices, student class sizes are limited.

As the debate has continued over whether to implement education savings accounts, some lawmakers have touted these schools as a potential alternative to the shortcomings of public special education.

Throughout the years, Texas and the federal government have funneled billions of taxpayer dollars into public special education, reaching more than \$5 billion in 2020. But in rural areas and big cities alike, public schools have still struggled to meet the needs of their special education students.

"Texas' special education system, as a whole, is failing," said David DeMatthews, an associate professor for the University of Texas at Austin's Department of Educational Leadership. "It's a long-term, pressing concern, and there's a lot of different facets to it. But overall, the state is not doing a good job."

Part of the problem is the slow-changing cultural attitude toward disabled people as a whole, advocates say.

"There's an ideology that the market will somehow stop private schools from discriminating against children with disabilities that may cost more money to educate," DeMatthews said.

THE STATE OF TEXAS PUBLIC SPECIAL EDUCATION

When Dominic Shindel started first grade, his doctors recommended he receive a computer for school. Using his hands to write was a challenge: He was born with arthrogryposis, which limits his movement, and he uses a wheelchair.

His mother, Celeste Picaso, said instead of receiving a laptop, the school reduced his workload. In some ways, it's helped. In others, it's kept him behind his peers, she said.

It's just one example of how the public schools in Sanderson — a town of around 850 people four hours west of San Antonio — lacked the resources to help her son, she said. Between instances of bullying and mixed treatment from faculty, Shindel has struggled with getting the same level of education as everyone around him.

"My son's school bus, the hydraulics have been messed up on the lift system



A Leander ISD school bus driver assists a student using a wheelchair off the bus in this 2021 file photo. Advocates for the disabled say Texas' push for school vouchers to fund private schools would hurt disabled students.

for years," Picaso said. "There have been times he's been late to school or missed school because the bus has not been able to get him."

Over decades of limited funding and mismanagement, public school districts have struggled to identify and provide resources for a consistently growing population that has added 200,000 students in the past five years, said Steven Aleman, senior policy specialist at Disability Rights Texas.

Since 1975, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act has required public schools to accommodate disabled students and provide "individualized education plans" to best meet their needs. It's a law advocates call the "bare minimum."

But Texas has struggled to always comply with all of its requirements.

Countless students didn't receive accommodations they needed between 2004 and 2017 because the state capped the number of special education students districts were allowed to identify at 8.5%, far below the current national average around 15%.

In the years since, federal officials have slapped the state with reform initiatives. And now, around 11.6% of students in the state are enrolled in special education in schools, according to TEA's 2022 reports.

But things haven't necessarily improved. Federal officials' most recent evaluation of Texas special education graded it as "needs assistance," the same score it's received for at least the last three years. This is equivalent to "a D or an F in a class," DeMatthews said.

Just earlier this month, the Texas Education Agency appointed monitors to oversee Austin Independent School District's special education department.

The current funding system, in which the state school funding pays schools per individual, doesn't account for the intensity of care some students might need and is partially to blame for many districts' struggles, Aleman said.

Schools are required to spend at least 55% of special education funding on the programs themselves, according to Texas Education Code. In rare situations, a district can use special education funding to pay for a student to attend nearby private schools or transfer them to a different district.

"There's a financial barrier, quite frankly, for districts to do everything they're being called upon to do," Aleman said. "This formula has existed for over three decades, and is now very antiquated. We believe it does not efficiently provide resources for school districts to provide the services students with disabilities need."

State lawmakers went as far as creating a special commission to find solutions for special education funding, and their 2022 recommendations included increasing money for transporting students, hiring qualified teachers and certifying teachers.

But only one of their recommendations — the last, most controversial, and favored above all by Gov. Greg Abbott — has seen light outside the House chamber: education savings accounts, known by many as vouchers.

Picaso said vouchers don't appeal to

her. Between living hundreds of miles away from the nearest private school, being a low-income parent and having a solid support system based out of Sanderson, she said she wouldn't see any improvements.

"There's basic equipment that I've been fighting for years to get my son — something as basic as a lift system, since he can't bend his legs, he can't get off the floor," Picaso said. "But even though it is a time-consuming process, and there are things that could be changed within the special education system, I still don't feel vouchers are going to be beneficial."

HOW VOUCHERS WOULD, OR WOULDN'T, HELP

For families in a city like Austin, vouchers might make a tremendous difference — if they can afford them.

"It's not armageddon," said David Beinke, a special education advocate who assists families across the state, including Picaso's. "If you're in a metropolitan area — DFW, San Antonio, Houston, Harris County, Travis County, maybe even El Paso — you have the capacity and expertise of schools that may be able to assist."

But the lack of transparency at private schools has parents and advocates worried, he said.

"Even though [public] schools are really, really bad, we still have opportunities: we can file a complaint with TEA and file a complaint with [Office of Civil Rights]. With a due process hearing, we can go to mediation. We can get regional service centers to help us out. It's incredible, we have all that," Beinke said. "But once we get to a private provider or private school, we lose that oversight."

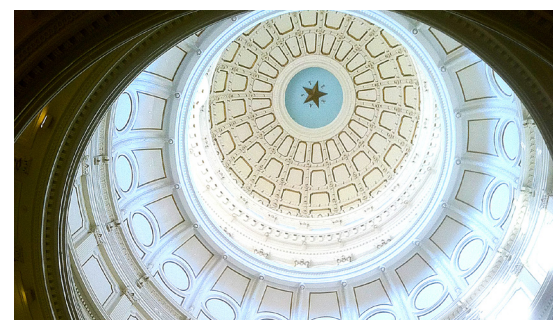
Linda Litzinger, public policy specialist at Texas Parent to Parent, said her organization serves around 14,000 families and she has heard many stories of disabled students currently trying out private schooling who face challenges.

"It sounds so positive at the beginning," she said. "But in about two months, it falls apart because they're not getting their [individualized education plan] supports."

Lyn Pollard, a Dallas mother of a dyslexic child, said she has worried about certain religiously-owned schools also not being subject to a title of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It's something she noticed while attending church, she said.

"What I've learned is, if there isn't a law — which is basic — but if there isn't a law or rule, then there's no accountability," Pollard said. "And it's really difficult to advocate for disability access when there is no accountability."

— *Yuriko Schumacher contributed to this story. Neelam Bohra is a disability reporting fellow, covering accessibility issues affecting Texans. She was a member of the 2022-23 New York Times Fellowship class. Her fellowship is a partnership between The New York Times, The Texas Tribune and the National Center on Disability and Journalism at Arizona State University. The fellowship is funded through a grant from the Ford Foundation.*



CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

Abbott, House deadlocked over school choice, teacher pay

Gov. Gregg Abbott and the Texas House are at loggerheads over which will come first — vouchers for parents to pay for private school tuition, or funneling more money to public schools, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The House wants money for teacher bonuses and a revamp of public-school accountability passed at the same time as Abbott's proposed education savings accounts, often referred to as ESAs. The governor insists the House first pass a voucher program. A version of his voucher program has already passed the Senate. The Legislature can't consider increased school funding or teacher bonuses unless Abbott adds it to the special session agenda.

This third special session ends by Nov. 7, though Abbott has indicated he would call another one if this one ends without a decision on vouchers.

"I think there is still significant opposition to any school finance bill that includes an ESA," Rep. Drew Darby, R-San Angelo, told the Texas Tribune. "I'm comfortable we have enough like-minded rural Republicans, and urban Republicans, to stand against that in numbers sufficient to defeat it."

Abbott has dismissed the House's compromise proposal, House Bill 1, which would create a limited voucher program while increasing spending on public education, calling it "insufficient."

House passes three border security bills

The House passed a trio of bills that increase border wall funding, increase the penalty for smuggling migrants, and allow state and local police to arrest migrants living illegally in the state, The News reported. The votes came last week after a lengthy heated discussion among Democratic and Republican lawmakers.

The anti-smuggling bill has already passed the Senate and now heads to Abbott's desk, while the other two bills are going to the Senate.

Rep. Victoria Neave Criado, D-Dallas, who chairs the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, said the plan would undercut the U.S. Constitution so that the state could "flex its muscle with the power that it does not have," according to The News.

Paxton sues over razor wire being cut

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing the Biden administration, claiming Border Patrol agents are illegally destroying state property by cutting through concertina wire placed by the state on the banks of the Rio Grande to deter illegal immigration.

The state has spent \$11 million in the past three years placing 70,000 rolls of the wire along the Texas-Mexico border, according to the Texas Tribune.

"By cutting Texas's concertina wire, the federal government has not only illegally destroyed property owned by the State of Texas; it has also disrupted the State's border deterrence efforts, leaving gaps in Texas's border barriers and damaging Texas's ability to effectively deter illegal entry into Texas," the attorney general's office said in a statement.

The Department of Homeland Security, under which the Border Patrol operates, said it doesn't respond to pending litigation.

In Eagle Pass earlier this year, a state trooper claimed the concertina wire has injured people, including a woman who had a miscarriage while entangled in the wire, the Tribune reported.

High court to hear case of judge's refusal to marry gay couples

The Texas Supreme Court last week heard oral arguments in a case to decide whether a Waco justice of the peace can legally refuse to perform same-sex wedding ceremonies, kut.org reported. McLennan County Justice of the Peace Dianne Hensley has refused to perform those ceremonies, saying it violates her Christian beliefs and is protected under the state's religious freedom laws.

The State Commission on Judicial Conduct in 2019 issued a warning to Hensley for her refusal. Lower courts have dismissed her claims against the commission. Initially, Hensley declined to officiate any wedding ceremonies after the landmark U.S. Supreme Court in 2015. She began performing weddings again the following year, but only for straight couples.

New area code for Houston area approved

The greater Houston area has another area code after the Public Utility Commission of Texas approved a proposal to add 621 to the four existing area codes — 281, 346, 713 and 832. The area was expected to run out of new phone numbers using the existing area codes by 2025. The new code is expected to meet demand for new numbers for another nine years.

Record \$345 million approved for pedestrian, bike projects

The Texas Transportation Commission has approved more than \$345 million for new sidewalks, bikeways and other types of mobility infrastructure for 83 projects across the states.

"This is a major investment in communities across the state that will help make it safer and easier to get around on foot or a bike," Texas Transportation Commissioner Robert "Robie" Vaughn said.

The state has seen pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities rise nearly 30% over the past five years. Two dozen of the projects will go in areas with a high pedestrian crash record.

Early voting ends Friday; election Tuesday

Early voting for the Nov. 7 general election ends on Friday. Voters will decide the fate of 14 proposed state constitutional amendments, including items dealing with property tax cuts and increasing pay for retired teachers. In addition, municipal and school board races are being held across the state, as well as school, city, and county bond elections.

Contact your county's election office to see what is on the ballot where you are registered.

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.



• 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 second and fourth Thursday each month at LEO Conference Room at 300 S. West Drive, in Leander. 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.

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

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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

GINNY BROCK

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

JOSH MONIZ

■ Senior Reporter
josh.moniz@hillcountrynews.com

CLAYTON KELLEY

■ Staff Writer
news@hillcountrynews.com

MARISSA FERREIRA

■ Page Designer

OFFICE HOURS:

9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday
Call for Appointment
910 Quest Pkwy, Suite 4
Cedar Park, TX 78613
(512) 259-4449

TO REPORT NEWS:

Call (512) 259-4449
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EDITORIAL CARTOON

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COMMENTARY

Don't silence Palestinian voices

The absence of Palestinians and their advocates from news coverage isn't just unfair. As a Jewish American, I think it's harmful.



SARAH GERTLER

GUEST COLUMNIST

the violence and freedom for the Palestinian people.

An estimated 10,000 of us showed up — including parents pushing strollers, friends holding banners together, and elderly couples arm in arm. We marched against what hundreds of scholars have warned is genocide.

It was a historic community call for peace. Yet it was noticeably absent from local news coverage. Days afterward, the only evidence it happened was one small news clip noting that "dozens gathered" — a comic misrepresentation.

"This is not only media suppression, but an erasure of history," said Philadelphia organizer Nour Qutyan, who helped assemble the rally.

Just the previous week, a smaller rally in support of the Israeli government was covered by a swath of local news outlets. This eye-opening double standard reflects a much broader



silencing of Palestinians and their advocates in the media.

During these weeks of Israel's bombing campaign, leading Palestinian commentators including Noura Erakat, Omar Baddar, and Yusef Munayer have had cable news appearances cut or canceled. Jewish American author Nathan Thrall had ads for a new book simply about Palestinians pulled from NPR and the BBC.

Equally noteworthy is the U.S. media's passive treatment of Palestinian deaths. While headlines note when Israelis are "killed," they often say that Palestinians simply "die," without saying how.

According to a 2019 study on 50 years of coverage, U.S. headlines are also more than twice as likely to cite Israeli sources — including documented disinformation — than Palestinian sources.

This bias isn't only unfair — it's harmful. Polls show the vast majority of Americans across party lines agree that our government should call for a ceasefire in Gaza. In Israel, even the siblings of people killed by Hamas are calling for peace, not war. Instead of uplifting these voices, many media outlets are inciting more violence.

By "silencing any criticisms of Israel," Qutyan warns that "editors who are meant to uphold journalistic integrity, truth, and the so-called ethics of news media" are instead "co-signing genocide" in Gaza.

In the coming weeks, I will remain glued to the coverage of the violence that my tax dollars are funding. As a Jewish American, I demand life and freedom for Palestinians — and coverage which reflects that.

Sarah Gertler is the Newman Fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies.

COMMENTARY

Hoping for a happier autumn next year

Autumn is upon us, but it is making me a little bit sad this year.

I have always loved autumn. I love the brilliant colors, the chilly air and the smell of oak burning in a fire pit.

Whereas spring is about new life and fresh starts — and summer about toil and sweat and a one-week break at the beach — autumn is about harvesting your hard-earned fruits.

It's about peacefully accepting that the warm weather will be gone soon — that the bitter cold winds and snow will soon be here.

Autumn used to be about sitting around a fire with good friends, sipping hot apple-cider toddies and laughing into the wee hours — and taking a much-needed respite from politics.

But this autumn it's impossible to escape politics. It's also impossible to avoid worrying about the state our country is in.

Just a few years short ago the economy was booming. The cost of food and utilities was low relative to our incomes, which were strong and growing. The world was relatively stable and peaceful and prosperity was improving for billions across the globe.

Now we have major wars in Ukraine and Israel and the cost of goods and services have soared and continue to inflate.

According to the U.S. debt clock, our national debt stands at nearly \$34 trillion — about \$100,000 for every person in the country — and it continues to soar at a rapid pace. How long can such spending go on?

Crime rates are up across the board. According to Newsweek, crime is increasing everywhere, not only in big cities. With



TOM PURCELL

GUEST COLUMNIST

I've always believed you should never bet against America, but our political leaders had better start making better decisions than they have been making.

organized looting by gangs out of control and going largely unpunished, many big retailers are closing stores.

And with so many people entering our country through our open borders — including those coming here with the sole purpose of attacking us — how long will it be before the next major terrorist event happens?

This past weekend I had some friends over to my house to enjoy the autumn splendor, but our firepit party got rained out, so we stayed inside.

Normally, such autumn gatherings are filled with joy and laughter, but this year we all shared a sense of worry for our country — and the world our children and grandchildren are going to inherit.

We all expressed a sense that our world has gone mad — that nobody is in control —

and we are all feeling anxious as we wait for the other shoe to drop.

Of the many autumn events I have hosted, I cannot remember any of them being filled with such fear and concern.

But that is what is on our minds at the moment — and what is on the minds of many people. The recent Associated Press-NORC Research Center poll finds that 78% of Americans think the country is headed in the wrong direction.

I've always believed you should never bet against America, but our political leaders had better start making better decisions than they have been making.

That means things like limiting government overreach and spending, responding decisively to fight crime and choosing effective and wise leaders who will bring stability to the country and the world.

Unfortunately, at the moment it appears that our only choice for future leader of the free world next year will be between one fellow who will be 81 and one fellow who is almost that age.

But I still have hope that we will get our act together so I can get back to hosting fun and happy autumn gatherings into the wee hours.

Tom Purcell is a nationally-syndicated humor columnist and author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood," and creator of the infotainment site Thurbertail.com, which features pet advice he's learning from his beloved Labrador, Thurber. Email him at Tom@TomPurcell.com.

NEWS

CALDWELL

from page A1

loss of Ronnie was like losing a son. I love this program and this university and I know it will persevere and move forward with the competitive spirit that is at the core of our DNA."

NSU canceled its Oct. 14 game after Caldwell's death but played against Southeastern Louisiana on Oct. 19, later deciding to cancel the rest of the season.

"While our instinct was to return to the field of play following his death, we've since learned that the hurt on our team was too deep," said NSU President Marcus Jones in a statement. "Now it is in the best interest of our players, coaches, and staff to pause and to take this time to mourn, to heal, and to support Ronnie's family."

Caldwell, a former Cedar Park Timberwolves player in his junior year at Northwestern State, was a safety on the team but was unable to play this season due to injury.

He was found suffering from several gunshot wounds in the early morning of Oct. 12 and was later pronounced dead. His roommate, 27-year-old John McIntosh, was arrested the day after Caldwell's death for possession of a firearm in the presence of a controlled dangerous substance. Police con-

"We're not going to get into the details of what the lawsuit would entail, but we can say this, that the university, the coach, they failed Ronnie Jr."

—TONY PRADIA,
Attorney for the Caldwell's

firmed to local media outlet KALB in Natchitoches that McIntosh had been arrested nine years prior for attempted second-degree murder.

The Cedar Park High School football team held a moment of silence for Caldwell during the Oct. 20 game and wore decals in his memory on their helmets.

Caldwell's parents, through their attorney Tony Pradia, announced that they plan to file a lawsuit in connection with their son's death.

"We're not going to get into the details of what the lawsuit would entail, but we can say this, that the university, the coach, they failed Ronnie Jr.," Pradia said during a news conference last week.

ESPN reported that Natchitoches police also arrested Cald-

well's teammate, Maurice Campbell II, for obstruction of justice, possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute and possession of a firearm in the presence of a controlled dangerous substance.

Specific details about Caldwell's death have not been reported fully, and no one has been charged.

Caldwell's parents have reported that their son was placed with a non-university student roommate earlier in October, after mold was discovered in Caldwell's off-campus apartment. The parents told media outlets that their son reported that the new roommate, McIntosh, pulled a gun on him on Oct. 9.

"Ronnie's father immediately sent a text to Northwestern State Head Football Coach Brad Laird alerting him that he needed help and that Ronnie's roommate had pulled a gun on him," the family's statement said. "Coach Laird replied with a phone call assuring the family that he would take immediate action and move Ronnie to a safe location. Nothing was done, the family heard no updates from the University."

"The next call the family received was from Coach Brad Laird telling us that Ronnie had been



A booking photo from 2018 shows Ronnie Caldwell's roommate, John McIntosh, when he was arrested in that year for attempted second-degree murder after a shooting seriously injured a man in Natchitoches, La.



Maurice Campbell II, a teammate of Ronnie Caldwell, Jr., was arrested by Natchitoches police in October for a weapons charge and media outlets have reported the arrest was in connection to the investigation into Caldwell's death.

gun. I need you to move him. Get him away from there. Get him in a hotel until I can get there. I'll be there this weekend."

Caldwell Sr. said the next thing he heard was when he received a phone call at 2:07 a.m. on the morning of Oct. 12 informing him that Ronnie Jr. was deceased.

The lawsuit mentioned by the family and its attorney is likely to include the university, the apartment complex and former head coach Brad Laird.

— Additional information contributed from staff and wire reports.

North Shore News



North Lake Travis CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lago Vista
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3rd Annual NorthShore Craft Beer Festival
Sat. Nov, 4th • 12-6 PM



Bar K Park- Lago Vista
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Don't Miss Out on the 3rd Annual NorthShore Craft Beer Festival!

Groove to the tunes of Madam Radar, our fantastic headlining band!

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Get ready for an unforgettable day filled with cold craft beer, fantastic music, mouthwatering food, a thrilling corn-hole tournament, helicopter rides, and plenty of family fun – all right on the scenic shores of Lake Travis!

This is a dog-friendly event - must be on a leash.
Bring Lawn Chairs and Blankets

October Luncheon

Members of the North Lake Travis Chamber of Commerce were treated to a very special luncheon experience on Wednesday, Oct. 18. As if to punctuate the perfect weather enveloping the beautiful Texas Hill Country, our luncheon event occurred at the gorgeous Flat Creek Estate Winery amid rolling rows of grapes, bales of hay and bright orange pumpkins.



Guest speaker Darren Webb, superintendent of the Lago Vista Independent School District provided an engaging presentation focusing on the progress of the District Schools and the upcoming Voter Approved Tax Ratification Election (referred to on the ballot as Prop A) which voters will be considering on November 7.

The luncheon was sponsored by Texell Credit Union which also provided an opportunity to win \$50 and three door prizes. Other door prizes were generously provided by GC Plumbing and Twilight Concerts.



New members Angela Stubbs and Stephanie Smith from Stubbs Farmers Insurance & Financial Services LLC, Maggie Messer from Maggie Messer Photography and Matthew Brunken from Lago Vista Athletics were presented their membership plaques from NLT Chamber Board President Imelda Faught, after enjoying the delicious luncheon feast and uplifting surroundings.

Welcome New Members!



Exciting News in Jonestown!

Join Us to Welcome Dax + Jade!



We are thrilled to announce the grand opening of Dax + Jade, a wonderful addition to our town! Please join us for the official RIBBON CUTTING ceremony on:

Date: Thursday, November 2nd
Time: 4:00 PM (ribbon Cutting at 4:10)
Location: 19621 FM 1431, Suite 200, Jonestown, TX 78645

Dax + Jade brings you a delightful mix of offerings:
Gift Boutique • Craft Classes • Event Space

Discover a place where creativity meets community! Come and be a part of this special day as we welcome Dax + Jade to Jonestown. Whether you're a crafting enthusiast, a gift lover, or simply curious about this new gem in our town, this event is for you.

Come create yourself at Dax + Jade!
Let's celebrate the spirit of creativity and community together.
See you at the ribbon cutting!

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

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 Adalyn Ables
 Eshita Agrawal
 Christian Attaguile
 Madison Badorek
 Bryce Bailey
 Claire Bailey
 Brayden Baker
 Bridget Banks
 Wesley Barber
 Ryder Bates
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 Yadniki Deshmukh
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 Prince Evans
 Charles Fernandez
 Jacob Ferrera
 Leticia Flores
 Brooke Frushour
 Capri Garrisi
 Quinn Gayda
 Daron Gilmore
 Anelle Giron
 Kaviyamudhan
 Gobinathan
 Madeline Grohman
 Simon Guinn-Towery
 Aiden Ha
 Lucas Hardy
 Alexander Holtman
 Kamby Jackson
 Seth Jackson
 Bethany Johnson
 Ryan Johnson
 Jeremiah Jones
 Jason Jurells
 Scarlett Justus
 Piper Kalyta
 Hritvika Karthik
 Juthitha Kashidi
 Aditya Kashyap
 Benjamin Vanderwerf
 Santiago Vargas
 Cardona
 Hasita Velaga
 Camila Veliz Valdez
 Amelia Vickers
 Aeyana Villanueva
 Ava Voith
 Jennifer Wallace
 Mia Whittaker
 Jaxon Wirth
 Liam Wolf

Grade 11
 Henrik Aardal
 Emerson Barrow
 Sophie Berlinger
 Matthew Bernard
 Gage Blackerby
 Tiffany Bjorski
 Joseph Brennan
 Kyra Brown
 Abigail Buentello
 Madelyn Butler
 Kylee Butz
 Brynn Camacho
 Julia Carvalho Perez
 Aversa
 Animesh Chhetri
 Andrew Claridge
 Kylee Cobb
 Cannon Coburn
 Jackson Cohen
 Esmeralda Coneche
 Addison Conly
 Rio Coya
 Emma Crissey
 Alexandro DeLeon

Congratulations, LISD Honor Roll!




Three area locations:

1445 South Hwy 183
(Gateway at Leander)

1103 N. Bell Blvd. 1410 Cypress Creek Rd.
(183 & FM 1431) (Randall's Shopping Center)

Avery DuBose
 Akpevwe Erukaturu
 Emma Faria
 Layna Farley
 Alaena Garcia
 Olivia Garcia
 Samuel Gilmore
 Ridhi Goka
 Sun Gonzales
 Avani Goyal
 Marissa Hernandez
 Ellie Hernandez-Cruse
 Sawyer Homec
 Agnim Bamma
 Ally Johnson
 Nicholas Johnson
 Sophia Joralemon
 Emma Belliveau
 Ayushi Bhardwaj
 Alessandra Blacutt
 Jaxon Blankinship
 Marius Bonifacio
 Mia Brandl
 Christopher Brice
 Ava Grace Burrill
 Peyton Byers
 Ermes Bylyku
 Giselle Campos
 Brooke Cantu
 Oliver Chan
 Sahana Chandran
 Anna Chervaneva
 Elias Childress
 Clea Colaco
 Lucas Cook
 Victoria Cook
 Deanna Dailey
 Ainsley Dejohn
 Emma Delafuente
 Braelon Deloatche
 Eliana Cruz
 Khloe Duff
 Clair Elam
 Rayleigh Ellzey
 Braeden Favacho
 Luke Ferguson
 Haley Fischer
 Alejandro Flores
 Julia Fonseca
 Crystal Franklin
 Kaden Frazier
 Kailey Gallegos
 Alexandra Gamble
 Jennavecia Garcia
 Kayden Gayda
 Srivatsa Gilakattula
 Jasmine Green
 Sanjana Guduru
 Grayson Gunderson
 Aisha Guyton
 Yasmine Hayes
 Dallas Hernandez
 Kaleb Hill
 Ezekiel Hobby
 Grant Honca
 Mukhammad Inunsov
 Lillie Jackoskie
 Savannah Jackson
 Vishwa Jaikummar
 Sneh Joshi
 Neha Juluri
 Lauren Kernan
 Kamdyn Kilpatrick
 Rafael Kommu
 Kennedie Koppi
 Claire Lin
 Katelyn Lorenz
 Graham Louza
 Yaraslau Makarevich
 Yariana Martinez
 Teak Math
 Christian Mattapalli
 Niyaithi Mattapalli
 Maia Matthews
 Luke Mazuca
 Judith McCarthy
 Camryn McCormick
 Melina McGiir
 Skylar McKenzie
 Evan Morrissey
 Deetya Mutupuru
 Spurthi Nannapaneni
 Anvitha Narlinga
 Caden Niemann
 Phailin Ojeda
 Zina Omer
 Davian Padilla
 Nguyen Pham
 Ian Phipps
 Shreehan Pippalla
 Jacob Pollard
 Katlyne Powers
 Nathanael Ramos
 Haven Ramsey
 Peyton Raymond
 Oliver Remmler
 Kaelyn Rich
 Garrett Roberson
 Mia Rosas
 Lilah Rossini
 Adeline Salikhova
 Aiden Ha
 Lucas Hardy
 Alexander Holtman
 Kamby Jackson
 Seth Jackson
 Bethany Johnson
 Ryan Johnson
 Jeremiah Jones
 Jason Jurells
 Scarlett Justus
 Piper Kalyta
 Hritvika Karthik
 Juthitha Kashidi
 Aditya Kashyap
 Benjamin Vanderwerf
 Santiago Vargas
 Cardona
 Hasita Velaga
 Camila Veliz Valdez
 Amelia Vickers
 Aeyana Villanueva
 Ava Voith
 Jennifer Wallace
 Mia Whittaker
 Jaxon Wirth
 Liam Wolf

Grade 12
 Alejandro Aguilera
 Arturo Alcantar
 Eshaan Ali
 Avery Allen
 Tabarek Alsaadi
 Anesh Alsciano
 Evya Anciano
 Ana Anderson
 Isabella Anderson
 Tyler Austin
 Annamariel Balmori
 Maya Barrios
 Maya Beauchea
 Hudson Bell
 Catalina Bello
 Emmerich Benavides
 Remy Berlinger
 Gabriel Bernal
 Emma Bowland
 Jay Bradshaw
 Cheyenne Buckley
 Alexander Ryan
 Bodie Cheevers
 Sumedha Chikkerur
 Sameer
 Julian Cisneros
 Lathan Coffee
 Arianna Cofield
 Jenae Conner
 Dakota Crews
 Emma Criminger
 Nodin Cummings
 Michael Daniel
 Aniyah Davis
 Layla Diaz
 Grace Dickie
 Julianna Dohring
 Parker Drewitt
 Kaiana Entrekkin
 Troy Espinet
 Jacob Fallon
 Jade Cindy Foka
 Jolie Franklin
 Kaylan Funk
 Nahum Garcia
 Bailey Gayda
 Isaac Gonzales
 Lucianna Gonzalez
 Luke Hammond
 Cade Hartley
 Kyle Hartman
 Madyson Hawkins
 Tristan Heimann
 Riley Hendricks
 Valerie Hernandez
 Melinda Hester
 Peggy Hevalow
 Ethan Hodge
 Mia Honeyman
 Isabella Huetson
 Danylo Huk
 Likith Inampudi
 Kumba Jagne
 Diego Jaimes
 Remi Jobi
 Kya Jones
 John Kaeser
 Likith Kancharlapalli
 Suhana Khondker
 Jacob Koppi
 Kieran Lantis

Kayley Lee
 Ayden Leiva
 Titus Loftin
 Gabriela Macias
 Jace Mann
 Sade Mariano
 Riley Mauldin
 Jarret McDonald
 Ricardo Medrano
 Akram Mohamed
 Alena Moreno
 Gilberto Moreno
 Eduardo Muniz-Vega
 Antoine Nelson
 Zoey Neumann
 Nianna Nolan
 Sierra Nunnery
 Ava Ortiz
 Abbie Owens
 Taiye Oyelowo
 Kimberly Parra
 Lucas Pelkey
 Macy Penney
 Eleanor Peters
 Maya Pham
 Pauline Pham
 Anthony Quintana
 Henrique
 Shannon Rice
 Madison Rich
 Sean Richie
 Syed Rizvi
 Nicholas Rodriguez
 Gutierrez
 Makayla Ruiz
 Isabella Ruiz-Green
 Sara Rustrian
 Emma Saler
 James Sanchez Sarot
 Jasmine Schlinger
 Addison Scott
 Mason Settler
 Nathaniel Silver
 Nazmin Smith
 Kaely Smith
 Wren Smith
 Deepika Soundararajan
 Elizabeth Spencer
 Roberto Stokes
 Lauren Taylor
 Jaecyn Taylor-Ward
 Akaycia Terrazas
 Rylan Tosh
 Jaren Tosas
 Elizabeth Rutledge
 Nathaniel Schlung
 Madeleine Shangreaux
 Anh Vu
 Miles Von Liebermann
 Ava Wind
 Jay Wirth
 Rylie Wood
 Mindi Yang
 Haley Zoerner

Leander High School Grade 9
 Adelyn Ahrenholtz
 Aahil Ali
 James Anderson
 Annika Aswak
 Zia Badarpura
 Safiullah Baig
 Ellie Baker
 Joshua Becker
 Kelsey Bell Vasquez
 Abhimanyu Bhalla
 Rishi Bhatia
 Mia Brasseaux
 Violet Brewer
 Sydney Britton
 Adyson Brzezinski
 Andrew Bui
 Jose Cano Arias
 Brendan Carson
 Joaquin Castro
 Ruben Cavazos Rivera
 Mihir Chandurkar
 Lukas Charles
 Naga Sri Tanmayi
 Chennaipragada
 Lydia Chin
 Emma Davis
 Joaquin Diaz De Leon
 Addison Dishongh
 Anesh Dwarsala
 Saresh Elgtan
 Benjamin Foronato
 Kaycee Fernandez
 Joel Garcia Rivera
 Ella Giaouque
 Aasrith Godavarti
 Ryan Gomez-Ferree
 Caidyn Gonzales
 Christian Gonzalez
 Danielle Gray
 Isabella Grundei
 Marshall Hammond
 Hayden Harper
 Jackson Hart
 Isabella Hernandez
 Tanner Hoffman
 Katelyn Horvath
 Jo H Enua
 Avery Huling
 Alexander Hutmacher
 Jacob Jansta
 Thomas Jansta
 Jessica Jantz
 Emma John
 Geetika Joshi
 Evan Josselet
 Saanvi Kadgi
 Sonu Karnati
 Illia Karpenko
 Peter Keeskes
 Kaushik Kelkar
 Madison Kellum
 Jaiden Kim
 Brittney King
 Shrika Kota
 Ishaan Kumar
 Riley Leonard
 Hailey Ligoocky
 Evan Linden
 Nicolas Lucio
 Walter Majewski
 Pranaav Makharia
 Arnnav Malhotra
 Ubaid Mareed
 Landon Maxwell
 Lauren Maynard
 Riley McAden
 Runzum Meshrum
 Juliet Miller
 Max Moore
 Lana Morin
 Banner Morse
 Kishay Nagulapalli
 Piper Neises
 Aria Nguyen
 Nadyn Nguyen
 Dylan Nishimura
 Alyssa Nokes
 Emily Nunes-Vences
 Shane Ollek
 Mahi Patel
 Gustavo Perez
 Thienn Peterson
 Ishita Pradhan

Gavin Quarterero
 Khloe Quinn
 Gnana Ramadugu
 Advait Ramanan
 Vyshnavi Rayapati
 Saharsh Reddy
 Jackson Reisdorph
 Kalea Reynaud
 Tristan Richardson
 Anna Rodriguez
 Lacey Russell
 Abigail Ruiz
 Kate Salazar
 Gabrielle Schneider
 Liliana Schulz
 Justine Sembrano
 Mary Shammass
 Kaleigh Shine
 Hollie Simpson
 Aiden Singh
 Max Smedley
 Caleb Song
 Finley Stephens
 Aiden Stewart
 Lars Sunde
 Ariana Tower
 Tyler Tran
 Aditi Trivedi
 William Turnbull
 Howard Tygett
 Isabel Vadakkethalakki
 Lobo
 Aaron Varghese
 Jake Verell
 Carter Vocal
 Isabel Walters
 Evelyn Williams
 Gage Williams
 Sarah Williams
 Connor Worley
 Alyssa Yadav

Grade 10
 Kendel Akers
 Katherine Alfaro
 Guandique
 Elizabeth Altenbaugh
 Jackson Arnold
 Kylee Arnold
 Arjun Arunkumar
 Nathan Avalos Olguin
 Lorna Basey
 Toriana Bazaldúa
 Alexander Becerra
 Sierra Bigini
 Zachary Bosman
 Cameron Braun
 Aditi Busa
 Ashlyn Butler
 Om Byraju
 Elizabeth Calixtro
 Castro
 Natalie Campbell
 Kasandra Castro
 Macy Cepeda
 Elizabeth Chaison
 Dante Chancey
 Arush Chirkumalli
 Claire Chinchulla
 Srinija Chukkappalli
 Sophia Clapp
 Madison Clark
 Jay Coats
 Addison Cooper
 Taylor Cortez
 Caitin Crow
 Riley Crum
 Julia Davis
 Lucy Deluna
 Justin Dinh
 Connor Duncan
 Zoe Effenberger
 Carter Elam
 Hadith Ellis
 Madelyn Enriquez
 Maxwell Evans
 Gage Faglie
 Carmen Fajardo-Banda
 Jillian Fowler
 Gabriel Franqui
 Emma Funes
 Renata Galiullina
 Erika Galle
 Javier Garcia
 Agnes Gijo
 Zev Gisser
 Nivas Gogineni
 Lenora Gomez
 Yavier Gonzalez
 Michael Grasso
 Noah Griggs
 Rachel Grundei
 Arianna Guillen
 Abhinav Gudumogula
 Lalith Sree Guthula
 Jordan Gyeryho
 Isabella Hall
 Ben Henke Shafer
 Araceli Hernandez
 Sofia Hernandez Vera
 Anh Khoa Hoang
 Sydney Holahan
 Kishiah Holwady
 Josiah Honore
 Avery Hruzek
 Ryder Huling
 Kamryn Hull
 Afraaz Hussain
 Laura Hutton
 Nguyen Hung Huynh
 Arin Iyer
 Aparna Jaghannaathan
 Jocelyn Jimenez
 Dharshan Kalyan Prabhu
 Pranav Kamisetty
 Aalim Kareedia
 Anisa Khan
 Emily Klaer
 Ritvik Koneru
 Connor Krebs
 Caden Lacour
 Yash Lalwani
 Garrett Lamm
 Riley Laws
 Soren Leavitt
 Srihan Ledalia
 Gabriel Lerma
 Kristi Lopez
 Marcos Lopez Lopez
 Hasini Mandava
 Gowtham Manneppalli
 Namir Maredia
 Karime Mendoza
 Evan Michael
 Tristan Miller
 Jeffrey Miller
 Chase Milfit
 Dylan Molitor
 Maya Molina
 Mason Montgomery
 Tyler Moorman
 James Morton
 Tristan Nasipak
 Katherine Nevis
 Avery Newman
 Madison Nguyen
 Jace Outlaw
 Oleg Ozerov

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

Jaden Parker
Isabella Parry
Maya Patel
Vaishnavi Peddada
Kendall Petrinii
Evan Pickrell
Desiree Ramirez
Guillermo Ramon
Jared Ramos
Akshay Rao
Elliana Reed
Moriah Reeves
Madison Riccio
Maria Rodriguez
Isabela Rodriguez

Grade 12

Ananth Abbaraju
Alicia Aguinaga
Ayaan Ahsan
Joshua Alberto-Calderon
Hunter Albracht
Jessica Aldape
Ashalina Ali
Denisse
Arelano-Aguirre
Zane Arevalo
Jacob Baillie
Tristan Baldrige
Joshua Baldwin
Grant Becker
Catelyn Beckerley
Emery Bell
Kennedy Bell Vasquez
Krish Bharal
Elizabeth Boon
Mackenzie Borie
Joshua Boudreau
Sara Bradley
Langston Brady
Alexis Braun
Reed Bronstad
Kelsey Brower
Ryan Burtner
Alejo Cagliolo
Mariana Cano-Arias
Elizabeth Capers
Noah Carmona
Julian Carpenter
Isaac Carville
Matilda Chancey
Abby Christiansen
William Wells
Blake Williams
Charlie Williams
Mary Young
Warner Young
Darek Zhang

Grade 11

Simon Accola
Ojaswi Acharya
Sravana Ambavaram
Shreyas Ananth
Erinn Anderson
Reese Anderson
Gabriella Baader
Amani Badarpura
Amiqa Badarpura
Saket Balaji
Tanuj Balaji
Callie Barrantiez
Eileen Bercu
Ella Bowman
Ryder Bradley
Sydney Brand
Joovon Byun
Mckenzie Cady
Carolina
Cardenas-Bushell
Erik Carmona
Jacy Carrejo
George Castillo
Ciara Catton
Eryn Catton
Aaron Cisna
Natalie Cox
Jazlynn Davis
Nikolai Day
Sofia Dinanno
Sepria Doherty
Jessica Egelsee
Aminah Elam
Gaeden Evans
Lindsay Fernandes
Ethan Fisher
Kevin Flenniken
Erin Fowler
Sophia Fray
Luke Fugate
Isabelle Fussell
Gia Gajera
Camille Garcia
Scarlet Geurin
Andrew Giaouque
Haven Gier
Gwendolyn Gleinser
Ridhima Gupta
Sadie Guzman
Mateo Hall
Ella Hamilton
Liliana Hardie
Cori Harper
Adelynn Harris
Virginia Hart
Luke Hatton
Carmen Hauenstein
Jozey Heermans
Oscar Hernandez
Ava Herron
Thomas Ho
Cobin Holmes
Marit Holzmann
Gage Horejsi
Sophia Horvath
Lauren Ice
Sara Jacobson
Sabrina Jansta
Haiden Jeanne
Taylor Josselet
Oliver Jozwiak
Joyce Jung
Deena Kallash
Arnav Kamath
Ryan Kazmir
Ahmed Khalhaf
Shanzeh Khan
Audrey Knott
Roman Kocheisen
Siri Kota
Karthik Kurapati
Dylan Lacaze
Tara Lammi
Daisy Lazcano
Keira Leday
Avery Linden
Santiago Llano
Joel Lopez Lara
Malia Lytle
Deborah Madden
Omar Mamozzi
Alexander Marquez
Benjamin Martin
Sienna Martin
Emma Martinez
Lainey Mason
Alexa Mata
Ethan Mathew
Gabriela McIntosh
Justin McNabb
Sahil Mehta
Kayla Metcalf
Christina Milne
Jovie Mise
Gianna Mitchell
Oscar Morin
Nikitasri Nagendran
Karthikeyan Natarajan
Sakthivel
Minh Nguyen
Sara Nishimura
Jilianne Nuevo
Paulina Olalde Zarate
Siri Pemberton
Jennifer Pena Gallegos
Aoife Perrott
Madalynn Pirri
Tanner Porch
Kailyn Potter
Rahul Ramadugu
Ava Ramirez
Elliot Ramos
Sydney Reisdorph
Chloe Rhee
Annie Rubio Ibarra
Paulo Rubio Ibarra
Maggie Ryder
Kaden Sako
Andrew Satterfield
Jack Serrano
Tristan Shoemaker
Ayush Singh
Arnav Sivakumar
Chloe Smith
Claire Smith
Keona Sotomayor
Aiden Spicer
Trinity
Spiering-Huebsch
Bryson Suggs
Thor Sunde
Samantha Svetlik
Kianna Thompson

Rouse High School

Grade 9

Molly Abernathy
Chahnitia Achantia
Zain Afzal
Anushri Agrawal
Hans Akarapu
Rithvik Akasam
Ishya Alapati
Jaxon Allen
Prahalya Anand

Maren Archer
Maria Arcos Brazon
Ambika Ashok
Snehansh Bachala
Logan Yurek
Brody Wafford
Lily Walker
Evan Weimer
Megara Wiesman
Jack Wood
Abigail Yeung
Kaley Zambrano

Grade 10

Ananth Abbaraju
Alicia Aguinaga
Ayaan Ahsan
Joshua Alberto-Calderon
Hunter Albracht
Jessica Aldape
Ashalina Ali
Denisse
Arelano-Aguirre
Zane Arevalo
Jacob Baillie
Tristan Baldrige
Joshua Baldwin
Grant Becker
Catelyn Beckerley
Emery Bell
Kennedy Bell Vasquez
Krish Bharal
Elizabeth Boon
Mackenzie Borie
Joshua Boudreau
Sara Bradley
Langston Brady
Alexis Braun
Reed Bronstad
Kelsey Brower
Ryan Burtner
Alejo Cagliolo
Mariana Cano-Arias
Elizabeth Capers
Noah Carmona
Julian Carpenter
Isaac Carville
Matilda Chancey
Abby Christiansen
William Wells
Blake Williams
Charlie Williams
Mary Young
Warner Young
Darek Zhang

Dante Alden
Lucas Alden
Chloe Allen
Kyan Allen
Asvik Anand
Shreenidhi Anand
Tarini Anantha
Manav Ashok
Zeyad Awad
Quincy Azel
Cameron Barber
Nathaniel Bartholomew

Grade 11

Justice Bazan
Morgan Berkley
Sri Sahasra Bikumala
Autumn Bilberry
Laasya Bokka
Nethra Bommi
Manasi Borude
Chris Brough
Raffi Brown
Joseph Bury
Isabella Busigin
Hansika Buyyani
Seojin Byun
Cristian Caro
Emma Carver
Charleston Cash
Yashwanth Challa
Leonard Chamberlin
Sanvi Chaulkade
Ashrith Chinta
Anna Cipriano
Broderick Corneille
Mary Cunningham
Kamryn Curtis
Emma Dahlvig
Ayden Davis-Timmmons
Sanjeev Deepak
Evelyn Dillard
Ashrith Dodla
Violet Dungan
Sam Durgaraman
Madeline Ellis
Diego Flores
Alexis Frank
Carson Frank
Ximena Fregoso
Jaramillo
Garrett Gabriel
Sofia Garcia
Ruth Gardner
Alannah Garza
Bojidar Geshev
Maanas Gondipalli
Yashas Gopal
Cayda Gormley
Charlotte Grandstaff
Marion Green
Brooke Green
Akshaya Gummadvelli
Atharv Gupta
Ishaan Gupta
Madison Haden
Shareen Haider
Claire Harris
Marley Harrison
Layne Hashbarger
Marin Heitzmann
Isabella Helm
Reed Henson
Alexandra Heyman
Brenna Hoffman
Jesse Hogge
Sarah Huh
Ava Hume
Hamza Imran
Veer Kumar
Mahi Jain
Stuti Jain
Dane Jensen
Rithwika Jitta
Tattva Jivani
Ethan Jones
Yuktasri Kalichetty
Vanshik Reddy
Kanakuntla
Anika Kaparthy
Nik Kappeier
Keerti Karidi
Bala Tharun Karupiah
Justin Kas
Kinsley Keen
Haadiya Khatri
Emily Kim
Gyuri Kim
Parker King
Simon King
Scott Knight
Shradha Koduri
Sienna Koller
Volodymyr Kozlovskiy
Maximus Krontad
Soumya Kulkarni
Siddhant Lakhani
Lam Le
Savanna Lee
Madeline Logan
Giulianna Lopez
Dylan Lundy
Abraham Ly
Yashasvi Madineni
Nithin Mahesh
Claire Mayfield
Naren Mayilsamy
Mckenna McCord
Caralyn McWilliams
Isabella Meyer
Peter Mietus
Matthew Miller
Tyler Miller
Kevin Mitschke
Dishitha Sai
Molalakapalli
Lindsay Morgan
London Morgan
Enzo Morosanu
Thanvi Mudde
Eden Murphy
Ching Ng
Tran Nguyen
Jaden Nielson
Trey Nielson
Anaya Nuylan
Bela Orallo
Jaime Park
Dev Patel
Meghavyam Pentakota
Ashley Perez
Prathinav Pillai
Charlotte Polnaszek
Gabrielle Proa
Vidya Puralasetty
Emry Pwe
Nasreen Qawiyyi
Draco Raffle
Ariel Ramos
Laxmisi Reddy
Nityasi Reddy
Shrenik Reddy
Paxton Rickenbacker
Judson Ridgway
Abbey Ross
Ryder Rosson
Sophia Minney
David Moon
Daniel Rybarski
Saanvi Sahu
Jacob Sainz
Samuel Samuel
Isabella Saraswal
Aarush Saraswat
Ishyanee Sengupta
Jihyeon Seo
Rishit Seth
Vikhyat Shahi
Om Shindhe
Surya Shiva
Ishaan Shrivastav
Nashmia Siddiqui
Grant Simmons
Wyatt Smith
Kylie Snell
Roxxi Snow
Nardose Solomon
Olivia St Clair
Katie Stacer
Ariana Stanfield

Weldon Stasny
Pranav Sudhakaran
Roopesh Tangudu
Tatum Taylor
Mathew Thomas
Hailey Thompson
Delaney Vannoy
Jeremy Varghese
Bibi Vazquez Alvarez
Sai Venkat Veerapaneni
Jayaditya Vetsa
Tarun Vijay

Grade 12

Aiden Vokopola
Shrika Vudumu
Ronik Vyata
Allison Walker
Hannah Weaver
Lincoln Wheelwright
Addison White
Harper Wilson
Savannah Woods
Alexander Zamora
Fakheri Zayed
Jacob Zuniga

Brittany Pham
Bernice Phoebe
Kiersten Pierron
Ashton Preston
Ayushi Priyadarshani
Carson Pruett
Sofia Puyol
Owen Ramirez
Brooklyn Ramsey
Sree Harsha Rebba
Madison Reeves
Ashton Reynolds

Grade 9

Alex Ringo
Emory Rodgers
Elizabeth Rollmann
Blake Sager
Andrew Sanchez
Jesse Schaubte
Emerson Scott
Bryce Riley Sena
Riyanjali Sengupta
Abdul Shaik
Shaurya Sharma
Snigdha Shenoy
Radhika Singh
Sukhmanpreet Singh
Madison Sisneroz
Kydall Smith
Delfina Soldan Galdo
Shivani Sreekanth
Olivia Stein
Noah Stover
Pranav Subramanian
Makenna Suman
Sophia Summers
William Taff
Sriya Tanguturi
Aaron Thurman
Tyler Topham
Wesley Turner
Mayank Verma
Marcus Vizzy
Grace Wahl
Keely Walters
Noah Welker
Benjamin Wheelwright
Sreehitha Yalavarthy
Renushri Yannam
Ritvik Yeduru
Tianzheng Zhang

Shriya Praveen
Avery Provencher
Joanna Rajkumar
Noor Rana
Simran Reddy
Lara Rocha Ronconi
Ortega
Lane Rockhold
Isaac Rodgers
Keller Rogers
Edwin Rotich
Colton Rupe
Oscar Salazar
Zoe Seward
Nathaniel Shaw
Quincy Simpson
Dillon Sinha
Elizabeth Smith
Foster Snell
Dawson Snow
Hannah Solomon
Benjamin Stacer
Taylor Stephenson
Naara Tanco
Robert Terbay
Hannah Thompson
Halle Tibbetts
Jacob Troller
Sara Tusken
Edward Tyson
Jasmine Villa
Spencer Weldon
Brooke White
Gavin Wilkie
Parker Wolski
Collin Worthen
Lauren Yanez

Grade 10

Shriya Praveen
Avery Provencher
Joanna Rajkumar
Noor Rana
Simran Reddy
Lara Rocha Ronconi
Ortega
Lane Rockhold
Isaac Rodgers
Keller Rogers
Edwin Rotich
Colton Rupe
Oscar Salazar
Zoe Seward
Nathaniel Shaw
Quincy Simpson
Dillon Sinha
Elizabeth Smith
Foster Snell
Dawson Snow
Hannah Solomon
Benjamin Stacer
Taylor Stephenson
Naara Tanco
Robert Terbay
Hannah Thompson
Halle Tibbetts
Jacob Troller
Sara Tusken
Edward Tyson
Jasmine Villa
Spencer Weldon
Brooke White
Gavin Wilkie
Parker Wolski
Collin Worthen
Lauren Yanez

Olivia Harper
Reemaz Hashmi
Zoya Hasnat
Dillon Hasty
Isaiah Hawkins
Walker Hawkins
Ouse Hawwar
Kate Heaton
Violet Henri
Nathaniel Hernandez
Jason Hillers
Mason Hibbs
Moses Hoffman
Ashlynn Hoke
Bristol
Holbrook-Bowman
Jackson Holecek
Sebastian Holt
Mathewose Hopkins
Alessia Hurst
Soyul Ji
Jaden Johnson
Nia Jones
Jessica Joo
Jasmine Jordan
Hyeryeon Jung
Patriya Kaewkao
Delise Kalker
Chea Yul Kang
Nathan Kang
Carter Kappmeyer
Blake Kekelik
Hendrix Keller
Claire Kellington
Karter Kellar
Mahmoud Kharbutli
Abinab Khatiwada
Madden Kiev
Jasper Kim
Andrew Klemett
Justin Knox
Arnav Konduru
Taehyun Koo
Sanjay Krishnan
Adhru Kulkarni
Tanvi Sree Kuram
Om Kurlekar
Mikhail Kuryanov
Akgwa Kwon
Nathan Kwon
Youcef Layadi
Preston Lee
Livia Leandro
Chloe Lee
Peter Lee
Seoyoung Lee
Ava Limon
Ishita Lingala
Shuchang Liu
Caroline Loew
Eloise Lopes
Alexandra Lugo
Cardona
Lenna Lundell
Delaney Luther
Matthew Magbee
Garrett Magee
Owen Maguire
Jacob Mallinger
Aubrey Martinez
Eric Bauer
Kristen Gianna Baugbog
Connor Bell
Isabella Benitez
Sophia Benton
Ethan Bergeron
Katy Berglund
Julia Bergman
Sohil Bhatta
Maia Bland
Lauren Blanton
Abigail Bofferding
Addison Bogue
Liberty Borchert
Marc Kevin Borja
Amador Bouie Perez
Tyler Bourgeois
Nathan Boze
Abigail Brode
Cohen Brooks
Gavin Brooks
Kenlee Brown
Kenneth Brown
Liam Bryan
Michael Burk
Jady Burrow
Kaito Burt
Caeden Campbell
Owen Canady
Vetinia Cannon
Nam Cao
Mason Capesius
Lucas Bothol Agusti
Cameron Bradley
Sean Bratton
Mackenzie Brown
Jacob Carrillo
Noah Carrillo
Gouransh Chauhan
Sundeep Chidambaram
Hunter Claybrook
Madelyn Cooper
Sofia Corneille
Thomas Cunyus
Alice Davis
Kadence Davis
Abigail De Mascio
Audrey De Mascio
Karen Diaz
Dalen Dorsey
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Caleb Ellison
Emma Elrod
Hana Elzayat
Chloe Espericueta
Tyler Espinosa
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Jon Flores
Olivia Frank
Eryn Frazier
Cole Fuller
Vaishvik Galakattula
Piper Gomez
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Peyton Gormley
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Ava Gruhke
Sophie Gwaldo
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Christian Harwood
Rayner Heinrich
Carson Henderson
David Hoo
Ciaran Englishby
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Sai Aditya Koduri
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Robert McLauchlan
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Nia Page
Pranav Pare
Parthiban Parthasarathy
Rachit Patel
Chelsea Perez
Megan Peterson
Braden Petzold
Ryan Pfenning
Saomi Pham
Maria Pitts
Celena Polanco

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Avery Provencher
Joanna Rajkumar
Noor Rana
Simran Reddy
Lara Rocha Ronconi
Ortega
Lane Rockhold
Isaac Rodgers
Keller Rogers
Edwin Rotich
Colton Rupe
Oscar Salazar
Zoe Seward
Nathaniel Shaw
Quincy Simpson
Dillon Sinha
Elizabeth Smith
Foster Snell
Dawson Snow
Hannah Solomon
Benjamin Stacer
Taylor Stephenson
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Robert Terbay
Hannah Thompson
Halle Tibbetts
Jacob Troller
Sara Tusken
Edward Tyson
Jasmine Villa
Spencer Weldon
Brooke White
Gavin Wilkie
Parker Wolski
Collin Worthen
Lauren Yanez

Simon Tesfaye
Samuel Thibodeaux
Bryce Thomas
Sanjya Thunga
Yuria Tierney
Lily Tillerson
Yun-Tsen Ting
Alina Tkachenko
Chloe Trammell
Lane Tripp
Isabelle Tudtud
Andrew Tuma
Sara Turner
Catherine Tyrpak
Kira Tyurina
Kent Ulrich
Ishaan Upadhyaya
Jaeda Urias
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Nanda Valath
Cristhofer Vallecillo
Calderson
Jackson Vance
Clairebella Vargas
Faiz Vastani
Benjamin Vogel
Bryce Vu
Tyrese Walker
Scarlett Walter
Hazel Wamsley
Amelia Warren
Gary Warren
Layla Welling
Aidan White
Karter Wilde
Austin Williams
Kira Williford
Daniel Wilson
Emmett Wilt
Temperance Winter
Mackenzie Wright
Sophia Xiang
Addison Young
Chanyeong Yun
Ashley Zacharias
Penelope Zank

Grade 12

Simon Tesfaye
Samuel Thibodeaux
Bryce Thomas
Sanjya Thunga
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Yun-Tsen Ting
Alina Tkachenko
Chloe Trammell
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Kira Williford
Daniel Wilson
Emmett Wilt
Temperance Winter
Mackenzie Wright
Sophia Xiang
Addison Young
Chanyeong Yun
Ashley Zacharias
Penelope Zank

Williamson County tax statements to be mailed this week

STAFF REPORTS

Williamson County Tax Assessor/Collector Larry Gaddes said that 2023 property tax statements were mailed out last week to property owners within the county.

"Property owners should (have started) receiving their statements in the mail on Wednesday. However, bills for property owners in Round Rock ISD and Pflugerville ISD will be delayed until after the Nov. 7 tax rate election results," Gaddes said.

Taxes are due upon receipt of the statement and become delinquent on Feb. 1, 2024. Taxpayers can get a copy of their tax statement, see payment history and print receipts by searching for a property at tax.wilco.org. Payment options, tax rates and other information can be found online at <https://www.wilcotx.gov/taxoffice>

Taxpayers are encouraged to use the payment drop boxes available at all tax office locations. Taxpayers can email or call with questions at proptax@wilco.org or (512) 943-1601. The Tax Assessor/Collector offices are open 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. All Tax Assessor/Collector offices are closed to the public on Wednesdays.

Hanyang Eng USA to build headquarters in Cedar Park

BY JOSH MONIZ SENIOR REPORTER

National engineering consultant Hanyang Eng USA plans to build its new national headquarters in Cedar Park.

The Cedar Park City Council approved a \$450,000 performance-based economic development agreement with the over 40-year-old South Korean company at its Thursday, Oct. 26, meeting. The new headquarters, which will be located at 1635 Scottsdale Drive, Building 6, will employ 50 full-time positions by 2025.

The agreement will provide \$200,000 to help purchase the building and the additional \$250,000 contingent on hiring the 50 employees by the agreed deadline.

Hanyang Eng USA employs 1,100 people worldwide and focuses on providing products and engineering services to industries involved with semiconductors, power generators and mechanical engineering. They plan to expand in the aerospace, environmental and green



HANYANG ENG

"We are assured that this partnership will open doors for collaboration with local businesses, creating exciting opportunities."

—JEE SEON KIM, Hanyang Eng USA senior marketing manager

energy industries in the near future, according to Cedar Park Director of Economic Development Ben White. It is a subsidiary of Hanyang ENG Co. Ltd. and has locations in South Korea, China, Vietnam and Singapore.

During an October meeting of the Cedar Park Economic Development Type A Board, White said, "Timing is very important for Korean companies, and being able to move fast is vital on this project."

In its release about the decision, the City of Cedar Park said the company's decision to build in Cedar Park was a

direct result of the city's work with the Williamson County Economic Development Partnership to attract South Korean companies to the county, especially ones that can collaborate with or provide services for the planned \$17 billion Samsung semiconductor facility in Taylor. Hanyang is a supplier for Samsung and provides piping to move chemicals in the production of semiconductors.

"We are excited to announce our new National Corporate Headquarters in Cedar Park as part of our commitment to delivering exceptional engineering

solutions and serving our customers and partners. We are grateful for the dedication and prompt support provided by the City of Cedar Park Economic Development Corporation in building a strong partnership. We are assured that this partnership will open doors for collaboration with local businesses, creating exciting opportunities," Hanyang Eng USA Senior Marketing Manager Jee Seon Kim said in the city's release.

The planned headquarters will be adjacent to the Cedar Park aerospace company Firefly Aerospace, which is currently working on a contract with NASA to build a lander for taking scientific and commercial payloads to the near side of the moon.

Economic development officials with the county and area cities anticipate hundreds of companies opening in Williamson County and its cities to service the Samsung plant or because of the economic impact it will create in the area.

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Daniel Ibarra
Ainsley Inshall
Renee Ip
Maurice Jackson
Aarav Jain
Samuel James
Bhavish Jampala
Jennavee Jensen
Eleanor Johnson
Amare Jordan
Tyler Jordan
Cavin Jupe
Benjamin Kadison
Tapasvi Kamasamodram
Chea Min Kang
Alyssa Karm
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Megann Keshler
Soniya Keshwala
Aiden Key
Livie Killion
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Kahyun Kim
Srikanth Kommuri
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Allyson Krienke
Ryder Kriloff
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Cameron Lacek
Ryland Lafeber
Hudson Lee
Newton Le
Eoin Leary
Ashley June Hee Lee
Brian Lee
Jaeyun Lee
Jeongwon Lee
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Laila Nahvi
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Mariana Ortiz Munoz
Yana Ostrovskaya
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Michelle Faghhi
Luke Junqing Fan
Benjamin Farrar
Keara Fellows
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Isabella Flores
Jacob Flores
Meredith Foley
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Ambri Garner
Ivan Young
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Finn Abramson
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Aarav Ahuja
Gavin Ainsworth
Ricardo Aleman
Ehan Ali
Hamza Alkhatib
Gabriela Amadio Molini
Shaleen Amal
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Sarah Anderson
Kennedy
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Santiago Arias Camero
Marco Arrebola
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Santiago Azocar Anton
Mamadou Ba
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Wynona Foyt
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Elijah Gonzalez
Fathima Gonzalez
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Parker Gregg
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Andrade
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Gowri Maracany
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Abigail Williams
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Lydia Evans
Chenrui Fan
Michael Fazio
Alexandria Fedorov
Maylin Feng
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Tommy Figueroa
Caton Firkins
Santiago Flores
Joscelyn Flores Silva
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Jacob Fowler
Reagan Frerers
Juan Fuentes Saldana
John Galan
Dyuti Ganesh
Helena Garcia
Sophia Garcia Capra
Kylaigh Gasbarro
Lina Gavryshko
Maya Gervais
Tyler Gilliland
Devin Gillon
William Glover
Ethan Gober
Jhon Gonzales
Joan Gonzalez Reyes
Karli Gouner

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Lainey Gray
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Hayley Gregerson
Callan Guarino
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Caden Cornwell
Jonathan Cotten
Torin Crowley
Bridgette Crumpton
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Sobeida Espinoza
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Chloe Wallace
Jackson Wallerstein
Collin Watson
Tayshin Wattanavijitkul
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Ethan Sanders
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Adalyn Schlung
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Sarada Varshini
Jada Moore
Sidney Sherrill
Jake Smith
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Marian Jean Stahl
Lucy Summers
Abhilash Sunkara
Lance Surber
Laura Szabo
Jacob Taira
Mysha Teekay
Katharine Terry
Cameron Thibodeau
Emilee Thomas
Abhijay Thunga
Edil Tomas
Annelese Toowey
Phi Tran
Mya Vallier
Dmitrii Valsten
Aubrey Vanlandingham
David Vazquez
Sofia Velasquez Talero
Christopher Veloz
Maya Veloz
Nicola Vuong
Tayleigh Walter
Caleb Wamsley
Daniel Warmerdam
Bernadette Washburn
Braden Watson
Jack Weaver
Maximilian Webb
Jacob Weikum
Dominic Welling
Ava West
Piper Whitt
Abigail Williams
Alanna Williams
Lydia Evans
Chenrui Fan
Michael Fazio
Alexandria Fedorov
Maylin Feng
Antonio Figueroa
Tommy Figueroa
Caton Firkins
Santiago Flores
Joscelyn Flores Silva
Miah Foster
Jacob Fowler
Reagan Frerers
Juan Fuentes Saldana
John Galan
Dyuti Ganesh
Helena Garcia
Sophia Garcia Capra
Kylaigh Gasbarro
Lina Gavryshko
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Request for Proposal

The City of Leander will be accepting sealed proposals responses via electronic submission to our Bonfire portal at <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal> for:

RFP S24-003 Fleet Vehicles

Solicitation documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department by downloading from the City's Bonfire website at: <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal>

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the terms of the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code

THAT: Umi Buffet Round Rock TX LLC. d/b/a Raku Ayce Sushi Sukiyaki Buffet & Bar

HAS FILED APPLICATION FOR A: Mixed Beverage Permit

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OWNER: Sam Wang, Managing Member

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The City of Leander will be accepting sealed proposal responses via electronic submission to our Bonfire portal at <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal> for:

RFP S23-001 Right of Way Mowing

Solicitation documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department by downloading from the City's Bonfire website at: <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal>

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The City of Leander will be accepting sealed proposal responses via electronic submission to our Bonfire portal at <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal> for:

S23-002 Park & Municipal Property Landscape Maintenance and Mowing

Solicitation documents may be obtained from the Purchasing Department by downloading from the City's Bonfire website at: <https://leandertx.bonfirehub.com/portal>

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PUBLIC NOTICE

On October 19, 2023, the City Council of the City of Lago Vista, Texas passed and approved the following Ordinances:

ORDINANCE NO. 23-10-19-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAGO VISTA, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 11.60 OF CHAPTER 14 OF THE LAGO VISTA CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-10-19-03

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF LAGO VISTA, TEXAS, AMENDING SECTION 3.804 OF ARTICLE 3.800 WITHIN CHAPTER 3, AND SECTION 3.100 OF ARTICLE 3.000 WITHIN APPENDIX A OF THE LAGO VISTA CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING THE APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES REQUIRED FOR BUILDING PERMITS; AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City Council of the City of Leander, Texas (the "City"), will hold a public hearing in the Council Chambers at the Pat Bryson Municipal Hall at 201 N. Brushy Street, Leander, Texas, on the **16th day of November, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** for the purpose of receiving public comments on the proposed initiation of annexation proceedings of the following generally described areas of land. Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing that will be held at the time and place listed above, to-wit:

A public hearing will be held on the proposed annexation of the following area of land, less and except any property already annexed into the City of Leander:

92.319 acres +/- acre parcel of land in the Talbot Chambers Survey, Abstract No. 125, in Williamson County, Texas

Generally located approximately 2,000 feet to the east of the intersection of 183A Toll Road and Hero Way, on the northside of Hero Way, Leander, Tx.

The above-described areas of land are more particularly described in the map and materials related to the above referenced annexations, which is available for inspection at City Hall, 105 N. Brushy St., Leander, Texas 78641 and will be available at the public hearing.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CITY OF LAGO VISTA, TEXAS COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2024

NOTICE is hereby given that it is the intention of the City Council of the City of Lago Vista, Texas to issue Certificates of Obligation (the "Certificates") of the City in one or more series for the purpose of providing funds for paying contractual obligations incurred or to be incurred for: (i) constructing, improving, and/or renovating City parks; (ii) improving, expanding and constructing City streets including related drainage, sidewalks, traffic improvements and lighting; (iii) improving, expanding, constructing and equipping renovations to the City's water and wastewater system, to include effluent dispersal irrigation, upgrading water and wastewater treatment plants and ground storage tanks; (iv) public safety equipment to include police radios; and (v) payment of professional services in connection therewith including legal, engineering, architectural and fiscal fees and the costs of issuing the Certificates. The City Council tentatively proposes to authorize the issuance of the Certificates at its regular meeting place in the Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, Lago Vista, Texas to be commenced at 6:30 p.m., on the 18th day of January, 2024. The maximum principal amount of Certificates that may be authorized for the above listed purposes is \$26,000,000. The City Council presently proposes to provide for the security and payment of the Certificates by a pledge of ad valorem taxes upon all taxable property within the City within the limits allowed by law and from a limited pledge of the City's surplus water and sewer system revenues not to exceed \$1,000.

The following information is required pursuant to Texas Local Government Code, Section 271.049(b)(4): As of October 19, 2023 principal of all outstanding debt obligations of the City is \$27,740,000. As of October 19, 2023 combined principal and interest required to pay all outstanding debt obligations of the City on time and in full is \$36,307,861. The maximum principal amount of the Certificates to be authorized is \$26,000,000. The estimated combined principal and interest required to pay the Certificates to be authorized on time and in full is \$51,990,650. The estimated interest rate for the Certificates to be authorized is 5.25%. Such estimate takes into account a number of factors, including the issuance schedule, maturity schedule and the expected bond ratings of the proposed bonds. Such estimated maximum interest rate is provided as a matter of information, but is not a limitation on the interest rate at which the bonds, or any series thereof, may be sold. The maximum maturity date of the Certificates to be authorized is December 31, 2053.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LAGO VISTA, TEXAS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND INTENT TO ISSUE COMBINATION TAX AND REVENUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION, SERIES 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Lago Vista, Texas ("the City"), intends to issue its Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation, Series 2024 (the "Certificates") for the purpose of providing funds for (i) constructing, improving, and/or renovating City parks; (ii) improving, expanding and constructing City streets including related drainage, sidewalks, traffic improvements and lighting; (iii) improving, expanding, constructing and equipping renovations to the City's water and wastewater system, to include effluent dispersal irrigation, upgrading water and wastewater treatment plants and ground storage tanks; (iv) public safety equipment to include police radios; and (v) payment of professional services in connection therewith including legal, engineering, architectural and fiscal fees and the costs of issuing the Certificates. The City will conduct a public hearing at its meeting to commence at 6:30 p.m. on January 18, 2024, expected to be held at the Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, Lago Vista, Texas, on the issuance by the City of the Certificates. The following information is included in this Notice pursuant to Sections 8.10 and 8.11 of the City's Home Rule Charter: (i) the relevant statutory provisions providing for a petition and election: none; (ii) the time, date and place at which the ordinance authorizing the issuance of the Certificates is planned to be authorized: at the meeting of the City Council to commence at 6:30 p.m. on January 18, 2024, at the Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, Lago Vista, Texas or via a free public video conference or other lawful electronic means; (iii) the manner and funding source proposed for the payment of the Certificates is ad valorem taxes and from a limited pledge of the City's surplus water and sewer system revenues not to exceed \$1,000; (iv) the maximum principal amount of the Certificates to be issued is \$26,000,000; and (v) the purpose for which the Certificates will be issued is for: (i) constructing, improving, and/or renovating City parks; (ii) improving, expanding and constructing City streets including related drainage, sidewalks, traffic improvements and lighting; (iii) improving, expanding, constructing and equipping renovations to the City's water and wastewater system, to include effluent dispersal irrigation, upgrading water and wastewater treatment plants and ground storage tanks; (iv) public safety equipment to include police radios; and (v) payment of professional services in connection therewith including legal, engineering, architectural and fiscal fees and the costs of issuing the Certificates.

950 PUBLIC NOTICES

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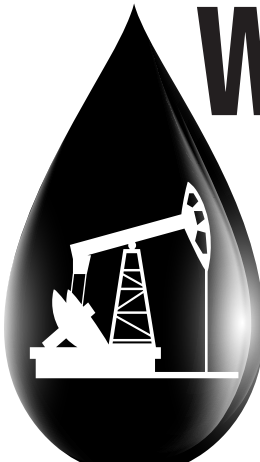
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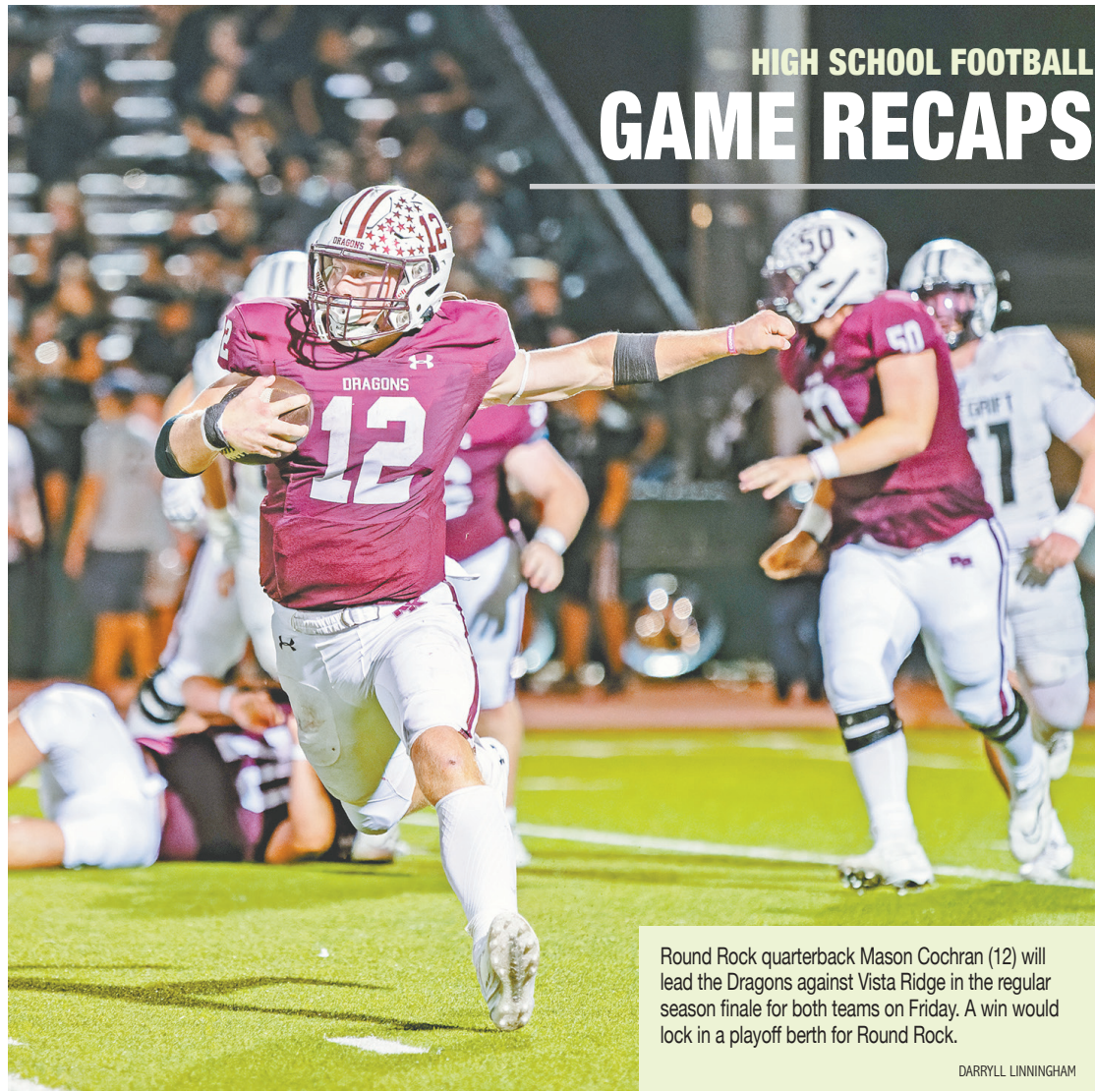
FOOTBALL SCHEDULES

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

- FRIDAY**
LEANDER (2-7) AT EAST VIEW (3-6)
 Birkelbach Field, 7 p.m.
- CEDAR PARK (6-3) VS GEORGETOWN (6-3)**
 Guppton Stadium, 7 p.m.
- GLENN (2-7) VS A&M CONSOLIDATED (6-3)**
 Bible Stadium, 7 p.m.
- VISTA RIDGE (6-3) AT ROUND ROCK (4-5)**
 Dragon Stadium, 7 p.m.
- VANDEGRIFT (9-0) VS WESTWOOD (7-2)**
 Monroe Stadium, 7 p.m.
- CEDAR RIDGE (2-7) AT MCNEIL (5-4)**
 Kelly Reeves Stadium, 7 p.m.
- LAGO VISTA (5-4) VS JARRELL (3-6)**
 Viking Stadium, 7:30 p.m.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

- THURSDAY**
TCU (4-4) AT TEXAS TECH (3-5)
 Jones AT&T Stadium, 6 p.m. (FS1)
- SATURDAY**
NO. 7 TEXAS (7-1) VS NO. 25 KANSAS STATE (6-2)
 DKR-Texas Memorial Stadium, 11 a.m. (FOX)
- TEXAS A&M (5-3) AT NO. 11 OLE MISS (7-1)**
 Vaught-Hemingway Stadium, 11 a.m. (ESPN)
- SAM HOUSTON (0-8) VS KENNESAW STATE (2-5)**
 Elliot T. Bowers Stadium, 12 p.m. (ESPN+)
- UTSA (5-3) AT NORTH TEXAS (3-5)**
 DATCU Stadium, 2 p.m. (ESPN+)
- BAYLOR (3-5) VS HOUSTON (3-5)**
 McLane Stadium, 2:30 p.m. (BIG12)
- TEXAS STATE (5-3) VS GEORGIA SOUTHERN (6-2)**
 Bobcat Stadium, 4 p.m. (ESPN+)
- RICE (4-4) VS SMU (6-2)**
 Rice Stadium, 6:30 p.m. (ESPNU)
- NFL**
TEXANS (3-4) VS TAMPA BAY (3-4)
 NRG Stadium, 12 p.m. (CBS)
- COWBOYS (5-2) AT EAGLES (7-1)**
 Lincoln Financial Field, 3:25 p.m. (FOX)



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME RECAPS

Round Rock quarterback Mason Cochran (12) will lead the Dragons against Vista Ridge in the regular season finale for both teams on Friday. A win would lock in a playoff berth for Round Rock.

STANDINGS

Team	Overall	District
DISTRICT 25-6A		
Vandegrift	9-0	6-0 (y)
Round Rock	4-5	4-2
Westwood	7-2	4-2
McNeil	5-4	3-3
Vista Ridge	6-3	3-3
Stony Point	4-5	2-4
Manor	4-5	2-4
Cedar Ridge	2-7	0-6
DISTRICT 11-5A DIV 1		
College Station	8-1	6-0 (y)
Georgetown	6-3	5-1 (x)
A&M Consolidated	6-3	4-2 (x)
Cedar Park	6-3	4-2 (x)
East View	3-6	2-4
Glenn	2-7	1-5
Hendrickson	3-6	1-5
Leander	2-7	1-5
DISTRICT 11-5A DIV 2		
Belton	8-1	4-1 (x)
Waco University	7-2	4-1 (x)
Rouse	6-3	3-2
Elgin	4-5	2-3
Pflugerville	2-7	2-3
Chaparral	3-7	2-4
Connally	3-6	1-4
DISTRICT 13-4A DIV 2		
Wimberley	9-0	4-0 (y)
Navarro	6-3	3-1
Lago Vista	5-4	2-2
Jarrell	3-6	2-2
Manor New Tech	2-7	1-3
Austin Achieve	2-7	0-4

y - clinched district title
 x - clinched playoff berth

VANDEGRIFT 45, VISTA RIDGE 0
 Deuce Adams went 17-of-26 passing for 252 yards and three touchdowns for Vandegrift in the Vipers' 45-0 win at Vista Ridge last week. Miles Coleman had eight catches for 109 yards and two touchdowns for the Vipers. Brendan Fournier carried the ball 16 times for 101 yards and a touchdown for Vandegrift, as the Vipers held the Rangers to just 44 total yards of offense in the game. Grant Anderson was 6-of-13 passing for 41 yards for Vista Ridge. Vista Ridge (6-3, 3-3) will play at Round Rock (4-5, 4-2) on Friday. The Dragons beat Cedar Ridge 48-7 last week. Vandegrift (9-0, 6-0) hosts Westwood (7-2, 4-2) on Friday. The Warriors beat Manor 28-21 last week.

MCNEIL 52, STONY POINT 21
 Kinnick Kalbus was 7-of-13 passing for 90 yards and a touchdown and Mason Troyer was 3-of-6 passing for 37 yards for Stony Point in a 52-21 loss to McNeil last week. Tony Shannon, Bobby Holland and Jaret Black each had 10 total tackles for McNeil. The Mavericks (5-4, 3-3) host Cedar Ridge (2-7, 0-6).

ROUND ROCK 48, CEDAR RIDGE 7
 Mason Cochran had 190 rushing yards and a touchdown on 15 carries and added 32 passing yards for Round Rock in a 48-7 win over Cedar Ridge last week. Israel Morgan added 109 yards and four

touchdowns on 13 carries for the Dragons. Round Rock (4-5, 4-2) host Vista Ridge (6-3, 3-3) on Friday. The Rangers are coming off a 45-0 loss to district-leading Vandegrift last week.

CEDAR PARK 49, LEANDER 7
 Ayden Arp passed for three touchdowns and rushed for two more in Cedar Park's 49-7 win over Leander last week. Arp was 17-of-27 passing for 253 yards and scored on both of his carries. Logan Mitchell was 8-of-17 passing for 87 yards with two interceptions for Leander, adding 74 rushing yards on nine carries. The Timberwolves (6-3, 4-2) host Georgetown (6-3, 5-1) on Friday. The Eagles beat Glenn 44-41 last week. The Lions (2-7, 1-5) play at East View (3-6, 2-4) on Friday. The Patriots beat Hendrickson 32-7 last week.

GLENN 41, GEORGETOWN 44
 Glenn brought out the run game in a 44-41 loss to Georgetown last week, as Dejuan Dugar had 201 yards on 15 carries with a touchdown. De'marcus Davis had 135 yards and two touchdowns on nine carries, and Keaton Gordon had 102 yards and two touchdowns on 12 carries for the Grizz. Noah Booras was 22-of-32 passing for 362 yards and three touchdowns and Andrew Petter had 241 rushing yards and three touchdowns on 28 carries for the Eagles. Glenn (2-7, 1-5) will host A&M Consolidated (6-3, 4-2) on Friday.

The Tigers are coming off a 49-42 loss to crosstown rival College Station last week.

ROUSE 22, PFLUGERVILLE 29
 Sophomore quarterback London Morgan was 13-of-25 passing for 246 yards, a pair of touchdowns and an interception in Rouse's 29-22 loss at Pflugerville last week. Justin Cannon carried the ball 18 times for 126 yards in the game. Nico Fisher had 11 total tackles and a sack on defense for the Raiders. Rouse (6-3, 3-2) will host Elgin (4-5, 2-3) are coming off a bye after beating Pflugerville 44-17 on Oct. 20.

MANOR 21, WESTWOOD 28
 Demani Stewart had 29 carries for 217 yards and a pair of touchdowns for Westwood, while Owen Norrell was 12-of-19 passing for 141 yards and two more touchdowns for the Warriors in a 28-21 win over Manor last week. At 7-2 overall (4-2 in district play), the Warriors are having their best season in more than a decade and will play at district-leading Vandegrift (9-0, 6-0) on Friday. The Vipers beat Vista Ridge 45-0 last week.

OTHER SCORES:
 Lago Vista 22, Wimberley 34
 Liberty Hill 81, Bastrop 31

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Moose stun Stars in overtime

STAFF REPORTS

The Texas Stars, American Hockey League affiliate of the NHL's Dallas Stars, fell 6-5 in overtime hosting the Manitoba Moose in a two-game series finale on Saturday night at the H-E-B Center at Cedar Park. Manitoba struck first 56 seconds into the contest when Danny Zhitkin cleaned up a loose puck near the top of the crease and fired it past Remi Poirier to make it 1-0. Derrick Pouliot tied the game 1-1 at 7:45 when he slapped a shot past Collin Delia from the high slot. The middle frame saw the Stars claim their first lead of the night when Matej Blumel's shot near the right circle snuck through Delia's pads and crept across the goal line to make it 2-1 at 2:48. Then at 4:13, Oskar Back extended Texas' lead to 3-1 by poking in a loose puck near the front of the net. After Axel Jonsson-Fjallby scored at 12:27 to cut the deficit to 3-2, Fredrik Karlstrom put the Stars back up by a pair at 13:35. Two minutes later, Jeff Malott closed

the gap back to a goal at 15:48. Second-period scoring was capped with Nick Caamano providing another insurance tally for Texas, scoring to make it 5-3 at the 17:55 mark. In the third period, Ashton Sautner unloaded a slapshot near the top of the zone to cut Texas' lead back to one, 5-4, at 4:20. Manitoba then tied the game at 10:03 when Brad Lambert chipped the puck into the top-right corner from the slot. All square at 5-5 after regulation, Saturday's affair marked the second night in a row worthy of extra time. The Moose completed their comeback with 45.9 seconds left in overtime when Sautner scored his second goal of the game to seal the 6-5 victory. Delia picked up the win in goal for Manitoba after making 34 saves on 39 shots. Poirier came down with the overtime loss in Saturday's contest after surrendering six goals on 45 shots. Due up, the Stars hit the road again next weekend to take on the Iowa Wild on Saturday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines.

UIL declines to advance proposals for lacrosse, girls flag football, boys volleyball

BY TYLER TYRE
 SPECIAL TO THE HILL COUNTRY NEWS

The University Interscholastic League legislative council finished up its fall meetings last week and denied, rejected or decided to take no action on a number of proposals, including those about adding new UIL sanctioned sports. The members of the committee decided against adding boys volleyball, lacrosse for boys or girls and girls flag football as sanctioned sports. The explanation for it was that the numbers wouldn't justify the split. 26 states have added lacrosse and the sport is growing, but the committee decided that demand for the sport is not at a level yet in Texas where it would require the UIL to address it. The UIL also declined proposals that would move soccer to the fall and volley-

ball to the spring in the athletic calendar, splitting up Class 1A and Class 2A baseball and the addition of wheelchair tennis as a sanctioned sport. While the UIL declined to advance those proposals, they also passed a number of amendments as well. The council approved amendments that increased the officials' fee for softball and baseball tournaments, another that allows basketball teams to participate in three games during the Thanksgiving break if they don't participate in tournaments, another that changes the number of teams that advance in each event of the regional tennis tournament in state to the top three, another that gives coaches the opportunity to put two of their students in a UIL approved all-star game and a final that brought the UIL in alignment with the United States Golf Association with what electronic equipment can be used during tournaments.

