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Full coverage

Winter storm coats area in ice, prompts snow days

By Abigail Allen
Managing Editor

Rounds of winter precipitation brought much of the area to a grinding halt, starting on Monday.

Area schools announced closures as the first shower fell, with schools like Pilot Point calling for early release, while Aubrey made the decision not to open right before the first elementary bell rang.

"Our buses leave about 6:15, so we try to make a call by then," Aubrey ISD Superintendent Dr. David Belding said.

The district administrators had been checking conditions throughout the morning Monday, Belding said, and everything appeared to be safe enough for the roadways to stay clear when the buses needed to start their routes.

That changed, however, when the sleet rolled in hours earlier than anticipated, at around 6:40 a.m.

"There was a patch of drizzle that came through just all of a sudden," Belding said. "... At first, it was just a little drizzle. It was hitting the windshield, but it wasn't really impacting the roads. It lasted about 10 minutes and then [FM] 428 got really slick. When that was the case and there were beginning to be some reports of some accidents, then I [made the call]."

Administrators started messaging parents, asking those who were still home to keep their children with them and those whose kids



Massey Stadium and the surrounding area sit covered in ice on Tuesday. The wintery mix that hit the area closed the area school districts and city facilities.

Tim Cordell/Contributing Photographer



Several 18-wheelers sit at the bottom of the U.S. 380 hill from Denton into Cross Roads with the Cross Roads Police Department on hand to help.

Photo Courtesy of CRPD



Ice covers the three lanes of U.S. 377, which has few cars on the road.

Photo Courtesy of Krugerville PD

were on the bus to connect with the schools to collect them.

Unlike the Jan. 24 flurry that fell and mostly cleared overnight, the win-

tery mix this week was able to stick around.

The Arctic cold front

that blew into the area on Jan. 26 brought temperatures below freezing and

kept them low.

"We had an upper level disturbance that was gaining strength across the West Coast, and it sent several little disturbances over the area, and so it had plenty of moisture being pulled up from that disturbance," National Weather Service meteorologist Steve Fano said. "It was just enough energy and moisture in the atmosphere to produce precipitation, and with the subfreezing temperatures down low, it kind of started out as freezing drizzle and then kind of transitioned into freezing rain and sleet."

Fano said the winter weather was projected to worsen before improving, with freezing rain on Wednesday.

"One bad thing is that once the system gets out of here, temperatures, especially across North Texas will fall below freezing again Thursday night, so residual moisture could re-freeze again, so travel impact in certain areas may actually linger all the way through mid-day Friday," Fano said.

One component of the storm—thunder sleet—is not as uncommon as people think it is," Fano said.

"It doesn't happen all the time, but typically when you do get thunder sleet, the sleet usually comes down pretty hard," he added. "So, that's what we've been experiencing."

Freezing rain is different than sleet or snow.

"It's going to remain a liquid drop until it hits something, and once it hits something, then it

See ICE on Page 10A

City to add security system

By Joe Fragano
Staff Writer

Pilot Point City Council members agreed to authorize thousands of dollars in expenditures to equip municipal buildings with security systems among other decisions at their Jan. 26 meeting.

After recent spending on upgrades and resources for the city's police and fire stations, council members discussed how they should go about protecting those investments. Installing security systems at City Hall, Old City Park,

See COUNCIL on Page 3A

AFD chief evaluates needs

By Abigail Allen
Managing Editor

Aubrey Fire Department Chief Eric Schlotter provided the Aubrey City Council with a detailed look at the current staff and the needs of the department.

Schlotter was tasked with the evaluation upon his appointment as chief, he said.

"I began in early November, on the 7th, and immediately began assessing the department to identify any needs that we may have in regards to personnel, organization, things of that nature," he said. "And so, this is the culmination of that assessment."

One component of staffing that Schlotter discussed is how the department will handle promotional opportunities.

"I've made a commitment to all the personnel in the department that all of the promotions moving forward will be done in house," he said. "So, no more hiring outside individuals to come in at rank."

He's asking to add two full-time battalion chief positions, which would cost \$132,000 this year, create a driver/engineer rank to provide more promotional opportuni-



Aubrey Fire Department Chief Eric Schlotter shares his detailed evaluation of the department's needs at the Jan. 26 Aubrey City Council meeting.

Abigail Allen/The Post-Signal

ties and to differentiate responsibilities in the field for \$24,000 more this year, and a fire inspector/plans examiner for \$77,168 next fiscal year.

Schlotter also said he plans to apply for a SAFER Grant to help

hire the people needed to staff Station 3.

"We have Station 3 well into the design process and scheduled for construction to begin in the

See NEEDS on Page 5A

DISD to build high school

By Basil Gist
Staff Writer

Students in Denton ISD high school from Providence Village and Cross Roads may have a shorter drive in the coming years as DISD plans to build a campus a little closer to home.

At the January meeting of the Cross Roads Town Council, Mayor T. Lynn Tompkins Jr. announced the potential change.

"Everything's very preliminary at this point," Tompkins said in an interview days after the meeting. "DISD's board recently

See DISD on Page 5A



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Working backward from desire to reason has perks

THOUGHTS ON A FULFILLING LIFE

OPINION



JACK O'CONNOR

engaging reason and slowing our desire.

He knew an ethical theory that legitimizes our desires would be appealing.

But, when we must think about, say, "duration," or "purity," of a potential pleasure, enough to assign a number to it, we of necessity engage reason.

We must think about actions in a broader context and consider consequences.

This is where all ethical deliberating needs to end up—being judged by reason rather than desire.

In a way, it tricks us into being rational by sucking us in with pleasure. Discipline is snuck in through the back door.

It's the same hook as

those "lose weight with no dieting, no exercise" plans.

So, speaking of losing weight with no dieting—I recently got sucked into one.

I found it through the health insurance plan I have at work.

It's all online and based on videos.

I started, skeptically, watching the videos and the first week was about understanding your "hunger levels." The first level is when you are full, the second when you feel like a snack, the third when you are hungry and want a meal and lastly the fourth when you are ravenous and will eat everything in sight.

The idea is for you to put your physical feelings into

these categories.

They instruct you to pay attention to how your hunger works, to really "listen" to your stomach, and deliberately experience what it is trying to tell you.

As I started doing this over a couple days, something unusual and unexpected happened—I was OK with being hungry.

My cravings turned into curiosity.

I changed my attention from "I need to eat right now" to "What am I experiencing?"

So, instead of automatically eating at certain cues, or just because, I have gotten to the point where it is OK to be hungry.

Instead of becoming hungrier, I am just experiencing it.

I've been much more able to control when I eat, what I eat and why. So far, I've lost a few pounds by really not

doing much except thinking about how my hunger works.

It's just like what Bentham was doing.

This approach invites reason to take control of appetite—it is asked to understand the logic of the stomach and to make sense of it. That is what reason does—it stops that automatic behavior which leads to overeating and bad food choices.

Left to its own devices, the stomach, like a dog, will go after about anything without moderation.

But it's hard to start with "be rational" or "have will power" for this sets up a conflict in the soul. Far better to lead with desire and end up in reason.

Jack O'Connor is a guest columnist and a philosophy professor. He can be reached at drjoconnor76@gmail.com.

Utilitarianism is the idea that we should do what brings the greatest happiness.

This idea has been around informally for centuries, but Jeremy Bentham wrote about it in his "Principles of Morals and Legislation" (1789).

He theorizes that since we already actually decide what to do based on pleasure (happiness), we might as well tie ethics to this natural way to choose. We have a hard time saying no to pleasure, so we might as well stop trying.

However, we often err as to what will bring us the most pleasure, so we need a way to assess pleasure or happiness more accurately so we can choose it.

To this end, he proposed the "Hedonistic Calculus" as a way to know how to choose the most pleasure.

It consists of seven cate-

gories of happiness: intensity, duration, certainty, propinquity, fecundity, purity and extent.

People are asked to numerically rank options within those categories and tally up points for each choice.

We should then choose which option has the highest "pleasure score."

One can see how this sounds like the opposite of ethics, and indeed, Bentham was not well received.

It does seem odd to quantify pleasure, especially for the purpose of maximizing happiness. But, in practice, it may work. Bentham meets us where we are—wanting pleasure—and then almost tricks us into being rational.

The calculus indeed sounds like a prodigal's dream—a way and a justification for maximum pleasure—but it really ends up

Act's 50th anniversary excellent time to strengthen law

OPINION



KELLEY SHANNON

Despite those bold words, the act has been eroded by subsequent legislation, court rulings and maneuvers by some government officials to sidestep the law. In the current Texas legislative session, we, the people, must protect and strengthen the Public Information Act and maintain our state's open government legacy.

The Texas Sunshine Coalition is doing exactly that. Sixteen diverse organizations are working together to push for bipartisan transparency legislation. The non-profit Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas is part of the coalition and was founded on the belief that access to public records allows everyone to scrutinize and speak up about government.

The Sunshine Coalition aims to shore up the Pub-

lic Information Act so taxpayers can view "super public" information and other key provisions in government contracts; create a uniform "business days" definition requiring governments to respond to public records requests, even on days of remote work; require that governments provide certain data to requestors in searchable-sortable spreadsheets; and restore public access to dates of birth in criminal justice and political candidate records.

Another coalition pillar is to allow recovery of attorneys' fees if a requestor must sue to get public infor-

mation. A series of court decisions have made this extremely difficult by allowing governments to hand over documents at the last minute – after months of litigation – and avoid paying any of the requestor's legal fees. Consequently, governments may be inclined to ignore or delay records requests.

Meanwhile, the FOI Foundation of Texas works every legislative session to defend the Texas Open Meetings Act, the state's other major transparency law that was expanded during the early 1970s reform movement. Its enforcement provisions must remain avail-

able to everyday citizens. That includes civil court action, when necessary, to prevent or compel an action by a government to ensure compliance with the open meetings law. The FOI Foundation weighed in on this provision with an amicus brief in court.

In another recent legal brief, the FOI Foundation supported the Odessa American in the newspaper's ongoing lawsuit against the city of Odessa to enforce the release of basic public information "promptly," as called for in the Public Information Act.

Government officials who stall by seeking unnecessary attorney general rulings or ignoring requestors are not honoring the intentions of the law. All state and local government information

in Texas is presumed to be available to the public, unless specific legal exceptions apply.

Many Texans believe our state is exceptional; the historic Public Information Act is one of the reasons it is special. The 2023 legislative session is an excellent time to improve this landmark law governing the people's right to know.

Today's lawmakers have an opportunity to continue their predecessors' commitment to open government so that it endures for generations to come.

Kelley Shannon is executive director of the non-profit, nonpartisan Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, based in Austin. For more information go to www.foift.org.

Focusing on future leads to better outcomes

OPINION



ELISA BEASLEY

death produces death, right?

It has been said the mind leads. Where our thoughts are is where our lives navigate. The beginning of the year is a time where we wipe the slate clean and create great intentions. We make all the plans to do all the things. These are all good things, but if we don't put our mind in the game, the effort will be futile.

All of us can look back at our lives and find areas where there were dead ends. We can all pick out moments, people, experiences, jobs and rela-

tionships where we knew they did not produce anything good. Maybe they even killed other opportunities, moments or relationships.

How much time are we spending dipping our head back into the grave? How much of our gifts, time and resources have we surrendered at the altar of the past knowing it didn't produce anything then

and it will most likely not produce anything today?

This picture impacted me so greatly because I don't want to LIVE a LIFE where my head is stuck in dead things. Do you see the contradiction there? If our head is stuck in dead things, are we really LIVING?

For whatever reason, we have all been given each of

these moments. I hope we can take a minute and take inventory where our mind is. Are we dreaming, building, encouraging, inspiring—producing LIFE things? If we aren't, maybe our minds are stuck in the grave.

As a community, we are at a place where we can easily get stuck with our head in the grave of all that was. But if we become more aware and stretch our courage muscles, we can also move ahead building life things. And those life things will produce good things like new oppor-

tunities, relationships and growth in ourselves, and as a community.

I am hoping you will see this picture and it be a reminder every so often to make sure we don't get stuck with our head in the grave.

This life is just that—LIFE!

Let's go out and do all the things!

Elisa Beasley is the mayor of Pilot Point. She can be reached at ebeasley@cityofpilotpoint.org.

Change, flexibility help in face of unexpected challenges

OPINION



ABIGAIL ALLEN

out a notice that the weather might turn serious after the previous week's balk.

Monday morning, my girls and I were nearly out the door for school earlier than we had been in a while, which made my oldest so excited.

As we put on our coats and grabbed their bags, though, we got the word: "You will hear from the district soon, but school is closing today."

Instead of heading to school, we drove briefly to Pilot Point and back via the

pretty way (so we could largely avoid U.S. 377), thankfully without incident.

I love it when the girls have an unexpected day at home. I'm lucky enough to be able to bend with their schedule, and snow days mean a chance to explore with them with my camera in tow.

They also love

mentioning that "the cold never bothered them anyway," which they credit to being winterbabies.

As I write this, my youngest and I are watching "Frozen II," we're waiting for an apple crisp to cool down and we got word that they will officially not have school on Tuesday.

Handling changes, either ones we choose or ones that are forced upon us, doesn't have to be so bad.

Change can be unsettling, even when it's for the best.

I'm a weird mix of a planner and a spontaneous person, so I can buck against it when I have little to no say about the changes that I'm experiencing.

It's easier to embrace them when I can see the positives and when I can, for the most part, see the impact the

changes will have.

It's going into the unknown that brings the unsettling feeling, even when what could come is what I hope for.

I'll keep working on getting braver in the face of the unknown. Life doesn't really work out according to plan a lot of the time anyway.

Abigail Allen is the Managing Editor of the Post-Signal. She can be reached at aallen@postsignal.com.

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Publication Policy

The deadline to submit news, advertising and letters to The Post-Signal is 5 p.m. Monday. Items accepted after the deadline will be published only as time and space permit. Publication of all items is at the sole discretion of the editor.

COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1A

and both the fire and police stations would cost the city \$168,662.08, City Manager Britt Lusk told the council.

"[Initially] in our police and fire bonds in 2018, the camera systems got cut out of those bonds in an effort to save money, but they're desperately needed," Lusk said. "We don't have a modern security surveillance at City Hall currently, and we've had multiple issues with our [park] being vandalized, so we wrapped it all into one account contract."

Handling the proposed installation of Pilot Point's new security systems would be Verkada, a California-based security company. Lusk told council members that the systems serve Pilot Point's needs well.

"Verkada has the newest, most technologically advanced camera systems available right now," Lusk said. "They're really awesome because we don't have to have our own servers for them. The servers are in the cloud, and the cameras themselves actually store the data. ... If you've been around here very long, you realize that we don't like servers because they fail."

Pilot Point Mayor Elisa Beasley reminded council members that the proposed cost of the security systems would come out of the upcoming certificates of obligation if they are approved.



Pilot Point municipal leaders including the City Council members and Mayor Elisa Beasley, center, pose for a photo promoting Lovepacs in Pilot Point ahead of their Jan. 26 meeting.

If they fail, the cost of the security systems would come out of the city's general fund.

"I just want to make sure that everyone's understanding that [if] we approve this tonight, ... we're kind of mini-approving the [certificates] or else it's going to come out of the general fund," Beasley said.

The cost gave one council member pause. Council member Ray Dane suggested the expenditure could leave the city "digging for gold" down the road if the council does not approve the funding.

Council member Elizabeth Jones felt that was

preferable to leaving the city's buildings unprotected.

"Either way we need security cameras no matter what," Jones said. "I [hated] hearing in public that we don't have cameras in [the police department]. I hated hearing that [because] the bad guys now know that. We need to get those cameras in there."

"We're lucky we don't live in a place that has a lot of bad guys, but they're coming. People are coming whether we like it or not. ... Let's dig for gold if we have to, because we need it."

Ultimately, all present council members agreed

with Jones. A unanimous vote, moved for by Dane, confirmed the purchase of the four security systems. Council members Andrew Ambrosio and Dean Cordell were not at the Jan. 26 meeting.

The council also filled vacancies on the city's Main Street Advisory Board and Planning and Zoning Commission. The council unanimously appointed Jennifer Neal to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Brian Hill to the Main Street Advisory Board.

Pilot Point's next scheduled City Council meeting is set for Thursday.

Joe Fragano/The Post-Signal

City seats full P&Z board

By Basil Gist
Staff Writer

The city of Krugerville kicked off the year with the inauguration of a full Planning and Zoning Commission.

After a lack of interest from volunteers resulted in the council taking over those duties for years, an influx of volunteers at the end of the year saw the council be able to reinstate a P&Z with additional interested residents to spare.

"They've elected Don White as the chair and Mike Myers as the co-chair and have decided to have their regular meetings on the second Wednesday of every month at 6:30," City Secretary Sandy Frantz said.

Additionally, Frantz

teed up a bevy of other items that will appear on future agendas.

"It is time for me to bid the bank depositories again, so that will be coming up in the next month or so," Frantz said. "We have a voluntary annexation petition from the corporation that owns the mini storage area ... near Fairview Farms so we have to have a special meeting to get all that through."



The Krugerville City Council turns to City Secretary Sandy Franz, not pictured, for clarification at the end of the Jan. 25 meeting.

Basil Gist/The Post-Signal

She concluded with the introduction of the cities' new court clerk, Alberto Muniz.

Mayor Pro Tem Kristen Kromer moved to pull an item the regarding the approval of easements for Woodlands Phase 5 from the consent agenda which, alongside another item on the agenda, were discussed in a rare executive session for the council.

Before going to closed session, council chose to table the P&Z-related agenda item for the evening as the resident in question, Albert Solares, was unable to at-

tend and discuss his request for variance.

The one item on the regular agenda, a discussion on the bid for repairs to Squires Lane, was also tabled.

"I'd like to recommend we postpone this until we get some other bids," Mayor Jeff Parrent said.

Council went to executive session at 6:12 p.m. and returned just before the end of the hour.

"Anytime it's regarding real property it's recommended we go to the back room, which is why we're doing that," Parrent said.

"We typically don't go into executive session."

Council returned to accept a letter of agreement for donated park land as well as to ratify the easements previously pulled from the consent agenda.

Early in the meeting, Parrent reminded those in attendance that an election is coming up in May.

"Place 1, 3 and 5 are open; Place 2 is also open but it's a one year term; [the others] are two-year terms," Parrent said. "In the past, Krugerville has canceled their election because no one has run against the incumbents."

Those incumbents for Places 1, 3 and 5 are Rodney Cagle, John Nipe and Kromer, respectively, who have all filed to run again, with George Wilthers in Place 2.

"He is still a resident and part of the council, but his house is up for sale," Parrent explained about Wilthers. "If that house sells, his place will be open and if it doesn't for some reason, he's going to stay with us."

The final date to file is Feb. 17.

CORRECTION/CLARIFICATION

In the Jan. 27 issue of the *Post-Signal*, there were multiple errors in the article "Tioga puts focus on growth potential." Will Fritcher was not appointed to the Tioga City Council, with the council instead opting to leave the seat vacant until the upcoming election. Public Works Director James Hale was the person discussing annexation, which was incorrectly attributed to Fritcher.

The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision



Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by 3 p.m.

Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105

All proposals and scope or work will need to include materials, equipment, and labor for 10 new wood frame homes. Proposals must be received in a sealed envelope labeled: CONSTRUCTION OF 10 NEW HOMES IN THE VEGA LAND SUBDIVISION. A performance and payment bond will be required for this project. All proposals should be sent/delivered to: PURCHASING DEPARTMENT, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Government Building, 2212 Rosita Valley Rd., Eagle Pass, Texas 78852

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Church Directory

- BAPTIST**
- Antioch Baptist Church. FM 428W and FM 2931. Pastor V. Barry Mathis. 940-365-3521. Sunday services: Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m.
 - Bethel Baptist Church of Pilot Point, 210 E. Main. Pastor Buddy Garland. 903-429-3661. Sunday School 9:30; morning worship 10:30; evening 6 p.m.
 - Calvary Baptist Church. Northeast of The Square on Jefferson Street, Pilot Point. 940-686-2274. Chance Perkins, Pastor. www.calvarypilotpoint.org. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Youth Bible study, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Children's & Youth Activities, 6 p.m.; Adult Bible Study/Activities, 6:30 p.m.
 - County Line First Baptist Church. 512 E. Walcott, Pilot Point. Rev. B.W. McClendon Jr. 512-698-0659.
 - First Rock Fellowship. 201 North Cherry. Rev. Christopher Walden, pastor. 940-365-2445. Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
 - First Baptist Church, Krugerville. U.S. 377S. Rev. Sam Redfearn, Pastor. Sun. School, 9:45 a.m. Sun. worship, 11 a.m. Sun. evening worship, 6 p.m. Tuesday Bible Study, 7 p.m., Wednesday, AWANAS & 24/7, 6:30 p.m. 940-365-2444. fbckrugerville.com.
 - Friendship Baptist Church. 220 S. Ray Roberts Parkway, Tioga. Rev. Justin Elwell, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m.; Bible study Wed., 7-8 p.m. 940-437-2000.
 - Green Valley Baptist Church. 9901 FM 428, Aubrey. Pastor Frank Lott. Services: Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship/Message at 10:30 a.m.; 6:30 p.m. Wednesday. 940-391-4283. www.greenvalleyaubrey.org.
 - Iglesia Bautista Hispana de Mustang. 8153 FM 1385, Pilot Point. 903-893-7976.
 - Midway Church. 9540 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. Pastor John Theisen. Midway Church exists to inspire people to Live Fully For God. Without God we struggle to make sense of life, but God's plan is to give us a life overflowing with joy and peace. That's why we're here - to connect people to the source of life through inspirational worship, relevant messages, and connection with a group of people who totally get where you are in life.
 - Mountain Springs Fellowship Bible Church, 14777 S. FM 372, Mountain Springs. Pastor James Reid. Fellowship time 10 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. 940-395-2777.
 - Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. 27260 FM 121, Tioga. Pastor Daniel Tanguma. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Sunday worship, 11 a.m., AWANA 4:30 p.m.
 - Mt. Zion Baptist Church. 1940 CR 203, Collinsville. Pastor Tony Norman. 940-393-6821. Sunday School 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m.; Wed. Bible Study 7 p.m.
 - Mustang Baptist Church. 13335 Mustang Road. Pastor Coach G.A. Moore Jr. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; worship service 10:30 a.m. www.mustangbaptist.org
 - New Hope Baptist Church. Cross Roads, U.S. 377. Pastor Aaron Ashlock. Worship: Sundays at 11 a.m. 940-365-2542. www.newhopeaubrey.com.
 - St. James Baptist, Pilot Point. Pastor C.D. Lockhart. 469-215-7527. facebook.com/SJBPP

- CATHOLIC**
- St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church. 925 N. Charcut., Pilot Point. 940-686-2088. Mass schedule: Saturday, 5 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 12:45 p.m. (Spanish). Confessions heard Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.

- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
- Church of Christ. 426 S. Jefferson, Pilot Point. Craig Tullis, minister. Sun. worship 10:45 a.m., Sun. Bible class 9:45 a.m. Wednesday. Bible class 7:00 p.m. 940-293-5620.
 - Church of Christ, Tioga, Gene Autry Drive. Sun. school, 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship, 10:30 a.m.

- CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**
- Grace Point Nazarene Church. 611 E. Liberty, Pilot Point. Sundays 10 a.m. Rev. Dwayne Edwards. 760-518-6732. gracepointnaz.net.

- CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**
- Restored Faith Church of God in Christ. 535 E. Walcott St., Pilot Point. Elder M.L. Johnston, pastor. Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Prayer, 7:30 p.m. Thursday School, 7:30 p.m. online via Free Conference Call at 844-744-0213. 940-230-9966.

- CHRISTIAN**
- First Christian Church. North Main Street, Aubrey. 940-367-3591. Rev. Sara Beckham, sarajonathan217@gmail.com. Sunday School, 10 a.m. Sunday worship, 11 a.m. 469-667-4233.

- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
- Aubrey First Assembly of God. Pastor Gary Sweatman. 940-300-6169.
 - Cowboy Country Chapel. McKinney and Morrison Streets, Pilot Point. Rev. Carl Smith. Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m., Sunday night Bible study, 5 p.m., Wed. prayer meeting, 6-7 p.m. 214-957-6111.
 - Tioga Community Church, 501 Cutler Street, Tioga. Mark Arrington, senior pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday. worship, 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday. Bible studies begin at 6:30 p.m. 903-821-7152.

- METHODIST**
- Aubrey First United Methodist Church. 113 W. Plum, one block west of Main. Pastor Rev. Ernesto Sanchez. Sunday: youth and adult classes, 9:45 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; fellowship following worship. 940-365-3024.
 - Bethel Methodist Church of Denton County (an Independent Methodist Denomination) 3126 FM 2931, Aubrey. Sunday school 10 a.m., Sunday worship 11 a.m. 409-543-8444. www.betheldenton.com.
 - Grace Chapel. 14632 Fishtrap Rd. Traditional worship, 9:30 a.m. Modern worship, 10:45 a.m. 940-440-6626. www.grace380.org.
 - Oak Grove Church of Little Elm, FM 720W south of U.S. 380, Aubrey. Rev. Kevin McClain. Sunday School, 9 a.m. Sunday worship 10 a.m. 940-365-3027.
 - Pilot Point First United Methodist Church. 217 S. Church St., Pilot Point. Rev. Cindy Kennedy, pilotpointfumc@gmail.com. Sunday School, 10 a.m., Sun. worship, 11 a.m., 940-686-2338. www.pilotpointfumc.org.
 - Tioga United Methodist Church. Porch Street, Tioga. Senior Pastor Mead McGee. Sunday School, 9 a.m. Sunday worship, 10 a.m.

- NON-DENOMINATIONAL**
- Aubrey Country Church. 3000 Rock Hill Rd, Aubrey. Dewayne Brawner, Pastor. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
 - Cornerstone Church of Aubrey. 7850 FM 2931 (near Mustang Water office), Aubrey. Sunday, prayer, 10 a.m., worship, 10:30 a.m.; Thursday, Bible study, 7 p.m. Pastor Dan Franke, pastorfranke@ccaubrey.com. 972-742-3308. www.ccaubrey.com.
 - Faith Assembly. 700 N. Harmon, Aubrey. Pastors Clarence and Patricia Dalrymple. Sun. School, 9:30 a.m., Sun. 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m., Wednesday 6 p.m. 940-365-9360.
 - Green Valley Community Church. FM 2153, Aubrey. Wendell Lillard, pastor; James Grider, youth minister. Sun. School, 10 a.m. Sunday worship, 11 a.m. 940-440-9469.

- SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**
- Pilot Point Seventh-Day Adventist. 990 W. Walcott, Pilot Point. Pastor Carlos Rodriguez. Wed. prayer meeting, 7 p.m. Sat. church service, 9:15 and 11 a.m. 651-263-4259.

Point Bank
MEMBER FDIC A PEOPLE BANK

Around Town

PP competitive shooting team fundraiser

The Pilot Point Competitive Shooting Team is having a fundraiser to help with athlete expenses. Donations are tax deductible and will be accepted through Feb. 10.

To donate, go to f1fund.com/Pledge/Index/2793?p=78718.

Lovepacs drop-off locations in Pilot Point

Lovepacs now has drop-off sites in Pilot Point at Ace Hardware, Brookshire Brothers, Lowbrows Beer & Wine Garden, Martin General Store, Platinum Ford and Pilot Point City Hall.

Items needed to help pack the spring break boxes for local students include: 15 ounce cans of vegetables and fruit; 15 ounce cans of chunky soup, ravioli or spaghetti; 5 ounce cans of tuna or chicken; boxed mac and cheese; ramen packets; 16 ounce jars of peanut butter (plastic); 20 ounce jars of jelly (plastic); 12-18 ounce boxes of cereal; granola bars; oatmeal packets; and individually packaged snacks.

Buffalo Soliders at Johnson Branch

The Ray Roberts Lake State Park Isle du Bois Unit, 100 PW 4137 in Pilot Point will offer a Career Fair-100 Year Celebration, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 11, Nature Center; 100 Years of Black History, 2 p.m. Feb. 18, Lost Pines Amphitheater; and Nature Therapy, noon Feb. 25, Lost Pines Amphitheater.

The Johnson Branch Unit, 100 PW 4153 in Valley View will have Buffalo Soldiers, 10 a.m. Saturday, and Guidon Flags, 1 p.m. Feb. 25, Nature Center.

All events are free with a paid entrance fee into the parks. For more information, call 940-686-2148 or 940-637-2294.

Plant Choices at Aubrey library

The Aubrey Area Library at 226 Countryside Drive will have Lego Club, 12:30 p.m. Friday; Saturday Stories, 11 a.m. Saturday; and Plant Choices - Denton County Master Gardener Association, 6 p.m. Feb. 16.

Senior Social Hour is replacing Thursday Club and meets the first and third Thursday each month from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

For more information, call 940-365-9162.

PP library schedules dry ice painting

The Pilot Point Community Library at 324 S. Washington St. will present Stop the Bleed, 2 p.m. Tuesday, presented by the Pilot Point Fire Department; Steam Lab: Dry Ice Bubble Painting (ages 6-12), 4 p.m. Thursday; Game Day Saturdays, Feb. 11 and

25; Book Club, 2 p.m. Feb. 14; and Blacklight Painting, 2 p.m. Feb. 24.

For more information or to register for classes, call 940-686-5004.

DivorceCare starts at Midway Church

DivorceCare recovery seminar and support group will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday through April 18 at Midway Church, 9540 U.S. 377. Childcare is provided through fifth grade.

This is available for anyone going through a separation or divorce.

For more information, contact Kate Major at kate@midwaychurch.org or register online at divorcecare.org.

VITA income tax assistance at library

The United Way of Denton County will be at the Pilot Point Community Library to provide free tax assistance to households earning less than \$60,000 a year from noon-3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through April 12 at 324 S. Washington St.

PP Fine Arts Program begins classes

The Pilot Point Fine Arts Program offers free spring classes weekly through March 9. Classes are held at 4 p.m. Mondays for grades 1-2 Broadway to Disney and 4 p.m. Wednesdays choir for grades 3-5 at Pilot Point Elementary School. Each session will offer a mini-concert on the last day of classes.

Pre-K classes meet at 4 p.m. Mondays at Pilot Point First United Methodist Church, 217 S. Church St. Ages 2-3 must be accompanied by an adult. Grades 3-5 have hand chimes at 4 p.m. Tuesdays at PPFUMC.

For more information or to register, contact Cindy at 612-239-0247 or 903-213-3796, email office@pilotpointfumc.org or go to the Pilot Point Fine Arts Program on Facebook.

Monthly music jam set for coffee house

Deanie Deal presents Jam and Java live hosted by Deanie and Dave the first Friday of each month at the Pilot Point Coffee House, 110 W. Main St. This event is free to the public.

The next scheduled performance will be from 7-9 p.m. Friday sponsored by Legendary Drywall, Inc. and Pilot Point Coffee House featuring Vince Lujan.

All interested performers and musicians can call 469-446-6546 for more information.

Tioga FFA/FCCLA dinner, auction

The Tioga FFA/FCCLA Booster Club Dinner and Auction

will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at Tioga High School, 855 McKnight Road.

A brisket and sausage dinner will cost \$10 per person. The auction will start at 7 p.m.

AHS College Fair, dual credit meeting

Aubrey High School will have a dual credit meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday in the AHS cafeteria. All students and families interested in taking dual credit courses next year need to attend.

The AHS College Fair will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday in the competition gym foyer. There will be 40 tables including a variety of colleges, military and trade schools.

Auction items needed for Tioga PTO

The Tioga PTO seeks auction items for the upcoming Winter Wonderland Gala in February. All auction items are due by Feb. 10.

For more information, email tiogapto@gmail.com.

Pilot Point FFA plans local show

The Pilot Point FFA will be having the annual local stock show Feb. 11 with weigh-in at 8 a.m. and the show starting at 9 a.m.

Shootin' for the Chaps at Fossil Pointe

Shootin' for the Chaps, the 2023 Annual Clay Shoot hosted by the Aubrey Softball Booster Club benefitting the Aubrey softball program, will be held at 9 a.m. Feb. 11 with registration at 8 a.m. at Fossil Pointe Sporting Grounds, 7282 FM 51 in Decatur.

Entry fees are \$125 per person and include 100 clays. Prizes will be awarded for top team, top shooter and raffle drawings.

For registration or sponsorship information, email aubreysoftball2018@gmail.com.

Daddy Daughter Dance planned in Tioga

A Daddy Daughter Dance will be held from 6-8 p.m. Feb. 11 at Tioga High School cafeteria and sponsored by the Tioga HS cheerleaders. Tickets are \$20 for daddy and daughter and \$5 for each additional daughter. Refreshments will be provided.

For questions, call 940-205-2560.

29 Acres sets annual auction gala

29 Acres will have their 4th Annual Auction Gala at 7 p.m. Feb. 11 at The Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. in Dallas. Enjoy live music by The Vinyl Countdown, seated dinner and live auction all to benefit the neu-

rodiverse community in North Texas.

Sponsorships and tickets are available at 29acres.org/gala or by contacting Chief Advancement Officer Clayton Hollingsworth at claytonh@29acres.org or 214-906-7780.

LRRETA to hold Valentines Ride

Lake Ray Roberts Equestrian Trails Association will host a Valentines Ride at Elm Fork Greenbelt Trail at Lake Ray Roberts. Participants need to arrive by 10:30 a.m. Feb. 11. Wear red, bring a lunch and drinks.

RSVP to Maybeth at 214-356-0383.

Collinsville library has gardening series

The Collinsville Community Library will host a free gardening series by Master Gardener Becky Hogenson at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 21, 28 and March 7.

The three-part series will discuss ways to prepare garden beds for growing flowers and vegetables. No registration is required.

GDT to present 'Once Upon a Mattress'

The Garage Door Theater will present the musical "Once Upon a Mattress" at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 24-25, March 3-4 and a matinee at 2:30 p.m. March 5 at 110 S. Washington St.

To purchase tickets, go to garagedoortheater.org.

PPEF sponsors annual gala

The Pilot Point Educational Foundation will sponsor the Annual Gala at 6 p.m. Feb. 25 at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center. Individual tickets cost \$35. RSVP by Feb. 10.

For more information regarding table sponsorships, go to pilotpointeducationalfoundation.org, email pilotpointeducationalfoundation@gmail.com or call 940-328-5177.

AHS student council to host dance

The Aubrey High School student council will be hosting a Father Daughter Dance from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 25 at the UNT Gateway Center in Denton.

Families can find tickets on MySchoolBucks.

Friends of the Library to award scholarship

Friends of the Pilot Point Community Library will award a scholarship to an eligible senior who volunteers at the library. The application form is available at the Pilot Point library or the Pilot Point High School Counselor's office.

To be eligible, a student must

volunteer at the library in 2022 or 2023 and submit a completed application with essay and documents by April 18.

Sam Houston State announces honors

Sam Houston State University in Huntsville announces the fall 2022 President's and Dean's Lists for local students. The following students were named to both lists: Tristen Anderson, Alison Gaudet and Marianne Reyes of Aubrey and Ashley Wilson of Providence Village.

To be eligible for the President's List, students must achieve a 4.0 grade point average, while Dean's List honors require a 3.5 or higher grade point average.

Baietto named to Dean's List

Marissa Baietto, an economics major from Aubrey, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2022 semester from Iowa State University.

To be eligible, a student must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 while taking a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Ross receives honors from WPI

Tanner Ross, a member of the class of 2025 majoring in biomedical engineering of Aubrey, was named to the Dean's List for academic excellence for the fall 2022 semester from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Durodolu earns degree from UMGC

Oluwaseun Deborah Durodolu of Aubrey earned a Master of Science in management information systems and services from the University of Maryland Global Campus in Adelphi, Maryland, during the fall 2022 commencement exercises.

Perkins graduates from Midwestern

Amos Scott Perkins of Aubrey graduated from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls with a Bachelor of Science in education, receiving cum laude recognition, during the fall 2022 semester.

To qualify for cum laude distinction, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.5-3.69.

Savannah resident receives degree

Yasmi Malla of Savannah graduated Dec. 9 with a Master of Business Administration in management/leadership from Campbellsville University in Campbellsville, Kentucky.

Around Town is published weekly. Submit information to aallen@postsignal.com.

Plans for family fun

Johnson Branch Unit sets 2023 programming plan

By Basil Gist
Staff Writer

Though a jaunt for Ranch Cities residents, Ray Robert Lake State Park's Johnson Branch Unit has programming scheduled throughout the year for park patrons.

One such event, to kick off Black History Month, is coming up in the first weekend of February.

"We have the Buffalo Soldiers coming up to Johnson Branch on Feb. 4," Park Interpreter Izzy Mabry said. "If you don't know who they are, they were made up primarily of African Americans and were kind of our first Park Rangers; it's really looking into African American history and how they helped state parks get started."

Mabry explained the event will be hosted by First Sergeant Padilla and Lieutenant Dolifka of the Buffalo Soldiers. She did not offer details on the event itself but said the two would be doing a special project with those who attend the event.

Later on, in March, Johnson Branch will host its Spring Fling.



Branch Manager Scott Eager gives a tour of Johnson Branch's Nature Center.

File Photo/
The Post-Signal

"It's just kind of kicking off and celebrating the first week of spring," Mabry said. "There's going to be games, activities, arts and crafts, and the Kid Fish Pond will still be open and stocked with trout."

Fishing will be accessible even to families unfamiliar with the hobby, thanks to ranger support.

"There will be rangers over there, so

they can fish with rangers if they like," Mabry said.

The Spring Fling will be March 25 and, though the activities are focused on children, the ranger encouraged parents to participate, too.

"We always love when parents get involved, so we'll have sack races and the egg race," Mabry said. "We have wooden eggs

though because they're expensive at the moment; we love to see families compete."

Mabry explained there will be a mix of activities happening both indoors and out and further reminded that Spring Fling, being one of the park's centennial events, park entry will be free.

All such events are tagged on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department calendar to be easy to find at any park, including Johnson Branch.

The aforementioned may be standouts, but the year is peppered with other weekend programming offered and organized by the park staff.

"We've seen with visitors who come out for the weekend, they tend to run out of ideas for what to do," Mabry said. "It's just something that, if they're looking for something to do, they have the opportunity."

It further can be a chance at a break for parents.

"The parents can kind of take a break and let us rangers take the lead and do some really fun activities with their kids," Mabry said. "[We] get them back outside and get focus off of electronics and things; our programs give them the opportunity to ask about why state parks are so important and why we need to continue doing what we're doing."

NEEDS

Continued from Page 1A

next construction season," Schlotter said.

The acronym stands for "Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response."

"That's a program through FEMA that offsets the initial costs of adding a large number of personnel," he said. "It's a grant program specifically designed to assist departments that are rapidly growing and adding resources."

Winning the grant is not guaranteed.

Personnel isn't the only outstanding need, he told the council.

The department plans to use a replacement schedule to stagger expenses for replacing apparatuses and tools.

That includes \$450,000 for an ambulance for Fire Station 3, \$250,000 for a replacement ambulance for the Navo Station, \$250,000 for an ancillary vehicle to accompany the ladder truck, \$45,000 for a new air compressor, \$15,000 for a gear extractor and \$15,000 for RMS software.

One more major need is emergency generators, Schlotter said, which could be "in the \$100,000 range."

"We never stop operating," he said. "There's no



Aubrey Fire Department Chief Eric Schlotter, left, and Mayor Chris Rich watch as Logan Pursur is pinned by his fiancé April Malone to celebrate his promotion to captain.

condition where we're not going to respond to emergencies, no matter the circumstance. Regardless of if we have power or water or gas. ... For us to have a high level of continuity of operation, our building needs to be very resilient."

Similar to the Aubrey Police Department's status as an accredited law enforcement agency, Schlotter plans to earn best practices recognition.

The chief also recommended that the city change its policy regarding the fire code to be more development-friendly.

"What I would most likely suggest is when we decide to upgrade—the codes come out every three years, so there is a 2021 edition available," he said. "... I would probably recommend that we just review it and make Aubrey-specific amendments, not carte blanche amendments."

Another step would be to develop a program to work with Aubrey and Denton ISDs to identify and train students who are interested in pursuing firefighting professionally.

Following a three-hour executive session, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Matt Jones said, "I move to approve the request for personnel by the fire chief as well as an air compressor equipment, gear extractor, RMS software equipment."

It was approved unanimously.

"Go take care of our firefighters," council member Chuck Fikes said.

Two of the members of the AFD, Cpt. Chip Schmitz and Cpt. Logan Pursur, were honored with pinning ceremonies to celebrate their promotions.



Aubrey Fire Department Chief Eric Schlotter, left, watches as Chip Schmitz is pinned by his wife Jaye Schmitz to celebrate his promotion to captain.

Photos by Abigail Allen/The Post-Signal

"I've had the privilege of working with them since I started with the department," Schlotter said. "I'm very pleased with their performance and have no doubt and all confidence that they will help lead our department in the right direction."

At the meeting, Public Works Director Leanne Wilson informed the council that the Faulkner Well, named for former Public Works Director Kenny Faulkner, is starting to work.

"It is pumping water," she said. "It started pump-

ing water yesterday."

The council also referred to the workshop held on Jan. 21, during which items including the expansion of Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Aubrey, the use of the home that will be demolished on that now-city-owned property for fire department training, renovations to the Aubrey City Hall building, additional major projects for the city departments and another joint meeting with the Aubrey ISD board of trustees.

DISD

Continued from Page 1A

approved their bond that will be voted on in May, so a lot of the dates will have to be set after they know they're doing the project and will receive the funds needed."

DISD Communications Coordinator Reece Waddell gave further detail on the project via email.

"The proposed high school would be generally located at the southeast corner of Naylor Road and U.S. 380," Waddell said. "The lot, which is owned by

Denton ISD, is 141 acres." Waddell expanded on the impact the project would have on the local workforce.

"Five hundred short-term jobs would be created while the campuses are under construction, and 250 long-term jobs would be created for school employees," Waddell said before refencing traffic as well. "Attendance zones would be created to boost traffic relief along the U.S. 380 corridor."

Tompkins further explained the addition of the campus would not negatively affect the city's tax base.

"They're looking at building the school where homes were going to go for Phase 3 of Bloomfield," Tompkins said. "We try to protect our property that can be developed into retail space. ... Our 2035 plan [is such that] we need to set up our town to where we don't have that ad valorem tax as long as possible."

Both parties referenced how the district could benefit the town's 2035 plan beyond maintaining the lack of property tax.

"A lot of things in the plan have requests for community spaces, walking trails and community centers, and they can provide that with this high school," Tompkins said.

Waddell detailed those potential amenities.

"Denton ISD would work with the town to create hiking and biking trails near

the proposed school, potentially qualifying for federal funding," Waddell said. "The district has also proposed that the school library would give Cross Roads residents access to library facilities within the town."

He also explained the high-speed fiber optics for the campus would make such a network more accessible to the community.

"The superintendent of schools, mayor and staff have collaborated to main-

tain the standards and desires set forth in the Town of Cross Roads' Vision 2035 Plan," Waddell said. "Denton ISD has committed to working with the town to address these concerns."

Tompkins mirrored this statement.

"We've had meetings with the district and have meetings currently scheduled," Tompkins said. "We will take every opportunity to work with the district towards our mutual goals."

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

These listings are based on information provided to The Post-Signal and are subject to change. Call ahead to verify meeting dates, locations and times.

- Friday, Feb. 3**
- 8:30 a.m. Shepherd's Storehouse, 1189 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. 940-686-2620.
- 10:30 a.m. Toddler Storytime (ages 2 1/2-5). Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 11:30 a.m. Lapsit Storytime (ages 0-2 1/2). Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive, Aubrey. 940-365-9162.
- 12:30 p.m. Lego Club (ages 5-12). Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 2 p.m. Friends of the Pilot Point Community Library. Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. 940-686-5004.
- 7:30 p.m. Karaoke with Pam and Dave. Vaughn-Walling American Legion Post 550, 905 N. Foundation St., Pilot Point.
- Saturday, Feb. 4**
- 10 a.m. Clifton and Nadene Irick Museum, 201 S. Jefferson St., Pilot Point.
- 10:30 a.m. The Aubrey Area

- Museum opens for walk-in tours. Tours can also be scheduled by appointment. 209 S. Main St., Aubrey. 940-343-1313.
- 11 a.m. Saturday Stories. Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive, Aubrey. 940-365-9162
- Noon. Pioneer Baptist Food Bank. Pioneer Baptist Church, 100 Cumberland Trail, Valley View.
- 7 p.m. Karaoke Night. Pilot Point Coffee House, 110 W. Main St.
- Monday, Feb. 6**
- 8:30 a.m. Shepherd's Storehouse, 1189 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. 940-686-2620.
- 6 p.m. Pilot Point Main Street Meeting. Pilot Point City Hall, 102 E. Main St. 940-686-2165.
- Tuesday, Feb. 7**
- 10 a.m. Mountain Springs Garden Club Meeting. Mountain Springs Community Center, 173 Mountain Springs Lane.
- 10:30 a.m. Senior Fit. Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 11 a.m. Yarn Buddies. Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. 940-686-5004.

- 2 p.m. Stop the Bleed. Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. Register at 940-686-5004.
- 2:30 p.m. Pilot Point Community Singers. Pilot Point Community Opera House, 110 S. Washington St. Contact Charlotte Petermeier, 214-514-4892.
- 4:15 p.m. Storytime and Craft with Mrs. Carter. Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 5:30 p.m. Aubrey Area Library Advisory Board Meeting. 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 5:30 p.m. Pilot Point Municipal Development District. Pilot Point City Hall, 102 E. Main St. 940-342-5023.
- 6 p.m. Brockett Elementary PTO Meeting. Brockett Elementary School library, 900 Chestnut St., Aubrey.
- 6:30 p.m. DivorceCare. Midway Church, 9540 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. divorcecare.org.
- 6:30 p.m. Pilot Point Bearcat Booster Club. Pilot Point High School library, 1300 N. Washington St.
- 6:30 p.m. Providence Village Economic Development Corporation. Providence Village Town Hall, 1755 Main St. 940-

- 365-9333.
- 7 p.m. Cross Roads Planning and Zoning Meeting. Town Hall, 1401 FM 424. 940-365-9693.
- 7:30 p.m. Providence Village Town Council. Providence Village Town Hall, 1755 Main St. 940-365-9333.
- Wednesday, Feb. 8**
- 8:30 a.m. Shepherd's Storehouse, 1189 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. 940-686-2620.
- 9:30 a.m. Mountain Springs Quilters. Mountain Springs Community Center, 173 Mountain Springs Lane. 940-736-8013.
- 10 a.m. Storytime (ages 0-5). Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. 940-686-5004.
- Noon. VITA Income Tax Assistance. Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. 940-686-5004.
- 1:30 p.m. Pilot Point 19th Century Club Valentine Party. Pilot Point Care Center, 208 N. Prairie St. 940-390-9983.
- 5 p.m. Pilot Point ISD Board. Administration Building, 829 Harrison St. 940-686-8700. www.pilotpointisd.com.
- 6 p.m. Cross Roads Parks and Recreation Board Meeting. 3201 U.S. 380, Ste. 105.

- 940-365-9693.
- 7 p.m. Karaoke Wednesdays with Pam and Dave. Lowbrows Saloon, 200 S. Washington St.
- Thursday, Feb. 9**
- 8 a.m. Pilot Point Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting. Pilot Point City Hall, 102 E. Main St. 940-686-5385.
- 10:30 a.m. Senior Fit. Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 4 p.m. STEAM Lab: Dry Ice Bubble Painting (ages 6-12). Pilot Point Community Library, 324 S. Washington St. Register at 940-686-5004.
- 4:30 p.m. Grief Support Group. Pilot Point First United Methodist Church, 217 S. Church St.
- 6 p.m. Aubrey Planning and Zoning. Aubrey City Hall, 107 S. Main St. 940-440-9343.
- 6 p.m. Cross Roads Municipal Development District Meeting. 3201 U.S. 380, Ste.

- 105. 940-365-9693.
- 6:30 p.m. Pilot Point City Council. Pilot Point City Hall, 102 E. Main St. 940-686-2165.
- Friday, Feb. 10**
- 8:30 a.m. Shepherd's Storehouse, 1189 U.S. 377, Pilot Point. 940-686-2620.
- 10:30 a.m. Toddler Storytime (ages 2 1/2-5). Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive. 940-365-9162.
- 11:30 a.m. Lapsit Storytime (ages 0-2 1/2). Aubrey Area Library, 226 Countryside Drive, Aubrey. 940-365-9162
- 7:30 p.m. Karaoke with Pam and Dave. Vaughn-Walling American Legion Post 550, 905 N. Foundation St., Pilot Point.

Community Calendar is published weekly. To add or change a listing, email aallen@postsignal.com.

AROUND THE AREA

GAVA fundraiser set for Gainesville

The Gainesville Visual Arts will be hosting the 10th Annual GAVA Scholarship fundraiser from 6-9 p.m. Friday at the State Theater and Backstage Venue, 200 E. California St.

For more information, go to gainesvillevisualarts.org.

Outdoor Skills Workshop in Denton

An Outdoor Skills Workshop Series will be offered by Denton Parks and Recreation from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday

at 1001 Parvin St.

For more information or to register, go to cityofdenton.com or call 940-349-7275.

Affordable pet vaccines available in Prosper

The Shot Spot is sponsoring affordable pet vaccines, wellness packages, heartworm testing and microchipping the first Sunday of each month at Hollywood Feed, 1350 N. Preston Road, Ste. 50 in Prosper.

The next scheduled event will be from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. For more information, go to theshotspot.org.

County to celebrate Black History Month

The Denton County Office of History and Culture will offer programming to celebrate Black History Month with a new exhibit, "A Look into the Woods House;" a presentation on the Woods House restoration; the Texas Talks Speaker Series - Judith Garrett Segura, "Our Stories: Black Families in Early Dallas," at 6 p.m. Feb. 9, 110 W. Hickory St.; and a Quakertown Park Walking Tour, 1:30 p.m. Feb. 25, Quakertown Park, 700 Oakland St.

The Courthouse-on-the-

Square Museum is at 110 W. Hickory St. For more information, call 940-349-2863.

Butterfield to present 'I Do, I Don't'

Butterfield Stage Players will present a Butterfield original comedy at 7 p.m. Feb. 10 with "I Do, I Don't" at 201 S. Denton St. in Gainesville.

To purchase tickets, go to butterfieldstage.org.

Submit information for *Around the Area* to aallen@postsignal.com.

♥♥♥ American Legion Post 550 ♥♥♥

Valentines DAY

FEB 11, 2023

Dinner @ 6:00 PM

Live Band 8-12

905 Foundation Dr. - Pilot Point TX

DINNER \$10/PLATE- PORK CHOP, POTATOES, GREEN BEANS

LIVE MUSIC

\$5 COVER

POLICE REPORT

Aubrey Police Department logged 193 calls from Jan. 18-24. Cross Roads Police Department received 57 calls for service between Jan. 23-29. The ice storm prevented the Krugerville Police Department from providing a total of events from Jan. 24-30. Pilot Point Police Department had 133 events during the week of Jan. 23-30.

CRASH – A two-vehicle accident was reported to Krugerville PD at 6:46 a.m. Monday in the 5700 block of FM 424 due to icy roads.

AGENCY ASSIST – Krugerville police provided agency assistance to PPPD after a man left the scene in a vehicle around 3 a.m. Sunday in the 800 block of Debbie Lane. The abandoned vehicle was located off the highway on FM 455.

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE – A domestic disturbance call was received by Pilot Point police at 2:47 a.m. Sunday in the 800 block of South Debbie Lane.

POSSESSION – A Richardson man, 34, was arrested by KVPD on a charge of possession of a controlled substance penalty group 1, less than 1 gram, at 6:38 p.m. Saturday in the 4600 block of U.S. 377 during a traffic stop for improper colored lights on the rear of the vehicle. A probable cause search of the vehicle resulted in finding a

glass pipe and baggie containing methamphetamines. He was taken to the Denton County Jail.

RECKLESS DRIVER – On Saturday around 4:30 p.m., PPPD investigated a report of a reckless driver near the intersection of U.S. 377 and JC Lane.

TRAFFIC – A Krugerville police officer made a traffic stop around 7:30 p.m. Jan. 27 in the 5300 block of U.S. 377. The vehicle took an extended amount of time to stop, according to the report. A TCIC/NCIC found the vehicle to be uninsured. A vehicle search resulted in finding two open containers as well as baggies containing methamphetamines residue, a glass pipe and multiple unlabeled prescription bottles containing Tramadol, Cariprazine and Tizanidine Hydrochloride reportedly belonging to the female passenger. She was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance penalty group 3, less than 28 grams, and two charges of possession of a dangerous drug. She was taken to the Denton County Jail.

PUBLIC INTOXICATION – A man, 30, was arrested on a charge of public intoxication by Cross Roads police Jan. 27 during a disturbance call investigation at a restaurant in the 14000 block of U.S.

380. **CRIMINAL MISCHIEF** – At 1:40 p.m. Jan. 27, Pilot Point police responded to a report of criminal mischief in the 300 block of North Prairie Street.

AGENCY ASSIST – Krugerville PD provided traffic control for a two-vehicle accident around 8 p.m. Jan. 26 near the intersection of U.S. 377 and Liberty Road.

DWI – Cross Roads police assisted an outside agency on a crash investigation Jan. 26 near the intersection of U.S. 377 and Liberty Road resulting in the arrest of a man, 30, on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

SEXUAL ASSAULT – A report of sexual assault was received by PPPD at 5:43 p.m. Jan. 26 in the 1700 block of North Washington Street.

CITATION – A man, 18, was issued a citation for possession of drug paraphernalia during a traffic stop by CRPD on Jan. 26 in the 11300 block of U.S. 380.

DISTURBANCE – Pilot Point PD responded to a disturbance call at 5:12 p.m. Jan. 26 in the 400 block of South College Street.

HARASSMENT – A harassment call was received by Pilot Point PD at 5:56 p.m. Jan. 25 in the 300 block of South Harrison

Street. **TERRORISTIC THREAT** – A terroristic threat call was reported to Krugerville PD at 3:38 p.m. Jan. 25 by a woman, 46, who received a threatening text message in the 100 block of Ranch Road.

THEFT – Around 2 p.m. Jan. 25, a theft was reported to PPPD in the 400 block of South College Street.

CRASH – A two-vehicle crash was investigated by Cross Roads PD on Jan. 25 in the 11300 block of U.S. 380. One injury was reported.

THEFT – Aubrey police arrested a Dallas man, 50, on a charge of theft of property less than \$2,500.

WARRANT – Pilot Point police conducted a warrant investigation at 10:41 a.m. Jan. 25 in the 300 block of North Prairie Street.

WARRANT – At 6:44 p.m. Jan. 24, KVPD made a traffic stop in the 100 block of Brumley Road. A TCIC/NCIC check revealed an outstanding warrant for public intoxication from the city of Denton for an Aubrey woman, 35. She was taken to the Denton County Jail.

THEFT – A Dallas woman, 44, was arrested by Aubrey police on a charge of theft of property less than \$2,500 with two or more previous convictions on Jan. 23. She

was released Jan. 25, according to the Denton County Jail records.

DWI – An Aubrey man, 39, was arrested Jan. 23 by APD on a charge of driving while intoxicated with open container. He was released the same day, according to the Denton County Jail records.

INDECENT EXPOSURE – Pilot Point PD responded to a report of indecent exposure around 4:30 p.m. Jan. 23 in the 600 block of Elm Street.

WARRANT – A man, 27, was arrested on a warrant charge from Denton County by Cross Roads PD on Jan. 23 during a traffic stop in the 5000 block of U.S. 380.

ASSAULT – An Aubrey man, 37, was arrested by Aubrey police on a charge of assault offensive contact family violence.

FAIURE TO ID – Aubrey PD arrested a Plano man, 27, on charges of failure to identify give false information and two Collin County warrants on Jan. 21. He was released the following day, according to the Denton County Jail records.

ASSAULT – A Providence Village man, 30, was arrested Jan. 21 by APD on a charge of assault causes bodily injury impeding breath.

– Kim Fleming

the business connection

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Sports

Winter storm disrupts area practices, games

By Joe Fragano
Staff Writer

The winter storm that swept through North Texas and left roads near impassable on Monday afternoon threw a wrench into the local teams' midweek game plans and left coaches scrambling.

The Aubrey Lady Chaparrals were set to travel to Van Alstyne on Tuesday evening to take on the Lady Panthers fresh off of a big win over Anna in their last game. After trying to preemptively reschedule the game to Monday afternoon in an effort to avoid the storm, the Lady Chaps are still waiting to find out when they will be able to play the Van Alstyne game.

"Usually we wait until [a winter storm] actually happens to start making plans," Aubrey girls basketball coach Ron Gathright said. "[As of Tuesday], we really haven't finalized anything for the ballgame that we missed on Tuesday night."

See WEATHER on Page 10A

The Pilot Point baseball diamond bares a sheet of white on Tuesday. The weather ground extracurriculars to a halt.

Tim Cordell/
Contributing Photographer



Tay Ross, center, pushes the ball up the floor followed closely by Carter May during Aubrey's win over the Anna Coyotes.

Joe Fragano/The Post-Signal

Chaps grab first place in district

By Joe Fragano
Staff Writer

The Aubrey Chaparrals grabbed sole possession of first place in their district on Jan. 27 when they defeated the Anna Coyotes 60-55 in the AHS gymnasium.

Aubrey and Anna entered into the contest in a deadlock for the top spot in the district with both teams off to a 4-0 start. In their biggest game of the regular season so far, the Chaps started the game off

by setting the tone at the rim on defense.

Aubrey made things hard for Anna in the paint and allowed only one non-three point basket in the first quarter. Coyotes that tried to get in close and score were met with strong defense or sent to the line with a foul. Anna compounded their scoring troubles with poor free throw shooting too, making just one of their eight first quarter attempts from the stripe.

While Anna struggled to score in the paint, Aubrey had no trouble doing the same thanks to sophomore post player Elijah Herron. Herron scored nine of Aubrey's 15 first quarter points, all of them from under the basket.

Herron has come along this season as a major scoring threat inside for the Chaparrals, Aubrey head coach Kyle Smith said.

"[Herron] did a great job," Smith said. "He was

nervous, and you could tell. He's a sophomore in a big time game, and we're counting on him. ... Our game plan was to feed the post. ... I thought that ... he played great."

Another Aubrey post player, Carter May, went on to score a game-high 18 points against the Coyotes. May gave Herron credit postgame for occupying defenders and opening up the paint.

See CHAPS on Page 8A

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BASKETBALL




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Feb. 3 | vs Celina* | 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 7 | @Carrollton Ranchview* | 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 10 | vs Frisco Panther Creek* | 7:30 p.m.

Go, Lady Chaps!

Feb. 3 | vs Celina* | 6:00 p.m.
Feb. 4 | @Van Alstyne* | 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 7 | @Carrollton Ranchview* | 6:00 p.m.

*District game

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CHAPS

Continued from Page 7A

"He takes a lot of pressure off of me," May said about Herron.

Anna's offense blossomed in the second quarter, but the Chaparrals matched them shot for shot. After another six points from Herron in the second quarter, Aubrey held a 27-17 lead over the Coyotes at halftime.

Anna did not look like a team tied for first in the district in the first half, but they bore a much stronger resemblance in the third quarter. Normally a three-point heavy offense, the Coyotes made only one triple in the first half. Two deep balls in the third quarter helped buoy the Anna offense.

Strong as the Coyotes were compared to their first half performance, Aubrey was even stronger. May took a backseat to Herron in the first half but took over the third quarter with eight points. In spite of Anna's resurgence, the Chaps' lead grew to 46-31.

The fourth quarter was when Anna made a serious push at Aubrey's substantial lead. The Coyotes' 24-point fourth quarter brought Anna within a few possessions of the Aubrey lead with less than five minutes remaining in



Michael Lewis' fourth quarter free throw shooting helped Aubrey overtake the Anna Coyotes for first place in their district on Jan. 27.

Joe Fragano/The Post-Signal

the game.

Anna threatened, but they never overtook Aubrey in the fourth quarter.

The lead the Chaps built throughout the game was large enough for them to sustain by playing slowly,

forcing fouls, and making free throws down the stretch. Michael Lewis drained eight out of 10

free throw chances down the stretch to dagger the Coyotes.

The win preserves Aubrey's perfect district record and catapulted the Chaps up to 14 on the Texas Association of Basketball coaches list of top 25 4A teams in the state. May had a hard time expressing just how important the victory was to the Chaparrals.

"It's all kind of a blur right now," May said. "I'm just glad we're in first place."

Smith said he knew his team was capable of succeeding but said he knew Anna was going to be a major hurdle.

"Really, I thought there was a chance," Smith said. "I knew [Anna] was the best team. They beat us by 22 in a tournament. ... We knew what to expect. We knew they were going to be tough."

The Chaparrals were set to take on Van Alstyne on the road Wednesday afternoon amidst weather complications. On Friday, Aubrey will host the Celina Bobcats as the Chaps look for the season sweep over their district rival.

BEARCATS BASKETBALL 2022-23



Alex Gaspard



Angel Yanez



Blaine South



Crew Chandler



Dillin Gann



Christian Landaverde



Jace Williamson



Rowdy Robinson

vs Callisburg* | Feb. 3 | Home

@Boyd* | Feb. 7 | Away

@Valley View* | Feb. 10 | Away

LADY BEARCATS BASKETBALL '22-23



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Amy Newman



Ava Smith



Bailey Devine



Emily Boggs



Karla Garcia



Katy Summerville



Leila Norris



Makenzie Neal



Rylee LeMarr



Sanaa Jackson



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vs Callisburg*

(Senior Night)

Feb. 3 | Home

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*District game

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Lady Chaps stay playoff contenders

By Joe Fragano
Staff Writer

After an uneven first half, the Aubrey Lady Chaparrals leaned on perimeter shooting and defense to knock off the Anna Lady Coyotes in Aubrey on Jan. 27, keeping playoff hopes alive.

The Anna Lady Coyotes got a burst of early offense from Katie Johnson in the first quarter. Johnson poured in nine points in the frame and helped Anna take a 13-12 lead over the Lady Chaparrals.

Aubrey's early offense was much more balanced in the first quarter. No Lady Chaparral scored more than once in the quarter, but a pair of three pointers by Abby Hammett and Addy Cagle helped Aubrey keep stride with the Lady Coyotes amidst Johnson's quick start.

"We've been really trying to get them to understand that when they're open [we want them to] shoot the ball," said Aubrey head coach Ron Gathright. "We hadn't been scoring a whole lot this year, but tonight we were a whole lot more aggressive as far as looking for our shots and taking shots that were open. We made shots tonight."

When the second quarter came, Aubrey's distance shooting continued to help the Lady Chaparrals and their defense started to become a factor as well. Aubrey clung to a 27-24 lead at halftime thanks to another triple by Cagle plus a five-point quarter by point guard Brooklyn Weier.

Weier was instrumen-



Brooklyn Weier, left, helped the Lady Chaparrals break a full court press and take the lead in the second quarter of Aubrey's battle with the Anna Lady Coyotes on Jan. 27.

Joe Fragano/The Post-Signal

tal in the second quarter as a ball handler. Gathright took Weier out of the game for a moment at the beginning of the quarter to let her center herself after some early mistakes. When Gathright put Weier back in, she helped the Lady Chaps break an aggressive full-court press by the Anna defense.

"She kind of got down on herself a little bit," said Gathright. "She made some mistakes early. I took her out of the game just to settle her down. ... Then once I stuck her back in the ball game, she was settled down and did a much better job of being under control and taking care of the basketball."

Aubrey's worst offensive quarter of the night was the third when the Lady Chaparrals only mustered nine points. Luckily for Aubrey, that quarter was also their best from a defensive standpoint. The Lady Chaparrals held Anna to five points and took a 36-29 lead into the fourth quarter.

Free throws have plagued the Lady Chaparrals at times this season, but not in the fourth quarter against the Lady Coyotes. Nursing a modest lead for the entire fourth quarter, the Lady Chaparrals sank 12 of their 19 foul shots and put Anna away.

The Lady Chaps' sport a 2-5 district record af-

ter the win. Knocking off the third-place Lady Coyotes was a massive boost to Aubrey's playoff hopes. Now the Lady Chaparrals are locked in a three-way tie with Ranchview and Celina for the fourth and final playoff spot in the district.

"That was a huge win," Gathright said. "We got beat by 40 at their place. To turn around and stay within the game plan and finish it right there at the end, ... it paid off in the end."

Inclement weather disrupted Aubrey's scheduled clash with the Van Alstyne Lady Panthers set for Tuesday evening, but a home game against Celina is still set for Friday evening.

ROUNDUP

Lady Chaparrals win high-scoring shootout

The Gainesville Lady Leopards paid the Aubrey girls soccer team a visit on Jan. 27 and both teams poured in plenty of goals as the Lady Chaps prevailed 9-6.

A four-goal night from Macy Childers helped propel the Lady Chaparrals to victory with the help of a hat trick by Alison Fleming and two goals and six assists by Brynlee Bohannon. Laney Lomas scored one goal and one assist in the game as well.

"I'm very impressed with the offensive chemistry tonight," Lady Chaps head coach Monica Woodward said. "We've been waiting for the click and it clicked tonight."

The Lady Chaparrals had another home game against Lake Worth rescheduled by the winter weather on Monday afternoon. The next regularly scheduled game for the Aubrey girls is at home against Wichita Falls on Friday evening at 6 p.m.

Aubrey pulls away 3-1 over Bonham

The Bonham Warriors could be a future district opponent for the Aubrey Chaparrals one day and on Jan. 27 the two programs squared off at Chaparral Stadium.

Aubrey held possession for the first 20 minutes of the game before Alexis Carranza opened the scoring and put Aubrey up 1-0 with a goal. Aubrey went up 2-0 in the first half thanks to a goal by Kevin Fang, but the Warriors cut into Aubrey's lead with a 50-yard goal just before halftime.

As the Chaps' defense locked Bonham down in the second half, Luke Tarvisio buried a header on a pass from Leo Mejia and put the Warriors away 3-1.

Aubrey's next regularly scheduled game is set for Feb. 3 at home against Wichita Falls at 7:15 p.m.

Joe Fragano

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ORDINANCE NO. 774-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS AMENDING SECTION 13.03.001, "OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT CREATED; REPORTS AND RECORDS.", SECTION 13.03.002 "CITY ENGINEER.", SECTION 13.03.003 "AUTHORITY OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.", SECTION 13.03.004 "'BUILDING' DEFINED.", SECTION 13.03.005, "RATES, CHARGES AND BILLING; CONNECTION POLICIES; DISCONNECTION OF SERVICE FOR NON-PAYMENT", SECTION 13.03.006 "GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.", SECTION 13.03.008 "ADJUSTMENTS TO BILL.", SECTION 13.03.009 "METERS REQUIRED.", SECTION 13.03.013 "SEWER CONNECTION REQUIRED.", SECTION 13.03.014 "INSTALLATION OF SERVICE LINES BY CITY." OF ARTICLE 13.03, "WATER AND SEWER SERVICE", OF CHAPTER 13, "UTILITIES",

OF THE CITY'S CODE OF ORDINANCES TO CHANGE REFERENCES TO THE SUPERINTENDENT TO DIRECTOR AND PROVIDE FOR STAFF AUTHORITY TO GRANT EXTENSION OF PAYMENT AND ADJUSTMENTS FOR LEAKS; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREMISES; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS; PROVIDING A PENALTY; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A CUMULATIVE REPEALER CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR ENROLLMENT AND ENROLLMENT AND ENROLLMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ON THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2023. APPROVED: CHRIS RICH MAYOR ATTEST: JENNY HUCKABEE CITY SECRETARY F3-1tc

CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ORDINANCE

NO. 776-23 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS, CHAPTER 14 "ZONING" TO PROVIDE FOR AND ALLOW "GOVERNMENT USE" IN EACH ZONING DISTRICT; PROVIDING A SAVING CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ON THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2023. APPROVED: CHRIS RICH MAYOR ATTEST: JENNY HUCKABEE CITY SECRETARY F3-1tc

CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ORDINANCE NO. 775-23

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAP-

TER 10, "SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE", ARTICLE 2, "PROCEDURES", BY REPEALING SECTION 9, "MINOR PLATS" AND ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 9, "MINOR PLATS" OF ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER 10 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR THE INCORPORATION OF PREMISES; PROVIDING AMENDMENTS GOVERNING MINOR PLATS; PROVIDING FOR A CUMULATIVE REPEALER/SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR ENROLLMENT AND ENROLLMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBREY, TEXAS ON THIS 26TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2023. APPROVED: CHRIS RICH MAYOR ATTEST: JENNY HUCKABEE CITY SECRETARY F3-1tc

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Players of THE WEEK

PILOT POINT BEARCATS

PPHS head basketball coach Jeff Price named Rowdy Robinson player of the week after the junior stretch guard racked up a season-high 37 points in Pilot Point's 84-40 win over the S&S Consolidated Rams in Sadler on Jan. 27.



Rowdy Robinson

PILOT POINT LADY CATS



Rylee LeMarr

Rylee LeMarr is the Pilot Point Lady Cats player of the week once again as she continues to lead Michelle Estrada's offense.

"[LeMarr] continues to be our leading scorer and make plays for us," Estrada said about her point guard.

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ICE

freezes," Fano said. "That's freezing rain."

The other two are frozen throughout the entire process.

Freezing rain can make driving, which was already touchy throughout the area as early as Monday morning, more treacherous.

"Luckily sleet doesn't accumulate on power lines; sleet doesn't accumulate on trees and that type of thing," Fano said. "But freezing rain does. ... With all the sleet and ice already on the ground, you add a layer of freezing rain, it could make roads impassible if it falls heavy enough."

The cities throughout the area also closed down in response to the freeze.

"We look at what's closing and how we're closing based on safety," Pilot Point City Manager Britt Lusk said.

While the City Hall staff was asked to stay home, the city's first responders—the firefighters, police officers and Public Works Department crews—were still on hand to keep the city's essential services running.

"They're working around the clock," Lusk said.

Lusk brought up that the Public Works Department kept everything running in 2021 despite days of power failure.

"During Snowmageddon, we were one of the only cities ... in North Texas that didn't have to do a boil water notice," he said.

The rainy mix that has hit the area this week posed a challenge for the Pilot Point Public Works crews because they use sand to help vehicles gain traction, but that mix can wash away.

"We mostly do the main thoroughfares through the city," Lusk said, to help conserve the



On a homemade wooden sled, 11-year-old Jesus Bautista is being pushed by PPHS senior Juan Bautista. PPHS graduate Ryan Stewart fell while assisting. Cheering them on in their ride down the hill on West Aubrey Street, were Carlee Bautista, left, Nicolas Bautista and Kilns Morales.

mix the city has available while providing the most good possible.

As for services that include the library and permitting, the city typically follows the lead of Pilot Point ISD on closing.

Making the call to disrupt people's regularly scheduled lives is not something school officials take lightly, Belding said.

"That's a big part of the equation, too," he said.

He added that the Denton County Emergency Management department helps connect city and school district officials throughout the area and keeps



Beau Foster/The Post-Signal

Four-year-old Ezra White flies down the draining ditch along Stallings Drive in Providence Village toward his mom, Brooke White on Monday afternoon. The two were accompanied by the other White children and many of their neighbors.

Abigail Allen/The Post-Signal

them informed daily of weather developments in situations such as these.

"The National Weather Ser-

vice is part of that call, and so that helps us kind of know, 'Here's what they're thinking for tomorrow,'" Belding said.

WEATHER

Continued from Page 7A

... We'll probably just wait ... and see how bad it actually gets and then start planning on when we're going to make up the [Van Alstyne] game."

The Tioga boys team tried to beat the storm by playing its road game against Era on Monday as well, but Bulldogs head coach Chris Armstrong said that it quickly became clear that was not an option.

These storms do not sneak up on coaches. Gathright and Armstrong keep an eye on forecasts and district announcements in advance, but they do not want to tell their players to plan on not playing. Armstrong said that it is best to keep the team focused on the game right up until they know it cannot be played.

"It's actually a process we started looking at late last week when the long-term forecast came down as far as what they were expecting Tuesday and Wednesday," Armstrong said. "Since then, we've been in a holding pattern, waiting to know when it's going to be safe again to travel. ... The thing that I try to impart to the players in any situation involving weather is ... just plan on playing until you hear for sure you're not."

Students will enjoy their unplanned vacation days from school when snow and ice happen, but student athletes this time of year are presented with a challenge. Gathright said waiting for a canceled game to be rescheduled and then playing it right before getting back on track with another regularly scheduled game can be a tough challenge, especially for a team in the midst of trying to fight their way into the playoffs like the Lady Chaps.

"It's definitely a challenge for the kids and the coaches," Gathright said. "We may be going into a situation where we end up playing Friday and Saturday and we've not even practiced. ... To throw these kids into a situation where they may have to play Friday night and Saturday afternoon, it's a difficult situation to have to adjust to."

Armstrong agreed that the cancellations are a hurdle for teams to clear. One thing that Armstrong said helps teams with that obstacle is the fact that they are cycling through the district for the second time.

"It is a challenge, but one thing that helps this time of year is you're not playing

"So that we can make better informed decisions."

Making the call is a balance between safety and practicality, Belding said, "because sometimes in Texas, things shift really quickly."

"If you make that decision too quick, it would have been fine to be in school but we've already closed," he said. "You try to be purposeful about it."

Being closed through Wednesday at least cost the district much of the extra time it had banked.

"We could use bad weather days or we could adjust the school day to be able to make those days up and not have to impact people's plans around the Easter holiday," Belding said. "We'll look at that once we get back in school and see what we think makes the most sense moving forward."

At press time Wednesday, Aubrey, Collinsville, Denton, Pilot Point and Tioga ISDs had canceled school for Thursday.

As of Tuesday, Belding didn't know whether the Texas Education Agency would be granting bad weather waivers as it did in 2021 and 2022.

"I'm hoping this is our big event for the year, and it will be smooth sailing from here on out," he said.

That remains to be seen. There's a chance of more cold accompanied by rain and possibly thunderstorms on Tuesday or Wednesday, Fano said.

"I know the key question on your mind is, 'Are we done with winter weather after this?'" he said. "Well, I'd like to say yes, but unfortunately February is usually our snowiest month, and we still have the whole month to go."



Rylan Newman, center, battles through contact and the Chico defense as the Pirates knocked off the Dragons 84-45 in Collinsville on Jan. 25.

Photos by Jenna Agerlid/The Post-Signal



Following through

Reese Patterson, left, and the Collinsville Lady Pirates cruised past the Chico Lady Dragons 53-39 on Jan. 25. Both the girls and boys games were delayed by the snowfall on Jan. 24.

Find out what's going on!

SPEAKER
Spotlight

City of Pilot Point
Update

NETWORKING LUNCHEON
Thursday, February 16, 2023
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