

Dripping Springs Century News

Trustees, students honored at school board meeting



Members of the Lighthouse Team at Dripping Springs Elementary shake hands with board members after their presentation.
PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

Proceedings include plea for high school bond, naming of new elementary

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

January is school board appreciation month, and the Dripping Springs ISD monthly meeting on Jan. 27 included a few extra touches to recognize the board members, including flower arrangements created by the high school CTE

floral design program. "I think a lot of times people have no clue how much you do, or the fact that it's all volunteer," DSISD Superintendent Dr. Holly Morris-Kuentz said. "You really help our administrators, our teachers and our staff, and we just want to say thank you so much for serving on this board, for stepping up."

The meeting included some student recognitions as well. The district's elementary UIL champions were on hand, as was DSHS sophomore Isabella Eleazar, who was recognized for making All-State Mixed Choir. Then the floor was opened for the public comment period. Lauren Naylor, local resident and parent,

spoke about the need for a new high school. She also has served on several district committees, including the long-range committee and the citizen's bond steering committee. "This really has given us a full picture of what's at stake and how important it is that this new high school bond

SEE DSISD PAGE 6

CREAM OF THE CROP

Area youth show their stuff at Hays County Livestock Show

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

The Hays County Youth Livestock Show got off to a frigid start, as winter storm Enzo blew into the area, bringing an unusual dusting of snow to Dripping Springs. But that didn't stop hundreds of dedicated young kids from showing up. The event, held at Dripping Springs Ranch Park, is an opportunity for 4-H and FFA members from across Hays County to exhibit their project work. On Sunday evening, Jan. 19, students with ag mechanics and homeskills projects checked in to prepare for the next day's judging. One of those students was Tex Burkland, a senior at Johnson High School. He was exhibiting an Oliver 66 tractor that he had restored. "My great grandfather bought it at the Robinson Oliver dealership in Creedmore," Tex said. "He bought it new, and drove it home two miles away. It

SEE SHOW PAGE 6



Arya Cope, a 5th grader at Science Hall Elementary in Kyle, walks her pig Ivy in the barn.
PHOTOS BY LAURIE ANDERSON



Dripping Springs High School freshmen Meghan McClelland and Addison DeMarco walk their lambs in the arena.



Opening the engine compartment, Tex Burkland, a senior at Johnson High School, shows off the tractor he restored. It won Reserve Grand Champion in the ag mechanics competition..



Lisa Sullivan, Director of Communications and People, and Shawn Cox, Deputy City Administrator, both with the city of Dripping Springs, talk to community leaders after their presentation.
PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

Officials present on State of the City at Chamber lunch

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

Officials from Dripping Springs gave a report on the State of the City at the monthly Chamber of Commerce luncheon on April 24. After a welcome from Mayor Bill Foulds Jr., the meeting opened with a report from Planning Director Tory Carpenter, who addressed upcoming growth for the area. "There are a lot of single family homes coming to Dripping Springs in the next 0-5 years," Carpenter said. "With Double L in particular, we are looking at 2400 single family residences, with some multi-family in there as well. For Wild Ridge, which is just south of there, they are bringing about 960." There are several smaller residential developments, as well as a built-to-rent community called New Growth. "It looks and feels like a single family community, but it's managed by one rental agency, almost like an apartment complex," Carpenter said. That development is on Roger Hanks

Parkway, near the tax office. Another property under development is Ariza Springs, over by the Polo Club. "We've gotten a lot of phone calls about the construction going on over there," Carpenter said. "It's a pretty big site that was cleared. That is an apartment complex, right around 300 units." In the historic district, there are several changes coming as well. "In the Mercer Street area, at the old historic Short Mama's home on Wallace right off Mercer, they are opening a bistro at that location," Carpenter said. "They are going through the permitting process." The old rental facility downtown is also going to be a restaurant. It's called Roxie's, and it's the same business owner as the Salt Lick. "They are opening a home cooking restaurant, and they are going through permitting, too," Carpenter said. Carpenter also said that HEB is in the planning stages for a new store right adjacent to the existing one. It will replace the smaller

SEE CHAMBER PAGE 5



6 0 4 8 7 9 1 4 0 4 2 6 2

Four-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High: 71 Low: 47 Heavy rain	High: 67 Low: 41 Sunny	High: 70 Low: 45 Sunny	High: 75 Low: 49 Sunny	High: 75 Low: 66 Sunny

Capital Highlights

\$1 billion for vouchers, \$5 billion for teachers?



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Legislative budget writers are proposing nearly \$5 billion to increase teacher pay and \$1 billion to implement a school voucher program in the next biennium, the Austin American-Statesman reported.

The voucher program, also referred to as school choice, would provide public money for private schooling, a key priority for Gov. Greg Abbott that bitterly divided Republican lawmakers two years ago and failed to pass.

In addition, the funding would increase teachers' pay by \$4,000 and give teachers in rural school districts an additional

\$6,000, according to a statement by Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick. The early release of budget drafts is a signal that both chambers are getting off to a fast start in laying out their spending priorities.

Both the Senate and House are proposing an additional \$400 million for school safety.

The Senate budget measure also contains \$402 million to hire 567 new Department of Public Safety troopers and 159 related law enforcement personnel.

PATRICK BACKS CLARIFYING STATE'S NEAR-TOTAL ABORTION BAN

Patrick said last week that the Legislature should amend the state's near-total abortion ban to address confusion over when doctors can legally terminate pregnancies, The Texas Tribune reported.

"I do think we need to clarify any language

so that doctors are not in fear of being penalized if they think the life of the mother is at risk," Patrick said.

The state's abortion ban went into effect in 2022. It only allows abortions when the life of the pregnant mother is at risk. A number of doctors have argued the law is unclear.

A ProPublica investigation claims at least two women in the state have died after doctors delayed treating their miscarriages because of concern about possible prosecution. Medical experts consulted by ProPublica concluded the two deaths were preventable.

SHARING CHAIRMANSHIPS WITH MINORITY PARTY TO END

A decades-long tradition of giving at least some committee chairmanships to members of the minority party is about to end under proposed rules for the current legislative session, according to the Statesman. That means this session that Democrats, who hold 62 of the 150 seats, would be left out of those positions this session, though committee vice chairmanships would be given to them.

"The rule is amended to restrict the appointment of chairs of a standing committee to those members of the political party that constitutes a majority of the House membership and to provide that a majority party member may not be appointed as a vice chair of a standing committee," the synopsis of the proposed

rules says.

The change comes after then-Speaker Dade Phelan continued the bipartisan tradition in the 2023 session and drew criticism from GOP leaders such as Patrick and Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton.

RRC SEEKS \$100 MILLION TO FIX LEAKY OIL AND GAS WELLS

The cost and frequency of plugging leaking oil and gas wells has prompted the Texas Railroad Commission to request an additional \$100 million in funding to address the issue, according to the Houston Chronicle. If granted, that would increase the RRC's state-funded budget by about 75% for the current fiscal year.

The cost to plug wells gushing with contaminated water has risen dramatically. The commission spent about \$13 million on two plugging projects last September, according to the Chronicle. Fees and fines paid by the oil and gas industry have in the past covered the costs of plugging wells, but the increased costs and complexity of plugging wells has largely outgrown the revenue being received.

"The 89th Legislature will thoroughly evaluate the commission's funding request and work with industry experts to better understand this compounding problem," Sen. Joan Huffman, R-Houston, and chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance, said in a state-

ment.

The RRC should do more to hold operators accountable for plugging their own wells, according to the director of one watchdog organization.

"We have a robust oil and gas industry, the biggest in the country," Virginia Palacios, executive director of Commission Shift, said. "There's no reason why such a profitable industry shouldn't be able to pay for its own cleanup."

TEXANS URGED TO REPORT WINTER WEATHER DAMAGES

Abbott is urging Texans affected by recent winter weather to report any property and agricultural damages to the Texas Division of Emergency Management's portal: tdem.texas.gov.

"As communities begin the recovery process, I urge Texans to report damages to their homes or businesses or any agricultural losses through the iSTAT damage survey," Abbott said. "This will help the state determine if we qualify for federal assistance."

Winter storms brought considerable snowfall recently to areas of South Texas and the Gulf Coast that rarely see the white stuff. Several storm-related deaths were reported in Austin and Houston.

2024 WAS HOTTEST ON RECORD, BUT RAINFALL TOTALS VARIED

It's hardly news to Texans who lived through it, but last year was the hottest on record, according to Dr. Mark Wentzel, hydrologist with the Texas Water Development Board. The previous record was set in 2023.

Precipitation proved to be a mixed bag, de-

pending on the region, though October and August were extremely dry pretty much across the state. Twelve counties in East Texas had their wettest year in the past 130 years, while Jeff Davis and Presidio counties in West Texas, and Uvalde County in Central Texas recorded their driest year since 2011.

"Drought began the year covering 39 percent of the state and expanded to cover 44 percent by the end of the year. Statewide, storage in our water supply reservoirs saw an annual increase for the first time since 2018, up five percentage points during 2024," Wentzel wrote.

STATE RECORDS MOST TORNADOES IN 2024

Preliminary data from the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center indicates the United States experienced a record 1,855 tornadoes in 2024, breaking a 20-year-old record. Texas led the nation with 169 tornadoes last year, more than doubling the 2023 total of 78.

Dozens of tornadoes were spawned by several tropical storms and hurricanes. For example, Hurricane Beryl, which landed at Matagorda in early July, spawned at least 65 confirmed tornadoes.

A total of 53 fatalities were caused by tornadoes across the U.S., including nine in Texas from three twisters.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com



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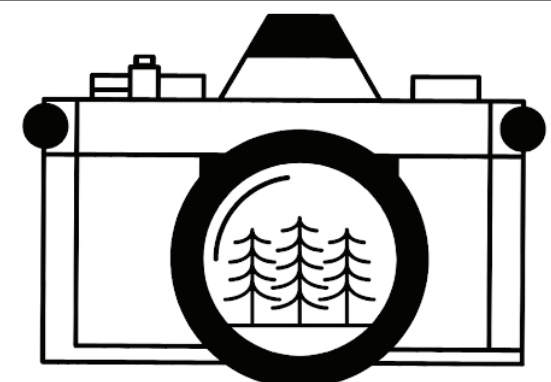
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ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League

City rallies to support the arts

Steve Friedman
DS Art League

My wife, Jennifer, and I moved to Dripping Springs from Houston about 3 ½ years ago. As a painter and collage artist, Jennifer immediately sought the creative community. Through her subsequent experience as curator at a local gallery and co-ordinator of a 2023 Art Gallery Tour, we recognized the abundant artistic talent Dripping Springs has to offer.

In the fall of 2023, several Tour members hosted an exploratory community meeting to gauge interest in an art league. The response was remarkable. A need for an organization which can serve both the artists and the community-at-large was clearly present. From these humble beginnings, we joined



dozens of passionate artists in creating the Dripping Springs Art League. Over 170 members strong and boasting over 50 successful programs. In 2024, art in Dripping is certainly taking off.

As amazing as our brief history feels, what is equally encouraging is the support and vision the arts are receiving across the community. The City of Dripping Springs and Destination Dripping Springs have enthusiastically partnered with the DSAL to feature the Stars on Mercer, the

Art Lounge at Songwriters, and Second Saturday Art Markets in the Triangle. This journey proves Dripping's history and culture we love so much not only can co-exist with vibrant art, but together can represent the best that Dripping Springs has to offer.

Along the way, the Dripping Springs Art League recognize the arts cannot happen without the contributions of volunteers, partners, and sponsors:

- Volunteers support our ambitious mission



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



of Art, Community, Connection. In December we recognized our volunteers with a Night at Palomas.

• Partners are those that open their doors to host DSAL meetings, exhibits, markets, and more. Our partners include Primal Gallery, The Shops at Mars Beads, Appamada School, Pound House, Austin Zoo, Dripping Springs Community Library, Jester King Brewery, Bell Springs Winery, Ally Medical, North Hays EMS, Sunflower Bank, the Chamber, Fitzhugh Brewing, and Hand Made at Nutty Brown. They are our foundation, enabling us to put on an extensive calendar of programs that inspire art-

ists and residents alike.

• Sponsors are the catalysts, providing the funds for DSAL to expand programming at little or no cost to members. So many individuals and organizations have supported the arts in Dripping from our November 'Night to Inspire' celebration at Duchman Family Winery to our Founding Circle Members who joined our Thank You Reception at the fabulous Pound House in January. We are thrilled to honor our sponsors including Appamada School, Rollo Insurance, Broadway Bank, Haus of Jayne, Pride of Dripping Springs, Plumb Projects, Art Direct, Wall Fire Studios, and Brenham House Col-

lection.

Such support across the community suggests big things for the arts in Dripping Springs! The DSAL shares our heartfelt appreciation for the artists, collaborators, and visionaries in our town.

We look forward to putting the creative talents of Dripping Springs on display throughout 2025, including our Art Exhibits, Second Saturday Art Market on the Triangle, Family and Teen Art, the mid-May West of Weird Art Tour, another round of Stars in Dripping, and so much more.

Since arriving in Dripping Springs in 2021, we've recognized our town hosts so many amazing nonprofits and that the community rallies to support these great causes.

The future of the arts in Dripping Springs is alive and well. Let's flourish together!

The Dripping Springs Art League offers Clubs, Socials, Art Markets, and kids and teen art workshops. If you are looking to tap your creative side, expand your art skills, find your tribe, or market your work, you'll find an amazing community at the DSAL. If you'd like to volunteer, partner, or sponsor the DSAL, please contact us on our website, www.artindripping.com. We'll see you out there!

Getting the pawty started

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

With the lights down low and the DJs spinning tunes, the party goes moved across the floor, grooving to the music. It might have been any ordinary party - except the room was quiet, and the guests were dancing for a good cause.

The silent disco "pawty," a fundraiser for PAWS Shelter of Central Texas, was held Saturday, Jan. 25 at the Deep Eddy Tasting Room. Each dancer got a pair of headphones upon arrival, and they used them to choose which DJ's set they wanted to hear. Christine Trobenter and Dru Morris attended the event, and both said it was their first silent disco.

"It was pretty cool," Morris said. "I like the way you could switch to different songs - you know, a new song would come on, and you could switch over and see what's playing. Then you can see what channel other people are on, so if you see someone dancing real fun, you switch to that channel."

The headphones glowed red, blue or green, which indicated to the other guests which set they were listening to - something from DJ Andy or DJ Chadi.

"When we weren't dancing, it was so fun to watch everybody and hear them singing," Trobenter said.

Samanta LeBlanc, a realtor who helps PAWS with fundraising and events, said the idea started when she attended the silent disco at ACL, at the suggestion of DJ Chadi. She had never been to one.

"He said he'd want-



Dance party participants get into the groove during the Silent Disco, which was a benefit for the PAWS Shelter of Central Texas.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

ed to put one on for a really long time, so I said, let's do one for PAWS," LeBlanc said. "That's how it all came about."

LeBlanc has been volunteering for PAWS for four years, and has also served on their board. For this event, she wanted something that would be a fun, low-cost event for all ages.

"The class of 2026 at Dripping Springs High School has taken PAWS on as their service project, and they're always doing things for us, like volunteering and doing fundraisers for food drives," LeBlanc said. "I wanted an event that they didn't necessarily have to volunteer for, that they could actually come and enjoy. So we do have a few of them here, dancing and having a good time."

The silent disco was also a little earlier than other events to keep it family friendly.

"I wasn't sure what to expect to be honest, because we haven't done this before," LeBlanc said. "We sold over 100 tickets, and we probably could have sold more, but we had to have a cut-off date to give us time to rent the headphones."

The next big fundraiser for PAWS will be their 20th annual

Dinner by the Bite on April 10.

"Wilson Appliances and Air Conditioning very generously donates their space and their kitchens, and we showcase five local restaurants," LeBlanc said. "Those chefs come in, and they do a tasting of three to five of the dishes that they offer."

LeBlanc said that while a lot of local residents have heard of PAWS, they often aren't familiar with what they do.

"A lot of times people find strays and they immediately think of PAWS, but that's not really what we are in the community for," LeBlanc said. "What we do is we go to shelters that are kill shelters and find adoptable animals that would normally be put down. We take them out of the shelter and we adopt them out."

PAWS is a no-kill shelter founded in 1986. They provide their animals with medical attention, care and love for as long as it takes to find them a home. They have two locations - the original shelter in Kyle, and a second shelter on 165 in Dripping Springs.

For more information on how to support PAWS, visit www.pawsshelter.org.

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Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF WOODCREEK, TEXAS

The City of Woodcreek plans to apply for Regional Mitigation Program Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD) Resilient Community Program (RCP) from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and is soliciting proposals to provide administration and/or planning services for CDBG contract(s), if awarded please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email to Jeff Rasco, Mayor at jeff.rasco@woodcreektx.gov. Proposals must be received by the City no later than 4:00p.m. on February 28, 2025 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Woodcreek is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
(CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT)

Notice is hereby given that the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Wimberley will hold a public hearing at the Wimberley City Hall on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following: CUP-25-003 – an application for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the operation of a Short-Term Rental 2 (vacation rental) at 2215 Spoke Hollow Road, Wimberley, TX (HaysCAD # R30458). Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the City Council will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Comments on this request from any member of the public may be made in person at City Hall, by mail (221 Stillwater, Wimberley, TX), or by email (nglaiser@cityofwimberley.com) prior to the hearing. The public will be granted an opportunity to speak at the hearings. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available for review at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas.

Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JAMES DON HAYNES, Deceased, were issued on January 14, 2025, in Cause No. 24-0535-P, pending in County Court at Law, Hays County, Texas, to LAURIE L. HAYNES Independent Executor.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Estate of JAMES DON HAYNES, Deceased, LAURIE L. HAYNES, Independent Executor

c/o BILL CLINE, JR.
Bill Cline Law Office, P.C.
120 Joe Wimberley Blvd., Ste 103
Wimberley, Texas 78676

s/s Bill Cline, Jr.
Attorney for Independent Executor
State Bar No.: 04397000

PUBLIC NOTICE

“NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SUBDIVIDE -- An application has been submitted with HAYS COUNTY to subdivide 193.37 acres of property located at/along Mount Sharp Road, Wimberley, TX 78676. Information regarding the application may be obtained from Hays County Development Services (512) 393-2150 opt 2. Tracking number: PLN-2680-PRE”.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
(CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT)

Notice is hereby given that the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Wimberley will hold a public hearing at the Wimberley City Hall on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following: CUP-25-002 – an application for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the operation of a Short-Term Rental 2 (vacation rental) at 120 Hoots Holler, Wimberley, TX (HaysCAD # R99329). Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the City Council will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Comments on this request from any member of the public may be made in person at City Hall, by mail (221 Stillwater, Wimberley, TX), or by email (nglaiser@cityofwimberley.com) prior to the hearing. The public will be granted an opportunity to speak at the hearings. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available for review at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
(CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT)

Notice is hereby given that the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Wimberley will hold a public hearing at the Wimberley City Hall on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following: CUP-25-001 – an application for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the operation of a Short-Term Rental 2 (vacation rental) at 1830 Flite Acres, Wimberley, TX (HaysCAD # R26752). Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the City Council will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Comments on this request from any member of the public may be made in person at City Hall, by mail (221 Stillwater, Wimberley, TX), or by email (nglaiser@cityofwimberley.com) prior to the hearing. The public will be granted an opportunity to speak at the hearings. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available for review at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
(PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT)

Notice is hereby given that the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Wimberley will hold a public hearing at the Wimberley City Hall on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following: ZA-25-001 – an application for a Wimberley Planned Development District on property located at 320 Wimberley Square, Wimberley, TX, 78676 (HaysCAD Property ID # 132436). The proposed Wimberley Planned Development District would include following uses: lodging, food and beverage retail sales, sale of alcohol for on and off premises consumption, and eating establishment. Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the City Council will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Comments on this request from any member of the public may be made in person at City Hall, by mail (221 Stillwater, Wimberley, TX), or by email (nglaiser@cityofwimberley.com) prior to the hearing. The public will be granted an opportunity to speak at the hearings. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available for review at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas.



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CHAMBER FROM PG. 1

building.

"Right now they're telling us about 125,000 square feet for that area," Carpenter said. "So it's a pretty large scale store to fit the needs of the growing community."

The next topic on the agenda was the new tree preservation and landscape ordinance for new developments. It protects the larger oaks that are 18 inches in diameter or bigger. It also prohibits clear cutting of entire sites.

"Dripping Springs has experienced a lot of growing pains moving forward, and one thing that we heard a lot from the community is that they want the character of the Hill Country preserved," Carpenter said. "A big part of that is tree preservation."

Carpenter also gave an update on transportation plans. He said that the city's focus is on general improvements to existing roads and on new connections.

The general idea is that the new developments will build connections that prevent or alleviate bottlenecks.

"Roger Hanks is one that opened in the past," Carpenter said. "It was signalized in the last year. This is going around the high school, and really provides a great relief from that 290 and Ranch Road 12 intersection."

Another road construction project that will impact the community involves the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of 150 and Ranch Road 12. This is not a city project, but is a cooperative effort between Hays County and TxDOT.

"We have construction starting at the end of 2025, right south of Caliterra," Carpenter said. "They have acquired the property for a roundabout there."

Carpenter also gave an update on the construction of U.S. 290. He acknowledged that many local residents were involved with the

TxDOT public hearings about that plan, which showed a pretty heavy expansion of U.S. 290.

"At this point, they've heard from the community, and they're going back to the drawing board and looking at some other options," Carpenter said. "We're not exactly sure what direction to expect on this, but just keep an eye out for future releases and public meetings from TxDOT."

As for pedestrian projects, Carpenter noted that the city recently completed the sidewalks by Dripping Springs Middle School. That connects the middle school to the high school and some of the nearby neighborhoods, giving students the option to walk to school.

"On Mercer, you can expect a project connecting the existing Mercer Street sidewalks all the way over to Roger Hanks, essentially so you can walk from downtown over by HEB," Carpenter said. "We're expecting construction on that in March or April of this year."

Although many area residents are eager for a report on the expansion of the wastewater treatment plant, the city still doesn't have anything new to report.

"This has been going on since 2019, when TCEQ issued the city a permit to expand our existing wastewater treatment plant, allowing more connections to the city wastewater system," Carpenter said. "An Austin opposition group appealed the granting of that, so that's been basically in a lawsuit since then."

The case made its way all the way up to the Texas Supreme Court. The city gave oral arguments in October 2024, and they are expecting a final decision by May of 2025.

City Administrator Michelle Fischer was next on the agenda, with a report on the re-



Dripping Springs ISD leaders Elaine Cogburn, deputy superintendent, and Dr. Holly Morris-Kuentz, superintendent, visit with another Chamber member after the luncheon.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

model at city hall. Staff members have been temporarily displaced while that is underway. It will include office space to accommodate up to 24 staff members, a bigger kitchen and a break room.

"We've got new flooring and lighting throughout the building," Fischer said. "We're retaining the large meeting space, where council and commission meetings are. The conference room in front was enlarged as well."

Downtown public restrooms are also under construction on Mercer Street next to Vintage Soul. Fischer said they hope construction on both projects is completed by April, before Founders Day.

Finally, the Stephenson building is a project that is getting ready to be bid out. They hope to start construction in May or June, and expect it to take about a year to complete. It will have an adjacent parking lot with 76 parking spaces that will be added once construction is done..

"We are completely remodeling it and adding on Parks and Community Services offices," Fischer said. "It will be a community center where we can have programming and events, it can be rented out, it can be used for performances like music, plays, meetings, receptions and all kinds of things. We're really excited about it coming online."

Next up was Shawn Cox, Deputy City Administrator, who re-

ported on finances. He said the city experienced a lot of growth in fiscal year 24, and is now up to 64 full-time, in-house employees.

"Every year, our departments look at what services we are providing," Cox said. "Part of what we look at is whether we are providing enough staffing to help people who are coming to the city looking for assistance."

Cox also touched on property taxes and how the process works, noting that appraisals are completed by Hays County Appraisal District. The tax rate is then set by the city council after they receive all the pertinent information.

"When we present the budget to council, and council is looking at the tax rate proposals, they are very aware of any impact that tax rate will have on all of our residents," Cox said. "I want y'all to know, your council puts us through the wringer. They are looking at that, because they are looking out for y'all."

For FY 25, Cox said the city did bump the tax rate, but it is still considerably lower than it was two years ago.

Parks and Community Services Director Andrew Binz spoke next, and gave an update on some of the city's youth programming. Coyote Kids Nature Camp, which used to be only in the summer, has now expanded to cover school breaks and holidays. So has their Tween Scene program. They also saw that after school care was a big

need in the community, so they started a new program. It's very small right now, only accepting 12 kids, but they hope to grow it in the future.

Other programs like swimming lessons, archery, camping, and star parties continue to be popular throughout the year.

"Family camping has really increased," Binz said. "I think we had around ten to twelve families participate in the last one in November."

Nerf nights, movies in the park, and family roller skate nights have also been really popular, and the weekly Farmers Market continues to be a strong draw.

Binz said that the department continues to present lots of special events as well, such as Eggstravaganza, which is coming up for Easter. Founders Day will follow not long after that.

Park improvements are continuing as well. There's new signage at Sports and Recreation Park, which Binz said has been a great improvement to the park aesthetically.

"Everything for athletics is looking good going into the spring," Binz said. "We got some irrigation out there, so the grass is green. We made some improvements to the adult softball field which were much needed."

The city also added new sidewalk connections at Founders Memorial Park that connect the skating park, pool, playground the Pound House.

"As soon as those sidewalks went in, you saw the bikes, the strollers and the scooters getting all over the park, so that was a great addition," Binz said.

The parks department is also working on their new master plan, which was covered in last week's issue of the paper. Right now they are gathering community feedback for what residents want to see.

The final update from Parks and Community Services was regarding Rathgeber Natural Resources Park, which consists of 300 acres of pristine Hill Country land at the convergence zones of Barton Creek and Little Barton Creek. The property, which is near Headwaters, was donated by Dick Rathgeber and Rathgeber Investment Company. It doubled the city's park acreage.

The city adopted a vision plan for Rathgeber park in October. It can be found on the website, along with a virtual tour.

"We had drones and 360 cameras go out there, and you can basically take a quick tour through the park and see what it looks like," Binz said. "It's going to take time, but we are making progress on this project."

Next on the agenda was Lisa Sullivan, People and Communications Director, who touched on some of the special events the city organizes, and who also spoke about the newest community art project.

"For those of you who have not been to downtown Mercer lately, we're excited that we have unveiled the first six stars of our art project in cooperation with the Dripping Springs Art League, HEB, and the Chamber," Sullivan said.

These stars were designed by local artists. The goal is to add another 10-12 stars this year throughout the community, including in the parks.

Mayor Foulds closed out the luncheon by reminding attendees that much of what the city does relies on the guidance of local volunteers.

"We have eleven boards, and about 120 volunteers who serve on those boards," Foulds said. "We're always looking for people to fill out applications to serve. This is what drives the city."

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SHOW FROM PG. 1

stayed within 10 miles of where it was bought for its entire life, which is around 75 years. The furthest it's ever gone is here, right now, in Dripping Springs."

Tex's grandfather restored the tractor around 1982 and put it back to work. It eventually got back to a "trashy" state, and Tex decided to restore it to its former glory.

"You don't have any blueprints to go off of," Tex said. "I mean, there's articles and photos and stuff like that you can go find, but tractor restoration is by far, in my opinion, the hardest ag mech project that you can do."

For Tex, this restoration wasn't only cosmetic - he completely rebuilt the engine and the chassis.

"It was a crazy process, especially with an engine that old," Tex said. "There's a lot of quirks and features that you don't see on a modern engine nowadays."

Tex's project won Reserve Grand Champion in the ag mechanics show.

Another student competing in the ag mechanics show was elementary student Will Zelhart, who attends St. Stephen's Episcopal School in Wimberly. His project, a shooting target, won the junior showmanship award. He did the welding himself. He also entered the homeskills competition.

"I made a lemon cake. I just learned it from a recipe," Will said. "It got a red quality award."

Will also had four heifers and a steer at the competition, and he won a junior showmanship award in that category. Laramie Doyle, of Dripping Springs 4-H, won the intermediate showmanship award, and Kelsey Tovar, a junior at Dripping Springs High School, took home the senior showmanship award. Kelsey had two steers in the show.

"I've been showing since third grade, and I've been showing steers for like four years," Kelsey said. "I showed lambs and goats, and I do pigs too. Steers are more work. You have to do a lot of stuff with them. Like wash them, blow them, walk them, feed them twice a day."

Kelsey said pigs, in contrast, are easy. She had two pigs in the show, a ham and a cross.

"I got second with my ham and then I got third with my cross," Kelsey said. "My favorite part is showing and having fun and making



Laramie Doyle, a 7th grader at Dripping Springs Middle School, gets his cow on the scale.

PHOTOS BY LAURIE ANDERSON



The judge talks to kindergartener Cerulean "Blu" Hall during the poultry event. Blu attends DeZavala Elementary in San Marcos, and she also entered the Home Skills photography competition, winning Reserve Grand Champion.

a sale."

Calvin Kinley, a freshman at DSHS, was also in the cattle show. He had a heifer and two steers.

"I've been showing three years," Calvin said. "The most difficult part is probably getting them show-ready for their stances and stuff, so they look good in front of a judge. The judges are looking for a round rear and a lot of muscle up front, and a belly that fits their frame, so not under or overweight."

Meghan McClelland and Addison DeMarcos are also freshmen at DSHS, and they were showing their lambs. It was the first year for both of them.

"My mom did it whenever she was in high school, and she was just like, you should totally raise lambs," Meghan said. "I've been around the country my whole life, so this is so much fun for me."

Addison is in the barrel racing industry, and heard about the show from friends. She thought it would be fun to try.

"One of the hardest parts is balancing school and outside of school activities and having enough time to make your animal good enough," Addison said. "You have to teach them lots of things, just from being able to walk on a halter, to bracing, to setting their legs right. There's a lot of stuff that goes into it."

Meghan agreed, and said the consistency in the hardest part. She said that for lambs, the judges are looking for a really big butt, and a straighter back. Their

leg shag is also important, and her lamb Elvis excelled in that characteristic.

"He has a lot of leg shag, and that's one of the main parts that the judges look for when they judge your animal," Meghan said. "He won champion, which was so much fun. I was really happy," Meghan said.

Arya Cope, a 5th grader at Science Hall Elementary in Kyle, was at the show with her two pigs, Ivy and Harley. It's her fifth year showing. Ivy got fourth place and Harley got 11th place. She said getting the pigs show ready can be difficult.

"At first, they don't know their surroundings, so it's hard," Arya said. "I had to teach them how to walk, and how to actually stay still. Both of my pigs really don't know how to stay still, though!"

One of the biggest prizes at the show is Grand Champion Steer, and this year that honor was taken by Shelby Cox, a junior at Wimberley High School and the 4-H president and FFA president. She started showing when she was seven years old, so this is her tenth year.

"It's just a lot of everyday work and staying consistent," Shelby said. "This is just a county show, so if you do good or bad, it doesn't really matter at the end of the day. These animals - this isn't the end of the road for them. They'll go on major shows and show their stuff."

Hays County Livestock Show results will be included in an upcoming special section in the Century News.

Wedding Showcase offers couples chance to connect with local vendors

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

Visitors to the Wedding Capital of Texas Showcase on Sunday got a hint of the unique experience ahead of them when they were greeted at the doors by Taxi, a Sicilian miniature donkey, and her handler, Erika.

Taxi is a party donkey, and one of the servers for a company called Canyonwood Minis. She was outfitted with two baskets for carrying items such as party favors or beverages, and some decorative flowers and greenery. She was snacking on pretzels and definitely stealing the show in her wedding finery.

The wedding showcase was sponsored by Destination Dripping Springs, the city's visitor's bureau, and it was hosted by Allegro, a local wedding & events venue. The event took place in the main reception barn.

"We were a little nervous about the weather, but all things considered we've had a great turnout," Riley Waight, Allegro's venue manager, said.

Caleb Cervenka, who grew up in Driftwood, came to the event with his bride-to-be, Bella Valdez.

"We have a wedding that we need to begin planning," Valdez said. "We have nothing set, so we came out here to get some ideas."

Cervenka said they'd been struggling to fit in time to visit different venues, and to keep track of what they had seen.

"I think it's a good thing just to see different vendors all in the same place, and you get it done all in a day," Cervenka said.

The couple currently lives in New Braunfels, and they have been considering the area for their wedding.

"I think Dripping Springs has the most venues compared to other towns in the Hill Country," Cervenka said.

Indeed, Dripping Springs has over 35 wedding venues within a 15-mile radius, from elegant to rustic. The city also has its share of wedding planners, florists, bakers, photographers and caterers. It's estimated that over 1000 weddings a year are held in the area, earning it the official designation from the Texas Legislature as "Wedding Capital of Texas".

Janetha and Patrick



Taxi, a party donkey from Canyonwood Minis, and her handler Erika greeted guests as they arrived.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON



Amanda Grim, with The Peachy Keen Photo Camper, was onsite with her 1975 Scamp trailer, which has been remastered into a photo booth..



Janetha and Patrick Lampkin visit with one of the vendors.

Lampkin were at the event to support their daughter, who is looking for a DJ and a photographer for her upcoming nuptials.

"Our daughter is a chiropractor, and she's here today as a vendor, but she's also getting married in November," Janetha Lampkin said. "So we had an interest in meeting some vendors. Everyone has been extremely nice to us. We're just happy to be among good people."

Showcase attendees also got to sample foods and desserts from several local caterers and bakers. One of those was cookie artist Betsy Herrington, of Baker Betsy.

"I do cookie art for any occasion," Herrington said. "Right now what we're looking at are dress rehearsals, wedding showers, bachelorette parties, welcome baskets, things like that. We've had a good

flow of people come through, and a lot of people have taken our flyers and scanned our QR code and taken samples. It's been really awesome."

Pam King, tourism manager for Destination Dripping Springs, said the showcase came about as a way to help vendors, those who provide services for weddings, connect with people who are getting married.

"We thought this would be a great marriage of those two," King said. "The networking that happens here with the vendors is equally as valuable as the opportunity that our potential brides and grooms have, because they're all learning together. The collaboration among the vendors is really fun to watch."

To learn more about The Wedding Capital of Texas, visit www.destinationdripping-springs.com.

DSISD FROM PG. 1

pass in May," Naylor said. "Everyone knows that the high school is bursting at the seams already."

Naylor said it's important for the community to know that the bond includes not only the money to build the new school, but the money to renovate the current high school, so that it's at par with the new high school.

"Also, we need to let the community know

that the number we came up with does not raise property values," Naylor said. "They will not see a single cent increase."

The bond was not on the agenda for this meeting, but Dr. Stefani Reinold, board president, said they have had several workshops this month.

"We do anticipate calling for a bond, hopefully in the next few weeks," Reinold said.

Next up on the agenda was a presentation from the 5th graders on the Lighthouse Team at Dripping Springs Elementary. These student leaders help foster a culture of learning and inclusivity at their school by preparing and teaching lessons to the younger kids.

After the Lighthouse Team finished and did a brief Q&A with the board, the trustees reported on some of the recent activities they

have participated in.

Rob McClelland talked about the recent visit to Elementary #6, to see how the construction was coming along. He said it's on time and on budget, and is on track to provide some much needed relief from overcrowding at the other elementarys.

Board Secretary Olivia Barnard talked about attending Tax Payer Tuesday, and said she always learns

something new at each meeting.

"It was really good, very informative," Barnard said. "I just wish more of our community would attend."

Next up was a report from Mike Wilson, the new chair of the Bond Advisory Committee. He reviewed progress on the 2023 bond projects.

To close out the meeting, the board looked at naming recommendations for

Elementary #6. After several public surveys and comment opportunities, the naming committee put the top three choices to the board for a vote. After quite a bit of discussion, Barnard made a motion, seconded by McClelland. It passed with a vote of 5-1, with a no vote from Cousins.

And Elementary 6 is now officially named Wildwood Springs Elementary.

PETS OF THE WEEK

Featuring local furry friends eligible for adoption & looking for loving homes!

Emilia
Female
14 years old
Dachshund

I'm a sweet, older Doxie lady looking for a new home. I've always lived with the same people, so this change is a bit tough, but I'm trying my best. I like my space and prefer not to be handled too much. I get along with other dogs by just ignoring them, and I enjoy sitting in laps or curling up in my bed when I feel safe. I recently had a dental procedure, and now I feel much better. I'm good on car rides and walks, though I'm not very cuddly yet. I need a calm, patient home with adults or older teens who understand I'm not the energetic type but will warm up with time. Learn more at LizzysHospice.com.



Tater
Female
3 years old
Boston/Chi

I'm the sweetest and happiest little girl you'll ever meet! I love going for walks and am great with other dogs, though I'd really prefer to be by your side. I ride well in the car and am always so joyful and love looking at cars and people going past. I'm a big lap girl and I love being held and will shower you with kisses. I'm a very smart lady and like to follow you around like a little shadow. All in all, I'm a very loving little potato! Learn more at LizzysHospice.com.



Reno
Male
3 years old
Shepherd Mix

245 days. That is how long Reno has been waiting to find his people. When people walk through our kennels to take a look at the dogs, we often hear that he is one of the ones barking the loudest. But imagine it from his point of view and how frustrating it must be. And for the people that are able to look past his kennel behavior, and meet him outside of the kennel, they see an entirely different dog. Reno is a volunteer favorite who loves life. He is potty trained, loves car rides and loves water. He knows commands and has good leash manners. He does well with dogs who are okay with his play style. No cat friends please as he tends to be too enthusiastic around them. While Reno is a happy and playful dog, he would do best in a home with older children or adults. He can be nippy at times so a calm and understanding environment would help him thrive. Despite these quirks, Reno is a sweet boy who will bring joy and companionship to the right family. Adopt him today by visiting www.pawsshelter.org.



Universal Crossword

12/26

THEMELESS SUNDAY 119 by Adrian Johnson

ACROSS

- 1 "High" or "low" ocean occurrence
5 Windy City paper, with "The"
9 Specialty
14 "The Bard of ____" (nickname of Shakespeare)
15 Service organization with a wheel logo
17 Fix up
18 "I've looked everywhere and still nothing!"
19 Insect studied by a myrmecologist
20 Tennis star Naomi
21 Pirate's cry
22 Long features of an ostrich

- 24 Wee fellow
25 Bad mood
26 Fido's doc
27 Highest grade
29 Super ____ (lobbying grp.)
30 Video game test version
31 "The Lord of the Rings" actor Billy
32 "Witnessed that myself"
34 Creative pursuits
35 Unemotional
37 Gram
38 Texter's "Then again ..."
39 Ballerina's skirt
40 Was in debt
41 Caviar
42 Intrinsically

- 43 Hesitant sounds
44 Singers' needs
45 Chihuahua's cry
46 Knots, or knotted neckwear
48 Unagi, to a sushi chef
49 Swimming birds in a Christmas carol
52 Took a seat
53 Tangy and smoky Filipino condiment
56 Online craft site
57 Former WNBA star for the Los Angeles Sparks
58 "Plant of immortality," to ancient Egyptians
59 Jousting's mount
60 Common condition at

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

I	P	A		S	P	E	C		C	O	R	G	I
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- a VA hospital
61 Yellow Monopoly bills, classically
13 Film critic Roger
16 Boulevards and such
23 Hides away

DOWN

- 1 Mexican dish steamed in a corn husk
2 "That would be a new experience for me"
3 "Stay back"
4 Finish
5 Cypress Hill or De La Soul, e.g.
6 Decays
7 "We aren't to blame ... look in the mirror!"
8 Reviews of interest to many financiers?
9 Connections' publisher: Abbr.
10 "____ bin ein Berliner" (JFK quote)
11 Spotless
12 Time of year for many tropical cyclones
25 Lose traction, in a way
27 Muscles worked by dead bugs
28 Striped insect that builds its nest out of mud
30 Chinese steamed bun
33 Mass of gum
36 Stage prompt
42 So last year
44 Lunch and dinner
47 Eyelid afflictions
50 CBS procedural with a New Orleans spinoff
51 March Madness ranking
54 Romantic boo
55 Like Henry, a Nile crocodile born in 1900
56 Nosh on

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by PETER MARINACCI

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Community Calendar

Master Gardener on the Porch

Jan 30 & Feb 6
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Every Thursday, the Master Gardener crew gathers on the outside porch at the Dripping Springs Community Library. They are there to lend a hand with any gardening questions you have.

Dripping Springs Community Library • 501 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX, 78620

Dripping Springs Farmers Market

Feb 5 & Feb 12
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Dripping Springs Farmer's Market is held on Wednesdays at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Visitors can gather and shop for fresh agricultural and related products. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Dripping Springs Star Party

Jan 31
8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The city of Dripping Springs is hosting a free star party at the lower field of Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Learn about the universe from local astronomy experts and enthusiasts. Throughout the night participants can gaze

at the constellations above, and even view galaxies far far away through telescopes. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

The Barber Shop 14th Anniversary Celebration

Feb 1 • 3 p.m.

The oldest bar in Dripping Springs invites residents to come celebrate their 14th anniversary. Live music from Janky starts at 4, and there will be some special beers available. The Barber Shop • 207 Mercer St • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Ghost Note Brewing 4th Anniversary Party

Feb 1 • 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The community is invited to celebrate Ghost Note Brewing's 4th anniversary with new beer, good eats, shopping and live music. Food will be available from Frida's Cocina, Epic Jerk and Pranom Popup. Visionary Endeavors will be hosting a market from 12-6, and the Wyatt Weaver Band will play from 2-5. Ghost Note Brewing • 23663 Ranch Road 12 • Dripping Springs, TX

Texas Hill Country Barrel Racing Association

Weekly Exhibition

Feb 4
5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: DSRP Main Indoor Arena

The Texas Hill Country Barrel Racing Association holds weekly barrel racing exhibitions on Tuesdays in the main indoor arena at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. It's open to the public to attend. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Chamber Coffee Connector

Feb 5 • 8:15 a.m.

The Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce is hosting its morning business networking coffee for members. Please bring plenty of business cards to share. Non-member guests may attend once before joining. Please email us at info@dstxchamber.com for more information. Acopon Brewing • 211 W Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

DSEF Fundraising Gala

Feb 13 • 6 p.m.

The Dripping Springs Education Foundation will hold its annual fundraising gala at Canyonwood Ridge. The theme is "Heart of a Tiger," and the gala blends fun, philanthropy, and purpose - all to support Dripping Springs

ISD students and teachers. Visit dseducationfoundation.org for sponsorship options. Canyonwood Ridge • 250 S Canyonwood Dr • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Local Government and Education Dripping Springs Community Library

The Dripping Springs Community Library hosts multiple events every week day. Events include Toddler Story Time, Homeschool Chess Club, Legos @ the Library, Mah-Jongg, Master Gardeners on the Porch, Everyday Yoga, Graphic Lit Lounge and many more. For library events, visit dscl.org/event-calendar.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION

City of Dripping Springs Public Meetings

The City of Dripping Springs welcomes residents and others doing business with the city to attend any of the public meetings below. Streaming options and meeting packets at: cityofdrippingssprings.com. Meetings are traditionally held at City Hall Council Chambers. However, a remodel has many meetings at Ranch Park or Dripping Springs ISD Center for Learning & Leadership. See [\[pingsprings.com\]\(http://pingsprings.com\) for more information. 78620.](http://cityofdrip-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Feb 4 • 6 p.m.
City Council & Board of Adjustment Regular Meeting

Feb 4 • 6 p.m.
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

Feb 10 • 4 p.m.
TIRZ No. 1 & No. 2 Board Regular Meeting

Feb 10 • 6:30 p.m.
Founder's Day Commission Meeting

Feb 12 • 11 a.m.
DSRP Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting
Feb. 11 • 9 a.m.
This is a regular meeting of the Hays County Commissioners Court, the governing

body of the county. This group of elected officials and staff oversees the functions and budget for all county-related business. Hays County Historic Courthouse • 111 E. San Antonio St. • San Marcos, Texas. Streaming option available at hayscountytx.com

DRIPPING SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dripping Springs Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting
Feb 18 • 6 p.m.

Live meeting of the DSISD Board of Trustees which sets policy, agenda and strategic planning for the Dripping Springs school district. Agendas and live streaming option available at dsistx.com. Live meeting at the Center for Learning & Leadership • 300 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

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SPORTS

Tigers in a slide with four losses

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Four losses in the last five games has eliminated the Tigers from title contention and put their playoff hopes in a tenuous position with four games remaining. An overtime loss to Westlake seemed to be the key to this slide. In the two losses I've seen, there has been a woe-ful shooting slump. When you live by the three, sometimes you die by the three. Late-ly, scoring has mostly been contributed by two players, and that is usually not enough in this district. Here is the standings to date. Westlake 8-0, Lake Travis 5-3, DS 4-4, Bowie 4-4, Del Valle 3-4, Akins 1-5, Austin 1-6.

It is always a hard-played game when the Tigers take on the Cavaliers of Lake Travis. The Tigers came out firing threes with none finding the range in the first half. Rush-ton Budge got the only basket in the opening period with 3.20 remaining as LT led 11-2. Judson Loe would produce the only points in period two as the half ended 20-6. As many games as I have seen them play, LT has always dominated the Tigers on the boards and loose balls. That only allows a team one



At the game against the Austin High School on Jan. 17, senior Judson Loe (2) blows past a defender on his way to the basket.

PHOTOS BY MIA PLEASANT, DRIPPING SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

shot down the court.

The second half found the Tigers putting it in the basket at a better pace but they could not close the gap. After three it was 31-21. Budge and Loe got hot but the Cavaliers were very stubborn and would not give up their lead. The Tigers battled it to 41-36 with under two minutes but could not get it closer as the final was 43-38. Loe scored 20, while Budge had 16 and Stone Patterson pitched in two.

It was much the same with the Bowie Bulldogs. The Tigers got off to a slow start and trailed the game



Senior Brady Coleman (23) gets ready to pass to a teammate.

the first three quarters before drawing even at 31 after three. The Bulldogs put on the after-burner in the fourth and pulled away

53-43. Contributing points for the Tigers were Loe 16, Budge 13, Patterson 12, Liam Lawson 1, Brayden Spencer 1.

District Play Gets Underway for DSHS Soccer Teams

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

These school seasons always seem to sail by. The soccer teams just got started in January and they are into district play.

Boys Soccer: The Tigers have carved out a 3-3-1 record to date. They recently played in a tourney and had the first game cancelled due to the very inclement weather. Their first match was with a very good Strake Jesuit team. DS fell 4-1 with Rex Trent getting the lone goal. The other game was with another strong team in SA Churchill. The Tigers held on for a 4-3 win. Aidan Burgess opened the scoring with an assist by Jonathan Juarez. Parker Johnson pulled off the hat trick (scoring three goals in a game) to take over the game. Trey Gonzuck and Dylan Zahn earned assists.

In single games the Tigers shut down SA Johnson 1-0 behind Zahn's goal and Johnson's assist. Next came Hays Johnson and the Tigers dominated them 3-1. The Johnson/Juarez team got the first goal, followed by Grant Funk/Zahn and Johnson/Zahn.

Girls Soccer: The Lady Tigers have a 4-2-3 record. They participated in a very tough Hill Country Varsity Showcase. Houston

Episcopal blanked the Lady Tigers 2-0. They were able to test the Lady Tigers with uncomfortable and challenging situations. Next was Rockwall. DS took them 1-0. They were able to take 14 shots with 7 on goal with no scores. Finally in the final five minutes, Adley Accetta was able to hit a 90 foot goal for the win. The final game was a 0-0 tie with SA Reagan. They all had tired legs from the tough matches and even though they played good soccer, they could not make the push to score, including a missed penalty kick.

In the first district game with Akins, the Lady Tigers bombed them 4-0. Goals: Lily Ruff scored the only goal in the first half. Shea Sisson scored on a penalty kick. Ruff got the third and Sisson finished it off with an assist by Accetta.

JVA: 9-0 over Akins. Goals: Layla Trevino 3, Brooke Greenville, Peyton Ramirez, Rylan Dennison, Malaika Stevenson, Kyla Allen. Assts: Chloe Sprockett, Tessa Shirley, Lucy Labelle, Kennedy Schwalbe.

JVB: Won the Salado tournament outscoring opponents 5-0. McKenna Nauert scored the lone score over Salado with an assist by Kinley Clark. Maddi Sulser scored all four goals in the other two games.



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