84th Year, No. 1 • 7820 Wyatt Drive, White Settlement, Texas 76108 • www.suburban-newspapers.com • January 4, 2024

From the Sports Desk with John English

Boys and Girls Basketball Teams Ready for District Play After Holiday Break

The Brewer boys' basketball team had a strong showing at the Mitchell adding some points as well," Porostovsky said. Kaufman Tournament over the holiday break and was ranked No. 12 in the state among 5A boys' programs according to the most recent Max Preps poll on Dec. 28.

Coach Jason Porostovsky said that he was pleased with his team's effort at the tournament and happy for the opportunity to continue to remain in rhythm.

"We went 3-1 at the Kauffman tourney," Porostovsky said. "After-Christmas tourneys are always good to shake off the rust from the five days off for Christmas."

The Bears had a couple of standout performances in the competition as well.

Julian Perez led us in scoring throughout the tourney with Tyren

From the City of White Settlement

Christmas Tree Drop Off Station

The City of White Settlement has got you covered with a convenient free holiday tree drop station at the same location as the Community Cleanup, on the corner of E. Melrose and Meadow Park Dr. Now through Jan. 14, you can simply drop off your Christmas tree the corner of Melrose and Meadow Park. It'll be mulched for free as part of the landscape mulch program.

Please note, there won't be any curbside pickup this year. So, make sure to give your tree a new life by contributing to our mulch program.

With the tournament season finally at an end, and the Bears sitting at 18-4 overall with a 1-0 mark in district competition, Porostovsky said his team is well-conditioned for the task that lies ahead of it.

"We resume district play now and from here on out these games amp up in importance," Porostovsky said. "We have been battletested in our non-district play so we feel ready to go."

On the girl's side, Brewer competed in the Sandra Meadows Classic this past week, and coach Teranie Lewis said the showing was a bit of a mixed bag for the Lady Bears.

"The team did well in the first game, but we did not do as well as I would like in the second and third games," Lewis said. "I do believe that we learned a lot from all three games. The team finished 1-2 in the tournament. It was a great opportunity for us to build as a team."

The Lady Bears were ranked 6th in the state among 5A girl's programs according to the most recent Max Preps poll on Dec. 28.

Brewer, who sat at 18-3 with a 3-0 mark headed into Tuesday night's game with Saginaw, will play at 7:30 tomorrow evening at Aledo.

Lewis said she thinks the Lady Bearcats to give her team everything they have.

"I expect Aledo to play hard and get after it like they always have," Lewis said. "We have to come in doing the little things and play our game."

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Billie Hammack

Billie Hammack, 64, of Nacogdoches, Texas, passed away December 15, 2023, in Nacogdoches.

Billie was born in Seymore, Texas to Billy Gene and Marie Antionett (Anderson) Horn on March 21, 1959.

She graduated from Joshua High in Joshua, Texas. She met her husband, Jeffrey Hammack in Fort Worth, Texas and on July 7, 2001, they got married and have had 22 wonderful years together. Billie lived life to the fullest. Riding bulls in the rodeo, bowling, plants, beading, art, and playing games were her favorite hobbies.

She is preceded in death by: her parents, Billy and Marie; brother, David Horn; and sister, Lois Hulsey.

Billie is survived by: her husband, Jeffrey; her daughters, Jennifer Naslund and husband, Carl, Lauren Weber, and Brianna Lehr; her son, David Wells, and wife Kezia; sister, Venita Horn; grandchildren, Bjorn "Teddy Bear" Naslund, Elliot Hammack, Jaedyn Fortner, Trent Fortner, Calista McKerral, Lilly Wells, and one on the way; great-grandchildren, Violet Hammack and Wesson McKerral, niece, Wendy Thomas, nephew, Les Hulsey and great-nephew, Ricky Cody Pope.

From the City of White Settlement

Cooking Grease Drop Off Station

The Holiday Grease Roundup is still going on. Now through Jan. 12, residents are encouraged to bring used cooking grease to the convenient 8212 Albert Street drop off location.

As a reminder, hot grease is easy to pour down the drain, but it can cause some serious issues once it cools down. Unfortunately, it can solidify and create stubborn clogs that are a pain to eliminate. We know it's easy to overlook this problem, but trust us, it's better to take care of it before it causes blockages and other plumbing headaches.











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Publisher: Boyden Underwood, publisher@suburban-newspapers.com Editor: Emily Moxley, suburbannews@sbcglobal.net

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Public Input Opportunity Open to Residents

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is closing the year with an online public input opportunity. North Texans can provide feedback on the end of 2023 ozone season, the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Fleet Recognition Awards and Annual Survey results, and the National Drive Electric Week recap. Information will be posted online at www.publicinput.com/nctcogDec23 for public review and comment through Jan. 9.

Ozone season concluded Nov. 30 for the 10-county Dallas-Fort Worth nonattainment area. As the region continues to work toward compliance of the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards, staff has been tracking the exceedance days at various monitors and will provide a summary of the 2023 ozone season data. Staff will also provide comparative data from previous ozone seasons and a snapshot for the 2024 ozone season.

Each year, DFW Clean Cities surveys local fleets about alternative fuel use and other fuel saving activities. Staff will present the 2022 Annual Survey results and details of the 2023 Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Fleet Recognition Awards.

National Drive Electric Week is a celebration used to educate people about the benefits of owning an electric vehicle. The

The North Central Texas Council of Governments is closing the clean Cities Coalition has hosted a regional NDEW event annually since 2011. Staff will provide a summary of the 2023 event, held in October in Fort Worth.

Information and resources about Map Your Experience, the Regional Smoking Vehicle Program (RSVP), vehicle incentive and funding opportunities and Try Parking It will also be made available.

For special accommodation due to a disability, language interpretation or to request printed copies of the information, contact Jackie Castillo at 817-695-9255 or jeastillo@nctcog.org.

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Annual Pancakes With Santa At VFW Post 5617

The annual Pancakes with Santa event, held on Dec. 23 at VFW Post 5617, was enjoyed by several individuals and families. Pancakes and scrambled eggs were gobbled, Santa presented gifts to children, and participants enjoyed the merriment and joy of the season.



Patrons await their menu (right front to back) Tim Hotchkin, Quartermaster; Dean Borries, Sr. Vice Commander and Mike Dorow, Judge Advocate.



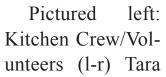


Visiting Santa (aka Chubbs McCrory) Maya and Mauro Villarreal.



After eating photo op (l-r) Damien S., Alexa S., Lee Holley, Kathy Holley, Rhonda Landers, Anthony S. and Vivian S.

Pictured right: Randal Deese, Chaplain, with (front to back) Juanita Snell, Sharon Chandler and Darlene McCormack.





Boswell, Doreen Sloan, Todd Barton, Jamie Alvin, Matthew Doherty and James Hall

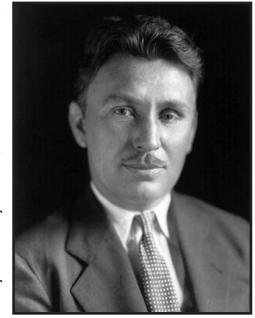


Participating at the event (l-r) Kelilah Michaels, Carter Bailey, Addilynn Bailey, Dakota Bailey and Taytum Bailey.

American Aviator - Wiley Hardeman Post

For the adventurers and dreamers of the world, there are no limits. Wiley Hardeman Post was born on his parents' cotton farm near Canton in November 1898. He was born on a farm with no electricity in a time when airplanes were still just a dream, but within a few years, he would become one of the most famous pilots in the world.

Like many farm families of the time, the Post family often



struggled and moved often. When he was three, the family left Van Zandt County and moved to a farm near Abilene. In 1907, the family moved to Oklahoma.

Post's education was limited, and Post was never a very good student. He never attended high school, which was not unusual for the time period. He saw his first airplane when he and his family attended a county fair in Lawton, Oklahoma, in 1913. He immediately fell in love with aviation. Post soon enrolled at the Sweeney Automobile and Aviation School in Kansas City, Missouri, where he learned to fly. After a few months of study, he returned to Oklahoma, but he was unable to make a living as a pilot, and his dream of aviation had to wait. He worked various jobs in construction and in the oil fields for the next few years.

In 1918, during World War I, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps and trained as a pilot and radio technician. However, the war ended before he saw active service and was discharged.

Post returned to the oilfields, and in 1924, joined an air show called Burrell Tibbs and His Topnotch Texas Flyers. He thrilled audiences as a parachutist, at a time when jumping from an airplane was still very new, and as a pilot. The pay, however, was unsteady, and he had to return to working the oil fields. In 1926, an oil rig accident in Oklahoma injured his left eye, and he later lost all vision in that eye after an infection set in. He won a worker's compensation award of \$1,700 (or about \$25,800 in 2021 dollars) and bought his first airplane. He made a steady living flying a passenger at a time from one location to the next. It was during this time that he met Will Rogers, a popular comedian, movie star, and performer. In 1930, Post became the personal pilot to two prominent Oklahoma oilmen and bought his next plane, a Lockheed Vega he named Winnie Mae after his daughter.

He gained national fame when he won the National Air Race Derby in this plane in August 1930. He flew from Los Angeles to Chicago in a record nine hours and eight minutes. The next year, he took on his next big challenge: to become the first to fly around the world in a fixed-wing aircraft. Joined by his navigator, Harold Gatty of Australia, he left Long Island, New York, in the Winnie Mae in July 1931, and with stops along the way, they flew more than 15,400 miles in eight days, 15 hours. Afterward, they were given a ticker-tape parade in New York City and published a book on the flight called Around the World in Eight Days. In 1932, he was honored by Congress with the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross for his exploits.

He took it a step further in July 1933 to embark on a solo flight around the world. He modified his plane with experimental autopilot and radio directional finders and flew east from New York City. His trip was even faster this time. With stops, he completed his trip in seven days, 18 hours.

Post was inspired to fly higher and further than ever. Working with engineer Russell S. Colley, he developed one of the first pressure suits for high-altitude flights. Using what he jokingly called his "Man From Mars" suit, he reached an altitude of 40,000 feet in this pressure suit in September 1934. In another flight shortly afterward, he reached an altitude of 50,000 feet, well into the stratosphere. He noticed on these high-altitude flights eastward that his ground speed was often faster than his air speed. In doing so, he was the first pilot to confirm the proposed existence of what was later called the jet stream, which is still an important part of timing air flights and predicting the weather.

By 1935, he was trying to develop passenger and air mail routes from the Pacific Coast to Russia. At the time, he was building his own aircraft from parts scavenged from other aircraft. His friend Will Rogers asked to fly with him when they left in August 1935. Rogers wrote about the trip for his newspaper column, and the two celebrities created a stir with each stop in Washington and Alaska. On August 15, they left Fairbanks for Point Barrow on the Arctic Ocean. Along the way, they became lost in the vast and unmarked territory. They landed near a lagoon to ask for directions. The plane crashed shortly after its next takeoff, and both men were killed. The cause of the crash was never fully established.

After his death, several airports were named after him. Wiley Post Airport is a municipal airport in Oklahoma City. Barrow, Alaska (now Utqiagvik), and Renton, Washington, both have airports named in honor of both Post and Will Rogers. In 1936, the Smithsonian bought his airplane Winnie Mae, which is now on display at the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC. His insights into the jet stream and pressure suits are still an important part of aviation today.

Why You Shouldn't Brush Off the Dentist This Year



screenings, vaccinations and other pre- checkup sooner rather than later. ventive care, don't forget about another critical part of overall health that gets connections to overall health, including neglected all too often: dental care.

brary of Medicine revealed that nearly half of American adults postponed their strokes and sudden vascular events, acscheduled dental visits during the pandemic. Even prior to the public health emergency, at least one-third of U.S. dental plan for available benefits. Don't adults didn't see their dentist annually.

appointment with your dentist," says Dr. many affordable options. If you have a Healthcare. "Brushing off dental care can may cover care such as exams and cleanhave serious implications for your health ings, and other necessary treatments like ommended teeth cleanings can lead to tions and orthodontics (braces). gingivitis, gum disease and cavities. This can also escalate into bigger problems, ployed and are in need of a dental plan, like the need for root canals or crowns, online tools can help you comparison or even tooth loss."

treatments can amount to thousands of contact insurers directly to learn more dollars in out-of-pocket expenses, com- about their options for individuals. pared to little or no out-of-pocket expense for preventive care, such as exams tist – which millions of Americans are – and cleanings. A recent study found that there are plenty of ways to address that, high out-of-pocket costs are the top rea- too. Many dentists accommodate fearful son people delay dental care – a good reapatients, offering headphones, sunglasses

When scheduling annual physicals, son to see the dentist for an annual

Studies also show that oral health has an impact on cardiovascular health. Re-A recent study from the National Li-search links gum disease to inflammation that can come before heart attacks, cording to Penn Medicine.

With all this in mind, review your have dental insurance? Dental plans can "Now is a great time to schedule an be purchased year-round and there are Cary Sun, chief dental officer, Cigna comprehensive plan through your job, it and wellness. Even forgoing rec- crowns, root canals, gum therapy, extrac-

If you are between jobs or self-emshop, and brokers can help you purchase Even with dental insurance, extensive an individual dental plan. You can also

Finally, if you are afraid to see a den-

and other items to soothe anxieties. There are also new approaches, such as teledentistry, that allow you to see a dentist at home through imaging and communication technologies. This doesn't replace in-person care, but can help allay dental fears.

"It's a perfect time to take control of your oral health. Innovations in dental care make it easier than ever to gain peace of mind from a checkup, or to catch the little problems before they become major, painful and expensive ones," says Dr. Sun.

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Weekend Forecast



Friday, Jan. 5:

AM - A 30% chance of showers before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 55. SE wind around 10 mph.

PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. E wind 5 to 10 mph becoming W/NW in the evening.



Saturday, Jan. 6:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 54. NW wind around 10 mph. **PM** - Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. N/NW wind 5 to 10 mph becoming W after midnight.



Sunday, Jan. 7:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 58. W wind 5 to 15 mph becoming south in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 44.

Extended Forecast Click Here