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from all of us at 380News

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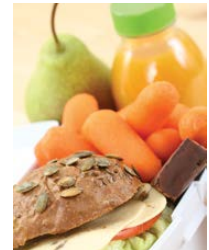
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## Homecoming Spirit and Pride of the Aubrey High School Chaparrals

Amy Ruggini



AUBREY, TX- Fourteen students were selected by the student body to represent the spirit and pride of the Aubrey High School Chaparrals. These 14 students exemplify the character and grit of the

student body. The 2020 homecoming court includes scholars, writers, athletes, actors, artists, FFA members and musicians.

The AHS homecoming court was recognized at half-

time of the football game on Friday, Sept.18.

John Bryan was named the cheerleader beau, and Amber Ivy was voted the football sweetheart.

The 2020 Aubrey High School Homecoming king and queen were Justin Gibby and Sydney Briley.

### Freshman Princess and Prince:

Laney Lomas is a manager on the AHS volleyball team. She also plays soccer, basketball and ran cross country. She is also active with Beta Club, National Honor Society and FFA. She would like to attend the University

Continued on A5

## Prosper Dedicates New Police Headquarters Building



PROSPER, TX- After years of occupying temporary or insufficiently small spaces, the Prosper Police Department has a new, permanent home.

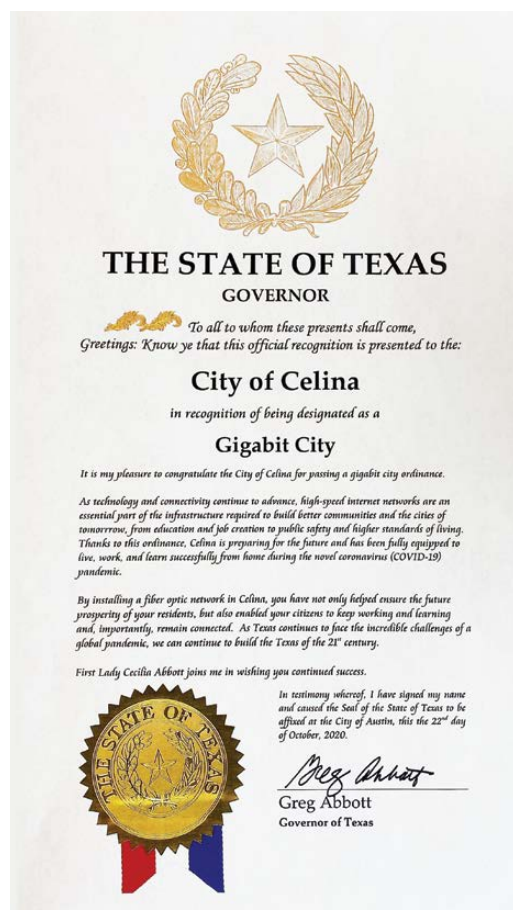
A ceremonial blue ribbon was cut by Prosper Mayor Ray Smith, Police Chief Doug Kowalski and Town Manager Harlan Jefferson on Oct. 6, officially opening the initial section of what will eventually become the Town of Prosper Public Safety Complex.

The Police Headquarters Building, 801 Safety Way, includes administrative offices, a command center, conference rooms, an exercise facility, showers, locker rooms, temporary detention space, ample parking spaces for department vehicles, and various utility spaces. The facility also houses the Communications Center, where dispatchers receive 9-1-1 calls and relay emergency messages to the Police and Fire Departments.

Continued on A2

## Celina an Official Gigabit City

Donna Lynch



designation from the Office of Governor Greg Abbott. Learn more on the Celina EDC website: <https://celinaedc.com/gigabit/>. The designation of Gigabit city, means that our residents enjoy a pure fiber network with unlimited bandwidth and speeds of 1,000 megabits per second.

"This goal could not have been met without the four-year perseverance of leadership by the Board of the Celina Economic Development Corporation, the Mayor and City Council maintaining the project focus despite the adversities of the process, and our partnership with AT&T, Suddenlink, and GCEC. Special recognition should go to Scott Cromwell, Director of the Gigabit Project whose diligence made the goal a reality." – Corbett Howard, Director of Government Affairs, City of Celina

Continued on A4

CELINA, TX- The City of Celina and the Celina Economic Development Corporation (EDC) are proud to announce we have received our official "Gigabit City"

## NTTA Snowplow Drivers Train for Winter



PLANO, TX- North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) snowplow operators sharpened their skills on a hot, sunny day at "Snow School." Drivers have been training by plowing mulch (a warm weather stand-in for snow) to prepare for actual snow and ice removal when cold weather comes. This important training allows NTTA operators to per-

fect their skills in a safe environment prior to the pressure and safety challenges of frozen precipitation.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, Snow School classes are smaller and masks are required for two-crew trucks.

NTTA reminds the driving public that snowplow and sand

Continued on A4

## Court Approves Contractor for Dallas North Tollway Project

DENTON COUNTY, TX- Denton County Commissioners Court recently approved a resolution to confirm the selection of Mario Sinacola & Sons as the low bid contractor for the construction of the Dallas North Tollway frontage Road.

The North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) has completed design plans and acquired the necessary right-of-way for the project from FM 428 to the Denton/Grayson county line to begin.

The 7.7-mile segment will extend the Dallas North Tollway north to the Denton/Grayson county line with the construction of the southbound non-

tolled frontage roads. The frontage roads will be free to the public.

This segment of the Dallas North Tollway will follow the Denton/Collin county line, bringing the potential for extensive economic development in Denton County.

Much like \$5 billion mile in Frisco, the extension could generate significant economic development and job opportunities in Precinct 1.

Construction will begin this fall with completion anticipated in a two-year timeframe. Cost for this portion

Continued on A2

## Denton ISD Trustees Review Plans for Elementary School #25

DENTON ISD, TX- Denton ISD Board of School Trustees recently reviewed schematic designs for Elementary School #25 that will open in the Fall Of 2022. The new campus, situated on property donated by the neighborhood's developer, will be located in Sandbrock Ranch, a new master-planned community located in Aubrey

and serve students in the Braswell High zone.

Sandbrock Ranch is located in the far northeast corner of the district, just west of FM 1385. The elementary school will be positioned at the southern end of the community development and will accommodate the growth in that part of the district.

During a recent report

to the Board of Trustees, Templeton Demographics recently ranked Denton ISD first in annual home closings amongst all Dallas-Fort Worth area school districts, making the district the fastest growing district in the area.

The new 87,800 square foot elementary school campus is being designed by Pfluger

Continued on A5



Grateful hearts of praise.

All the residents and staff at Good Samaritan Society – Denton Village wish you a joyous and blessed Thanksgiving.



All faiths or beliefs are welcome.



# METRO

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**Advertising and Editorial Submission Deadlines**

The publication deadline for advertising, editorial submissions, guest editorials, and letters to the editor is the 15th day of the preceding month for each issue. Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less and include a name, address, and phone number (only name and city will be published). Content may be submitted via email to info@380news.com.

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## Celina Earns Platinum

Texas Scenic City Certification Program, Donna Lynch



**CELINA, TX-** On October 2nd, 2020, the Texas Scenic City Certification Program awarded the City of Celina, TX, with their highest Platinum Certification award. Raha Pouladi, the Senior Planner for Celina, stated, "Platinum certification means that Celina is among the State's elite for design standards and visual aesthetics that apply to new development."

The Scenic City Certification Program is a nationally recognized one-of-a-kind model, developed to provide communities with a comprehensive set of standards and evaluations for the design and development of public roadways and spaces. Any Texas city may apply to the Scenic City Certification Program for an objective review of its existing municipal infrastructure ordinances as they relate to the model standards. Assessment is points-based, and every city applicant receives a detailed, scored evaluation that identifies both strengths and areas for improvement. Official certification is earned by cities that score points in the upper range and meet threshold standards for landscaping, tree planting, and sign regulation. Program Managers from the Texas Scenic City noted, "Celina scored 308 out of a possible 338 total points, earning Celina the Platinum Award. Only 17 cities have held the top award from 2010 – 2019 and, making that distinction rarely happens on the first attempt but rather through ranking up throughout the five-year certification period." Dusty McAfee, Director of Development Services, Celina, TX, stated, "To our knowledge, Celina is the first city to earn Platinum certification on its initial application, and less than 20 Texas cities overall have earned the Platinum distinction."

"Several neighboring cities took years to earn the highest certification level, and some are still attempting to climb the rankings." – Madhuri Mohan, Planning Manager, City of Celina

Certification in the program is good for five years, at which time Celina will have to reapply for a new evaluation to retain certification status. City Manager Jason Laumer stated, "I am very proud that the city has earned this prestigious award. Two of our 2018 Strategic Plan goals were to "Plan" and "Beautify & Brand" the city. It's been a multi-year effort to update long-range planning documents, modernize ordinances, revise agreements, and amend internal policies to place us in the best possible position to manage our growth."

## Trees Take Center Stage in Prosper During November

Annual Tree Tour and Arbor Day lure residents outdoors

**PROSPER, TX-** While there is universal agreement on the critical role trees play in the environmental health of both the planet and its inhabitants, trees in urban and suburban areas are especially important because of their role in improving air quality, enhancing aesthetics, increasing property values, and providing wildlife habitats.

In recognition of their significant value to the local environment, the Prosper Parks and Recreation Department is hosting a pair of celebrations honoring trees in November.

The annual Prosper Tree Tour is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 3 and the Prosper Arbor Day Celebration is set for Saturday, Nov. 7. The events will provide opportunities for families to enjoy the outdoors while learning more about the sometimes overlooked role trees play in the life of the community.

Participants in the Prosper Tree Tour will enjoy a leisurely evening stroll through Whitley Place Park, 4001 Glacier Point Circle. Town staff will serve as guides, pointing out the rich variety of tree species and their specific traits. Attendees should arrive before 5:30 p.m. and remain in the parking lot area where the walking tour will initiate. Families and members of the same household should remain together, allowing proper spacing between groupings.

The Prosper Arbor Day Celebration begins at 9 a.m. at Frontier Park, 1551 Frontier Parkway. This activity traditionally includes tree planting, and this year is no exception. Not only will attendees assist in this fun activity, but staff will provide instruction and guidance on proper tree planting techniques. Mayor Ray Smith will open the event by reading a proclamation to commemorate the day. Participants should gather in the vicinity of the batting cages at the southwest corner of the park.

"Prosper residents, staff

and officials support initiatives for the care and management of trees which lead to improvements in the urban environment," says Dudley Raymond, Director of Parks and Recreation. "We look forward to seeing you at both of these informal community gatherings to join us in celebrating the Town's dedication to urban forestry."

Responses to questions

about either or both events can be obtained by calling the Prosper Parks and Recreation Department at 972-569-1160. The latest news and information on Town programs is available at the Prosper Parks and Recreation Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/ProsperParksandRec/> or at [www.ProsperParksandRec.org](http://www.ProsperParksandRec.org). In the event of inclement weather for either event, notices will be posted.

*'Prosper Dedicates...' continued from front page*

Generally located in the geographic center of the Town, the facility sits on several acres of Town-owned property. Plans call for an additional facility to be built on the premises, designed to accommodate the Fire Department's command staff.

Safety Way, a two-lane concrete street, was constructed to accommodate the structure, and connects to the Dallas North Tollway on the west and Cook Lane on the east, providing quick and easy access to all portions of Prosper. Prior to occupying the new

facility, the Police Department had taken over the structure at 101 S. Main St. which previously had served as Town Hall. Before then, the department shared a small section of the Town's first Town Hall, a section of a commercial strip in the downtown area.

Members of the Town Council, officials with the architectural firm, and the construction contractor, members of the Prosper Police Department, along with representative from other partner organizations symbolically participated in the ribbon-cutting.

*'Court Approves...' continued from front page*

of the extension is estimated at almost \$19 million.

In addition, Regional Toll Revenue Funds will help pay for the Collin County portion of the project.

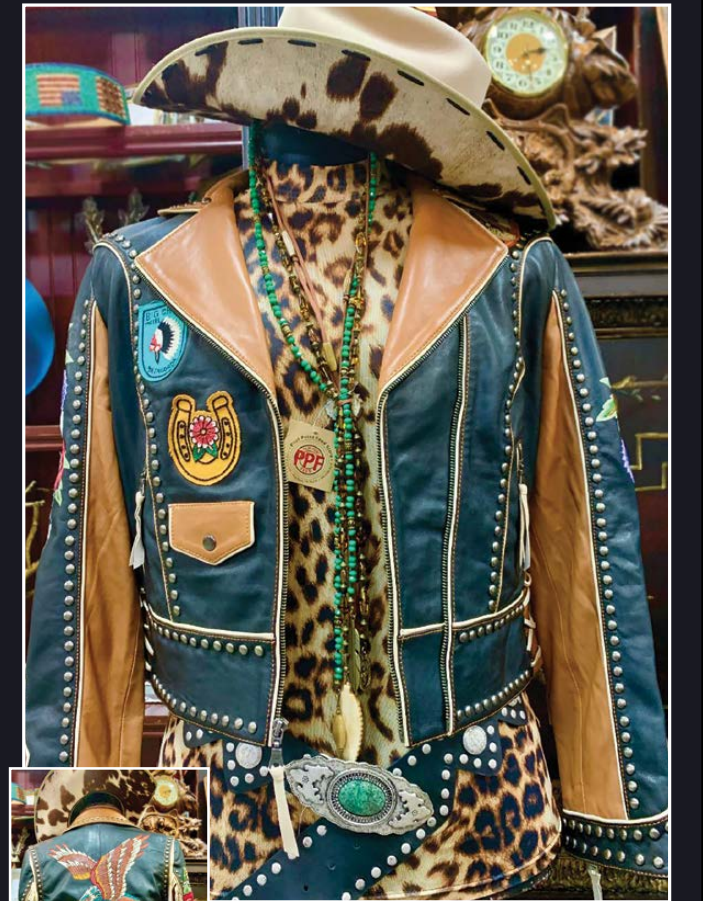
Residents will initially be able to travel on two lanes, one in each direction. Ultimately,

NTTA will construct an additional northbound frontage road and tolled main lanes.

The project, which has been in the works for almost 12 years, will serve as a major thoroughfare in the fast-growing region as Denton County nears the 1 million in population within the next few years.

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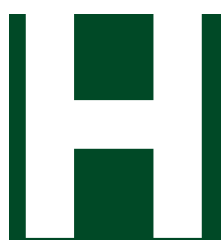
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# HOME & GARDEN

## King Ranch Bluestem, Invasive Grass, Abundant in Denton County

Zach Davis



DENTON COUNTY, TX King Ranch bluestem, *Bothriochloa ischaemum* (L.) Keng was introduced from China into California, and then onto the King Ranch around 1924. Potential benefits at that time were grazing tolerance, rapid growth, and forage quality. The plant is a bunchgrass that grows 18-48 inches tall. The stem turns a yellowish straw color when mature. Each stem produces a loose terminal seed head that is maroon or purple. The warm-season grass flowers in early summer and is winter hardy.

When introduced on the King Ranch, the grass quickly moved out of the ranch and has since invaded most areas of Texas and Oklahoma. In addition to being used for livestock grazing on the ranch, the grass was used for erosion control, which helped it spread. An aggressive grower, it out-competes many more desirable kinds of grass and has since been considered invasive, as it threatens the abundance and diversity of native grass species.

Coming into the office this week, I noticed the grass all along FM 455. In mid-October in Denton County, you can see the grass about three feet tall

with purple seed heads. The thin stems are very poor forage for livestock, even though it looks tall and abundant. Other concerns related to the grasses' effect on the rangeland include diminished bird diversity, reduced insect diversity, and rodent populations.

Tilling, herbicide use, prescribed fire, and intensive grazing are all management options, but eradication can be tough. If you do decide to manage the grass, it is best to have a multifaceted treatment plan that includes herbicides, disking, and the introduction of a new grass species.

One study found the following results to control methods:

- "Introduced bluestems can be killed by plowing, applying glyphosate, and replanting with native seed. But without follow-up management practices, the nearby introduced bluestem plants repopulated within 1½ years. (Lesal, 2016)"

- "All treatment combinations temporarily reduced the amount of introduced bluestems, but they typically increased in coverage steadily over the course of a year until it met or substantially surpassed the density before treatment or

until dry conditions decreased total plant material. (Lesal, 2016)"

Summary

Trying to control the grass can be a hard-fought battle, but careful and continual management practices will help. Prevention might be key for growers to keep the grass out. Keeping an eye on your pastures grasses is key if you have a small area of growth. Additional prevention measures include spot spraying areas with glyphosate, washing haying or tractor equipment, and maintaining buffers along fence lines.

Many bluestems, including KR bluestem, love soil disturbance. Plowing or disking might temporarily take out the grass, but within a year or two, you will have regrowth if no other management practices are used. If you try to control KR bluestem, plan for a multi-year approach.

Sources: *Introduced bluestem grasses: management on native lands*, by M. K. Clayton, J. L. Foster, K. C. McCuiston, T. W. Teinert, and M. M. Lesak. *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Publication, ERM-036.*

*Management of Invasive Old World Bluestems to Restore Native Grasslands*, by M. M. Lesak. Texas A&M University-Kingsville thesis. 2016.

## Let's Give 'em Pumpkin to Talk About!

Janet Laminack



One of the cruel aspects of gardening is that things don't grow when you think they should. For example, pumpkins are for the fall! Let's plant pumpkins in the fall or late summer for harvest now! Nope, pumpkins are cold sensitive, they don't even like cool-ish soil. They are so sensitive that anything below 50 degrees could result in chill injury.

Pumpkins are proud members of the Cucurbit family. They want day temperatures in the 85-95 degrees Fahrenheit range (who doesn't?) and night temperatures between 60-70 degrees Fahrenheit. It complicates things that we refer to some cucurbits as "winter" squash and others as "summer." If it doesn't grow in winter, what does it mean? Winter squash have a hard exterior when they mature, plus the fruits won't get damaged by a frost. However, the plant itself will take a hit. Summer squash have a tender rind (unless you let them get out of control). Pumpkin is considered a winter squash.

It takes a pumpkin about 75 to 120 days to mature. That could be up to four months! Patience is needed for growing this crop. If you are just starting out growing pumpkins, I'd recommend going with a smaller one. The smaller pumpkins, like smaller tomatoes, develop quicker so there is less time for everything to go wrong. Plus, they are so cute!

Some other cucurbits are squash, cucumber, watermelon, gourds and cantaloupe. This family boasts the most species used as human food. It makes sense when you consider how many different kinds of squash that we see this time of year. Botanically, pumpkins and squash are fruit, meaning the reproductive part of the plant that contains the seeds. Horticulturally, we categorize fruits and vegetables by how and when we eat them: main course or dessert. Seriously... this is what I learned in college. Tomatoes are botanically a fruit but horticulturally we consider them a vegetable. In fact, there is a Supreme Court case ruling that tomatoes are a vegetable. That sounds like a silly court case but when it occurred, fruits were taxed and vegetables were not.

Most cucurbits need a lot of space due to their sprawling, vining nature. Using trellis or other structures can save space by making the plant grow vertical, but that doesn't work for the larger fruits like pumpkins or watermelons. That is another reason to grow the smaller or miniature pumpkins.

Another trait of cucurbits is that they prefer to be direct-seeded. They can be transplanted into a garden, but they are one of the few crops that even I will direct seed. Sometimes I have even been known to indirectly seed. That occurs when I toss my old gourds and pumpkins into the yard to decompose. Of course,

now I could put those in the yard waste container (for City of Denton residents) to be recycled (as long as they aren't painted).

Squash and pumpkins will not always be "true to type" which means that the seeds of the fruit may not create the same fruit. Don't get all excited, it will still be a squash of some sort. But, it may not taste good or have the same shape or color as the fruit it came from. This is because of cross-pollination. When growing cucurbits, sometimes diseases or other factors can create discoloration which leads people to believe that their plant has cross-pollinated and hybridized. Here's my best explanation on hybridization. You have a pumpkin plant that produces fruit. The fruit is the pregnant mother who doesn't change species. She will look the same every time she's pregnant (all the fruit will look the same). However, the genetics of that offspring (which would be the seeds) could be different. You then plant those seeds and who knows what you will get if they have hybridized.

Therefore, my suggestion is to eat those pumpkin seeds you clean out of your jack-o'-lantern rather than try to plant them. Pumpkin seeds are delicious when roasted and are a great source of potassium and protein.

Have a horticulture question? You can email, call, or now text our Master Gardener Help Desk at [master.gardener@denton-county.com](mailto:master.gardener@denton-county.com) or 940-349-2892.

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# HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

## Stuff the Turkey, Not the Tummy

Jessica Small, BLT Agent



Photo By Craig Adderley

**DENTON COUNTY, TX-** With the holidays approaching rather quickly, it is important to be mindful of our eating habits. During the holiday season there is typically more food readily available and accessible, especially sweet treats and desserts for everyone. This makes it quite easy for us to eat more than we should. However, eating more could add unnecessary pounds and fatigue. We must have self-discipline during the next few months and watch our food intake. Here are a few tips I'd like to share as a reminder to not overdo it when it comes to holiday eating.

One rule of thumb to remember when fixing your plate at Thanksgiving is to only eat 75% of your food. It isn't always good to clean your plate. Leave 25% on your plate as a snack for later or even the next day. You want to be full but not too full where you can barely move or get up. This will

cause extreme fatigue and lack of energy. Try to make a good estimate of the portions you put on your plate. One suggestion is to stick to eating 1-2 tablespoons of all foods you eat during the holidays.

Another tip that is helpful is to grab a light snack a few hours before your holiday dinner. This will help promote self-control and so that you exercise caution when you see all of the delicious foods on the table. People tend to eat a lot more when they are eating on an empty stomach versus eating light prior to a meal. Some examples of light snacks before your meal include: a piece of fruit, handful of peanuts or 1 cup of popcorn. I highly recommend this strategy particularly during the holidays, if you are trying to maintain or manage your weight.

My final tip is an important and easy one. After you eat, put on your dancing or walking shoes. This is a great way to incorporate a

little physical activity during the holidays. It doesn't have to be a full workout, but perhaps moving for 10 minutes with loved ones can help burn off some extra calories. You could walk around in your neighborhood, walk up and down stairs, or throw on some music and dance the night away. If you have children, that is a huge plus! Adding in a little time to be active can help you feel good after eating those yummy desserts and will benefit your overall health.

The Holiday season may look somewhat different this year, but that doesn't mean we can't have fun and enjoy ourselves. Let's remember to make wise decisions when eating during the holidays and practice healthy eating habits. Remember, it's much healthier to stuff the turkey rather than stuff our tummies this Thanksgiving. Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy holiday season!

'Celina an Official...' continued from front page

The award states, "As technology and connectivity continue to advance, high-speed internet networks are an essential part of the infrastructure required to build better communities and the cities of tomorrow, from education and job creation to public safety and higher standards

of living. Thanks to this ordinance, Celina is preparing for the future and has been fully equipped to live, work, and learn successfully from home during the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. By installing a fiber-optic network in Celina, you have not only helped ensure the

future prosperity of your residents, but also enabled your citizens to keep working and learning and, importantly, remain connected. As Texas continues to face the incredible challenges of a global pandemic, we can continue to build the Texas of the 21st Century."

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## Meet Angie Rodriguez



**SAVANNAH, TX-** Having health insurance protection is important for everyone. As an agent with HealthMarkets, Angie offers residents of Savannah, TX, and the surrounding communities, a choice when it comes to their health insurance. She is a licensed and trained insurance agent with experience working with individuals, families and small

businesses. She will work personally with you to identify your unique insurance needs and budget, and then offer you a variety of options that address those needs. If you are looking for health, life, small group, Medicare or supplemental (voluntary) insurance, please contact her today for a free consultation and no-obligation quote. Angie can be reached at (469) 655-2313.

'NTTA Snowplow...' continued from front page

truck operators need a wide berth during actual operations. This will ensure the safety of both operators and motorists using NTTA roadways affected by snow and ice.

## What are YOU Thankful For?



Our office will be closed Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 so that our team may spend time with their families. However, our after-hours team will be available to help with quotes, claims or billing questions. Just call our office line to connect!

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!

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# EDUCATION

## Denton ISD Provides Free Breakfast and Lunch Through December 18



**DENTON ISD, TX-** Since Sept 28, the Denton ISD Child Nutrition Department will provide free breakfast and lunch for all students with a Denton ISD student ID. ConnectedLearning, Face-to-Face and hybrid high school students are all included.

The five-day weekly meal bundling service will continue for all ConnectedLearning students at the following elementary cam-

pus: Alexander, Bell, Borman and Nelson. Pickup for bundle services will be every Wednesday afternoon from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. All students will be required to provide student ID upon pickup.

All hybrid high school students will pick up lunch and breakfast for the next calendar day at the end of school on the days they are on campus. This free service is available for all students until Dec 18.

## Denton ISD Receives Perfect Score in State Financial Accountability System

**DENTON ISD, TX-** For the 18th straight year, Denton ISD has achieved the highest possible rating in the school Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), the financial accountability system established by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and enacted by the Texas Legislature in 2001. The district received a perfect score of 100, which has been accomplished for the past eight years consecutively.

Denton ISD is among the 88 percent of Texas school districts to receive an "A" or Superior rating for 2020, which is based on the district's annual financial report for the 2019 fiscal year.

"Each year, our goal is to receive the Superior rating, and the fact that we've achieved that goal the past eight years is

significant especially due to the complexity of the accounting associated with Texas' school finance system," said Dr. Scott Niven, chief financial officer. "The Schools FIRST accountability rating makes sure that Texas school districts are accountable not only for student learning but also for achieving these results both cost-effectively and efficiently. The information provided by the Schools FIRST system will guide us in our continued efforts to make the most of our taxpayer dollars."

FIRST ratings are in place to hold districts accountable for the quality of their financial management practices, to provide a maximum allocation for direct instructional purposes and to evaluate the quality of the district's financial management decisions.

There are 15 financial indicators used to calculate FIRST ratings. Examples of those indicators are sufficient days cash on hand, general fund revenues exceed general fund expenditures, debt service coverage ratio and administrative cost ratio.

All school districts and charter schools in the state of Texas are required to report information and financial accountability ratings to parents and taxpayers, although the criteria charter schools must meet is less comprehensive and transparent.

"It's good news to see the eight-year trend continue," said Doug Chadwick, trustee. "Congratulations to our staff for continuing to provide financial excellence in our community and for earning this elite distinction."

*'Homecoming Spirit...' continued from front page*

of Texas A&M and study genetics.

**Ahmed Yussuf** plays on the AHS football team.

**Sophomore Princess and Prince**

**Meagan Szostek** currently plays on the AHS varsity volleyball team. She also plays basketball. She would like to attend UCLA and study law.

**Gabriel Freeman** has been involved in Beta Club, Aubrey esports and athletics over the last few years. He would like to attend the U.S. Navy Academy to study aerospace engineering.

**Junior Princess and Prince Favor Odimba** is a member of the AHS track team and Beta Club. She would like to attend Howard University to study nursing.

**Martavious Hill** has played on the AHS varsity football team the last two years and is also on the powerlifting team. He is a member of Beta Club, National Honor Society, Thespian Club and Student Council. He has been involved with UIL Theater and UIL Speech and Debate the last four years. He would

like to attend the University of Texas at Austin and study business/sales and entrepreneurship or engineering.

**Queen and King Nominees Amia Carr** has been

involved with UIL journalism for the last four years. She is also a member of the GSA and Earth Club. She plans on attending UNT to study journalism.

**John Bryan** is a member of the AHS Band. He is also involved with GSA, NAHS and UIL Academics. He plans on attending UNT to study film.

**Madeline Sterling** is a member of the AHS cheerleading squad and FCCLA. She has also been involved with One Act Play, the Fall Show and the Prom Committee. She plans on attending the University of Mississippi to study hospitality management.

**James Perry** plays on the AHS varsity football team. He has also played on the basketball and baseball teams. He is a member of the New Hope Baptist Church youth group. He plans on attending UNT to study sports science.

**Sydney Briley** is a member

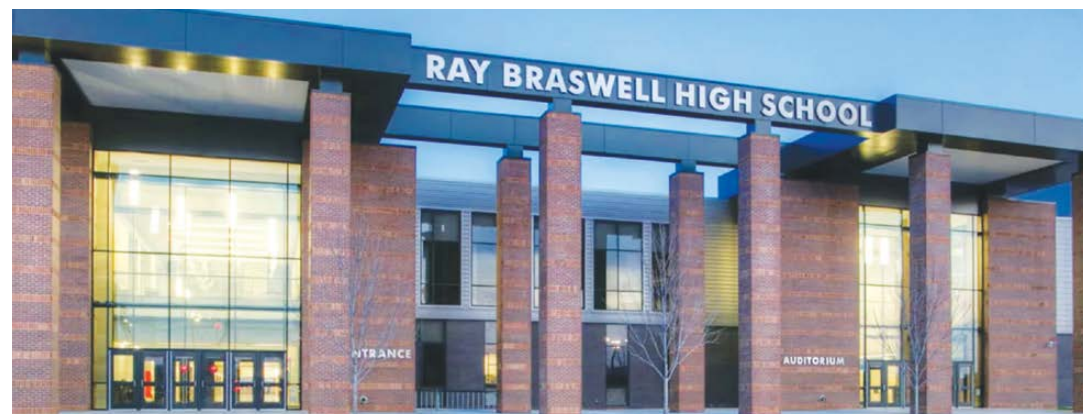
of the AHS cross country and track teams. She is also involved with Beta Club and the National Honor Society. She also plays soccer for North Texas Celtic Soccer Club. She plans on attending Texas A&M Commerce to study early education.

**Justin Gibby** plays on the AHS varsity football team and has been involved with FFA for the last nine years. He has also been a member of the track team. He plans to become a partner with his brother in running Gibby's Concrete and open his own mechanic shop.

**Addison Ivy** is a member of the National Honor Society and is vice president of FCCLA. She has also been involved in athletics the last five years. She is a member of Homestead Church and models for Gypsy Rodd Photography. She plans on attending Texas A&M University to study psychology.

**Jackson Jennings** is current member of the AHS varsity football team and is also on the track team. He plans on attending University of Texas at Austin to study sports medicine.

## Trustees Review Architectural Designs for Academic Wing for Braswell High School



**DENTON ISD, TX-** Denton ISD Board of School Trustees recently reviewed architectural designs for a new, third academic wing and a practice gymnasium to be added at Braswell High School. The new additions will help account for expected growth in the area.

Trustees also reviewed construction plans for the upgrade to Carrico Athletic Complex, the district's competition football and track stadium adjacent to the campus of Braswell High School.

The proposed two-story academic classroom wing addition will include a 43,690 square foot first floor consisting of an administrative office, core academic classrooms, career & technology spaces and a special needs classroom. In addition to the same office and classroom spaces as the first floor, the 39,586 square foot second floor will consist of science classrooms and labs and an art classroom. The total square footage in the new academic addition is 83,276 square feet.

The new practice gymnasium addition also taking place at Braswell High School will add another 9,300 square feet to the campus. The new academic wing and practice gymnasium additions will add a total of 92,576 square feet to the Braswell High School campus.

Occurring simultaneously on the campus of Braswell High School will be the construction of Carrico Athletic Complex. The new state-of-the-art athletics facility will feature a 7,000-seat stadium, an 8,358 square-foot press box, three new concessions areas, two video boards, a 50-yard turf practice field area with an endzone and 989 new parking spaces.

Two new locker rooms will also be constructed. The southwest locker room, known as the Denton ISD home team locker room, will consist of 7,642 square feet. The southeast locker room or visitor locker room will consist of 6,724 square feet.

Dr. Ray Braswell High School, the district's fourth comprehensive high school, is located on approximately 108 acres on the southeast corner of Navo Road and U.S. 380 in the Town of Little Elm. The school's namesake, Dr. Braswell, served Denton ISD as a teacher, coach and administrator for his entire career and ultimately led the district as superintendent of schools for 14 years. Under his leadership, the district experienced rapid student growth and major successes – both academically and athletically.

Braswell High, with a main building consisting of 452,868 square feet, was designed by VLK Architects and was built by Balfour-Beatty Construction. The facility, which was approved for construction by voters as part of a bond package in 2013, has the initial capacity for 2,600 students. The proposed additional instructional space allows for the building to reach a capacity of 3,000 students.

*'Denton ISD Trustees...' continued from front page*

Architects. The facility, which was approved for construction by voters as part of the 2018 bond package, has the initial capacity for 750 students.

Design elements of the 87,800 square-foot campus will mirror the community inspired natural connection to the land and its eque-

trian heritage.

The campus design fits the district's elementary school prototype with an identical footprint to recent elementary school designs in Union Park, Bell and Cross Oaks Elementary schools. The campus design includes many energy-saving features and a storm

shelter designed to protect occupants from severe weather, particularly tornadoes.

"I am very impressed with the creativity that is displayed here with this design," said Jim Alexander, trustee. "I believe this artistry is very unique and will go extremely well within the community."

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## The Countdown to Christmas

Donna Lynch



**CELINA, TX-** Did you hear? Santa is really interested in Celina this year! We want everyone to show him our holiday spirit. Join us in Downtown Celina for the month of December for an authentic holiday experience, The Countdown to Christmas. We have something planned for every day leading up to the miraculous day of Christmas. Events include the annual Christmas on the Square on December 02, 2020. There will be pictures with our very own Reinsteer. Don't confuse Reinsteer with

a reindeer. This is Texas after all. We will be serving up delicious hot cocoa, and decorating Christmas tree ornaments, these are just a few of the activities we will host throughout the month. Plus, you won't want to miss a magical live reading with the jolly Ms. Clause of The Night before Christmas! This will happen on December 24th at 6:00 p.m. at Celina's Public Library located at 142 North Ohio Street. Don't miss any of our exciting holiday countdown events. Follow us on Facebook for complete details @LifeinCelinaTX.

## Texas Historical Records Advisory Board Announces 2020 Archival Awards Recipients

**AUSTIN, TX-** The Texas Historical Records Advisory Board (THRAB) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2020 Archival Awards of Excellence, Advocacy, and Distinguished Service.

Created in 2016, the Archival Award of Excellence recognizes significant achievements in preserving and improving access to historical records in Texas. The board selected Travis Williams, Special Collections Librarian and Archivist at St. Edwards University, for the Archival Award of Excellence in the individual category for his work on Hillhops: A Craft Beer Showcase. The Showcase promoted archival materials in an innovative forum and engaged the greater community with Special Collections. THRAB appreciated the creative approach to outreach and hopes the recognition will inspire others to attempt such endeavors.

The Texas Archive of the Moving Image (TAMI) is the recipient of the Archival Award of Excellence in the institutional category. TAMI partnered with the Office of the Governor's Texas Film Commission to launch the Texas Film Round-Up, a program to digitize film contributions from people, institutions, businesses, and others from around the state. With

3,800 curated videos available on their website, the collection represents a broad scope of Texas history both in time and geographic region. TAMI also offers free educational tools online for those who wish to teach with film from the site.

THRAB's Advocacy for Archives and Distinguished Service awards are new categories this year and recognize outstanding achievements and lasting impacts on the archival community and the historical record in Texas.

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health was selected for the 2020 Advocacy for Archives Award. The Hogg Foundation recognizes the importance and value of creating, maintaining, and providing access to its organizational archives which provides important research collections in the area of mental health, an area that has been largely overlooked. By establishing an archive, employing an archivist, and welcoming interns to learn and apply archival practices, the Hogg Foundation promotes to other organizations how meaningful an archive may be and increases the value of archives to others.

For his lifetime of contributions to the archival profession, THRAB selected archivist, educator, historian and former THRAB coordinator Dr. David B. Gracy II, who died on September 26, as the recipient of its inaugural award for Distinguished Service. After launching his archival career with a position as archivist of the Southwest Collection at Texas Tech, Gracy left the state to establish the Southern Labor and University Archives at Georgia State University in

1971. Returning to Texas, he served as State Archivist and THRAB coordinator (1977-1986) and built the archival enterprise program at the University of Texas's School of Information, where he taught from 1986 until his retirement in 2011. Over his long career, Gracy published numerous articles on archival topics and books based on historical research and served as editor and on the editorial boards of various journals. Nationally, he served as president of the Society of American Archi-

vists and the Academy of Certified Archivists, which he helped establish. Texas State Historian Monte L. Monroe says of Dr. Gracy that, "For decades, he has been the touchstone and leader of every effort to preserve archival materials and to support the great public, private, and academic institutions that hold the treasures of our past."

THRAB presented the awards to recipients during its meeting on October 23 which was held virtually via Zoom.

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