



Building momentum
Rangers sweep A's for third-straight series win
- 1B



More coverage online
More state, national and world stories are available on www.tdtnews.com.

Middle East wars

Israel kills Hamas spokesperson; plans to expand military offensive in Gaza
- 5B

Today's Outlook

High: 88
Low: 69
40% chance of showers



IMMIGRATION

'I do not want there to be any ambiguity'

As Guatemalan kids sit in planes on tarmac in Texas, judge orders they stay in the US, for now

HARLINGEN (AP) — With migrant children waiting on tarmacs to be sent to their native Guatemala, a federal judge on Sunday temporarily blocked the flights, siding with attorneys for the children who said the government was breaking laws and sending their clients to potential peril.

The extraordinary drama played out overnight on a holiday weekend and vaulted from tarmacs in Texas to a courtroom in Washington. It was the latest showdown over the Trump administration's crackdown on immigration — and the latest clash between the administration's enforce-

ment efforts and legal safeguards that Congress created for vulnerable migrants.

Guatemalan children who arrived at the border without their parents or guardians will stay for at least two weeks while the legal fight unfolds, according to the ruling.

"I do not want there to be any ambiguity," said U.S. District Judge Sparkle L. Sooknanan.

Minutes after her hastily scheduled hearing, five charter buses pulled up to a plane at Valley International Airport in Harlingen, a hub for deportation flights. Hours earlier, authorities

had walked dozens of passengers — perhaps 50 — toward the plane in an area restricted to government planes. Passengers wore colored clothing typically used in government-run shelters for migrant children.

Please see KIDS, 3A

BELTON



Micah Huss of the Salado FFA reacts Thursday when a camel snuggles with him as he worked at the petting zoo during the Central Texas State Fair at the Cadence Bank Center in Belton.

Rainy weather drives Central Texas State Fair attendees indoors

BY LARRY CAUSEY
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

BELTON — Rainy weather put a damper on the carnival and other outdoor activities Sunday, the final day of this year's Central Texas State Fair at Cadence Bank Center.

The early afternoon traffic was slow for the multi-faceted vendors in the Assembly Hall. They said the overall turnout for the four-day fair had been good, and were hoping the rodeo that evening would bring in more people. Miniature steam irons, children's toys and clothing, dry nail polish, knives and leather goods were among the many things they had to offer.

Keely Santos of Las Vegas, accompanied by her husband, Evandro, demonstrated miniature X Stream steam irons. She said their booth was very busy Saturday after the rain.

"It takes the wrinkles out of any fabric," she said of the iron. "It's perfect for home or travel."

Online

More photos from the Central Texas State Fair can be seen in a gallery at tdtnews.com

Instead of having to use an ironing board, she said, you can just hang your shirt up and press it. She waved the iron back and forth against the shirt and the wrinkles disappeared.

"You can have the whole shirt done in about 2 minutes or less," she said. "It's been quite popular, especially among people who travel a lot, or people who don't like to iron."

She demonstrated how the steam is already working on the other side, too. It works on all fabrics, she said.

"You don't have to use starch unless you want that super crisp look," she said.

She poured a scoop of tap water into one of the irons.

"You add a little salt when you start," she said. "It softens the water. Also it

lowers the boiling point. It boils in about 20 seconds."

Their top selling colors are purple, teal and black. Their website is www.xsteamusa.com.

Across the aisle, Joyce Denson of San Antonio said she was minding the booth for her sister, Susy Poteet of Killeen, who had a second booth in the livestock barn. Denson said they had toys for all ages, including 3-D printed dragons and stuffed animal backpacks. Toy guns and light-up swords were the hottest items this weekend, she said.

Next door, dubbing her enterprise as "Color Street," Jenn Bush of Cedar Creek marketed dry nail polish.

"No more smudges, no more waiting," she said.

She has been making shows between Temple and Austin for five years, and this is her full-time business. She said business had been pretty good all four days of the fair. Her website is shop.jennsbleednails.com.

Please see FAIR, 3A

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Safety spotlight

Transportation staff share stories behind service, commitment to students

BY BELLA CASEY
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

They aren't teachers, but they are with students constantly.

Crossing guards and bus drivers are some of the first and last school staff students see as they start and end the school day.

And while students and parents commonly participate in "meet the teacher" nights before the school year begins, transportation staff don't always receive an introduction before they work with students.

They get creative, using questions and routines to get to know students. Some climb to local celebrity status, while others remain unsung heroes.

Karen Corbitt — Sparta Elementary, Belton Middle School and Belton High School

She once used medical tools to help others, but now she uses a stop sign and a chalkboard.

Karen Corbitt worked as a medical transcriber and surgical technician, but arthritis took her ability to stand on her feet for long periods of

time as she got older. It was time for a career shift — one that didn't have her on her feet as much.

She became a Belton ISD crossing guard six years ago. She stands as she helps students cross the street, but she can take breaks to sit. She arrives at work each day with more supplies than the typical crossing guard, bringing a question and a chalkboard with her as she helps Sparta Elementary School, Belton Middle School and Belton High School students cross the street.

"I know all the kids' names, and I try to learn something about them," Corbitt said.

Corbitt shared words of encouragement with her students when she started the job, often saying, "Have an awesome day" as she waved students across the cross walk.

"And then one elementary boy said, 'Oh, is that the word of the day?' And I said, 'Sure,'" Corbitt said. "And so the next week, I started repeating those words, and they (students) said, 'You need to find some more words, Miss Karen.'

Please see SAFETY, 3A



Courtesy

Crossing guard Karen Corbitt makes an effort to connect with Belton Independent School District students by asking them questions and attending some of their school events.

BELL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

Bell appoints Emergency Services District 2 board members

BY IAN CAMACHO
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

The Bell County Commissioners Court appointed five board members to the Bell County Emergency Services District 2 area.

New board members are Landy Setzer, Michael Welch, Glenn Willis, Jay Pruett and Jerry Lancaster.

Formed in 2024 after voters approved the ballot measure, the second emergency services

district initially had intended to serve Troy and Temple.

However, the district faced issues after incorporating from these cities and now primarily serves unincorporated areas near Troy.

The phone number on the Emergency Services District 2 website, shared by the Troy Fire Department, went unreturned despite multiple attempts.

Leslie Avant, Troy Volunteer Fire Department board

vice president, confirmed via email that he compiled the list of nominees before sending it to Precinct 3 County Commissioner Greg Reynolds.

Avant confirmed having worked alongside one of the board's newly appointed members, Landy Setzer, Temple assistant chief of fire prevention and fire marshal, as a paramedic for Temple Emergency Medical Services. Avant stated he did not know the other appointed members.

Avant mentioned a 9-month delay in the appointments may have resulted from the county having "an extremely long delay in verifying address(es)" but could not comment further on the process.

The Telegram contacted Santos Soto, Temple Fire & Rescue public information officer, for comment about Setzer and the board.

Soto informed the Telegram via text message that he had spoken with Chief James Jack-

son of the Troy Volunteer Fire Department for more details.

Soto said Jackson mentioned that the district and the volunteer fire department operate as separate entities, and so Jackson could not speak on behalf of the district despite the two sharing the same phone number.

Soto added that Jackson had mentioned the department knew the potential board members had both the availability and lived within the

emergency service district's jurisdiction.

The appointment of five board members indicates Bell County plans to move forward with activating the district.

District 1, established in 2020 in south Bell County with Salado Fire & Rescue as the sole provider, is the only active emergency services district. Voters will decide the fate of District 3 at the ballot this November.

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TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." — II Corinthians 5:17



OUR CENTRAL TEXAS

Friends, neighbors sharing memories
- 8B



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