



**State track**  
Belton ISD has chance at four medals on Friday  
- 1B



**More coverage online**  
More state, national and world stories are available on [www.tdtnews.com](http://www.tdtnews.com).



**Recipe**  
Please a crowd with sticky-glazed pork ribs  
- 8A

**Today's Outlook**  
**High: 88**  
**Low: 61**  
**Sunny**

## Little horses, big fun



Nan Dickson/Special to the Telegram

Competitors exit the arena after the Country Pleasure competition during the Southwestern Miniature Horse Club of Bell County Spring show held Friday in the equine complex at Cadence Bank Center in Belton. For more photos from this event see the gallery on [www.tdtnews.com](http://www.tdtnews.com).

## TEMPLE ISD

# TISD board OKs Cater school property sale

## School board recognizes student, staff achievements

BY BELLA CASEY  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Students Monday evening spilled from the Temple Independent School District board meeting room as they awaited their turn to shake each board member's hand and pose for a photo in honor of their recent achievements.

Different groups of students shuffled into and out of the meeting room before board members discussed other topics at the last board meeting before the spring semester ends.

Temple ISD board members recognized dozens of students and staff members for academic and extracurricular activity achievements ahead of approving the sale of a closed campus property and campus improvements.

Board members Bre'Layshia Alexander and Shannon Myers were sworn in for new terms.

### Cater Elementary School campus sale

Board members approved by a vote of 5-0 the sale of the Cater Elementary School campus at 4111 Lark Trail to nonprofit Académie Musique for \$650,000.

The campus, located in the Bird Creek neighborhood in

West Temple, closed in 2024.

Board member Shannon Dean, who was absent from the meeting while traveling for work, asked board Vice President Ronnie Gaines to share a message from her that stated she recognized the discrepancy between the two bids — the \$650,000 bid from Académie Musique and the \$900,000 bid from Priority Systems, a charter school system — but residents at community meetings expressed the desire to see a nonprofit such as Académie Musique occupy the property full time.

"We want to make sure that whoever comes there is going to add to our neighborhood, not detract from it," board Secretary Virginia Suarez added. "And I just think that listening to our community is of better value than a short-term profit."

Another school campus within the Temple ISD attendance zone could decrease district enrollment, Gaines explained. About 130 students are within walking distance from the property, Superintendent Bobby Ott said.

Board members approved the Académie Musique bid following the discussion. Dean was absent and did not

Please see TISD, 5A

## CENTRAL TEXAS

# Salvation Army in Bell County celebrates National Salvation Army Week

BY SHAWN ANKROM  
TELEGRAM CITY EDITOR

For more than 70 years The Salvation Army has been recognized annually for contributions to local communities to fight for families in crisis.

This week, Monday through Saturday,

May 11-16 marks National Salvation Army Week. The organization has almost 7,000 centers of operation around the country including The Salvation Army of Bell County McLane Center of Hope in Temple.

"National Salvation Army Week presents a wonderful opportunity for us to

let the community know more about the work of The Salvation Army in Bell County," Major Dan Wilson, corps officer, stated in a press release. "We want to recognize and celebrate the donors, partners, supporters, and volunteers

Please see SALVATION ARMY, 5A

## CENTRAL TEXAS

# Dog Ridge WSC replacing meters systemwide in June

BY IAN CAMACHO  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

**BELTON** — Dog Ridge Water Supply Corporation plans to replace and inspect more than 2,100 water meters systemwide beginning in early June to update infrastructure needed for the last 15 years.

Crews will excavate each meter box, photograph service lines on both the customer and utility sides, install new meter boxes and smart meters and place documentation in customer files.

The new smart meters will allow the utility to detect continuous water flow, which may indicate customer-side leaks.

About 900 of the system's roughly 1,900 water service lines will still require onsite verification and inspection. Customers with unknown service line materials will

continue receiving mandatory annual advisory letters until inspections are complete or lines are replaced as part of a broader infrastructure and compliance effort tied to the Environmental Protection Agency's 2024 lead and copper rule improvement mandate.

Dog Ridge is also completing a Federal Emergency Management Agency-funded generator project that would allow a portable generator to connect to any of the system's three pump stations.

General Manager and Vice President Rudy Watkins said he must complete a training course to certify compliance and release the grant funds. Management plans to pursue a second generator in a future grant cycle.

Please see DOG RIDGE, 5A

## WASHINGTON

# Hegseth gets bipartisan grilling on Iran

**WASHINGTON** (AP) — Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth faced tough questions Tuesday from Republican and Democratic lawmakers about the Trump administration's end game for the Iran war, the conflict's rising \$29 billion cost and its impact on diminishing U.S. weapons stockpiles.

While the Pentagon chief softened his tone from hearings before Congress nearly two weeks ago, notably avoiding the same pointed criticism of lawmakers, he got far more pushback from members of his own Republican Party about the levels of U.S. munitions used in the Iran war and President Donald Trump's intense criticism of traditional allies for not taking part in the conflict.

"I take issue with the characterization that munitions are depleted in a public forum," Hegseth said. "That's not true."

Even as he insisted that the U.S. military has plenty of missile defense systems and other munitions for the Iran war or



Alex Brandon — AP

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth testifies at a Senate Appropriations subcommittee on defense hearing on the budget request for the Department of Defense on Tuesday in Washington, with acting Under Secretary of Defense and Comptroller Jules Hurst III, left, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Dan Caine.

future conflicts, Hegseth told House and Senate lawmakers overseeing defense spending that the Trump administration is working to ramp up production of weapons.

Pentagon officials also told lawmakers that the cost of the Iran war has risen to about \$29 billion, the vast bulk of which — roughly \$24 billion — is related to replacing munitions

and repairing equipment but also includes operational costs to keep forces deployed. That is up from the overall total

Please see HEGSETH, 5A

## WORLD

# Shipping industry fears fuel shortages as Iran war squeezes fuel supply

**BANGKOK** (AP) — Ship operators rely on a sludgelike substance known as bunker fuel to keep vessels running. The Iran war's closure of the Strait of Hormuz has choked off the supply of this fuel that powers the global maritime industry and its largest refueling hub in Asia.

Bunker fuel is a literal bottom of the barrel product: heavier and dirtier than the more expensive kinds

of refined crude oil used by other vehicles like cars and airplanes, it sinks to the bottom of storage containers.

But it helps move the 80% of globally traded goods that are transported by sea, and experts say that means a shortage of bunker fuel will translate to higher shipping costs, increase consumer prices and hurt the bottom lines of businesses worldwide.

That will be an issue first in Asia, which relies heavily on Middle Eastern oil. In Singapore, the world's biggest refueling hub for bunker fuel, reserves are dwindling and prices are spiking.

Shipping companies are trying to adapt to the energy shock, reducing vessel speeds and revising schedules to cut costs in the short term while making plans to acquire ships that can run on alternative fuels.

But some companies won't survive this triage for long, according to Henning Gloystein of the Eurasia Group consultancy firm, who warned that the pain will spread beyond Asia through global supply chains.

Southeast Asia turns to 'energy triage'

Asia, which was hit first and hardest by the energy shock, has adopted various forms of "energy triage

"to cope, increasing its use of coal, buying more crude oil from Russia and reviving plans to develop nuclear power.

But Asia is bracing for further impacts as energy reserves dwindle and government subsidies dry up.

More than half of global seaborne trade moved through Asian ports in 2024, according to United Nations data, so what happens there will have global consequences.



**TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE**  
"He giveth grace unto the lowly."  
— Proverbs 3:34



**MARKET REPORT**  
Complete coverage Page 3A

Dow Jones Industrials	56.09
Nasdaq composite	49,760.56
	-185.92
	26,088.20

**INSIDE TODAY**

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Comics.....	6A	Obituaries.....	4B
Crossword.....	6B	Sports.....	1-3B
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