



Series split

Texas Rangers down Tampa Bay Rays, 8-6

- 1B



More coverage online

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Aviation

At least 5 dead after Amazon cargo plane barreled off runway at Miami airport

- 4B

Today's Outlook

High: 95
Low: 77
Sunny



BELTON



Nan Dickson/Special to the Telegram

People are flung around on a ride Thursday at the Central Texas State Fair at the Huntington Bank Expo in South Belton.

Attendees stay cool shopping for hot products at Central Texas State Fair

BY LARRY CAUSEY
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

BELTON — Filled with handcrafted goods, jewelry and home décor, the Assembly Hall was the coolest place to be Sunday afternoon for the Central Texas State Fair.

Set to wind up later that night at Huntington Bank Expo, 301 W. Loop 121, the four-day fair featured live music, bull riding, a carnival and a demolition derby. It

also had a wealth of vendors.

“Wicked Wicks of the South” is what Denise Camp of College Station calls her candles and wax melts. It’s all homemade in her kitchen and makes her house smell great. She’s been into this for about three years.

“I’ve been retired from the stock broker’s business 20 plus years,” she said. “Now I’m exploring the creative side. Friday was the biggest day for me. It’s been busy constantly throughout. It’s

been fun meeting the other vendors, too.”

She’s having fun and has done markets all over Texas, she said. In the summer, she usually sets up about once a month. As it gets toward fall, she said, she goes almost every weekend.

Next door, Andrew Cormick of Liberty Hill was promoting track chairs for Carlson Mobility. Instead of wheels, these chairs have tank-like tracks.

Please see FAIR, 3A

MIDDLE EAST WARS

‘Total lie’

US denies Iran’s claim to have struck an unmanned ship; Tehran plans to expand ‘exclusion zone’

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. military has denied Iran’s claim to have struck an unmanned American military vessel in the Strait of Hormuz, calling it a “total lie.” A top Iranian official said Tehran plans to announce an “exclusion zone” outside the Strait of Hormuz aimed at vessels it believes are attempting to transit the waterway.

Meanwhile, Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon killed seven people and leveled a vacant hospital, according to Lebanese authorities, near an area that has become a flash point in fighting between Israel and the Iran-backed militant group Hezbollah. Here’s a look at the latest news in the Middle East:

Iran says it hit a US boat

State-run media in Tehran said the U.S. vessel was trying to enter an area that Iran says is restricted in the Strait of Hormuz, but Capt. Tim Hawkins, spokesperson for the U.S. Central Command, called it “a total lie.”

The claim came a day after the U.S. said it struck Iranian oil tankers in retaliation for Iran launching ballistic missiles at Navy warships. Attacks resumed last week after roughly a month of quiet.

The war began with U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran on Feb. 28. But negotia-

tions have collapsed after a ceasefire agreement was announced in June, and on-and-off fighting has persisted with both sides trying to inflict military and economic pain.

Iran’s parliament speaker and chief negotiator, Mohammad Bagher Qalibaf, said the era of “proportionate responses” is over and Iran’s retaliation will be “faster, heavier and more painful.”

Exclusion zone outside strait

The new head of Iran’s Supreme National Security Council said Tehran plans to announce an “exclusion zone” outside the Strait of Hormuz aimed at vessels it believes are attempting to transit the waterway.

Mohsen Rezaei’s comments to Iran’s state broadcaster came with few details, a day after the U.S. struck three Iranian oil tankers in response to Tehran launching ballistic missiles at U.S. warships. Experts called the launches a dangerous escalation after Iran’s previous attacks at sea targeted commercial shipping.

The new zone should be announced in the coming days and weeks, and “will begin from the line of the U.S. naval blockade, extend toward the Strait of Hormuz, and from this side continue into the Persian Gulf,” Rezaei said.

Please see IRAN, 3A

HUMAN-ANIMAL SUPPORT COALITION

Summer Fix Fest

Group celebrates milestone with discounted medical care for pets

BY SAM SCHAFFER
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Pets are one of the things that provide joy in people’s lives but, unfortunately, they also can cause some of the worst pain.

All of the joy and connection that goes with owning a pet comes at a price — the price of food, medical care, toys, pet sitting and more. When all the costs of pet ownership become too much, people are sometimes forced to give up their pets to shelters, which are regularly overcrowded.

Because shelters are so full, healthy animals are regularly euthanized to save room.

To bring down the number of healthy pets being euthanized, the Human-Animal Support Coalition (HASC) began operating at 1506 Paseo del Plata Drive in January.

HASC is a nonprofit dedicated to reducing shelter

overcrowding and saving the lives of local pets. The coalition offers free and low-cost preventative veterinary care, including spay and neuter surgery, vaccines, microchips and essential healthy-pet services, according to a news release from the organization.

After hitting its 2,000th spay or neuter surgery since January, HASC is kicking off the Summer Fix Fest campaign, offering deeply reduced pricing on spay and neuter surgeries to accelerate the mission of reducing overcrowding and saving lives.

Through the month of September, people may get their pets spayed or neutered at HASC for \$75 per dog or \$50 per cat, according to the release. Each surgery includes a free microchip, which may be scanned when a pet is lost to get them back to their owner.

Please see PETS, 3A

EDUCATION

Temple, Belton schools handle internet outages as needed to support students



Courtesy photo

As the internet and computers become more prevalent in the world, the education system is using them more and more. That use comes with new problems to overcome for educators.

BY SAM SCHAFFER
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

As technology advances and more people interact with the improvements, the technology makes it more essential for students to be digitally literate. But with more advanced education comes more advanced problems.

In the days before computer use in schools, which is now prevalent, students used pens and pencils to write on paper to do their assignments. The worst case scenario for someone who had done their homework was that they would lose it, or the age-old excuse, “My dog ate it.”

In today’s world, computers and the internet have become a large part of education. Teachers rely on the internet while teaching lessons using interactive digital boards, a setting that would have a student from the early 2000s in disbelief.

Because so much information comes from the internet, it has become a large part of teaching

curriculums. But what happens when the internet goes out, or worse, what is available for a student who does not have internet access at home?

Belton Independent School District and Temple Independent School District have different approaches to using the internet, but both have contingencies in place for students with internet issues.

When it comes to internet outages at school during class time, teachers in Belton ISD have backup plans.

“Teachers can still teach during the day if the internet goes down,” said Gabi Nino, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning in Belton.

“While there are online resources that are accessed, they also have physical copies of teacher and student guides, physical texts to interact with, math manipulatives, science interactive materials,” she continued.

Please see INTERNET, 3A

BACKROADS

Donated Proctor family Bible holds essential Bell County history

“There’s a family Bible on the table,
“Its pages worn and hard to read,
“But the family Bible on the table
“Will ever be my key to memories”

— Willie Nelson

BY TIM WAITS
TELEGRAM CORRESPONDENT

BELTON — Family Bibles, whether to be read or as a living room centerpiece, have been trea-

sured staples in homes for generations.

As much as anything the large-volume Bibles have served as a long-standing repository of family histories such as births, baptisms, weddings, anniversaries and deaths.

In the case of the 180-year-old Proctor family Bible, it’s also a vital artifact that covers virtually the entirety of Bell County history.

Please see PROCTOR, 3A



TODAY'S BIBLE VERSE

“And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me.”

— Psalm 50:15



OUR CENTRAL TEXAS

Friends, neighbors sharing memories

— 8A



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