

DAILY BRIEFS

CHILDREN’S CHORUS SIGNUPS

The Brenham Children’s Chorus will be enrolling new singers who will be in grade 2-8 this on Monday and Tuesda from 4-6 p.m. at the Brenham Community Education Building. Call 277-3897 for an appointment time.

KIEKE REUNION

The 79th annual Kieke reunion will be held Sunday, May 26 at La Bahia Hall. A social hour will begin at 11 a.m., followed by a meeting at noon. A barbecue lunch will be available at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7. Familes are asked to bring a side dish or dessert and serving utensils. Families are also asked to bring an item for a silent auction. For more information, call Evelyn Maass at 979 540-8097.

BARBECUE FUNDRAISER

Ebony Class of 1974 will hold a barbecue fundraiser May 25 at New Hope Baptist Church, 704 W. Jefferson St. Serving will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and are available by calling Diane Lindsey at 451-1064.

RADIO PROGRAM LOOKING FOR TESTIMONIALS

Faith Mission’s “Making His Mission Our Mission” radio program is looking for guests who would like to share their testimony. Every week on Lite FM 94.1, Faith Mission features a new guest with an uplifting testimony. Call Susan Lemel at 203-1034 for more information.

CHRISTIAN MOTORYCYCLE ASSOCIATION

The local chapter of the Christian Motorycycle Association meets the third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at Chappell Hill Bakery in Chap-pell Hill. The public is invited.

MODEL A ENTHUSIASTS

The Brazos Valley A’s is looking for Model A enthusiasts to join. The organization meets at noon on the second Sunday of each month at CJ’s Barbecue on Texas Avenue in Bryan. Members drive their Model A’s on tours and help each other with restoration and mechanical ques-tions. Participants do not have have to own a Model A to join. More information is available at www.brazosvalleyas.com.

COMMUNITY CLEAN UP VOLUNTEERS

Keep Washington County Beautiful is seeking volunteers for trash pick-ups along local roads. Get your friends and neighbors together, also church and civic groups. Pick the spot you want to see clean. KWCB has all the safety gear and pick-up supplies you’ll need. Contact KWCB-texas@gmail.com for more information or visit www.KWCBtexas.com.

HOSPICE BRAZOS VALLEY SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Hospice Brazos Valley Brenham is searching for those special people that are ready to work with patients and their families during a mon-umental time in their lives through various aspects of patient sitting, memory creation, flower delivery and caregiver relief. For information stop by the office at 302 E. Blue Bell Road, or contact Jessica Andrade at 979-277-9525 or email jandrade@hospicebrazosvalley.org.

Tobacco

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Texas’ moves on the to-bacco age are in line with a

national trend. Last month, representatives in both the U.S. House and Senate in-troduced legislation to raise the national purchase age for tobacco from 18 to 21.

Brenham council members to be sworn in

Three members of the Brenham City Council will be sworn in Thursday, including newcomer Adonna Saunders to the Ward Four seat.

The council will meet at 1 p.m. in City Hall, 200 W. Vul-can St.

Saunders ousted incum-bent Danny Goss in this

month’s election.

Mayor Milton Tate will be sworn in for another team af-ter defeating challenger Doro-thy Morgan.

Albert Wright, who was unopposed for the Ward Two seat, will also be sworn in.

The council will also select a mayor pro tem.

Other agenda items are:

- An update on the 2019-20 budget workshop dates and upcoming council meeting dates.
- A bid for heating and air conditioning maintenance services at various city build-ings.

During an executive ses-

sion, the council will again discuss a business prospect that is seeking incentives to locate here.

Council members will also discuss purchase of property in the downtown area.

Any action will be taken after the council returns to open session.



Photo courtesy of Jonathan Cutrer

Capturing and storing water flowing through major rivers like the Llano after heavy rain could be used in times of drought, according to the study.

Storm water banking could help manage floods, droughts

By Anton Caputo and Monica Kortsha

UT News

AUSTIN — Massive, destructive floods such as those caused by Hurricane Harvey in 2017 are a stark reality in Texas, but so are prolonged ground-cracking droughts.

In a perfect world, there would be a way to capture water from rivers during storms and other high-flow times and save it for the dry times when it’s needed. Re-searchers at The University of Texas at Austin have taken the first step to deter-mining whether this will ever be possible by looking at how much water could be stored underground in depleted aquifers near the Texas coast.

The study, published May 10 in the jour-nal *Environmental Research Letters*, quan-tified the amount of water flowing in ma-jor Texas rivers during heavy rains and found that there is enough room in coastal aquifers to store most of it. This discovery means that capturing and storing water could be a feasible option for partially mitigating floods and droughts, which are both expected to increase in frequency and intensity as the climate changes, said lead author Qian Yang, a research asso-ciate at UT Austin’s Bureau of Economic Geology.

“We either have too much water or we don’t have enough water,” she said. “And so, what can we do then to manage water resources during these extremes? That is

the motivation we had.”

The idea of capturing water and divert-ing it into naturally occurring, under-ground aquifers is not new. It is already being done in the Texas cities of El Paso, Kerrville and San Antonio. But skimming off water on a larger level would take a tre-mendous amount of new infrastructure and planning, said Bridget Scanlon, a bu-reau senior research scientist and study author.

“This study is the first step, but it looks like the water is worth going after,” she said. “Before this research we didn’t know how much water there was, whether it would be worth investing in, where it was, when it occurred – all these basic ques-tions.”

The water level in the aquifers along the Texas Gulf Coast has been declining over the years because of agricultural and municipal water use. This has left space that could store about 20 million acre-feet of water, almost as much as can be held in Lake Mead, the largest reservoir in the United States.

That’s enough space to store about two-thirds of the water that flowed in Texas’ 10 major rivers during high-flow events from 2015 through 2017, according to the study. The researchers differentiated high flow from normal flow by looking at daily average water volumes during the past 50 years, and classifying flows that exceeded the 95th percentile as high magnitude.

Although 2015, 2016 and 2017 were par-

ticularly wet years, the study found that high flows occur regularly across the 10 rivers, with a 50 percent chance of occur-ring in each river during any given year. The analysis also shows that about 80% of the water produced by high-flow events lasts for a week or longer, making captur-ing the water more feasible than if they occurred during shorter, more intense storms.

The study also found that capturing these flows would not affect the state’s water rights owners. And researchers re-ferenced environmental studies in the San Antonio and Brazos rivers that showed that 65 percent of high-magnitude flows could be captured without harming the environment.

Bill Mullican, a former deputy admin-istrator for the Texas Water Development Board who has provided expertise to proj-ects in Texas, Colorado, Oklahoma, Geor-gia and Arkansas, said that the research could help support aquifer storage proj-ects in more areas across the state.

“While there has been significant inter-est from both policymakers and water managers to do a better job of taking ad-vantage of flood flows, there just was not really a robust understanding of the true availability,” he said. “What Dr. Yang and Dr. Scanlon did has filled a very import-ant niche in understanding the opportu-nity and availability of a potential water resource that we might take advantage of in the future.”



Natalie Frels/Banner-Press

Washing down remnants of wreck

The Brenham Fire Department responded to the scene of a two-vehicle collision at approximately 12:15 p.m. Tuesday at the intersection of U.S. 290 and Day Street in an effort to clean up the debris and clear the busy roadway. The Brenham Police Department, Washington County EMS and DPS also responded and worked to direct traffic. There were no reported injuries.

Burton

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the code of criminal proce-dure.

- Appoint Jeff Eckhardt as mayor pro tem.
- Increased the payment for water meter reader Josh Guelker from \$300 to \$500.

According to city secretary Angela Harrington, Guel-ker’s salary hasn’t changed in almost 10 years.

“He’s been having to do a lot more work lately,” explained Zajicek.

Council will meet again Tuesday, June 11.



Lydia Hill/Banner-Press

Burton city secretary Angela Harrington (far right) administers oaths of office to (from left) council members Jerry Martin and Nathan Kalkhake and Mayor David Zajicek.

Dedication

Continued from A1

much better program area, and it’s barrier free which it wasn’t before,” said Sorrells. “We’re taking our campers’ experience to the next level.

“Everyone can canoe and participate in that program. Canoeing is part of camp, (but it’s) something that a lot of people in wheelchairs think they’ll never be able to do. But they can at Camp For All.”

Sorrells also expressed gratitude to everyone who contributed to the project, including the camp’s facili-ty staff and donors, such as Tom Brown with the Hamill Foundation and Rogers Crain with the Crain Family Foun-dation.

“We could not have done this without our donors,” said Sorrells. “We could have nev-

er finished this without our facility staff too.”

The project, which com-plies with all American with Disabilities Act regulations, received contributions from several professionals in Washington County, includ-ing construction by Andy Lamson and Mike Eubank, landscaping by Ryan Pape, masonry by Kenny Schultz and electrical work by Paul Kendall.

Located on Rehburg Road in Burton, Camp For All is a 206-acre, barrier-free camp that partners with 64 differ-ent non-profits to offer camps and empowering experienc-es for adults and children with special needs and chal-lenging illnesses, including cancer, muscular dystrophy, epilepsy, kidney disease, au-tism and hearing and sight impairments, as well as nu-merous other conditions.

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