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GIRLS SOCCER

Keller, Timber Creek and Nelson prep for playoffs



Keller traffic officers discuss crash investigations and traffic enforcement in Week 7 of the Citizen Police Academy.

By Mark David Smith
Reporter Mark David Smith is participating in the Keller Police Department's CIT-

academy class, which runs from Jan. 27 to April 24. The CIT is not open to the general public, but students of view during traffic stops. Not everything covered in the classroom can be published here. Nobody likes rush hour gridlock, or getting pulled over for speeding. This week's CPA brings a friendly reminder about traffic enforcement in Keller and Westlake, as well as the officers' points of view during traffic stops. In a relatively low-crime area, traffic issues are always a popular subject.

COMMUNITY

Women's group at Trophy Club church crafts for good causes

Traffic issues highlighted in academy class

Officers Stephen Crossman and Darrell Potts patrol on motorcycles in Westlake — primarily on Texas 84 and I-70 and U.S. 377 — while two other officers patrol traffic in Keller. While patrol officers work in 12-hour shifts, traffic division officers work regular 8-hour shifts Monday-Friday. The shifts are staggered so that at least one officer is patrolling during either rush hour.

"In my opinion, it's the best job in the department," Potts said. "I get paid to ride a motorcycle all day."

The Keller Police Department is notably open and transparent about its traffic patrol.

The city posts on Twitter and Facebook its traffic

enforcement locations each day. The officers aren't limited to those streets, but that's where they'll be most of the time. Patrol officers throughout the city can also pull over drivers for traffic violations. Crossman said the social media posts haven't resulted in fewer speeding citations.

More on ACADEMY, BA

2015-16 calendar has later weather days

Wintry weather closed KUSD schools for three days.

By Sandra Engstrand

As the lost instructional time due to the recent late bout of winter storms demonstrates the necessity, Keller district officials are planning later had weather make up days for the 2015-16 school year.

KUSD trustees approved next year's calendar at the February 10 board meeting, and a big part of the reason for the later-than-regular adoption was because of difficulties determining had weather make up days, said Dustin Blank, executive director of leadership.

Keller schools were closed Feb. 13 and 24 and March 5 for wintry weather. The district's first had weather day for 2014-15 had already passed on Feb. 16. The second had weather day, April 6, will be used to make up one day. Officials haven't decided what to do about the other two lost days. The last few

More on CALENDAR, BA

COMMUNITY

Boy Scouts embark on 50-mile hike from Keller



Khalil Burgess and Alden Crowley (right) march together on March 13, 2015 in Keller. Nearly 50 Boy Scouts from northeast Tarrant County took part in their annual Paul Kempf 50-Mile Hike. The hike took place over two days.

It's the 50th anniversary of the first 50-miler, founded by WWII veteran Paul Kempf.

By Mark David Smith
Troop 336's 90th annual 50-mile hike. Nearly 100 Boy Scouts, parents and scoutmasters took to Keller trails and streets Friday in local

from the Netherlands to the U.S. Kempf died in the '40s, but his legacy lives on in the 90th Annual Paul Kempf Memorial 50-Mile Hike.

"We're honored to be a part of it and continue it on," said Ramsey Acosta, a

Troop 336 assistant scoutmaster. The large group of hikers gathered Friday evening at the Keller Natatorium to begin the first 25 miles, which would take them until the early morn-

More on HIKE, SA

Fields fixed in time for weekend games

Vehicles caused thousands of dollars' worth of damage to the Keller Sports Fields weeks ago by doing "doughnuts" on the snow.

By Mark David Smith

Play ball! Vehicles doing "doughnuts" — spinning around for fun — in the snow on Feb. 27 ripped up the lawn in front of Keller Town Hall and some of the athletic fields at Keller Sports Park, according to the city.

The city estimated it would cost up to \$50,000 to repair, and some repairs were expected to take weeks.

However, thanks to donations, volunteers, and cooperation from the weather, some Keller Youth Association baseball and softball teams were able to take to the field this weekend for their first spring games.

Fields 7 and 8 had the most damage and will remain closed for a few weeks for repairs.

More on FIELDS, BA

Charity gives kids battling illnesses and their families reasons to smile

Sunshine Spaces makes over rooms for children with long-term illnesses and their siblings.

By Sandra Engstrand

FORT WORTH — When

Logan Kolner saw his new Lego room, he smiled from ear to ear.

The 8-year-old student at Kay Gagner Elementary hasn't had a lot of reasons to smile lately.

Diagnosed with a rare form of Ewing's Sarcoma just before the school year

began, Logan's had several surgeries, many rounds of chemotherapy and radiation and spent much of the Christmas holiday hospitalized at M.D. Anderson in Houston.

Mom Hillary Kolner said Logan is "one tough little bugger," not complaining

while going through an arduous season of setbacks and treatment.

Keller Sunshine Spaces, a Keller charity started by Erica Jones and her husband Joshua Jones. The organization's mission is to bring sunshine into the

More on SUNSHINE, BA



Logan Kolner is happy with his new Lego room. With Him's Sunshine Spaces founder Erica Jones.

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Local athletes race in St. Patrick's Day 5K, Triathlon

Hundreds took to Keller streets during the weekend in two holiday races. Runners took off from Shannon Brewing Company on Saturday morning and celebrated finishing the St. Patrick's Day 5K with a frothy pint or two.

More than 600 athletes competed in the St. Patrick's Day Sprint Triathlon on Sunday in Keller, including Police Chief, Public Safety Director and Interim City Manager Mark Haffner. Competitors swam 300 meters, biked 12.6 miles and ran 3.1 miles in the "official" kick-off to the Dallas-Fort Worth triathlon season.

-- Mark David Smith



Runners cross the start line to begin Shannon Brewery's first annual 5K run Saturday. The event included booths, live music, and beer samples after the race.



Matthew Anderson of Arlington races in the St. Patrick's Triathlon in Keller Sunday.



Lots of runners came out, some in costume, to have a good time during Shannon Brewery's first annual 5K run March 14.



Chad Mills of Keller enters the bike course during the St. Pat's Triathlon 2015 in Keller March 15.



Participants line the sides of Keller's Rotatorium during the St. Pat's Triathlon 2015 in Keller Sunday morning. The race included a 300-meter swim, 12.6-mile bike ride and a 3.1-mile run.



Nearly 50 Boy Scouts and other participants hike through Box Creek Park in Keller March 13.



Boy Scouts Will Goldberry (left) and Zach Feuling (right) took part in the annual Paul Kempff 50 Mile Hike.

Hike

meat all hiking requirements for the hiking merit badge.

Acosta said Kempff's family "thought the hike died off when he died," but the hike is growing in popularity, with an estimated 90 participants finishing the second half in North Richland Hills on Sunday.

The practice hikes during the last few months, and the 50-mile stretch over three days, help the scouts

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