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**Inside Section A:**

**METRO A2**



City of McKinney Breaks Ground on \$11 Million Indoor Tennis Complex

**HEALTHY LIFESTYLES A3**



Houseplant Secrets

**EDUCATION A4**

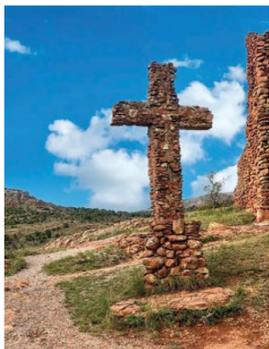


Sandbrock Ranch Elementary Students Select Mascot, Colors



Graduation Schedule for Class of 2022

**SPIRITUAL A5**



Area Church Directory

## Three Top High School Musicians in Texas from Aubrey ISD

Amy Ruggini



**AUBREY ISD, TX-** Aaron Cajilema, Josue Lopez and Xander Rouk were named three of the top high school musicians in the state of Texas last month by

the Association of Texas Small School Bands. The three Aubrey High School band members advanced to the all-state band after performing at the

ATSSB area audition in January. Twenty-one Chaparrals were named to the all-region band in November, and the trio were among nine members of the AHS band program that advanced to the area auditions. Xander, a junior, placed first out of all the percussion players in Aubrey's area; Aaron, a senior, finished first in the tuba area auditions, and Josue, a junior, was seventh chair in the clarinets section, one of the largest groups of instruments. At the area audition, the musicians have to play in front of a panel of judges. The judges

*Continued on A4*

## Pilot Point's Jam and Java



**PILOT POINT, TX-** As a local musician, I have teamed with the Pilot Point Coffee House owner, Jimerson Adkins, to provide a relatively inexpensive advertising platform for your business as well as a place to relax and listen to a variety of music some of the best musicians in North Texas. The Pilot Point

Coffee House is located on the square in downtown Pilot Point, 110 West Main Street. The Pilot Point Coffee House is a popular local gathering place, which promotes the arts. That is why they were supportive and excited about joining in with this endeavor. On the first Friday in North Texas. The Pilot Point

*Continued on A3*

## Thin Line Fest Announces 2022 Film Line Up

Joshua Butler



Photo credit: © Matthew Benoit

whether or not a bird that devours the dead can inspire the living.

**Charm Circle** - First-time feature film director, Nira Burstein, and producer Fred Armisen (of SNL) paint a charming and humorous portrait of Burstein's fractured family and the lengths at which she goes to rebuild her relationships with her eccentric New York family. Charm Circle marks its Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**Children of the Mist** - DI is a 13 year old girl living in North Vietnam where bridal kidnapping is a common practice. On Lunar New Year's Eve, her parents come home from a party and she is nowhere to be found. Vietnamese director, Ha Le Diem, shines a light on this scary and tragic practice. The film marks its Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**Chillnobl** - Igor Oprya does not want the exclusion zone to be the legacy of Chernobyl. He doesn't want the city to be remembered for the nuclear accident from 30 years ago. Instead, he wants to rebrand it as Russia's biggest rave site. Will he be successful? Director Pablo Rojas Castillo makes his North American premiere at Thin Line.

**Exposure** - From frostbite to sexism, Director Holly Morris documents the journey of 10 novice women explorers from the Arab World and the West, led by veteran polar explorer Felicity Aston, as they attempt to ski across the melting Arctic sea ice all the way to the North Pole. The award-winning film makes its Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**Framing Agnes** - This audience award-winning Sundance feature blurs different narrative techniques to discuss the true story

of Agnes, a young trans woman who entered a gender study program at UCLA in 1958. Director Chase Joynt's film features an all-star cast including Zackary Drucker, Angelica Ross, and Jen Richards. Thin Line will be the film's Texas premiere.

**Go Through the Dark** - Chinese filmmaker, Yunhong Pu, marks her film's Texas premiere at Thin Line. Go Through the Dark follows Guanglin, a young blind boy from China with limited means, Guanglin faces deep societal prejudice against the blind.

**Honk** - Award-winning actress, producer, and director, Cheryl Allison, brings us the story of her and Honk the goose. Dumped and alone at a city park, Honk spends his days dodging cars, begging for food and looking for friends. When Cheryl and Honk's path cross unexpectedly, what follows is a story in which fairy tales are made.

**Little Palestine** - Diary of a Siege - A filmed diary that follows the fate of civilians during the brutal siege imposed by the Syrian regime, Yarmouk-born filmmaker, Abdallah Al-Khatib, composes a love song to a place that resists the atrocities of war with dignity. Thin Line will be the Southwest U.S. premiere.

**Mama Bears** - Although they grew up as evangelical Christians, mama bears will risk losing friends, family, and community to keep their children safe — even if it challenges their belief systems and rips their worlds apart. Award-winning Director Daresha Kyi marks her film's North Texas

*Continued on A5*

## Apply Now for 2022-2023 School Year at Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy



Photo credit: © ImageSolutions

**DENTON ISD, TX-** Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy, a permanent full-time online learning option for students in grades kinder through eighth is now accepting applications for the 2022-2023 school year. You must be a resident of the state of Texas

to apply; however, qualifying students do not need to reside within the district's physical boundaries to gain acceptance to the virtual school.

Established in 2021, the K-8 Virtual Academy is a public, tuition-free school for students who may thrive in an online learning environment for a variety of reasons. The school's staff consists of experienced Denton ISD educators who were hand-selected and are committed to dedicating all resources to support online instruction.

*Continued on A3*

## Collin County Sheriff's Office Child Exploitation Unit Makes Arrest

Nick Bristow, Captain



**COLLIN COUNTY, TX-** On Thursday, February 24, 2022 Investigators with the Collin County Sheriff's Office Child Exploitation Unit (CEU) arrested 34-year-old Carlos DelBosque and charged him with Online Solicitation of a Minor-Sexual Conduct and Soliciting Prostitution from

a Person under 18- years-of-age. Approximately one week ago, DelBosque began communicating with one of our undercover CEU Investigators, who was posing online as a 15- year-old female. Within the first 13 minutes of the conversation, DelBosque made clear his intention to meet and engage in sexual activity with the person he thought was a 15-year-old girl and made arrangements to pay \$150.00 for the sexual act. Upon arriving at the meet location, a local park, DelBosque was arrested by deputies. DelBosque is currently being held in the Collin County Detention Center.

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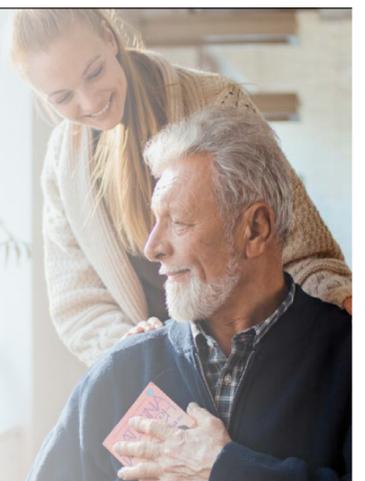
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**380News**

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The publication deadline for advertising, editorial submissions, guest editorials, and letters to the editor is the 15th day of the preceding month for each issue. Letters to the editor must be 300 words or less and include a name, address, and phone number (only name and city will be published). Content may be submitted via email to info@380news.com.

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## City of McKinney Breaks Ground on \$11 Million Indoor Tennis Complex

The facility at Gabe Nesbitt Community Park will create one of the premier public tennis facilities in the state  
Photos: Renderings of new indoor tennis complex



MCKINNEY, TX— The City of McKinney has broken ground on the new \$11 million indoor tennis complex at Gabe Nesbitt Community Park, which will be constructed next to the existing outdoor tennis facility, The Courts. The 55,000-square-foot facility will have six indoor courts, bringing the total number of courts within the complex to 29. The building will include training rooms, administrative offices, locker rooms, and a second-level viewing mezzanine, creating one of the premier public tennis facilities in the State of Texas. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

The indoor courts will also accommodate cricket games and pickleball. Last year, The Courts hosted the USA Mid-South Regional Pickleball Tournament that brought 1,000 players from around the country to McKinney for four days. With the completion of the new indoor facility, the city can pursue more large-scale tournaments.

“The tennis world is unique in that people travel to play tournaments. We would love to be a home base for people to come in and play. We’re fortunate to be building an indoor facility that will allow us to play even in inclement weather,” said Michael Kowski, Director of Parks and Recreation. “Beyond that, we have many different people

moving to this area of Texas who are bringing all types of sports with them. Our mission is to accommodate all those sports, all those users, so everyone has an opportunity to play in our parks.”

The Courts of McKinney opened in 2012 with 11 outdoor courts and a clubhouse and was subsequently awarded the United States Tennis Association Facility of the Year Award. Over the years, the city expanded the facility to 23 total outdoor courts and incorporated pickleball into the programming.

For more information about the indoor tennis facility at Gabe Nesbitt Community Park, visit [www.mckinney-texas.org/parksdevelopment](http://www.mckinney-texas.org/parksdevelopment).

## Getting Spring and Summer Weeds Under Control

By Cheryl Huckabee



Lawn overtaken by Crabgrass Weeds (Panicum virgatum)

**DENTON COUNTY, TX-** One of the most frustrating endeavors for lovers of beautiful lawns is keeping weeds at bay. A successful tactic for controlling most annual grassy weeds and some broadleaf weeds is to apply a pre-emergence herbicide to your lawn at the correct times of the year.

There are two types of herbicide products used to control weeds - pre-emergence and post-emergence. They are applied at different points in the weeds’ life cycle. As the name suggests, pre-emergence herbicides are applied before weed seeds germinate. The active ingredients in pre-emergence herbicides prevent seeds from germinating. Post-emergence herbicides are applied after weeds sprout.

Seeds require warmth to sprout, so catching spring and summer annual weed seeds before they emerge requires applying the pre-emergence herbicide while the soil temperature is still cool, between 50 - 55 degrees. These temperatures usually occur in North Texas between late February and mid-March. A second application is recommended 6 to 8 weeks later to prevent summer annual weeds.

Look for pre-emergence

herbicide products containing these active ingredients:

Corn gluten meal- An organic option that controls some grassy weeds if it does not rain for 5 - 7 days after application.

Dithiopyr, Isoxaben, Oryzalin, or Pendimethalin Control grassy weeds and some broadleaf weeds.

Read the product label carefully before purchasing to ensure it is appropriate for use on the type of turfgrass in your lawn and targets the type of weeds you’re trying to control. Most pre-emergence herbicides will keep grass seed from sprouting. Follow the label instructions for application timing if you plan to overseed your lawn.

Your spring and summer weed battle plan in summary:

- Apply pre-emergence herbicides in late February to mid-March, no later
- Use the right product for your grass type and targeted weeds (read the label)
- Follow label instructions for overseed timing and safety protocols
- Apply pre-emergence herbicides again 6 - 8 weeks later
- Spot treat sprouted weeds with a post-emergence herbicide

Learn more about herbicide selection for warm season turfgrass from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension at this link: <https://cdn-ext.agnet.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/herbicide-selection-for-warm-season-turfgrass-lawns.pdf>

Join us for these fantastic gardening educational events:

- Mar 9, “Gardening Under Glass”
- Mar 17, “Pollinator Gardens”
- Apr 13, “Gardening as a Therapeutic Resource”
- Apr 23, Annual Plant Sale
- May 7, Garden Tour

Find more details at [dcmga.com/upcomingevents](http://dcmga.com/upcomingevents)  
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# HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

## Houseplant Secrets

Janet Laminack, County Extension Agent-Horticulture



**DENTON COUNTY, TX**—Today I write about foliage houseplants, telling you everything that I know. It shan't take long. Most of our houseplants are tropical plants that naturally grow in the understory of forests. We have snagged these plants and put them in our homes because they have low (or lower) light demands. That also means that our houseplants do not enjoy our cold winter days. Being tropical, they cannot survive freezing temperature. Some might even be sensitive to temperatures in the 40s.

Our summers are certainly warm enough, that a tropical houseplant can thrive on the patio or outside. The risk you take there is sunburn. Moving a plant from inside the house to direct sunlight is going to damage the plant in most cases. You need to slowly move it from low light to direct light, incrementally over time.

But, I would encourage you to just keep a houseplant a houseplant. For the most part, we want houseplants to grow slowly and just be nice and green. We have all seen houseplants that have become too large and out of control. While it is fun to live in an indoor jungle, most of us have to rehome these monster plants so that we can use our kitchen table, etc.

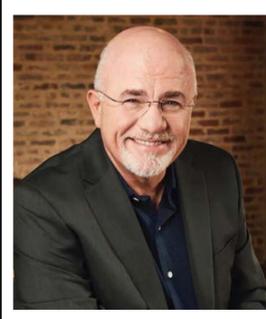
Ready for the secret to growing healthy houseplants? It is in how you water it. The best method is to soak the plant well, letting the water run out the bottom of the container. You might want to put the plant in a sink or bathtub for that. Return the plant to its proper location, hopefully with a saucer under it. Then wait to water again until the plant has mostly dried out. A little bit of water every day is

not what most of our plants desire. A nice, deep soak (but a soak that drains out) also removes salts that build up in the soil. You don't have to do this deep soak every time you water, but I do recommend doing it a few times a year. Especially if the leaves of your plants have brown edges or tips. If you yearn for more excitement in your home, there are blooming houseplants such as African violets, orchids, bromeliads, amaryllis to name a few. The care for a blooming plant is going to be different, since you are encouraging growth.

And there you have it, all my houseplant secrets. The Master Gardener help desk is well-prepared to answer your houseplant questions. Send them a text, email, or give them a call at 940.349.2892 or mastergardener@dentoncounty.gov.

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating*

## Dave Says



**Dear Dave,**  
We're trying to get control of our finances by living on a budget. We also have about \$18,000 in debt we are trying to pay off. My husband brings home \$3,400 a month, and I am currently taking care of our eight-month-old

baby. We would like to have a date night once a month, and he thinks we should set aside \$200 for this. Under the current circumstances, I feel like this is too much. What do you think? - Carolyne

**Dear Carolyne,**  
If you'd told me you guys make \$150,000 a year, I'd say go have a great time. But with your income, and a lot of debt on top, I'd put the brakes on that amount. It sounds like he's looking for an outlet to unwind and have a little fun, without giving a lot of thought to the big picture. The good thing, though, is you're working together and beginning to take this personal

finance thing seriously. My advice would be to lower the date night amount to about \$50 right now. That's plenty for a reasonable dinner and a babysitter for a couple of hours. You might not have to figure babysitting expenses into the equation at all if you have family or friends nearby.

Going out on a date doesn't have to mean spending a lot of money. Years ago, when my wife and I were broke, we did tons of stuff that didn't cost a dime. Things like hiking and picnics are great ways to spend quality time together, while keeping your pocketbook in your pocket. Just be creative,

talk about it together and make sure you find ways to have a little us time on a regular basis.

I think you're right on this one, Carolyne! - Dave

*\* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.*

## Counseling Staff at Rodriguez Middle School Wins Statewide Award

Article Provided by Denton ISD

**DENTON ISD, TX**—Denton Independent School District's Rodriguez Middle School Counseling Department was named the recipient of the CREST Award, which annually recognizes the top counseling staff in the state, by the Texas School Counselor Association.

This marks the eleventh consecutive year that at least one Denton ISD campus has received a CREST Award. Each

of the recipients was honored at the CREST Luncheon, which is part of the annual TSCA conference, in San Antonio.

"It is a tremendous honor to receive this recognition from the TSCA, so I am very proud of this counseling team and the work we're doing at the district," said Amy Lawrence, director of counseling services. "This is the eleventh consecutive year one of our counseling teams has been recognized, just fur-

ther solidifying the hard work they put in daily to provide invaluable services to our students and families in Denton ISD."

The Rodriguez Middle School counseling staff consists of lead Counselor Stephani Mohon, counselor Michael Rooney and student assistance counselor Jennifer Cheek.

The CREST Award was introduced by the Texas School Counselor Association in 2005 to recognize excellence in

school counseling.

CREST stands for Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas and is a program focusing on ten areas where school counselors have the greatest impact on the achievements, career aspirations, personal gains and social aspects of students' lives. The program helps counselors evaluate their current counseling guidelines and techniques, while also promoting their services to students and parents.

### 'Jam and Java...' continued from front page

day every month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. come out and enjoy music for all ages and no cover charge, and BYOB with simple set ups available.

For a minimal fee we will feature your business with your logo on the month of your choice in the newspaper and in Pilot Point Guide quarterly. During the performance your business will be mentioned several times as our sponsor. In addition, you can leave your pamphlets, flyers, or business

cards for our attending patrons. Of course, you can meet the attendees in person!

As a fellow business owner, I know how each of you love and are proud of your business. I also am aware of the importance of folks patronizing your business. In particular, I am one who values repeat customers. Getting your business information out there requires many forms of advertising including.... radio, print ads, television, and word of mouth,

etc. I personally believe there is nothing as influential and lucrative as word of mouth. This unique opportunity brands your business with a combination of effective advertising!

Your sponsorship will provide the funds needed to bring these magnificent musicians to Pilot Point for a monthly music venue at our local Coffee House. You are welcome to sponsor more than one month if you choose. If you become a sponsor, you and your employ-

ees are invited to attend the monthly music venues. In addition, our year end scheduled monthly music show will be a privately dedicated concert in honor of our sponsors. We would love for you to become a sponsor of this great venue. Please contact me for more information at 469-446-6546.

*Support Musicians, Brand Your Business Deanie Horn Deal, Venue Host accompanied by Dave Hollowell of Dave & Deanie Music Duo*

### 'Apply Now for...' continued from front page

Students attending the K-8 Virtual Academy gain the full experience of learning in a traditional school setting, but in a virtual environment.

"As we embark on our second academic year, we are excited to open the application window for anyone interested in an online learning platform for their learner," said Caleb Leath, principal. "The application is available to anyone whether

they reside in the Denton ISD boundary lines or not. So, act fast because the application window will close on March 31."

In March of 2021, Denton ISD established the Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy. The school, the first of its kind in the district, was planned based on the request of local families who, during a global pandemic, wished to continue learning virtually.

The addition of the new virtual campus has enabled the district to reconnect with families and students who may have selected homeschool or disengaged with Denton ISD for a different form of instruction amidst the pandemic. Many of those students have chosen to return to the district and learn virtually since the school opened.

Middle school students en-

rolled in the virtual academy who wish to participate in traditional extra-curricular activities/athletics will participate with their peers on their traditional campus while completing their course work online.

Students may use their own devices to do the remote work. If a personal device is not available, the district will provide laptops for any student who opts to use a district-issued device.

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# EDUCATION

## Sandbrock Ranch Elementary Students Select Mascot, Colors

Hauvani Shipper



Photo: Vice Principal Kristina Nichols, left, and Principal Claire Springer reveal the name of the mascot for the new Sandbrock Ranch Elementary opening this August in the Sandbrock Ranch community. "Champions" was selected by a group of fourth-grade students.

development in which it resides, Sandbrock Ranch, an 800-acre master-planned community in Aubrey directly off FM 1385, near the district's border with the town of Prosper. The development is a former horse farm.

The school, built to serve 750 students, will relieve rapid growth and is the seventh elementary school serving students in the Braswell High zone. Sandbrock Ranch Elementary will open its doors for the first day of school on Thursday, Aug. 11, 2022.

"The mascot being named Champions raises the bar for every single student at Sandbrock Ranch Elementary to reach their full potential," said Dr. Jeff Russell, area superintendent of academic programs in the Braswell zone. "Pairing the mascot name with the unique stable system being implemented by the leadership is a brilliant way to foster a sense of belonging for the students and the entire Sandbrock Ranch community."

More than 1,000 homes have sold in Sandbrock Ranch since home sales began in 2018. Builders in the community are Coventry Homes, David Weekley Homes and Highland Homes. Pricing is from the \$400,000s.

Learn more at <https://www.sandbrockranch.com>.

AUBREY, TX – A precocious group of fourth-grade students from three campuses in the Braswell High zone took to the ballot box recently, casting their vote on a mascot for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary, Denton ISD's newest and 25th elementary school.

The students chose between the finalists of Stallions, the Champions and the Ponies. In a landslide tally, 72 percent of the students voted Champions as the school's new mascot. School colors will be emerald green, silver and white.

"Things are moving very quickly as we approach the start of the next school year. Selecting the mascot for Sandbrock Ranch Elementary is another exciting step in that journey," said Claire Springer, principal.

"Our mission is already taking shape based on the mascot selection. We want everyone to know we will build Champions to be courageous, compassionate and committed learners."

The learning environment inside the halls at Sandbrock Ranch Elementary will consist of six stables, each representing champion horses including Appaloosas, Clydesdales, Galineers, Mustangs, Ponies and Shires.

From those smaller micro-communities, the goal is to build leadership qualities and student voice by using collaborative spaces to interact with students across grade levels. Every student and every staff member should take pride in their stable.

The district's 25th elementary campus is named for the

## April 15,18 Remain Holidays at Denton ISD

DENTON ISD, TX- Following the class cancellations on Feb. 3-4 and Feb. 24, Denton ISD's 2021-2022 Calendar will remain unchanged for the spring semester. At this time, Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18 will remain

student and staff holidays. Use of these days for instruction may be required if there were a need for additional cancellations during this spring semester, preventing Denton ISD from meeting the required instructional minutes.

Just a reminder that on Dec. 14, Denton ISD announced the conversion of Wednesday, April 13 from a full day of instruction to a half day of class for students. On that day, staff will participate in collaborative planning.

## Graduation Schedule for Class of 2022

Information Provided by Denton ISD

DENTON ISD, TX- Denton ISD has announced the dates for Commencement Ceremonies for the Class of 2022. At this time, ceremonies are scheduled to be at The University of North Texas Coliseum, 601 North Texas Blvd. in Denton.

Please note, the location is subject to change as we continue to

monitor the COVID-19 pandemic. More detailed information will be released soon as it becomes available.

For your planning purposes, please plan based on the following:

Thursday, May 26 at 3 p.m. LaGrone Academy  
Thursday, May 26 at 7 p.m. Ryan High School  
Friday, May 27 at 9 a.m. Fred

Moore High School  
Friday, May 27 at 12 noon Braswell High School

Friday, May 27 at 4 p.m. Guyer High School  
Friday, May 27 at 8 p.m. Denton High School

For more information or details regarding your graduate, please contact your student's counselor on campus.

'Three Top High School...' continued from front page

cannot see the musicians auditioning, and the students cannot see the judges. The audition was a culmination of many hours and weeks of work with the students practicing a piece of music.

Xander, Aaron and Josue each had their own personal motivations that kept them practicing early in the morning, at home and on the weekends.

"This year was a lot of by yourself type of work," Xander said. "A lot of... in the band hall when everyone is in here... continuing to hash it out."

Xander felt a combination of pressure and confidence from advancing to the all-state band last year.

"I felt a lot of pressure to make it again," Xander said. "I put a lot on myself. I have a lot of pride in it. My confidence came from me knowing that I succeeded in the past."

When he struggled, he said that he would remind himself that he was capable of succeeding because he had done it before.

For the percussion audition, Xander had to perform on three different instruments: snare drum, marimba and timpani with different music for each instrument.

With more of his instruments at school, Xander would often stay after school and use his off period to practice in the band hall. There were often other band students practicing, preparing for class, and they became very

familiar with Xander's music.

"In my last class, there were people singing my audition cut because of how much I practiced it in the ball hall," Xander said. "They memorized it."

Aaron could also be found in the band hall, playing the tuba for as many as several hours a day. For Aaron, it was just determination to make that final cut.

"Last year, I missed it by a chair," Aaron said. "It bugged me a lot because I was so close. Any second I had outside of school, I focused on playing as much as I could."

Aaron plays the baritone during marching band season, so it was finding spare minutes before school and after school to play the tuba. He decided to not play football for his senior year so he could concentrate more on the tuba. The senior didn't need anyone reminding him to practice.

"It was just me pushing myself more and more every day," Aaron said.

After placing third chair at area auditions last year with the top two moving on, Aaron was named first chair this year.

Aaron is among a group of students in the band hall very early in the morning. Josue is another one of the early risers.

"Josue is someone who is constantly playing," Aaron said. "You get there in the morning, and he is the first person sitting there with his

instrument playing. Josue has a lot of quiet determination."

For Josue, advancing to the all-state band has always been the goal. Every year he stepped a little bit closer. He was named all-region as a freshman, advanced to the area auditions as a sophomore and was named all-state this year as a junior. As he prepared for this year's area auditions, he knew he would have to change his habits.

"As a person, I procrastinate a lot," Josue said. "For this, I had to really try and change the way that I was so that I could put in as much work as possible. I did bits and pieces over time instead of doing everything at the very end. I put in a lot of work. I would do an hour or two a day and when I wasn't practicing, I would look over the music and finger along."

"It paid off," Josue said. After the excitement of being named to the all-state band, the trio has been busy working on new music for the TMEA Clinic/Convention. They will travel to San Antonio to audition for chair placement in a final concert.

And then, there are more goals. Xander has a goal to advance to the all-state band for a third year.

Josue is taking education in training classes with a goal of becoming a band director.

Aaron is planning on attending BYU in the fall and would love to play tuba for the school or a nearby orchestra.

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premiere at Thin Line.

**Mariposas del Campo** - Mariposas del Campo shares the stories of indigenous Mixtec, Zapotec, and Purépecha teenagers from Mexico striving to change their families' destinies in the strawberry fields of Oxnard, California. Sometimes it takes a leap of faith to chase a dream. The film from Director Bill Yahraus and Producer Robin Rosenthal will be making its Southwest U.S. premiere.

**Master of Light** - George Anthony Morton, a classical painter who spent ten years in federal prison, travels to his hometown to paint his family members. Going back forces George to face his past in his quest to rewrite the script of his life. Acclaimed documentarian Rosa Ruth Boesten is making her North Texas premiere.

**Overland** - Award-winning documentarians Elisabeth Haviland James and Revere La Noue are marking their feature's Texas premiere at Thin Line. Adventure unfolds across four continents as an eagle hunter, a hawk whisperer, and a falcon racer awaken the ancient art of connecting to the wild that is fading out of sight and out of mind.

**Ricochet** - Emmy-nominated documentarian, Chihiro Wim-bush, and award-winning filmmaker and San Francisco public defender, Jeff Adachi, make their Texas premiere with Ricochet. When a young woman is shot by an undocumented immigrant on Pier 14 in San Francisco, the incident ignites a political and media furor that culminates in Donald Trump's election as President of the United States. In the eye of this storm, two public defenders fight to reveal the truth.

**The Admiral Tchumakov** - Lake Issyk Kul is one of the five deepest lakes in the world. On its shores, dark constructions of cement and steel appear as old wrecks. Here lies the pride of a Soviet Navy Admiral. The French documentary from directors, Laurier Fourniau and Arnaud Alberola, will be screening for the first time in North America at Thin Line.

**The Cannons** - Part coming of age story, part social-political commentary on the Black American experience, the film chronicles the Fort Dupont Cannons, one of America's only predominantly Black hockey teams, as they must overcome the challenges of life on and off the ice. Directors, Steven Hoffner and AJ Messier, are bringing their film to Texas for the first time.

**The Creative High** - Seeking an alternative "high" through cre-

ativity, the film offers a portal into the aliveness and spiritual connection often sought through drugs and alcohol. Bringing the viewer into the worlds of hip-hop, drag performance, punk music, and featuring artists who create dance, theater, and visual art. Director Adriana Marchione and Producer Dianne Griffin make their Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**The Outside Circle** - A western artist, a 5th generation rancher, and a Paiute-Shoshone rodeo champion are determined to preserve their heritage, traditions, and livelihoods. The Outside Circle explores the common thread in their modest adherence to the values of faith, family, friends, and community. Writer Craig Rullman makes his directorial debut and Thin Line will host the World Premiere of The Outside Circle.

**The Reverend** - This is the first feature film by cinematographer Nick Canfield, who recently won an award from DOC NYC. The Reverend tells a story of a seminary drop-out, Vince Anderson, who followed music as a second-calling to share his faith. Also a social activist, Anderson uses his message to build inclusion with his followers from all walks of life. Thin Line marks the film's Texas debut.

**They made us the night** - In 1974 the Dolores Cyclone flooded the town of Charco Redondo and its inhabitants were forced into exile and thereby founding a new community. Four decades later, Director Antonio Hernández manages to get an inside look at the lives of those who live there. Thin Line will serve as the U.S. premiere.

**Underdog** - Director Tommy Hyde's feature-length documentary, Underdog was shot over a ten year period and tells the story of a hardscrabble Vermont farmer who risks losing the only home he has ever known to chase his dreams of dog mushing in Alaska. Underdog makes its Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**What We Leave Behind** - At the age of 89, Julián quietly starts building a house in the empty lot next to his home. Over several years, Director Iliana Sosa films her grandfather's work, gently sifting through Julián's previously unspoken memories and revealing both the daily pragmatism and poetry of his life. Thin Line will be the first North Texas screening for What We Leave Behind.

**Yung Punx: A Punx Parable** - Color Killer, a punk group of 8 to 12-year olds, prepares for their Warped Tour debut with the help of SNL's Chris Parnell and their supportive, roadie/manager parents. Award-winning documentarian trio Seth Kramer, Daniel A. Miller, and

Jeremy Newberger will be premiering their film in Texas for Thin Line.

**Zero Gravity** - A hit with critics and audiences alike, Thomas Verette's Zero Gravity has already racked up several film festival awards across the world. The film follows a diverse group of middle school students from San Jose, CA, who compete in a nationwide tournament to code satellites aboard the International Space Station.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 1: OUTDOORS ANYTIME**

**The Middle of the World** - Andrew Quinton Holzschuh marks his world premiere with this film about endurance runner and artist, Aaron Garcia, as he pushes himself to the limit during his Grand Canyon "rim-to-rim-to-rim run."

**Waiting for Waves** - Director Jacob Zaoutis gives us a look inside the raw world of New England east-coast surfing through the eyes of three men who have dedicated their lives to the ocean in this Texas premiere.

**The Last Last Hike** - 83-year-old Nimblewill Nomad is about to become the oldest person to thru-hike the Appalachian Trail, but will this really be his last last hike? Director Céline François finds out in this Texas premiere.

**Beyond the Scope** - Meet Anna Le, an aquatic ecologist and environmental educator. Anna has spent years connecting people with outdoor spaces and each other while conveying her contagious love for conservation and her deep desire to cultivate a more inclusive outdoors for all. From Director Chelsea Jolly, Thin Line serves as the film's Southwest U.S. premiere.

**Slim Pickins** - On the corner of Main Street in Stephenville, Texas, sits 'Slim Pickins Outfitters', the first Black-owned outdoor outfitter shop in the Country. Like most small businesses, Covid-19 puts more stress on their finances and mental health than anticipated. Through it all, Director Justin Jeffers tells a story of hope, reconciliation, community, and friendship.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 2: CREATIVES CREATE**

**Damascus** - Working in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, blacksmith Tommy Carroll completes a decade-long project: a blade of Damascus steel forged beneath a solar eclipse. Director Ethan Denning brings Thin Line, the film's world premiere.

**Movements** - From Director Melissa Ramos, Movements tells the story of Jonah Levine as he embarks on a journey of creativity after being commissioned by the LA Jazz Society to compose a jazz suite representing Los Angeles with his collective of diverse musicians. The film makes its Southwest U.S.

debut at Thin Line.

**Fugazi's Barber** - In Washington, D.C., legendary punk rockers get cleaned up by an old-school Italian barber. The film by Directors Joe Tropea and Robert A. Emmons will have its Texas premiere at Thin Line.

**Don't Put Her Down** - Director Julia Golonka explores the life and songs of Hazel Dickens, one of the first women to front a bluegrass band. Thin Line serves as the film's Texas premiere.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 3: INTERNATIONAL LENS**

**Young and the Reckless** - From Director Johnny Agnew, Young and the Reckless chronicles the lives of a group of teenage runaways in Auckland City, New Zealand. Shot from 2014 to 2021, the film documents their uncertain journeys as they try to find their feet in the world.

**The Road Bad and the Place Dark** - Director Borja Larrondo makes his Texas premiere by way of Spain with his short film. Sierra Leone is the second poorest country in the world. After overcoming one of the toughest and bloodiest civil wars, in 2014 they had to face one of the most devastating epidemics in living memory, Ebola.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 4: JOURNEYS SHARED**

**Deafying Gravity** - Making its Southwest U.S. premiere at Thin Line, Deafying Gravity is about Katia Schwartz, a Deaf and Queer professional Aerial performer in Sydney, Australia. After multiple unexpected diagnoses with a profound hearing loss, she is forced to reflect on her identity, life and career. Director Sam Martin brings her story to life on screen.

**Daniel & Nate** - Screening for the first time in the Southwest U.S., the film tells the story of Daniel. He's a typical sarcastic teenager who loves football and video games. For most of Daniel's life, however, he's assisted his family by providing essential care for his younger brother Nate. Director Lauren Cater and Producer Abbey Hoekzema return to Thin Line as M.F.A. graduates of the University of North Texas Documentary Production and Studies program.

**Feeling Through** - Oscar nominated short film directed by Doug Roland, Feeling Through tells the story of a random connection between a teenager-in-need and a DeafBlind man in New York City. Thin Line serves as its North Texas premiere.

**Connecting the Dots** - A follow up to Feeling Through, Doug Roland dives deeper into the chance encounter of the subjects

from his Oscar nominated short film. This will be Connecting the Dots Texas premiere.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 5: HEALTHCARE INTERVENES**

**The Stoppagap** - Katya Skvortsova and Timothy Racca Morrish's short film follows a handful of New Yorkers in the spring of 2020. Feeling powerless to the pandemic's fury and seeing how essential masks and face shields were for frontline workers, these innovators formed networks to source materials, produce, and distribute PPE to the people who needed it so desperately.

**Takeover** - Emma Francis Snyder's film explores the twelve historic hours on July 14, 1970 in which fifty members of the Young Lords Party stormed the dilapidated Lincoln Hospital in the South Bronx, drove out staff, barricaded entrances and made their cries for decent healthcare known to the world. Thin Line serves as the film's Texas premiere.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 6: EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED**

**Deerwoods Deathtrap** - Director James P. Gannon tells the story of a couple who were hit by a train in 1971 and survived in this Texas premiere. 50 years later the couple returns to the scene of the accident to recount their conflicting memories.

**34 Carmine St.** - Beatriz Browne tells an esoteric-yet-light-hearted story through the life of a bookstore owner who embodies the last fortress of one of New York's most prominent neighborhoods, Greenwich Village. Thin Line will mark the film's Southwest U.S. premiere.

**Anchored Out** - In Sausalito, CA, a vulnerable, free-floating houseboat enclave full of mariners, drifters, nomads, and disaster survivors struggle against a harbor-master, bureaucrats, and a wealthy community that wants them gone. Anchored Out is co-directed by Katie Bernstein and Clara Mokri.

**SHORTS PROGRAM 7: POLITICS 101**

**Monumental Divide** - Brian Olliver's short film about a small rural town divided over politics, follows a young couple as they come to terms with the social forces that drove them out. It will be making its Southwest U.S. premiere at the festival.

**Kinderland** - What was once a rivalry between two secular Jewish summer camps becomes an allyship against the rising anti-semitism during the Trump era. Directed by Amy Grappell, Kinderland screens in Texas for the first time during Thin Line.

The Militiaman - In the hills

of rural Pennsylvania, the leader of a local militia must prepare his men for the turbulent political landscape of 2020 while at war with his own conscience. Director David Peter Hansen's Texas premiere will take place at Thin Line.

**PAIRED SHORTS**

**Turtle Beach** - The world premiere of Turtle Beach from local Denton filmmaker, Charlie Collier, will be paired with Broken Wings. Collier traveled to the Southern Pacific coast of Mexico to capture the annual egg laying of the Olive Ridley sea turtle and uncovered an amazing story of community and conservation.

It Takes a Circus - Aaliyah and Bre dream of escaping the violence that has marred their young lives, and their possible ticket out is Trenton Circus Squad. Now that COVID-19 has changed everything, will the circus and girls' dreams survive? Directed by Sarah D. Collins and Zoe Chiriseri Ramushu, It Takes a Circus will be paired with Yung Punx: A Punx Parable.

What The Rain Feels Like - In May of 2020, the Navajo Nation had the highest COVID-19 infection rate in the United States. With Love, From Strangers, a non-profit organization, was founded as a result of the pandemic to connect strangers and inspire the sharing of resources with those in need. The film, directed by Dane Christensen, will be paired with The Admiral Tchumakov.

Favorite Daughter - Director Dana Reilly explores the lives of her grandmother and mother who are living together as they shelter in place during the Covid-19 pandemic. Her grandmother has recently become a widow and her mother, Janet, moved in to help her as she ages. Using humor, charm, and raw emotion to tell their story, Reilly explores the reality of spending the later chapters of our lives alone. Favorite Daughter will be paired with What We Left Behind and will have its world premiere at Thin Line.

Generation Impact: The Coder - Jay Jay Patton was only 13 when she designed and built Photo Patch, a mobile app to help kids send photos and letters to incarcerated parents. Jay Jay's own dad was in prison for five years. Jay Jay and her dad founded Unlock Academy, a school that teaches coding and provides mentoring to enable young people of color to have careers in STEM fields. Directed by Samantha Knowles, the film will be paired with Zero Gravity.



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