

TINY ALLIES

Beneficial insects and other creatures help control outdoor pests, writes Skip Richter. Garden, B8



Big Ten: Football, other fall sports will play conference games only. /Sports, B1

Disney World parks to reopen with new rules. /Diversions, B4

BIG

WEATHER
High 98, Low 77
Partly sunny
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Outbreak continues as fall draws nearer

100 additional infections reported in Brazos County

Eagle staff report

Brazos County health officials reported 100 new cases of COVID-19 on Thursday.

The county now has 2,804 total cases. Of the total cases, 1,311 are considered active, 16 fewer than Wednesday's total; 1,459 people have recovered, which is 116 more than Wednesday's total.

Health officials said Thursday that 23,187 tests for COVID-19 have been administered by Brazos County health care providers, which is 747 more than Wednesday's total.

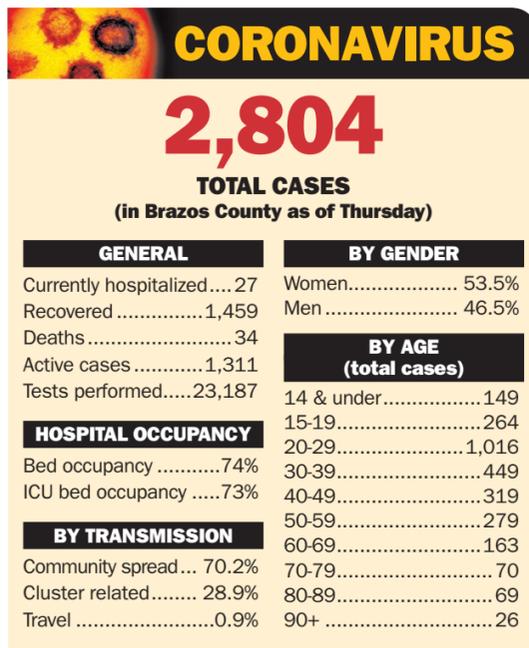
There were 27 Brazos County residents hospital-

ized Thursday, which is one fewer than Wednesday's total. Six people were discharged from the hospital. Health officials said Thursday that Brazos County's total hospital bed occupancy is at 74%, and the ICU bed capacity is at 73%.

To date, 34 Brazos County residents have died after being treated for COVID-19. The latest death was reported Sunday.

According to state data, Brazos County's infection rate is 12.34 per 1,000 residents. The rate in Harris County is 8.69 per 1,000 residents, while Dallas County

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Experts: Opening schools could require hard choices

By MICHELLE R. SMITH and CARLA K. JOHNSON
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — President Donald Trump insists that schools reopen this fall. Many parents, educators, doctors and economists want the same thing. But getting children back to school safely could mean keeping high-risk spots like bars and gyms closed.

A growing chorus of public health experts is urging federal, state and local officials to reconsider how they are reopening the broader economy, and to prioritize K-12 schools — an effort

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• 1.3M file for jobless benefits. /A7

that will likely require closing some other establishments to help curb the virus spread and give children the best shot at returning to classrooms.

“We need to think about what our priorities are as a society, and some other things may just have to wait,” said Helen Jenkins, an infectious disease epidemiologist at Boston University. “I think there are hard choices having to be made by decision makers.”

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Drive-thru window



Eagle photo by Michael Miller

Salvation Army Lt. Timothy Israel provides food during a meal distribution hosted by Brazos Feed it Forward at the Salvation Army in Bryan on Thursday. Israel moved to the area around three weeks ago from Arlington. Restaurants involved in Thursday's meal giveaway included 3rd on Main, All the King's Men, Fargo's Pit BBQ, Hullabaloo Diner, Madden's Casual Gourmet, Nam Cafe, Ronin Farm & Restaurant and the Village.

Survey: Aggies split on 'Sully'

54% support no change to statue

By ALEX MILLER
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Texas A&M's Student Senate has released results from a six-question survey sent to gauge opinions from current students regarding the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue on A&M's campus and its future presence at the university.

Results, which were released Wednesday, showed 54% of students who responded are likely or very likely to support no change to the statue, and 60% are unlikely or very unlikely to support removal of the statue from A&M's campus.

Survey results also showed more than 50% of responses from students who identify as Black, Asian, Hispanic/Latino or as international students said they were unlikely or very unlikely to support the potential option of no change to the Sully statue. Further, 82% of students identifying as Black said they were unlikely or very unlikely to support the option of no change.

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Phase 1 of learning center nears opening

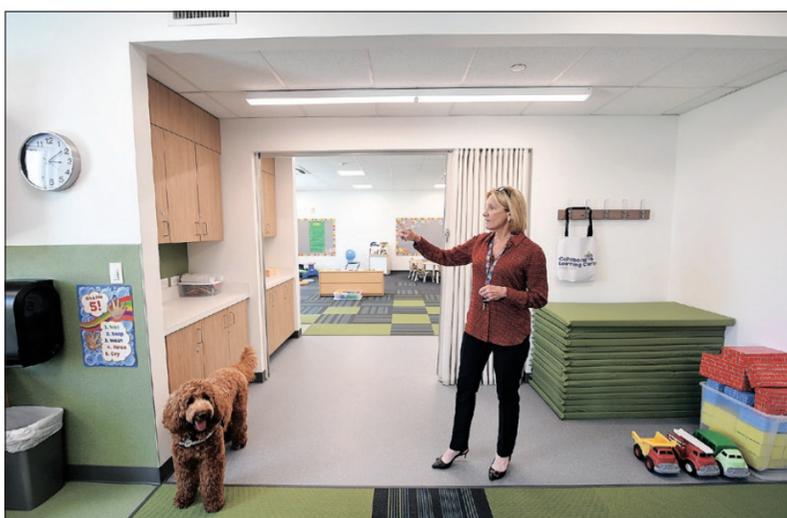
Facility near Texas A&M eventually will include both preschool and senior community

By CHELSEA KATZ
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The Collaborative Learning Center, a new model of preschool for students ages 2 to 6, will open Aug. 3 near Texas A&M University.

The preschool, located at 1411 Hensel St. in College Station, is the first phase of the Intergenerational Learning Center, which is a joint project between the Texas A&M University System and private businesses that will include the preschool and a tiered senior living center.

The preschool is licensed for 263 students, CLC Executive Director Vicki Gibson said, but she does not anticipate reaching that number. She expects the school to open at half-capacity on Aug. 3 to give students and staff — two teachers and a teaching assistant per classroom — a comfortable space with the future of COVID-19



Eagle photo by Laura McKenzie

Executive Director Vicki Gibson stands in an area connecting two classrooms while giving a tour of the Collaborative Learning Center with therapy dog Sophie on Thursday.

unknown, she said. “We’ve just got to get a system and get the staff all feeling comfortable,” she said. “If that requires

more space, then the whole thing’s open, but the whole number of children won’t be.” TAMU System Chan-

cellor John Sharp, Texas A&M College of Education Dean Joyce Alexander, Gibson and private developers broke ground on the

project in January 2019.

The private, for-profit preschool sits on land owned by the university system, Gibson said, and the second floor has been leased out to the Texas A&M College of Education and includes private offices, adult classrooms and conference rooms.

Established with 12 classrooms, the school will operate in suites of students based on age. Four of those classrooms will be connected to an observation room in which preservice teachers and other approved visitors can view the goings on in the classrooms through two-way glass, so the students are unaware of the guests.

Gibson said this observation space and training area, which has audio and video capabilities, is a first of its kind in the country.

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