

# EDUCATION / GOVERNMENT / VOICES

TO SUBMIT YOUR STORY IDEAS OR PHOTOGRAPHS, EMAIL LMCGATHEY@STARLOCALMEDIA.COM

**VOICES**

## Keep an eye out

*It's that time of year again when we, you and me, have to start looking in cars as we pass them in the parking lot. I don't mean looking hard into the cars – it's not like we are trying to count the change in the can holder. Just look into the cars and see if anybody forgot their kid. Because it is summer in Texas and hot in the car, so people will forget the kids.*

It's on the news almost every day. Folks are leaving the kid in the car to run into the dry cleaners, the mall or work. It happens every year and more than we could imagine.

The laws in this great state of ours are pretty screwed up. You cannot leave your keys in your car unattended because this can lead to the vehicle being stolen. But you can leave your newborn unattended in your car for 20 minutes. I guess some elected official thought 20 minutes would cover him running into the dry cleaner or picking up a six-pack. What would 20 minutes in an oven do to this kid?

In my 35 years as a cop I think I took one call on a baby being left in a car. Now, I don't mean the calls where mom or dad walked around the car to get the baby out of the car seat and realized they had locked their keys in the car. Those only happened about once a week. I guess we the people have gotten too busy in our little minds to remember those who can't get out of a car.

I do understand needing to run into the dry cleaners while the baby was asleep in the car. I know how frustrating that can be. I know you can park right in front of the building and you are never more than 30 feet away. I raised two daughters, so I do understand. But winter, spring, summer or fall, I never left my kids in the car.

I understand being tired from a long day at work or from not being able to sleep, but it is not the kid's fault. If you are that tired, put your cellphone in the car seat with the kid, because we all know you won't forget your cellphone.

I feel the same way about your pets. Folks, you keep telling your little dog that it is your best friend, but you leave it in the car. The interior of your car gets awful hot in the summertime, and leaving your window down an inch doesn't really help.

You cannot leave any living thing in your vehicle that cannot get out on its own. Back in the day, I wore a temperature gauge inside my bulletproof vest. It went to 140 degrees. That sucker would stay maxed out every day of the summer even with me trying to cool off and having an air-conditioned squad car. Folks, your car will get much hotter than that.

So, folks, join with me in parking a little further out when you go to the store this summer. Take the time, suffer through the heat and take a nice, hot walk. If I can do it with my cane, so can you. You know, your car will be just as hot in the 20th spot as the fifth spot.

Look into the cars and trucks in the lot. I know it's hot outside. I know the parking lot is hot. But think how cool you would feel if you helped one little kid that was left in a car.



**TOM OLIVER**  
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*The opinions that appear in the "Voices" section are not necessarily those of Star Local Media. Send your letter to the editor to lmcgatheystarlocalmedia.com.*

## Frisco student selected for Lone Star Leadership Academy

### Brown attends Leadership Preparatory School

**STAFF REPORT**

Caleb Brown, a student at Leadership Preparatory School in Frisco, has been selected to travel to Houston/Galveston to participate in a summer Lone Star Leadership Academy camp. Brown's selection was based on outstanding academic success, demonstrated leadership ability, involvement in school and community activities and successful completion of a previous Lone Star Leadership Academy camp.

Brown will join a delegation of students from across the state to develop leadership skills while learning about the state of Texas and its leaders. He will visit significant sites in the Houston/Galveston area including NASA's Johnson Space Center, Moody Gardens, San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site and others. He will also take part in a boat ride on Galveston Bay with a marine biologist and stay overnight at the George Observatory. Additionally, Brown will learn about future career

and internship opportunities through career speaker presentations throughout the trip.

Upon completion of the program, Brown will receive Education in Action's Lone Star Leadership Academy Trailblazer designation recognizing his participation in all three camps: Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin/San Antonio and Houston/Galveston. Education in Action honors this select group of students for choosing to develop their leadership skills and learn about the state while experiencing notable sites in three of Texas' major metro areas.

Texas educators facilitate Lone Star Leadership Academy camps. Participants must be in fourth-eighth grade, maintain an 85 or higher average, demonstrate leadership ability, be involved in community or school activities and receive an educator recommendation. For information call 817-562-4957 or visit educationinaction.org or facebook.com/educationinaction.



Caleb Brown

## Ready, Set, Gale

### Frisco library offers mobile discovery at your fingertips

**STAFF REPORT**

How about drinking in some knowledge while you're soaking up some rays this summer? Wherever you are, and whatever your interests, you can earn certificates in an impressive range of new, mobile-friendly Gale courses offered through Frisco Public Library.

Building a new hobby, job or life skill has never been easier. From project management to mindfulness, grammar to grant writing, a world of information is yours to explore. Want to delve into wellness? Get certified in nutrition, chronic disease, and health promotion. If you are working toward highly sought-after computer security certifications, you can take any of the six available prep courses. All you need is your library card, any mobile device, and the desire to learn.

"The mobile rollout in-

**COURSES**

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Visit [friscolibrary.com/adults](http://friscolibrary.com/adults) for the full catalog.

cludes great new offerings such as the Comp TIA test prep courses," raves Thomas Finley, adult services manager. "It's a winning combination that we are glad to have available in Frisco."

Access Gale courses, and other online sources, through the Digital Library tab at [friscolibrary.com/adults](http://friscolibrary.com/adults).

## Residents attend OSU's Grandparent University

### From classes to tailgating, families experience college life

**STAFF REPORT**

Eli and Luke Mittelstet of Frisco and Kirk and Madelyn Mittelstet of Stillwater, Oklahoma, were participants in Grandparent University 2017 at Oklahoma State University in June. Eli and Luke are the children of Matthew and Jennifer Mittelstet.

Grandparent University is hosted by the OSU Alumni Association and brought 680 legacies and their grandparents to Stillwater in June. While on campus, they attended classes taught by OSU faculty and staff, stayed in student housing, dined on campus and enjoyed the life of average college students.

"Grandparent University or GPU is a wonderful opportunity for OSU legacies to learn in a college environment and get acquainted with OSU," says Melisa Parkerson,



Eli and Luke Mittelstet of Frisco and their grandparents, Kirk and Madelyn, attended OSU's Grandparent University in June.

director of student programs for the OSU Alumni Association. "It's also a great time for them to meet other legacies and strengthen the bond

with their grandparents."

This was the 15th year for OSU's Grandparent University, which has hosted more than 5,000 partici-

pants since 2003. The program has grown from four majors and 80 participants to 33 majors with 680 participants. The 2017 event hosted participants from 26 states plus Thailand.

Luke majored in architectural engineering, and Eli majored in Eating From the Roots to the Fruits.

Under the instruction of OSU professors, the students learned about their major and participated in a variety of activities.

Upon completing their assignments, the participants received a graduation certificate for all their hard work as college students during their stay at Grandparent University.

For more information about Grandparent University, the OSU Legacy Program or about the OSU Alumni Association, visit [orangeconnection.org/legacy](http://orangeconnection.org/legacy).

## Collin College hosts Visual Arts Guild of Frisco

### Group exhibition begins July 26

**WANT TO GO?**

- Visual Arts Guild of Frisco exhibition**
- July 26 - Aug. 16
  - The Arts Gallery
  - Collin College's Spring Creek Campus, Room A175
  - 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway

**STAFF REPORT**

THE ARTS gallery will host a group exhibition by the Visual Arts Guild of Frisco, July 26-Aug. 16. The exhibition is free and open to the public. A public

reception will be held from 6-8 p.m. July 27.

The Visual Arts Guild of Frisco provides a peer network for both established and emerging artists, as well as beginning artists and art lovers. Founded in 2001,

VAGF has grown to become a vital part of the North Texas arts community. Each year, they host numerous art exhibits, workshops and educational lectures for its members and the public. See EXHIBITION, Page 5A

# SPEAK UP!

STARLOCALMEDIA.COM  
ONLINE QUESTION  
OF THE WEEK:

**DO YOU THINK SOCIAL MEDIA IS A GOOD WAY FOR POLITICIANS TO COMMUNICATE?**

No, it's unprofessional.

**45%**

Yes, it's the wave of the future.

**32%**

I don't care, as long as they communicate.

**23%**

*"Social media is comprised of way too many professionals, AKA experts, without sheepskins."*

- CE P.



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