



DALLAS

City homelessness panel: Funding needed

More workers, other changes also necessary, task force reports

By **JASON BEEFERMAN**
Staff Writer
jason.beeferman@dallasnews.com

A Dallas task force on homelessness is recommending increased funding and the

loosening of zoning and construction regulations to reduce the number of unsheltered individuals in the city.

The recommendations come as Dallas is grappling with an unsheltered homeless population that has jumped from 242 to over 1,300 — an increase of 437% — since 2014, according to two studies

referenced in the group's report, which was released Friday.

The task force, labeled HOPE for its work with homelessness organizations, policies and encampments, said there is a need for affordable housing to be built across the city's 14 districts.

"We can't be opposed to

having people sleeping under our bridges, but also be opposed to them coming inside," said Ellen Magnis, a co-chair of the task force and the president and CEO of homelessness nonprofit Family Gateway. "We're going to have to do everything we can to help more people."

The report also advocated

for the city to fund 16 new street outreach workers. The workers would be employed by nonprofits but funded by the city or county, and would be responsible for going into encampments and encouraging homeless individuals to move to shelters.

Creating those new positions is "a very tangible way

[to achieve] visible results in the reduction of unsheltered homelessness," said Peter Brodsky, a co-chair of the task force and the board chair of Housing Forward.

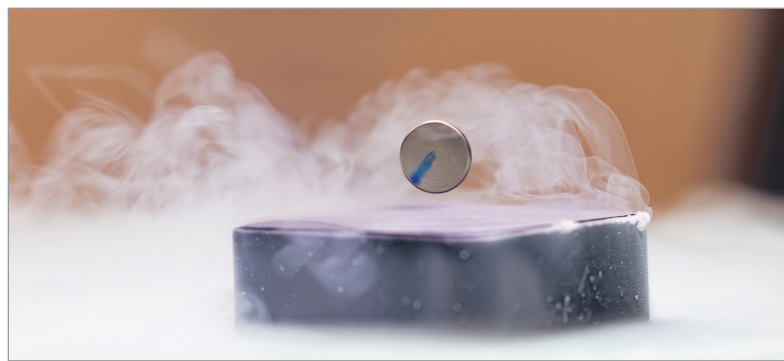
HOPE, created by Mayor Eric Johnson in February, met

See **HOMELESSNESS** Page 2B

SCIENCE

Students taking quantum leap

Effort makes physics concepts more approachable for kids and educators



At Quantum For All, campers performed experiments where a magnet levitated over a superconductor cooled by liquid nitrogen.



Photos by Juan Figueroa/Staff Photographer

Students Cate Nguyen (left) and Jason Xie participated in a Quantum For All summer camp June 26 at Martin High School in Arlington. The initiative focuses on breaking down quantum physics to be approachable and fun for teachers and students.

By **LILA LEVINSON**
Staff Writer
lila.levinson@dallasnews.com

Levitation isn't on the list of activities for most summer camps, but recently at Martin High School in Arlington, it was the focus.

Outfitted with rubber aprons and safety goggles, high school students held magnets above disks that looked steaming hot. They were actually extremely cold. When the magnets were aligned correctly, they hovered above the disks, rotating eerily.

This floating trick wasn't magic — it was based on quantum physics.

Interacting with the world makes us all experts in physics. We know that a ball thrown in the air will come back down and a playground swing will stay still without a push.

The same general rules apply to pretty much everything we can see. But when you get down to the level of the particles that form atoms, the rules change. Those rules are described by quantum physics.

And the rules go way beyond just physics. Fields from chemistry to computing — and technology from cellphones to humble fluorescent bulbs — use these same principles. Innovations in this area could help us improve cybersecurity and build



In addition to learning, campers had fun with hands-on experiments at the Arlington camp. Student George Rosales watched as magnets were used to pick up a superconductor.

safer trains.

These applications of quantum physics and many others are encompassed by the field of quantum information science, or quantum for short.

"It's your future," said Karen Jo Matsler, a master teacher at the University of Texas at Arlington's STEM teacher training program. She leads Quantum for All, the organization

that runs the camp. The group received nearly \$1 million from the National Science Foundation in 2021 to spread quantum education by making the concepts more approachable.

Most students in the U.S. don't learn about quantum in school. Matsler, who taught high school and university physics for over 30 years, thinks this is a mistake.

Diana Franklin, a computer science professor at the University of Chicago, and Chandralekha Singh, a physics professor at the University of Pittsburgh, agree.

Franklin and Singh help lead the National Q-12 Education Partnership, a group that works with academic and industry leaders to sup-

See **EFFORT** Page 3B

FRISCO

Enabling EMTs to unwind

New, 1,100-square foot lounge in Medical City Frisco aims to fulfill first responders' wish list

By **SUSAN MCFARLAND**
Staff Writer
susan.mcfarland@dallasnews.com

A place for respite. A place to decompress and recharge, answer emails or do reports. A place to get something substantial to eat before the next service call.

Those are some of the things on a wish list by first responders when asked about their needs after dropping off a patient at a hospital.

Starting July 6, those requests are a reality at Medical City Frisco, as a new 1,100-square-foot facility opens specifically for EMTs.

The lounge is in the hospital's new tower, a \$91 million, two-story facility that added 36 patient care beds, increasing the hospital's total bed count to 98.

"Being a paramedic is hard enough. Anything we can do to alleviate the

See **EMT** Page 4B

MOVIES

Luke Wilson in new role

Dallas actor will star in film about Fort Worth Little League team's '02 title quest

By **MICHAEL GRANBERRY**
Staff Writer
mgranberry@dallasnews.com

Anyone who knows the history of St. Mark's School of Texas knows that Luke Wilson was quite an athlete, lettering in football and track. But what most Americans know him for is the movies. And in that field, he's making news yet again.

Wilson will team with Greg Kinnear (*As Good as It Gets*), Sarah Gadon (*11.22.63*) and Molly Parker (*Deadwood*) for a film about Fort Worth's 2002 Westside Little League team titled *You Gotta Believe*.

"We will definitely have a premiere in Fort Worth," Wilson told *The Dallas Morning News* late last month.

The movie is a true story about the youth squad that seized local drama by becoming the first Fort Worth team to play in the Little League World Series since 1960. The players dedicated their championship drive to the father of first baseman Robert Ratliff. Ratliff's dad, whom Luke Wilson will play, had battled melanoma for a year, but still to made it to the series in South Williams-

See **WILSON** Page 2B