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Run for Heroes Donates to K9 Funds
Annual Race Honors Fallen Wylie Soldier

Wylie, TX, May 27, 2015 – Members of the 1Lt. Robert F. Welch III Charity donated \$3,000 to the Wylie Police Department May 26. The funds, which were raised at the fourth annual Run for Our Heroes race event, will go toward the purchase of a new K9 police dog and its associated costs.

Mayor Eric Hogue accepted the check on behalf of the police department. The Run for Our Heroes event began in 2012 to honor the memory of 1Lt. Robert F. Welch III, the first Wylie citizen to lose his life in combat since the Viet Nam War. 1Lt. Welch was killed in Afghanistan in April 2011. His widow Becky Welch and her friend Alicia Young founded the charity and the event, which has provided scholarships for Wylie High and Wylie East High students. The scholarships are now endowed, or self-sustaining, so this year, event proceeds went to Wylie PD.

“Next year’s event will be on April 2,” Mrs. Welch told those gathered. “We invite everyone to come out and honor Rob, as well as all the soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.” She noted Run for Our Heroes also honors fire and police personnel. “This is a way to say thank you for what these first responders do for the community.”

The police department is the recipient of this year’s funds; next year, Mrs. Welch said, the group hopes to donate to Wylie Fire Rescue.

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Photo by Craig Kelly

From left, Mayor Eric Hogue, Junior Mayor for the Day Emily Edwards, Run for Our Heroes founders Becky Welch and Alicia Young, Councilmember Diane Culver and Bob Welch, 1Lt. Robert F. Welch III's father, show the big check at Wylie City Council May 26. The organization donated \$3,000 to the Wylie PD for a K9 police officer.

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an

ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 44,938) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 197-percent increase since 2000.