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Hood County News

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Unpatriotic? Vet's tattered flag stolen

BY KATHY CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Jonathan Patterson's tattered American flag perhaps served as a symbol of a country ripped apart by politics.

Before it was stolen, it perhaps also served as a symbol of free speech.

Patterson, no fan of President Obama or Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, used the flag to express his political views.

He intended to ultimately remove the worn flag from his flagpole - but not until Donald Trump is sworn in as president later this month.

"I had planned on taking the flag and doing a (burning) ceremony with Boy Scouts after the 20th of January. It was going to be replaced with a brand new flag," said Patterson, who bought the banner from a PX when he served in Afghanistan.

Someone beat him to the punch, though, and, in doing so, trespassed on his property and committed theft.

"To me, that's just all kinds of different ways of wrong," the father of two said. "Some people are so self righteous. They want

to impose their opinions."

Whoever stole the old, tattered flag raised a new one in its place.

Strangely, the new flag also mysteriously disappeared - perhaps because of the controversy centered around both the tattered flag and the new one raised on Patterson's property without his permission.

The tattered flag, and the fact that Patterson flew it at half-staff as part of his political statement, upset some of his neighbors in Pecan Plantation.

"Please remove that tattered US flag," one man wrote in a message sent to the email account of Patterson's wife.

"Having served in the US military for 29 years defending our country for which the flag stands as its symbol, it breaks my heart to see it flying in that condition."

Patterson said that some veterans told him the flag should not be used as a form of protest.

In a way, Patterson regrets "letting that tattered flag fly."

However, having been deployed twice to Afghanistan

PLEASE SEE FLAG | 2A



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Got a liking for goats

Tolar fourth-grader Mikelee Sanders hopes to show a goat in next year's Hood County Junior Livestock Show. In the meantime she's content to help her family and friends prepare their animals for this year's show.

The 62nd annual Hood County Junior Livestock Show kicks off Wednesday morning at the Granbury Reunion Grounds and closes Saturday afternoon with the premium auction.

GONNA BE TIGHT

City tests turns in prep for narrower streets

BY KATHY CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

It's gonna be tight.

Tests conducted by the city Wednesday morning to determine whether big vehicles will be able to navigate turns once the streets become narrower went well, but highlighted potential problems.

The streets will become narrower because the sidewalks are going to become wider.

It's all part of the Downtown Streetscape and Pedestrian Improvement Project, which will get underway later this month.

Several city vehicles were used in the testing, the largest being a Fire Department ladder truck.

Crews set up cones to simulate the wider sidewalks.

Tests were done only on the northeast part of the square, at the intersection of Bridge and Crockett streets.

In most of the turns, when the path was clear on the street on which the driver was turning, there were no problems and no

cones were hit.

However, the wider turns mean that it takes more distance for drivers of larger vehicles to straighten out and occupy only the appropriate lane.

This could pose difficulties, especially for emergency vehicles, when there are vehicles in the other lane.

Drivers of larger trucks will face additional challenges if an opposing motorist can't or won't back up to allow for the needed wider turn that requires swinging briefly into the wrong lane.

This was simulated with a Fire Department ladder truck and the pickup truck of a square merchant.

The driver of the ladder truck attempted to back up when the driver of the pickup wouldn't move. In doing so, he knocked over cones.

Spectators included some square merchants, as well as Brenda Hyde of the Historic Granbury Merchants Association (HGMA) and Mike Scott, head of the Granbury chamber.

The City Council approved the testing at the request of about 40 merchants and citizens who signed a petition.

Though the new loop allows some trucks to bypass the square, there is still the matter of emergency vehicles and trucks making deliveries to stores on the square.

When the project is completed later this year, delivery trucks will at times block off a lane of traffic as deliveries are being made.

Wednesday's test runs involved a city crew, but the only city official present was council member Tony Mobly.

Mobly was not in favor of the \$2.6 million project and has expressed concern about trucks being able to make turns on the narrowed streets.

However, he indicated that, with the project having received the council's approval, he intends to support it going forward.

Though he noted that turns are "going to be tight," he added: "I think it'll work."



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TEST RUN: A Granbury Volunteer Fire Department ladder truck was the biggest vehicle used in tests of turn radiuses conducted by the city in preparation for widening sidewalks on the square. The wider sidewalks will allow for outdoor dining.

Company tapped for water upgrades

BY KATHY CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The city of Granbury has hired Pepper-Lawson Waterworks to handle the water distribution system improvements that need to be done quickly.

The City Council this week agreed to pay the company \$124,000 for "planning phase support services" and 5 percent of the total project cost.

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is financing the \$15 million capital infrastructure improvements at a 1 percent interest rate over 20 years.

The improvements need to be done before the city's contract with the Surface Water and Treatment System (SWATS) expires on Oct. 1.

At that time, the first phase of the city's new, \$16.4 million desalination/reverse osmosis plant is expected to go online.

That, too, has been financed through the TWDB.

Unless there are upgrades to the city's aging water distribution infrastructure, there might be a problem pushing out increased amounts of water that will be needed as a result of the SWATS arrangement coming to

PLEASE SEE WATER | 2A

Hands, computers may harbor the most germs

BY DEBBIE SCHNEIDER
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

What's the best way to battle nasty bugs each winter?

You've heard it a million times. Wash your hands.

Hand-washing throughout the day really does prevent infections, according to advice offered by www.webmd.com

Doctors report they wash their hands up to 40 or 50 times a day.

Warm water and soap will kill the germs, but you need to wash for about 20 seconds. Experts suggest using a paper towel to dry hands and turn off the faucet - especially in public bathrooms.

Hands are like germ factories, so keep them away from your nose and mouth. Also keep them away from your food during cold and flu season.

While at work, some doctors

report they stick to food that can be eaten with a spoon or a fork, rather than bringing a sandwich. To reduce contact with your hands, you might put

PLEASE SEE GERMS | 2A

131st Year
Number 37
Local, zone(s):
2 sections
18 pages
plus supplements
State:
2 sections
18 pages

CALENDAR2B
EDUCATION5A
FORUM4A
LIFE1B-2B, 8B
OBITUARIES3B
SPORTS8A-9A

Have an opinion? Write a letter to the editor, editor@hcnews.com. Include your name and city.

CAMARADERIE AND COMPETITION: The Gentleman's Bridge Club meets every week to play bridge and enjoy fellowship. The men in the club have diverse backgrounds, such as careers in the FBI and CIA. P. 6A-7A.





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Roadblock

During Wednesday morning's tests to determine how well large vehicles will be able to turn on the square once the city's Downtown Streetscape and Pedestrian Improvement Project has been completed later this year, a square merchant used his truck to illustrate a potential problem: that large

trucks won't be able to turn if motorists in opposing vehicles can't or won't back up to allow for the needed wider turn. However, engineers and officials with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) believe that the narrower streets that will result from wider sidewalks will not pose signif-

icant problems. City officials have said that the sidewalks in their current state pose safety hazards for pedestrians. The project is scheduled to get underway sometime this month. See related story on Page One.

Goat aerobics

Tolar High School junior Katie Robertson hit the ground running Wednesday as preparations for next week's 62nd annual Hood County Junior Livestock Show are in full swing. Robertson is pictured guiding her goat as it takes a run on a treadmill after school in the Tolar ag barn.



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Mills cuts staff, costs for county

BY KATHY CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Commissioners Court this week approved budget amendments proposed by Matt Mills, the new county attorney.

Mills was sworn into office on Sunday - New Year's Day.

A special meeting of the court was held Tuesday morning following the New Year's holiday so that his proposed amendments could be addressed.

The structuring of Mills' office will be different from that



Mills

of his predecessor, Lori Kaspar. His will have six full-time and three part-time employees.

Kaspar had nine full-time employees, plus a part-time position that had remained unfilled during her last six months in office.

As part of Mills' cutbacks for that office, he moved an investigator position to the Sheriff's Office.

He said that the Sheriff's Office will be better able to uti-

lize that position, but that he will be able to use the investigator as needed.

"Overall, my cuts would amount to about \$130,000 per year, but if you count the move of the investigator position as not really being a 'cut,' then maybe more like \$65,000 (per year)," Mills said.

He noted that the savings won't be that high for the 2016-2017 fiscal year because the fiscal year started three months ago, on Oct. 1.

kcruz@hcnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext.258

Birdwell announces staff for 85th legislative session

BY KATHY CRUZ
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

State Sen. Brian Birdwell (R-Granbury) has announced his staff for the 85th legislative session, which will kick off Tuesday.

There will be some new faces among others who have already served the senator.

Anna Barnett, Matt Cope, Mic Davis, John Ryan Issacson, Megan Lehmann, Liz Sanchez, Jarred Shaffer and Ben Stratmann will work in Birdwell's Austin office.

Barnett will be Birdwell's legislative director.

She has worked for the senator since 2010, starting as a campaign aide and later becoming senior policy analyst.

In addition to overseeing Birdwell's policy team and legislative priorities this session, she will staff the Subcommittee on Border Security, which Birdwell chairs.

Cope will continue his role as senior policy analyst, a job he held during the 84th legislative session. He was also with Bird-



Birdwell

well during the 83rd legislative session, when he worked as a policy analyst.

Cope took a temporary leave to serve with the U.S. Forest Service

fighting wildfires, but is now back and will focus on public education, higher education, natural resources and economic development.

Davis and Shaffer will serve as policy analysts.

Davis transferred to Birdwell's Capitol office in November after working in the senator's District 22 re-election campaign.

A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Davis has worked on other Texas campaigns and has served as a senate messenger.

Shaffer, a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, worked for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

He also served in the office of state Rep. Ron Simmons and for

the House Committee on Investments and Financial Services.

Sanchez, a native of San Antonio and a graduate of the University of the Incarnate Word, will be Birdwell's office manager and scheduler. She has worked for Birdwell since 2012.

Lehmann, a graduate of Harding University who has been with Birdwell since 2014, has the title of constituent correspondence manager.

She previously worked for state Sen. Ken Paxton, who is now the state's attorney general.

Issacson joins the staff through the Bob Bullock Scholars Program. He is a junior at Baylor University, majoring in international relations with a minor in German.

Birdwell is keeping district managers Shelly Verlander of Waco and Taylor Blackburn of Granbury.

The staff will be overseen by Stratmann, who has worked for Birdwell since January 2011 and has been chief of staff since 2012.

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New year brings new businesses

Looks like the new year may be bringing new businesses to town. Bethany Kyle, the city's public information officer, said that new businesses include:

■ Mattress HQ, to be located

at 3803 N. Highway 377;

■ Degree Auto Group (1803 E.

Highway 377);

■ Deluxe Nails & Spa (3801 E.

Highway 377, Suite 104); and

■ Jae Posh Boutique (618 E.

Pearl St.).

Kyle stated that the city manager's office is working with some other potential new businesses, but at this time that information is confidential.

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JOE HELLER



Helen Walker loves to scream BINGO!

With the news surrounding Sarah Hyden-Smith, first female pastor in Lennox Valley, and Raymond Cooper's conversion at the Lutheran Church, one might think the other churches on the town square took a back seat during the summer of 1998.

But the good Lord works in mysterious ways, and during the summer of '98 it was more true in the valley than in most places.

Sure, the Methodists and Lutherans might have been hogging the limelight at the moment, but it hadn't been long since Todd Cecil, world-famous TV evangelist, graced the stage at First Baptist Church, and plans were already being made for the annual Baptist Men's Breakfast and Turkey Shoot.

Don't think the Catholics were suffering from lack of attention. Unlike their Baptist brethren, the good folks at All Saints Catholic Church didn't need celebrities or firearms to have a good time.

They knew their faith, which had lasted 20 centuries, depended on tradition rather than big one-time events to keep the flames fanned.

And no tradition was more important than Friday night bingo.

Yes, every Friday night most valley Catholics, as well as a good number of Lutherans and Methodists, filled the parish hall for the chance to scream, "Bingo!" and walk home with cash and other valuable prizes.

Probably no one enjoyed bingo night more than Helen Walker.

Helen had been playing bingo at All Saints for as long as anyone could remember. She always showed up early, right at 4:55, and took her place on the first row, left of the center aisle.

It was important that Helen get her front row seat because, well, she couldn't hear as well as she once did. It was all she could do to make out the faint letters being called out over the parish hall sound system.

Her hearing was so bad, in fact, that almost every week she would hear some of the numbers incorrectly, thinking she had made bingo when she really hadn't.

Over time, other players began allowing Helen to think she had won, rather than go through the arduous task of explaining to her what had really happened. Anyway, most folks thought it was cute that Helen went home every week thinking she was a big winner.

Helen particularly liked the "special" games played each week. Two or three times each Friday, the caller would yell, "Catholic bingo!" and Father O'Reilly would come to the stage and pull



a random card out of a box next to the caller's microphone.

Each card corresponded with a different "Catholic" version of bingo.

Helen's favorite was "Rosary Prayer Bingo," although she was often confused by the caller's words.

Just last week, she had confused "Glory be to the Father" with "Hail Holy Queen" and walked off with the \$20 jackpot. This was a special bingo night, as valley mayor "Silver Tongue" Dick Bland was on hand to call one game.

With his roaring voice, it would be less likely that Helen would win during his game. Showing up at bingo was a calculated risk for the mayor. He was a member of First Baptist Church, which normally gave him a distinct advantage on election day. But with the election just five weeks away, Bland found himself in the fight of his life against challenger Raymond Cooper.

Bland decided it was worth the risk, possibly upsetting some of the voters at his home church, where games such as bingo were frowned upon. He hoped his Baptist base would understand his predicament while he picked up a few votes among bingo night regulars.

On any other Friday night, Raymond Cooper would show up to disrupt the mayor's limelight. However, this was no normal night.

While the lights were bright at All Saints Parish Hall, other lights were shining down the street at the radio station as Cooper met with Marvin Walsh and Elbert Lee Jones to find a way out of the mess they had made earlier in the day when they spilled the beans about the cause of egg price inflation in the valley.

"I sense," Raymond told his fellow conspirators, "that the Lord is about to shake up Lennox Valley Lutheran Church this Sunday like it's never been shaken before."

At that very moment, the excited voice of none other than Helen Walker could be heard in the distance as she shouted, "Bingo!"

Kevin Slimp, author, visits more than 150 cities each year in his travels. He can be reached at lennoxvalley@kevinslimp.com.

I was about ready to kiss internet dating goodbye

When I downloaded the Tinder dating app on my iPhone last spring, it was, to me, admitting defeat.

Many of my friends had dated people they met on the app, and I was the first to roll my eyes at what I saw as the demise of interesting and romantic beginnings.

I was certain I would happen upon my knight in shining armor in a fun, exciting experience and I would forever cherish the memory of how we met.

But, alas, I gave up on the romanticism and got practical.

I wasn't meeting a plethora of guys in my English classes at Texas A&M University, and I never got around to auditing the engineering classes, so I took matters into the internet's hands.

Two out of the three dates I went on, before deleting the app and almost declaring myself right about online dating, were less than ideal.

The first wasn't too interesting. It was a stereotypical, awkward date that left us sitting, silently staring at each other from across a small table at a popular coffee shop in College Station.

This was after he attempted to convince me sexism no longer existed and there was no need for feminism.

Unable to handle the un-

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE



Christine Doran Intern

comfortable situation any longer, he suddenly remembered homework he "forgot about" and walked briskly out of the coffee shop to his car.

I wasn't too devastated.

The second coffee date

was similarly awkward. However, we never got a chance to talk about social issues because he had too much to say about Victoria's Secret models ... and his desire to literally purchase one.

He was very confused as to why I was no longer interested in a second date, and I really didn't know what to tell him.

To any traditional person's chagrin, old-school dating is slowly dissipating, and its replacement is the internet.

With the vast outlets online for meeting singles, more men and women are flocking to these new sources of hope.

According to a study done by Pew Research Center in February, "The share of 18- to 24-year-olds who use online dating has roughly tripled from 10% in 2013 to 27% today."

The surge in online dating

profiles probably isn't a tragedy, as some would think.

However, it is complex.

It's also an interesting experience.

From costly subscriptions to websites like Match and Christian Mingle, to the now infamous Tinder, to less-known (but no less essential) dating sites like Mullet Passions, it seems there is a dating site for everyone.

My third date from Tinder was less disastrous, miraculously.

After a fairly average coffee date, he suggested we hit fruit with a baseball bat for our second date.

That's when I knew things were going to go well for us. I'm now in a relationship with that wonderful guy.

Although the first two dates nearly convinced me that all dating apps were for the unfortunate souls who couldn't get a date otherwise, I discovered that many download it for the same reasons I did: It's hard to meet people, and even harder to muster up the courage to ask someone on a date.

While dating apps may steal away the hope of a romantic, chance encounter, they allow for people to meet who otherwise wouldn't have.

So I can't write off online dating completely, it seems.

THIS IS HOOD COUNTY



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It's showtime!

Tolar sixth-grader and Tolar Junior FFA member Reagan Meek may only be 11 years old, but she has lots of experience in the show ring. She's preparing her goat for next week's 62nd annual Hood County Junior Livestock Show. Meek listened intently to ag teacher Nate Newton's advice Wednesday in the Tolar ag barn.

LETTER

MEDICAL ATTENTION

On Christmas Eve my wife and I were returning home after the evening Episcopal church service.

I was driving on the old highway 4 when a truck approached with some very bright lights.

That was the last thing I remember until I came to, parked in a ditch talking to the police, EMS and a member of our church, Liz McClung, who recognized my car and stopped, called 911, etc.

I would like to thank each and every one of them for their true professionalism while doing their job. The Texas Highway Patrol officer was Duecker, and I have no idea who the EMS paramedics were.

As it was determined I had a seizure, every member of this closely assembled team worked swiftly to get me to Granbury hospital emergency as quickly as possible with Dr. Sistrunk attending.

At a time like this you quickly realize how fortunate Granbury is to have a medical facility such as Lake Granbury Medical Center to handle all types of medical situations. For this I am deeply appreciative. Thank you one and all.

Con Shuck deCordova

Email letters to editor@hcnews.com or mail to P.O. Box 879, Granbury, Tex. 76048. Include your name, address and phone number.

YOUR TURN

What is your favorite way to work out?



Roy Phillips

"Strength training combined with circuit training. It's quick and keeps the heart rate elevated."



Jared Kyle

"Dance. It's great for strength, endurance, flexibility and cardiovascular health."



Theresa Stedifor

"My favorite way to work out is through group exercise. I think it's more fun than just working out by yourself."



Bobby Eggen

"Three or four days a week I come to the Y and run a couple laps, or play basketball to warm up. Then I work out for an hour. I like lifting weights, and the boot camps are great."

Take care of wintertime chores

While December brought exceptionally warm days, nightly temperatures dropped well below freezing for several evenings bringing an end to the growing season.

The onset of winter triggered dormancy for most outdoor plants, but it also marked the beginning of a busy season for most gardeners - time to prepare for the new year!

WATER

Remember to keep plants hydrated. Dry plants are more vulnerable to cold weather damage. If rain is scarce, irrigate landscape plants 24-48 hours before a hard freeze.

During dry weather, irrigate once every 3-4 weeks. Water potted plants weekly, but do

GARDEN PATCH



Phyllis Webster

hardwood, in all landscape and garden beds. Do not allow mulch to "pile up" around the base of plants. Instead, spread the mulch where it covers root systems.

CLEAN UP

In January, tidy the garden by removing frozen vegetation. Trim frozen perennial stems

not let water accumulate at the base of pots or in trays where it might freeze.

MULCH

Add an organic mulch, such as shredded

and the plants' spent blooms, but do not cut close to green (living) tissue.

COVER

Use frost cloth to cover any tender outdoor plants during a hard freeze. In lieu of frost cloth, use old sheets.

You may turn an insulated container upside down atop smaller plants.

Remove covers when the weather warms, typically the next morning.

PLANT

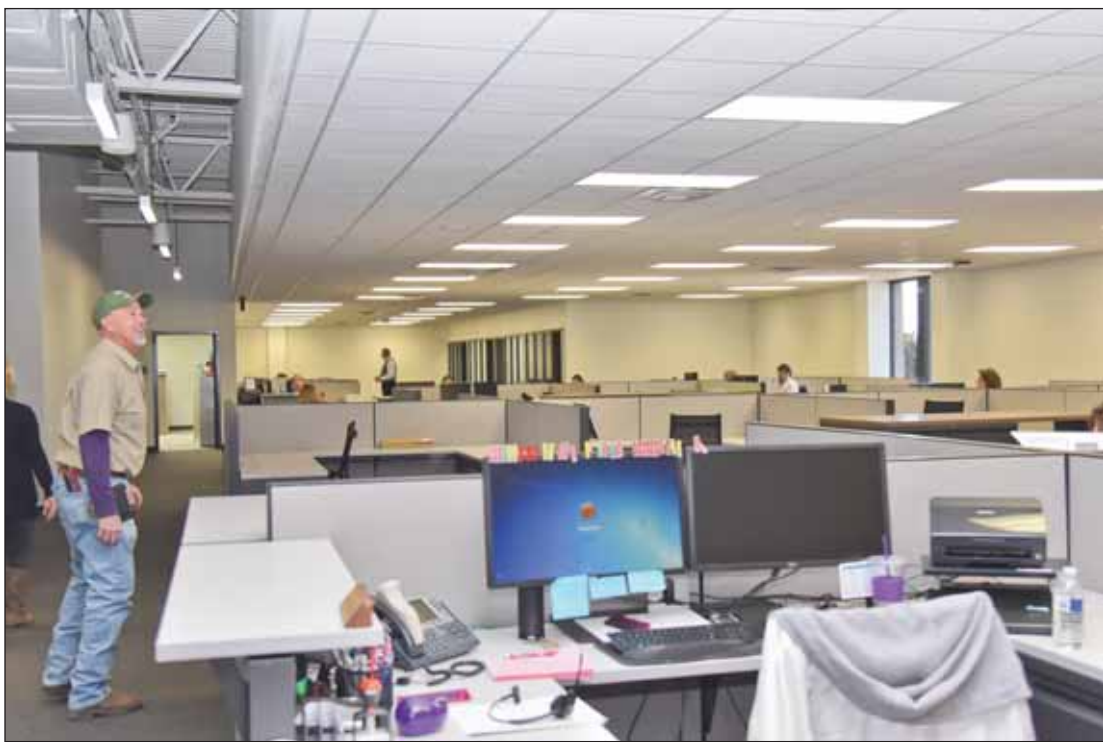
Winter is a good time to plant hardy trees and shrubs.

For answers to horticulture questions, call 817-579-3280 or go online to visit lakegranbury-mastergardeners.org.



ADDED SPACE FOR ADMINISTRATION: The former Crossland Ninth Grade Center at 217 N. Jones St. is now the home for Granbury ISD administration offices. In addition to the superintendent and assistant superin-

tenents, other departments include Athletics/Community Education, Business, Communications, Curriculum, Facilities/Maintenance, Human Resources, Special Education, Support Services and Technology.



SPACIOUS NEW WORKPLACE: Tuesday was moving day for Granbury ISD administrators to the former Crossland Ninth Grade Center at 217 N. Jones St. The build-

ing includes a new school board meeting room along with numerous training and conference rooms.

GISD administration offices move to former ninth grade center

Granbury ISD has moved administration offices to the former Crossland Ninth Grade Center at 217 N. Jones St. The building was originally constructed in the mid-1980s as Granbury Middle School. It later was an intermediate school and freshman campus named in honor of retired educators Willie and Wanda Crossland. Most departments are consolidated in the building to provide efficiency for parents, employees and other stakeholders, said GISD Public Information Officer Jeff Meador. In addition to the superintendent and assistant superintendents, departments located there are Athletics/Community Education, Business, Communications, Curriculum, Facilities/Maintenance, Human Resources, Special Education, Support

Services and Technology. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. The building also hosts a new school board meeting room along with numerous training and conference rooms. Transportation and most maintenance staff remain at the current location at the corner of Hannaford and Rucker streets. **\$4 MILLION PROJECT** With the project part of the \$84.9 million bond initiative approved by voters in 2013, work began on the \$4 million project during the summer with staff moving in on Tuesday. "We are excited to be in our new space and to be utilizing a district facility to house most administration staff under one roof," Superintendent James

Largent said. "We truly believe this will allow our central office staff to be more responsive and efficient for all our stakeholders, and the building is one that our community can be proud of." A committee is still reviewing survey results and possibilities for the future of property and buildings at the former GISD Administration Annex on Morgan and Bridge streets. The survey included future use of the property as well as the historic and civic importance of the property as well as potential use for retail/restaurant, education/training, community services, recreation, parks/open space and historical/museum. The properties also house the Boys and Girls Club of Hood County and Weatherford College Education Center.



COURTESY

STARS graduates

Thirteen STARS Accelerated High School students received high school diplomas during a ceremony last month at Acton Baptist Church. The graduates receiving their high school diplomas were Baylee Dayne Allison, Elijah Bradshaw IV, Celest Ayse Castro, Faith Nichole Cummings, Brittany Rochelle Dickens, Coral Vada Evans, Cailyn Victoria Jones, Jacqueline Aribella Leyva,

Samantha Jolene Luman, Isaiah Deeann Minor, Allyson Crystal Ortegon, Sarah Joy Stewart and Tiffany Michelle Woolery. Pictured are (front from left) Baylee Allison, Faith Cummings, Celest Castro and Isaiah Minor. Back from left: Tiffany Woolery, Brittany Dickens, Coral Evans, Cailyn Jones and Sarah Stewart.

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DONATE CELL PHONES FOR SOLDIERS

Donate your gently-used cell phones at the Hood County News offices, located at 1501 S. Morgan St. and help a soldier call home!

Hood County News
CELLPHONESFORSOLDIERS.COM

PETS OF THE WEEK



Matteo is an adult male shepherd mix who weighs 40 lb. He is friendly and playful and loves to chase toys.



Andy is an adult male gray tabby cat. He loves to be petted and to sit in laps.



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- What are the two biggest and most expensive mistakes families make when trying to avoid nursing home poverty?
- How can I keep my in-laws from having influence over my estate settlement?
- How can my family avoid the 40% estate tax, and other taxes when I die?
- How do I start the five year look back period for nursing homes, without having to give everything away to my family when I am alive?
- Should I have a Last Will or Trust (or both)?
- Is my spouse well protected in case of my illness, disability, or death?
- How do I keep my estate plan up-to-date without it costing a fortune?
- How do I ensure that my estate won't incur legal expenses when I die?

Make Sure Your Assets Go to the People You Love

Everyone needs an Estate Plan. It's vital for any individual, couple, or family that owns a home and has assets. It's time to make sure your Estate Planning is in good order. You will learn comprehensive estate planning can be used to maximize your assets to provide care for yourself and to reserve your legacy for your family. This seminar will provide you with facts that are STRAIGHTFORWARD and EASY TO UNDERSTAND. At our seminars you'll find out in simple straight forward terms how a Living Trust can protect against guardianship proceedings if you become ill or disabled, and transfer your estate to the loved ones of your choice upon your death without going through a court probate process.

Leslie Thomas
Estate Planning & Administration Attorney
Named 2016 Top Estate Planning Attorney
Fort Worth, Texas Magazine

Fort Worth	Weatherford
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Granbury	Cleburne
Monday, January 9 Granbury Resort and Conference Center 621 East Pearl Street 2:00 to 3:30	Wednesday, January 11 Cleburne Conference Center 1501 West Henderson Street 11:00 to 12:30
Hurst	Southlake
Tuesday, January 10 Abuelo's Mexican Restaurant 850 Airport Freeway 11:30 to 1:00	Wednesday, January 11 Southlake Community Center "The Marq" 285 Shady Oaks Dr. 6:30 to 8:00
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Let the games begin



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS | BUY REPRINTS AT HCNEWS.COM/GALLERIES

BIDDING WARS: The Gentleman's Bridge Club meets every Tuesday at Farina's to play bridge. There are 17 members, plus substitutes. The game is played in groups of four at tables inside the restaurant.

Men's weekly bridge meetings bring fun, fellowship and competition

BY CHRISTINE DORAN
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The 16 men arrive at Farina's restaurant, ready for competition.

The room fills with laughter as they roast each other and swap stories about their families and careers.

They place their lunch orders, and suddenly the laughter stops.

The retired men, some with backgrounds in the FBI, CIA and other professional careers, wear polos and button-ups as they sit at the square, wooden tables in groups of four.

Cards are dealt, and some of their faces turn grim. The competition is on.

Every Tuesday, the Gentleman's Bridge Club meets at Farina's Winery & Cafe in downtown Granbury.

Gathering in a large room behind the main dining area, they are no strangers to the restaurant staff.

The same employee, Kimberly Armstrong, serves the bridge players weekly



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

NOT EASY TO MASTER: Bridge is a complex card game. While it is similar to spades or the domino game 42, its long list of rules and strategies makes it difficult to master, according to several members of the Gentleman's Bridge Club.

and bakes cookies for them.

The Gentleman's Bridge Club was originated by Ron Herman nine years ago.

Herman learned how to play bridge from his neighbors when he was newly married.

His neighbors were a couple, and Herman and his wife at the time were paired against the experienced couple.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS | BUY REPRINTS AT HCNEWS.COM/GALLERIES

HAND IN HAND: The Gentleman's Bridge Club, a group of 17 men from Granbury, meets weekly to play bridge. In the photo is Lee Pickens, a retired developer and business owner.

They played for nearly a year before Herman tasted victory.

He never quit trying, despite the delayed gratification. "We didn't have anything else to do," he laughed.

The club began as group of four men gathered in a Mexican restaurant on the square. Herman said there were many women's bridge groups in town, but there weren't as many opportunities for men to play.

"There were a few of us guys who didn't play golf and preferred bridge," he said. "It's something that stimulates your think-

ing. There are books on this game - lots of books."

The club now has 17 members, plus subs. Herman said it "evolved by friends inviting friends. It's developed as a fellowship group almost as much as a bridge group."

The members love the camaraderie.

"We cut up - we kind of pick on each other a little bit. We're friends outside the group also," said Vic Flatt, one of the founding members.

"It's a good group," Herman said. "I feel blessed to be a part of it."



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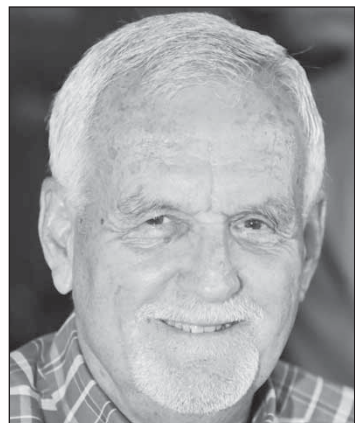
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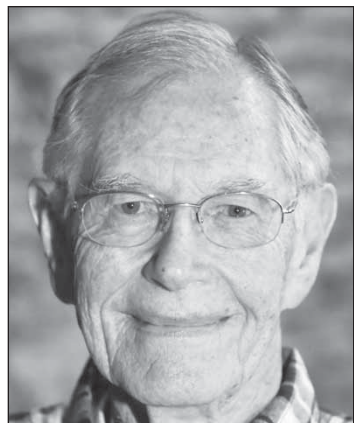
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KEY BRIDGE PLAYERS

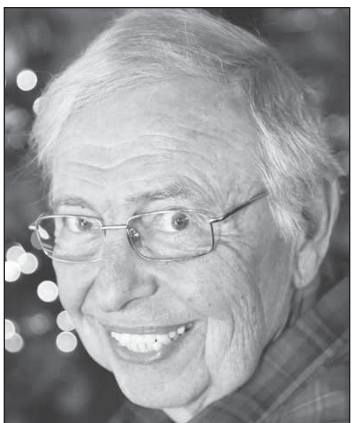
STORY PAGE 6A



CHARLIE CHRANE, Teacher
Chrane taught for 33 years. He was a high school biology teacher and tennis coach in Durango, Colorado for 13 years, Snyder for 10 years and San Angelo for another 10 years.
He retired in Granbury 18 years ago. He has sold pecans for Leonard Farm Pecan Store in Granbury since he retired. He has been a part of the bridge group for six or seven years, he said.



JERRY GRIFFIN, Advertising, Business Owner
Griffin began his career in advertising for several agencies in Texas. He worked at the Lubbock branch of Womack Playpool Griffin.
They did advertising for corporations such as Mitsubishi.
Decoupling from the corporation, he became the owner of the advertising and PR agency, which he named Griffin-Wink.
Griffin retired and handed the business over to his youngest son in 2002.



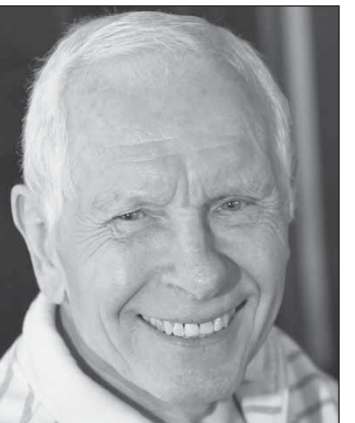
GARY NELSON, Investments, Financial Planning
Nelson went to law school at SMU, where he became interested in investments and financial planning. He worked for banks such as Continental Illinois National Bank in Chicago and Fort Worth National Bank (which evolved into Texas American Bank), during his career. He retired in Granbury in 2006.



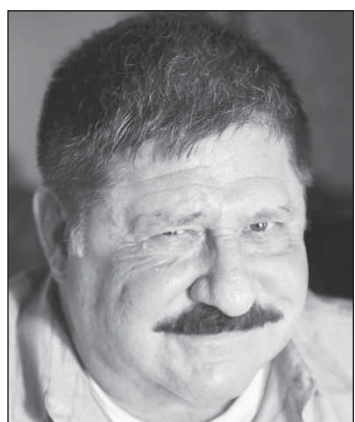
ED PHILLIPS, Tax Accountant
Phillips worked in accounting in Abilene from 1968-2005. He had his own accounting firm, called Phillips and Co. He retired in Granbury in 2005. "I love my clients. They were like family. They were the hardest part about leaving," he said.



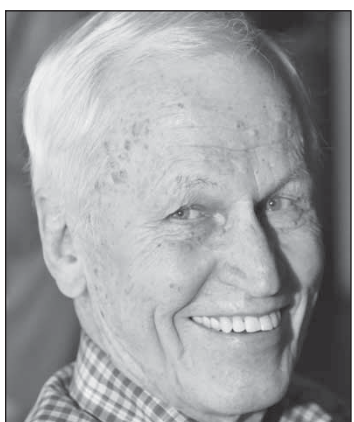
MIKE ROBINIUS, Management
Robinius worked in management for 40 years. Under his management for Xerox, his branch of the company climbed from fifth place to first in the ranking of the corporation within just two years. He also managed other large corporations, such as Johnson and Johnson, and Campbell Soup.



RON BOTSKO, Aerospace Engineer, CEO
Botsko began his career working in a steel mill in Ohio for 18 months. He was then invited to work with North American Aviation Company and accepted. He worked on the B-70 Bomber and X-15 plane and others. He left for a smaller company to learn the business side of things. Three years later, he started NDT Instruments. After great success, he sold the company to Dupont in 1988. He consulted for several years before retiring.



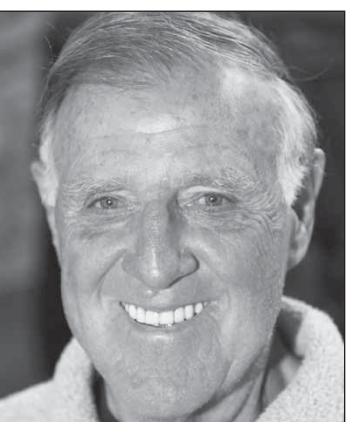
GREG MANNING, Teacher, Principal
Manning worked as a teacher for 25 years. He taught art, science, history and economics, and at the elementary, middle and high school levels with Dallas ISD. He also taught at the Dallas Museum of Art for five years, as well as volunteering as a special education teacher. He was given a full scholarship from Dallas ISD to attain his master's degree in school administration at the University of Texas, and he became the principal of Skyline High School in Dallas before he retired in Granbury. He is a substitute for the bridge group, and Tuesday was his first day.



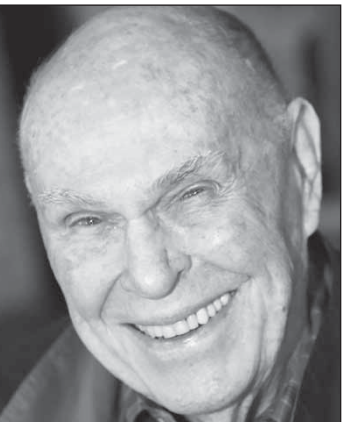
CHARLIE STENHOLM, Politician
Stenholm began his career as a teacher of vocational agriculture and farming after graduating from Tarleton where he earned a bachelor's and master's in agricultural education.
He became a lobbyist for the Rolling Plains Cotton Growers and a manager for Stamford Electric Cooperative.
After leaving, he spent a year farming full time before being elected to Congress in 1978. He spent 26 years (13 terms) representing the 17th congressional district.
Although still somewhat active in politics (he is still on the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget and the Concord Coalition) he is retired in Granbury.



GENE BRINKER, Engineer, Director
Brinker spent most of his career in the natural gas industry. He worked with Atlantic Richfield Company as a plant engineer and eventually the director of natural gas marketing. He said his "claim to fame" was starting up production facilities in the North Slope of Alaska, where he and his wife played bridge frequently to escape the cold weather. After taking the early retirement plan from ARCO, he began working with Compressor Systems Inc. in Midland. In 1998, he began consulting work for law firms. He officially retired in Granbury in 2003. He was one of the founding members of the Gentleman's Bridge Club.



LOU HENDRICKX, CIA Agent
Hendrickx joined the Army when he was 18. After doing intelligence work with the Army, he began a job with General Dynamics as part of the launch team for the Atlas Program.
At 24, he joined the CIA doing overseas work. He then switched to Current Intelligence with the CIA, where he updated the president's daily briefs for both presidents Johnson and Nixon.
Hendrickx said, "With Johnson, he always called. He wanted to know, he'd say, 'How many of my boys got killed today?'"
He later worked in management with the CIA before retiring in 1994.



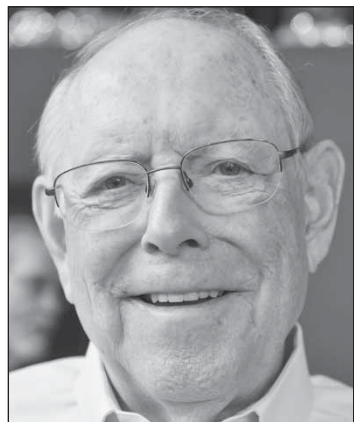
LEE PICKENS, Developer, Business Owner
Pickens attained his bachelor's from the University of Texas in accounting. He was one semester into grad school when he joined the Navy. He spent three years in the Navy and is a naval officer combat veteran of North Korea.
Pickens began his career as a CPA, practicing in public accounting, in 1954. He worked in accounting for 16 years before deciding to switch fields. He joined Westchester Corporation as the president and eventually bought it out and made it private.
In addition to owning the Westchester Corporation, he owned a mortgage servicing company and a property management company. He was also a real estate broker.
He retired in 1985 and was one of the initial members of the Gentleman's Bridge Club.



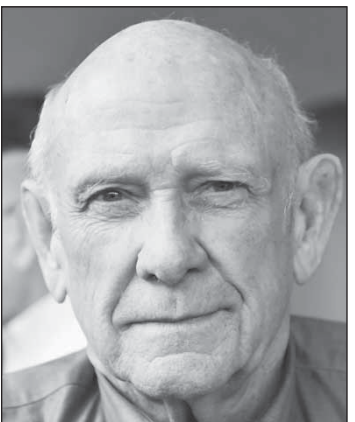
GARY JACOBS, FBI Agent
Jacobs attained a degree in business education from Western Illinois University and, upon graduating, taught high school and junior high math, as well as coaching.
In 1968, he decided to try to work for the FBI.
He took the test for the FBI, but was drafted to Vietnam, where he spent a year and a half. When he returned from the military, he joined the bureau in 1969. As a special agent, he conducted criminal investigations relating to federal crimes.
He was the first to fly an airplane with the FBI in the Dallas Division. "I always wanted to do two things when I was a child: I wanted to be an FBI agent and I wanted to be a pilot," Jacobs said. He retired in 1997, but was still a contracted employee for the FBI. He still runs background investigations on applicants for government jobs. He moved to Granbury in 2006.



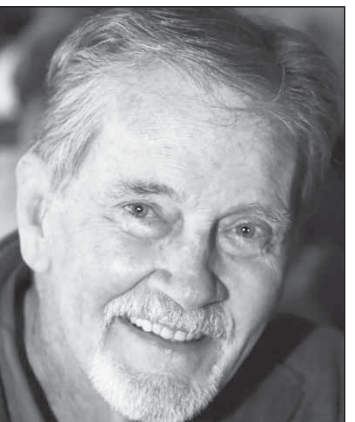
VIC FLATT, Engineer
Flatt spent most of his career working for Lockheed Martin as an aircraft designer. He helped design the B-2 stealth bomber, a significant military aircraft. He retired in 2003. In addition to his career as an engineer, he owned and recreationally flew four airplanes, did woodwork, motorcycled and designed his own home. "I'm a piddler," he said. He still designs objects on his computer at home, such as furniture and his own mailbox.



RON HERMAN, Rocket Scientist
Herman worked with Lockheed Martin where he, among other projects, helped create the system called a PAC-3 missile, which stands for Patriot Advanced Capability-3. That missile is deployed in the patriot air defense systems to shoot down incoming ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and aircrafts, according to Herman.
He retired in 1999 and consulted for the government for three years. He founded the Gentleman's Bridge Club in 2008.



SONNY ECHOLS, Purchasing
Echols worked in the purchasing industry for over 30 years. He bought parts for aircrafts, working for major companies such as LTV for seven years and Textron for 25 years. He said the most rewarding aspect of his career was having the opportunity to frequently meet new people.



TOM DICKERSON, CEO
Dickerson worked in a lawn and garden business that sold plants and products to small, independent garden centers. By the time he retired, 90 percent of the business was done with national corporations. "I had the great opportunity to see our industry grow from a mom and pop business to a national industry. I worked in the business in the most dynamic growth years in the industry. For 20 years, we had double-digit growth annually."

BILL GARNER, Pilot
Garner, after graduating from East Texas State University, felt certain he would be drafted, so he decided to look into which branch "was the best deal," he explained.
He decided the Air Force was the place for him and flew F-4 fighter aircraft from 1965-1985.
While still in the military, in 1978, he attained his master's degree in public administration at Ball State University in Indiana.

He retired from the military as a lieutenant colonel in 1985.
He then flew for American Airlines from 1985-2003 as an international captain.
He retired in 2003.

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He retired in 2003.

CHARLIE PEOPLES, IRS executive, director
Peoples began working with the IRS in 1966 as a statistical assistant.
In 1983, he was given an executive position and began moving around the United States with several executive assignments.
During Peoples' last assignment in Washington, after approving the idea with the IRS, he oversaw the development and improvement of the programs and the computer system that would allow individuals nationwide to file information in the IRS system from their homes. The goal was to make it available to taxpayers nationwide.
Eventually, he became the director of the Austin Service Center.
He left the IRS in 1997 and became a consultant internationally for tax administration, primarily with the Treasury Department, for the next 13 years.
He retired in 2010.

After serving in the Army for three years, he joined the Border Patrol in 1974 as an agent on the ground.
After five years of working for the Border Patrol, he attained the necessary licenses to fly and became a pilot. For the next 20 years, he flew for the Border Patrol.
When he retired, he was the deputy chief of the National Aviation Program.
He retired in 2000 and moved to Granbury in 2005.

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He retired in 2000 and moved to Granbury in 2005.

LOREN NICHOLS, U.S. Border Patrol
Loren Nichols, at 23, joined the Army after he studied English and political science at Texas Western College.

After serving in the Army for three years, he joined the Border Patrol in 1974 as an agent on the ground.
After five years of working for the Border Patrol, he attained the necessary licenses to fly and became a pilot. For the next 20 years, he flew for the Border Patrol.
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PIRATE BASKETBALL: Granbury junior Michael Horne advances the ball down the court against Crowley.

Defending district champ Everman defeats depleted Pirates, 54-41

Two-time defending district basketball champion Crowley outpaced an undermanned Granbury team 54-41 on Tuesday.

Playing without injured starter Jordan King who is sidelined with a nagging Achilles injury, poor defense and 20 turnovers were the key to defeat for the Pi-

NEXT
Basketball
Granbury boys
at Everman
Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Center, according to Granbury head coach David Breazeale. "We did a lot of things to help them," said Breazeale. "We were a little shorthanded, but we had a chance." Clutch free throw shooting helped the visiting Eagles extend their six-point halftime lead in the final two periods.

Junior Mason Hix led the Pirates with 12 points. Sophomore Cade Dudley contributed with 10 points. The loss drops Granbury to 0-2 in district play and 14-7 overall. Granbury plays next at Everman on Tuesday. Tipoff is 6:30 p.m.



LADY PIRATE DRIVE: Granbury's Gabbie Nunn drives the ball against Crowley defenders on Tuesday.

Crowley blasts Lady Pirates, 58-29

Returning to district basketball action Tuesday following the holiday break, the Granbury Lady Pirates were embarrassed at home by the visiting Crowley Eagles, 58-29.

Trailing 44-18 by halftime, the Lady Pirates were never in it.

NEXT
Basketball
Granbury girls
at Everman
Tuesday, 8 p.m.

With the loss, Granbury falls to 2-2 in district play and 6-12 on the season. The win moves the first-place Eagles to 4-0 in district action and 13-5 overall. Hitting 64 percent from the field, senior Makayla Johnson led Crowley with 16 points.

Freshman Avery Brittingham had 14 points. Gabbie Nunn was the only Granbury scorer to reach double digits with 12 points. The Lady Pirates play at Everman Tuesday. Tipoff is 8 p.m.

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MIKE ACOSTA

THAT'S FOR DINNER: The Enlow kids show off a slew of stripers they caught on the Brazos River above Lake Whitney. Pictured are (from left) Noah, Clara and Libby.

SPORTS BRIEFS

TOLAR BOYS FALL TO CISCO, 58-36

The Tolar Rattlers are still searching for their first district basketball win after losing 58-36 at Cisco Tuesday.

"We weren't real aggressive and didn't get to the free-throw line much," said Rattler head coach Kent Caruthers.

Down 33-17 at the half, the Rattlers closed to within seven points in the third quarter before Cisco went on a 7-0 run to increase the lead to 14 points.

The Rattlers never recovered.

"We played slow," said Caruthers.

Bryce Farmer was the leading scorer for Tolar with 16 points. Will Bonnell had nine points.

Tolar (7-12, 0-2) made it to the penalty stripe just seven times against Cisco, which moved to 2-0 in district play.

The Rattlers travel to Breckenridge Tuesday. Tipoff is 8 p.m.

TOLAR GIRLS FALL AT CISCO, 47-25

An efficient Lady Lobos squad made easy work of the Tolar Lady Rattlers in Cisco Tuesday.

Averaging just 12.5 points per half, the Lady Rattlers sputtered to 1-3 in district action after losing 47-25.

As a team, Tolar shot 30 percent from the field, 33 percent from the free-throw line and failed to connect on eight of nine three-pointers.

Lauren Franklin was the leading scorer for Tolar with 11 points.

Twenty-seven Rattler turnovers led to 22 points for Cisco.

The defeat drops Tolar to 8-14 on the season. The Lady Lobos, also 8-14, moved to 1-2 in district play.

Tolar plays at Breckenridge Tuesday. Tipoff is 6:15 p.m.

MCGEE ERUPTS FOR 43 POINTS

Lipan senior post Maddie McGee exploded for a career-high 43 points to lead the Lady Indians past visiting Strawn 64-39 Tuesday night.

McGee was a sizzling 19 of 23 from the field (83 percent) in guiding the team to a 3-0 district record and 13-10 overall.

Sarah Callaway added 12 points and

Faith Ross seven.

McGee also led Lipan with 10 rebounds.

Lipan stormed to a 28-8 first-quarter lead in coasting to the win.

Lipan is the defending Class A state champ but has dropped out of the state rankings. They host fourth-ranked Huckabay (17-2) Tuesday at 6 p.m. in a battle for the district lead.

Huckabay is "very solid" at all five positions, according to Lipan coach Amber Branson. They're quick and play aggressive defense, she said.

LIPAN SANDWICHES SANTO, 80-27

A trio of players scored in double figures to lead the No. 1-ranked Lipan Indians to a 80-27 district basketball victory over visiting Strawn Tuesday night.

Ty Bryant paced the Indians with 22 points, followed by Derrick Cook with 18 and Tate Phillips with 13.

Brayden Jones added eight, Santana Martinez and Eric Miller four, and Layton Sharp three.

Lipan hosts Huckabay Tuesday at 7:15 p.m.

Spring-like weather calls for changes with your fishing

Several warm days in a row, and the winter patterns will change some. Be prepared to change your tactics.

Instead of looking deep when it is cold, you might be looking shallow as well.

The warm temperatures had a lot more anglers on the water this past weekend, especially when the wind wasn't too strong. Whether the fishing was good or bad, it was still nice to get out. I even saw Jet Skiers on the lake.

The warmer temperatures warm the shallow water areas, which does cause some of the baitfish to move up shallower, and of course the predators are never far behind.

The birds are pointing anglers to active fish on many reservoirs including Granbury. I would keep a crankbait, top water or spinner bait tied on for this action. A Rat-L-Trap, Little George or Road Runner tied on to cast to shallow feeding sand bass is deadly.

Not all fish will move up, so deeper-water presentations using a slab or heavy jig will still work at times. Trust your graph. Work different depths until you find something that works.

If you believe you have located the fish, you might need to wait them out. A slow early morning bite might be a clue that midday or later may be better. The winds have been off and on, and most anglers are trying to get their fishing in early to beat the wind. It might pay to wait a little longer for those fish to turn on.

Finding areas on the lake where you are partially blocked from the wind may be necessary. On a lake like Granbury, finding these areas with wind breaks is pretty easy. On an open lake like Bridgeport, this is more difficult.

This is also a good time of the year to fish the river or creeks feeding most reservoirs. For instance, the action in the river above Granbury near Tin Top has been producing sandies and some stripers. Black bass, crap-

HOOD OUTDOORS



Mike Acosta
Unfair Advantage
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pie, sand bass and catfish are all available in the Brazos River. The river above Whitney near Kimball Bend has been producing some great catches of stripers, sand bass and crappie.

Another thing to consider with

these temperature swings is that these changes can be used when planning your trips and/or your strategies.

So if you can get a chance to get on the water this winter between the fronts and the winds, give it a try. Don't forget shallow on those warmer days.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury sand bass action in the river near Tin Top has been fair to good on jigs and slabs. Stripers are slow to fair on the main lake. Stripers to 6 pounds are possible on jigs fished in 25 to 30 feet of water.

Black bass fishing on the main lake is reported as fair. However, some good black bass reports are coming in from the river above Granbury.

Some good crappie catches are also being reported in the river with the best action when it is colder.

Power plant fishing at Squaw Creek continues to be great for those largemouth bass anglers. Soft plastics worked near creek channels and points have been productive.

Whitney limits are common on jigs on the main lake under the birds and in the river near Kimball Bend. Crappie are also being caught on really small jigs near structure off the main river channel.

Possom Kingdom sand bass are excellent near Costello Island.

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- ~ Brush clearing
- ~ Other safety-related issues

I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Senior Connection

Please attach your tax deductible donation to the form included, and mail to:

**UWHC
SENIOR CONNECTION
P.O. Box 1611
Granbury, Texas 76048**

Senior Connection Donation Form

NAME _____

Or, check this box to list your donation as Anonymous

AMOUNT DONATED \$ _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

(Your e-mail address will be used only by Senior Connection and will not be sold.)



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PETS OF THE WEEK

Matteo is an adult male shepherd mix who weighs 40 lb. He is friendly and playful and loves to chase toys.

Andy is an adult male gray tabby cat. He loves to be petted and to sit in laps.

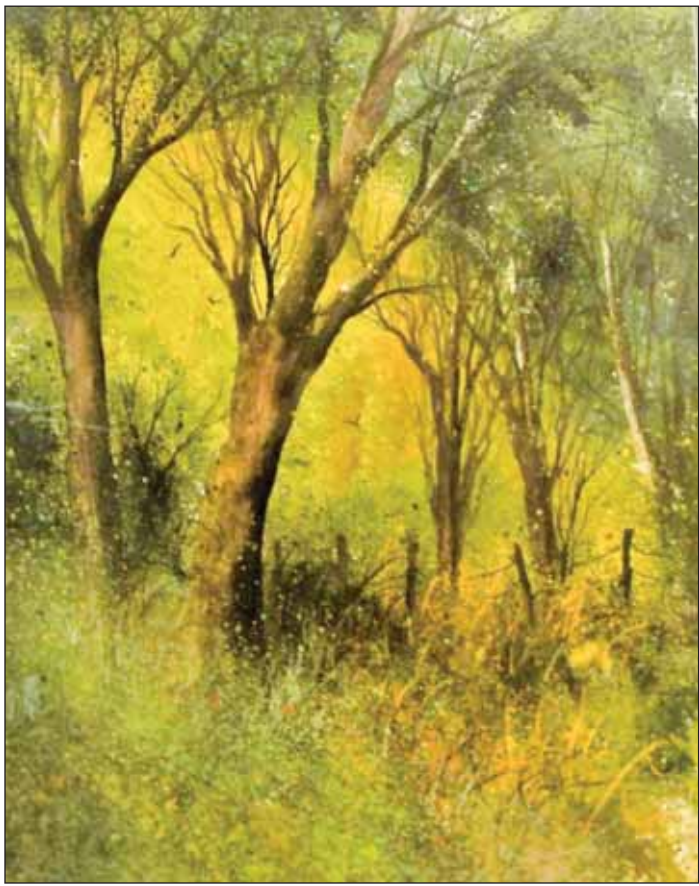
Hood County Animal Control
1550 Weatherford Highway • (817) 573-4277
Mon-Fri 9 am - 5 pm, Tues and Thurs 9 am - 6 pm
First Saturdays of each month - adoptions only 9 am - 12 pm
<http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/TX1342.html>

First Presbyterian Church

Sunday Worship 8:45am & 11am
Church School 9:45am
Nursery Available

817-573-2337
www.fpcgranbury.org
Rev. Drew Travis

303 W. Bridge St.
(2 blocks from the Square)



COURTESY

Artist of the Month

Local artist Barry Selman was named Artist of the Month by the Lake Granbury Art Association with his watercolor painting titled "Forest Glade." Selman has been taking workshop classes with some of the best watercolorists in the nation. Also recognized were Sharon Grindstaff and Claudia Pattillo.

Donations will help kids

The Neighbors Feeding Neighbors board has been collecting donations to help feed hungry children in Hood County.

Numerous church and community organizations come together for the Weekend Food for Kids program. The organizations primarily provide labor and communications with their adopted school. All money donated to Weekend Food for Kids is used to buy food for the kids.



DONATIONS

\$100 Mary Sorrells
 \$25 SL and DK McCoy
 \$50 Paula Duckering
 \$500 Anonymous
 \$50 Mabel & Gearoge Watters
 \$50 James & Janet Odom
 \$30 Anonymous
 \$25 Bill & Elaine Allen
 \$300 Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
 \$35 Leroy & Judy Larson
 \$100 Bobby & Cheryl Murray Trust
 \$25 Mr. & Mrs. K D Boyd
 \$50 Vincent & Priscilla Willmeth
 \$50 Tom Daus
 \$25 Dianne Stark
 \$50 Sandy Creek
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$300 Rita Hart
 \$50 Joan Knott

\$50 Anonymous
 \$50 Cindy Tippet
 \$200 Mike and Shirley McGarrity
 \$20 Carol Weeks
 \$100 Wanda Crossland
 \$100 Brian and Patricia Rosetti
 \$100 Anonymous
 \$100 Anonymous
 \$250 Jerry Tidwell
 \$250 Lula Pope
 \$50 Laurence & Arlene DeYoung
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$150 Victor & Virginia Zemanek
 \$300 Donald & Pamela Meyer
 \$125 William Clark and Mary Balint
 \$100 Anonymous
 \$50 Jerry and Janet Payne
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$500 Larry and Dorothy Birkelbach
 \$100 Kenneth and Lesley Borg
 \$100 Charles and Wendy Foist

\$25 Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sides
 \$100 Wayne and Vickie Pidgeon
 \$100 Deanna Haltom
 \$100 Gwen Caraway
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$500 Anonymous
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$200 Anonymous
 \$100 Betty Hayworth
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$100 Jan Eric Barto
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$100 Martha Traxler
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$200 Mike and Sheri Miller
 \$100 Ken and Juanita Morgan
 \$500 Anonymous
 \$200 Jess and Shirley Moore
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$25 Charlene McCall
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$100 Melba Anderson
 \$300 Elders from Granbury Church of Christ
 \$500 Janice and Tom Peeler
 \$40 Dixie Honzell
 \$600 Anonymous
 \$200 Dorothy Boynton
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$100 Anonymous
 \$100 Jerry and Jane Harvey
 \$20 Barbara Carrell

\$25 Dennis G. Prevost
 \$100 David and Wendy Moore
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$25 Anonymous
 \$50 Anonymous
 \$25 Joy Trull
 \$25 John and Forrest Petricca
 \$50 Stanley and Suzanne Marple
 \$50 Stan and Frances Queen
 \$100 William and Carole Millhollon
 \$100 Carol Gammons
 \$100 Doris Selman
 \$100 James and Janet Odom
 \$25 Ernie Lambert
 \$250 Jo Champion
 \$100 David and Linda Stoehr
 \$100 Gwen Sonnenburg
 \$25 Laverne Harris
 \$50 Jamie Timmins
 \$2,500 Bob and Sammie Williams
 \$50 Thomas and Julie Lyssy
 \$20 Judy Vetter
 \$100 Anne Herren
 \$411 Emmanuel Lutheran Church
 \$100 Derrell Conley Little
 \$100 Jon and Zonnie Back
 \$200 M.J. Adamson
 \$100 Lawrence and Carol Link
 \$100 Lisa Johnson
 \$50 Robin and Bud Vera
 \$25 Jerry Elman
 \$100 H Juergen and Arla Richter
 \$25 Anonymous

TOTAL \$14,551

LGAA hosting Cook for demonstration

Renowned local watercolor artist Robert Cook will give a lecture on what it takes to enter and win at art shows and contests during the next meeting of the Lake Granbury Arts Association.

The LGAA meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9 at the Shanley House Center for the Arts, 224 N. Travis St.

Cook will also do a painting demonstration of a landscape so we will get to see him paint. As he has won many awards/contests he is the perfect mentor for any artist that would like to display their art and maybe even win some awards.

GRANBURY ART SMARTS



Marilyn Haskins

The LGAA meeting is free and open to the public. If you would like to become a member, you can join at this meeting.

maxhaskins@aol.com

Aaron Brothers is a national art supplier that sponsors a contest every year for best artist in the United States. Cook won that prestigious award in 2016 for his painting titled "Backyards of Barcelona."



COURTESY

WATERCOLOR ARTIST: Robert Cook (right) will give a lecture on what it takes to enter art contests during the next meeting of the Lake Granbury Arts Association. The group meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9 at the Shanley House Center for the Arts, 224 N. Travis St. In other LGAA activities, featured artist Sharon Grindstaff has work displayed this month at the Granbury Visitors Center.



We're looking for the

Top Dogs & Cats



Sponsored by



Enter your pet by uploading your photo with a \$5.00 donation per photo.

All proceeds will be given to Hood County animal shelter programs: HALO and Friends for Animals.

5 Divisions

- Small dog
- Medium dog
- Large dog
- Cats
- People and Pets

Winners will receive a photo shoot with HCN staff photographer Mary Vinson and be featured in a **Special Section** to be published on **Saturday, February 18.**

Be sure to vote online at Hcnews.com/petcontest! ALL proceeds will be awarded to Hood County animal shelter programs: HALO and Friends for Animals.

5 votes: \$5.00 • 15 votes: \$10.00
30 votes: \$15.00 • 50 votes: \$20.00 • 75 votes: \$25.00

Cast your votes today - voting ends Saturday, January 28!

Photo entry deadline is January 21

Submit your entries online at **Hcnews.com/petcontest**

Mark your calendar

Events announced for coming year

Event planners have announced dates for a variety of annual events in the coming year. The fun begins Wednesday with the annual Hood County Junior Livestock Show.

Here's a glance at festivals and events posted for the coming year.

JANUARY

11-14 Junior Livestock Show and Sale. Open Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Open Friday with 4-H pancake breakfast from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Buyers buffet and public meal set Saturday at 11 a.m., followed by the premium auction at 1 p.m. Sponsored by Hood County Livestock Raiser Association, 641 Reunion Court.

FEBRUARY

3 Best of Business awards presented at Granbury Chamber of Commerce annual banquet, 6 to 10 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center, <http://granburychamber.com>

9 Handsome Hunks fundraiser for Ruth's Place, 6 to 9 p.m., Granbury Resort Conference Center, 817-573-6800, <http://ruthsplace.wix.com/ruthsplace>

MARCH

2-3 Stroll Through Texas History program presented by the Texas Heroes Foundation, at Acton Baptist Church, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Student history fair, black powder demonstrations and Elizabeth



DEBBIE SCHNEIDER | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

GERMAN FESTIVAL: The annual Oktoberfest is planned Oct. 7-8 on the square with music and dancing presented by Ketzler's Schnitzel Haus and Biergarten.

Crockett Memorial Ceremony. <http://Texasheroesfoundation.org>

18-19 General Granbury's Birthday Party on the square. <http://granburysquare.com>

APRIL

22 Hood County Relay for Life, 2 to 10 p.m. Granbury Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Court. <http://relay.acsevents.org>

28-29 Granbury Wine Walk with wine tasting, vendors, music on square and surrounding area. <http://granburywinewalk.com>

MAY

27-29 Cruisin' Granbury Memorial Day Weekend, vendor booths on the square, music and activities. <http://granburysquare.com>



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS | BUY REPRINTS AT HCNEWS.COM/GALLERIES

OLD-FASHIONED 4TH OF JULY: Granbury goes all-out for the 4th of July. Vendors on the square and fireworks over Lake Granbury highlight the

festival presented by the Granbury Chamber of Commerce. Activities are planned July 2-4.

27-30 Field of Flags: Remembrance and Honor, presented by Greater Granbury Military Officers Association of America. Purchase a flag and honor military and first responders, 4064 E. Highway 377 (near the Luton Ranch shopping area), 817-776-7766. Proceeds support Hood County veterans and their families, <http://granbury-fieldofflags.com>

JUNE

9, 10, 11 Lone Star Street Rod Association State Run. Registration at Granbury Resort Conference Center, 621 E. Pearl St., public display of street rods at Hewlett Park. <http://lssra.com>

JULY

2-4 Old-Fashioned 4th Of July with parade on square and fireworks over the lake, presented by the Granbury Chamber of Commerce. Variety of vendors and activities on the square. <http://granburychamber.com>

SEPTEMBER

2-4 Labor Day Lakefest on the square, sponsored by Hood County Merchants Association. www.granburysquare.com

21 Historic Granbury Merchants Association presents Carnival Americana at Granbury Reunion Grounds

through Oct. 1.

30 Granbury Paranormal Expo on Granbury Square, <http://granburyparanormalexpo.com/>

OCTOBER

7-8 Oktoberfest with music, dancing on the square, presented by Ketzler's Schnitzel Haus and Biergarten, 682-936-2777.

21-22 Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts, with vendors on the square, live entertainment. <http://granburysquare.com>

TBA Party on the Peak, fundraiser for Preserve Granbury, includes dinner and dancing atop Comanche

Peak. <http://preservegranbury.org>

NOVEMBER

24 Country Christmas Night of Lights parade on the square. <http://granburysquare.com>

DECEMBER

1-2 Granbury - A Candelight Tour, historic homes and public buildings open for tours, musical events around the square. <http://granburycandelighttour.com>

1-10 Away in a Manger display with over 1,000 nativity displays, <http://granburysquare.com>



BRISCOE

REAL ESTATE

Thank you

for allowing us to serve your Real Estate needs during the 2016 season.
Briscoe Real Estate wishes you a blessed and happy 2017.



Life

Calendar

Moore will lead Art Guild in Pecan

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild (PPAG) finished a very successful 2016 with a silent auction and induction of new officers.

Serving in 2017 will be Cheryl Moore, president; Gwen Hutson, vice-president; Connie Gilmore, secretary; and Bob Hart, treasurer. Best wishes to this slate of officers for a very successful year.

In addition to the holiday auction (the proceeds of which will patronize PPAG activities such as Gallery Night and the spring art show), guild members and guests toasted the holiday season with food and fellowship at its annual Christmas party.

ART GUILD PICKS ARTIST OF MONTH

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild chose Barbara Brown as first place winner for artist of the month, with recognition also going to Wanda Hayre, Ginger Castranova, Martie Rains and Barbara Sutton. These folks have their work featured at the Pecan clubhouse, the Pecan Activity Center (PAC), the Pecan Family Medical Center and at its online gallery: www.pecanplantationartguild.com.

The PPAG meets again Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC, and new members and guests are welcome. Prospective members should be at least 18 years of age; annual dues are \$25.

For more information on the PPAG and the art scene in Pecan, contact Cheryl Moore at 682-225-6089.

NEW YEAR LIVING

Patricia Green is leading a class tomorrow afternoon from 3 to 4 p.m. at the PAC to continue her healthy living series begun in 2016.

PECAN BITS



Diane Long

Tomorrow's topic will be "developing daily habits to improve health in the new year." Sign up at the PAC: 817-573-7952.

HAPPY FEET

Award-winning choreographer and dance teacher with 50 years of education, Michele Burger, is bringing "Happy Feet; Dance Divas" to the PAC when she leads adult tap lessons. Classes begin Tuesday morning at 10, and tap shoes are provided. Sign up for this too at the PAC.

COOKING CLASS

Healthy cooking with Li Cross continues Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. when participants will be preparing soup and salad. Register at the PAC.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Wednesday morning's Breakfast Club will welcome Rachel McGregor, project forester of the Texas A&M Forest Service, when she discusses Texas trees and oak wilt.

All Pecaners are invited to Breakfast Club at the clubhouse where food service begins at 7:30 a.m. with the program immediately following.

ARCHERY AND AIR GUN

Pecan's archery/air gun range will host an air rifle match on Jan. 14 and a William Tell archery event on Jan 21.

Send email to info@pecanranchery.com for more information.



MARTIE RAINS

TOPS IN ART GUILD: Barbara Brown and her award-winning work took first place honors for Artist of the Month. The Pecan Plantation Art Guild meets again next Tuesday.

MARDI GRAS

Reservations are being accepted for Pecan's Mardi Gras celebration, "Mardi Gras Meets the Big Screen," on Jan. 28.

Krewes will select a movie and decorate tables accordingly, and no duplicate choices are allowed, so reserve a flick and table quickly: 817-573-2641.

GOLF SUCCESS

Pecan's golfing groups once again led a very successful Toys for Tots drive in December, and the bounty was more

than 300 donated toys, 29 bicycles and a large sum of cash donations, all of which benefited children in our community. More than 100 golfers braved golf play on a cold, windy day. Many thanks go to the volunteers who made the tournament and toy collection go so well.

TENNIS PLAY

The Pecan Plantation Tennis Association (PPTA) has a busy year planned, and the first dates are Jan. 17- Feb. 9, which

bring session one of junior tennis.

Play happens on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. for netters ages six and up. Sign up in the pro shop: 817-579-9412.

ELECTION TIME

The inaugural event for meeting board of director candidates comes Jan. 21 with a "meet and greet" in the clubhouse ballroom from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360.

HELPING HANDS

NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK CHRONICLES DOG'S REHABILITATION

A book release party for a new children's book highlighting animal rescue is set from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14 at Second Chance Farm's General Store, 1458 E. Highway 377.

"Honey's Second Chance," written by Brandy Herr of Granbury and released by Who Chains You Publishing, tells the story of a golden retriever rehabilitated by the local animal rescue facility Second Chance Farm.

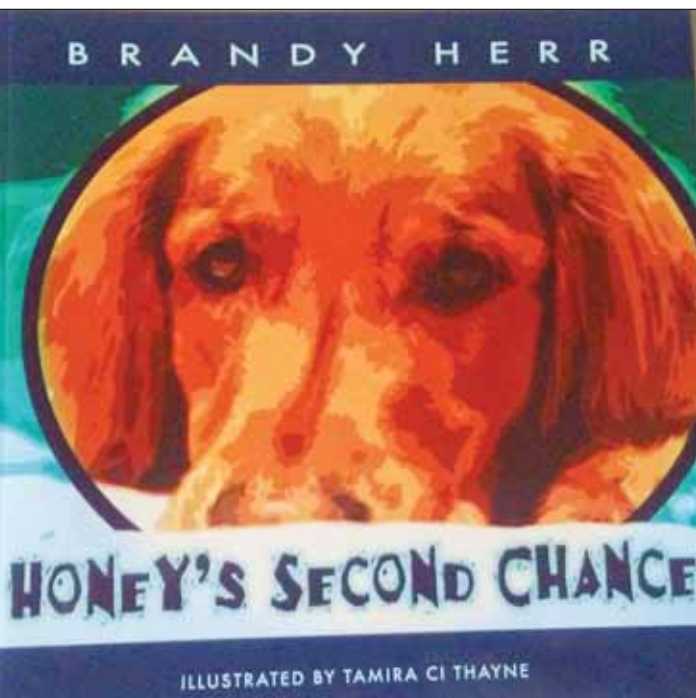
Herr will be on hand to sign books, and Honey herself will make a special appearance.

"By not only telling the story of an actual dog saved by animal rescue, but also telling it in the dog's point of view, I hope to bring a closer sense of compassion between children and animals," said Brandy Herr.

"Children can learn about the reality of animal abuse and rescue, told in a child-appropriate manner, while putting themselves in Honey's perspective."

Half of the author's profits and royalties from the sale of Honey's Second Chance will be donated to Second Chance Farm in Granbury.

The illustrations found in "Honey's Second Chance," stylized by illustrator Tamira Ci Thayne, come largely from actual photos of dogs rescued by



STORY OF SECOND CHANCES: Brandy Herr will have a book signing from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 14 at Second Chance Farm's General Store, 1458 E. Highway 377.

Second Chance Farm.

For more information, go to www.AuthorBrandyHerr.com.

MATCHING GIFT INCREASES VALUE OF DONATIONS FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

You can team up with generous benefactors creating a matching fund for Habitat for Humanity of Hood County.

The match gives a boost to build more homes for families

in need of simple, decent shelter in 2017.

Donations received through Jan. 31 will be matched up to the amount of the fund. Matching fund sponsors include First National Bank of Granbury, Inge Foundation and anonymous donors.

Mail donations to Habitat for Humanity of Hood County P.O. Box 1866, Granbury, 76048.

You can also donate online at www.habitatofhoodcounty.org

Many contribute to success of Lipan Community Pantry

Thanks to everyone who has donated money and/or food to the Lipan Community Food Pantry.

The pantry supplied Christmas hams and turkeys to over 30 families in our area during the holidays.

The Community Food Pantry is open every Friday afternoon from 4 to 7 p.m.

If you know of a family in need, please let them know that the pantry is at the First Baptist Church in Lipan.

IT'S FAIR TIME!

The Hood County Livestock Raisers annual county fair will begin next Wednesday, Jan. 11, and continue through Saturday, Jan. 14. Many of our local kids have been working hard with their animals and home and family living projects to get ready for this big weekend.

If you would like to donate to the buying fund for this event, you can do so at the First National Bank of Lipan.

Visitors are welcome at the fairgrounds daily. Make sure you go out and support our local youth.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Happy belated birthday to Grace Moran. Her birthday was Dec. 30. Taylor Branson had a

LIPAN SMOKE SIGNALS



Debbie Compton

birthday on Jan. 2. Chris and Bethany Tarpley celebrated their anniversary on Jan. 3. My mom, Mary Ann Perry, celebrated her 83 birthday on Jan. 5. Both Connie Cook and Diane Cohlmeier had birthdays on Jan. 6.

Anna Patino and Ellie Tipton will both be a year older tomorrow, Sunday, Jan. 8. Shane Shockley's big day is Tuesday, Jan. 10. Jennifer (Tarpley) Lewis has a birthday on Thursday, Jan. 12.

Joe Bass and fellow musicians are taking the month off. There will not be music played at the Community Center tonight. We will keep you posted when the next program is scheduled.

SEND IN THE NEWS

If you have news, birthdays, anniversaries, or special events pertaining to the Lipan community, please contact me.

dapc72@gmail.com | 817-578-0886

The Community Calendar is a free listing in the Hood County news to inform readers of community programs, special meetings and nonprofit events.

To be considered for publication, organizations must include the agenda for the meeting, or the speaker's name and topic. Information should be submitted two weeks prior to the event for consideration.

Please do not submit a listing for all meetings the entire year. Monthly updates work best. Email information (including the location and street address) to calendar@hcnews.com.

MONDAY, JAN. 9

NORTH CENTRAL Texas Civil War Roundtable dinner at 5:30 p.m., historian John Schmutz speaks at 6:30 p.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Highway 377.

COLONIAL DAMES 17th Century members share old photos, 10 a.m., First Christian Church, 2109 Highway 377 W.

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County installs new officers, 11 a.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 Highway 377 E.

TUESDAY, JAN. 10

SALVATION ARMY Women's Service League welcomes guest speaker Mike McMahon to discuss transitional housing for youth aging out of foster care, 10 a.m. social time, 10:30 a.m. business, optional lunch follows, deCordova Bend Estates Clubhouse, 5301 Country Club Drive.

KNITTING GUILD program is "Easy and Practical Everyday Knits," 9:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 303 W. Bridge St.

THURSDAY, JAN. 12

C&W DANCE at Senior Center featuring Outcast, 7 to 9:30 p.m., 501 E. Moore St.

SATURDAY, JAN. 14

BOOK RELEASE party for "Honey's Second Chance" will include appearance by author Brandy Herr and Honey the dog, noon to 3 p.m. at Second Chance Farm's General Store, 1458 E. Highway 377. A majority of profits benefit Second Chance Farm.

MONDAY, JAN. 16

ELIZABETH CROCKETT Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution presents Hood County Good Citizens Awards and Hood County American History Awards to area students, 10 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 301 S. Bridge St.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18

REPUBLICAN WOMEN honor past presidents and Republican women, 10:30 a.m., Fillin' Station, 100 N. Crockett.

Welcomes You!
9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings

"Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, a parish in good standing with the Episcopal Church in the United States of America, a part of the worldwide Anglican Communion."

The Episcopal Church welcomes all who worship Jesus Christ.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH of the Good Shepherd

The Rev. Dr. Suzi Robertson, Priest in Charge 832-723-3129
Ian Moore, Sub Deacon 817-219-5382 | Leslie Guinn, Sub Deacon 817-219-3510
2016 Acton Hwy - Hwy 4 across from Morrison Supply at Seventh Day Adventist Church

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Dysport. Don't freeze me. Dysport me.

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*50 Units of Dysport **Based on Physician Consultation
Expires 1-31-17

Gladys 'Jan' 'Aunt Happy' Haller

Gladys "Jan" Haller, 96, of Granbury died Dec. 23, 2016. She was born Jan. 6, 1920, in New Albany, Indiana. Gladys' body was donated to science at her request. A family memorial was held recently. Gladys (her professional name was Jan) had a varied and exciting life. She had a bachelor's degree from Stanford University and a master's from Columbia University, both in English literature. She was in the military twice, a public relations officer in the Army (WAC) during the war and recalled in the Korean War, again in public relations. She resigned as captain. This experience started a 20-year public relations career in New York. She first worked for the Girl Scout national office, handling print publicity, writing speeches for the Girl Scout president. Three years later she was named public relations director for the Institute of International Education, managing world-wide publicity assignments, including a six-week tour of Africa including Kenya, Ethiopia, Egypt, Gaza Strip, and Tunisia with Henry Cabot Lodge (IIE board chairman) and CBS-TV, and a three-week visit to the U.S. by 29 top Soviet leaders. Five years later, she left IIE to serve as the press officer for the Liberian Mission to the United Nations. She also managed to find time for politics, serving as volunteer public relations director for the New York Young Democrats and running for the office of New York assemblywoman. She said she was "one of the first drop-outs from the society of over-achievers."



She left New York and three years later found herself in the thoroughbred world. She and a friend built a horse farm, Tally Ho Farm, in Florida, where luck and hard work (their first foal was a champion) brought success.

Her fondest memories include winning the prestigious Black Helen stakes with their champion filly and a personal letter from Helen Keller for a poem 'Jan' wrote about her.

Gladys was preceded in death by her parents, John and Isabelle Haller; sister, Aline and Thomas Drillette; brother, William and Dorothy Haller; nieces, Phyllis Lewis, Sondra Sartini; nephews, Thomas R. Drillette and Bill Haller.

She is survived by a niece, Mary Jane and John Buerger; great-nephews, Tom and Elysa Drillette, Steve and Martha Drillette, Tim and Lori Drillette, Scott and Amy Drillette; and great-niece, Debbie and Bob Tolar; numerous great-nieces and nephews and a great-great-niece and nephew.

George Franklin Baker

George Franklin Baker, 77, of Cleburne passed away Monday, Jan. 2, 2017, in Fort Worth. Funeral services: 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, 2017, in the Rosser Funeral Home Chapel in Cleburne. Interment will follow at the Acton Cemetery located at the intersection of FM 167 and Hwy 4 in Granbury. Visitation: Noon to 2 p.m. prior to the service at Rosser Funeral Home. George was born on June 23, 1939, in Verden, Oklahoma to Reuben A. Baker and Addie L. Baker. He was the youngest of four children and graduated from Bowie High School in 1957. He married George Ann Meason on Dec. 11, 1959, in Odessa. George graduated from the University of Texas with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering in 1965. A longtime employee of Amoco, George and George Ann lived in several communities including Odessa, Austin, Monahans, Midland, Fort Worth, Houston, and Andrews before moving to Granbury following George's retirement in 1995. George Ann passed away in 2012. George met Jueth Hardin and they were married June 7, 2014, on the Isle of Capri in Italy. After their marriage, they resided in Cleburne. George enjoyed golf, building and flying radio-controlled airplanes, traveling, woodworking and tinkering with all things mechanical. He also served as a



volunteer for Meals On Wheels in the Granbury area. George and Jueth traveled all over the world, especially in Europe and her birthplace in the Caribbean.

George was a kind and generous person who was respected by all who knew him. His love of family, sense of humor, intelligence and unwavering character will be greatly missed.

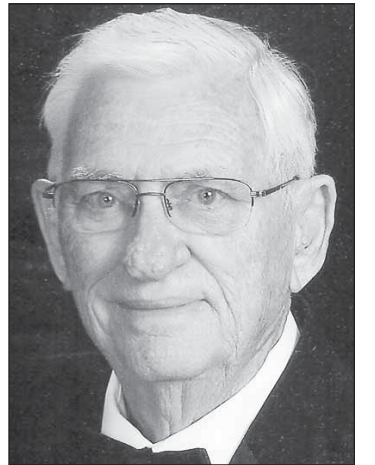
George was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, George Ann; his brothers, James Baker and Ralph Baker; his sister, Evelyn Davis; and his parents, Reuben and Addie Baker.

George is survived by his wife, Jueth Hardin Baker of Cleburne; his sons, Steven Baker and wife, Danielle and their children, Zane and Lauren of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Scott Baker of Atlanta, Georgia.

You may view the obituary online at www.rosserfuneral-home.net.

Robert L. Schnick

Robert L. Schnick (Bob), 81, formerly of Granbury, went to be with the Lord Nov. 7, 2016. Scriptural rosary of Christian hope: 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, 2017, St. Frances Cabrini Church, 2301 Acton Highway, Granbury. Mass of Christian Burial: St. Frances Cabrini Church, 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, 2017. The Rite of Committal and Military Burial: Holly Hills Cemetery in Granbury follow the Mass. Bob was the son of Elmer L. and Mary Ann Schnick. He was born in Chicago, Jan. 30, 1935. He lived in Joliet, Illinois until he graduated from Joliet Township High School in August 1952. It was during that time he met Vivian Kuntz, the person he was to marry in December 1954 and who spent 60 years with him as his loving wife, best friend and partner for life. They were blessed with four children. Bob joined the Air Force in September 1952 and retired from the US Air Force in December 1972. He was a veteran of the Korean War and Vietnam. After retiring from the U.S. Air Force, Bob was employed by Hewlett Packard company as a computer technical support engineer and retired from HP December 1997. Bob was active as a member of the Catholic church wherever he was living. He was the RCIA director for his parish in Granbury. Bob was a member of the Knights of Columbus from 1965 until his death. He was active in the Pro-Life ministry. He participated in the St. Fran-



ces Cabrini Mission Outreach Ministry to the parish mission partner in Patzun, Guatemala. Bob made four mission trips to Guatemala.

In lieu of flowers, donations for "Mission Outreach - Guatemala Mission" may be sent "In Honor of Bob Schnick" to St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church.

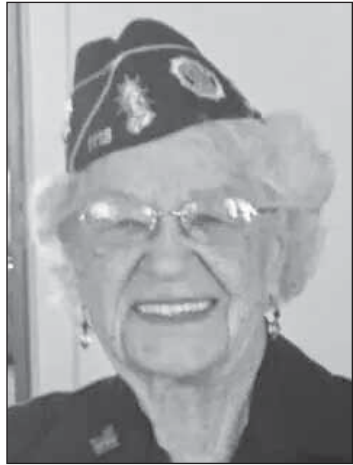
Bob was preceded in death by his wife Vivian on March 29, 2015, and by son Daniel Leroy Schnick on Jan. 2, 2000, and a brother Richard on Aug. 7, 2007.

Bob was survived by his three remaining children, son, Christopher Lee Schnick (wife, Cynthia Bechtold), of Plano; daughters, Jo Anne Marie (husband, Stephen) Prewitt, Lafayette, Louisiana; and Laura Lynne (husband, Len) Marek of Page, Arizona; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; and sister, Kathleen (husband, Kenneth) Moleski of Sarasota, Florida.

Arrangements by Wiley Funeral Home.

Genevieve 'Jean' Ulinski

Genevieve (Jean) P. Krol Ulinski passed away peacefully Tuesday, Dec. 27, 2016. Genevieve was born March 17, 1922, in Utica, New York to Joseph and Ida Jozwiak. Blessed military memorial service: 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6, 2017, at the American Legion Post #491, Davis Rd, Granbury. She moved to Granbury from Upstate New York one year ago and was currently residing at The Cove at Waterview and formerly at Lakestone Terrace. Genevieve was of Catholic faith and received all the sacraments throughout her lifetime. She was a member of a strong patriotic family of all girls and was one of the first women to be sworn into the WAAC. She then re-enlisted into the WAC serving additional years as a sergeant. Genevieve was a very independent, loving and caring mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was always a part of family get-togethers and enjoyed going to the family camps in 1000 Islands, New York and Sylvan Beach, New York. She loved watching baseball on television and she attended many of her great-grandson Brandon's baseball games during his school years. Genevieve crocheted in her younger years and made many patterned afghans. She also enjoyed playing bingo, going to the casino, her scratch off tickets, listening to and dancing to Polish music. Genevieve was predeceased by her husband and the father of her children, Stanley Krol; sisters, Sally Draper, Kay Sheldon and Jessie Bitteker; son, David M. Krol; three grandchildren, Amy Krol, Alan Ptasinski



and David Krol Jr. and a latter husband, Joseph Ulinski.

She is survived by a son, James Krol and his wife of Oriskany, New York; daughter, Barbara J. Varlaro and her husband, Joseph of Granbury (formerly of Oriskany); granddaughter, Bethany Failing of Granbury (formerly of Oriskany), and two other grandchildren and their spouses of Upstate New York; great-grandchildren, Brandon and Alana Failing of Granbury (formerly of Oriskany); and a great-granddaughter of Upstate New York; several nieces, nephews and many friends in Upstate New York and here locally. Contributions may be made in memory of Genevieve "Jean" to the American Legion Post #491 or to the Granbury animal shelter.

The family of Genevieve would like to send their heartfelt thank-you to everyone who touched her life, cared for her while she lived here, and to those during her final hours with us. Arrangements made by Wiley Funeral Home.

Phyllis Kay Nixon

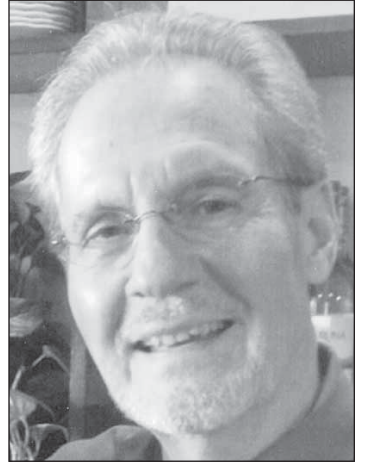
Phyllis Kay Nixon, 67, of Granbury passed away Friday, Dec. 30, 2016, in Dallas. Service: 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017, at Wiley Funeral Home, Granbury. Interment: Long Creek Cemetery. Visitation: 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2017, at the funeral home. Phyllis was born July 28, 1949, in Knox City to Lynn and Hazel Cypert Tankersley. While working as a switchboard receptionist at a car dealership, Gale Nixon came in to buy a car. He didn't buy a car but stole her heart. They married Sept. 30, 1972, in Lubbock. Phyllis was a secretary for an oil and gas company. She loved to country dance. She taught her children the importance of cooking and housekeeping, and enjoyed crafts and ceramics. She was preceded in death by her parents and a nephew, Rob Hollis.



Survivors: Husband, Gale Nixon; children, Jodie and husband, Chuck Sims, and Amanda Nixon; grandchildren, Blake Humble, Chris Sims, Ryder Sims, Avery Sickels and Cali Sickels; sister, Wynette and husband, Jim Hollis; and niece, Holly Hollis. Arrangements made by Wiley Funeral Home.

Thomas David deGraffenried

Thomas deGraffenried, 71, passed away at his residence Jan. 2, 2017, in Granbury. A celebration of his life will take place in the near future. The date and time are pending. He was cremated. Thomas was born in Waco, Feb. 24, 1945, to Gaines and Ola deGraffenried. He married Marsha on March 1, 1980, in Houston. He was a member of the Harvest Church in Granbury and a member of the American Cut Glass Association. He was very active in going to nursing homes and assisted living facilities, particularly the Quail Park Assisted Living facility in Granbury, to visit with residents and give sermons. Tommy was a loving son, brother, husband, father, and grandfather. He was a best friend to many. Tommy was a one of a kind character with a heart of gold. He had a knack for lighting up a room, making people laugh, and making people feel welcome. Tommy loved Jesus with every ounce of his being, and he is now rejoicing in Heaven with his Lord and Savior.



Survivors include his wife, Marsha deGraffenried of Granbury; daughters, Michelle DeYoung and husband, Randy of Granbury, and Dixie Stalnaker and husband, Court of Allen; brother, Fleming deGraffenried of Houston; grandchildren, Devon DeYoung, Taylor DeYoung, and Lillian Stalnaker. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gaines and Ola deGraffenried.

Memorials may be made to Gideons International, P.O. Box 76 Stephenville, Texas 76401. Online condolences can be made at www.lacyfuneral.com.

Debra Elaine Norwood

Debra Elaine Norwood, 63, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016, in Granbury. Family services will be held at a later date. Debra was born Sept. 24, 1953, in Wichita Falls to Roy Arnold and Betty Catherine Hail Norwood. She was a caregiver, a hard worker and with her husband, raised three children and grandchildren. Debra was a caring person, would help in anyway and put everyone first above herself. She took care of friends, her door was always open. Debra was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors: Children, Corey (wife, Helen Lasley), Jason Lasley, and James (wife, Amanda) Lasley; grandchildren, Taylor, Joe, Bradley, Chayme and Curtis, Donnie and Patricia, Levi, Keaton and Ashley; great-grandchildren, Tucker, Tegan, Chloe



and Ben; brothers, Steve (wife, Pam) Norwood, Gary (wife, Cindy) Norwood and Jeff Norwood; several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends; special best friends, Pam Zebley, Lynn Erskine and G.G. Paine. Arrangements made by Wiley Funeral Home.

The deadline for obituaries is noon Monday for the Wednesday paper, and noon Thursday for the Saturday paper. Obituaries can be emailed to obits@hcnews.com.

MARTIN'S Funeral Home & Cemeteries 817-279-7700

WILEY FUNERAL HOME "Family owned and operated" GRANBURY 817-573-3000

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Real Estate

Deadlines: Wednesday issue, 1 p.m. Monday - Saturday issue, 1 p.m. Thursday

(817) 573-7066

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday • 8 am.-1 p.m. Friday

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\$221,000

This 4-2-3 has an open floor plan that features nice white tile floors throughout the living area, gorgeous granite counters and custom cabinets in the kitchen. This house has a wonderful built-in desk and shelves in entry from the garage. This home is value priced and ready for a new owner!



\$455,000

Luxurious Boggs and Whitecotton home surrounded by million dollar waterfronts in beautiful Summerlin. This custom 3-4-3 home boasts expansive rooms with custom features everywhere. Sprawling on almost 3 acres of landscaped private grounds! New roof and no HOA!



\$265,000

Beautiful custom rock and brick home by Master Builder Chris Thomas in Abe's Landing. This 3-2-1-2 with study has incredible custom finishes such as upgraded granite counters, custom mosaic tile in all bathrooms, and SS appliances! Beautiful water view of canal & fountain, community pool and playground.



\$325,500

Enjoy a country setting in this new construction 4-3-2 home in Godley, Texas! This house is perfect for the commuter as it is all conveniently located only 15 minutes away from Ft. Worth via Chisholm Trail.



\$335,500

You will love the attention to detail in this new construction 4-3-2 home in Godley, Texas! Custom features include gorgeous coffered ceilings in living and master, decorator tile accents in kitchen and beautiful granite counter tops and tons of cabinet space.



\$479,000

Custom new construction stucco and rock with tile roof in Catalina Bay on the water won't last long. Stunning 4-2-5-3 with study boasts a custom iron front door, custom cabinets, crown molding throughout the house, engineered hardwood floors, and travertine in Master Bath.



\$390,000

Incredible 4-3-3 new construction in Starlight Ranch loaded with custom touches. Living room is open with stone fireplace with custom wood floors and a beautiful coffered ceiling. Gourmet kitchen is huge, white and bright with double ovens, island with eat-in area, custom Carrera marble counters and pot filler at gas range.



\$549,000

Custom built one owner 4-3-3 home on 12+- acres in desirable Oaks At Fall Creek. Large open living room and dining room with separate study and sun room are filled with light. You can walk out and enjoy the crystal clear in ground pool and entertain in the outdoor living space. This is a gem and won't last long!!

NEW HOMES



Custom Home Builder



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Stunning new construction in Abe's Landing! 4-2-2 open concept with study. Beautiful wood floors and huge windows to let in tons of natural light. Luxurious master suite. Covered patio with large backyard.



\$277,900

Beautiful 4-3-2 custom in Josiah Estates. The kitchen was made for entertaining. Inviting open living plan that features a stunning native rock fireplace, built in bookcases and custom coffered ceiling. This custom beauty will go fast!



\$286,900

Knock out new 4-2-5-2 custom in Josiah Estates. Wide open floor plan, custom iron door. Kitchen includes granite counters, custom cabinets w/under lighting, granite island and SS appliances. Cedar accents and a covered patio round out the exterior.

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1050

Homes for Sale

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2-story, 1 acre tract w/Squaw Creek river frontage. No HOAs or city taxes. Extensive outdoor entertainment area w/large inground pool, soaring ceilings, granite kitchen, loaded with upgrades. \$365,000. Ad#110

1050

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Homes for Sale

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1070

Lots for Sale

LAKE LOT-SKY HARBOR (Approx 87'X 200') 2801 Star Ct, Granbury 76049. Unimproved (clearing allowance \$1500), lake view, corner lot on cul-de-sac. One block from clubhouse/kitchen/pool/boat ramp/pier. FSBO Reduced. \$9500 817-930-0389 (817) 930-0389

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Acreage for Sale

For sale: 95 acres near Abilene, 2500' frontage on I-20 service road @2-way exit & entry, 2643' frontage on historic Bankhead Hwy. 1400' frontage on FM Road, county water. Deer, ducks, hogs, quail, dove & varmits, fenced. Commercial industrial investment potential. \$575,000. Call John, 817-578-1045

1030

Commercial for Sale

308 Temple Hall Hwy. Whse 7200 sq ft w/AC&Heat. Bathroom. 3-1-Office/House. 1.49 acs. For Sale \$329,000 or for rent \$3300/mo. Daron(817) 565-2262

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OPEN HOUSE
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Sunday, Jan 8, 1pm-4pm

• 4100 Jewel Ct - Granbury. 18.525 acres, 2-1, well, lighted arena, barn, fenced & cross-fenced. \$245,000

• 4111 Jewel Ct - Granbury. 10.262 acres, 3-2.5, new paint & flooring, well, barn, fenced, small pond, trees. \$300,000

• 2931 Wilkerson Ct - Tolar. 43 acres, barns, well, fenced, coastal field (300-350 rolls per year), beautiful building site w/trees. \$494,500

817-559-3705 for additional information

Homes for Sale

Gated Golf Course Custom Home



1510 Joshua Way

Double lot on .39 on 11th tee of Harbor Lakes. Custom pool/sunroom, 4-2.5-3 oversized garage. Master suite, oversized walk-in closets, jetted tub/sep shower. Plantation shutters. Granite countertops, insta-hot water. Large living w/fireplace. \$100,000 less than build cost.

1050

By Owner Call: (925) 768-1634. \$319,900

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Local Market Update – November 2016

A RESEARCH TOOL PROVIDED BY NORTH TEXAS REAL ESTATE INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.



Hood County

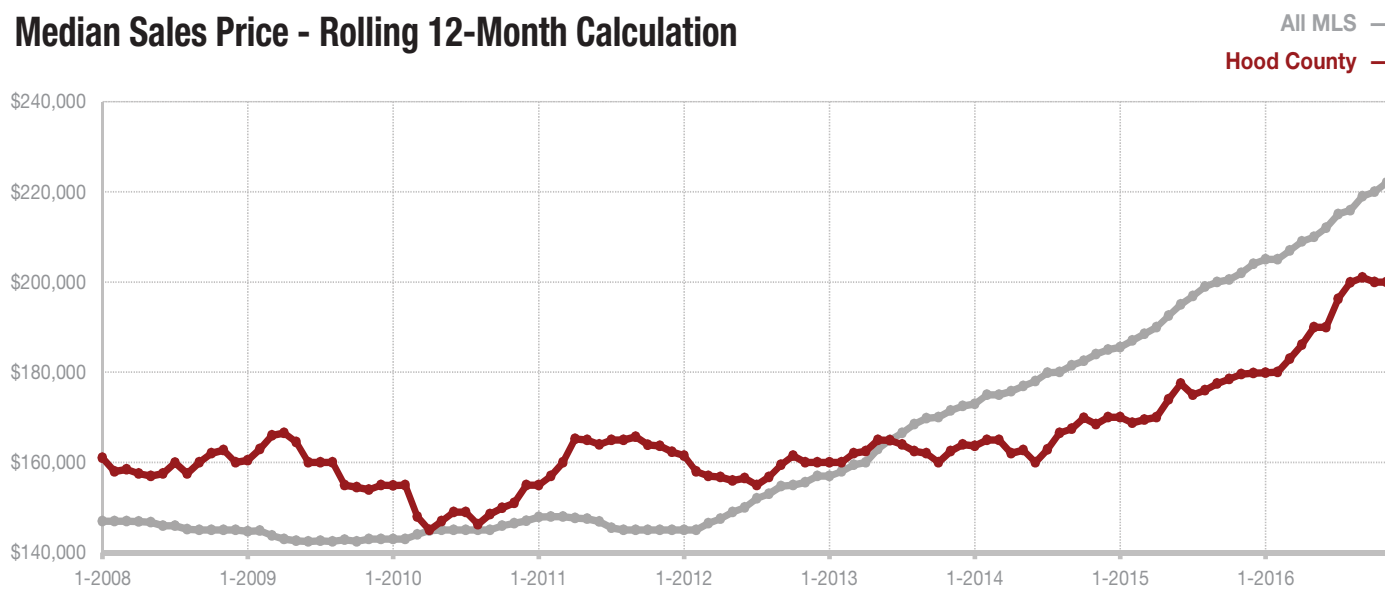
+ 0.9% **+ 44.4%** **+ 4.1%**

Change in New Listings Change in Closed Sales Change in Median Sales Price

	November			Year to Date		
	2015	2016	+ / -	2015	2016	+ / -
New Listings	110	111	+ 0.9%	1,742	1,714	- 1.6%
Pending Sales	91	74	- 18.7%	1,144	1,284	+ 12.2%
Closed Sales	72	104	+ 44.4%	1,098	1,275	+ 16.1%
Average Sales Price*	\$224,630	\$217,110	- 3.3%	\$202,933	\$225,033	+ 10.9%
Median Sales Price*	\$187,250	\$195,000	+ 4.1%	\$178,500	\$199,961	+ 12.0%
Percent of Original List Price Received*	91.5%	93.9%	+ 2.6%	93.9%	94.8%	+ 1.0%
Days on Market Until Sale	107	80	- 25.2%	91	72	- 20.9%
Inventory of Homes for Sale	555	395	- 28.8%	--	--	--
Months Supply of Inventory	5.5	3.5	- 33.3%	--	--	--

* Does not include prices from any previous listing contracts or seller concessions. | Activity for one month can sometimes look extreme due to small sample size.

Median Sales Price - Rolling 12-Month Calculation



Current as of December 8, 2016. All data from North Texas Real Estate Information Services, Inc. | Report © 2016 ShowingTime.

HOME SALES: The North Texas Real Estate Information system, Inc. provides monthly, quarterly and annual market reports for some 50 counties. The most recent statistics show closed sales in Hood County are up 44 percent compared to last November. The number of homes listed and

the median sales price also increased. The only thing decreasing? The number of days that a home is on the market. Homes were on the market for an average of 107 days in November 2015. Home were on the market for an average of 80 days in November 2016.

Deferred repairs can lead to despair

There are many gratifying aspects of owning a home. Paying for repairs is not one of them.

But keeping your property in good shape is important to protect your investment.

Here are a few things to keep in mind regarding the upkeep of your home.

DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF REPAIRS

Some items in need of repair around a home are strictly cosmetic. A hole in the Sheetrock may be unsightly but typically poses no additional problems.

Other issues make life less enjoyable but do not put your property or safety at risk. For example, a broken garage-door spring makes it nearly impossible to open your garage door, but maybe you don't park your cars in the garage anyway.

Some conditions are more urgent. Electrical problems can be a safety risk. A malfunctioning lock makes it difficult to secure your home. A leaking roof that isn't addressed may turn into a mold problem.

And untreated termites? They'll keep feasting on your home, leading to mounting problems and costs.

WHY NOT FIX NUISANCES NOW?

You know that putting off critical repairs can magnify problems and your repair bills. So you have an incentive to take care of them promptly.

But there's a good reason to fix less-critical issues quickly as well. Sure, you can defer repairs on minor problems like the hole in the Sheetrock or a dripping faucet, but you'll want to take

GRANBURY REALTORS



Tammye Rushing, President, Granbury Realtors Association

care of them prior to selling your home.

So if you're going to spend the money on them anyway, why not enjoy the repair while you're still living in the home?

WHAT IF YOU CAN'T GET TO REPAIRS?

The reality is that most

property owners don't stay on top of every issue that pops up on a property. When it comes time to sell, they will have to catch up on a few items to put

the home into top showing condition.

If you choose not to take care of those little items, you may turn off some potential buyers, may have to wait longer for an acceptable offer, and probably won't get as high an offer as a similar home

without any issues.

Sometimes, circumstances make it difficult to keep up with repairs at all—including major problems. When that's the case, understand that the deferred maintenance will significantly lower the amount you should expect to receive from your sale.

Now that you know the importance of keeping your home in good working order, make sure to factor repairs and maintenance into your homeownership budget.

Learn more about homebuying, selling, and homeownership at texasrealestate.com.

The reality is that most property owners don't stay on top of every issue that pops up on a property.

Tammye Rushing, president
Granbury Realtors Association

Before, when I looked in the mirror all I saw was my weight.

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\$493 value

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