

GRANBURY ★ TEXAS

# Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[ WEDNESDAY, Nov. 30, 2022 ]

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## Dave Eagle's letter to water board causes anger over seat appointment

BY KATHY CRUZ  
Senior Staff Writer

The board of the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, in a 4-3 vote, recently failed to appoint the person that the Commissioners Court rec-

ommended to fill a vacated seat, one of two designated for Hood County.

A majority of the UTGCD board voted in favor of Mike Massey in accordance with the court's recommendation, but a Legislature-

imposed rule allowed a minority of the panel to keep him from being seated.

The rule, called the Enabling Act, requires five affirmative votes.

The board's Nov. 17 vote came two days after Precinct 4 Commis-

sioner Dave Eagle sent a letter asking the UTGCD board to hold off on the appointment until a different commissioner for Precinct 2 is seated in January.

Eagle's letter led to anger in a

PLEASE SEE LETTER | A4

## SEE MORE INSIDE

Game wardens using search, rescue drones and the Commissioners Court approves perks for deputies, investigators. Please see stories, A3.

Rattlers advance to face Crawford in biggest test so far in this week's Sports Roundup. Please see story, A10.

Food drive brings in nearly 30,000 pounds of food donations for Mission Granbury. Please see story, B1.

## CAST FROM 'THE PROMISE' JOINS NIGHT OF LIGHTS CHRISTMAS PARADE ON FRIDAY



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS  
Parade-goers were filled with the excitement of Christmas when the Granbury Night of Lights Christmas Parade stepped off Friday evening. Parade entries were from local churches, community groups and schools. This entry was presented by cast members from "The Promise," a musical production performed annually at the Texas Amphitheater in Glen Rose. Please see more parade photos, A2.

## Toys for Tots raises cutoff age to 17; donations now open

BY ASHLEY INGE  
Staff Writer

This Christmas season will be a whole lot brighter for many Hood County teens, thanks to the local chapter of Toys for Tots.

For the past seven years, the Toys for Tots Hood-Somervell-Parker chapter has collected and distributed toys for children up to the age of 13.

But this year, Julie Hale, Toys for Tots coordinator for the Marine Corps League, has decided to raise the cutoff age in the toy distribution from 13 to 17.

"So, 13 was locally imposed only

and we have the upper limit at 17 on the national program," she explained. "Some organizations cut it back because it's really hard to provide for those older kids. Well, I've just seen far too many needs at that upper level, so I just said, 'If they're going to allow me to go to 17, let's blow the doors off and go to 17.'"

Toys for Tots is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, from when it began in 1947.

"It was initiated by the wife of a base commander who saw a need and began delivering handmade dolls to children in her area," Hale

said. "It was a grassroots local effort that was quickly adopted nationwide and made an official duty of the USMC Reserve. Although it's a big national program, 75 years later we are still a local effort — local people donate through the local office to support children in their immediate area. I think it's pretty remarkable in my world, that the majority of the people who are working on this are not military, but we were led by our military counterpart because they own it, and they can provide us with the leadership that we need."

## THE RIGHT TOYS

Hale said she's aware that finding gifts for the older kids will be difficult but is determined to try to provide for them.

"Yeah, we're going to be struggling to get toys, and yeah, we're going to be ordering toys at the last minute, but we're going to make it happen," she said.

For the older kids, Hale recommends gifting age-appropriate items like hygiene kits, flat and curling irons, shaving sets and nail kits.

"I don't expect anybody to buy a \$500 set, but there are sets out

there that are catered towards the older children," she said.

One of the reasons Hale made the decision to raise the cutoff age to 17 is due to the financial need she's seen locally.

In 2021, Hale said the local Toys for Tots chapter served 3,500 kids — and she expects that number to reach as high as 7,000 this year.

"The last check that I did, I was just shy of 3,000 kids and I don't have the list of kids in need from Mission Granbury or Neighbors Helping Neighbors out of Weatherford yet," she said. "If we're not at

PLEASE SEE DONATIONS | A4

137TH YEAR, NO. 26

Local, zone(s): 2 sections, 18 pages, plus supplements | State: 2 sections, 18 pages

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# SANTA ON THE SQUARE

*Spectators fill parade route for Night of Lights*

Granbury's annual lighted parade put spectators in the Christmas spirit Friday night on the square. The traditional Night of Lights parade features walking units and a variety of floats.

Awards were given to three entries. Larry Dickson Spiritual Trophy: Grace Classical Academy. Parade Chair's Community Trophy: Three Rivers Equipment. Best of Parade President's Trophy: 4-H K-9 Kids.



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

THE JOLLY FELLOW: The Granbury Night of Lights Christmas Parade on Friday ended with the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus.



GRAND MARSHAL: Businessman Ike Thomas was grand marshal for the 2022 Night of Lights Christmas Parade.



OFFICIAL: Granbury Mayor Jim Jarratt was a part of the Christmas parade around the square Friday night.



GREEN DRIVER: Mr. Grinch was driving a piece of equipment as part of the Three Rivers Equipment entry at the Night of Lights Christmas Parade on Friday. The entry was honored with the Parade Chair's Community Trophy.



SIGHTS AND SOUNDS: These young ladies were part of the entry presented by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the Night of Lights Christmas Parade on Friday.



LARRY DICKSON AWARD: Grace Classical Academy was given the Larry Dickson Spiritual Award during the Granbury Night of Lights Parade on Friday.



BEST FRIENDS: Hood County 4-H K-9 and Kids were presented the Best of Parade President's Trophy at the Night of Lights Parade in Granbury on Friday.



THEY LOVED THE PARADE: People filled the square and lined the parade route Friday night for the Granbury Night of Lights parade. The traditional parade includes lighted candles and the singing of "Silent Night."

# One dies in accident north of Granbury

From Staff Reports

A Granbury resident died Monday morning, Nov. 28 following a vehicle accident on FM 2580 (Tin Top Highway), about five miles north of Granbury.

Texas Department of Public Safety Sgt. Richard Hunter stated

in an email to the Hood County News the 29-year old man, Troy Orrinn Zumach, had gotten out of his pickup when he was struck and killed by a car driven by 39 year-old Amanda Sue Petty, according to the news release.

The accident happened at approximately 5:50 a.m., according

to the DPS report, which was more than an hour before sunrise.

Hunter stated in the release that a 1995 Dodge Ram pickup driven by Zumach broke down. Half of Zumach's vehicle was "in the northbound lane and half on the improved shoulder of FM 2580. (Zumach) was standing next to his

vehicle on the driver's side near the center line of the roadway."

The news release stated the broken-down pickup "had no power and lights were not on."

Petty, who was driving northbound in a 2006 Mercedes Model C280, "saw (the pickup) and slammed on her brakes."

The released stated the Mercedes then struck the left rear portion of the pickup. The pickup then "struck the driver (as a pedestrian)" of the pickup. The pickup "came to rest in the middle of the roadway facing northeast. (The) pedestrian came to rest in the west barrow ditch of FM 2580."

# Game wardens using search, rescue drones

From Staff Reports

Three recent incidents requiring game warden drone support and successful coordination with local law enforcement led to an arrest in East Texas and two rescues of lost individuals in the Hill Country.

On the night of Nov. 3, Texas Game Warden Michael Hummert responded to an Erath County Sheriff's Office request for assistance. An elderly man had gone missing in Dublin. As the only law enforcement officer equipped with a thermal drone in the county, his services were necessary.

"The setting sun prevented us

from locating him through usual means," Hummert said. "The thermal drone picks up body heat, which is necessary to locate someone at night. With the cold creeping in, it was imperative to find him quickly."

Using cell phone records, the sheriff's office determined a general location for the individual, and Hummert mapped out a search area. Working out of a control station attached to his vehicle, he located the individual through a thermal scan and led deputies to the location.

Just nine days later, in Bell County, federal officials reached out for

assistance in another missing person case. Without another available drone operator in the area, Warden Hummert arrived on scene. In this case, the family shared vital information about the person's location, while federal support provided robust mapping systems. Again, the individual was found safe and secure.

Only in his second month of the Texas Game Warden Unmanned Aerial System Program (UASP), Hummert has seen firsthand the benefit his skills and equipment bring to his community.

"The success is really about the right equipment. A helicopter is

highly beneficial for any search and rescue, but it's not always practical in rural areas. Responding with a drone cuts your response time and cost, allowing for more versatility. I respond to anything from car accidents to bomb threats."

Meanwhile, farther east, Hummert's drone teammate Texas Game Warden Doug Williams received a request for assistance to locate a suspect who shot at and physically assaulted two individuals, then fled. Using another thermal drone, Williams circled the residence and spotted a heat signature in the woods.

Due to freezing temperatures,

the suspect was hiding in the brush curled in the fetal position. He was arrested and later treated for hypothermia.

"Empowering our division with the drone program, in cooperation with Gear Up for Game Wardens donations, creates a lifeline where there wasn't," said UASP supervisor Lt. Matthew Bridgefarmer. "Game warden drone operators arrive first on scene to locate lost boaters and hikers. We search in the aftermath of natural disasters. At the end of the day, this program saves lives."

## FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# What the heck happened to October and November?

### SAM HOUSTON

*Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter.*



Houston

Is it just me, or have the past two months flown by at supersonic speed? I have always been told as one ages, the days go by quicker, but these past two months have gone by ridiculously fast. There have been all sorts of community events to attend, high school football and volleyball to watch, and getting ready for the holiday season. Here at the paper, the last three months of the year are probably our busiest, with the special Veterans Day section and covering all the holiday events. The staff has been working non-stop to cover all that is going on in our communities.

Part of me feels like it should still be September. I think the weather changing so quickly and the intro-

duction of winter-like temperatures made it seem like fall roared in and out. Heck, at my house we

have already burned six or seven fires in the fireplace, and it is not even December!

Who would have imagined such a thing. I am not even going to mention the massive snow in the northeast, where more than six feet of snow has already fallen. Makes me think it is January.

We all made it through Thanksgiving, and before we know it, Christmas will be here, and then New Year's Day. I am not ready for it to be 2023! In my mind, it seems like 2023 is five or 10 years down the road, but here it is knocking on our door. So many plans to make and so many tasks to be accom-

plished.

As you plan for the balance of the year, do yourself a favor and get your Christmas shopping done as early as you can to avoid last-minute stress. Stop and catch your breath, for at least a moment, and reflect on the past 12 months. Look back at all the good things that happened in the past year. Remember all the places you went, people you met, and joys you experienced. Sometimes we are so busy working and struggling our way through life, we fail to stop and enjoy it as it occurs.

We are all fortunate to live in Texas, to have our friends and our families, as well as our churches, schools and clubs. There are people around the world who would give

any and everything to have the opportunity to experience what we have, where we live, and the freedoms we enjoy. We are blessed, and no matter how fast it goes by, we are lucky to have lived it.

Lastly, I did want to give a "shout-out" to Margitta Taylor. She is one of our loyal readers and after seeing one of my columns about "collecting," she sent me a nice note showing me her collection of thimbles. Thanks for writing to me and sending me a photo of your collection.

Thought for the day: Time flies. It is up to us to be the navigator.

Until next time.

*sam@hcnews.com / 817-573-7066, ext. 260*

# Commissioners approve perks for deputies, investigators

### BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

The Commissioners Court, in a special-called meeting, approved two perks for Sheriff's Office employees as part of a continuing effort to improve pay and work conditions so that deputies and other employees won't keep walking out the door.

On Friday, Nov. 18, the court approved take-home vehicles for deputies and additional pay of \$100 for whoever is the on-call investigator for any given week.

The take-home vehicles are for deputies working consecutive shifts. In other words, they can drive a marked county vehicle home only if they are scheduled to report for another shift the follow-

ing day.

Deputies are not allowed to use the vehicles for personal errands or to transport passengers such as family members.

Sheriff Roger Deeds said that any deputy who violates the policy will face disciplinary action.

The policy allows vehicles to be driven within a 30-mile radius outside the county.

Deeds said that take-home vehicles will mean better service to taxpayers because they will enable deputies to respond quickly to any incident, even if they are home when the call comes in.

"The way I look at it, a deputy is a deputy 24/7," the sheriff said.

Deputies will no longer have to drive to the Law Enforcement Cen-

ter to pick up a county vehicle and spend time transferring equipment. They will begin their shift immediately when they pull out of their driveway.

As for extra pay for the nine investigators who rotate being on call, Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews indicated support for the Sheriff's Office but concern for the money being spent and for the impact such financial commitments will have on next year's budget.

Earlier this month, the Commissioners Court approved a new pay scale at the SO, which included bringing starting pay for deputies from \$51,000 to \$60,000.

The new pay scale added another \$526,334 to the payroll for the cur-

rent fiscal year, which was taken from Fund Balance, an account containing money that wasn't spent during the previous fiscal year.

The court will have to find a way to budget for that increase next year.

The county judge and commissioners also approved a comp time buyout, using federal pandemic-relief money.

Andrews expressed the view that extra pay for on-call investigators should be discussed at budget time.

Budget discussions take place during the summer.

"I just think that we probably ought to tap the brakes on this one," he said.

Deeds offered to pay the \$5,200

out of his forfeiture fund.

Some discussion ensued involving County Treasurer Leigh Ann McCoy and County Auditor Becky Kidd.

Kidd told Deeds that the check written from his forfeiture account would need to include money to cover benefits. He agreed to cover those costs.

It was also noted that the extra money paid to investigators will be taxable income.

With both requests, motions to approve were made by County Judge Ron Massingill and seconded by Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson.

Each was approved unanimously.

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### CORRECTION

*The time for the Melody Belles "Christmas Joy" concert was incorrect in the Nov. 28 edition of the Hood County News. The concert will start at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2 at First Presbyterian Church, 303 W. Bridge St.*



**136 YEARS IN HOOD COUNTY**

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## NCTA TAKES ON CROWLEY



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTY DODSON

Uri Rivas (13) paced the North Texas Christian Academy boys basketball team with 14 points and teammate Igor Fiedosewicz (11) scored 11 points during a 42-38 home loss to Crowley High School, Nov. 15.

## LOOKING BACK IN SPORTS

# Granbury's Dorothy Berry selected in 1964 for what was only eighth girls all-star game

**L**ooking Back in Sports is a column that highlights articles retrieved from local newspaper archives.

58 YEARS AGO  
NOVEMBER 1964

Dorothy Berry — most likely a Granbury High School student-athlete, although the article does not mention that — was announced as being named as a member of the North team for the Texas High School Girls Basketball Coaches Association's all-star girls basketball game to be played in Waco.

That all-star game, mentioned in that April 2, 1964, edition of the Hood County News-Tablet, was to be played July 18, 1964.

"This is the eighth time in the history of girls basketball that an all-star game will be played," the article stated.

84 YEARS AGO  
NOVEMBER 1938

An article on Page 8 of the Nov. 17, 1938 edition of the Hood County Tablet served notice of an FFA basketball tournament that

was scheduled to start Dec. 17, in Weatherford.

The schools entered included Granbury, Weatherford, Santo, Lipan, Springtown and Millsap.

It also noted that, "There will be two classes of teams that can play. There will be a 'Peewee' team and the large boys team. The Peewee team will be boys weighing 120 pounds or less, and the large boys team will be boys weighing over 125 pounds. The boy weighing 125 pounds or less does not play with the Peewees. He may play on the large boys team if he wants to, but he cannot play on both teams."

77 YEARS AGO  
NOVEMBER 1945

In a brief (two sentences) note about the end of the Granbury Pirates football team's season, the Nov. 22, 1945 edition of the Hood County News-Tablet stated, "The Granbury

Pirates placed third in the conference at the close of the 1945 football season. Iredell was in first place; Cranfills Gap in second; Granbury in third; and Tolar in fourth place."

77 YEARS AGO  
NOVEMBER 1945

In a basketball article from the Nov. 22, 1945 edition of the Hood County News-Tablet, it was reported that, "Garry Barron of Granbury has transferred to Texas Lutheran College in Seguin from Arlington State College. He is a member of the Bulldogs, defending Big State Conference basketball champions. The Bulldogs have started basketball drills with four returning lettermen."

A Google search showed that the Big State Conference evidently ceased to be following the 1986-87 season. The colleges listed as having been in that basketball conference included East Texas Baptist, Huston-Tillotson, Mary Hardin-Baylor, St. Edward's, St. Mary's and Texas Lutheran.

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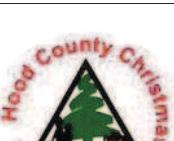


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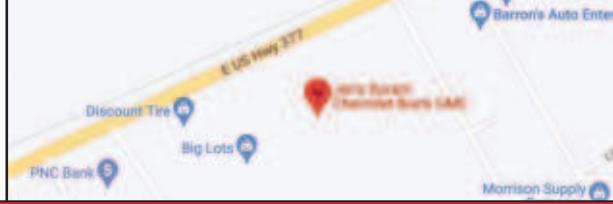
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1020 Cemetery Lots  
1030 Commercial for Sale  
1040 Duplexes for Sale  
1050 Homes for Sale  
1060 Waterfront Homes  
1070 Lots for Sale  
1080 Mobiles for Sale  
1090 Waterfront Mobiles  
1100 Real Estate Notes  
1110 Townhomes & Condos  
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### Real Estate for Rent

1510 Apartments for Rent  
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1540 Homes for Rent  
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1600 Want to Rent

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4010 Business Opportunities  
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5150 Electronics Repair

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6020 Recreation

6030 Golf

6040 Guns

6050 Hunting/Fishing

6060 Pools & Spas

6070 RV's/Travel Trailers

6080 Sporting Goods

### Employment

6510 Antiques

6520 Appliances

6530 Arts & Crafts

6540 Building Materials

6550 Computers

6560 Electronics

6570 Firewood

6580 Furniture

6590 Health

6600 Air Conditioners

6610 Lawn Equipment

6620 Miscellaneous

6630 Musical Instruments

6640 Portable Buildings

6650 Tools

6660 Trees

6670 Wanted

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8510 General

8520 Construction

8530 Food Services

8540 Medical/Dental

8550 Office Employment

8560 Professional

8570 Sales

8580 Salon Personnel

8590 Employment Wanted

8600 Employment Information

8610 Carpool Information

### Notices

9010 Happy Notes

9020 Free

9030 Public Notices

9040 Notices

9050 Personal Lost & Found

9070 Card of Thanks

### Education

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7020 Music

7030 Computer

7040 Art Instruction

### Livestock & Pets

8010 Livestock

8020 Livestock Lost & Found

8030 Pets

8040 Pets Lost & Found

### Public Sales

9570 Auctions

9580 Flea Markets

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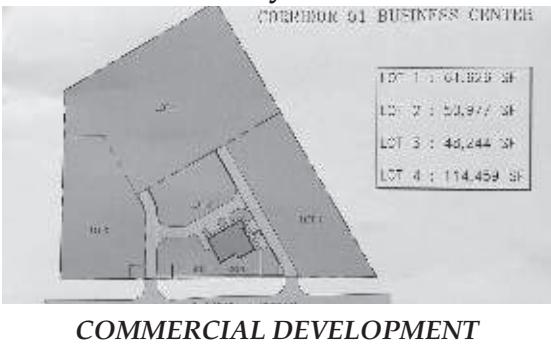
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## Public Notices

LEGAL AD

Hood County Commissioners' Court has received an application to consider a revision of the plat for:

THE CROSS RANCH, TRACTS 12R, 13R &amp; 14

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, December 13th, 2022, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

AGCO Finance LLC will offer the following repossessed equipment for sale to the highest bidder for Certified Funds, plus applicable sales tax. Equipment: MF MF1745 ROUND BALER S/N M1745DMH02159. Date of sale: 12/14/2022. Time of Sale: 11: A.M. Place of sale: THREE RIVER EQUIPMENT 4111 WEATHERFORD HWY GRANBURY, TX 76049. Equipment can be inspected at place of sale. The equipment will be sold AS IS, without warranty. Final sale of equipment will be contingent upon winning bidder meeting all applicable federal and state regulatory requirements. We reserve the right to bid. For further information please contact KELLY STRICKLEN (580) 919-9268, Reference Number: 2529930.

HOOD CENTRAL APPRAISAL REVIEW BOARD ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS Applications are being accepted for Hood County residents interested in serving on the Appraisal Review Board (ARB).

The ARB is a group of private citizens authorized to hear appeals and determine protests for ad valorem tax purposes. The ARB is a separate authoritative body and are not employees of the Hood Central Appraisal District (HCAD). ARB members are appointed by the Local Administrative District Judge of Hood County for two-year terms.

To be eligible for appointment, an applicant must have been a Hood County resident for two (2) years, and never have been employed by, or been an officer or director of the HCAD, along with other eligibility restrictions provided in Texas Property Tax Code Section 6.412.

ARB service is a full-time commitment during April, May, June, and July. The ARB also meets periodically throughout the remainder of the year to carry out supplemental duties. Per diem compensation is in the amount of \$175 a day.

If you are interested in service, applications for potential ARB members will be accepted by the HCAD ARB Coordinator on behalf of the Local Administrative District Judge. ARB member applications can be found on the HCAD website ([www.hood-cad.org](http://www.hood-cad.org)) under the downloads and forms menu. Submit completed applications by email to: [hoodapp@hoodcad.net](mailto:hoodapp@hoodcad.net)

Completed applications may also be hand delivered to:  
1902 W. Pearl St.  
Granbury, TX 76048  
or mailed to:  
Hood Central Appraisal District  
ATTN: ARB Coordinator  
PO Box 819  
Granbury, TX 76048

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Guardbox Storage-Granbury, which is located at 1400 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury, Texas 76048, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com). The auction will end at or around 11:00 a.m. on December 12, 2022. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. A \$100.00 cash deposit for removal and cleanup will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: James Secret- kids toys, misc boxes, furniture; Katie Folger- furniture, clothing, stain glass, business inventory; Grady Spears-hunting equip, misc boxes, personal effects; Carlton Bess- misc garage tools and equipment; Alaina Craft- upright piano, misc personal effects; Brandy Dencklau- misc boxes and office equipment; Ashley Beckwith- children's furniture, misc boxes, garage equip; Cathy Morris- kitchen ware, misc clothes, rollator; David Collins- Computer Equip, Misc boxes, Misc Cleaning supplies; David Cain- misc tools and equipment, misc totes, furniture; Riley Fenton- furniture, misc clothes, misc decor Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

## NOTICE OF CLAIM

Gordon Wayne Rhodes, a co-tenant heir to the real property known as Lot No. 57, 58, 98, Block 1, Section C, Comanche Cove Subdivision, as shown by the plat thereof recorded in Volume Slide A, Page 150, Plat Record, Hood County, Texas, has filed an Affidavit of Adverse Possession by Co-Tenant Heir in the Deed Records of Hood County, Texas, claiming Adverse Possession of the aforementioned real property.

LEGAL AD

I, David Brashear, am no longer responsible for Barbara Christine Brashear.

## PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048

## Garage Sales 76048

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## Garage Sales 76049

ESTATE SALE: PECAN PLANTATION, BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. For sale details and photos, and to register to attend, go to [estatesales.net](http://estatesales.net), search 'Flagstick Sale.'

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**2-Day Firearms Auction** – Live & Online. December 2nd, 2 p.m. & December 3rd, 10 a.m. 1,000+ Firearms Lots. Military, Sporting & Modern Firearms, [www.montroseauction.com](http://www.montroseauction.com), 478-376-4559. GAL 2006

**45th Annual Cattleman Bull & Female Sale** 12:00 Noon, Jan. 21, 2023, El Campo Livestock Exchange, El Campo, Texas. 100 bulls, 250 females, [cattlemansale.com](http://cattlemansale.com).

## EVENTS

**Pleasanton Merry on Main** – Dec. 2-3, Pleasanton, TX. River Park Wonderland, tree lighting, talent show, carnival, parade, music, vendors, food trucks and more. [www.merryonmain.org](http://www.merryonmain.org).

**Palacios Downtown Christmas** – Fri., Dec. 2, 4-8 p.m., The Palacios, Texas Downtowners are hosting A Downtown Christmas. Cookie crawl, Christmas pageant, lighted bike parade, turkey giveaway, door prizes, shopping, food and much more. Chamber's free seaside holiday event on Dec. 3.

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## EMPLOYMENT

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# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Texans rout Houston Christian, 49-7, close football season at 6-5

*Tarleton Sports Information*

The reclassification period from NCAA Division II to Division I is one of the toughest things any program can face. Tarleton State University football Texans made it look easy.

The Texans crushed Houston Christian 49-7 on Saturday at Memorial Stadium in the 2022 season finale to finish 6-5 on the year, completing their third straight winning season to start their reclassification period. They are just the fourth program since 2004 to start that period with three straight winning seasons, joining habitual national champion North Dakota State, playoff regulars South Dakota State, and oft-successful Central Arkansas.

In fact, Tarleton's .567 winning percentage since the reclassification period began is the fifth best winning percentage among schools done with reclassification or with a year left in that same time frame.

Credit head coach Todd Whitten and his staff for continually fielding winning teams without shying away from tough opponents, as they take on more and more Division I programs every year, including the No. 4 ranked team in the College Football Playoff this year, TCU.

Now with 2022 in the

books, Tarleton looks ahead to next season. That will be the Texans' final year of the reclassification period.

Perhaps the best part is that the largest statistical contributors on the TSU football team are young players.

Quarterback Beau Allen, a redshirt freshman, neared 3,000 passing yards on the year after passing for 207 yards and three touchdowns on Saturday. It was his fourth 3+ touchdown game of the season, totaling 23 on the year, the most in the Western Athletic Conference.

Also on Saturday, Tarleton had a 1,000 yard rusher, a 1,000 yard receiver, and another receiver reach double-digit TD numbers. Sophomore Derrel Kelley III exploded for 239 yards on 24 carries (10.0 yards per rush) and two touchdowns, going for 1,004 yards (6.5 yards per carry) and eight touchdowns this season. His 239 yards are the fourth most rushing yards in a single game in program history, just 30 short of the all-time mark.

Sophomore wide receiver Darius Cooper had another big day with six catches for

155 yards and a score to finish with 1,063 yards on 54 receptions, plus nine touchdowns this year. Junior wide receiver Jaden Smith caught his team-leading 10th touchdown of the year in the game, going for 48 catches and 822 yards total.

Of course, Tarleton had major contributors out of their senior class, who they celebrated with a pregame ceremony on Senior Day. Saturday marked the last collegiate game for Zechariah Hopkins, Mookie Douglas, Gabe Douglas, Michael Irons, Donovan Banks, Blaine Hoover, Antoine Ware, Audley Isaacs Jr., Jaicorius Johnson, Segun Ijiyera, Kendall Dearth, Austin Whitehead, Shawn McFarland and Dionte Brooks, all integral members of the program.

On the third play of the game, junior defensive back Josh Kemp picked off HCU QB Justin Fomby and returned it 26 yards for the touchdown less than a minute into the game. That was Kemp's first career interception and his first touchdown.

Tarleton then forced a three-and-out to put the offense on the field for the first time, and the Texans had no issue marching down the field quickly, going 69 yards in four plays, with Kelley scoring his first of two scores from five yards out. Just like that, four minutes in, Tarleton led 14-0.

The Texans ended the first quarter up 28-0, with an Al-

len to Smith two-yard touchdown near the five-minute mark, followed by Banks' second pick-six of the year, his team-leading fourth interception of the season. Banks returned this interception 30 yards for the TD.

The only time HCU (2-9 overall, 1-5 SLC) threatened to score the entire game was aided by Tarleton, who muffed a punt to put the Huskies at the Texans' 34-yard line at the start of the second quarter. Fomby found Deuce McLellan for a 24-yard TD connection to make it 28-7 Tarleton. Other than that, it was pure domination for the purple and white.

Cooper caught a 14-yard touchdown from Allen late in the second quarter to send Tarleton to the locker room with a 35-7 lead after a 13-play, 98-yard drive. In the third, Allen found Dejuan Miller in the end zone from three yards out, Miller's first Tarleton touchdown in his third game played this season. That touchdown was set up by Kelley, who broke free for an 83-yard run to the Huskies' 7-yard line. He'd finish the deal later in the third for his second touchdown, a three-yard scamper. At 239



COURTESY PHOTO BY JOSEPH DUFRAIN, TARLETONSPORTS.COM

**SEASON FINALE:** Tarleton State University's Texans overwhelmed Houston Christian by a 49-7 margin on Nov. 19 at Memorial Stadium in Stephenville to close the 2022 season. TSU finished 6-5 on the season, completing its third consecutive winning season to start the Texans' reclassification period.

past 10 years. The Texans raced for a season-high 309 yards on the ground themselves, their most since 347 against Fort Lewis last year on Sept. 11.

## Texans top Boston College in Paradise Jam, return with silver medal

*TSU Sports Information*

One thing seemed obvious about the Tarleton men's basketball team when they played in the Paradise Jam tournament held in the Virgin Islands — the Texans will always keep fighting. The Texans brought home the silver medal, finishing with a 2-1 record overall at the tournament with wins over established NCAA Division I programs Belmont and Boston College, and the loss coming to Drake, the Missouri Valley Conference preseason favorite. The Bulldogs remained undefeated on the year (5-0) with the win.

Freddy Hicks, who earlier in the day was named the WAC Player of the Week, also garnered Paradise Jam 2022 Men's All-Tournament Team honors in another jaw-dropping performance to lead the Texans. Hicks scored a career-high 30 points on 10 of 20 shooting, plus 8 of 11 from the free throw line, just missing out on a double-double with nine rebounds and two steals. His 30 points were the most scored by a Texan in a game over the past two seasons.

"Very deserving," said head coach Billy Gillispie, regarding Hicks receiving All-Tournament Team status. "What a way to debut this season! He is and was everything to us. Had we been able to win the championship, I'm sure he would have been the MVP. He's a great young man that only cares about winning and playing for his teammates and Tarleton. What a joy to coach. Congrats to him!"

**PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**SILVER MEDAL SECURED:** Tarleton State University's men's basketball team (3-2) earned the silver medal on Nov. 21 as the runner-up in the Paradise Jam tournament held in the Virgin Islands. The Texans won two of their three games in the tournament, taking down established NCAA Division I programs Belmont and Boston College. TSU's loss in the tournament was to 5-0 Drake, the Missouri Valley Conference preseason favorite.

Hicks entered Monday the eighth leading scorer across all of Division I at 23.5 points per game. With his 30 points, he's now at 25.7 points and 7.7 rebounds per game, shooting 54.1 percent from the floor.

Drake got off to a hot start in the title bout, going up 6-0 and then 9-3 while clamping down defensively. Tarleton remained calm after the first timeout and tied it 9-9. The two teams went back-and-forth most of the first half, all the way down to around four minutes remaining and the Bulldogs leading 25-22. Drake ended the half on a 10-3 run to lead by double figures at halftime, 35-25.

The three-point line was the difference in the first 20 minutes, as Drake made 6 of 11 (.546) from beyond the arc, 12 of 24 overall from the floor. Tarleton got plenty of good looks in the first half but just couldn't get them to fall, a change of pace from their previous games, something they had to work through coming out of the locker room.

And work through they did. Down 10, 45-35, with under 14 minutes remaining, a game-changing sequence occurred. First Shakur Daniel made a tough layup, then on the other end, Drake seemingly had a dunk, but the ball clanged off the rim. Tarleton grabbed it and hustled down the floor, leading to a Jakorie Smith three-ball that sparked the energy in the team and the gym, showing Tarleton wasn't going to go away so easily.

Drake responded with a jumper after a timeout, but Hicks buried a three right back to get within four. The Bulldogs then led 51-45 before Tarleton made another run. Hicks made two free throws, the Texans got a stop, Hicks made another bucket, and then Tiger Booker stole the ball and immediately finished a quick layup to tie the game 51-51 with 7:20 left. Drake, an established D1 program in their own right, kept their composure and took control back from there, ultimately winning by seven to take the Paradise Jam crown.

"The Paradise Jam was a tremendous experience for the Tarleton Texans," said Gillispie. "We got to play against three really good teams on a neutral court and the competition was great for our team as we progress through the season towards conference play."

For the game, Tarleton didn't have an issue with turnovers (11 compared to 17 forced of Drake), but they were outshot 19 of 39 (.487) to 22 of 59 (.373). Drake kept Tarleton at bay late by making their free throws, going 25 of 31 (.806) from the stripe.

"Our players enjoyed the experience both on the court and in the ocean," added Gillispie. The venue was great and the people here were extremely friendly."

Smith was Tarleton's second leading scorer at nine points, adding five rebounds. Daniel finished with six points, three rebounds and three assists. Shamir Bogues had four steals and two blocks in 24 minutes, while Booker led the bench with eight points on 3 of 6 shooting and three assists in 21 minutes.

Drake's Tucker DeVries, the Paradise Jam MVP, had 22 points on a perfect night shooting (5-5 FG, 4-4 3PT, 8-8 FT), adding eight rebounds, two steals and two blocks. Four of Drake's starters scored in double figures, including Garrett Sturtz, who had the game's lone double-double at 13 points (4-7 FG, 5-5 FT), 11 rebounds and three assists.

"It couldn't have gone better for our program, other than winning the championship, and I believe the faithful fans that were able to attend had a great experience as well," commented Gillispie. "Our players are extremely grateful for the Texan faithful and hope that we will fill up Wisdom Gym on Nov. 29, when perennial Big Sky champion Weber State visits. It can be the most special Division I, non-conference opponent that has visited Wisdom Gymnasium. Let's make it special! These guys deserve a sellout and will represent you well."

The Texans will return from paradise with two large non-conference games looming. On Saturday, the Texans will be at Wichita State for a rematch, tip-off set for 3 p.m. CT. On Tuesday, Nov. 29, the Texans return to Wisdom Gym for the first time in nearly three weeks for one of their toughest non-conference home games in the history of the program. Tarleton will face Weber State at 7 p.m. CT, and will look to pack the house by hosting "White Out Wisdom" with 500 free T-shirts going to attendees.



# Rattlers advance to face Crawford in biggest test so far

BY RICK MAUCH  
Special to the Hood County News

**T**he Tolar Rattlers have made themselves right at home in the Crowley Multi-Purpose Stadium the past couple of weeks. For a second consecutive game the Rattlers made short work of a playoff opponent in that venue as they improved to 13-0 this football season with a 63-7 thumping of Hamilton (7-6) in their Class 2A Division I third-round playoff game on Friday, Nov. 25.

The loss ended Hamilton's Cinderella run, while giving the Rattlers what is believed to be the most victories in school history. They are advancing to face Crawford (13-0) Friday, and while not in the same stadium, it is just a few miles down the road at Ell Stadium in Burleson, 7 p.m. kickoff.

Crawford advanced with a 41-3 victory over Riesel. The Pirates were third in the state and Tolar was seventh in the final regular-season Class 2A Division I rankings.

The game will pit Tolar's offense, which is averaging 51.8 points per game, against Crawford's defense, which surrenders just 4.8. Tolar has 10 games with 50 or more points this season, including four straight in which the Rattlers have topped 60. Crawford has 11 games in which they've held opponents to a touchdown or less, including six shutouts.

Of course, it's not like the Rattlers aren't strong on defense and the Pirates aren't good on offense. Tolar gives up 7.3 points per outing with four shutouts and nine games with a touchdown or less. Crawford averages 44.4 points and has scored 50 or more four times.

In dominating Hamilton again (Tolar won 56-7 at home in the regular season), the Rattlers got 150 yards rushing and four touchdowns from running back Peyton Brown, along with four touchdown passes from Jackson LeCluyse. The Rattlers quarterback was 10-of-14 passing for 172 yards with a pair of TDs to Wyatt Jones, along with one to Talan Culverson and another to Matthew Behrens.

Also against Hamilton, Grant Sherley rushed for 46 yards and a TD and Garrison Nation had 25 yards rushing. Jones caught five passes for 93 yards and was 7-of-8 kicking extra points.

Isaac Blessing led the defense with 16 tackles, while Brock Owens and Mason Berry each had seven, Cash Clark had six and Clayton Stembidge had five. Luke Willmon registered his fifth sack of the season.

"Sometimes playing a team that you have previously beaten pretty well can worry you as a coach on how your guys will approach them the next time. This group continues to prove to be one of the more mature groups we've had though in regards to taking things one day at a time and keeping the mindset of getting a little better each day," Rattlers coach Jeremy Mullins said.

"Again, hats off to our community for showing up. We had a great crowd. It is a great accomplishment for this group to reach the regional final round and play December football, but now it's time to move on to the next one."

"Crawford is a good football team, we are a good football team ... it's really what you would expect once you get to this round of the playoffs. Our guys are excited for the opportunity to get to go play this game another week."

BROWN MAKING STATE/NATIONAL NOISE

With his performance Friday, Tolar's Peyton

Brown leads the state in all classifications in points scored (290) and touchdowns (48). The sophomore is fifth in the state in all classifications and tops in 2A in rushing yardage with 2,579.

He is also fourth in the nation in touchdowns and sixth nationally in points scored.

## GRANBURY BOYS BASKETBALL

The Pirates (3-1) bounced back from their first loss of the season against Kennedale by defeating Commerce 78-51 on Nov. 22 at home.

Dylan Couto and Kensington Colston each scored 21 to lead Granbury, while Ethan Swaim came off the bench to contribute eight points.

"The pace of play wore Commerce down, I think," Pirates head coach David Breazeale said.

The junior varsity and freshmen also won against Commerce, 64-31 and 40-27, respectively.

The Pirates and Lady Pirates varsity are scheduled to host the Van Griffith Kia Tournament Thursday-Saturday.

## TOLAR BOYS BASKETBALL

The Rattlers improved to 3-1 with a 48-43 home victory over Waco Robinson on Nov. 22 as Reis Brown scored 17 points. Merritt Imel added 11 points and Colton Gibson contributed 10.

The Rattlers and Lady Rattlers are slated to play in the Dublin Tournament this weekend.

## LIPAN BOYS BASKETBALL

The Indians ran their record to 5-0 with a 66-55 win at Bowie on Nov. 21 and a 67-38 victory over Nacogdoches Central Heights in Martins Mill on Nov. 22.

Lipan's leaders versus Bowie were Garrett Smith, 23 points, 6 rebounds, 6 assists, 2 steals; Tripp Phillips, 12 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 block; Reese Cook, 11 points.

Leaders against Central Heights were Phillips, 19 points, 6 rebounds, 6 assists; Smith, 19 points (5 3-pointers), 5 rebounds, 4 assists; Korey Massie, 12 points, 2 steals.

Lipan boys and girls are scheduled to host the H.D. Howard Classic Thursday through Saturday.

## GRANBURY GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Pirates (6-3) had a five-game win streak ended with a 54-48 overtime road loss to Abilene Cooper on Nov. 21. That was followed by a 60-58 home loss to Godley the next day.

The Lady Pirates forced overtime by outscoring Cooper 16-8 in the fourth stanza. Cooper took control in the overtime, however, with a 9-3 burst.

The Lady Pirates put up a furious fourth-quarter rally against Godley with a 24-13 run that came up shy.

Leaders in the Cooper game were Ella Hamlin, 14 points, 9 rebounds, 3 assists; Ella Garner, 13 points, 12 rebounds, 3 steals; Madison Black, 8 points, 3 assists; Kate Hamlin, 9 rebounds; Alexa Mueller, 4 steals.

Leaders against Godley were Garner, 34 points (six 3-point baskets), 6 rebounds; Hamlin, 16 points,

6 rebounds; Mueller, 4 assists, 4 steals; Black, 3 assists.

The Granbury freshmen defeated Cooper 45-10 and the JV won 41-22. The JV dropped a 29-26 contest to Godley and the freshmen also won again by that same score, 45-10.

## TOLAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Rattlers are now 1-3 after a thrilling 45-43 home victory over Dublin on Nov. 22.

Senne Imel led with 18 points and 14 rebounds, along with five steals. Maddie Rue scored 12 points and pulled down 10 rebounds.

Karley Richardson added eight points and five rebounds.

The Dublin JV topped Tolar 28-22.

## LIPAN GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Indians (8-2) played a pair of games at Martins Mill Nov. 21 and 22. They fell to Martins Mill 49-45, then had little trouble disposing of Winnsboro, 68-46.

In the victory, Trinity Benitez had a double-double with 15 points and 11 rebounds, while Hanna Gaylor led all scorers with 17 points. Chelsea Lott scored 13, Madison Harrison had nine points and Lynsey Little scored nine with four assists.

Martins Mill took a 37-20 lead into the final quarter before Lipan ended the game with a 25-12 run, falling four points short.

Little scored 11 points with five rebounds and three steals. Taylor Branson scored nine points, T. Benitez added seven points with nine rebounds.

## GRANBURY VOLLEYBALL

Senior Sara Welch of the Lady Pirates was named the District 5-5A Setter of the Year by the league's coaches in their recent all-district voting. Welch led the league with 1,000 assists, as well as in aces served with 65. She also had 378 defensive digs.

Senior Cassidy Kirkpatrick (264 kills, 52 blocks) was named to the first team, while sophomore Sienna Watts (246 kills, 30 aces, 151 digs) and junior Rachel Poirer (254 kills, 16 aces, 157 digs) were picked for the second team.

Welch ended her Granbury career with 2,377 assists and has signed to play for John Brown University.

## GRANBURY TENNIS

Nine members of the Granbury tennis team were named All-District 5-5A for fall team tennis. Mixed doubles: Carlee Carey/Caleb Hammond, second team.

Girls singles, Line 3: Carey, honorable mention.

Girls doubles, Line 2: Alyssa Krause/Molly Grossman, honorable mention.

Girls singles, line 5: Krause, second team.

Girls doubles, Line 3: Morgan King/Kenya Vielma-Moreno, honorable mention.

Girls singles, Line 6: King, second team.

Boys singles, Line 3: Roland Krause, honorable mention.

Boys singles, Line 5: Connor Townsend, honorable mention.

Boys singles, Line 5: Connor Townsend, honorable mention.

Granbury advanced to the second round of the Class 5A playoffs.



PHOTOS BY KELLY MOODY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS  
The Tolar Rattlers charge onto the field Friday night in Crowley before their regional semifinal football playoff game against Hamilton.



Tolar quarterback Jackson LeCluyse threw four touchdown passes to help the seventh-ranked Rattlers capture a 63-7 third-round football playoff victory over Hamilton Friday in Crowley.



Tolar's sophomore running back Peyton Brown picks up tough yardage Friday during the Rattlers' third-round football playoff victory over Hamilton in Crowley. Brown scored four touchdowns in the 63-7 victory, and now leads the state across all classifications in points scored (290) and touchdowns (48).



Hood County News

# DIVERSIONS

GRANBURY ★ CRESSON ★ TOLAR ★ LIPAN

B

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 30, 2022



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY INGE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

HELPING HAND: Students from Granbury ISD volunteered their Saturday to help collect and sort the food drive donations on Nov. 19.

## PANTRIES OF PLENTY EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

*Food drive brings in nearly 30,000 pounds of food donations for Mission Granbury*

BY ASHLEY INGE  
Staff Writer

Mission Granbury's newly acquired Pantries of Plenty food drive exceeded expectations, with close to 30,000 pounds of items donated to the nonprofit organization.

Previously operated under the name Live Thankfully, the food drive was run by local pediatric dentist Dr. Dave Purczinsky and his wife, Dana. Due to some minor health concerns, however, Dave decided to pass on the responsibility of the food drive to Mission Granbury this year.

Preparations began as donation boxes and tubs were placed in several local businesses and at every GISD campus. An additional week of the food drive was added to combat the need caused by the pandemic, with the fundraiser taking place from Oct. 10 through Nov. 11.

Food items like ramen noodles, cereal and peanut butter were collected, as well as pet food and non-food donation items like deodorant, shampoo and body wash.

Pantries of Plenty held a "party" on Nov. 19, in which volunteers helped to sort all of the donated items and calculate a total of how many pounds of food items were collected.

"We are still calculating," said Andi Luna, emergency assistance network coordinator for Mission Granbury. "The count is at 24,728, but that doesn't include 3,000 before Saturday and do-

nations are still coming in. We are expecting it to be around 30,000 by the end."

Jean Bondy, director of community partnerships for Mission Granbury, said she was overwhelmed by the community's response to the food drive.

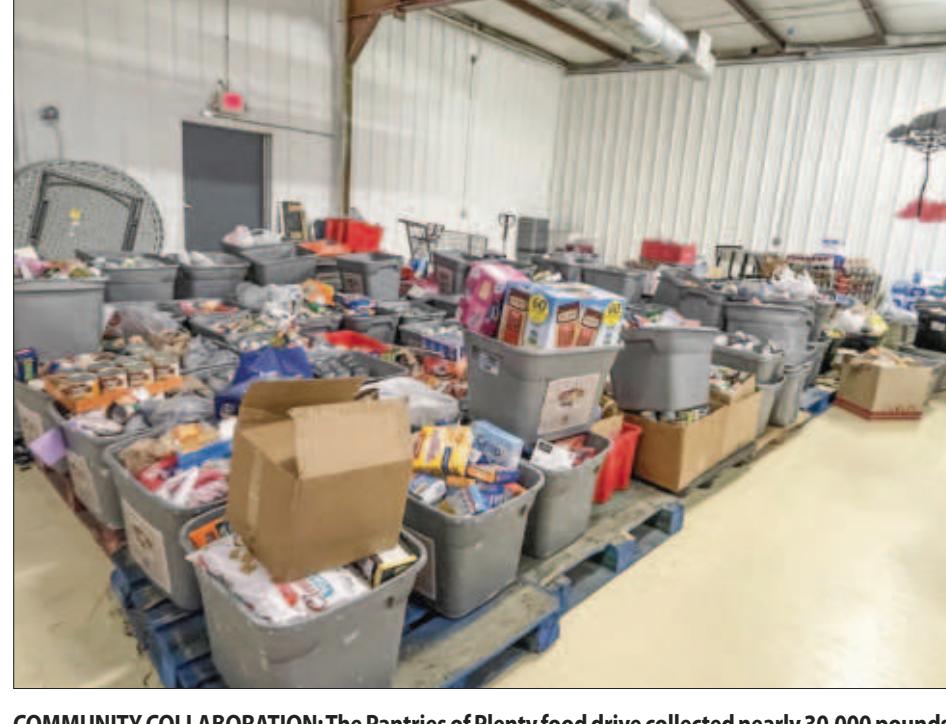
"This community is overwhelmingly generous," she said. "I think what we brought to the table was building upon what Dr. Dave already had and expanding the number of people invited to participate."

Luna said Pantries of Plenty went "beyond her expectations."

"I'm very humbled, and appreciative to say the least," she said. "I'm also just excited about how many people we're gonna get to feed and just how well we're gonna get to feed them. This isn't just random stuff people brought in; there was thought put into it, and it was very intentional."

She said she appreciated seeing how many students put effort into helping their own community.

"The DECA club had a special competition. They're doing this for their state project to go to competition, so they really made a big deal about it," she said. "Heritage Christian Academy, they had



COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: The Pantries of Plenty food drive collected nearly 30,000 pounds of items to donate to Mission Granbury.

*"This community is overwhelmingly generous. I think what we brought to the table was building upon what Dr. Dave already had and expanding the number of people invited to participate."*

**JEAN BONDY**  
Director of community partnerships for Mission Granbury

their bins three days and they brought in around 1,000 pounds themselves. All the kids went and got 50 cans each. So many pitched in and contributed. It is overwhelming generosity."

Luna said she is excited to be able to provide quality food items to the children and seniors in the community for the next year.

"Our backpack program, we send out 150 bags a week, so we're gonna be

able to send them good stuff, not just what we could find," she said. "It's the quality that we're gonna be able to give people that I'm so appreciative about because our seniors are going to actually get hearty meals and pet food.

Everyone will be able to feed their pets without stress. We had so many of the vets that pitched in and were so generous, so we want to make sure that all the parts of their lives are taken care of — and

with all this, it can be — so we're just very grateful."

Mission Granbury is located at 3611 Plaza E. Court and can be reached by calling 817-579-6866. The weekly drive-through food pantry takes place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and 3-7 p.m. on Wednesday.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

## Seven more Lady Pirates qualify for championships

GISD Information

The Granbury High School Lady Pirates competed last week in the 2022 JROTC Postal in hopes of qualifying for the JROTC Service Championships match in February.

Granbury MCJROTC has fielded two teams in the past two years for

this competition and won the first place spot five years in a row since 2018.

Seven shooters: Caroline Martin, Ashton Arlington, Kameron Wells, Sunnee Schumann, Mataya Turner, Kennedy Wells and Julia Czernik auto-qualified for the event with scores of 298, 296, 295, 290, 289 and 287 respectively.

The rest of the team: Cadence McGrath, Ainsley Milligan, Viola Allen, Caylynn Price and Kaylenn Jackson shot scores of 283, 281, 280, 272 and 266 respectively.

Granbury MCJROTC is currently leading the pack in the precision team category with an 1183-87x, and Caroline Martin is currently leading in the precision individual

category with a 298 -26x (as of 17 Nov.).

Postal scores are due by Nov. 29, and Marine Corps scores are final by Dec. 2. Marine Corps Service Championships will be Feb. 2-4 at the CMP South Range in Anniston, Alabama.

LIPAN ISD

## Lipan poets sweep the boards

GRACE HEAVYSIDE

Lipan ISD Student Reporter

Grace is a senior whose interests include journalism, participating in Student Council, National Honor Society, and various FFA events.

Early Saturday morning, Oct. 29, students from across the state hurried through the billowing campfire smoke to begin rehears-

ing their pieces. Out of 32 counties and around 2,000 entries, 12 Lipan Junior High and High School students were selected to compete in the 31st Annual Red Steagall Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest at the Fort Worth Stockyards. Out of those 12, the Lipan poets walked away with two division champions and two reserve champions. With the help of a proud English teacher, Amber Freeman, four Lipan students will receive scholarship money for their amazing poems.

Throughout 10 years of teaching, Freeman has worked with students and entered poems into the Red Steagall contest. Freeman said she came across this contest because of her mentor, coach, teacher and aunt. "She used to do it in her Texas History class, I took over her classroom when she retired, she told me 'You cannot give up Cowboy Poetry' so I never have," Freeman said.

She first creates an assignment in class for students to write western poems. To get their creative juices flowing, she performs a few poems. "I walk in and I get real into character and I read two of my top poems of all time. I go real slow around the room and they think I'm crazy," Freeman said.

As strange as her methods may seem to students, it truly pays off. Over the past three years, Freeman has encouraged Dillon Hall, a three-time champion, throughout junior high and into his high school career. Along with Hall, Kodi Belle Herron was first in the Junior Division followed by Landen Ervin in second. Hall was the champion in the Senior Division and right behind was Sari Thompson.

All of these students will receive a scholarship and will have the option to use this money, but there are a few guidelines the students must follow in order to obtain it. "The only way they keep their scholarship is if they stay drug-free, crime-free, and focused on their goal of higher education," Freeman said. This higher education includes in and out-of-state colleges and universities and trade schools. One of the greatest perks, however, is that their money continually increases in amount. "It goes into an account and it grows. It gains interest as the years go by," Freeman said.

When arriving on contest day, students are immediately immersed in a cowboy-themed world. "It's early in the morning, and when kiddos get there the first thing you can smell is the campfire from the chuckwagons," Freeman said. The Red Steagall contest is not limited just to poetry, there are many events such as a chuck wagon cook-off, a fiddle contest, and more.

"All the people are dressed in their period outfits with their tepees and their wagons. When they walk up, it's kind of like going back in time," Freeman said.

This experience starts off like many assignments do, with students fussing; however, once they begin to write. "I'm amazed how much they amaze themselves. I just push, they write," Freeman said. This at many times is all students need in order to embrace their creative side, and Lipan ISD is extremely proud of all the students and their creativity.

# Granbury wins Peewee 12-and-under Super Bowl

*From Staff Reports*

The Granbury Pirates, who compete in the 12-and-under age group of the Granbury PeeWee division of the Northwest Texas Youth Football Association, won that league's Super Bowl on Nov. 19 with a 56-0 victory over a team from Kennedale.

The players on the Pee Wee Pirates roster are (listed in order of jersey numbers, 00-99): Javen Johnston, Drake Davis, Drake Richman, Zak Krantz, Karson Barrington, Braden Neal, Brylan Stewart, Jake Jones, Lukas Rodriguez, Bryson Bush, Avery Kijnitchee, H.T. Kissel, Jack Daly, Bentlee Collins, Devon Bowen, Steven Hernandez, Bradyn Beckstrand, Ryon Sanders, Madden Cutler, Blake Harjo, Brandon Manuel, Mason Wright, Cooper Gray, Tyler Citzler, Dominic Horton and Alex Linwood.

Many of the Pirates will be moving on to play middle school football starting next season.



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I'VE BEEN THINKING

# The lowly cucumber offers surprising list of remedies, uses

## CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER

Carol Goodman Heizer is an author who moved to Hood County from Louisville, Kentucky in 2019. She has had short stories and articles published in six editions of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. Her column for the Hood County News will appear every two weeks. She was a public school teacher for 17 years, earlier in her professional career.

**T**he information for this column came from internet sources, but I felt it was worth sharing. Whoever knew the common, lowly cucumber could be so useful for something other than eating?

- Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins we need on a daily basis. Just one contains vitamins B1, 2, 3, 5, and 6; folic acid, vitamin C, calcium, iron, magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, and zinc.

- Feeling tired in the afternoon? Put down the caffeinated drink and pick up a cucumber. They are a good source of carbohydrates that provide that quick-me-up lasting for hours.

- Tired of the bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower or bath? Rub a cucumber slice on the mirror. It will eliminate the fog and give a fresh spa-like fragrance.

- Are grubs and slugs destroying your flower bed? Place a few slices in a small aluminum pie pan, and your garden will be free of pests all season long. The chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum and give off a scent undetectable to humans. But the scent will drive garden pests crazy, making them leave the area.

- Looking for a fast way to reduce cellulite before going to the pool? The phytochemicals in the cucumber cause the outer skin to tighten. It works great on wrinkles, too!

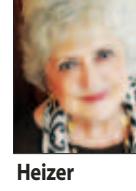
- Want to avoid a hangover or terrible headache? Eat a few cucumber slices before going to bed and wake up refreshed. Cucumbers contain enough B vitamins and electrolytes to replenish essential nutrients the body lost.

- Looking to fight off an afternoon or evening snacking binge? Cucumbers have been used for centuries by trappers, traders and explorers for quick meals to thwart



STOCK PHOTO COURTESY OF ENVATO.COM

**CUCUMBER CURE:** Cucumbers can be used for a variety of household chores as well as being beneficial to our bodies.



Heizer

off starvation.

- Have an important appointment and don't have time to polish your shoes? Rub a freshly cut cucumber over the shoes. Its chemicals provide a quick and durable shine that looks great and repels water.

- Out of WD-40 and need to fix a squeaky hinge? Take a cucumber slice and rub it along the hinge, and the squeak is gone.

- Stressed out and don't have time for a massage or spa appointment? Cut up an entire cucumber and place it in a boiling pot of wa-

ter. The chemicals in the cucumber will react with the boiling water and be released in the steam that creates a relaxing aroma. Studies state that this reduces stress in new mothers and college students during exam time.

- Just finished a business lunch and realize you don't have gum or mints? Take a slice of cucumber and press it against the roof of your mouth with your tongue for 30 seconds to eliminate bad breath. The phytochemicals in the cucumber kill the bacteria in your mouth causing bad breath.

- Looking for a "green" way to clean your traps, sinks, or stainless steel? Take a slice of cucum-

ber and rub it on the surface you want to clean. It will remove years of tarnish and bring back the shine, but it won't leave streaks or harm your fingers or fingernails while you clean.

- Using a pen and make a mistake? Take the outside of the cucumber and slowly use it to erase the pen writing. It also works great on crayons and markers the kids have used to decorate the walls.

Now, as for eating cucumbers, several sources list physical benefits such as the following: detoxifies your body, keeps your brain healthy, relieves constipation, lowers the risk of cancer, keeps your body cool and hydrated, keeps

your kidneys healthy, remedies intestinal worms and lowers blood sugar levels. Cucumbers are low in calories and high in water content, so they can also help in weight loss.

Special note: Some health consultants advise not eating tomato and cucumber at the same time because they have different ways of digestion. Eaten together, the combination can cause acid formation and bloating.

Whoever thought the lowly cucumber could be used for such a variety of household chores and, at the same time, be so beneficial to our bodies?

cgheizer@gmail.com

# Kid Scoop® .com

## Who? What? Where? When? How?

While the Kid Scoop news article below is very silly—we wrote our article in the format of a real news article.

News reports tell WHO did WHAT WHEN and WHERE and, when possible, HOW.

**Caution! This article is not real news! It is just for fun!**

### Kid Scoop Puzzler

#### PROOF READING

Proofreading a news article is important to make sure it is accurate and fair. Each headline below has an error. Circle the errors and rewrite the headlines correctly.

<b>OWNER SAYS NEW STORE IS IS NOW OPEN</b>	<b>AUTHOR'S LATEST BOOK IS A BEST CELLAR</b>

### Kid Scoop Together

## Points of View

Newspaper reporters must gather information and viewpoints from people on both sides of an issue to tell the whole story.

Based on the quotes from Clive, the police, and Pete Pesto, do they all have the same point of view?

If not, what is each one's point of view?

**FIRST STEP: GET THE FACTS**

### News Articles Lead with the FACTS

**Who, what, when and where** are often the first questions people ask when something happens. News reporters put those facts into the first paragraph — sometimes the first sentence — of the news article. This is called the **lead**.

Read Woodword's article. Then fill in the facts in his notes.

**WHO** is the news event about?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**WHAT** happened?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**WHERE** did it happen?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**WHEN** did it happen?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Choose a HEADLINE**

The **headline** of a news article could also be called the title. It is written in bold type above the story. Most headlines have a subject and a verb that tell the topic of the article and summarize the main idea, or most important part of the topic.

Read the three headlines that Woodword has written. Circle the headline you think is the best for this silly article.

DOWNTOWN — Clive the crocodile escaped from Downtown Zoo last night. Some people say he put on a costume and stole a pizza from Pete's Pizza Parlor.

Clive has lived at the zoo for ten years. Pete Pesto, owner of the pizza parlor, says Clive entered the kitchen wearing a chef's hat and apron and tried to make himself 20 large all-meat pizzas.

Police arrived at 9:30 p.m. "We got a call from a person eating at Pete's. They said there was a lot of noise coming from the Jenkins."

Clive surrendered peacefully. "That's the way the pizza crumbles," Clive mumbled as the police put him in a squad car.

**POLICE CAPTURE UNUSUAL PIZZA CHEF AT PETE'S**

**CROCODILE ESCAPES FROM ZOO**

**PIZZA-LOVING CROCODILE ARRESTED**

**ARTICLE BOLD FACT HEADLINE HOW LEAD NEWS PHOTO PIZZA REPORTER WHAT WHERE WHEN WHO ZOO**

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

H	E	A	D	L	I	N	E	A	Z
B	M	O	T	O	H	P	T	R	R
O	E	Q	W	F	L	H	O	T	E
L	V	R	H	T	A	Z	Z	I	P
D	E	Z	E	L	X	C	O	C	O
W	K	A	N	H	U	T	L	R	
P	Q	E	D	N	W	J	C	E	T
N	W	U	N	A	H	B	E	W	E
S	O	W	H	V	A	O	Z	R	
A	D	S	Z	O	T	L	W	V	Y

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

**CLIVE:**  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PETE PESTO:**  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**POLICE:**  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY**

### Photo Talk

Select a newspaper photo and cover the cutline or caption before reading it. Next, identify the **who, what, when, where** of the photo. Using these facts, write a cutline for the photo. Compare yours to the one published.

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Analyze intention in written text.

**Extra! Extra!**

### Headline Funnies

Rewrite one or more headlines in today's newspaper so that they say the opposite of what they say now. For example, Heavy Snow Predicted for City could become Hot Weather Predicted for Countryside.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Distinguish between fact and opinion.

**Write On!**

### Your News

Write a sentence reporting about something new in your life. Be sure to include who, what, when and where!

Standards Link: Language Arts: Distinguish between fact and opinion.

Share your viewpoint and see if you agree.

# Hood County SCENE

YOUR GUIDE TO DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

## Families spend holiday together - on stage

*Granbury Theatre Company's 'Miracle On 34th Street' features multiple families in cast of holiday classic*

BY RICK MAUCH

*Special to the Hood County News*

**C**hristmas time is family time. So, it only makes sense that a show about Christmas would feature several families, which is the case with the Granbury Theatre Company's musical production of the holiday classic "Miracle On 34th Street." The show opens Friday, Dec. 2 and runs through Dec. 23.

One entire family is in the show: the Stanfields - Sally (mom), Jason (dad), along with 9-year-old son Tanner. Eleven-year-old daughter Blaire has the lead role of Susan Walker.

"Our daughter Blaire stays quite busy performing year-round. We have not participated in holiday shows before because we usually spend the Christmas break camping. However, we agreed that the role of Susan Walker would be a great opportunity for her if she could get the part," Sally said. "So we decided that we would all audition and spend the holiday together on stage rather than in the woods."

Also in the cast from the same family are:

- Michele Mastick and daughter Rachel
- Kate Rongey, son Lucas and daughter Lila Joy
- Josh Martin and son Topher
- Jay Tasker and son Cameron
- Joyce Eckstein and granddaughter Kinley Morrow

"Over the last year or so, we have had several family connections among cast members in shows. For this production, it's important because we have so many making the commitment together to learn scenes, including music and choreography," said director Jeff Meador. "Many are ensemble members, so it's meaningful for them to perform together and spend time during the Christmas season. By performing together, these cast members are together during many weeks of rehearsals and long weekends of shows."

Meador said family connections can bring importance to productions as a whole or even just certain scenes. For "Miracle," many ensemble groups feature family groups because "it adds a natural authenticity from the start."

This is the first time the entire Stanfield family has performed together. Blaire and Sally have shared the stage together a number of times, and Blaire and Tanner have done many of the youth academy shows together. Jason is the

newcomer.

"What is awesome about this show is that there are actually five fathers in the cast, three of the five have kids in the show and the other two have college kids studying and performing in New York," Sally said. "This has been the absolute best welcome to the stage for 'stage dad' that one could ask for, because there are theater dads in every stage of fatherhood."

Jason added with a chuckle, "It makes me proud, but it's also humbling when my 9- and 11-year-olds can act circles around me. It's been a blast experiencing all the behind-the-scenes work that you never realize goes into a show."

Sally said she loves that Blaire is playing the role of a child much younger than she actually is.

"In a way, it's like getting to enjoy Christmas with her as a little bitty girl all over again. Also, it's really funny to watch Tanner and Jason play father and son on stage," she said.

Meador recalled growing up watching the classic movie every Christmas. The movie, a non-musical, was released in 1947 and starred Maureen O'Hara and Natalie Wood, while Edmund Gwenn won an Academy Award for his supporting role as Kris Kringle. The movie was nominated for Best Picture at the Academy Awards and won honors for Best Screenplay and Best Story.

"I remember when I was young, many families gathered during each Christmas season to watch two beloved movies - 'It's A Wonderful Life' and 'Miracle on 34th Street,'" Meador said. "They were staples for many Americans."

Meador said that while many actors avoid Christmas shows because it's a time to spend with families, it's inspiring and heartwarming to see so many families use this show as a way to share a different kind of special holiday togetherness.

"Some are even novices but want to participate because it's important to their kids.



### MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET: THE MUSICAL

*Granbury Theatre Company*

Where: Granbury Opera House

When: Dec. 2-23

Showtimes: Thursday-Sunday, 7:30 p.m.; matinees Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m.; special 7:30 p.m. shows on Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 20-21.

Tickets and more information online at [granburytheatrecompany.org/broadway-on-the-brazos/](http://granburytheatrecompany.org/broadway-on-the-brazos/) or call 817-579-0952.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

**FAMILY FEATURED IN CHRISTMAS SHOW:** The Granbury Opera House is presenting *Miracle on 34th Street* during this Christmas season. The Stanfield family is performing in the show. From left, Sally Stanfield, Jason Stanfield, Tanner Stanfield and Blaire Stanfield.

Others are growing actors and find a mutual interest with their children. Obviously, parents and children alike are finding ways to spend time together and explore or expand upon a mutual interest," he said.

Some of the families know each other because their kids have performed together in academy shows or traveled together for Junior Theater Festival trips. Others are

meeting each other for the first time.

"Rehearsals help bring a lot of different people together, and show weekends help everyone form strong bonds that last well beyond the closing show," Meador said.

"There is a lot of love in the show within the whole cast and crew, but family being there just helps the love spread around," Tanner said.

Blaire said she likes per-

forming with her entire family because, while she and her mom have performed together in major productions, she would miss time with her dad and brother.

"With 'Miracle' I don't have to worry about not getting to tell Dad goodnight or not getting to hang out with Tanner because they are right there, on stage," she said.

"Family can be defined in many ways, and it is our col-

lective opinion that our family extends far beyond just the four of us on this stage," Sally said.

"We have many folks who we consider to be family in the cast of 'Miracle,' and within the Granbury Theatre Company. We are so honored to get to spend the holidays with them this year."



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## Savor the holidays with a special roast

**R**oasts are customary during the holiday season because they often feed a crowd and look impressive on serving platters. Some people opt for a roast beef while others prefer to roast a turkey. However, chicken just as easily can be turned into a Christmas dinner, since it is versatile and tasty. In addition, the cooking time for a roasted chicken is much shorter than it is with other roasted dishes.

This recipe for "Roast Chicken with Whole Roasted Garlic" from "Rachael Ray 50: Memories and Meals from a Sweet and Savory Life" (Ballantine Books) by Rachael Ray provides the basis for a tasty holiday meal. Simply multiply the recipe as needed depending on the number of guests.

### ROAST CHICKEN WITH WHOLE ROASTED GARLIC

Serves 4

- 1 4-pound chicken
- Kosher salt
- 2 lemons, one pierced several times with the tines of a fork and one halved
- Few sprigs each of thyme and rosemary
- 4 large bulbs garlic, 1 per person or portion, ends cut to expose the cloves (keep the hairy root end intact)
- EVOO (extra-virgin olive oil) for drizzling
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 cup white wine
- Warm, crusty bread

Place the chicken in a shallow baking dish. Salt the chicken inside and out and place uncovered in the fridge overnight.

Preheat the oven to 450 F.

Pat the chicken dry and fill with the pierced whole lemon, thyme and rosemary. Tie the legs up. Dress the bulbs of garlic with EVOO; season with salt and pepper. Arrange the garlic in the baking dish around the chicken. Rub the skin of the chicken with butter and season with pepper. Pour the wine into the bottom of the dish.

Roast the chicken for 1 hour or until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the dark meat reads 165 F. Let the chicken stand for a few minutes on a carving board until just cool enough to handle. Carve the chicken, dividing the white and dark parts and slicing the breast meat on the bias. Arrange the chicken on plates or a platter and top with drippings, juices and the juice from the remaining halved lemon. The garlic may get dark but it won't be charred. Serve in the skins or squeeze the paste from the skins with your knife and pass with a spoon to eat with the chicken or to slather on the warm chunks of bread.



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

#### GARLIC ROASTED TURKEY:

This recipe for "Roast Chicken with Whole Roasted Garlic" from "Rachael Ray 50: Memories and Meals from a Sweet and Savory Life" (Ballantine Books) by Rachael Ray provides the basis for a tasty holiday meal. Simply multiply the recipe as needed depending on the number of guests.

## SUPPORT SYSTEMS

**SUPPORT SYSTEM** calendar will feature recurring activities that provide group support and are open to the public. These items will run each Wednesday. Submit Support System listings to [schedule@hcnews.com](mailto:schedule@hcnews.com) and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

### EVERY DAY

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** Do you or someone you know have a problem with alcohol? Meetings daily at 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. at 1205 Llano Hwy, Granbury.

**ACTON 12-STEP** Group. Meeting daily at 7 p.m. 3609 Acton Highway (behind Madison Park).

### EVERY SUNDAY

**STARTING A** New Life enters its 25th year with sessions on Sundays, Oct. 2-Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. This grief support group will meet in the education building at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 2301 Acton Highway. Details: 512-560-4885 or 817-657-0822.

### EVERY MONDAY

**PROMISES AL-ANON** group meets every Monday at 6:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, west entrance, 303 W. Bridge St.

PLEASE SEE SUPPORT | B6

## GOOD FOR HOOD



Hood County News

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# CALENDAR

**TO SUBMIT**
**CALENDAR ITEMS**
**Information should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event for consideration.**

The Community Calendar is a free listing in the Hood County News to inform readers of programs, special meetings and nonprofit events. The event should be open to the public and free to attend. Email the who, what, when and where. Include the meeting location and a street address for the location. The topic for the meeting, program or guest speaker must be included. Email to calendar@hcnews.com. Calendar information runs in chronological order as space is available.

## DECEMBER

**THURSDAY, DEC. 1**
**GRANBURY CHAMBER**

Commerce Best of Business Awards Banquet. Dress: Elf theme or business casual. Cocktails at 6 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$125 per person if purchased by Nov. 14. \$150 per person starting Nov. 15. Tables and sponsorships available. Lake Granbury Conference Center, 621 E. Pearl St. Details: 817-573-1622.

## SUPPORT

FROM PAGE B5

**EVERY TUESDAY**
**PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S**

in Granbury. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. A non-contact boxing and fitness program designed for people with Parkinson's. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

**GRIEFSHARE 14-WEEK**

seminar Sept 13. - Dec. 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Presented by StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: GriefShare.StoneWater-Church.com or call 817-579-9175.

**AMATEUR RADIO**

Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed Amateur Radio Operators welcome. 7:00 pm, on the 147.240 MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

**FRIDAY, DEC. 2**
**COMMUNITY PANTRY**

first Friday distribution with Neighbors Feeding Neighbors and Tarrant Area Food Bank Mobile pantry from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Granbury First United Methodist Church distribution site, 301 Loop 567.

**MELODY BELLES** singers present "Christmas Joy" Christmas concert in conjunction with Granbury: A Candlelight Tour. First Presbyterian Church, 303 W. Bridge St., 6 p.m. Free to the public. Donations welcome. Details: 817-579-7689.

**SATURDAY, DEC. 3**
**THOMAS MYERS**

29th Annual Toy Drive and Car Show. Benefits Hood County Christmas for Children. All cars are welcome. Entry fee is an unwrapped toy. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be served. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Jerry Durant Chevrolet, 1909 E. U.S. Highway 377. Details: 817-475-1621 or visit [christmasforchildren.org](http://christmasforchildren.org).

**FREE MUSICAL** performances in the historic First Presbyterian Church sanctuary, 309 W. Bridge St. In conjunction with Granbury: A Candlelight Tour. Granbury Civic Chorus

at 1 p.m.; JetBlacq - Rebecca and Frank Faiola, at 2 p.m.; Madrigal Singers, Fort Worth Chorale of Schola Contorum of Texas at 3 p.m.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 4**
**CHRISTMAS CONCERTS:**

Granbury Community Band, 3 p.m. at Granbury High School Auditorium, 2000 W. Pearl St. Also, Granbury Jazz Orchestra, 7 p.m. at Granbury Baptist Church, 1200 Weatherford Highway. Free admission to both concerts.

**MONDAY, DEC. 5**
**OPEN HOUSE** for Love Knots

Prayer Shawl Ministry. The ministry is in need of people to crochet, knit, or use a knitting loom to make gifts to comfort the ill, bereaved, infants, etc. to show God's love for them and that He is always present. 1 p.m. Acton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-4693.

**THURSDAY, DEC. 8**
**CHRISTMAS TOUR** of

Homes presented by Pecan Plantation Women's Club. Tour five beautifully decorated homes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit Santa's Workshop

and Bakery from 8 a.m. to noon. Wine, dine and tour packages start at \$29. Fundraiser benefits charity work by the PPWC. Details: [mypwc.com](http://mypwc.com).

**MONDAY, DEC. 12**
**DISABLED AMERICAN**

Veterans Granbury Memorial chapter 238 business meeting. Program: Discussion on 2023 goals for reaching veterans and their families to help them secure the benefits they have earned. 7 - 8 p.m. Good Shepherd Anglican Church, 3601 Fall Creek Highway. Details: Chris Georgopoulos, adjutant, 682-719-5560.

**BRAZOS CHAMBER** Orchestra

7:30 p.m. Granbury First United Methodist Church, 301 N.E. Loop 567. Details: [BrazosChamberorchestra.org/events/list](http://BrazosChamberorchestra.org/events/list).

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14**
**MELODY BELLES** sing-

ers present "Christmas Joy" Christmas concert followed by lunch. Public invited. Registration: 10:30 a.m. Program: 11 a.m. DeCordova Bend Estates Country Club, 5301 Country Club Drive. For lunch reservations, \$22.50, call 817-326-2381.



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## CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

**Friday, 25 November 2022 - Thursday, 01 December 2022**

**Black Adam (PG13)**  
Fri, Sat: 1:35PM, 7:05PM.  
Sun: 2:35PM, 8:05PM.  
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 4:35PM.

**Black Panther: Wakanda Forever (PG13)**  
Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:50AM, 3:25PM, 7:00PM, 10:35PM.  
Mon: 3:30PM.  
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3:00PM, 6:35PM.

**Devotion (PG13)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:45AM, 2:55PM, 6:05PM, 9:15PM.  
Sun: 12:00PM, 3:10PM, 6:20PM, 9:30PM.  
Mon: 3:00PM.  
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3:25PM, 6:35PM.

**Yellowstone Watch Party (NR)**  
Sun: 7:00PM

**Strange World (PG)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 1:35PM, 4:10PM, 6:45PM, 9:20PM.  
Sun: 12:00PM, 2:35PM, 5:10PM, 7:45PM, 10:20PM.  
Mon: 2:15PM, 4:50PM.

**The Chosen Season 3: Episodes 1 and 2 (NR)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 2:25PM, 5:50PM, 9:15PM.  
Sun: 12:15PM, 3:40PM, 10:00PM.  
Mon: 3:30PM.  
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3:15PM, 6:40PM.

**The Menu (R)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:20AM, 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 10:00PM.  
Sun: 12:20PM, 3:00PM, 5:40PM, 8:20PM, 11:00PM.  
Mon: 2:00PM, 4:40PM.  
Tues, Wed: 2:20PM, 5:00PM, 7:40PM.  
Thurs: 2:20PM.

**Ticket to Paradise (PG13)**  
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 4:30PM, 10:00PM.  
Sun: 12:00PM, 5:30PM, 11:00PM.  
Mon: 2:00PM.

**Violent Night (R)**  
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM, 7:30PM  
Thurs: 5:00PM, 7:45PM

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3			6		8		9	7
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	2					5		
6			8			9	7	
	1					8		
8	5		2		7			9
		9			2			5

Puzzle by websudoku.com

**SUDOKU**

Solution for the puzzle on Nov. 26. (Puzzle 82).

1	8	6	7	4	2	3	9	5
5	4	7	3	9	1	6	2	8
3	2	9	6	8	5	4	1	7
9	1	8	2	7	6	5	3	4
6	5	2	4	3	9	8	7	1
7	3	4	1	5	8	2	6	9
8	9	1	5	2	3	7	4	6
2	7	5	9	6	4	1	8	3
4	6	3	8	1	7	9	5	2

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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# Make-ahead meals for tasty holiday dinners



PHOTO COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

**MAKE-AHEAD:** Holiday hosts can explore these ideas for meals that can be cooked in advance and taste even better when reheated after a day in the refrigerator.

(Metro Creative Connection)

Individuals may be presented with plenty of opportunities to cook for a crowd over the course of a typical year. But no time of year is more synonymous with large sit-down meals than the holiday season.

Certain foods, such as pasta dishes and casseroles, are ideal dishes to cook for crowds. However, for those home cooks who want to prepare in advance and then enjoy themselves on the actual holiday, it may be best to choose foods that taste better the day after the dish has been cooked. Many recipes develop deeper flavor profiles after they have been left to rest and are then reheated. Holiday hosts can explore these ideas for meals that can be cooked in advance and taste even better when reheated after a day in the refrigerator.

#### STEW

A stew that's been simmering on the stove or in the slow cooker all day will have a winning flavor. But stew can be even more delicious the next day. The starch in the potatoes will enable the sauce of the stew — whether it's tomato-based or comprised of a mix of brown gravy and meat drippings — to thicken. The meat may continue to cook and tenderize while reheating. As a one-pot meal, stew is simple to prepare in advance and then serve in an attractive crock for the holidays.

#### MEATLOAF

The herbs and spices in a meat loaf continue to release their flavors, and letting the loaf sit can improve the texture and the ability to slice it without it falling apart. Consider pan-frying individual slices of meatloaf until they're browned so they'll be crisp on the outside and tender in the middle.

#### LASAGNA

Lasagna is a layered pasta dish featuring flat noodle sheets, cheese, sauce, and sometimes meat like ground beef or sausage. Lasagnas that are served right out of the oven can be runny even if they taste scrumptious. Baking it and letting it sit overnight allows all of the layers to gel together, making for a much more cohesive and fortified dish the following day.

#### CURRIES

Curries are typically made with many spices that help to make the dish flavorful. A curry that is freshly made may feature intense flavor because each of its components can be tasted individually. After a night of resting in the refrigerator, those flavors meld and mellow. Furthermore, if potatoes are used in the recipe, a night in the fridge gives the potatoes an opportunity to absorb the spices, making for an even tastier meal.

Many meals can be made ahead of time for holiday dinners and will taste even better when they are served the following day.

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## GARY ROBERTS

Lieutenant, Criminal Investigation Division and  
Street Crimes Unit

I am from Mansfield, Texas and graduated from  
Mansfield High School. I live in Stephenville with  
my wife and two daughters.

I came to the Sheriff's Office in March 2021 and  
have been in law enforcement for 16 years. During  
my time in law enforcement, I have been assigned  
to Patrol, SWAT, K-9 Division, Criminal Investigation  
Division, Narcotics, Street Crimes Unit, and I  
am currently assigned as the Lieutenant over the  
Criminal Investigation Division and Street Crimes  
Unit.

As CID Lieutenant, I am responsible for assigning  
and reviewing cases, managing critical incidents,  
career development for our investigators and in-  
vestigating cold cases. I also oversee our Street  
Crimes Unit Investigators who work in a covert ca-  
pacity to proactively interdict and target all types  
of criminal activity.

I hold a Master Peace Officer license and several  
Instructor certificates to include Firearms, Digni-  
tary Protection, Less Lethal and Active Shooter. In  
my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family,  
working outdoors with our animals, hunting, fish-  
ing and shooting sports.



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