

Published Wednesday and Saturday

City Council chooses among 'stellar' board applicants

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

It wasn't very long ago that the city had trouble drawing volunteers willing to serve on advisory boards.

That seems to have changed. When the City Council appointed board members to serve new terms during its regular meeting on Jan. 17, some boards had more applicants than available seats. Not only that, but Mayor Jim

Jarratt was thrilled by the qualifications and experience of what he called a "stellar" group of applicants.

Those who serve on city boards advise the City Council, helping the elected officials to make informed decisions.

Here is a breakdown of those ap-

pointed to serve. Incumbents are marked with (I).

GRANBURY PARKS BOARD

Six terms were expiring. Ten people applied, including five incumbents. Those appointed were Barbara Boozer (I), Jon Curtner (I), James Dickens (I), Josh McGinnis (I), Jone Snider (I), and Katherine McGill.

GRANBURY REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD

Five board members and one alternate were needed. There were eight applicants, four of whom were incumbents. Those appointed were Larry French (I), Rick Huber (I), Jackie Vaughn (I), Ronnie Stowell (incumbent alternate), Pat Abell, and Ralph Newton. Stowell will now serve as a full board

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

member and Newton will be the alternate.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Seven applicants, including three incumbents, applied for four openings. Those appointed were Brian Blevins (I), Jerry Colborg (I),

PLEASE SEE COUNCIL | A3

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Granbury Economic Development Director and triathlon participant Lance LaCour is prepared to go the distance in drawing businesses and industries that will provide good-paying jobs for the community.

D.A.: Local man sentenced to life in prison for wife's 2019 murder

From Staff Reports

A 62-year-old Hood County man was sentenced on Jan. 17 in Granbury's 355th District Court to life in prison for the 2019 murder of his wife — a crime witnessed by their two children, ages 5 and 7 -according to a news release provided by Hood County District Attorney Ryan Sinclair.



Sinclair noted that Edward Michael Pautenis earlier confessed to Texas Rangers investigators that he had killed his wife, Jennifer. But at trial Pautenis pleaded

not guilty to both the first-degree felony murder and to a third-degree felony count of tampering with evidence in connection with hiding a vehicle he used to transport the victim's body to dump in a remote area.

The jury gave Pautenis a 10year prison term for tampering,

Senior Staff Writer

• conomic development is all about making communities stronger • and better, and stronger and better is what Lance LaCour is all about.

A former national racquetball champion and triathlon participant, Granbury Economic Development Director LaCour is always working harder where his own personal best is concerned.

Since arriving in Granbury last June, he has been focused on attracting businesses and industries that will bring good-paying jobs to Granbury and Hood County, which a few years ago was ranked the ninth fastest-growing county in the country by the United States Census Bureau.

Six months into his new gig, LaCour thus far has been low key, but that doesn't mean he hasn't been busy. He has been laying groundwork for future projects that will include, but will certainly not be limited to, businesses at and around the expanded Granbury Regional Airport.

LaCour has more than 30 years' experience in economic development and has a master's degree in that field of study. He earned that degree as well as a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Southern Mississippi.

The city hired LaCour after City Manager Chris Coffman, with approval from the City Council, created an economic development department.

Since previous partnerships involving the city, county, and chamber of commerce ultimately failed, Coffman felt that an economic development department controlled and funded by the city would have greater sustainability. He indicated that partnerships are still welcome, though.

LaCour was living in Humble and was president and CEO of Partnership Lake Houston, which he described as a combination chamber/economic development organization, when he drew the city of Granbury's attention.

By the time he joined Partnership Lake Houston, LaCour was a seasoned economic development expert. He had spent 15 years with the Katy Area Economic Development Council and before that, he worked in economic development roles in both Alabama and Mississippi.

CHANCE ENCOUNTER

After four years of college, LaCour was still unsure of what career path he would take. He thought of maybe going to law school.

LaCour had just completed his undergraduate work and was mulling what to do next when one of his cycling friends invited him to participate in a sailboat race

PLEASE SEE LACOUR | A2

LaCour has more than 30 years' experience in economic development and has a master's degree in that field of study. He earned that degree as well as a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Southern Mississippi.

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in addition to the life in prison sentence. Sinclair said the two sentences will run concurrently.

Sinclair and Assistant District Attorney Willem VanZeben presented the case to the jury, and District Court Judge Bryan Bufkin presided over the trial.

The news release included this description of what happened on Oct. 20, 2019, the day of the murder:

"On October 20, 2019, Pautenis was at his home on Coral Sands Court with his wife Jennifer and their seven-year-old son and fiveyear-old daughter. According to Pautenis, he and his wife began arguing that evening. At some point during the evening, Pautenis got a .25 caliber pistol and shot his wife multiple times in the hallway, then he grabbed a rifle and shot her again, and then grabbed another rifle and continued to shoot her. Meanwhile, Pautenis's children were standing at the edge of the hallway screaming at him to stop. Pautenis accidentally

PLEASE SEE MURDER | A2

SEE MORE INSIDE

Free federal tax return assistance to begin in February and *Crockett closure on square to* last through March. Please see stories, A3.

Strong vocals and showstop*ping performances were at* the height of the fifth annual Voice of Granbury competition last Thursday and Brawner Elementary dedicates playground bench in honor of beloved student. Please see stories, *B1.*

Cinergy to offer unlimited movies. popcorn refills Jan. 28 and Acton trail run to benefit youth camp scholarship fund. Please see stories, B4.



Local, zone(s): 2 sections, 16 pages, plus supplements | State: 2 sections, 16 pages

INSIDE

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"I'll say this, and Chris (Coffman), my boss, understands this: It's a marathon. It's not a sprint, and fortunately, I'm a distance athlete."

LANCE LACOUR Granbury Economic Development Director

LACOUR FROM PAGE A1

across the Gulf of Mexico.

Upon returning, LaCour returned to USM to retrieve some materials and encountered a student who asked if he would like to go with him to check out the economic development department.

That chance encounter set LaCour's career path. He found that he liked the field of study and felt that it incorporated his political science degree because economic development involves policy.

LaCour's master's thesis involved a methodology he created for how communities can best decide on what industries to recruit.

"We're looking at our target industries right now, here," LaCour said of Granbury.

BEST PRACTICES

The economic development director said that the city is currently updating a study done seven or eight years ago by Wadley-Donovan-Gutshaw Consulting, one of the top site selections firms

in the world.

The city is also looking at site readiness and is conducting a labor market evaluation of the region.

LaCour said that all three components should be completed by late February. Findings will be presented to the City Council and the city's strategic plan is expected to be revised accordingly.

In his day-to-day work, LaCour spends a considerable amount of time on the computer. He keeps abreast of the many data sources that are important for economic development work and also maintains a database of about 120 local properties.

It's all "a challenge to keep up with," he stated.

Luckily, LaCour is a self-professed "data geek" and he has been given help since starting his new job on June 13. Sharon Bridges was hired for the role of economic development coordinator.

When an organization or company requests information on the local labor force, incentives, transportation, and other business-related topics, LaCour and Bridges

compile a packet for them. **WHAT ABOUT THE BAN?**

Although the development moratorium caused by a delay in building a second wastewater treatment plant has slowed down economic development, both LaCour and City of Granbury Communications Manager Jeff Newpher said that there are nevertheless ways for projects to move forward.

For instance, with approval from the City Council a developer can temporarily construct an onsite wastewater system with the intention of eventually connecting to the city's wastewater treatment system once a second plant is built.

Since projects take time to get off the ground anyway, LaCour and Newpher encourage developers to contact city staff to see how groundwork can be laid in the meantime. (Opponents to the WWTP's planned location on Old Granbury Road have appealed the decision made by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to issue the permit. If the appeal is denied, a lawsuit is possible.)

Newpher said he wants people to know that Granbury "is open for business."

He stated, "Although there's a moratorium, what we are encouraging people to do, whether it's an individual, or a business, local business, Fortune 500 company, Amazon, any of them that say, you know, we think Granbury is where we ought to be, but we've heard about this moratorium.' Come in or call or email the Community Development department and say, 'This is what I want to do and this is where I want to do it. Is it allowed?'"

GOING THE DISTANCE

LaCour and his wife Michelle have two grown kids, a son and a daughter. Son Emory, 22, is an electrical designer for an engineering firm in Houston. He's working on a degree in electrical engineering.

Daughter Alexa, 24, is working for a veterinarian while taking courses at Tarleton State University. She is considering medical school. A native of Chalmette, Louisiana, near New Orleans, LaCour has enjoyed hunting, fishing, and sports all his life.

He began playing racquetball at age 12. He was 15 when, at Louisiana State, he won the first tournament he ever played in.

Despite 40 knee surgeries caused by years of playing racquetball, LaCour still conquers the court. He can be seen playing the sport at the Hood County YMCA two or three times a week.

The sportsman also typically cycles three times a week, covering 25-30 miles with each excursion.

LaCour is accustomed to going the distance, which might make him the right person to lead Granbury's economic development efforts at such an important time in the growing city's history.

"I'll say this, and Chris (Coffman), my boss, understands this: It's a marathon. It's not a sprint," LaCour said of economic development. "And fortunately, I'm a distance athlete."

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MURDER FROM PAGE A1

shot himself during the ordeal as well. After he finally quit firing, he made his children clean up the mess. Then he used a shop crane to load his wife's lifeless body into a white, 2002 Dodge Caravan, drove her out to a remote area, stripped her naked, dumped her out onto the ground, and covered her with cedar branches. Since it was near Halloween, Pautenis told his kids that it was all a Halloween joke."

Sinclair noted that at trial, Pautenis pleaded not guilty to both counts. He testified in his own defense, and "attempted to claim self-defense as the justification," according to Sinclair, who indicated that the jury's verdict came swiftly.

"After hearing over a week of testimony, the jury took only one hour to find Pautenis guilty of both Murder and Tampering with Evidence," Sinclair stated. "Pautenis then took the stand during the punishment phase and attempted to claim that he killed his wife out of sudden passion, thus attempting to limit his prison time to a maximum of 20 years. However, the jury again only took an hour to decide that Pautenis had not acted out of sudden passion, and then sentenced Pautenis to life in prison." Sinclair and Assistant District Attorney Willem VanZeben presented the case to the jury. Judge Bryan Bufkin presided over the trial. "The jury did an excellent job on this case," Sinclair added. "Trial was long, and the facts were awful, but the jurors returned a just verdict for the defendant's heinous crimes. I thank them for their hard work. I also want to thank the Hood County Sheriff's Office, the Texas Rangers, and law enforcement in Florida for their dedication to solving this case. They did an outstanding job. But my heart goes out to those kids. They are wonderful children, but the things they saw will stick with them for the rest of their lives. I hope this verdict gives them some much needed justice and closure."







SON'S DRAWING

Sinclair's news release included the following description of something the young son had drawn:

"At trial, Pautenis's now-ten-year-old son testified that when he gets stressed about something, he draws pictures to relieve his anxiety. During the investigation of the case, law enforcement obtained a search warrant for Pautenis's house, and while searching the house investigators found a picture drawn by Pautenis's son. The picture depicts Pautenis shooting his children's mothCOURTESY OF HOOD COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Hood County District Attorney Ryan Sinclair noted that this was a drawing done by the young son of Edward Michael Pautenis. Sinclair explained that when Pautenis killed his wife on Oct. 20, 2019, the crime was witnessed by their two children, who were 7 and 5 years old at the time. Sinclair's news release states, "The picture depicts Pautenis shooting his children's mother while his son and daughter watch, and then mommy's spirit crying as it goes up to Heaven." On Jan. 17 Pautenis was sentenced to life in prison for his wife's murder, plus a concurrent 10-year term for tampering with evidence, Sinclair noted.

er while his son and daughter watch, and then mommy's spirit crying as it goes up to Heaven."

THE ARREST

Sinclair noted that in early December of 2019, "authorities arrested Pautenis for Tampering with Evidence by hiding his van in Fort Pierce, Florida. The Texas Rangers then interviewed Pautenis again, and he confessed to killing his wife. Pautenis then took authorities to the rural area where he had dumped his wife's corpse. By that point, animals had torn the body apart and picked it clean, so all that was left was bones scattered over the property."

Sinclair stated that Jennifer had been working as an EMS dispatcher in Weatherford. Coworkers contacted the Hood County Sheriff's Office after she had failed to show up for work.

"Authorities then contacted Pautenis and began inquiring about his wife's disappearance," the release states. "For weeks Pautenis attempted to hinder the investigation by telling authorities that his wife ran off with another man. Pautenis was interviewed multiple times by the Hood County Sheriff's Office and the Texas Rangers. In November 2019, Pautenis hid the Dodge Caravan at a friend's trucking business in Fort Pierce, Florida, and then lied to investigators by telling them the van was at a storage facility in Fort Worth. Jennifer's friends and family in Florida located the van and informed law enforcement."

Sinclair added, "Even though Pautenis had attempted to ensure the murder scene was cleaned up, while executing the search warrant authorities used special crime scene chemicals to reveal hidden blood smears all throughout the hallway. Additional blood stains were found in the master bathroom and on the washing machine."

Sinclair noted this is the second murder trial his office has tried since the first of December in 2022, and both trials resulted in life sentences.

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH Expectations as compared to harsh reality

oung people seem to have unrealistic expectations about life. I know when I was young, I had grandiose expectations about my future work career, my married life, and life in general. Boy, did "harsh reality" have a few lessons to teach me! My knowledge of the role of a

"wife" came from observing my sainted mother. I watched her iron every piece of clothing my father wore, including his undershorts. She made him breakfast every morning, and for the most part, acquiesced to Dad being the "man of the house", going so far as to sign checks as "Mrs. Donald Houston". I understand in the light of today's world this all sounds terribly chauvinistic and out of touch, but such a relationship was common in the 50s and 60s. It worked for my folks. Both of my parents had a happy, loving partner and were satisfied with the relationship, which lasted 54 years.

When I married my children's mother, I held expectations for my wife, but they were different than the expectations my father would have held when he mar-



ried. I was progressive enough to

communicate with my wife know-

ing the world had evolved and the

expectations of the prior genera-

tion were no longer reasonable or

even appropriate. My wife worked a

full-time job, just as I did, and I did

not expect her to cook every meal,

clean the house single handedly,

or iron my clothes. Our relation-

able expectations of the other.

ship would not last, but it was not

because either of us held unreason-

When I entered the workforce, I

foolishly imagined I was destined

to accomplish my career goals in

the first six months. I worked hard

and expected instant results. I was

young and unaware of how things

worked. It took a while for me to

appreciate a year in the business

world was a mere drop in the buck-

et in the broad scheme of an entire

business career. I learned to be pa-

BY SAM HOUSTON

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

> tient and came to understand leaps forward were made up of a thousand small steps. Success was possible, but it was a long road and demanded a lot of hard work.

This past week I interviewed a young person seeking employment at the newspaper. They had very little experience, but they did give the impression of being a hard worker and goal-oriented. They made it clear their objective was to win individual statewide newspaper awards, as well as national awards. They told me it was important they be allowed to go to all the statewide press convention events so they could be "seen" and make statewide connections. All of these are fine expectations, but I noticed little concern from the applicant on how they would make the paper better for our readers, or a more profitable entity overall. It was

much more about how the paper could be a tool for the applicant's future success.

The final straw was when I asked the candidate about their salary expectations and was told a number which was 30% higher than the top end salary in the industry for a similar job. I told this young person his money expectations were out of touch with the reality of the economics of the industry. His response was clear: His expectation was he was going to get his demand from someone because he was going to bring so much value to their operation. Never mind that his "value" had yet to be proven. I wished him luck.

Sometimes I hear people make the blanket statement, "Young people do not want to work". I must respectfully disagree. I have hired a significant number of people under the age of 30 over the past twenty years, and for the most part, they have been ambitious, hard-working committed employees. It has been my pleasure to work with them, see them grow, and occasionally, watch them move on to bigger and better pastures.

Sadly, I am seeing more and more young applicants who have unrealistic expectations of what employment will be like, and to understand that, while it is important for them to have their objectives met, they must bring something to the table which gives value to the employer. There seems to be a disconnect between what applicants want, and business reality. Sure, it would be nice to work from home three days-a-week, to have six weeks of vacation, and lots of other perks, but in today's competitive world no one has explained how a business budget can withstand such concessions.

I am afraid harsh reality is going to hit my young applicant in the near future. Expectations without experience and knowledge seldom garner a positive result.

Thought for the day: Expectations are like fine pottery, the harder you hold them, the more likely they are to crack.

Until next time I will keep "ridin' the storm out"

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Free federal tax return assistance to begin in February

From Staff Reports

The AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program is offering free federal tax preparation assistance in Hood County beginning in February.

Providing in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone free of charge, the program has a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 years old and have low to moderate income, according to aarp.org. Beginning Feb. 11, AARP

Tax-Aide volunteers will be

at the Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis St. in Granbury, Mondays through Thursdays and on occasional Saturdays offering free tax assistance.

Volunteers will be available from 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. only on the Saturdays of Feb. 11 and 25, March 11 and 25, and April 1.

Tax-Aide volunteers are located nationwide and are trained and IRS-certified every year to make sure they know and understand the latest changes and additions to the tax code, according to aarp.org.

Hood County residents can make an appointment with a Tax-Aide volunteer in one of three ways: by setting an appointment online, by calling and scheduling an appointment, or by filling out an intake form online.

Residents can set up their appointment online

by visiting https://tinyurl. com/39txdrtt but they must pick up and complete the tax packet before their scheduled appointment. The tax packet can be picked up at the Hood County Library.

To schedule an appointment via phone, call 817-382-1005 and leave a message with a preferred date and time. A Tax-Aide scheduler will return the call within 48 hours to confirm an appointment. Once an appointment is made, the individual must pick up and complete the tax packet before the scheduled appointment.

Individuals can also download the intake form at https://tinyurl. com/54avaknt or by scanning the provided QR code. Print and complete the intake/interview form and call 817-382-1005 to make your appointment.

Masks are optional during

tax assistance.

Volunteers will prepare returns while an individual waits.

Residents are also asked not to call the library as they no longer make appointments.

HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/54AVAKNT



City: Crockett closure on square to last through March

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer As of Monday, Crockett Street from Pearl Street to Bridge Street on the Granbury Square is closed The Hood County News did not receive notice of the closure in time to get the information into its Saturday, Jan. 21 issue.

The closure will allow for the completion of two major projects. Assistant City Manager Rick Crownover said that contractors will relocate an old wastewater main that is under Crockett Street.

"Some of these lines predate the oldest sets of plans available," he said. "The goal is to not only make the wastewater system more reliable, but also increase its capacity in the area."

Contractors will have to be particularly cautious because of different types of utilities in the area, according to the city. work will be done to rebuild the street between Pearl and Bridge, Crownover stated. All sidewalks and crosswalks will be open through-

walks will be open throughout the project, according to city officials. Motorists "We scheduled these projects to have minimal impact on businesses and tourists in the area," Crownover said. "Thanks in advance to everyone for their patience."

to traffic and will remain that way through the end of March. After the wastewater upgrade has been completed, are asked to use alternate routes.

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COUNCIL FROM PAGE A1

Eddie Funderburk (I), and David Averitt.

CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

For this board, there were six applicants, including three incumbents, and four seats open. The council appointed Barbara Loyd (I), Stacey Martin (I), Cora Werley (I), and Cheshe Langford.

BUILDING STANDARDS, PLUMBING, ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS BOARD

This board is more complicated and still has openings. The council needed to appoint one electrician, one plumber and two at-large members from the building industry to fill expiring terms and one insurance agent to fill a vacancy.

Council members were able to fill just three spots having only three applicants, all of whom were incumbents. They reappointed Brian Blevins (building industry), Brian Gaffin (building industry), and Terry Taylor (electrician).

The board still needs a plumber and an insurance agent.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Four appointments were needed. The seven applicants included four incumbents. Those appointed were Tim Hallman (I), Reda Kay (I), Kevin Watson (I), and Skip Overdier.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Three incumbents who applied to serve new terms

were among seven competitors for three seats. The incumbents — Peter Garland, Cindy Peters, and Kay Collerain Schwartz — were reappointed.

ETHICS COMMISSION

Three appointments were needed for a six-member panel but only one person applied: incumbent Rod Reyes, Jr. The council reappointed him.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Three applicants were needed and three people applied. They were all appointed. Newcomer David Averitt joins incumbents Eileen Cate and Mary Ella Riley.

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OBITUARIES

Audrey Wynona Robinson

September 9, 1930 - January 16, 2023

Audrey Wynona Robinson 92, of Kerrville, Texas, passed from this earth on January 16, 2023, and into the loving arms of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Wynona, as she was known to her friends, was born on September 9, 1930, to Homa C. Grant and Virginia Crawford Grant outside Memphis, Texas. She grew up in Dumas, Texas, graduated from Dumas High School, was valedictorian of her class, and Dumas Demon's homecoming queen. She was a successful businesswoman and enjoyed challenges. Wynona designed the family cabin - "Robinson's Roost", outside of Pitkin, Colorado, where the family spent their summer's, and she built three candy and gift stores in Midland during the 1970s and 80s, which she lovingly named "La Dulceria". She sold her businesses in the 1990's and moved to Pampa, Texas where she helped take care of her mother and father. Over the years, Wynona was very active in the churches she loved; First Baptist Church in Midland, Texas; Trinity Fellowship Church in Pampa, Texas; and Lakeside Baptist Church in Granbury, Texas. She was a volunteer with CASA, supported multiple Christian Women's organizations, along with many other volunteer organizations where she attended church. Wynona was a gifted and talented seamstress and needle pointer, she loved to crochet, and she made beautiful handmade quilts for her family and friends. In her spare time, was also loved to play and teach others how to play Mah Jongg.

Wynona is preceded in

death by her parents, Homa & Virginia Grant of Pampa; sister's Virginia Clarice Grant of Plaska, Jan Dollar of Dumas, and Yvonne Hill of Monroe, Louisiana; husbands Otha Eugene Parker of Odessa, I. V. Ferrell "Robbie" Robinson of Midland, and Loel Box of Pampa; and nephew Jim Aaron Sealy of Pampa, Texas.

She is survived by three children, daughter Gena Robinson Teer and husband, Jack Teer of Kerrville, daughter Jana Robinson of Killeen, and son Jay Robinson of Kerrville. "Naya", as she was so loving called, is also survived by two grandchildren, Justin D. Teer and wife, Jessica Teer of Austin, Texas, and Heather S. Teer and husband, Mark Odom of Rowlett, Texas, and four great-grandchildren Cole Sparks, Kayden Porter, Jacob Landa, and Felix Decker Teer.

A private burial will be held at Ellis RestHaven Memorial Cemetery in Midland, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the charity of your choice.

Arrangements are under the direction and personal care of the professionals at Kerrville Funeral Home (830) 895-5111.

Donna Kay Cole

February 22, 1945 - January 15, 2023

The family of Donna Kay Cole, announces the celebration of their beloved mother. mother-in-love. grandmother, and greatgrandmother. We will miss your prayer support, humor, warm heart, encouraging words, wisdom and loving generous spirit, but may you have a huge celebration with the Lord. Donna Kay passed away on Sunday, January 15, 2023, in Arlington, Texas, She was born February 22, 1945, in Stamford, Texas to Ralph Doyle Ross, Sr. and Kathryn Dowling Kinney Ross. She was a member of the Pure Praise Church in Granbury and was a member of the Prayer Team. Donna Kay was an Ordained Minister and was a Chaplain of the Prison Ministry, Bridges to Life. She supported the Samaritans Purse and the Jewish Ministries. She was very active in the Granbury Independent School District Board Meetings to help and protect the future of our children. She was also very involved in numerous Bible Studies, defended abused women and was an advocate for children. Donna Kay was a great supporter of the Conservative Republican

Party. Donna Kay was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, James "Joe"

Schuyler John Kuykendall

Schuyler John Kuykendall, 41, of Granbury Texas, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on January 17, 2023 after a year-long courageous battle against cancer.

Schuyler was born the fourth child of Joe and Linda Kuykendall Jr. in Fort Worth on June 19, 1981. After graduating from Granbury High School in 1999 (where he first met his future wife), he went on to graduate from A&M in 2003.

Schuyler married the love of his life, Jamie, June 10 of 2006 at Granbury First United Methodist, and they went on to have two extraordinary daugh ters, Addison Kate and Blakeley Bliss.



Cole, a brother, R.D. Ross, Jr., grandparents, John Henry Kinney and Sarah Purdy Kinney and by her mother-in-love, Lucille Cole.

She is survived by her son, Coby Nelson and wife Nancy; son, Guy Nelson; daughter, Nikki Quattlebaum and husband, J.D.; son, Gabe Cole and wife, Katrina; eight grandchildren, Katelyn, Kyle, Dakotah, Kevin, Katrina, Kurtis, Lee, and Ryan; eight greatgrandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews extended family and friends. A Celebration of Life

was held at 2 p.m. on Monday, January 23,2023, at Wiley Funeral Home Chapel in Granbury with Pastor Ronnie Allard officiating.

Visitation was from 1-2 p.m. Monday, January 23, 2023, prior to the Celebra-

Guy Mendel Meyer, 64, of Tye, TX passed away peacefully at home on January 15, 2023 due to Pancreatic Cancer. He was born in Glen Rose, TX to Max and Gayle Meyer. They made their home in Tolar, Texas.

Guy Mendel Meyer

"Mendel" to his friends and family loved going to school in Tolar and graduated in 1977. He later went to work at Comanche Peak Nuclear plant for Brown and Root Construction in the nuclear warehouse area. During this time he met and married Ginger Johnson and they made a home in Tolar. Once his job at the plant ended, Mendel and Ginger moved to Tye, Texas and made this their home where he learned a new trade as a mechanic.

Mendel had a servant's heart and over 30 plus years living in Tye stopped and help many people that had broken down or had a flat tire on the highway. You could say that Mendel never met a stranger. His

October 5, 2005 - January 18, 2023

Faith Meazell, of Granbury, passed away December 18, 2022 in Fort Worth, Texas. Faith was born to Rachel Ferguson

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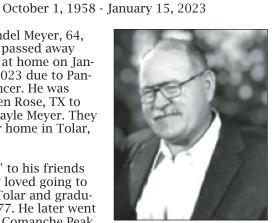
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hobbies included fishing, camping and hunting. He also studied and practiced reflexology, where he used his wife's salon to help people not be in pain.

Mendel is survived by his wife Ginger Meyer of Tye, mother Gayle Meyer Nye, brothers: Jay and wife Attice Meyer, Aaron and wife Terri Meyer, along with many nieces and nephews from Tolar, Texas.

Graveside service was held January 23, 2023 at Tye Cemetery. Services are under the direction of Starbuck Funeral Home.

Faith Meazell



SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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tion of Life.

June 19, 1981 - January 17, 2023

you may do so online when placing the obituary.

Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility handling the body or the church where service will be held. You must provide the contact info for verification when submitting the obituary.

The Hood County News deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Monday for the Wednesday paper, and 10 a.m. Wednesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.



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Schuyler went into a business partnership, Epic Lift Systems, that would transform the oilfield industry.

Schuyler was fearless and adventurous. He loved wakeboarding, surfing, boating, hiking, whistling, college football, ranching, fishing, hunting, traditional family totem poles, and traveling the world, making unique memories with his beautiful girls upon his shoulders.

He is proceeded in death by his father, Joe Kuyk-

band Phil Bitner, Ky Lan ham, and brother Kyle & wife Barbara Kuykendall, along with in-laws Stan & Suzan Watson, brother-inlaws Shelby & Scott. He is also loved by many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and innumerable lifelong friends. Schuyler was a lover of his people and his God, living his love in full color!

endall. Schuyler wished to

like his father, in hopes of saving future lives.

Survived by his wife

Jamie, daughters Addison

& Blakeley, mother Linda.

sisters: Michelle & hus-

donate his body to science,

His Celebration of Life was held at Acton Methodist Church on Sunday, January 22 at 3:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to be made to Anchor Fellowship Church, where Schuyler was a devoted member and servant.

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Guardbox Storage in Granbury, which is located at 1400 Weatherford Hwy., Granbury, TX 76048, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at www. Storagetreasures.com. The auction will end on or around 11:00 A.M. on February 09, 2023. 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: Sterlina Robertson- furniture, stroller, tools

Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

The Project includes the following Work:

Obtaining the Bidding Documents

The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Enprotec / Hibbs & Todd, Inc.

Project Engineer: Chris Hay, P.E. 1310 Weatherford Highway, Ste. 116

A pre-bid conference will not be held for this project.

to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Docu

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Pre-bid Conference

By: Title:

Instructions to Bidders.

This Advertisement is issued by

Richard English Title: General Manager Date: January 18, 2023

Owner: Acton Municipal Utility District

eral Notic

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

ACTON MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

GRANBURY, TEXAS

LIFT STATION #11 IMPROVEMENTS

Acton Municipal Utility District (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project

Lift Station #11 Improvements

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the AMUD Office located at 6420 Lusk Branch

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found at the following designated website

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to

register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan register which compared where a provide a provide provide provide provide a provide pr

Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will

be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the

Prospective Bidders may obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refe

Furnish and install duplex sewage lift station; approximately 40 LF 12" SDR-35 PVC gravity sewer

Improvements and the second se

Ct, Granbury, Texas 76049 until <u>Tuesday, February 14, 2023</u> at <u>10:00 a.m.</u> local time. At Bids received will be **publicly** opened and read.

Bids are requested for the following Contract: Lift Station #11 Impr

Public Notices

9031

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Joy Eileen Stilwell, Deceased, were issued on December 7, 2022, in Cause No. P09843, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Roger Dale Harrod.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: DeeAnn Strother Attorney at Law 11 North Main Street Cleburne, Texas 76033 DATED the 19th day of January 2023. /s/ DeeAnn Strother DeeAnn Strother State Bar No.: 24064328 11 North Main Street Cleburne, Texas 76033 Telephone: (817) 558-3177 Facsimile: (817) 665-3030 E-mail: efile@dstrotherlaw.com

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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITYTM



KiAndre Gaddy (15), a 6-6 junior forward with Tarleton State University, looks for an opening as he dribbles, flanked by teammates Rod Brown (0), a forward from Memphis, Tennessee, and Shamir Bogues (3), a guard from Killeen, during the Texans' 73-63 men's basketball victory over Chicago State University on Jan. 11.

Four score in double figures to lead Texans past Chicago State

Tarleton Sports Information

TEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State University's Texans remain undefeated at Wisdom Gym this season, capping off their non-conference schedule with a 73-63 win over Chicago State on Jan. 11.

With the win, the Texans finished non-conference play with a winning record for the first time since becoming an NCAA Division I program. "Great win for us," head coach Billy Gillispie said. "Chicago State is a good team, has played against very good teams and had real chances

against them." Tarleton (9-8, 2-2 WAC) got off to a hot start against Chicago State (4-15), picking up the first 10 points of the game. The Texans held the Cougars scoreless over the first three minutes of play and quickly built a 15-3 lead. The Texans' defensive pres-

4.35 %

sure to start the game put a drain on the Cougars' ability to score. Chicago State didn't pick up its 10th point until 10 minutes had passed. The Cougars shot 8-of-26 (.308) from the field in the first half, including 3-of-12 (.250) from beyond the arc.

The Texans built their lead to as high as 17 points before a minor run by the Cougars finished the half with Tarleton leading 37-24.

"Our swarming defense created by our ever-present effort made them not look great in the first half," Gillispie added.

Tarleton returned to the

court with the same intensity it began the game with, starting with an 11-4 run over the first five minutes which grew the lead to 20 points.

"We played extremely hard and were very efficient on both ends - that was the real story of the game," Gillispie said.

The teams traded buckets for a large portion of the second half as Tarleton maintained a 20-point lead. As the Texans earned their largest lead of the game at 58-36, the Cougars responded with a 14-2 run comprised of four consecutive three-pointers. With the shift in momentum, the Cougars were nine points behind with only one minute remaining in the game. The Texans' physicality in the paint earned four trips to the charity stripe, wiping any sort of momentum the Cougars had.

"It makes you proud as a coach that no matter what challenges you face, these guys always give their all," Gillispie said.

Tarleton was led in scoring by KiAndre Gaddy with 15 points (5-7 FG), tying his season-high performance against Huston-Tillotson in December. He also grabbed seven boards and blocked

three shots, including the last shot of the game by the Cougars, to put a stamp on the commanding Texan victory.

The Fireside District Plaver of the Game, Shamir Bogues, picked up 13 points (6-9 FG), a team-high eight rebounds and three assists. Texans Lue Williams and Shakur Daniel also picked up 13 points for the game with Daniel securing seven rebounds, all on the defensive side.

Noah McDavid picked up six points and Javontae Hopkins earned five points with two rebounds.

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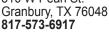
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TSU women top UTRGV to snap skid, earn first conference win

Tarleton Sports Information

TEPHENVILLE - Tarleton State University's women's basketball squad had been in a winter freeze offensively during a six-game losing streak, but their Jan. 12 showing was much more familiar, and much needed to get the Texans' season back on track.

The Texans (7-9, 1-4 WAC) took down the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (7-8, 1-3) 70-60 at Wisdom Gym in a complete team effort, clicking offensively and shutting down the Vaqueros late for their first conference victory of the year. Tarleton improved to 6-1 in Stephenville this year, and has now split the all-time series against UTRGV, 3-3.

The Texans had their best shooting performance since Dec. 19 and their most lethal threat from outside since Dec. 6, making 22-of-51 (.431) from the field and 9-of-22 (.409) from distance. They shot at a 17-of-19 (.895) clip from the free throw line, their second-most efficient night from the stripe on the year.

Teresa Da Silva scored her fifth 20-plus point scoring game of the season and her first since Dec. 6, racking up 21 points on 5-of-10 shooting from deep, six rebounds, three assists and a blocked shot. Her five 20-plus point games are tied for the second most such games in the WAC this year, and she's back in the top-five in scoring in the conference at 15.0 points per game.

Mayra Caicedo tied her season-high in assists with six, adding 14 points (7-8 FT) and three rebounds. Elise Turrubiates had a game-high nine rebounds off the bench, also recording 12 points on 6-of-8 shooting, plus three steals in 22 minutes. Jenna Dick scored 10 points with two three-point makes.

The start of games had been troublesome for the Texans recently, so head coach Misty Wilson changed up the starting group, inserting Mason Jones and Starr Omozee. It paid dividends, presenting a better flow to the offense that kept Tarleton step-for-step with an early good-shooting UTRGV squad. The main culprit for the Vaqueros was Tarleton's former guard Iyana Dorsey had played 50 career games in the purple and white over the past two years. She nailed her first two three-point shots over the first 90 seconds and had seven points in the opening quarter. Six different Texans scored in the first quarter, which ended with UTRGV up by one, 15-14.

In the second quarter, Tarleton hit a brief cold spell that helped UTRGV take their largest lead of the game, up

five at 26-21 midway through. Da Silva buried a three to snap Tarleton out of it, and Dick closed the half with a deep shot with just two ticks remaining to put the Texans in front at the break 28-27.

With 22 points in the third, Tarleton had its highest scoring quarter since Dec. 31. The Texans maintained a healthy lead nearly the entire 10 minutes, but sent the Vaqueros to the free throw line 11 times, so the result was a nail biter with Tarleton leading 50-46 headed to the fourth.

Dick opened the final frame with a three-pointer, but UTRGV answered with six straight to get within one. Then Da Silva, Turrubiates and Caicedo led Tarleton on a 11-0 run to a 12-point lead, not allowing a point for four minutes. That was essentially the game, thanks to a strong night at the line by Tarleton to ice it.

Dorsey finished with 15 points (3-7 3PT) and two rebounds in 26 minutes. Mele Kailahi had 12 points on 6-of-11 shooting, two rebounds, two assists and two steals. Deborah Ogayemi finished with eight points, eight rebounds, and three steals, but also had eight turnovers.

Tarleton avoided trouble despite being outrebounded 41-30 by scoring 21 points off of 16 forced turnovers, while allowing just three points off of their 13 giveaways. They also forced the Vaqueros to shoot just 23-of-60 (.383) from the field, including 5-of-21 (.238) from beyond the three-point line.

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GHS boys win 10th straight district swim title

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

he Granbury Pirates came home with the District 5-5A championship on Friday, Jan. 20, while the girls finished third at the Northwest ISD Aquatic Center. Granbury was also the combined district champion when the scores were added together.

For the boys, it was a 10th consecutive district championship.

In all, Granbury qualified 26 swimmers for the Region 2 Meet, which will be held at Debbie Weems Natatorium in Mansfield Feb. 3-4. Qualifiers from there will advance to state in Austin Feb. 17-18.

"The swimmers came out really firing on all cylinders. The boys really look to have a strong chance to win their first regional team championship," Granbury coach Charles Overton said. "The girls had a really great meet too and look to be a top team in our region as well.

"We had a huge amount of season-best swims and a ton of personal-best swims. All the hard work and early morning practices really started to pay off. With so many great races, both our boys and girls teams are set up to see a lot of success at the next level in our playoffs. We are very excited to see what the rest of the season has in store for our team."

Junior Braxton Heffernan won district championships in the 50-yard as part of the 200 free relay (with seniors Tyler Guidry, Jordan Buchanan and Ryan Solisz). Sophomore Mylie Erezo won district in the 100yard freestyle for the Lady Pirates.

Also qualifying for regionals were seniors Preston Beauchamp, Tessa Fox, Tyler McDermott and Will Power; juniors Luke Basil, Noah Brown, Bodie Chastain, Brenna Haynes, Hunter Jones, Colin Lindsey and Kensington Loving; sophomores Madison Erezo, Eva Huckaby, Michael Kracy, Grace Larsen, Lee Stuart and Avery Young; and freshmen Remi Chastain, Bailey McDermott, Ella Redwine and Cameron Ward.

TOP GIRLS RESULTS FOR GRANBURY

Relays

200 medley: 3. Mylie Erezo, Larsen, Young, Haynes. 200 freestyle: 2. Loving,

Chastain, Young, Ma. Erezo. 400 freestyle: 2. My. Erezo, Haynes, Young, Larsen

Individual

200 freestyle: 3. McDermott, 4. Haynes, 5. Ma.Erezo, 6. Fox. 200 individual medley: 3. Larsen, 5. Huckaby. 50 freestyle: 3. My Erezo, 6. Haynes. 100 butterfly: 4. Young. 100 freestyle: 1. Myl Erezo, 4. Chastain.

500 freestyle: 4. Fox, 6. McDermott. 100 breaststroke: 2.

Larsen, 5. Redwine.

TOP BOYS RESULTS FOR GRANBURY

Relays 200 medley: 2. Solisz, McDermott, Lindsey, Heffernan. 200 freestyle: 1.-Guidry, Heffernan, Buchanan, Solisz.

400 freestyle: 2. Guidry, Beauchamp, Solisz, Buchanan.

Individual

200 freestyle: 2. Stuart, 3. Brown, 6. Kracy. 200 IM: 2. Buchanan, 3. Beauchamp, 4. Ward. 50 freestyle: 1. Heffernan, 3. Guidry, 4. Jones, 5. Lindsey.

100 butterfly: 3. Power, 4. Buchanan, 5. Lindsey. 100 freestyle: 2. Solisz, 5.

Guidry, 6. Jones. 500 freestyle: 3. Stuart, 5. Power, 6. Kracy. 100 backstroke: 2. Basil, 6. Ward.

100 breaststroke: 4. Chastain, 6. McDermott.

GRANBURY GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Pirates (19-10 overall, 5-3 in District 5-5A) went 1-1 on the week, falling at District 5-5A-leading Brewer 64-32 on Jan. 17 and winning 56-50 against Azle at home on Jan. 20.

Leading against Brewer were Ella Hamlin with 16 points, four rebounds, three assists and four steals. Kate Hamlin grabbed five rebounds and Alexa Mueller had four steals.

Hamlin bucketed 30 points with eight rebounds and eight steals against Azle, while Ella Garner added seven points with five assists and three steals.

The Lady Pirates entered this week tied for second in district with Northwest, two games behind Brewer.

The Lady Pirates and Pirates are at Wichita Falls Rider Friday, Jan. 27, with a 6:15 p.m. tipoff for the girls and 7:30 p.m. for the boys.

The Granbury JV defeated Brewer 40-18 and Azle 38-17. The freshmen won 59-14 and 40-11.

GRANBURY BOYS BASKETBALL

The Pirates' (14-10, 3-3 in 5-5A) week began with a 50-28 loss at Brewer on Jan. 17, their third straight, with Kensington Colston scoring 13 points. They bounced back with a 51-37 win over Azle on Jan. 20.

"We basically got overwhelmed by their half-court defense," Pirates coach David Breazeale said of the loss to Brewer.

True Hughes led against Azle with 16, while Dylan Couto and Kahai Scott



scored 11.

"Kind of a must win. We guarded well, but defensively rebounded great," Breazeale said. "True Hughes had a career best game on both ends of the floor. Proud of these guys' response after the three losses."

The Pirates JV also defeated Azle 51-36.

GRANBURY BOYS SOCCER

The Pirates got their first win of the season on Senior Night with seniors scoring all three goals in a 3-2 win over visiting Fort Worth Poly on Jan. 17. Gabe Moore, Brack Peacock and Ricky Rios found the net with a pair of assists from Weston Cantrell and another from Josh Garcia. It was Granbury's first

home action since a scrimmage in mid-December. "I think that definitely

gave us a boost we were looking for," first-year head coach Drew McKinnie said. "The boys came out with a desire to win from the start and it showed in our play."

In the Mustang Cup tournament in Grapevine, the Pirates lost 4-0 to Celina and 5-0 to Palestine, sandwiched around a 1-1 tie with Nolan Catholic. Peacock had the goal and Jax Timmons had the assist.

GRANBURY GIRLS SOCCER

Despite a strong defense, the Lady Pirates fell to 3-5 as they wrapped up pre-district play with a 1-0 loss at Weatherford on Jan. 17. The Pirates and Lady Pirates travel to Azle Friday, Jan. 27, to start 5-5A

Pirates travel to Azle Friday, Jan. 27, to start 5-5A play with a 5 p.m. start for the girls and 7 p.m. for the boys.

The JV girls Purple

won the championship of the Heights and Hills Tournament. They defeated North Side 3-0, Everyman 4-0, Poly 7-0 and Richland 2-1.

TOLAR BOYS BASKETBALL

The Rattlers (21-6, 5-1 in District 11-2A) bounced back from their first district loss at rival Lipan by swatting Santo 89-29 on the road on Jan. 17. Merritt Imel led the Rattlers with 25 points, while Matthew Behrens added 23.

That was followed with a 72-15 home win over Hico on Jan. 20. Isaac Blessing led the scoring with 18 points, followed by Imel with 14 and Behrens and Reis Brown with 13 each.

The Rattlers and Lady Rattlers travel to Ranger on Friday, Jan. 27. The girls tip off at 6:15 p.m. and the boys start at 7:30 p.m.

TOLAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Rattlers (10-15, 5-3 in 11-2A) got a thrilling 35-32 overtime win at Santo on Jan. 17 as Semme Imel scored 21 points and grabbed 17 rebounds. Trinity Rosseau added eight points.

On Jan. 20, Tolar dropped visiting Hico 23-15 as Imel scored nine points with six rebounds and seven steals. Emma Jackson and Callan Nix each had five rebounds and Rousseau had five steals.

LIPAN BOYS BASKETBALL

The Indians (23-1, 6-0 in 11-2A) won 90-23 at home over Ranger on Jan. 17 and 73-24 at DeLeon on Jan. 20. Against Ranger, the

Indians hit 76% of their shots from two-point range (20-of-26) and 15 of 38 three-point attempts, while dominating rebounds 46-22, including 19 offensive boards. Lipan had five play-

Lipan had five players score in double digits against Ranger, Garrett Smith with 28 points; Korey Massie, 17 points, seven rebounds, eight assists; Cole Reynolds, 13 points, five assists, three steals; Tyson Tarpley, 10 points, five rebounds; Beau Broumley, 10 points; Reese Cooke, five rebounds; Tate Branson, five assists.

Against DeLeon, Smith led with 18 points, while Tripp Phillips and Darius Steed each added 13.

The Indians and Lady Indians travel to Santo on Jan. 31. Girls begin play at 6:15 p.m. and boys tip off at 7:45 p.m.

LIPAN GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Indians (24-2, 8-0 11-2A) won 82-21 at home over Ranger on Jan. 17, followed by a 56-11 victory at DeLeon on Jan. 20.

Against DeLeon, Lipan shot 66% (23-of-35) from the field and 64% (9-of-14) on three-pointers.

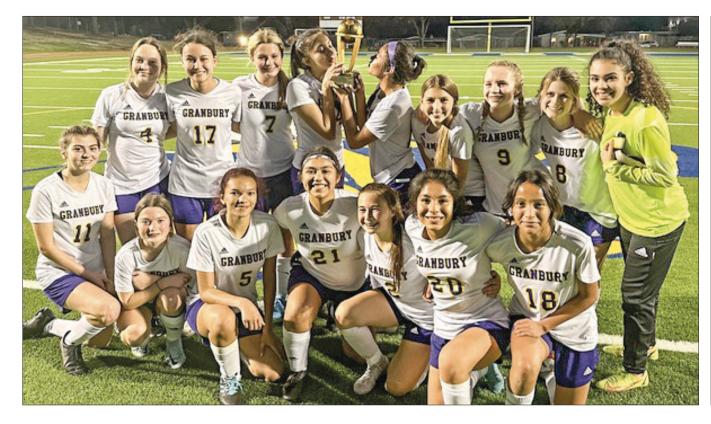
Lipan leaders against Ranger were Trinity Benitez, 19 points; Taylor Branson, 13 points, three steals; Chelsea Lott, 10 points; Lynsey Little, five rebounds, four assists, three steals; and Hanna Gaylor, five steals.

Gaylor scored 13 and Lott tallied 11 against DeLeon, while Madison Harrison delivered four assists.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRANBURY ISD











MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Crystal Douglass, left, was crowned the winner of the Voice of Granbury competition on Thursday, Jan. 19. Crystal McCraw, middle, earned second place, while Shayla Nuttall, far right, came in third.

Females dominate in Voice of Granbury competition

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

trong vocals and showstopping performances were at the height of the fifth annual Voice of Granbury competition last Thursday, with the women dominating the majority of the final rounds.

With renditions of songs by Aretha Franklin, Guns & Roses, and Fugees, the female competitors proved they deserved a little "Respect," after their performances that night.

After three rounds of voting by the audience members, the top Granbury. three performers were selected: Shayla Nuttall in third, Crystal McCraw in second, and Crystal "amazing.' Douglass in first.

just learned from them."

Now, at 14, Nuttall is an eighth grader at Aledo Middle School and has been utilizing her singing talent ever since. She even landed the role of Brigitta in "The Sound of Music" at The Opera House in

This was her second time competing in The Voice of Granbury, and Nuttall described it as

pretty amazing that a lot of people voted for me and supported me,' she said.

Her favorite part about the night, she said, was having her family and friends there to support her — the latter of whom were described as her "fan club" during the night by announcer David Youker.

As for her future, Nuttall plans to start writing her own music and perform with her ukelele.

She will also be participating in an open mic event in Mansfield this week.

'We will keep Levi's memory alive' Brawner Elementary dedicates playground bench in honor of beloved student

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

The Brawner Elementary School playground was packed Friday afternoon as Brawner staff and students gathered to honor the memory of 9-year-old Levi Shaw, who passed away last August.

"You always knew Levi was coming or going by the way he walked," said Brawner Principal Jincy Ross during the memorial. "He was always on his toes and always in a hurry to get to the next big thing. He always had a story to tell that could make us laugh."

Ross then addressed Levi's mother, Camie Rose Shaw, and brother, Cody, who is a kindergartener at Brawner.

"Cody and Camie know that we will keep Levi's memory alive here at Brawner and you can count on that," Ross added.

As a way of honoring Levi, a new "Buddy Bench" was installed at the playground. The bench features two silhouettes of children playing and is painted in green, which was Levi's favorite color. The plaque on the bench reads "In Loving Memory of Levi Shaw, Forever in Our Hearts."

According to pollyproducts.com, Buddy Benches were invented to combat loneliness and bullying in schools. Sometimes called a 'friendship bench,' these benches are provided on school playgrounds as a way for students to signal to others that they are feeling lonely, isolated, and need a friend to play with or someone to talk to. The bench allows other children on the playground to clearly see when another kid needs support or a friend, and they can join them on the bench for a chat or invite them to play.

The idea for the "Buddy Bench" came from two of Levi's closest friends.

"They said, 'We really want something on the playground for Levi because that was his favorite thing — he loved the playground, and he

loved to play,'" said Sandy Ruiz, assistant principal at Brawner. "I let them pick out everything. We saw it online, and of course, it looked amazing, but when it came in, we were like, 'Oh my gosh, it looks so much better,' because if you look at one of the little boys, it looks just like Levi." During the memorial, Levi's former teachers spoke about his kindness and his love for video games and doughnuts.

SHAYLA NUTTALL

Originally from Keller, Shayla Nuttall began taking voice lessons at only eight years old, as she was inspired by her older sister, Abigail.

"I always would listen to her sing," Nuttall said, on her 21-yearold sister. "Ever since I heard her sing, I was like, 'Oh my gosh, she's so amazing,' and my mom would also sing to me, like all the time; I

"All the people were really nice to me," she said. "As soon as I got off the stage there, they all were really supportive of me. I didn't really care about the voting; I just like performing for people."

Although she didn't care if she won or lost, Nuttall was still "really happy" when she found out she made it to the top three in the competition.

"I didn't think I would get that far, and so I thought that was

CRYSTAL MCCRAW

Originally from Annapolis, Maryland, Crystal McCraw moved to Granbury in 2001.

She first fell in love with singing as a young girl when she watched her mother sing with her band.

"I knew she was in a band, but I just had never seen her actually perform," she said. "And then I saw her perform, and I was like, 'She's Whitney Houston.' I couldn't differentiate that she

PLEASE SEE **VOICE** | B2

"I always remember his kind heart PLEASE SEE LEVI | B5

Granbury City Park now has a pickleball cou

The new pickleball court at Granbury City Park is on North Park Drive next to the Dana Vollmer Municipal Swim Center.

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

The city of Granbury recently created a special event, to be scheduled periodically, called "I'd Like to Speak to the Manager, Please."

Last week, the city proved

it has been listening. Because of a desire expressed by several people to City Manager Chris Coffman, the city now has a pickleball court. Parks and Recreation

Department staff have added pickleball court lines and a portable pickleball

net to the basketball court on North Park Drive next to the Dana Vollmer Municipal Swim Center, according to **Communications Manager** Jeff Newpher.

After learning that a pickleball court topped the wish list of some local citizens, the city located a suitable

space and purchased a portable net.

The basketball/pickleball multi-use court is available for use from dusk to dawn on a first-come, first-served basis. It cannot be reserved. Basketball players will simply need to roll the pickleball net to the side of the basket-

According to USA Pickleball, pickleball is one

their game.

of the fastest growing sports in the nation. It combines elements of tennis, badminton and ping-pong.

ball court before beginning

Until the city created a court, the only other places

County YMCA and the Pecan Plantation Activity Center.

COURTESY OF CITY OF GRANBURY

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to play locally were the Hood



The audience reacts to the announcement of the top three contestants for the Voice of Granbury 2023.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

VOICE FROM PAGE B1

was my mom in a band and not Whitney Houston, so I wanted to be like my mom."

McCraw's mother performed Top 40 songs, meaning songs that were popular in the early 90s and late 80s. Her dad played the bass guitar in the band, while her mom was the singer and sometimes the guitarist.

Her parents weren't the only musical influences in her life, though.

"When I was younger, it would have probably been Bette Midler, Cher, and Tina Turner, and then



She said her favorite part of the night was realizing that the top three were all girls.

"We almost had it completely wiped in the second round, but Chad was still in it, so we were kind of all just holding our breath to see if a girl would take it this year," McCraw said.

She recommends that if anyone is ever invited to participate in the Voice of Granbury competition, to "100% do it."

"It was quite the experience and I'm glad that Tammy Hickey contacted Kiwanis and suggested that I be part of it. I am grateful," she said.

When she is not singing, McCraw stays busy working as a hairstylist — something she has done for the past 17 years. She runs her own hair salon, Hair by Crystal. She is also a wife to her best friend, Joe, and mother of two boys: Oryon, 16, and Cyrus, 12. with her; that was my favorite part of the night."

Douglass, who works as a sales executive at the Granbury Conference Center, said her musical influences are Norah Jones and Tracy Chapman.

"(I like) anything that has a bluesy sound to it, and anything that just gets my heart into it. I sing everything. If it's on the radio, I start singing to it. I might not know all the words, but I'll figure it out," she said, laughing.

This was Douglass' third time competing in The Voice of Granbury, but this year, she was a last-minute contestant.

"It's really kind of funny how it happened this time," she explained. "Kiwanis asked me to come speak at one of their luncheons about Granbury Young Professionals, and while I was there at the lunch, Matt (Mills) was sitting right across from me and he goes 'Hey, do you want to sing at intermission at The Voice?' I was like, 'Yeah, let me just check my schedule,' and not even five minutes later, he was like, 'Hey, do you want to be a contestant?' It was super short notice, so I just picked songs that I've karaoked 1,000 times." Douglass has tried out for both "American Idol" and "The Voice," but was looking to snag "The Voice" title on a local level. "I didn't expect to win at all," she said. "I just got up there and had some fun. I really just looked at it as karaoke on the big stage."



Shayla Nuttall shows off her love for musicals in the song "Wake Up" from "Julie and the Phantoms," during the Voice of Granbury.

During the Voice of Granbury competition, Crystal Douglass wowed the crowd with her rendition of "Don't Know Why" by Norah Jones.

as I got older, it kind of just expanded," she explained. "I like all voices, anywhere from Joss Stone to Creedence Clearwater Revival to Jewel. It kind of goes all over the place now."

McCraw also competed in the Voice of Granbury Audition Night event. She said both times, the experiences were "super fulfilling."

"I tried to just go into it like, 'It doesn't matter if I win or lose; this is for charity. This isn't about me winning. I'm not gaining anything except raising money for these kids," she said. "As long as you can keep your head in that kind of space, then it comes out to be a super cool experience."

CRYSTAL DOUGLASS

Crystal Douglass, 32, is a Granbury native who has spent over 20 years visiting, living, graduating, and building both her career and family in the town that has built her.

She has always had a passion for theater. She performed in "Steel Magnolias" and "I Hate Hamlet" when she attended Granbury High School.

"My entire senior year, we did 'I Hate Hamlet,' and I was this spicy New York realtor," she said. "I had to do the accent and everything, and that was probably one of my funnest times to be on stage."

Granbury residents might recognize Douglass from her years of singing Patsy Cline at Babe's when the restaurant first opened.

"My mom is a singer herself," Douglass said. "So, I think it just kind of went down on the bloodline. It's following true to the story too, because my daughter absolutely loves to sing."

Her daughter, Adelynn, will be five on Feb. 5, and Douglass added she was glad she was finally able to wave to Adelynn during her performance on Jan. 19.

"She has been so mad at me since the last Voice of Granbury because I didn't wave at her," she said, chuckling. "Every time we pass the square, she points out Granbury Live and she's like 'Hey mom, remember when you were there, and I was waving at you, and you didn't wave.' She says it to me every time, so I told her 'If I ever make it back up onstage, I will wave to you, I promise.' So, I finally got to get out of the doghouse She said it was "great to snag 'The Voice' title" while her mom was there supporting her.

"I made my mama very proud last night, so that was definitely all for her too," she added.

Douglass said her favorite part of the night was the "energy behind the stage with all of the contestants."

"Everybody is so supportive of one another," she said. "The camaraderie that you get to have with other artists is just a really great time. It's just a fun night in general just to kind of hang out and do something that you love."

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Crystal McCraw belts out a high note during her rendition of "Respect" by Aretha Frankling during the Voice of Granbury competition on Jan. 19.

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I'VE BEEN THINKING *Look! Up in the sky! Over time, our perspective changes — even on the stars*

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.

📘 tar light, star bright, first star I've seen tonight. I wish I may, I wish I might have the wish I wish tonight." A little rhyme from childhood that has lingered in many of us through adulthood.

It was most likely one of the first little poems we learned as children. As we began our first faltering steps as infants, we glued our eyes to the ground as we attempted to coordinate vision and walking. We scanned the earth for stones to snatch, roots to step over, and ants to catch.

But somewhere along the way, we became aware of a broader dimension to our world, and we began looking around. We first saw

things nearby. But one night, something magical happened. Our eyes wandered heavenward, and we were astonished at what we beheld. As we peered into the darkness above us, we were overwhelmed by the beauty that quietly awaited someone's notice in the darkness on high. From that blackness came twinkles, sparkles, flickers, and blinks that magically popped from the drab celestial overhead.

It was probably on this day

(or rather, night) of our life that we first heard that familiar little poem but did not know its full meaning. All we knew was that we were watching something wonderful and different from anything we had ever seen in the daylight. The quietness made the wonder seem even more magical. Perhaps we thought if we reached high enough, we could touch one of those glimmering little specks. After all, they couldn't be very large. They were simply a tiny little speck in that big, big sky!

Then we started attending school and learned all that scientific stuff about stars - that they are huge balls of fire glowing gas in the sky. Then we wondered how they could be so huge, yet appear so small. Then we learned it was because they were so far awav.

There is part of a song that occasionally dances its way through my mind. I don't recall the song title or artist, but it tells us to "Catch a falling star and put it in your

pocket. Save it for a rainy day. Catch a falling star and never let it fade away. No matter what ...". I don't recall the rest of it, but it was a catchy little tune that had a way of lifting one's spirits on a dreary day. Again, the magic of stars! If any of my readers can complete that last phrase, I would appreciate hearing from you.

A young lady whom I have known since the day she was born was once asked to write a personal piece of writing for a university science class. She is a very important part of my life, shares my last name, and lives with me in our home. Her writing is as good as her mother's, but she is too busy teaching math to students these days to do much writing. Yes, she permits her students to use a calculator – "the one between your ears that God gave you." I would like to share her science class writing project with you now.

cgheizer@gmail.com

STARS

I've heard what they say: Stars are nothing more than immense balls of gas and dust. They shimmer for a while and then they are gone as the gas slowly burns to extinction. Stars are what we see after the sun goes to sleep and the moon comes out to play. But when I look up, I see ... CHANDELIERS hanging in a majestic ballroom. lighting the way for the planets as they dance in their orbits. **CAMPFIRES** of the ones gone on before. GUIDES which lead you safely home when you seem to lose your way. LULLABY CHARACTERS peering mysteriously down from the sky. Stars link two hearts torn apart by the miles. Stars are God's way of reminding me He is always near. But the most beautiful of all: Stars are the sparkle in a baby's eyes who will one day exclaim, "Daddy ... fireflies!"

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.

THURSDAY, JAN. 26

MOBILE PANTRY fourth Thursday through Tarrant Area Food Bank. 5 - 7 p.m. **Rancho Brazos Community** Center, 3701 Sundown Trail.

FEBRUARY THURSDAY, FEB. 2 LAKE GRANBURY Newcomers Club will meet at DeCordova Bend Country Club, 5301 Country Club Drive, to hear inspirational speaker, author, and voice-over actor Patti Foster. Patti is a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) survivor. She suffered her TBI in a horrific car crash and sustained multiple injuries and fractures. Patti is an advocate of brain injury and serves on several councils and education awareness committees and speaks often as a speaker for Mothers Against Drunk Drivers. Cost \$22 includes

lunch and program. Social hour 9:00am, meeting begins at 10:15am. R.S.V.P. by emailing lgnc.reservations@gmail. com or calling 682-719-3343. Reservation required by noon on Friday, Jan. 27.

MELODY BELLES singers of Granbury, women's choral group, is having its first rehearsal of the spring concert season. Looking for new members who love to sing! Rehearsals every Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, February through April, at First Presbyterian Church Memo-

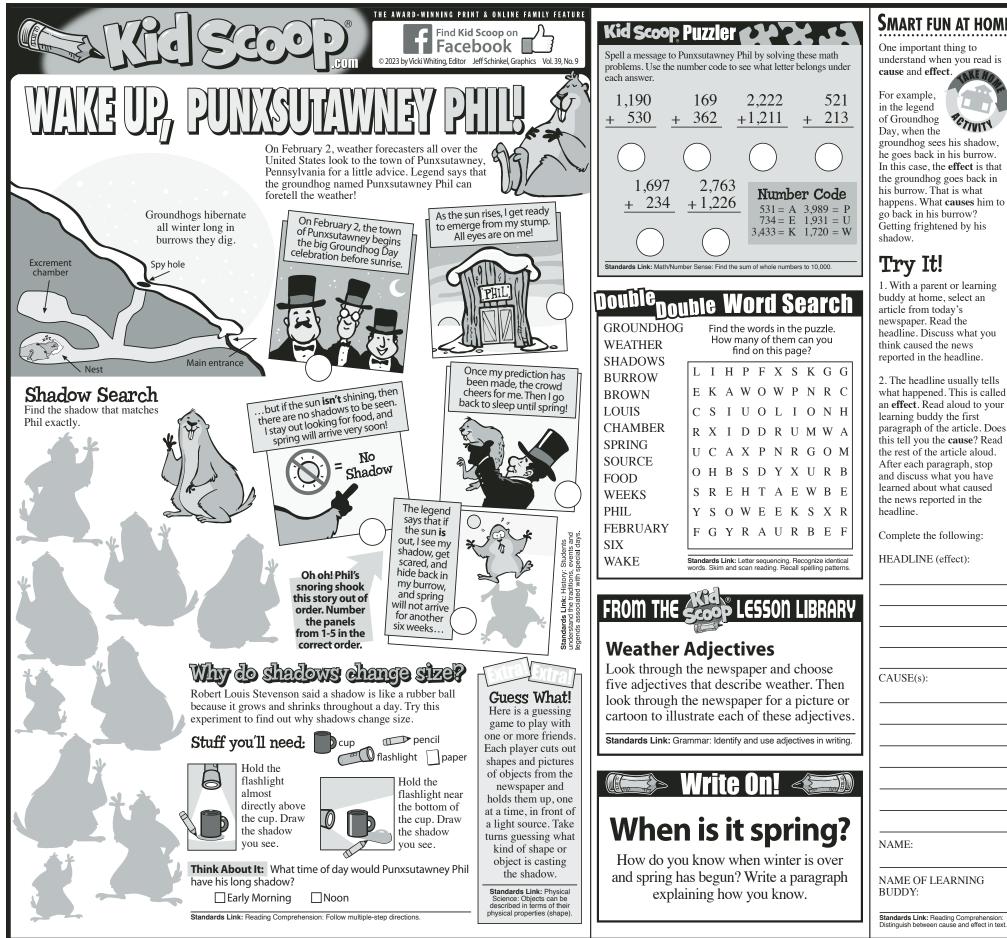
rial Hall, 301 W. Bridge Street. Concerts performed at various venues during first two weeks of May. For more information, call 817-999-1364.

TUESDAY, FEB.7

OPERA GUILD of Granbury monthly meeting/luncheon will be held at deCordova Country Club. 5301 Country Club Dr. Social/Check-in 10:30a.m. Entertainment/ Meeting 11:00 a.m. Sonny Morgan - International award-winning singer/

songwriter - 12:00 Noon Buffet Lunch Optional (\$18) No lunch, \$5.00 includes water, coffee, or tea. Reservations required no later than February 3rd, contact granburyog@gmail.com or 817-776-2898 General Membership, single \$25.00 joint \$35.00 Business Membership \$35.00. The guild is an all-volunteer organization whose mission is to support the Granbury Opera House and its allied arts.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | B7





WEDNESDAY, Jan. 25, 2023

Hood County SCENE YOUR GUIDE TO DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

COMING SOON... *Cinergy to offer unlimited movies, popcorn refills Jan. 28*

BY ASHLEY INGE

Staff Writer

hose who have devoted countless hours to Netflix binging will enjoy Cinergy Entertainment's newest promotion — the Box Office Binge.

For the first time ever, Cinergy Cinemas in Granbury will be offering its Elite Rewards Members a chance to watch as many movies as possible on Saturday, Jan. 28, with the purchase of a \$15 ticket.

Becoming an Elite Rewards Member is free, and only takes five minutes to sign up online.

Box Office Bingers will receive unlimited free popcorn refills during the day, as well as a chance to see five of the theater's current showings: "Avatar: The Way of Water," "A Man Called Otto," "Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist," "Puss in Boots: The Last Wish," and "Missing."

Two movies that are still tentative as being part of the lineup are "M3GAN," and "Plane."

"We don't have the entire calendar laid out because it kind of depends on what goes well the week before," said Jeff Benson, Cinergy Founder and CEO. "Of course, 'Avatar' is, I believe, the biggest box office grossing movie, short of 'Top Gun,' so we got the best movie we could possibly have with 'Avatar,' and of course, 'A Man Called Otto,' that's got Tom Hanks in it. 'Puss in Boots,' my youngest son went and saw it this weekend and he loved it. 'Plane' over performed last week. 'M3GAN' is a horror movie, and it overperformed the week before last when it opened up, so the movie selection is not bad for the end of January and it's hellaciously good when you think for one price, you can go watch them all."

for lunch or dinner during the promotion on Saturday, they will be allowed reentry upon showing their ticket confirmation and wristband.

Benson noted that the decision to host the Box Office Binge promotion was a way for Cinergy Entertainment to give back to — and "do right by" the community that has supported its business since the beginning.

Cinergy Entertainment is a privately, family-owned and operated company by Benson and his wife, Jamie. They started in the exhibition industry by constructing two traditional cinemas in 1999 before founding the Movie Tavern chain of dinein theaters in 2001.

In 2005, the Bensons recapitalized the company by entering into a joint venture that allowed Movie Tavern to become the largest and fastest-growing operator of dine-in theaters in the United States. The Bensons sold their interest in Movie Tavern in 2008. At the time of the sale, Movie Tavern operated 98 screens in 12 complexes in five states.

Cinergy Entertainment was founded just one year later in Granbury and has now expanded to eight additional locations: Charlotte, North Carolina; Tulsa, Oklahoma; Wheeling, Illinois; and the Texas cities of Amarillo, Copperas Cove, Marble Falls, Midland, and Odessa. "We started in Granbury," Benson said. "That was my first theater back in 1999. We leased it for about 10 years to ShowBiz Cinemas and then we took it — with more coming soon.

The Box Office Binge promotion will be held at all Cinergy locations and is only the second promotion that the company has held lately, including the \$3 movie day held in September by the National Association of

to sign up online. You can sign up at www.cinergy.com/elite-rewards or by scanning the QR code.

ing that people may see four or five movies in a day."

POPCOIN

Cinergy Cinemas in Granbury will be offering its Elite Rewards Members a chance to watch as many movies as possible on

Saturday, Jan. 28, with the purchase of a \$15 ticket. Becoming an Elite Rewards Member is free, and only takes five minutes

Benson said if this promotion shows a good response from the community, he "wouldn't be against" holding it again next spring as another gift to Granbury residents. "We have deep, long ties to Granbury, all the way back to 1988 when my parents bought a lake house," he said. "My brother has been on the volunteer fire department for 20 years. My parents live at that house now full-time. We love Granbury; it's a great

place, and it got us started all those years ago. It spawned the whole Movie Tavern thing and that spawned Cinergy, so honestly, it all revolves back around Granbury."

STOCK PHOTO COURTESY OF ENVATO.COM

To utilize the Box Office Binge promotion, go online to cinergy.com/ signup to become an Elite Rewards Member. Benson added, "Just come in, enjoy the recliners, sit back, and watch as many movies as you can cram into a day."

If attendees would like to leave the theater during the day

Center in the World and as such, is the recognized leading operator of luxury cinema entertainment centers, according to cinergy.com. The company currently operates 75 screens, 42 lanes of bowling, 24 ax throwing lanes, and more than 400 arcade games in eight locations

over right during the

pandemic, remodeled it

and put in the recliners.

Granbury has been great

to us for 23 years now."

was crowned the 2019

International Association

of Amusement Parks and

Attractions winner for the

Top Family Entertainment

Cinergy Entertainment

Theaters.

"We participated where you could see as many first-run movies as you wanted for \$3 apiece," Benson said. "We wanted to play off that a little bit, but we wanted to do our own thing, so we decided to do unlimited movies for a higher price know-

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

Acton trail run to benefit youth camp scholarship fund

From Staff Reports

The fourth annual Camp Classic Trail Run fundraising event is returning to Camp Fire Camp El Tesoro in Acton, 7710 Fall Creek Highway, on Saturday, Jan.

20

Featuring a 10K, 5K, and kids' 1K fun run, the Camp Classic Trail Run event will be raising money for the Camp El Tesoro scholarship fund to assist children or teens who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend summer camp.

The trail run will lead runners and walkers through a beautifully diverse course that traverses the natural landscape of Camp El Tesoro. From woods to prairies and even creek-side paths, participants in the Camp Classic Trail Run will experience everything El Tesoro has to offer.

The trail run will kick off at 8 a.m. with the kids' 1K fun run event, followed by the 5K and 10K races at 9 a.m., and the awards ceremony at 11 a.m., held at Revolver Brewing, 5650 Matlock Road. Runners over age 21 will

be treated to a Revolver glass and their choice of specialty brews on tap. Handmade custom awards will be given to:

- Overall 5K: Male/female
- Overall 10K: Male/female
 Master (age 40 and up):
- Male/female









207 NE Big Bend Trail / Glen Rose, TX / 254.269.0344 Groundedcs.com 🗰 Mon-Sat 6am to 8pm

LEVI FROM PAGE B1

and wanting to help and be a friend to everyone," said Lesha Coker, Levi's kindergarten teacher. "Levi always came to school with a smile and a 'good morning Mrs. Coker.' He loved to be my helper, even if it was just taking something to the teacher next door. Levi will continue to live in our hearts. We loved him, and he loved us. I will never be able to wear green again and not think of sweet Levi."

Coker then recited a poem taken from a headstone in Ireland.

"Death leaves a heartache that no one can heal, love leaves a memory that no one can steal," she recited.

"May the memories of sweet Levi continue to put a smile on our heart. To the family: we love Levi. To his classmates: he loved you. Thank you for the memories and sharing him with us."

Melissa Smith had Levi in her class for two years. She said while he was in her class, he showed her and his classmates "what happiness was and what kindness was because he was a friend to everybody."

She also recited a quote from Winnie the Pooh: "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

"Even though we're sad, and we miss our friend," Smith continued, "we have to consider ourselves lucky to have known him, to have known his smile, and to have known his laugh and his friendship. Levi, above anything else, was kind. I'm honored to have had Levi in my life, and I'm proud that his legacy of kindness will continue with our new 'Buddy Bench.""

Kendall Wilson was Levi's third grade teacher last year. She began by saying that Levi was "the type of student that the moment you met him, you just knew that you would remember him forever."

"Levi was kind, funny, and extremely loving," Wilson continued. "I love that we have a bench dedication to honor Levi's memory because it reminds me of the many times that he and I shared a bench together during chilly recesses trying to

get warm. We shared special moments chatting about life and his favorite thing: video games. My favorite memories of Levi are the random moments throughout the day when he would come and give me a hug out of the blue or look at me and say 'Miss Wilson, I love you.' I will never forget the sound of his voice or Levi walking through my door each morning with a sleepy smile and doughnuts in his hand. Though he may not be here with us physically, we are so lucky that his legacy lives on in our memory. We're so lucky to now have a green 'Buddy Bench' for other students to chat and enjoy life, just like he and I did so many different times last year."

Several of Levi's friends also spoke during the memorial, saying "He always knew how to brighten my day," "I loved his funny jokes," "You will always be in my heart," "I miss you," "I hope you have all the doughnuts where you're at," and "You were always so kind."

Students then sang "The Gummy Bear Song," and each grabbed a green balloon. They shouted the Brawner

www.hcnews.com

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

A memorial was held at Brawner Elementary School last Friday for 9-year-old Levi Shaw, who passed away last August. In honor of his memory, a "Buddy Bench" was installed at the Brawner playground. During the memorial, Sandy Ruiz, far left, assistant principal at Brawner Elementary School, talks about the "Buddy Bench," while Levi's closest friends prepare to deliver speeches about their beloved classmate.

motto, followed by a chorus of "We love you, Levi!" before releasing the balloons to the sky.

The memorial was followed by a reception that served chocolate doughnuts with sprinkles and chocolate milk — Levi's favorites.

Through the many tears, hugs, and sadness emanating from the Brawner Elementary School playground Friday afternoon, one emotion continued to stand out above all the rest — love. Levi Shaw touched the hearts of many, and the "Buddy Bench" will forever be a tribute to him and his love for others.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243



It was an emotional afternoon for Brawner Elementary School on Friday, Jan. 20, as students and faculty bow their heads for a moment of silence to honor the memory of the late student, Levi Shaw.





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operated softwashing contractor operating out of Granbury, TX. We offer a variety of residential and commercial cleaning services including siding, roof, driveway, walkways, decks and much, much more. We are dedicated to delivering professional cleaning and friendly customer care for an exceptional customer experience.





Help us by donating or shopping at New Beginnings Resale Shoppe & Boutique. **1204 Waters Edge Dr., Granbury 76048** (across from the movie theater) **SHOP:** Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. / Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **DONATE CLEAN ITEMS:** Wed. – Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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Mission Granbury, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, provides community services in Hood County.

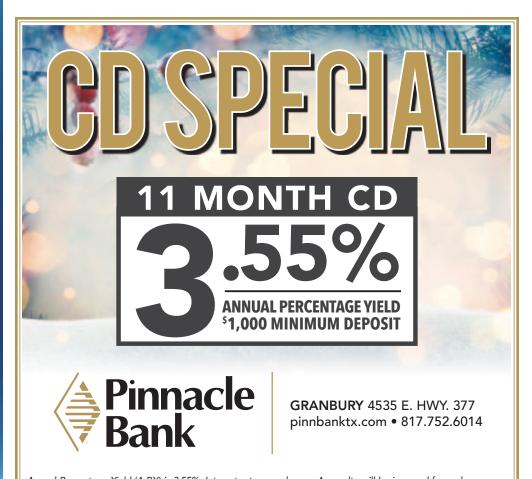
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SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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 calendar@ hcnews.com and include the day, date, time and location including street address.

EVERY DAY

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

MOUS Do you or someone you know have a problem with alcohol? Meetings daily at 10 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. at 1205 Lipan 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 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, west entrance, 303 W. Bridge St.

GRIEF CONNECTION,

support for anyone grieving a loss, will meet at First Christian Church on Mondays from 6:30-8 p.m., beginning on Monday, January 9. First Christian Church is located at 2109 W. Hwy 377, Granbury, TX 76048 (next to Tractor Supply). Please park on the side closest to Tractor Supply and come in that door. Call or text Danny Dwight at 817-219-9833 or Amy Dwight at 817-894-2449 for more information and/or to sign up.

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 aroup 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.

EVERY THURSDAY

TAKE OFF Pounds Sensibly (TOPS). 8:45 - 10:45 a.m. Lakeside Baptist Church, room 133C, 500 W. Bluebonnet

Drive. Maximun weight scale: 400 pounds.

GRIEFSHARE RECOVERY

seminar and support recovery seminar and support group meets at 10 a.m. at Interim Hospice, 1314 Paluxy Drive, Suite 200. Childcare is not provided. Fee for Griefshare workbook is \$15. Details: 817-573-7474.

EVERY FRIDAY

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).

FIRST MONDAY

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT Group, join others to share concerns, 10 a.m. at Acton Methodist Church 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-2355.

FREE

FIRST TUESDAY

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIV-

ERS support group, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the 1894 Building at Acton Baptist Church, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. For caregivers, family members, friends and anyone in the community. Details: 817-326-4693.

SECOND SATURDAY

GRIEF SUPPORT break-

fast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., The Big O Restaurant,1302 S. Morgan St. Details: 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833.

THIRD MONDAY

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

Group, join others to share concerns, 10 a.m. at Acton Methodist Church 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-2355.

THIRD TUESDAY

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIV-

ERS support group, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the 1894 Building at Acton Baptist Church, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. For caregivers, family members, friends and anyone in the community. Details: 817-326-4693.

FOURTH TUESDAY

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT

Group, 1 p.m. at Lakestone Terrace, 916 E. U.S. Highway 377. Open for those with Parkinson's and their families wanting to understand more about this disease. Details: 817-999-1470.

FOURTH SATURDAY

GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., The Big O Restaurant, 1302 S. Morgan St. Details: 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833.





7:30PM Thurs: 2:00PM, 5:00PM Avatar: The Way of Water (PG13) Fri: 1:25PM, 9:40PM. Sat: 11:20AM, 3:30PM, Sun, Mon: 11:45AM, 8:00PM. Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM Avatar: The Way of Water in 3D (PG13) Fri: 5:35PM. Sat: 7:35PM. Sun, Mon: 3:55PM. Tues, Wed, Thurs: 6:05PM Left Behind: Rise of the Antichrist (NR) Thurs: 7:00PM M3GAN (PG13) Fri: 2:45PM, 5:20PM, 7:55PM, 10:30PM. Sat: 2:10PM, 4:45PM, 7:20PM, 9:55PM. Sun, Mon: 3:05PM, 5:40PM, 8:15PM Tues, Wed: 2:10PM, 4:45PM, 7:20PM Thurs: 3:45PM, 7:40PM Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice (682) 260-5920 | cinergy.com/locations/granbury/

Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 8:00PM Thurs: 2:10PM, 4:55PM, 7:35PM, 8:00PM Plane (R) Fri: 12:00PM, 2:40PM, 5:20PM, 8:00PM, 10:40PM.

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Puzzle by websudoku.com

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LOOKING BACK IN SPORTS Article in 1961 spotlighted Emma Roberson as 'ideal' person, teacher

From Staff Reports

lthough the following story from the local news archives was not primarily from the wild world of sports, the focus was on someone special who first made a name for herself as an outstanding schoolgirl basketball player.

The woman behind the name of one school in the Granbury ISD Emma Roberson Early Learning Academy — was the focus of a spotlight article published in the Oct. 19, 1961 edition of The Hood County News-Tablet.

The story noted that Roberson taught geometry, trigonometry, and algebra in Granbury's school system. Roberson was described as "a vivacious, happy-go-lucky person with scarcely a serious thought in the world." It continued, "Her most outstanding feature "is her aliveness. Her mobile face is most often wreathed in a smile, but she can be stern, too.

No matter how busy or how tired she may be, she is always ready to help with any problem, large or small.'

As a tall girl who grew up in Dublin in a home located near a school where basketball courts were located, her height proved to be an advantage. The article continued, "Every moment that she could possibly spare, she could be found at school practicing basketball. Now was the time her height served her. With this added advantage, she was a better than average player."

Roberson attended college at Tarleton in Stephenville, and was an outstanding member of the women's basketball squad there, serving as a team captain. The article noted that "for a time she thought of being a missionary

... But her interests have always lain with young people and their problems."

Roberson also attended college at the University of North Texas, the University of Texas, Texas Christian University, and Howard Payne. There were "few subjects she has not taught," the article stated, adding, "she has also been principal and basketball coach. Mrs. Roberson appears to be an ideal person and teacher, for she has so many of the admirable traits needed by everyone. What a credit she is to the teaching profession!"

The Emma Roberson Early Learning Academy in the Granbury ISD was later named in honor of her.

76 YEARS AGO DECEMBER 1947

In a one-paragraph report in the Dec. 4, 1947 edition, the Hood County News-Tablet gave a final score of 6-6 from a football game that was played on a Wednesday, Nov. 26, between the Granbury Pirates and a team of "ex-Pirates."

The brief noted that the contest, which was played at Firemans Field, "was one of the best ever played in Granbury." No other information was provided.

96 YEARS AGO DECEMBER 1927

A brief note from Dec. 2, 1927 looked similar to an ad, highlighting the fact that "G.H.S." was going to be playing football against "Stripling Hi" of Fort Worth on Friday, Dec. 2.

The post stated that the cost for admission to the game was 50 cents. The kickoff was set for that



afternoon, rather than at night at 3:30 p.m.

Emma Roberson

Across the bottom was the comment, "Come see the Pirates win."

CALENDAR FROM PAGE B3

MONDAY, FEB. 13

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting. Speakers: Charin Daugherty, Ruth's Place Community Center. Outreach Coordinator & Gabriela Gamez, Ruth's Place Executive Assistant Director. 11:00 a.m. Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Hwy 377, Granbury. Details: 254-716-5195.

NORTH CENTRAL Texas Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, February 13, at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. Hwy 377. The program will be presented by Dr. Anne J. Bailey, the author and/

or editor of numerous books and articles on the Civil War. Dr. Bailey has taught at Texas Tech University, the University of Arkansas, and in the University of Georgia system. She will speak on the command problems within the Confederate Army of Tennessee. For more information, visit our website at http:// www.ncentexcwrt.com.

MONDAY, FEB. 20

ELIZABETH CROCKETT Chapter

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Program: Dawn Johnston on HONEY BEES. Acton Methodist Church, Education Building, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, TX. Social begins at 9:30 a.m. the meeting called to order 10:00 am.

MARCH

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

OPERA GUILD of Granbury fundraiser at D'Vine Wine, 107 E Bridge St. on the Granbury Historic Square, at 10:30 a.m. B-Ray and the Humans Band will set the night to rocking, dancing in the street.

Hood County News GOOD FOR HOOD









Karen Chandler 817-573-7066 ext. 232 / karen@hcnews.com

Heidi Gebhardt 817-573-7066 ext. 235 / heidii@hcnews.com

Madison Lazaro

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MELISSA BOSCHWITZ

Hood County Sheriff's Office

Melissa has been with the Hood County Sheriff's Office for almost 16 years, most of it on night shift patrol. She has a Master Peace Officer License, a master's degree in Criminal Justice from Tarleton State University, and is about one-third of the way through her Doctorate in Criminal Justice from Saint Leo University. She wrote her published master's thesis on the comparison of alcohol and

drug-related intoxicated drivers in Hood County as compared to the state and national averages, and plans to focus her doctoral dissertation on defense and control tactic training of law enforcement and how it affects use of force. When she's not working or studying she is spending time with her family, working with her horses, and training her dogs. She competes in rally and agility with her Phu Quoc dog, which is also training for her Cadaver Dog certification. In between all of that, she finds a little time to sleep.

ACTON **FROM PAGE B4**

• First finisher in each male/female age group The 5K race entry fee is \$25, and the 10K race is \$35. The kids' 1K fun run is free to participants. The race weekend up-

grade options include a Friday cabin overnight stay with breakfast, and a gourmet dinner prepared by celebrity chef Jon Bonnell of Bonnell's Fine Texas Cuisine in Fort Worth.

Those not interested in racing can register for the Friday night gourmet dinner.

STAY CONNECTED AT

WE COVER YOU

Pre-registration is preferred, online at CampFireFW.org/TrailRun. Fees will increase for walkup registration.

The Camp Classic is sponsored by Bonnell's Restaurant Group, Revolver Brewing, H-E-B, Relentless Racing, and Race Day Event Services.

Participating runners will need to pick up their packet on Jan. 28 at 7 a.m. For more information, call Camp Fire First Texas at 817-831-2111, ext. 141 or 152, or email CampET@

CampFireFW.org.

