



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

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Pet owners beware: Leaving Bear or Boo-Boo in the car could cost you

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

With hot days around the corner, pet owners could find themselves sweating a criminal charge if they leave their animal in an un-air-conditioned vehicle.

Thanks to action taken this week by the Granbury City Council at the request of Police Chief Mitch Galvan, police officers will now be able to issue Class C misdemeanor

citations in those situations. Class C misdemeanors do not carry jail time but they are punishable by a fine of up to \$500.

In addition, officers will be protected legally if they break a window to rescue an animal.

The council unanimously approved an amendment to the "Care and Humane Treatment" portion of its Animal Control ordinance that specifically addresses animals

left in vehicles during hot and cold weather.

Until now, there has been little officers could do in those situations. Galvan explained that the department's only option has been to issue a Class A misdemeanor citation based on the animal cruelty statute in the penal code. Class A misdemeanors are punishable by a fine of up to \$4,000 and/or up to one year in a county jail.

"A lot of times, these cases don't rise to that level and it's also kind of hard to meet the elements for prosecution," Galvan said at Tuesday's council meeting.

Nevertheless, such situations are a problem, he indicated, and the department routinely receives calls during the winter and summer months about pets left in vehicles. He noted that the depart-

PLEASE SEE **PET** | A2

SEE MORE INSIDE

Meyer's Kwik Stop, a Tolar staple, serves up hot food with meat from owner's ranch. Please see story, B1.

Saturday, Feb. 25 from 5-8 p.m., members of the Lake Granbury Art Association Portrait Group will gather to draw a model from life. Exactly as they have every Monday morning for more than 20 years. This time it will be a special exhibition of skill just for the public to observe as the group members celebrate the reception for their first-ever portrait show. Please see story, B4.

SERVING SENIORS



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The kitchen at the Hood County Senior Center is busy every weekday as crews prepare and distribute meals for the Meals on Wheels program as well as for seniors who come to the center for food and fellowship. Pictured, from left, are Sheriff Roger Deeds, president of the board of the Hood County Committee on Aging; Senior Center Executive Director Jeanette Scott; MOW manager Shylo Preston; and MOW coordinator Joe Schmidt.

Committee plans kitchen expansion to grow Meals on Wheels program

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Thanks in part to having pandemic-related federal dollars in the bank, the Hood County Committee on Aging is making plans to expand the kitchen at the Hood County Senior Center, which will allow the Meals on Wheels program to serve more clients.

There has been a waiting list since last fall. "We're maxed out in terms of what we can do in the kitchen right now," said John Knox, preaching minister at Granbury Church of Christ, who began serving a new term on the COA in January after a three-year break. "We're doing everything we can do with the facilities that we have. Obviously, the

county is growing, and we need to be prepared for that growth." The expansion is in the planning stages but will involve adding onto the building, not expanding the kitchen into the already existing space. Sheriff Roger Deeds, the COA's board president, said the committee is looking for someone with experience in building or remodeling industrial kitchens.

"We had a company come in and just give us kind of an estimate on what new equipment would cost," said Jeanette Scott, the senior center's executive director. That estimate came in at about \$200,000, she said. "Right now, we've reached the capacity in our kitchen, and we need different types of equipment that will help us cook more," she said,

echoing Knox. "I think when they built this facility, probably 25 years ago, they probably didn't realize how many meals we'd be doing now. They planned well, because we've just now reached the point where we're maxed out as to what we can cook and get out the door." Scott said the MOW program

PLEASE SEE **MEALS** | A2

Head Start Preschool: Helping families thrive since 1965

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

For more than 50 years, Head Start Preschool has been providing young children and their families with the necessary skills needed to succeed in both school and in life — all for free.

HISTORY

What once began in 1965 as an eight-week summer program de-

signed to break the cycle of poverty has now grown into a federally funded program that supports children's growth from birth to age five. The program provides comprehensive early learning, health, nutrition, and family support services to children in low-income households.

With more than 1,700 programs operating across America, Head Start has provided services to more than 36 million children — includ-

ing some of those who reside in Hood County.

Head Start has a total of seven locations, with one facility in Azle, one in Cleburne, one in Stephenville, two in Alvarado, and two in Granbury — the main center is located at 111 Stone St., and the Granbury ISD center is located in Emma Roberson Early Learning Academy at 1500 Misty Meadow Drive.

PROGRAM INFO

The program serves children from six weeks old to age three in Early Head Start and three to five in Head Start.

"We provide all the diapers, all the food, all the formula, and everything that they need," said South Fort Worth Regional Director Wendy Kauffman. "We also help them with those developmental milestones. Head Start is in my blood. We're very passionate about

what we do."

In 2019, the Head Start locations in Granbury were taken over by Upbring, a Texas-wide organization that implements generational innovation to advance child well-being.

According to upbring.org, Upbring Head Start Preschool is free to eligible families and welcomes infant children up to age five — including children with special

PLEASE SEE **PRESCHOOL** | A3



137TH YEAR, NO. 51

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

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"We're maxed out in terms of what we can do in the kitchen right now. We're doing everything we can do with the facilities that we have. Obviously, the county is growing, and we need to be prepared for that growth."

JOHN KNOX
Committee member



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Cutline...

MEALS

FROM PAGE A1

serves between 280-300 clients aged 60 and older. She wants the new kitchen to be large enough to serve a clientele of 600.

People are constantly going on and off the MOW client list for various reasons, she said. For instance, clients may drop off because they move into a senior care facility or a relative's home.

Scott said that at first, people who were placed on the waiting list had to wait only a couple of days before a slot opened up. Now, it sometimes takes a bit longer, but care is taken to make sure no one goes hungry. Scott noted that anyone "in desperate need" is placed in the program immediately.

"We'll go out and do an assessment right away," she said. "We're very hands-on with the people. We go to their home and talk to them (and) get a good idea of what's going on so we can meet their needs."

Although volunteers deliver the meals, arriving at clients' homes between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on weekdays, professional staff handles the cooking. Three cooks

arrive at the Senior Center at 5 a.m. to begin meal preparations, Scott said.

The Senior Center not only feeds MOW clients, it also offers onsite sit-down meals on weekdays for a suggested donation of \$3.50. Reservations are not required. Those who participate in the congregate meals are served the same meal as MOW clients.

"It's amazing, the amount of food they can cook in such a small space," Scott said of the cooks, noting that 80-90 people usually show up for the sit-down meals.

Entrees include lasagna, BBQ pulled pork sandwich, chicken fajitas, beef stew, breaded fish and chicken-fried steak. There are side vegetables, a dessert, and sometimes bread or a roll.

The annual budget for the MOW program is about \$850,000, Scott said, with about 30% of the budget coming from the North Central Texas Council of Governments. The rest comes from grants, contributions from the county and the city of Granbury, and community donations.

Deeds said that the COA has been able to bank some money for

the expansion, largely because of COVID-19-related dollars from the federal government.

Scott said that the expansion will likely get underway in 2024.

FOOD AND FUN

Feeding seniors isn't the Senior Center's only purpose. There are activities that enable seniors to stay active and socialize, such as card games, line dancing, and Thursday night dances.

Scott said the Senior Center received a new grant this year from NCTCOG for its activities, and the money is funding such things as art classes and field trips. Participants loved a recent trip to The Dallas World Aquarium, she said, and an upcoming excursion will be to a strawberry farm in Pilot Point.

"So many people drive by the building and think we're like a nursing home," Scott said of the facility at 501 E. Moore St. "They don't realize what goes on in here, and I just wish more people would come in and see it and volunteer, (and) support us financially, especially with our kitchen expansion that we're going to do."

The Senior Center's calendar and menu can be viewed online at mow-hctx.org or on the Hood County Senior Center's Facebook page.

"We'd love for those interested to stop by for a tour and pick up a calendar so they can get involved in our activities," Scott stated.

SECOND MOW PROGRAM

Meals on Wheels North Central Texas has this year expanded to include Hood and Somervell counties in addition to Johnson, Ellis and Navarro counties, but it largely serves a different clientele than the program that has been in place here for years.

The North Central Texas MOW program involves clients who have been referred by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Those home-delivered meals are for homebound or disabled adults 18 and older who qualify through HHSC.

Contact Haley Seale can be reached at 888-869-6325 or haley@mowhctx.org.

The Hood County Senior Center can be reached at 817-573-5533.

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PETS

FROM PAGE A1

ment had received such a call that very day. Granbury has experienced springlike temperatures this week.

"We respond and we've got to assess whether or not an animal is in danger," Galvan said.

During a brief discussion with councilman Eddie Rodriguez, the police chief indicated that while outside temperatures might be considered mild, the temperature inside a vehicle is hotter.

Sub-section (B) of the addition to the Animal Control ordinance states: "It is presumed that an animal's health, safety, or welfare is endangered when the animal is

confined in a parked or standing vehicle, without the engine running or climate control system engaged, or in a trailer or truck bed for a period of five minutes or more when the ambient outside air temperature measures about 80 (degrees Fahrenheit) or below 35 (degrees Fahrenheit)."

Galvan said that Animal Control Officer Hugo Gomez and Lt.

Russell Grizzard researched related policies that are in place in other cities to draft the policy proposed to the City Council.

When Mayor Jim Jarratt expressed the hope that the policy would prevent such calls in the future, Galvan stated, "Unfortunately, it's going to be something we use quite often. The need's here. It's definitely here for us to be able to

do something and change some behavior with humans and dogs, going to stores and going in to shop for an hour and leaving them outside with the windows up and the car not running in the heat. We've got to be able to change those attitudes."

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The hope and anticipation of spring!

Though still a couple of weeks away from the official first day, I am beginning to sense Spring is just around the corner. There are a lot of folks who feel like I do and believe Spring is the best season of the year. There is something about seeing the world around you changing from the gray of winter into the explosion of spring color, which offers hope for the future.

When Spring rolls around, baseball begins. Major League players are already in Florida and Arizona, and Spring training has started. Baseball fans who have somehow managed to weather the winter absent baseball, are keen with anticipation of what the season may bring. Fans longing for the sound of a ball being hit with a wooden bat or the smell of leather gloves and horsehide baseballs are soon to have their wishes fulfilled.


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.

Expectations are never higher than just prior to the start of baseball season. Every team is in first place, and fans can daydream and image their team ending up in the playoffs or even the World Series. Will the young rookie turn out to be a star? Will the old, veteran fan favorite still have one more good season left in him? There is hope. There is excitement and anticipation. There is joy!

A very similar mindset happens with gardening. Many gardeners have been counting the days to when they can set their potted plants back outside and no longer

be afraid of a freeze. Hours are spent looking through seed catalogs and determining what flowers, herbs and vegetables to plant in this year's garden or flowerbed. An eagerness grows inside the gardener as he imagines getting his hands in the soil, putting out preemergent to fight those nasty weeds, and what the yard and garden will look like in its mid-summer glory. There is excitement and joy as seeds turn into plants, plants create blooms, and flowers bud.

With the coming of spring, fishing enthusiasts are going through their tackle box preparing for the

season. Old fishing line is discarded and new installed. The weather and water temperature of the lake is checked daily, boats are made ready to hit the water, and the anticipation of catching a "big one" is on every fisherman's mind.

Of course, not all of us fish or garden. Some folks want to golf, boat, ski, or a thousand other things one can do outside once the weather gets warm. Whatever the activity, enthusiasts bide their time though winter and fantasize about the upcoming season. The absence of being able to participate in an activity makes us hunger for the time when we can.

We have all heard the phrase, "absence makes the heart grow fonder." Seemingly there is something in the human soul that compels us to look to the future in a positive way, especially when the future will allow us to get back to doing

the things that bring us joy and satisfaction.

So, on those days when your baseball team loses 10-1, your flowers burn up in the Texas heat, and the big fish you dreamed of catching breaks your line and escapes back into the lake, remember the joy your activity brings you. Remember it's the "journey" and not always the destination that is rewarding. Hope for the best outcome, enjoy participating, and the memories the activities create. This is your life, live it!

Thought for the day: Hobbies are a contradiction: They take work and turn it into leisure, and they take leisure and turn it into work.

Until next I will be ridin' the storm out.

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

CRESSON MAYOR

The big cleanup: Why do people think it's OK to dump trash on the highways?

When we moved back to Cresson, my most important reason for wanting to serve as mayor of Cresson was to assist in the cleanup of the area. We had some homes with junk vehicles in front of them and some had up to six vehicles. One of the vehicles, a truck, had a tree growing through the bed of the truck. It was a hearty tree to say the least and was telling us the truck had been there for some time.

The good news is that in some instances, the owner responded to a letter from the city suggesting they might want to remove the junk vehicle. In other cases, it has not been


BY TEENA PUTTEET CONWAY

Cresson Mayor Teena Putteet Conway, a native of Cresson, attended school for two years in the historic Cresson school. She is a Granbury High School graduate, and earned a BBA from Baylor University. After marrying, then raising her family in the Metroplex, she returned to Cresson after 40 years.

that simple.

Whenever I drive back and forth to Granbury to visit my mom, I have grown increasingly aware of all the trash I see on Highway 377. Honestly, I just do not get it. How do you drive down the road and toss your cup or beverage can out the window? Do you think

that is the right thing to do? Lady Bird Johnson, a native Texan and former first lady to our nation, worked diligently in Texas to plant flowers on our highways. Many of those flowers today still bloom in the Springtime.

So as I journey on Highway 377, I often see an entire trash bag full of

trash thrown off onto the highway. Once it is torn open, the contents are blown by the wind to all corners of the highway! Oh, and let us not fail to mention the mattresses that get tossed out onto our roads. This happens more on the side roads than on the highway, but still, someone has to go pick it up and take it to the dump and that costs money.

Let us salute the Adopt-a-Highway teams that assist in the never-ending pick up of trash! Where would we be without them?

Onto something fun: There's a new sign at Cresson City Hall! It will be illuminated upon dusk and hopefully will help folks find

us for our city council meetings. The traffic right in front of our city hall is very challenging due to construction, so this will add even more light there. If you happen to get stuck in traffic because of the much talked-about train, just sit back, and enjoy the new sign!

While I am writing this article, there is another wreck in the construction zone on Highway 377. Please slow down just a bit to ensure we are all safe. It is a tricky area where the concrete barriers are, so watch out and be sure to drive defensively when you can.

teenac@cressontx.org

PRESCHOOL

FROM PAGE A1

needs — in an inclusive setting. The program includes an individual learning plan for each student and provides a safe, inclusive place for them to learn, grow and thrive.

"We do inclusion plans, because we practice inclusion in our program, so any children with disabilities, referrals for any kind of Early Childhood Intervention or referral for a student with the Individualized Education Program will be included in their classroom with their age group and age range; and then we provide individualization for them in the classroom setting as well," Kauffman said.

In 2021, 1,408 children were given a nurturing place to learn through Head Start Preschools, according to Upbring.com.

"We do a lot of hands-on learning, which is different than just sitting at the table learning your alphabet," Kauffman said. "We do different types of learning, which is very important to the children, and we also teach children early on about social-emotional learning, which is huge; because that's where we see the spike. When children go into kindergarten or pre-K now, they don't have self-regulation; and so they can't sit like they used to, because they haven't built up that social-emotional capacity before they've gone to school. So, we're big on closing the gap there as far as like social regulation, and making sure we're not hitting our friends, making sure we're giving them con-

scious discipline technique, which are breathing techniques, counting techniques, and understanding and labeling their emotions. That way, they can say 'I'm mad,' they understand how they're feeling, and they can express it."

Upbring also provides family support services to help in connecting parents with job placement resources, parenting skills training, and medical, dental, and mental health services.

"With our program, we encompass not just education, but we do a lot of health, so we help parents with health screenings, hearing screenings, and dental screenings," Kauffman said. "We help them find reliable insurance and then a primary care physician. We also help families with resources in the community, so if we have parents that cannot pay their electric bill or, you know, have food insecurity, then that's on our radar, so we can help them find resources for those items."

Kauffman said the Office of Head Start is a "big promoter" of hiring a child's parent or family member, so that they can "grow in the knowledge and skill set of developmental milestones for their children to be a better advocate."

"If we hire family members and they come on board, we do a lot of professional development," she explained. "We do parent cafes, we do parent meetings, we partner with Brazos River Authority where they come out and do a water safety course or we partner with WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and

Children) where they come out and do nutritional feeding. We also provide mental health consulting, so if they have a mental health need or if the family is coming up upon some kind of traumatic, stressful event, we have mental health consultants on staff that can visit with them and help them with what they're going through."

Upbring assigns each family an advocate who will answer their questions, help with the next steps, and make sure they are providing every support that that family needs.

"Upbring's biggest mission is to break the cycle of child abuse, and so we do that not just with the child, but we do that with the family," Kauffman said. "Oftentimes, the families are very well educated; they just don't have the resources. They know what to do, they just need a little helping hand to get to who can help them within their community, especially out in the rural areas. Oftentimes, we find that just by helping with those resources is a huge help to them."

PROGRAM GROWTH

Since Upbring took over Head Start around the time that the pandemic struck, this will be the first year the program will be operating without any COVID-19 restrictions.

Now that the restrictions have been lifted, Head Start is currently working to hire more staff and build more community partnerships.

"There's a lot of communities and a lot of people out there that

don't know that we are here, so I'm trying to reach out and build those, so that the more community partnerships we have, the more services that they can send to us, and we can send to them," said Missy Bird, family engagement advocate at Head Start. "That's my main goal is letting the community know that we're here, that I'm here to help them and to partner with them in any way that I can to help provide for the families."

FACILITY UPGRADES

Kauffman said now that the facility is under the name Upbring Head Start, the grant they received can now be used to modify and update the main Head Start center in Granbury.

"We just went out for a bid, so (Granbury Head Start facility) is receiving a new roof; they're gonna receive a new playground, and we're doing safety updates," she said.

ELIGIBILITY

To apply for Upbring Early or Upbring Head Start Preschool: you must live within the county where the services are being provided;

your child must be six weeks old for Early Head Start or age three or four for Head Start by Sept. 1 of the current school year for ISD-partnered enrollment;

your family must meet specific income guidelines OR qualify under one of the following categories listed below.

The following are categorically

eligible criteria:

living in foster care and/or kinship placement;
living in a family that received an ongoing cash assistance Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) grant;

living in a household with a family member who is supported by the income of parents or guardians who received Supplemental Security Income (SSI);

living in a family that receives Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP); or

lacking a regular fixed adequate nighttime residence and meets the definition of homeless children or unaccompanied youth in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Age-eligible children entering mid-year will also be welcomed.

HOW TO REGISTER

The following are required documents needed to register your child for Upbring Head Start: the child's birth certificate, child's immunizations, proof of residency (gas, water, electric or current lease), and proof of income (for previous 12 months).

To register your child online, visit upbring.com/head-start.

Hours of operation for Upbring Head Start Preschool are 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, visit upbring.org/head-start-preschool/ online or call 512-355-0616 ext. 2729.

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OBITUARIES

Lonnie Ray Humphrey

September 3, 1963 - February 20, 2023

Lonnie Ray Humphrey was born September 3, 1963, to Jim and Darlene Humphrey in Fort Worth, Texas. He passed from this earth on February 20, 2023, in Granbury, Texas.

Lonnie enjoyed spending time outdoors hunting, fishing, and spending time on the Brazos River near Tin Top, Texas. He loved spending his time with family, most of all.

Lonnie is survived by his parents Jim and Darlene Humphrey of Granbury, Texas; sister, Jodie Turbeville of Granbury, Texas; brother Jimmy Humphrey and wife Katherine of Granbury, Texas; nephews Brandon Turbeville and wife Lisa of Scurry, Texas, Eric

Turbeville of Granbury, Texas; niece Hannah Humphrey of Granbury, Texas; friends Darla, Lou, Kimmie, Hunter and Blitz; many aunts, uncles and cousins; also, best friend Simba.

Lonnie is preceded in death by his grandparents Marie and Woodie (Granny T and Papa) Thompson and V. W. and Ethel (Grandpa and Grandma) Humphrey.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 a.m., Monday, February 27, 2023, at Wiley Funeral Home Chapel in Granbury, Texas.

In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to be made to Second Chance Farm.

Anna Jean (Wyatt) Swearingen

January 23, 1946 - February 19, 2023

Anna Jean (Wyatt) Swearingen, 77, passed away at home surrounded by loved ones and entered into the presence of her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on February 19, 2023.

Anna was born on January 23, 1946, in Fort Worth to Paul (Buck) and Avis Wyatt. Anna graduated from Irving High School in Irving, Texas in 1964. Soon after, she married the love of her life, Jewell Douglas (Doug) Swearingen on December 31 of that same year. Doug and Anna made their home in Granbury, Texas in 1973. Anna worked in Granbury as a legal secretary and paralegal for several decades. Doug and Anna were active members of First Baptist Church Granbury where Anna served as the church organist for 45 years, in addition to teaching Sunday School and Women's Bible Study. She played for countless church services, choir programs, weddings, and funerals.

Anna was preceded in death by her parents, husband Doug, and brother Ted Wyatt. She is survived by her devoted family,



daughter and son-in law Monica and Joel Campbell, and grandchildren Margaret Campbell and William Campbell, all of Granbury. She is also survived by sisters-in-law Sandra Wyatt, LaVonne Bryant and Kay Laws, and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held at First Baptist Church Granbury on Saturday, February 25 at 1 p.m. A Celebration of Life for Anna will follow at 2 p.m. A private burial will be held under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home, Granbury.

If desired, a donation may be made to the First Baptist Church of Granbury Music Ministry in lieu of flowers.

Tax breaks aging taxpayers may be eligible for



COURTESY OF METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

There are many age-related tax perks seniors can go over with an accountant or financial planner.

(MetroCreative Connection)

Growing older comes with many perks for those who are open to exploring the benefits. In addition to senior discounts on movies, meals and more, moving into one's golden years could offer some breaks when it comes to taxes and finances.

It is always best to go over tax- and finance-related plans with an accountant or certified financial planner to figure out what is in your best interest. However, generally speaking, here are some potential age-related tax perks.

INCREASE RETIREMENT SAVINGS

Older individuals can contribute more to employer-sponsored retirement

accounts and Roth or traditional individual retirement accounts (IRAs), according to AARP. For 2023, the contribution limit for employees who participate in 401(k) and 403(b) programs, most 457 retirement savings plans and Thrift Savings Plan through the U.S. Federal Government can increase their contributions to \$22,500 — a jump of \$2,000 from last year. Those over age 50 can maximize contributions even more, up to a total of \$30,000.

LARGER STANDARD DEDUCTION

The Balance Money says for tax year 2022, people age 65 or older can add an extra \$1,750 to the standard deduction they're eligible for if they are unmarried and not a surviving spouse. Those who are married and file joint returns can add \$1,400. For tax year 2023, those amounts go up to \$1,850 and \$1,500. In addition, the standard eligible deductions increased. Most older taxpayers feel the bigger standard deduction plus the extra standard deduction is more than any

itemized deductions they can claim and choose this option when filing their returns.

REDUCE TAXABLE INCOME

The ability to contribute more to tax-deferred retirement accounts enables older adults to reduce their taxable incomes. This, in turn, reduces the amount that needs to be spent on income taxes.

CHANGES IN FILING THRESHOLD

According to The Arbor Company, which oversees senior living communities, the filing threshold is the income that must be made before being required to file a tax return. Typical taxpayers who are either employees or retired and drawing pensions or Social Security find the threshold increases over age 65. Single filers over age 65 do not need to file returns if their incomes are \$14,050 or under. Married filers over age 65 have a threshold of \$27,400. If primary or sole income comes from Social Security or a pension, those

over age 65 may not have to file returns at all.

ELDERLY OR DISABLED TAX CREDIT

Differing from deductions, a credit for taxpayers is available to people age 65 or older or retired persons on permanent and total disability who receive taxable disability income for the tax year, according to the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, this credit is for those who have an adjusted gross income or the total of nontaxable Social Security, pensions, annuities, or disability income under specific limits. The eligibility levels change from year to year. Credits range from \$3,750 to \$7,500.

These are some of the tax breaks American seniors can expect when filing their income tax returns. Speak with an accountant and financial planner about other perks that come with aging. Individuals also can visit www.irs.gov for further information.

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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.



Scan QR with any smartphone to view obituaries.hcnews.com

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Don't let fear drive investment decisions

TAYLOR MOBLY
 Edward Jones
 Financial Adviser



Mobly

In the past year, we've seen some big swings in the financial markets. This volatility may make you feel as if you have little control over your investment success. But the truth is, you do have more control than you might think — as long as you don't let fear guide your decisions.

Investment-related fear can manifest itself in a few different ways:

• **Fear of loss** - Some investors may emphasize avoiding losses more than achieving gains. Consequently, they might build portfolios they

consider very low in risk, possibly containing a high percentage of certificates of deposit (CDs) and U.S. Treasury securities. Yet, a highly conservative approach carries its own risk — the risk of not achieving enough growth to stay ahead of inflation, much less meet long-term goals such as a comfortable retirement. To reach these goals, you'll want to construct a diversified portfolio containing different types of assets and investments — each of which may perform differently at different times. Your objective shouldn't be to

avoid all risk — which is impossible — but to create an investment strategy that accommodates your personal risk tolerance and time horizon.

• **Fear of missing out** - You're probably familiar with the term "herd mentality" — the idea that people will follow the lead of others for fear of missing out on something. This behavior is responsible for fads or the sudden emergence of "hot" products, and it's also relevant to investing. In fact, herd mentality may contribute to sharp jumps in the financial markets as investors drive up prices by buying stocks to avoid being left behind. And the same may be true in reverse — when the

market starts dropping, skittish investors may accelerate the decline by selling stocks so they, too, can get out before it's too late. Buying or selling investments should be considered as needed to help advance your long-term financial strategy — not in response to what others are doing.

• **Fear of the unknown** - Some investors fall victim to "familiarity bias" — the tendency to invest only in what they know, such as local or domestic companies. But this behavior can lead to underdiversified portfolios. If your portfolio is dominated by just a few investments, and these investments are fairly similar to each other, you could experience

some losses when the inevitable market downturn occurs. To help reduce the impact of market volatility, it's a good idea to spread your investment dollars across large and small companies in a range of industries and geographical regions. And that's just on the equities side — it's also wise to consider further diversifying your portfolio by owning bonds and government securities. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.)

• **Fear of admitting failure** - Some individuals don't like to admit when they've been wrong about something, and they may continue the

same failed activities, hoping for eventual success. This behavior can be costly in the investment arena. Sometimes, a particular investment, or even an investment strategy, just doesn't work out, but an investor is determined to stick with it — even if it ultimately means considerable financial loss. Don't let this happen to you — if it becomes apparent you need to change your investment approach, move on to something better.

Fear can hold us back in many walks of life — but don't let it keep you from making appropriate investment moves.

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- ELECTRICIAN Granbury ISD is currently looking for an Electrician to join our outstanding team. Only responsible and qualified candidates need apply. Criminal background checks and fingerprinting will be required. Competitive wages and excellent benefits, including health insurance and retirement. Apply online at <https://www.granburysid.org/jobs>
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NOTICES

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9031
Public Notices

NOTICE OF CLAIM
Carolyn Sue Cross Green, a co-tenant heir to the real property known as Lot 17, Block 3, THREE 77 SUNSET STRIP, an addition of Hood County, Texas according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 1, page 86, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas has filed an Affidavit of Adverse Possession by Co-Tenant Heir in the Deed Records of Hood County, Texas, claiming Adverse Possession of the aforementioned real property.

Granbury ISD is inviting sealed bids for the sale of its Cessna 172D Skyhawk aircraft. The aircraft is currently located at Granbury Airport inside a hangar and can be viewed by appointment only. Purchasing must be present for any viewings The aircraft is being sold as-is, where-is, with no warranties or guarantees of any kind. The asking price for the aircraft is \$96,000.
For additional information or to schedule a viewing appointment, please contact Houcine Chraibi at 817-408-4029 or 817-408-4139 or by email houcine.chraibi@granburysid.org. Bid closes on March 8th and information can be found on <https://granbury.ionwave.net>

9031
Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION of the City of Granbury on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearings will also be considered by the GRANBURY CITY COUNCIL on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. All Public Hearings will be held within the Council Chambers of Granbury City Hall, 116 W. Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

- PL-2022-09, Request of Pilgrim Ventures, LLC to Final Plat a 33.56-acre tract of the Robert Alway Survey, Abs.# 4 as Lots 1-9, Block 1; Lots 1X, 2-11, 12X, 13-22, 23X, 24-48, Block 2; Lots 1-34, Block 3; Lots 1-34, Block 4 of the El Dorado Addition. The property is located on Loop 567, west of Summerlin Ct. and east of Summerlin Dr.
- PL-2022-14, Request of Jacob Stump on behalf of Calvary Church to Minor Plat a 10.381-acre tract of the Wright Williams Survey, Abs. #574 as Lot 1, Block 1 of the Calvary Church of Granbury Addition. The property is located southwest of the intersection of Glen Rose Hwy. and Indian Mountain Ct.
- PL-2022-16, Request of Joe Faust on behalf of QT South, LLC to Replat Lot 4, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch Addition as Lot 4R, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch Addition. The property is located east of the intersection of Meander Rd. and E. Hwy. 377.
- PL-2022-17, Request of Tony Calloway, to Final Plat a 6.231-acre tract of the Milam County School Land Survey, Abs. # 348 as Lots 1-4, Block 1 of Corridor 51 Business Center Addition. The property is addressed as 1109 and 1211 Weatherford Hwy.
- PL-2022-20, Request of Foxglove Investments LLC to Replat Lots 16-17, Block 2 of The Shores Addition as Lot 16R, Block 2 of The Shores Addition. The property is addressed as 806 Old Cleburne Rd.
- PL-2022-02, Request of Jason Britt to Final Plat a 24.929 tract of the Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. # 445 as Lots 22-25 & Common Area E, Blk.10; Lots 1-51 & Common Area F, Blk. 11; Lots 1-6 Blk. 12; Lots 16-32, Blk. 13; and Common Area G, Block 20 of the Saratoga, Phase 2B Addition. The property is located south of the intersection of Saratoga Blvd. and E. Hwy 377.
- PL-2022-23, Request of Jason Britt to Final Plat, a 59.801 acre tract of the Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. #351, B.W. Perkins Survey, Abs. # 445 as Lots 1-6, Block 15, Lots 1-30, Block 16, Lots 1-32, Block 17, Lots 1-16, Block 18, Lots 1-10, Block 19, Lots 1-7 & Common Area I, Block 20, Lots 1-16, Block 21, Lots 1-3 & Common Area H, Block 22, Lots 1-31, Block 23, Lots 1-12, Block 24 Lots 1-34, Block 25, and Lots 1-32, Block 26 of the Saratoga Phase 3 & 4 Addition. The property is located approximately 3000 feet south of the intersection of Saratoga Blvd. and E. Hwy 377.
- PL-2022-30, Request of Mary Swingle and Chrisonda Margarite Rodriguez to Replat Lot 7 and Lot 8, Block 1 of the Sunchase Village Addition as Lot 7R and Lot 8R, Block 1 of the Sunchase Village Addition. The properties are addressed as 5530 and 5600 Old Granbury Rd.
- PL-2023-02, Request of 4905 GRH Development, LLC to Final Plat a 36.798-acre tract of the W. Williams Survey, Abs. #574 as Lots 1-13, Block 1; Lots 1-9, Block 2, and Common Area of the Modern Oaks Addition.
- PL-2023-03, Request of Cheyne Family Trust to Replat Lot 7A, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch, Phase 3 Addition as Lot 7A-1, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch, Phase 3 Addition. The property is located west of the intersection of Peck Rd. and E Hwy 377.
- Z-2022-03, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company, LLC to rezone a 5.911-acre tract of the Marcus Smith Survey, Abs.#504 from Light Commercial [LC] to Planned Development [PD] with a base Multiple Family [PD/MF]. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr.
- TCP-2022-03, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company for a Tree Conservation Plan to allow for the removal and mitigation of protected trees in conformance with Article 13 of the Zoning Ordinance. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr. [P&Z only]
- PL-2022-25, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company to Preliminary Plat a 5.911-acre tract of the Marcus Smith Survey, Abs. #504 as Lot 1, Block 1 of the Sundance on Lake Granbury Addition. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr.
- SUP-2023-05, Request of Vicki Nivens for a Specific Use Permit to allow a "Short-term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted" in a Residential-8,400 [R-8.4] zoning district. The property is addressed as 520 E. Bridge St.
- SUP-2022-19, Request of Karen Hagler for a Specific Use Permit to allow "Short-term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted" in a Residential-8,400 [R-8.4] zoning district. The property is addressed as 401 E. Bridge Street.
- Z-2023-02, Request of Tryon Development Corp. to rezone a 15.147 acre tract of the Milam County School Land Survey, Abs. # 348 from Planned Development [PD] to Residential - 7,000 [R-7]. The property is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Nettie Bacuss Rd. and Loop 567.
- PL-2023-04, Request of Tryon Development Corp. to Preliminary Plat a 15.147 acre tract of the Milam County School Land Survey, Abs. # 348 as Lots 1-23, Block 1; Lots 1-27, Block 2 and Lots 1-15, Block 3 of the Bella Vista Addition. The property is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of Nettie Bacuss Rd. and Loop 567.
- Z-2023-03, Request of T&P Properties Family LP to rezone a portion of a .996 acre tract of the Marcus Smith Survey, Abs. # 504 from Heavy Commercial to Light Commercial. The property is addressed as 1326 E Hwy 377.
- SUP-2023-08, Request of T&P Properties Family LP for a Specific Use Permit to allow the operation of a Contractor Shop without outside storage in a Light Commercial Zoning District. The property is addressed as 1306 E Hwy 377.

For more information, contact Community Development at 817-573-1114, Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge St., Granbury, TX 76048.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Barbara Jean Bishop, Deceased, were issued on February 15, 2023, in Cause No. P09926, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Brenda Bishop Mabery.
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: Robert Christian
1405 West Pearl Street
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 15th day of February, 2023.
Robert T. Christian
Attorney for Brenda Bishop Mabery
State Bar No.: 00798106
1405 West Pearl Street
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (682) 936-4003
Facsimile: (682) 936-4024
E-mail:
robert@christianandchristianlaw.com

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estates Of GROVER ANDREW PAYNE, Cause No. P09970, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

GEOFFREY A. PAYNE in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application To Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of GROVER ANDREW PAYNE, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at the above-mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this 21st day of February 2023.
KATIE LANG
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ CAMERON COZART, Deputy Clerk

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9031
Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION of the City of Granbury on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearings will also be considered by the GRANBURY CITY COUNCIL on Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. All Public Hearings will be held within the Council Chambers of Granbury City Hall, 116 W. Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

- PL-2022-09, Request of Pilgrim Ventures, LLC to Final Plat a 33.56-acre tract of the Robert Alway Survey, Abs.# 4 as Lots 1-9, Block 1; Lots 1X, 2-11, 12X, 13-22, 23X, 24-48, Block 2; Lots 1-34, Block 3; Lots 1-34, Block 4 of the El Dorado Addition. The property is located on Loop 567, west of Summerlin Ct. and east of Summerlin Dr.
- PL-2022-14, Request of Jacob Stump on behalf of Calvary Church to Minor Plat a 10.381-acre tract of the Wright Williams Survey, Abs. #574 as Lot 1, Block 1 of the Calvary Church of Granbury Addition. The property is located southwest of the intersection of Glen Rose Hwy. and Indian Mountain Ct.
- PL-2022-16, Request of Joe Faust on behalf of QT South, LLC to Replat Lot 4, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch Addition as Lot 4R, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch Addition. The property is located east of the intersection of Meander Rd. and E. Hwy. 377.
- PL-2022-17, Request of Tony Calloway, to Final Plat a 6.231-acre tract of the Milam County School Land Survey, Abs. # 348 as Lots 1-4, Block 1 of Corridor 51 Business Center Addition. The property is addressed as 1109 and 1211 Weatherford Hwy.
- PL-2022-20, Request of Foxglove Investments LLC to Replat Lots 16-17, Block 2 of The Shores Addition as Lot 16R, Block 2 of The Shores Addition. The property is addressed as 806 Old Cleburne Rd.
- PL-2022-02, Request of Jason Britt to Final Plat a 24.929 tract of the Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. # 445 as Lots 22-25 & Common Area E, Blk.10; Lots 1-51 & Common Area F, Blk. 11; Lots 1-6 Blk. 12; Lots 16-32, Blk. 13; and Common Area G, Block 20 of the Saratoga, Phase 2B Addition. The property is located south of the intersection of Saratoga Blvd. and E. Hwy 377.
- PL-2022-23, Request of Jason Britt to Final Plat, a 59.801 acre tract of the Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. #351, B.W. Perkins Survey, Abs. # 445 as Lots 1-6, Block 15, Lots 1-30, Block 16, Lots 1-32, Block 17, Lots 1-16, Block 18, Lots 1-10, Block 19, Lots 1-7 & Common Area I, Block 20, Lots 1-16, Block 21, Lots 1-3 & Common Area H, Block 22, Lots 1-31, Block 23, Lots 1-12, Block 24 Lots 1-34, Block 25, and Lots 1-32, Block 26 of the Saratoga Phase 3 & 4 Addition. The property is located approximately 3000 feet south of the intersection of Saratoga Blvd. and E. Hwy 377.
- PL-2022-30, Request of Mary Swingle and Chrisonda Margarite Rodriguez to Replat Lot 7 and Lot 8, Block 1 of the Sunchase Village Addition as Lot 7R and Lot 8R, Block 1 of the Sunchase Village Addition. The properties are addressed as 5530 and 5600 Old Granbury Rd.
- PL-2023-02, Request of 4905 GRH Development, LLC to Final Plat a 36.798-acre tract of the W. Williams Survey, Abs. #574 as Lots 1-13, Block 1; Lots 1-9, Block 2, and Common Area of the Modern Oaks Addition.
- PL-2023-03, Request of Cheyne Family Trust to Replat Lot 7A, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch, Phase 3 Addition as Lot 7A-1, Block 2 of the Lutan Ranch, Phase 3 Addition. The property is located west of the intersection of Peck Rd. and E Hwy 377.
- Z-2022-03, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company, LLC to rezone a 5.911-acre tract of the Marcus Smith Survey, Abs.#504 from Light Commercial [LC] to Planned Development [PD] with a base Multiple Family [PD/MF]. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr.
- TCP-2022-03, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company for a Tree Conservation Plan to allow for the removal and mitigation of protected trees in conformance with Article 13 of the Zoning Ordinance. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr. [P&Z only]
- PL-2022-25, Request of Sand Hill Land & Cattle Company to Preliminary Plat a 5.911-acre tract of the Marcus Smith Survey, Abs. #504 as Lot 1, Block 1 of the Sundance on Lake Granbury Addition. The property is located north of the intersection of Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr.
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- SUP-2023-08, Request of T&P Properties Family LP for a Specific Use Permit to allow the operation of a Contractor Shop without outside storage in a Light Commercial Zoning District. The property is addressed as 1306 E Hwy 377.

For more information, contact Community Development at 817-573-1114, Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge St., Granbury, TX 76048.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-16

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 - ANIMAL CONTROL, OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING SECTION 2.09.005 LEAVING ANIMAL UNATTENDED IN VEHICLE; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL OTHER ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1.

That Article 2.09 of the Granbury Code of Ordinances be amended to add Section 2.09.005 to read as follows:

"2.09.005 - LEAVING ANIMAL UNATTENDED IN VEHICLE.
(A) A person having charge or custody of an animal shall not place or confine such animal or allow such animal to be placed or confined in a motor vehicle or trailer under such conditions or for such a period of time as may endanger the health of the animal due to heat, lack of food or water, or such other circumstances as may cause injury or death of the animal.

(B) It is presumed that an animal's health, safety, or welfare is endangered when the animal is confined in a parked or standing vehicle, without the engine running or climate control system engaged, or in a trailer or truck bed for a period of five minutes or more when the ambient outside air temperature measures above 80_F or below 35_F.

(C) An animal services officer or police officer finding an animal being held in violation of this provision may cite the owner for violating this chapter, and when necessary, use reasonable force to remove an animal from the vehicle whenever it appears the animal's health or safety is, or soon will be endangered.

(D) The rescued animal may be impounded if the owner is not located within a reasonable time. The owner will be responsible for paying any fees associated with the animal being impounded. The animal shall be transported to a veterinarian for immediate care if the Peace Officer or Animal Control Officer believes it is necessary for the safety and welfare of the animal. It shall be the responsibility of the animal's owner to repair any damage caused by the removal of the animal from the dangerous situation by the animal services officer or police officer and for any veterinarian care while in the care of animal control.

The owner shall be fined up to \$500 upon the first conviction for violation of the City of Granbury Code of Ordinances."
These ordinances are on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 116 W Bridge St. and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.

9031
Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOHN A. THOMPSON, DECEASED:
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of John A. Thompson, Deceased were issued to Scot D. McClure, who qualified on the 9th day of February, 2023 in Cause No. P09935, in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, which is still pending, and that Scot D. McClure now holds such Letters. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present the same within the time prescribed by law. Claims should be billed to:
Scot D. McClure,
Independent Executor
c/o Phillip W. McCrury, Esq.,
Jenna Lusk, Esq., and
Heidi M. Angel, Esq.
Kelly, Hart & Hallman LLP
201 Main Street, Suite 2500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

PUBLIC SALES

9590
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Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

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VERTERANS VOICE

Veterans, surviving spouses can take advantage of free tax services



BY LINDA MALLON

Linda Mallon, a retired Army master sergeant, found her niche working with veterans and their families in Granbury. She is a former claims administrator for Blue Shield of New Jersey and later senior personnel sergeant, taking care of soldiers' careers for more than 20 years.

It's tax season once again and if you're like me, you are waiting until the last minute, but you don't have to. If you need assistance filing your taxes, you may pick up a packet at the Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis, in Granbury with information and phone number to schedule an appointment for free tax services through AARP. VA disability compensation, VA pension benefits and Dependent Indemnity Compensation (DIC) are not taxable so you will not get a Form 1099. Surviving spouses of military retirees who are receiving a Survivor Benefit (SBP) from Defense Finance and Accounting Office (DFAS) will receive a Form 1099. SBP is not a VA benefit and is taxable.

If you are a military retiree or surviving spouse receiving SBP and have not received a Form 1099, contact DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 or visit their website at <https://www.dfas.mil/RetiredMilitary/> and sign up for a 'MYPAY' ac-

count. With 'MYPAY' you can update your contact information, change your direct deposit, or print tax documents and our office can help you set that up.

I've been getting a ton of calls for copies of DD214's.



COURTESY OF ENVATO.COM

Veterans and surviving spouses of veterans who need assisting filing their taxes can pick up a packet at the Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis, in Granbury with information and phone number to schedule an appointment for free tax services through AARP.

If I am your representative to the VA or filed a claim on your behalf, I can get your DD214 from your claim file easily. If you have never filed a disability claim but are enrolled in the VA Health Care System and use the VA clinic, you must sign a request for Bonham VA to release your records and I can prepare and fax that request directly to them and get a same-day response.

However if you have never used the VA, a request has to be made through the

National Archives Website <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>. PLEASE safeguard that information once you get it because if you have never used any VA services before, it can take months to get your records from the National Archives.

File your DD214 with the Hood County Clerk's office at Annex 2, 201 West Bridge Street across the street from City Hall so if you ever need it again, it's right there. National Archives can

do an emergency request for funeral services and we have had success with the Homeless Veterans Program Coordinator getting those documents quickly, but why risk waiting until the last minute?

Make sure your family knows where your records are as well in case they need your DD214 to obtain services on your behalf.

Veterans are also asking about Camp Lejeune lawsuits advertised on television. These cases are initi-

ated by private attorneys and not affiliated with the Department of Veterans Affairs. If you are a veteran who was exposed to toxic substances, lawsuits are always an option but I encourage veterans to file a VA disability compensation claim through our office as well, so give us a call and we'll schedule your appointment for a claims review.

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<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Tony Mobly, CFP®, AAMS® Financial Advisor 510 W Pearl St. Granbury, TX 76048 817-573-6917</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Ty Andrew Financial Advisor 716 E Hwy 377 Granbury, TX 76048 817-573-0488</p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Taylor A. Mobly Financial Advisor 401 Temple Hall Hwy Ste3 Granbury, TX 76049 817-268-9137</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Chad C. Carroll, AAMS® Financial Advisor 2007 Rockview Dr. Granbury, TX 76049 817-573-6115</p> </div>
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* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 02/03/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

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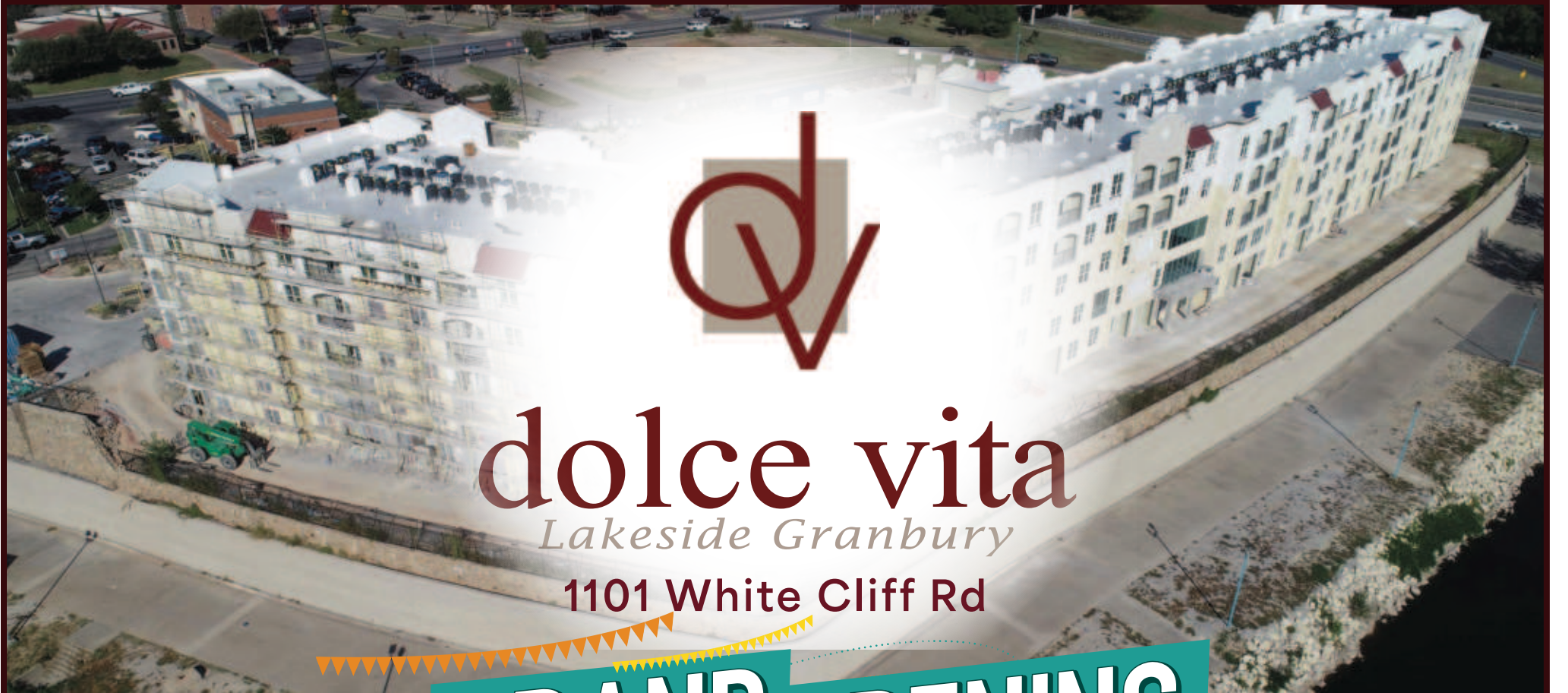
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NOT YOUR TYPICAL GAS STATION FOOD



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Jay Meyer has owned and operated Meyer's Kwik Stop in Tolar since the 1980s after buying it from his mother. Two weeks ago, his stepdaughter Angie Rushing, left, became the store's manager. On the right is Attice Meyer, Jay's wife and Rushing's mother.

Meyer's Kwik Stop, a Tolar staple, serves up hot food with meat from owner's ranch

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

TOLAR — Jay Meyer's philosophy for success is about as simple and straightforward as it gets. "Get up early and go to bed late," said the Tolar rancher and former school board president who has owned and operated Meyer's Kwik Stop since 1986.

The gas station/convenience store/restaurant is a staple in the Tolar community and a gathering place for ranchers who like a hot breakfast at the crack of dawn.

"At four o'clock in the morning, you can walk in the back and see 10 old ranchers back here, telling all the gossip they have to tell," said Meyer's stepdaughter, Angie Rushing, who became the store's manager a couple weeks ago after having been away from the family business for a while.

Younger generations fuel up at Meyer's as well, both at the gas pumps and the food counter. Former Precinct 1 Commissioner James Deaver, a fellow Tolar rancher who went to school with Meyer, said that Hood County employees who live in Tolar often grab a to-go breakfast at Meyer's on their way to work.

The little town in southwestern Hood County may soon leave "little" in the rearview mirror. Like Granbury and Cresson, it's growing fast. During the daybreak breakfast rush on a recent Friday, U.S. Highway 377 and streets that feed into it were congested with drivers taking kids to school and heading to work.

Born in Glen Rose in 1960, Meyer's family moved to Tolar when he was a young boy. He attended Tolar schools in every grade.

The family contributed to the community and, with Meyer's Kwik Stop, continues to do so. The Meyers have fed people for 50 years, dating back to 1973 when the family owned a café "in the middle of town, where the old post office was," according to Meyer. It caught fire and burned, he said, so the family moved the café to a new location, where First National Bank

is today.

"Then the rent got a little high there," he said, "so Mom bought the corner, where we're at right now."

"The corner" is 8315 U.S. Highway 377, a prime location for locals driving to and from work and for folks passing through.

"Mom" is Gayle Meyer Nye, former Tolar mayor. Meyer's grandfather, J.D. Sargent, was once mayor of Tolar, too.

Meyer himself served the town as an elected official. He was on the school board for about 20 years and served as its president for five or six years before stepping aside so that a younger generation could have a turn.

"When we got into school, he decided that he was going to make sure the school was right for us, so that's why he was on the school board," Rushing said about her stepfather's love for his children. "It's just how he is."

RIB-STICKING

A unique aspect of Meyer's Kwik Stop is that its menu features meat from Meyer's 500-acre ranch.

One customer who wrote an online review posted: "Sat down to eat and had a really good burger and some really good crinkle cut fries, with an ice cold Dr. Pepper. In a town with not many choices it's actually a pretty damn good option. Get a double meat with cheese, jalapeno, bacon and all the veggies. Can't go wrong. They make it to order, so everything is fresh and hot when it comes out to you."

Customers can purchase a variety of breakfast burritos containing combinations of bacon, sausage, eggs, cheese, jalapenos, and



Meyer's Kwik Stop, located at 8315 U.S. Highway 377, is a Tolar mainstay where meat from owner Jay Meyer's ranch is served up in the store's restaurant.

potatoes. There are biscuits, too, and hashbrowns. Don't want a burrito? Employees can get you set up with eggs over easy or whichever way you like them.

Later in the day, in addition to hamburgers, customers can order a variety of sandwiches — Philly steak, chopped barbecue, chicken, and chicken fried steak — as well as Crisпитos, corn dogs, egg rolls, meat pies, chimichangas, fried chicken, chicken tenders, and French fries. Sometimes, when there is enough staff, there is even fresh fried fish.

Sometimes, Meyer's offers food that is not on the menu or on the shelves in the convenience store. Deaver said it is common for Meyer to allow kids or others involved in local fundraisers to set up tables outside the store.

"He does that even though it hurts his business," said Deaver, referring to possible lost sales.

Michael Mittelstet, a member of the Tolar Education Foundation board of directors, said that Meyer is a supporter of the TEF and has pledged to provide fish for the April 22 "Taste of Tolar" fundraiser at LC Ranch. There will be a fish fry and live entertainment.

The generous donation is not a surprise to Deaver.

"He's always been good to kids and the school district," he said.

COMMUNITY STAPLE

Meyer may have been willing to let a younger generation run the school board, but Rushing's new title of store manager doesn't mean he's stepping back from the business he has run for decades.

"No, probably not," he replied when asked if he was going to lighten up his schedule. "I mean, I'm there every morning. Every morning. Been there every morning since 1984, or whatever."

Actually, by Rushing's calculations, the year might have been 1986. She said that she believes her grandmother opened the store in 1978 and her dad bought it from her when he was 26.

Meyer was there before dawn on a recent Friday, stressing because an employee was a no-show when they were already short one staffer. According to Rushing, for some reason Friday is the busiest day for breakfast.

"We normally have three (em- PLEASE SEE MEYER'S | B2

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Uncle Mort, on balloons



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly.

My aged Uncle Mort is "up in the air" about balloons.

"Until recently, balloons were festive, often gleefully 'popped' at parties," he moaned. "Stick a pin in one now, and folks nearby crawl under tables, look for exits, call 9-1-1 and shield the bodies of young'uns."

Mort contends that governmental leaders' confoundment about balloons floating 60,000 feet above the earth could be laid to rest if they'd simply stick with initial claims.

"First, they tell us the balloons were lofted by the Chinese, then they back off," Mort muttered.

Then, he volunteered his own theory.

RECYCLING IDEA

As usual, he climbs to the top perch on the tower of the all-knowing, suggesting that he has his very own theory that should be equally obvious to the confounded.

He harkens back to his own school days, when teachers offered suggestions concerning which letters or numbers to circle on multiple-choice exams. "Think long and think wrong," he said.

Mort figures that if we keep shooting down balloons, there'll be enough material to recycle smaller ones for birthday favors at party stores.

MADE IN ...

He thinks that if he'd been consulted, he could have "cemented the certainty" that leaders of The Peoples' Republic of China are indeed responsible for launching the high-flying balloons.

"Thanks to the telescope that I designed during long stretches of boredom when COVID raged, I've zeroed in on heretofore unseen objects a dozen miles above the earth. I saw those balloons weeks before they were reported by both social and mass media," he claims.

He says that he spotted tags attached by kite twine to each balloon. Imprinted on each were three little words: "Made in China."

QUESTIONABLE CHOICES

In recent days, he's been helping wife Maude rearrange items on her bucket list. She welcomes his help, no longer yearning to "climb into the bucket" of a hot-air balloon. "UFBs" (unidentified flying balloons) also have caused him to scrub his plans to start a ballooning business near their thicket home.

Maude usually leaves jokes and story-telling to her hubby, but admits that taking such rides nowadays brings to mind an old yarn about two country mice — facing certain starvation on the farm — who decided to try city living.

Each went his own way, and at day's end, one was excited about serving as a "guinea pig" on a rocket to outer space. The other was surprised until hearing his friend's explanation: "It was either that or cancer research."

WAILS AND WHOOPS

With so much deservedly qualifying for our ballooning inventory of worries, Mort cites one news item that seems positive. (Sometimes, he says, it's difficult to find even one positive news account.)

He has noted that the wailing of humpbacked whales is waning. This is the finding of sophisticated sonar research that indicates positive whale "courtships" — usually measured by wailing — are becoming increasingly "wail-less."

"For a while, I was afraid it would be necessary for us to encourage

PLEASE SEE IDLE | B2

HOOD OUTDOORS

Golden alga resurfaces on Lake Granbury

Unfortunately, Lake Granbury is experiencing a minor golden Alga bloom on several areas of the lake. The impact looks small right now with only some baitfish and a few other fish seen dead or dying. However, if you should see any dead or dying fish, you should report it immediately to the Texas Parks and Wildlife or the Brazos River Authority.

Evidence of a golden alga-related fish kill is often difficult to track. Large numbers of small fish may be killed. Predators such as birds and raccoons may eat larger dead fish before they are observed or counted. Also, dead fish quickly sink below the surface, which in-



BY MICHAEL ACOSTA

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. A Granbury resident of more than 35 years, he has been fishing all of his life, and has been a licensed guide since 1998.

terferes with counts. Estimates of numbers killed are only as good as the evidence available on the scene. The public is asked to report dead or dying fish and wildlife as soon as possible to TPWD's 24-hour communications center by calling 512-389-4848.

Reports indicate that the bloom is moving through this area and will eventually move downstream.

As stated, this current bloom is minor, and we hope it doesn't escalate. A serious bloom could devastate the fishery. Generally, the alga is most prominent in the February to April time frame. The Texas Parks and Wildlife last report on Jan. 4, 2023 indicated that water samples from the FM51 and U.S. Business 377 Crossing had moderate levels of P. Parvum (golden

alga) cells and were classified as slightly toxic to fish.

Fishing continues to be good for most species on Lake Granbury despite this news. The caution here is to identify it and report it as they continue to learn how to deal with these blooms.

Golden alga started affecting the Brazos River chain in 2001 at Possum Kingdom Lake. Since 2001, devastating blooms have occurred (not every year) on Lake Granbury, Possum Kingdom, Lake Whitney and numerous other bodies of water in West Texas and in other southern states. Some years are

PLEASE SEE OUTDOORS | B5

THE DOWNHOME CHEF

Fun, friends paired with yummy food make for great memories

Hello again, my Foodie Friends, I've been thinking a lot this month about what to write. Of course, we are in the middle of our cold season, a few warm days here and there, but the cold weather is what is grabbing us this month.

My mind has been turning more and more toward the spring and summer months, getting to be active outside with sunshine pouring down, dappling its light through the oak trees that grow in my yard. Spring is a time when we start to gather with our friends and families for barbecues, swimming dates, and music. Just the thought of sunny days ahead with the enjoyment of warmth on our skin is enough to stir up memories of years past, such as that barbecue where we had so much fun.

For me, it is the memory of when I first moved here with my fiancé James. We slowly started making friends, meeting our neighbors and their friends, and they became family to us. And we just so happened to have a pool in the backyard. I remember the first time we



BY FELICITY MCNELLEY

Felicity, a native Montanan, has been cooking and running kitchens for 27 years. She learned her trade from her mother, a master chef in the hotel industry. Felicity has 3 children and lives in Granbury.

hosted everyone at our house. There must have been about 15 of us, kids and adults alike. It was late spring going into early summer. I remember being nervous and happy to have company and noise at my home. So, I decided to make a peach cobbler. I don't think I had ever seen something disappear so quickly.

This recipe is easy and perfect for a summer day. I hope you enjoy it.

PEACH COBBLER

Yields 6-8 servings
 1 ¾ pound peaches, peeled, sliced and pitted
 ½ cup butter
 1 cup self-rising flour
 1 cup granulated sugar
 1 cup whole milk
 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees.
 Place butter in an 11x7 baking dish and stick the pan in the oven to melt the butter.
 Stir together the flour, sugar, milk, and vanilla.
 Pull melted butter out of the oven and pour your batter on top of the butter. Be sure not to stir the mixture into the butter.
 Spoon your peaches on top of your layer of batter.
 Bake until golden brown and bubbly, 45-50 minutes.

I like to make whipped cream, but frozen or canned whipped topping or even vanilla ice cream go very well with this dessert.
 I don't really remember what we barbecued that day or how long we



COURTESY OF FELICITY MCNELLEY

Pictured is Felicity McNelley's peach cobbler.

swam, but I distinctly remember my friends' faces while we were spending time together. I remember the feelings of laughter and the excitement of building a tribe with these wonderful people. Many of them are still close to me today and are very much a part of my and my family's life. It's a miracle how food brings people together.

Dear Reader, I hope you enjoyed these thoughts today. Remember, the best memories and the best healing comes from good food and good conversation with the people who love you the most.

Until next time, Felicity
 felmcnel@gmail.com



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Manager Angie Rushing said the Tolar community supports Meyer's Kwik Stop largely out of affection for her dad, owner Jay Meyer, who generously supports local fundraisers.

MEYER'S

FROM PAGE B1

ployees) come in around three o'clock in the morning to start prepping," she said. "For Fridays we need to have about five employees because we get so busy. I guess everybody treats themselves on Friday."

The brief crisis involving the no-show employee happened during Rushing's first week as manager, but the 2002 Tolar High School graduate indicated that in the end it was no big deal.

"We also have a core group of employees that I can count on that have been with us for a while and they love my dad," she said. "Like Harry. I called him. He normally doesn't get up this early. He doesn't work the morning shift. And he was, OK, I'll get up and get ready. We have those employees that are 100% loyal to my dad."

Rushing doesn't just share her stepdad's business responsibilities, she also shares his work ethic.

"My work hours are from sunup until I'm not needed," she said.

Among other duties, Rushing makes sure the kitchen is stocked, shelves are filled, vendors and employees are paid, and staff schedules are posted. Her life today, with

so many responsibilities, is far different from her carefree days as a kid when she viewed the store as an "awesome" place to be.

"It's just been a staple in the community for forever," she said. "It's my dad's, so that's a main reason why (customers) show up. You can ask anybody and they love my dad. He's just a good ol' boy that everybody loves. So, people knowing that this is locally owned and run is a lot of the reason why they support it. Dad does a whole lot for the community. He donates. I mean he's one of those who'll give you the shirt off his back if you ask him."

Meyer's laidback, country-boy manner seems to fit Tolar's essence.

"Everybody's a-working," he said of his neighbors. "We're all pretty much blue collar on this end. I mean, I guess sometimes my place ain't the cleanest, but when all those boys come through about five o'clock or five-thirty, I mean the floor looks really nice at five o'clock and by noon it looks like you've run a herd of goats through that joint 'cause everybody's got mud on their feet and grease and everything. But we're all working."

Meyer isn't one of those people who grouses about growth and new



Customers can count on hot, fresh food cooked to order and full shelves at Meyer's Kwik Stop in Tolar.

people moving into town. "Everybody's coming here because it's a good place to be," he said. "You ain't got to worry about the kids. I mean, you've always got to worry about the kids but you ain't got to worry about them as much here because everybody

pretty much knows everybody. Not as much as they used to, but everybody watches out for everybody over here."

When asked what Meyer's Kwik Stop means to Tolar, Meyer turned the question around. "It's not what Meyer's means to

them, it's what they mean to me," he said. "I mean, they're the ones that keep that joint running. It don't belong to me, it belongs to the community."

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IDLE

FROM PAGE B1

whales to consider 'fake waiting'," Mort joked. Factual or not, my uncle says that when whooping crane numbers reached record lows several years ago, the crisis

could have been averted if authorities had listened to him. He would have urged them to "round up some 'regular' cranes and teach 'em to whoop."

NIGEL'S STORY

I, too, seek good news items:

one found this day in the Dallas Morning News. Staff writer Michael Williams wrote about a "runaway kangaroo home again." It detailed the happy return of "Nigel" to his Granbury home, after a two-day search.

Scared by construction noises nearby, the unusual pet — bottle-

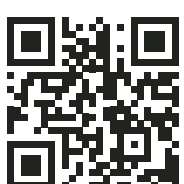
fed and diaper-adorned by owner Briana Lafleur — had jumped a backyard fence. Nigel had a few scratches, and now faces the prospect of a taller fence, his owner told Channel 4 news.

Writer Williams mentioned that days earlier, another kangaroo "legged it" during a brief escape

from his Prosper home. Somehow, I expected some reference to "bouncing away," or perhaps a cowboy's account that the animals "high-tailed it."

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A guide to Granbury-area churches and a verse for inspiration.

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 1 John 4:12

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Romans 8:28

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When I thought, "My foot slips," Your steadfast love, O LORD, helped me up. When the cares of my heart are many, Your consolations cheer my soul.

Psalm 94:18-19

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FACE OFF: Twenty-year portrait group event Feb. 25

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Saturday, Feb. 25 from 5-8 p.m., members of the Lake Granbury Art Association Portrait Group will gather to draw a model from life. Exactly as they have every Monday morning for more than 20 years. This time it will be a special exhibition of skill just for the public to observe as the group members celebrate the reception for their first-ever portrait show. The free event will allow the curious to walk among the artists as they work.

Gini Morelock-Bosco can remember the date the group first gathered. It was July 9, 2001, with just four artists including herself attending. Morelock-Bosco had recently signed up for a workshop that was canceled at the last minute, and she had already bought the supplies. She wondered why this had to be so hard. Why couldn't she have access to models ongoing? She had been reading in American Artist Magazine that if artists were serious about improving their skill, they should gather a group and meet somewhere and draw from life. So, she took matters into her own hands. She approached a couple of other artists, reserved a time Monday mornings at the Shanley House Center for the Arts, and the quest for excellence began.

At first, they would draw one another. They would begin at 9 a.m., break for lunch and keep drawing in the afternoon. Joyce Thomas joined, then Teri Hutto, and Dina Gregory, Jackie Stengle, Jeanette Alexander, Claudia Davis retired, and joined. After a month Davis suggested they ask members of the community to sit, and Davis knew scads of people. Morelock-Bosco decided to donate her drawing to the models and others followed suit. It is still a tradition that most artists donate their drawing to the model.

"The first four years I managed the whole thing with phone calls, working off a list member Jeanette Alexander had provided. I would call and get models and call the artists," Morelock-Bosco said. "One day Jo Duvall walked in. She looked at us drawing and looked at the art on the walls and joined that day. Jo was accomplished with the portrait, she brought us to our knees, her presence challenged us all to improve."

Morelock-Bosco had to take a year-and-a-half hiatus about 4-1/2 years in.

"I was afraid the group would fall apart, but Carol Lee took over keeping the schedule and contacting models and artists," Morelock-Bosco said. "They continued to meet but had shortened the drawing time."

When Morelock-Bosco returned to the group, they



IMAGES COURTESY OF EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH

Deep in Thought — Oil — Canvas by Gini Morelock-Bosco.

had been meeting for a very short session. They then agreed to a compromise with a longer morning session. Over the years, some members have moved, some have passed away including an original member, Bob Brady. Some members move away but still participate.

"I have enjoyed the people in this group so much that I participate from 260 miles away. Just knowing that I am drawing at the same time is fun. They send me a picture of the model and I return the 'portrait study' at the end of the session," member Gwen Hutson said.

Linda Miller participated when she moved to Colorado. They participate for the same reasons that the local members do — to keep their skills sharp, to continue to improve, and to share in the journey.

After studying art in college, member Val Hibbeler put her supplies aside to raise a family. Now, 45 years later, Hibbeler said, "The LGAA has become a source of intrigue! The value of working alongside this very open and helpful group of artists, is the opportunity to watch and then learn how they begin, work through the various stages, then develop a beautiful piece of art."

Teri Hutto's sentiments echoed Hibbeler's.

"I joined to challenge myself to 'see' better and to enjoy the company of other artists," Hutto added. "It has been a revolving door for me personally through raising children and then enjoying a late career in decorative arts, but I keep returning when I can to continue the pursuit of describing a person's character on paper through whatever medium I happen to bring that Monday. It has been comforting to find my family of artists that keeps evolving over the years right at the Shanley House faithfully every Monday rain or shine."

Hutto joked, "It's always been a positive experience except for the one time our longtime member Dan made us draw a decorative skeleton because our model didn't show. Just kidding, it too was good 'practice'."

Morelock-Bosco shared that if an artist can master the human form they can master any subject, because "drawing people well is the Mount Everest of art."

She explained that "Drawing from life trains you to see the third dimension, so if later you have to work from a photograph you can more clearly see the third dimension."

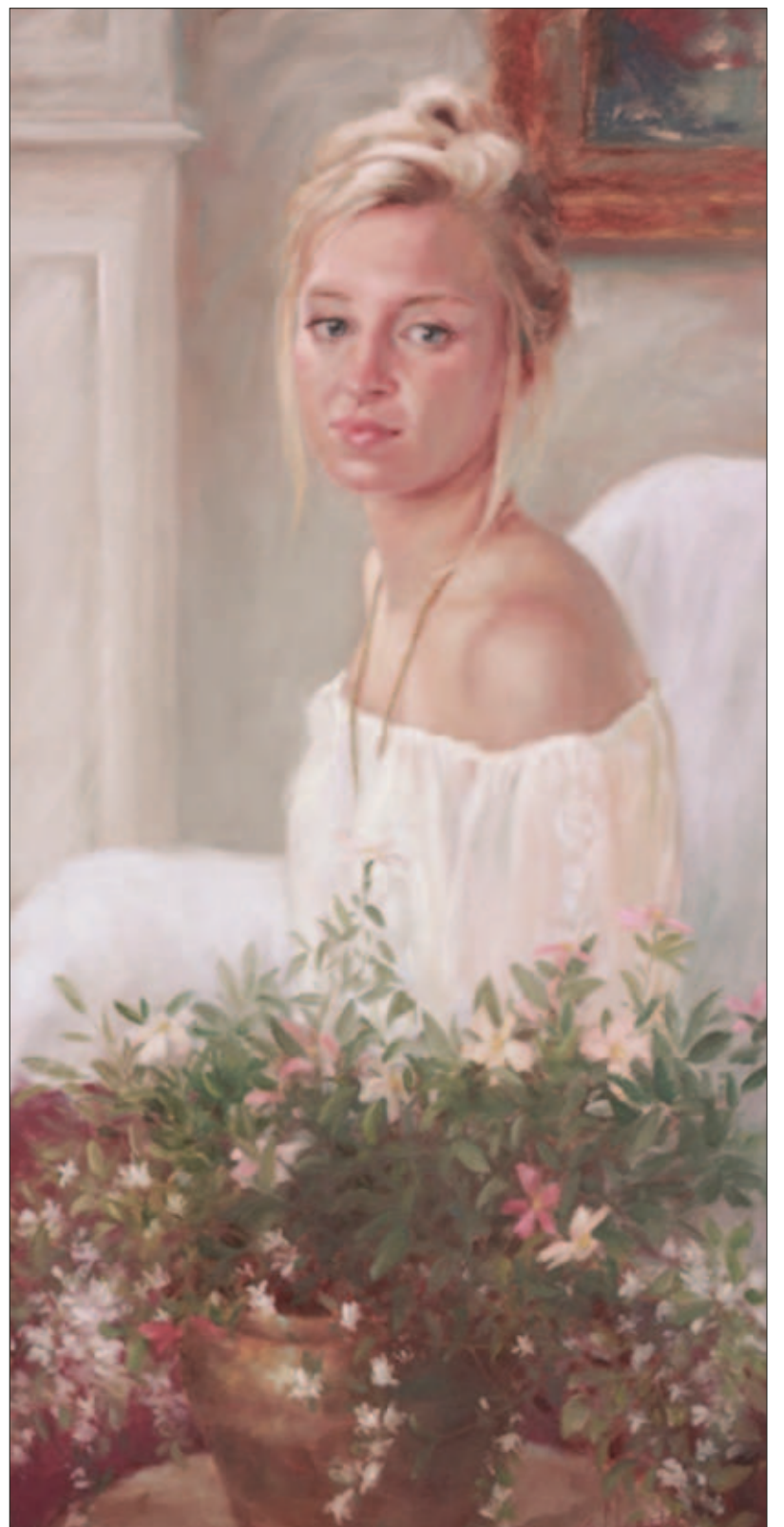
This most difficult subject holds the artist's attention year after year.

"I am definitely drawn to portrait and figure painting. It is the single subject that keeps me the most captivated," Hutto said.

Still there remains room for everyone.

"With the varying degree of proficiency, there's always been a comfortable place for anyone to learn and in turn, grow their skills. I've experienced many 'Aha!' moments in each and every session! Artists don't work in a void," Hibbeler said.

"The people are tremendously helpful, fun and encouraging to beginners," Hutto added.



Southern Charm — Oil — Canvas by Gini Morelock-Bosco.



Dan K Cossack Hat — Watercolor — Paper by Cheryl Lee Moore.

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PECAN PLANTATION BITS



PHOTO COURTESY PAC STAFF

The PAC hosted a Daddy/Daughter Ball as a precursor to Valentine's Day. Couples enjoyed crafts, refreshments, and dance instruction led by Dance Dreams Academy.

Special event: Daddy/Daughter Ball a Valentine's Day delight in Pecan

Dads and their daughters enjoyed a special event when they gathered at the Pecan Activity Center for an afternoon of crafts, refreshments, and dancing. Dressed in their finest attire, the dad/daughter duos learned dance steps both for couples as well as line dance moves for a group. Many thanks go to Dance Dreams Academy for hosting this adorable event each year.

GROUP DINNER

Pecan's widow and widower group will gather again on Tuesday, Feb. 28 in the clubhouse Terrace Room for social time at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6. Bingo will immediately follow dinner.

Caryl Mahaffey writes that "we are happy to be starting back after the holidays and



BY DIANE LONG

A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 28 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother and English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 15 years cumulatively. She spends her time gathering neighborhood news and teaching students how to avoid passive voice.

will be meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month." The widow and widower group is specifically designed to focus on the needs and friendships of widows and widowers in Pecan. Leading the group's board, along with Caryl, are Peggy Wetle, Dan Crise, and Dale Heid. For more information on the organization, contact Caryl at caryl.mahaffey@charter.net.

BAKE SALE

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service auxiliary is preparing for its annual spring bake sale slated for Saturday, March 11 beginning at 10 a.m. at the EMS building meeting room on Monticello Drive. A "Flamingle" theme will make the day big fun. Cowtown Gold and Silver will also be on site to purchase precious metals, donating a part of their proceeds to Pecan's emergency groups.

The next regular meeting of the auxiliary will happen Monday, March 6 at 7 p.m. in the EMS building. All Pecan residents interested in fundraising for our community's emergency service groups are invited to attend.

ELECTION TIME

Pecan's annual meeting will happen Saturday, March 4 beginning at 11 a.m. at the clubhouse. Pecaners will elect three new members to its

board of directors, and vying for the opportunity to serve are Doug Bacon, Gene Barron, Chris Fair, Larry Johnson, Randy Larson, Robert Taber, and Tim Webster. Electronic ballots are due by noon on Friday, March 3, and paper ballots must be delivered to the PAC or clubhouse before 9 a.m. on election day.

BOOT SCOOTIN'

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club's annual boot-scootin' dinner and dance is on the calendar for Saturday, March 25, and tickets are on sale now. Folks who would like to reserve a spot may visit www.mypwcc.com/ bootscootin online to order tickets. All proceeds from the event will benefit Hood County charities as well as PPWC scholarship recipients.

"Boots and Bling" is the phrase of the evening that will include a cash saloon, general store, silent auction, and "blingiest cowgirl" contest.

BLOOD DRIVE

The blood drive held by the American Red Cross last week in Pecan yielded an amazing 84 units! Thank you to everyone who donated and assisted in this life-saving endeavor.

GROWING WELL

The Green Thumb Garden Club recently participated in

a very successful "Drive to Grill" in our community. This volunteer group maintains the common areas of our neighborhood, specifically the front and back circles. Folks who would like to join are always welcome as the club beautifies "our great place to live." For complete information on the Green Thumb Garden Club and its activities, contact Linda Kunzman: lindagogo@msn.com.

LADIES GOLF

Pecan's Ladies Golf Association has low gross/low net on the calendar for Tuesday, Feb. 25. When March arrives next week, the ladies will observe a 9 a.m. shotgun start and winter rules. March will also bring Sadie Hawkins and 18 Hole Guest Day events. For all golf happenings, contact the pro shop: 817-573-2645.

ART NEWS

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild continues to be a busy and productive bunch, meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC. Leadership for the guild this year includes Linda Parks, president; Pam Carriker, vice president; Susan Thillen, recording secretary; Linda Barron, treasurer; and Beth Eschbach, parliamentarian.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Buddy Test who passed away Jan. 20.

dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

OUTDOORS

FROM PAGE B1

worse than others, but we do get some golden alga year to year. Lake Granbury is not the only body of water with golden alga. You can do a search for golden alga bloom reports on the TPWD website.

Golden alga is a plant that prefers salty "brackish" water (most West Texas water bodies have a relatively high salt content). It apparently does not affect water bodies that are more acidic. For example, the Trinity River Basin bodies of water, which include Bridgeport, Benbrook, Ray Hubbard and Lewisville have never had golden alga that I am aware of.

Golden alga is naturally occurring and typically blooms in the winter when the normally dominant green and blue algae are not as dominant. Golden alga in a bloom emits toxins that are deadly to gill-breathing animals. It is not known to affect other wildlife that drink from the affected body of water.

It is advised by the TPWD

that you should not eat any dead or dying fish found in the lake whether it is due to golden algae or any other cause.

Apparently, our best recourse to avoid the fish kills is a good heavy rain where water moves or breaks up the concentrated blooms. Golden algae is a plant that requires sunlight, so therefore a muddy lake after a heavy rainfall would prevent its development.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Water temperatures continue to hover in the low 50s. Fishing continues to be excellent for large blue catfish on the upper ends using cut drum/shad. Striped bass are fair to slow to 11 pounds on jigs and live bait fished from Indian Harbor to Striper Alley. Crappies continue to be good on small jigs/minnows fished near deeper structure like bridge pilings. White bass are fair on spinners and minnows fished near Indian Harbor and in the river near Tin Top.

Largemouth bass continue to be good in numbers on soft plastics fished in the river above Lake Granbury and near main lake points.

OTHER AREAS

Comanche Creek black bass fishing continues to be good on soft plastics. The warm water on this power plant lake continues to bring in anglers from all across the state. Channel catfish limits are common on prepared baits and cut shad fished on many areas of the lake. Comanche Creek will close to the public on March 31 and is scheduled to open again in October (see website: <https://www.luminant.com/squaw-creek-park/>).

Possum Kingdom Lake strippers to 7 pounds are good on slabs and 5-inch swim baits from Broadway to Costello Island. White bass are excellent on slabs near Bone Bend, Peanut Patch and in the back of Cedar Creek.

michael.acosta@att.net | 254-396-4855

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

SUPPORT SYSTEM calendar will feature recurring activities that provide group support and are open to the public. Submit Support System listings to calendar@hcnews.com and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

EVERY DAY

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

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).

GRIEF SHARE 14-WEEK seminar Sept 13 - Dec. 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Presented by StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: GriefShare.StoneWaterChurch.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. Maximum weight scale: 400 pounds.

GRIEF SHARE 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 Grief-share 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.

FIRST TUESDAY

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS 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 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.

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 CAREGIVERS 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.

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 24 February 2023 - Thursday, 02 March 2023

80 for Brady (PG13)
 Fri: 12:15PM, 2:50PM, 5:25PM, 8:00PM.
 Sat: 12:15PM, 2:55PM, 5:35PM, 8:20PM.
 Sun: 12:25PM, 3:15PM, 6:00PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:15PM, 5:05PM, 7:50PM

Ant-Man and The Wasp: Quantumania (PG13)
 Fri: 12:00PM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 9:00PM, 10:00PM.
 Sat: 11:45AM, 12:45PM, 2:45PM, 3:45PM, 5:45PM, 8:50PM, 9:45PM.
 Sun: 12:00PM, 3:00PM, 6:00PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:40PM, 3:00PM, 6:30PM, 7:40PM.
 Thurs: 1:40PM, 4:40PM, 7:40PM

Ant-Man and The Wasp: Quantumania in 3D (PG13)
 Fri: 4:00PM.
 Sat: 6:45PM.
 Sun: 1:40PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed: 4:40PM.
 Thurs: 3:30PM

Cocaine Bear (R)
 Fri: 12:00PM, 2:25PM, 4:50PM, 7:15PM, 9:40PM, 10:35PM.
 Sat: 12:05PM, 2:30PM, 4:55PM, 7:20PM, 9:45PM.
 Sun: 12:00PM, 2:25PM, 4:50PM, 7:15PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:30PM, 4:55PM, 7:20PM

Jesus Revolution (PG13)
 Fri: 12:00PM, 2:50PM, 5:40PM, 8:30PM.
 Sat: 11:30AM, 2:20PM, 5:10PM, 8:00PM.
 Sun: 12:30PM, 3:20PM, 6:10PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:50PM, 7:40PM

Creed III (PG13)
 Thurs: 7:00PM

Magic Mike's Last Dance (R)
 Fri: 4:10PM, 7:00PM, 9:50PM.
 Sat: 4:45PM, 7:40PM.
 Sun: 3:00PM, 6:00PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 4:30PM, 7:30PM

Puss in Boots: The Last Wish (PG)
 Fri: 1:25PM.
 Sat: 2:00PM.
 Sun: 12:00PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 1:50PM

The Amazing Maurice - Sensory Friendly (PG)
 Sat: 11:30AM

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CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

SATURDAY, FEB. 25

TEXAS INDEPENDENCE Celebration - David Crockett

Chapter / Sons of The Republic of Texas presentation of the Revolution leading to Texas Independence in 1836. Location - Historic Granbury Courthouse in the 2nd floor courtroom. Multiple displays starting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Celebration begins 11 a.m. to Noon. Free family friendly event. Great way to learn some Texas History.

MONDAY, FEB. 27

GRANBURY WINE Society is hosting Wine Presentation 101 - Festivals & Competitions and presented by Debbie Reynolds, Coordinator of the Master Wine Classic of Granbury from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Spring Creek Barbeque 317 W Hwy 377, Granbury. Attendees are asked to dine (at their own expense) prior to or at the conclusion of the presentation. Open to members and non-members, RSVP is

appreciated to Society President Vickie DiGiovanni @ 407-595-9226. Should you have any questions or need to alter the content for spacing/size purposes please advise. Have a wonderful weekend!

TUESDAY, FEB. 28

MID CITIES Stamp Club - Granbury Branch will be getting together on Tuesday, February 28 at 7 p.m. The meeting will take place at the Bentwater Activities Center located at 1800 Emerald Bend Court. Program by Rick Howell - "Jenkins Express: Dodging the Yanks in Virginia" For more information call 817-910-8174.

MOVIE NIGHT! "The Sheriff" by KrisAnne Hall, National Speaker, Author, Radio/TV host. Join us to see how the Sheriff has transformed from a blind enforcer into a defender of people's rights. The Sheriff and their constitutional responsibility. Brazos Covenant Ministries, 1950 Acton Hwy. Social 5:30 p.m. Meeting 6:30 p.m.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | B7

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SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on Feb. 22 (Puzzle 107).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

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LEGACY COMES TO LIFE

Madison Thompson King: farmer, patriot, family man



BY STEVE TEEL

EDITOR'S NOTE: The story of Madison Thompson King is told by his great-great grandson, Steve Teel. Steve is an active member of the David Crockett Chapter of The Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) in Granbury.

My family was among many others who came to the Republic of Texas seeking new opportunities and new lives in the new Republic. Even as a child I knew our family would have a great future in Texas. Madison T. King is my name, but family and friends call me Matt. It was exciting times for our family, but especially me and my brother Andy. Anderson was his name, but we all called him Andy. He and I did everything together and we shared the same vision for adventure and the great lives we could build in Texas.

I am the oldest child of Davis and Mary (Polly) Sartain King and was born Jan. 8, 1822 in Lincoln County, Tennessee, and we emigrated to the Republic of Texas in 1838. In 1839 my family received a land grant for 360 acres in Nacogdoches County south of the town of Nacogdoches about 10 miles or so.

Nacogdoches was an old town created in Mexican Texas in 1826. This is where we would begin building our farm and I have to tell you it was hard work. Fortunately, there were lots of natural resources available to build a modest house and the land was fertile. I stayed with my family most of the time helping with the farm until I turned 26 and married Sarah Jane Haynes on Nov. 16, 1848. As a wedding present my parents gave us 75 acres in Nacogdoches County near the town of Woden.

Hostilities between us settlers and Indians was a serious problem. We always had to be prepared for attack, so I gave an axe to my new bride, to wear in a belt around her waist, just in case she needed it. Sarah Jane and I had six boys and four daughters. We raised them in the Methodist Church even though I was raised in the Presbyterian Church. Sarah was raised in the Methodist Church, so I converted to her church and served as a steward to the Melrose Circuit Conference for many years.

During my growing up years and continuing to the end of my life, farming was always challenging to provide for our families. Nacogdoches County was formed in 1837, and was full of small farms and a few plantations. We were all subjected to Texas weather, which varied almost every

year — we had many lean years and many good years — just not altogether. The other big issue was the lack of transportation to move our goods. We raised pigs and some cattle, and raised vegetables and some oats.

The population of Nacogdoches County was growing and growing fast. The new settlers tended to be staunch Democrats from southern states. As the Civil War began to get closer, the mood for secession began growing and in 1860 a vote was taken for Nacogdoches County to secede or not.

The vote was 411 to 94 to secede but there was strong sentiment against it. Our great Governor Sam Houston was dead set against secession, but he was driven out of office and Texas joined the Confederacy.

I was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in Company C, 2nd Infantry Regiment, Texas State Troops. My job was to supervise the hauling of supplies from Nacogdoches



County to east Texas and West Louisiana. In 1863 my brother Andy joined Arnold's Riflemen as part of the Texas State Troops and was killed in service. This was a great blow to me as we were very close.

After the Civil War, the next 20-30 years were tough years for farmers in Nacogdoches County with issues of weather, economic ups and downs, transportation and many other issues that directly affected us not to mention reconstruction. Through all this our family remained strong in our faith and confident in a great future in and for Texas.

My Sarah died on April 27, 1900, and I followed her about five months later on Sept. 4, 1900. We are buried next to each other in the King Family Cemetery near our home on Kingtown Road.



COURTESY OF STEVE TEEL

Pictured is the gravestone of Madison Thompson King

WHO ARE THE SONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS?

The Sons of the Republic of Texas consists of members who are direct lineal descendants of those who settled the Republic of Texas from 1836 to Feb. 19, 1846. The purpose of the SRT is to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who won Texas' independence. They set the course for Texas to become a nation and eventually the 28th state. Legacy Comes To Life personifies our ancestors with true stories about real people who changed the course of history. For membership information, please visit our website; srttexas.org or email old300.srt@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B6

MARCH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN will be holding Lenten Services on Wednesday at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. Emmanuel is located at 2301 Fall Creek Hwy. For more information go to <http://www.elcgranbury.com>

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

LAKE GRANBURY Newcomers Club will meet on Thursday, March 2, 2023. Tammy Smith, PT, owner of Freedom Physical Therapy will talk about how her center promotes good health through physical fitness and also offers a variety of tools to educate and carry out skills that prevent further injury and help us age gracefully. Tammy will discuss the attributes of physical therapy and recovery from surgery,

illness, or injury. Social hour 9 a.m., meeting begins at 10:15 a.m. at the DeCordova Bend Country Club located at 5301 Country Club Drive, Granbury, Tx. Reservation required by noon on Friday, February 24, 2023. For more information email at lgnc.reservations@gmail.com or call 682-719-3343.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7

GRANBURY LIONS Club will hold a meeting on Tuesday, March 7 at 12 noon at Spring Creek Barbeque located at 217 E. US Hwy 377. Guest speaker will be Gabriela Gamez. Manager at Ruth's Place. Everyone is welcome. The Granbury Lions Club supply free eye-glasses, flu shots, medicine, help single mothers with clothes for job interviews, and much more. For more information contact Glenn Jennings, membership chairperson at 214-679-4540 or visit <https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/Granbury>

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN will be holding Lenten Services on Wednesday at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. Emmanuel is located at 2301 Fall Creek Hwy. For more information go to <http://www.elcgranbury.com>

MONDAY, MARCH 13

THE NORTH Central Texas Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 13, at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. Hwy. 377. The program will be presented by Dr. Jonathan Steplyk, a Professor of History at the University of Texas at Arlington. Dr. Steplyk will speak on the Union attack on the Confederate Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River in Tennessee. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.ncentexcwrt.com>.

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BOOK REVIEW

'Oscar Wars' provides in-depth look behind the scenes of Academy Awards

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You've often wondered what ended up on the cutting room floor.

What Easter eggs or tiny secrets never made it into your favorite movie? Which budding star's debut role will you miss because someone decided it wasn't worthy? What will never be seen on-screen? So much celluloid, so many scripts slashed, plots mashed, dreams dashed, and as in "Oscar Wars" by Michael Schulman, careers trashed.

Nearly a year ago, you almost couldn't go anywhere without hearing about The Slap. Everyone, it seemed, had an opinion about both action and Academy.

As for the latter, Schulman said, the Academy Awards are "a vaunted tradition celebrating a great modern art form. They're an industry party ... the closest thing America has to royalty ... a marketing ploy ... the Gay Super Bowl." And "they're something else, too."

The Oscars, in a way, are a battlefield where "it can take years to see what the real battle lines were." There's conflict in the Awards, cultural upheaval, and politics. The movies hold up a mirror to us and our society, but what happens behind the scenes with the Awards is rarely known by the public.

The first Awards were held quietly, because that's how the Academy began: members at the first meeting were carefully chosen VIPs, bona fide stars, directors, and powerful studio owners. It's possible, Schulman suggests, that the first Academy Awards process was "rigged."



PHOTO COURTESY OF ETHAN JAMES GREEN

Author Michael Schulman

Through the years, there were many times when the Academy was almost disbanded and the Awards show deleted. And yet, it always rallied, because who didn't want that statue gracing their mantle or bathroom shelf? Frank Capra did everything imaginable to get one. So did Bette Davis, even going so far as to have an abortion. Judy Holliday narrowly missed getting the role that gained her an Oscar. Dennis Hopper didn't care if he had one or not, though, and Dalton Trumbo got his very, very late.

In the near-century of the Oscars, there were come-backs and come-from-behinds, a Red Scare and Snow White. Indeed, the ceremony has thrived despite a ratings system, racism, rock & roll, 1969... and a Slap heard 'round the world.

As addictive as a large popcorn, extra butter, and more fun than a trailer for that next big flick, "Oscar Wars" is a star-powered fan's book,

all the way - but it also has something for not-particularly-avid, sometimes-watchers, too.

With a heavy tip toward Hollywood, author Michael Schulman adds history and pop culture to his stories, showing how world events affected the movies and vice versa. The Academy hasn't always followed along, though, leaving fans screaming "WHAAAT??" at their televisions once a year on a Sunday; on this, Schulman subtly explains the unexplainable in a way that anyone can appreciate. His anecdotes put the shiny, sparkly "tinsel" in these Tinsel Town tales.

This is a hefty tome, but don't let that be daunting; "Oscar Wars" is so much fun to read that you'll barely notice its size. If you're truly mad for movies, Hollywood, the Red Carpet, or cultural history, this book makes the cut.



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"Oscar Wars: A History of Hollywood in Gold, Sweat, and Tears" by Michael Schulman

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