

Published Wednesday and Saturday

Fire on the Square



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CITY OF GRANBUR

Crews from multiple volunteer fire departments responded to the scene of an early morning fire Thursday that broke out on the second floor of the Nutt House Hotel on the northeast corner of the Granbury Square. The hotel was named a Texas Historical Landmark in 1970.

Historic Hotel on Granbury Square burns in early morning fire

SEE MORE INSIDE

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Kids have a fun time at the YMCA's Kids Night Out. Please see story, B1.

Lipan ISD moves to five-day modified/ hybrid schedule. Please see photos, B1-B2.

Granbury Cigar Company offers a place to socialize. Please see story, B4-B5.

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Statistics: Granbury police focus on traffic safety, not tickets

BY KATHY CRUZ Senior Staff Writer

In some cities, speed traps are a guaranteed source of revenue. Not in Granbury.

In the vast majority of cases, traffic stops by Granbury police officers bring only a warning.

According to the city, in 2022 police officers made 7,755 traffic stops but issued just 923 citations. That means that 88% of drivers who were pulled over went on their way without their day being ruined. Only 12% of traffic stops resulted in tickets or arrests. Police Chief Mitch Galvan said that the Granbury Police Department is focused on making streets safer by educating motorists. That often can be done by simply making them aware of a driving infraction. Other motorists who see the stop tend to pay closer attention to their own driving, the chief indicated. "We tell our officers that educating and getting our community and the drivers to comply with the laws is our main goal," Galvan said. "That's the whole purpose of traffic enforcement, is to get them to comply with traffic laws.' Galvan had a laugh over Richard Hoefs having "let the cat out of the bag" about the police department's citation statistics at a recent City Council meeting. Hoefs, a member of the city's Planning and Zoning Commission and its Capital Improvements Advisory

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

The historic Nutt House Hotel on the northeast corner of the Granbury Square, which has been under renovation for several years, sustained severe damage Thursday after a fire broke out on the second floor in the early morning hours.

According to a statement released by the city, the fire was discovered around 1 a.m. Multiple volunteer fire departments responded to the scene.

Although the blaze was contained to the second floor, the entire building suffered smoke and water damage, sources reported. Hood County Fire Marshal Jeff Young said that painters had been in the building on Wednesday until about 5 p.m. and that the hotel was about two months away from reopening.

According to Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley, the owner is Cindy Nobles.

Young said that the city's fire

inspector, Kevin Jones, is investigating the fire and that his county office will have no role unless the city requests assistance.

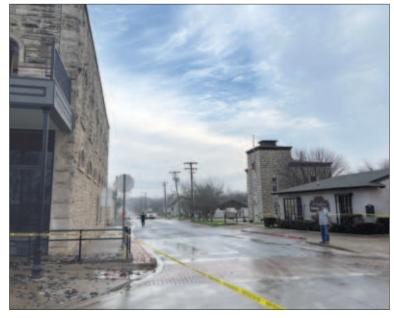
According to the statement released by the city early Thursday, firefighters and investigators would be at the scene all day and nearby streets would be closed.

The city reported that firefighters were still "putting out hot spots" at 6:15 a.m. Thursday.

Paula McDonald, who owns two businesses on the square — Beam & Branch Realty on East Bridge St. and N on the Square, which is cattycorner to the Nutt House Hotel at Bridge and Crockett Streets spoke to the Hood County News by phone as she was arriving on the scene shortly after 8 a.m. to see whether her businesses had sustained damage. She said that she and other business owners on the square found out about the fire through social media.

"This is so much more far-

reaching," she said, referring to surrounding businesses that



Debris from the fire was "everywhere," according to Paula McDonald, who owns two businesses near the Nutt House Hotel.

may have sustained smoke or other damage. "There is debris everywhere." A post on the North Hood PLEASE SEE **FIRE** | A2

PLEASE SEE TICKETS | A2

County, city partner on efforts for TxDOT light at Acton Highway/FM 4

BY KATHY CRUZ

Staff Writer

The Granbury City Council has agreed to work with the county on a plan by Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson that Wilson hopes will save lives and prevent future accidents.

The interlocal agreement involves the installation of a 440-foot right turn lane at Acton Highway and FM 4, where Wilson said many accidents have occurred, including two fatalities in 2021.

The commissioner said that he personally stopped to offer assis-

tance at the site of two accidents there. One was a five-vehicle crash last September, and the other was a three-vehicle accident last December. The one in December resulted in multiple injuries, he said, with one person airlifted and others transported to a hospital via ground ambulance.

Wilson said he has been in discussions with the Texas Department of Transportation "for well over a year" in an effort to have traffic control lights installed at that location. He said officials with TxDOT indicated that its budget currently does not have the funds to grant the request but that if a right turn lane is in place, the state agency might be able to find the money to install traffic lights.

The city's assistance is due to the location being "barely" within the city limits, according to Wilson. Loose ends on the agreement

were tied up during this week's regular meeting of the Commissioners Court. Granbury Mayor Jim Jarratt and City Manager Chris Coffman were in attendance and spoke briefly in praise of the collaboration, and Coffman presented a check for just under \$5,000 to the county auditor. Per the interlocal agreement, the city is paying for the materials needed for the turn lane and the county's Road Operations department will provide the labor.

Coffman noted that installing the traffic control lights will cost the state between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

The Commissioners Court approved the partnership at its regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 14 but voted on the matter again at Tuesday's meeting because some minor tweaks were made to the verbiage of the agreement. The court unanimously approved the idea

both times.

The Granbury City Council unanimously approved the plan at its regular meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Wilson said that TxDOT indicated possibly installing the light before the end of the year or during the first quarter of 2024, but he feels that installation of the turn lane might motivate TxDOT to move up the timeline.

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

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The statue of the Nutt House Hotel's most notable owner, Mary Lou Watkins, is barely visible amidst the chaos (top) as firefighting crews from across the county fought the blaze that consumed the second floor of the historic hotel early Thursday. The hotel was reportedly inhabited by harmless spirits and back in the day delicious southern buffets in the downstairs restaurant drew people from miles around.

FIRE

fate began spreading on social media before the sun rose Thursday.

hot-water cornbread, chicken and dumplings, and buttermilk pie Watkins sold the hotel in 1983 "under the proviso that all operations remain basically the same," according to Ray's book

floor hotel had eight rooms and one bathroom at the end of the

AFTERMATH

FROM PAGE A1

County Volunteer Fire Department's Facebook page stated that in addition to its crew, other responders included the Granbury, Cresson, DCBE-Acton, Lipan, Hood County Station 70, Pecan Plantation, and Tolar Volunteer Fire Departments.

The Cresson VFD reported that its "Truck 30" pumped more than 100,000 gallons of water onto the fire.

Drone footage posted online by the Granbury VFD showed a roaring fire on the hotel's second floor.

No firefighters were injured battling the blaze, according to Granbury Communications Manager Jeff Newpher.

HEARTBREAKING

News of the beloved hotel's tragic

Former owner Melinda Ray, who sold the property to Nobles several years ago, posted, "My heart is broken. Even though she wasn't mine anymore, I still loved this grand old dame on the northeast corner of the Square. So many memories, so many good times, so much of Granbury's story witnessed by those proud limestone walls.

Just across from the hotel, by the courthouse, stands a bronze statue of the hotel's most notable former owner, the late Mary Lou Watkins, a descendent of the Nutt family who is credited with sparking the Granbury community's commitment to preserving its history. Watkins is depicted in a prairie dress and apron ringing her signature dinner bell to announce dinnertime at the hotel's popular restaurant, which was famous for its

"Limestone Legacies." Sam Winters said she was the manager of the hotel and adjoining candy store about 25 years ago and still has the original cookbook that was used at the restaurant. She said the establishment was "a very popular place" that "served over 100 every day for lunch." The restaurant would close after lunch but reopen for dinner, she said.

"People came from everywhere to eat our hot-water cornbread," Winters stated. "We had a buffet of southern food. My friend and I made the prairie dresses and small bonnets the waitresses wore. So many memories."

Winters said that the second-

hall and that Billie Sol Estes once stayed there. Estes, a businessman best known for his involvement in a scandal that complicated his ties to friend and future U.S. President Lyndon Johnson, was the father of Pam Padget, who ran a business on the southwest corner of the square until her death in June 2014.

The Nutt House Hotel has been known for spirits that allegedly made their presence known to guests and employees. Those spirits are believed to include a county judge who once called the hotel home, a young girl who might have been the daughter of a Nutt family member, and possibly Watkins herself, who Ray believed might have been responsible for closing blinds as well as doors to vacated guest rooms where beds had not yet been remade.

As the HCN prepared to go to press Thursday, Newpher told the newspaper that further information would be released later that day related to road closings and parking restrictions.

This message was posted on the Granbury VFD's Facebook page about the Nutt House Hotel: "She's a tough old lady! The 2nd floor has extensive fire damage and the first floor suffered water/smoke damage. She will require extensive remodeling again."

The historic hotel, though crippled, still stands.

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TICKETS FROM PAGE A1

Committee, cited the numbers while praising the police department and city leaders.

Galvan said he has never been pressured by the city manager or the City Council to issue more traffic citations.

"It's because I shared that philosophy with them long ago and told them that we're accomplishing

what we need to accomplish without having to run paper," the chief stated.

He cited the city's tourism industry as one of the reasons why speed traps are a bad idea for everybody.

"We're a tourist town, and we invite people here and we want them to come back," Galvan said. "And the quickest way to keep that from happening is if you're issuing citations for every stinking thing that happens. Just imagine if those numbers were reversed, we would

be known as one of those (revenuefocused) cities. It's not the image we wanted to portray, not one that I wanted to portray anyway."

Galvan said that officers are given full discretion on whether to issue a citation or let someone off with a warning. He said they are encouraged to write a ticket if circumstances such as road conditions, traffic, and the driver's behavior warrant it.

"You know, warnings go a long way," he said. "But, by all means, if a citation is warranted, don't hesitate to write one."

Galvan indicated a belief that the public knowing the citation statistics will not result in drivers fearlessly disregarding traffic laws. Officers routinely pull people over, he said, and passersby don't know whether that person is being issued a ticket or not.

Galvan said that the city's police officers "do an incredible job" and that he often receives emails from members of the public informing

him of positive interactions.

"We really focus on that during the hiring process," he said, referring to officers' attitudes and personalities. "We take a long time to hire people because we're going to hire the right people."

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

It may not always be the easy way, but it is the 'cowboy way'

ome of my earliest memories are of cowboys. Growing up in the time period that I did, Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, John Wayne, and Gene Autry were all icons I looked up to. I wanted to emulate everything about them. I wore jeans and cowboy hats, and the cowboy scarf I wore to kindergarten now hangs in a frame in my home office; a glowing memory, aged but not forgotten.

Though I have had a variety of occupations in my adult life, perhaps the best was when I was a cowboy. Time was spent riding and showing horses, fixing fences, working cattle, and even riding an occasional bull. For a portion of my life, I got to live the cowboy lifestyle. It is a good way.

Roy Rogers had a tremendous demeanor and persona, which made him capable of influencing young people and reaching out to children in a posi-



tive way. He created a "cowboy

creed." It was a set of commit-

ments young cowpokes were ex-

pected to fulfill if they were to

become "real cowboys."

2. Be courteous and polite.

3. Always obey your parents.

4. Protect the weak and help

6. Study hard and learn all you

7. Be kind to animals and care

8. Eat all your feed and never

9. Love God and go to Sunday

5. Be brave but never take

1. Be neat and clean.

them.

can.

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for them.

waste any.

School regularly.

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.

> 10. Always respect our flag and country.

As an adult looking back "the creed" was a pretty good way for a young man or woman to live their life. It set a tone and tenor for young people to live by and blazed the trail for them to grow into productive adults. It set a standard by which young people could establish their character.

As an adult cowboy, there are many unwritten rules about how to behave. These are a few of them I learned.

1. Never criticize a man's horse, dog or wife. Be kind and protective of women.

2. Always leave a gate the way you find it.

3. Hats off to eat or when you enter a home or office, when addressing the flag, and either remove or tip your hat when you meet a lady.

4. Ride for the brand. Loyalty to one's employer and personal integrity is a source of pride. Give 100% in any situation. Cowboys never complain about a job, they just get it done. 5. Do what is right, every time,

no matter the situation or the personal consequences.

6. Never go back on your word. Once given it is sacred.

7. Always tell the truth. 8. Talk less and say more. 9. Remember some things aren't

for sale 10. Know where to draw the

line.

From where I stand, living life like a cowboy and existing by those rules is a pretty good thing. It forces a man to refrain from crossing the line into "loose behavior" or acts that would degrade himself and those around him. I wish more people in our current world had grown up living by and learning Roy's creed and practiced the "cowboy way." Life is simple; we make it more difficult by trying to bend the rules or circumvent them.

Anytime I find myself getting near to crossing the line, I tell myself that whatever action I was getting ready to commit might be the easy way, but it isn't the cowboy way. Good thought to live by.

Thought for the day: If more men were cowboys, there would be a lot less difficulties in the world. Until next time, I will keep ri-

din' the storm out.

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Running life's long race

o describe the workouts he directed as "grueling" might be an extreme understatement if the athletes who ran for late track coach J.H. (Cap) Shelton are consulted.

Known as the "dean of Texas track coaches," he served at Howard Payne University — his alma mater — for 49 years. He worked long hours daily in numerous faculty and administrative posts, but was always best known for coaching.

Pushing himself in a "can-'tilcan't" approach to life perhaps explains his preference for distance runners. Not all track stars run fast, but he quickly identified the ones determined to run the longer races. His teams won 14 championships in the old Texas Conference, three



and sports second. He, too, was a lifelong educator, as have been dozens of others who were track and field athletes at HPU...

DEEPLY ADMIRED

Petty, a track star at Odessa High School, spent 42 years in education, including 26 in the Abilene ISD, where he was athletic director for the last five vears of his career.

Deeply admired at his points of service along the way El Paso, Odessa, Big Spring, Odessa and Abilene ISDs — he was head track coach at Abilene Cooper, then HPU, before returning to Abilene as principal of Mann Middle School. He was twice named Texas Regional Middle School Principal of the Year and was a member of the HPU Sports Hall of Fame.

BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Newbury is a longtime university president who continues to write weekly and speak regularly throughout Texas.

> and children Glenda, Glenn Jr. and Christi, as well as four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren...

SHOE LOSS

Probably the determination for which Glenn is remembered was noted during his freshman year.

Running on the HPU cross country team at the national championship race in Omaha. he and more than 130 other runners faced sub-freezing temperature and falling snow.

"We were about a mile into the four-mile race and a runner next to Glenn somehow grazed Glenn's shoe, and it went flying," said Willie Myers, a senior teammate running slightly ahead....

him to stop, find the shoe and put it back on, but he would have none of it."

Sure enough, Glenn kept running, miraculously completing the hilly course, despite pain inflicted by acorns and other objects in the snow on his shoeless foot.

"I never saw a limb more swollen the next day, doubled in size," Myers recalls. The backstory headline captured the essence: "Snow Flies, Shoe Flies, He flies."...

YARDS TO METERS

He ran when races were measured by yards rather than meters, a U.S. change in the 1970s to conform with the rest of the world.

In 1960, Glenn ran the 880yard event in 1:54.5, winning at the LSC track meet and becoming the first HPU athlete to win a conference running event as a freshman. David Noble, himself an HPU alumnus and former track coach at HPU and Angelo State University, still considers the "change to meters" as a mistake, which has set the sport back here...

FAST TALKER

Glenn loved students. He also had interests all over the board. He enjoyed golf, woodworking, reading and spending time with family and friends.

A conversationalist who knew about much, he'd look up (okay, Google) what he didn't know, then continue conversations. (One friend said he talked at 300 words a minute, with gusts to 350!)

He looked forward to overnight outings with college track buddies and spouses. They met annually — lately in Fredericksburg — for about the past 30 years...

'KEEP ON ...'

His heart weakening, he remained an encourager to the end. I received his email a few

in Lone Star and one national cross country championship...

LIFELONG EDUCATOR

One who "soaked up" his mentoring was Glenn Petty, former athletic director at Abilene Public Schools who died Feb. 2 at the age of 82.

Like "Cap," he taught life first

Cheering him on were Sandie, his wife of 60 years,

SNOW FLIGHT

He asked, "What do I do now?" Myers remembers. "I told

days before his death. It urged me to "keep on keeping on." Glenn contributed much and finished well.

This friend will be greatly missed....

newbury@speakerdoc.com

Rattlers tie two records advancing them to regionals this weekend

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Community News

With their 53-36 Class 2A Region 2 boys basketball quarterfinal victory over Nocona Tuesday night in Springtown, the Tolar Rattlers matched two school records.

For only the second time in program history they advanced to the fourth round of the playoffs, joining the 1990 team in that rarified air. Also, in improving their season record to 29-7, they equaled the team mark for victories that was set last season.

Now, Tolar will try to break both records when the Rattlers take on Sam Rayburn (29-6) Friday at 7 p.m. in the Region 2 Tournament semifinals at McKinney North High School. The winner gets to face No. 1 Lipan (33-1) or Wolfe City

(19-14) in Saturday's 1 p.m. championship game.

Lipan and Tolar have played twice this season, with the Indians winning both en route to the District 11-2A title, with the Rattlers finishing second in the league.

Merritt Imel led Tolar in scoring against Nocona (23-12) with 20 points, while teammate Derek Brafford

added 14.

"It was a team win. They all contributed in a big way," Tolar head coach Scott Richardson said of his team. "Our community and student sections were amazing. It was just an awesome atmosphere and our guys stepped up big time in it."

Nocona, the District 9 champion, was the second straight district winner the

Rattlers have defeated in getting to this spot. In the second round they topped District 10 champion Hawley, 54-39. Sam Rayburn took the crown in District 4 this season, then qualified for the regional tournament by defeating Muenster 43-39 behind

an 11-4 fourth-quarter run.

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SATURDAY, March 4, 2023

OBITUARIES

Phillip Sherwood Wallace

June 26, 1943 - February 5, 2023

Phillip S. Wallace, 79, of Granbury, Texas, joined his Heavenly Father on February 5, 2023. Phil was born June 26, 1943 in Carnegie, Oklahoma, the son of William Sherwood and Mattie (Thomas) Wallace. He graduated high school in Burns Flat, Oklahoma. After graduation, he joined the United States Air Force in 1962. He also earned his degree in criminal justice. After his service in the Air Force, he moved to Fort Worth, Texas, with his family and worked for Bell Helicopter in Hurst until he retired after 29 years in 2003. In addition to working at Bell, Phil owned and operated his own window and door business. He was an extremely hard worker and a wonderful provider to his family and anyone needing a helping hand.

Phil married the love of his life, Joycelyn Maureen Acree, on October 27, 1972. They recently celebrated their 50th Anniversary. He loved his family and many friends over his lifetime and looked forward to the many get-togethers: watching football, cooking his legendary barbecue and Christmas Eve chili, playing the guitar, harmonica and singing



with friends, fishing, being outdoors and enjoying the sunshine. He will truly be missed by everyone that knew and loved him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Lola Mae, brother Thomas Dudley Wallace, Uncle Floyd Wallace, daughters Debbie and Angie, grandson Nathan, and many friends who he considered family. He is survived by his cherished wife Joy, children: Phillip and Leta Wallace, Susie Wallace, Cindy Vannoy and Ruthye and Chris Cox, fourteen grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren with one on the way, a sister-inlaw JoAnn Wallace and nieces Pam and Petey.

A memorial is set for March 11, 2023, 2:00 p.m., at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury.

Bobby Lynn Boone

December 30, 1942 - January 12, 2023

Bobby (Bob) Lynn Boone was born December 30, 1942 in San Angelo, TX to parents Ray and Jessie Boone. He passed away in Fort Worth, TX on January 12, 2023 at age 80. Bob was a graduate of University of Texas in Austin and after graduation married Sharon Howard and they began their journey in life together. They were married for 57 years. Bob was a realtor in both

Stephenville and Granbury, TX. They have three children: Cassandra Galvan (husband David), Corbett Boone (wife Stephanie) and Clark Boone (wife Alicia). Bob was Papa to Natalia Galvan, Zachary Galvan,

and husband Fred Wilson. He was uncle to Laray and Jesse Adame (and their kids) and Jay and Cheryl Wilson. Bob donated his body to science in hopes of saving future lives.

A celebration of life will be held from 2:00 to 4:00

Leonard Austin (Buddy) Lamb,

Jr.

devoted husband, dad, and

granddad; a special broth-

er; and a loyal friend. He

will be missed by all who

knew and loved him. Bud-

daughter, Tracie Quan and

husband, Tom; son, Cody

Corey Lamb and Brendan

Kaynen; brother, Bill Lamb

and wife, Boba; sister, Judy

Quan; great-grandchild,

Sadberry and husband,

Earl; numerous nieces,

nephews, and other ex-

been reunited with his

wife, Patsy; parents,

Leonard and Daphne

Christie.

tended family. Buddy has

dy is survived by his

Lamb; grandchildren,

October 27, 1943 - February 23, 2023

Leonard Austin "Buddy" Lamb, Jr., 79, of Granbury. passed from this life Thursday, February 23, 2023, with his loving family by his side. He was born October 27, 1943, in Glendale, California to Leonard Austin Lamb and Daphne Jane Ferris Lamb. Buddy married his loving wife, Patsy Thorp, May 25, 1963. They enjoyed a loving marriage of forty-five years. Patsy preceded Buddy in death in 2008.

When Buddy was young his family relocated from California to Oklahoma, and then later settled in De Leon, Texas. Buddy and Patsy were high school sweethearts and Buddy graduated with the De Leon Bearcats Class of 1962. He then went on to attend and graduate from Tarleton State University. In 1977, Buddy relocated his family to Granbury from De Leon to start a position with the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, a career that he ultimately retired from decades later. He loved a great chicken fried steak, anything history oriented, and tinkering with or building anything. Buddy loved sports, especially the Dallas Cowboys and the TCU Horned Frogs. His dog, Hank, was a great companion later in his life. The family was able to bring Hank to visit Buddy in his last days in the hospital ICU, a special time for both Buddy and Hank.

Over the last few years, Buddy enjoyed spending time with Linda Burlison of De Leon. They enjoyed going out to eat, going to sporting events, playing dominoes, and spending time with family and friends.

Buddy was a loving and

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility han-

LETTER TO THE **EDITOR**

Elected Officials Dear Hood County Taxpayers, is it really okay

with y'all that the County Clerk Katie Lang manipulated the Commissioners Court into authorizing her to hire a "specialist" to work on the Tyler Conversion? This "specialist" came with an increase of about \$15,000 over what the other county clerks make, those who did the same work in their offices. But Mrs. Lang didn't have to look far to find a "specialist," she was able to find one right in her own office! Granted, what this elected official did is not illegal, but it is also not right and not fair! So far this elected official has wasted close to \$400,000 of our taxpayer money on this. I spoke to the Commissioners Court again, asking them to please right this wrong. Those other county employees who did this conversion without a salary increase should be compensated somehow, or that "specialist" position should just be eliminated now, because every single day it wastes our money. If you are tired of our elected officials

thinking they can just get by doing whatever they want, short of illegal, please speak up! Please call your commissioner and let them know how you feel! Please call all the commissioners and let them know how you feel. Let's right this wrong!

Tina Brown Granbury

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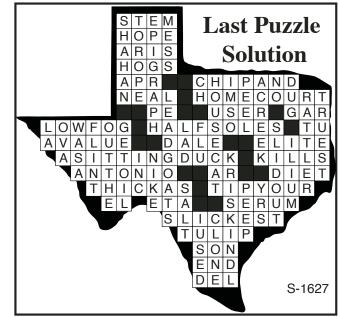
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Letters should be 500 words or less. All letters are subject to editing. All submissions to the Hood County News will become the property of the Hood County News. Letters to the Editor will appear in the Saturday edition of the Hood County News.

Questions: Call 817-573-7066 or contact Publisher Sam Houston.



(817) 279 - 7270 1909 Weatherford Hwy Granbury, TX





Tyler Boone, Peyton Boone, Ella Boone, Marley Boone and Ryder Boone. Bob is survived by his wife Sharon, sister Joan Wilson,

p.m. on March 11, 2023 at Hico First Baptist Church, 211 Walnut St., Hico, TX 76457.

dling the body or the church where service will be held. You must provide the contact info for verification when submitting the obituary.

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

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Can you count on Social Security being enough?

CHAD CARROLL

Edward Jones Financial Adviser

If you're getting closer to retirement, you might be thinking more about Social Security. Specifically, can you count on it to contribute part of the income you'll need as a retiree?

There's been an increase in alarming language surrounding the solvency of Social Security, but in reality, its prospects are not nearly as gloomy as you might have heard.

Here's the story: Under current law, Social Security



Carroll Social Security Trustees report. However, the large cost of living adjustment (COLA) (8.7%) for 2023 could cause the trust funds to use up their resources sooner.

But this outlook may represent a worst-case scenario. For one thing, the cost of the 2023 COLA will be somewhat offset by higher taxes on workers contributing to Social Security. The maximum amount of earnings subject

to the 6.2% Social Security tax jumped from \$147,000 in 2022 to \$160,200 in 2023. And in looking down the road, further increases in this earnings cap may also help reduce the gap in the trust funds. Increasing the payroll tax is another possibility for boosting funding to Social Security.

And here's a political reality: Social Security is a popular program and it's unlikely that any future Congress wants to be blamed for reducing benefits. Of course, there are no guarantees, but it seems fair to say that you can reasonably expect some benefits from Social Security when you retire.

But perhaps the bigger is-

sue is just how much you should depend on Social Security for your retirement income. On average, Social Security benefits will provide about 30% of a beneficiary's preretirement earnings, according to the Social Security Administration. But the higher your earnings before you retire, the lower the percentage that will be replaced by Social Security.

Still, you'll want to maximize the benefits that are available to you — and that means deciding when to start taking Social Security. You can begin as early as 62, but your monthly payments could be as much as 30% lower than your normal (or "full") retirement

age, which will likely be between 66 and 67.

Even if you were to wait until your full retirement age before collecting Social Security, you'll also need to draw on other sources of funding. So, while you are still working, it's a good idea to keep contributing to your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

The amount you contribute should depend on your overall financial strategy and your financial needs, so, for example, you probably shouldn't put in so much into your retirement accounts that you feel significant stress in your monthly cash flow. But when you do get a chance to invest more in

these accounts, such as when your salary goes up, you may want to take advantage of the opportunity.

Ultimately, you should be able to count on Social Security as part of your retirement income. You may want to consult with a financial professional to determine when taking Social Security makes the most sense for you and how you can also get the most from your other retirement accounts. You'll want a retirement income strategy that's built for the long run.

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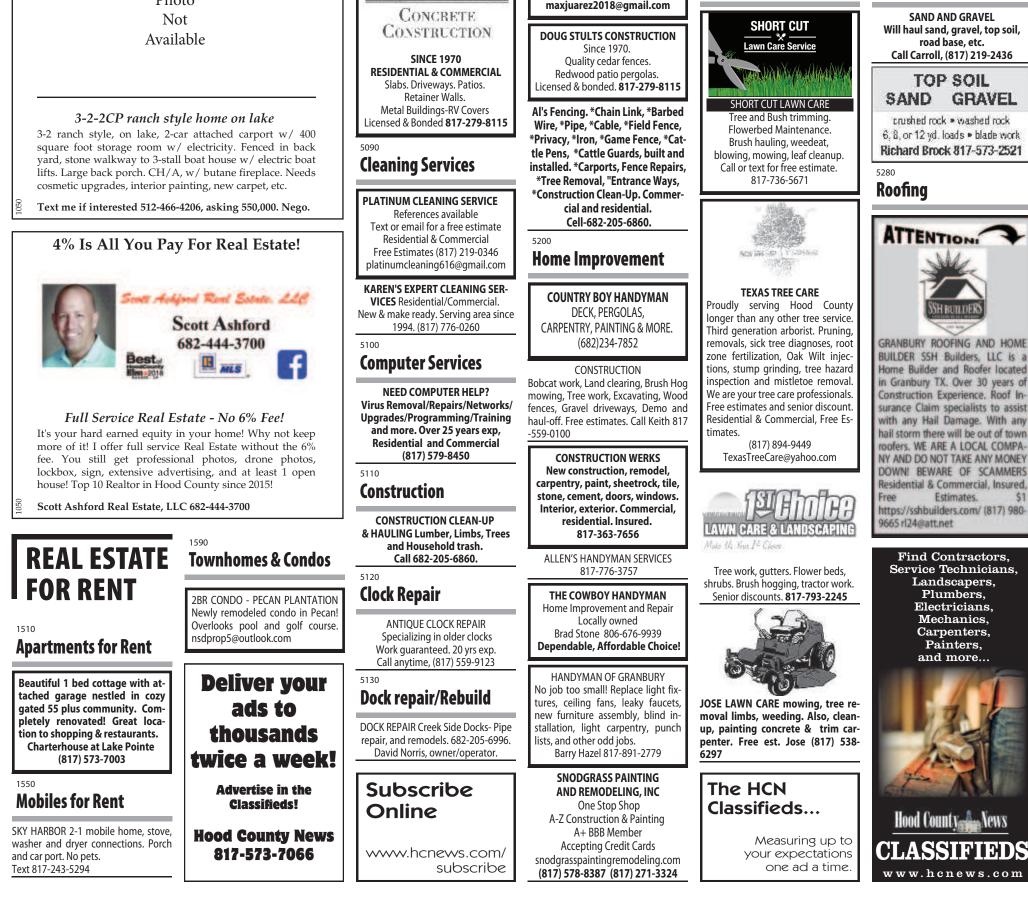
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Livestock

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8030 Pets



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.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Brewers and Permit and Distillers Permit- allows onpremise consumption by Local Goat LLC dba Local Goat Distillery, to be located at 609 N. Crockett St., Granbury, Hood County, Texas. Owners of said LLC are Roger Wall, Member, and Jessica Wall, Member.

CAUSE NO. P09880 ESTATE OF BILLY W. MOWERY, DECEASED, IN THE COUNTY COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of BILLY W. MOWERY, Deceased were issued on February 23, 2023, in Docket No. P09880 pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to CINDY S. MOWERY.

The residence of the Independent Executor is 6607 Pinehurst Drive, Granbury, Texas 76049, and the Independent Executor desires that all claims be presented to her at the following address:

c/o KATTEN BENSON ZACHRY, LLP Attorneys at Law 4763 Barwick Drive

Suite 100

Fort Worth, Texas 76132-1531 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Hood County, Texas will begin an online auction for the sale of a 2009 Ford F150, 2007 Ford Crown Vic, 2012 Chevy Tahoe, 2003 Chevy Tahoe, 2008 Kia Optima, 2005 Saturn Vue, 2002 Cadillac Deville, 2001 Hyundai Accent, 2005 Ford Escape, 2004 Mazda Tribute, 2014 Dodge Avenger, 2003 Suzuki 750, 2003 Dodge Ram 1500, 2008 Kia Optima, 2005 Lexus ES3, 2008 Ford Taurus, 2011 Dodge Avenger, HVAC Units Stripped Parts, PC's, Monitors, Laptops, Printers, Scanner, Misc. Vehicle Accessories, Mobile Radios, Mitel Phones, Misc. Items and Furniture, that have been declared surplus property of Hood County. Hood County online auction is with Rene Bates Auctioneer Inc. and will begin March 6, 2023, and run until March 20, 2023. Interested bidders can access the auction at www.renebates.com. Questions concerning this online auction should be directed to Hood County Purchasing Department 817-408-3440.

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Schuyler J. Kuykendall, Deceased, were granted on February 22, 2023, in Cause No. P09958, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Jamie S. Kuykendall.

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: Samuel I. Reid Attorney at Law 1840 Acton Highway Granbury, TX 76049 DATED the 22nd day of February 2023. The Reid Firm, P.C. Attorneys for Applicant By:/s/ Samuel I. Reid Steven J. Reid State Bar No.: 16747900 Samuel I. Reid State Bar No.: 24105702 1840 Acton Highway Granbury, TX 76049 Telephone: (817) 573-3718 Facsimile: (817) 573-9732 E-mail:steve@reidfirmpc.com samuel@reidfirmpc.com



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ARROWHEADS

P09955, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Lisa Paige Manry Montgomery. 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: Samuel I. Reid Attorney at Law 1840 Acton Highway Granbury, TX 76049 DATED the 22nd day of February 2023. The Reid Firm, P.C. Attorneys for Applicant By:/s/ Samuel I. Reid Steven J. Reid State Bar No.: 16747900 Samuel I. Reid State Bar No.: 24105702 1840 Acton Highway Granbury, TX 76049 Telephone: (817) 573-3718 Facsimile: (817) 573-9732 E-mail:steve@reidfirmpc.com

decisions in the newspaper - including their intent to build a structure nearby that you to bury public notices on little seen, rarely





Granbury 76048



2530 Vineyard Dr.- Saturday, March 4, starting at 8:30am. Lots of decor. Some furniture. A little bit of everything.

Granbury 76049 Garage Sales 76049

Timber Cove Neighborhood Community garage sale. Sat only, Mar 4, 8am-4pm. 1 house having a moving sale. Lots of great items. Don't miss out!

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Lucille Virnig Manry a/k/a Mary L. Manry, Deceased, were granted on February 22, 2023, in Cause No.

samuel@reidfirmpc.com Governments are required to publish their might not want. But some officials want

visited government websites.





9031 **Public Notices** NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Public Notices

9031

LEGAL AD Granbury ISD will accept bids for Brawner Kitchen Storefront renovations under CSP#2023-05. Proposals should be submitted online in the Granbury ISD eBid System. Vendors may login to view specifications and submit their response at the following link: https://granbury.ionwave.net all questions related the bid can be directed to the purchasing manager Houcine.Chraibi@granburyisd.org. Bids will be accepted March 14th 4:00pm

State of South Carolina County of Horry In the Magistrate's Court Notice and Order of Public Sale of Vehicle Civil Case Number 2023CV261070398

HW Diversified LLC, 135 Bucksport Rd., Conway, S.C. 25927, 843-855-6589 Plantiffs vs. John Newsom, 1406 Conejos Court, Granbury, TX 76048 Defendants.

By the authority vested in me by Section 29-15-10 of the SC code of Laws, 1976, as amended I will sell at Public Auction the below listed vehicle. Description of Vehicle: 1985, 18'3

Skeeter Vin # STE1P406C595

Accrued Charges: \$7,500.00 Sale will take place at Bucksport Mari-

na 135 Bucksport Rd., Conway, S.C. on April 3, 2023 at 10 a.m.

To Plaintiff and any named party with an interest in the herein described vehicle: A hearing is scheduled prior to sale on March 27, 2023 9:00 a.m. at the Court's address: 1201 Third Avenue Conway, S.C. 29526, Phone 843-915-5290. If you wish to contest the repair, towing or storage charges or the right to sell

YOU MUST APPEAR AT THIS HEAR-ING.

Garage Sales 76048





wilsonjulieanne@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR A COMPANION? If you are looking for a companion animal to give a forever home, OPT TO ADOPT! Call or visit Hood County Animal Control 1550 Weatherford Highway, Granbury, Texas 76048 817-573-4277

8040 **Pets Lost & Found**

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CONSTRUCTION Residential remodeler needed. Pay based on experience. Must have phone and transportation. Call 817-578-8387

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exasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/

Brazos Regional Public Utility Agency is accepting applications for a FULL-TIME Surface Water Treatment Plant Operator. The position prefers a minimum Class C Surface Water Operator license through TCEQ. Salary determined on licensing and experience. Call 682-500-1690.

Public Notices

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a BG (Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit) by Brew Drinkery LLC, dba Brew Drinkery to be located at 133 E. Pearl St., Granbury, Texas 76048. the officer and managing member of said corporation is Christian Piatt, Owner/Operator.

Notice of Public Sale

Sale of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held online at Storagetreasures.com. Facility is located at 4025 Rhea Rd, Granbury, TX 76049. Bidding will open March 16 and concludes March 20 at 5pm. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold as-is to highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant-Billy R Wallin: Appliances and misc. items. (817) 326-3402

rhearoadselfstorage@gmail.com

INDIAN ARROWHEADS WANTED. Point Type: Clovis, Yuma, Firstview & Eden. Must be old, authentic & unbroken. Absolute top dollar paid - up to 5 figures for one point. I am a very serious high-end collector. Call 979-218-3351.

AUCTION

Data Center/Flex/Warehouse, 9100 NW U.S. HWY 866-747-9983. 287. Bid deadline Mar. 23. Built 2018 w/ \$6.7M in upgrades, expansive warehouse, 13.72± AC with 6.6± AC for expansion, 22 drive-in doors & 2 loading docks, heavy power (10 MW electric), modern 2-story office space, leased 5,000± SF storage warehouse. 855-755-2300, HilcoRealEstate.com.

EVENT

RUN WITH SAM 5K - SAT., MARCH 4, Sam Houston State University Campus, Lot Z2-5 17th 7-7:45 a.m. Race begins at 8 a.m. \$20 Pre-registration runwithsam1793@gmail.com.

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EMPLOYMENT

The Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas is accepting St. & Bobby K Marks Dr., Huntsville, TX. Check in: proposals for construction of 10 new homes in the Vega Land Subdivision. Deadline: Feb. 28, 2023 by at www.RunWithSam.org, \$25 day of race. Email: 3 p.m. CST. Specifications: Purchasing@ktttribe.org or 830-773-2105.

221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads

ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSI-TIONS: GRANBURY 3817 Nocona Dr.- High-end decorative items, furniture, art, matching washer/dryer, vintage fishing gear, lawn equip. Photos at estatesales.net, search 'Decorator's Dream.' 12p-5p THR 9a -4p FRI 9a-1p SAT

ESTATE SALE

5301 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury TX 76049. March 3-4 from 9am-4pm. 70year collection from local Granbury artist, oil paintings, watercolors, painted china plates, maple dining table and 6 chairs, couch, king size bed, Royal Heidelberg German dinnerware and much more. Cash only.

ESTATE SALE at 4507 Rhea Rd. Friday and Saturdav March 10 and 11 from 8 to 5 each day.





County Judge Ron Massingill presented with award from the Texas Rangers

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

County Judge Ron Massingill has long had a reputation for being a big supporter of law enforcement, and now he has a big award to prove it.

At the recent annual elk chili cookout that he and his wife Brenda host at their ranch for first responders, Massingill was presented a Distinguished Benefactor award from the **Texas Ranger Association** Foundation.

Massingill said that the award is for a pledge of \$10,000 to the organization that he paid in installments over a period of several years.

The county judge related that he phoned a staffer at the foundation to find out how much remained of his pledge and to say that he would send a check for the final payment. He said that

he joked with her, eliciting laughter, when he said that he wanted something like "the Magna Carta with a lot of gold seals" to commemorate fulfillment of the pledge.

He received something that is perhaps equally impressive. The Distinguished Benefactor award is made of stainless steel and is of considerable size.

"It's heavy and beautiful and impressive," Massingill said.

Texas Rangers are among first responders who are invited to the Massingill ranch for the annual come-and-go elk chili lunch that will mark its 20th year in 2024. Other attendees include deputies, police officers, firefighters, EMTs, office staffers, and others. "Everybody that helps with the administration of justice," Massingill said.

He stated that Brian Booth of Hired Gun Chuckwagon

Events makes the chili for free as a way to give back to the community, and Brenda along with Pam Sandlin and Sherry Templeton prepare blueberry, cherry, and apple cobblers.

"It's a huge undertaking," he said.

Massingill has a special affection for the Texas Rangers, created unofficially by Stephen F. Austin in a call-to-arms written 200 years ago, in 1823.

"I just love the Rangers," Massingill said. "Brenda and I love having the Rangers at the ranch for special training events which we have hosted for many years. This is the greatest group of dedicated individuals who deserve our respect and gratitude and we assist whenever possible."

kcruz@hcnews.com 817-579-1886



OURTESY OF RON MASSINGILI

County Judge Ron Massingill and his wife Brenda proudly hold the Distinguished Benefactor award from the Texas Ranger Association Foundation presented during their recent annual elk chili lunch for first responders. They are surrounded by current and former Texas Rangers. From left are, Johnny Waldrip, Tony Bradford, George Turner (burgundy shirt), Danny Briley (next to Brenda), and B.J. Hill on the far right.

Lipan Lady Indians living tradition, heading to state

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

f the Lipan Lady Indians are not still playing basketball come early March, well, something is amiss. The world has twisted off its axis. The stars aren't aligned, or whatever other phrase you want to use that indicates things just aren't normal.

That was the case last season when the Lady Indians lost in the regional final trying to defend their 2021 state championship. Everything is back as it should be this year, however, as they are in San Antonio this weekend at the Alamodome working to win another title.

At press time the Lady Indians (33-3) were facing another perennial powerhouse, Martin's Mill (31-6). Between the Lady Indians' 10 state appearances and the East Texas powerhouse's 17 appearances, the two schools have been to state so many times you'd have to borrow the use of a friend's hands to count them all.

"We don't talk about it. They live it," Lady Indians coach Amber Branson said of her team and the Lipan tradition. "Most have been here their whole life. They grew up around it.

"It's fun to see the little kids come up to them (players), wanting to shake their hand or have their picture taken with them," Branson said. "They want to be Lady Indians and Indians one day."

While the Indians have been dominant on the state level for many decades, the Lady Indians only had two state appearances before Branson became head coach in 2008. This is her eighth time to lead a team to state, with championships in 2016 at the Class A level and

And, per her trademark, Branson is quick to deflect credit for the success. She credits her assistant coaches and, of course, the players themselves.

All of which is certainly true. But when Branson became the head coach, something clicked to take the program to an even higher level.

For one thing, Branson had been there herself as a Lady Indians player. She led the 1995 team to its first state tournament appearance. They made one more in 2003 before she turned going to state into a regular thing.

"I don't really know if we did anything special. Even though it's changed some with X's and O's, it still comes down to good defense and shooting," Branson said. "And we're blessed with great people around us."

This is the second time Branson will be coaching her daughter Taylor at state. Also, her son Tate is a standout for the Indians — who are looking to reach state themselves next week and are playing in the Region 2 Tournament this weekend.

"It's pretty special. She's a fierce competitor and plays hard every minute,' Branson said of Taylor, who appears to be a chip off the ol' block. "She's become one of our leaders and I am proud to be her coach, but even more so to be her mom.'

But don't go thinking Taylor gets any special treatment. Being a member of a basketball program in Lipan brings with it the heaviest emphasis on the word TEAM.

Whether it's Zully Martinez leading a

2021 in 2A.

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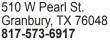
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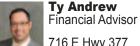
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wnatever it is, it's working. The Lady Indians and Branson have reached state in 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2020, 2021 and now this season.

And the family tradition that permeates both the girls and boys programs at Lipan, Branson knows that first-hand as in 2011 she made national news by delivering her daughter Telese in between the regional semifinals and finals. And yes, Telese will play for her mom in the coming years, just as her big sister Taylor is now.

21-2 comeback over the final five minutes of the 2011 regional final in a 45-43 win over Newcastle or Lanie Roberts scoring 49 points in a 74-49 state semifinal win over Roby in 2016, the Lady Indians' success comes from team play.

"It doesn't matter how good a player is if you don't win as a team," Branson said. "As long as the team wins, everybody will get their own share of the success."

And in Lipan, there's a lot of success to go around.

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A8 Hood County News

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Hood County News DIVERSIONS



Lipan ISD moving to five-day modified/hybrid schedule

BY ASHLEY INGE

Staff Writer

LIPAN — After months of discussion about potentially changing to a four-day school week, the Lipan ISD School Board voted unanimously on Feb. 22 to move to a five-day modified/hybrid schedule beginning in the fall.

The five-day modified/hybrid schedule will go into effect during the 2023-2024 academic year and will consist of students having fourday weekends every six weeks or a three-day weekend once a month similar in structure to Brock ISD's calendar.

Discussion about possibly moving to a four-day school week first began last August as a way for the district to retain current staff and to draw in more applicants for open positions.

A committee consisting of 10 local parents and 10 Lipan elementary and high school teachers was formed to discuss the possibility of transitioning to either a four-day school week or a five-day modified schedule.

Vickie Posey, Lipan elementary and junior high math specialist,

spoke during the Lipan school board meeting on Feb. 22, detailing the committee discussion.

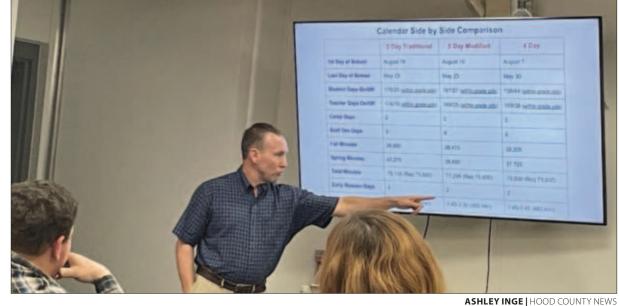
She said that teachers felt that it would be harder to plan with a hybrid schedule as the days off would be more sporadic than a four-day school week. Parents said finding childcare would also be difficult with a hybrid schedule.

Posey said the committee spoke with several administrators and teachers from other school districts like Strawn, Gordon, Mineral Wells, and Aledo, which have switched to a four-day school week.

She said after Strawn ISD conducted a community-wide survey with an overwhelming majority voting for a four-day school week, the district made the switch in the fall.

Strawn administrators said since changing to a four-day school week, their student enrollment has grown by nearly one-third, and their teacher morale has improved, with several teachers stating the fourday school week "has kept them in education."

Dewaine Lee, Strawn ISD superintendent, said he believes the four-day week is the "best thing for teachers," and that it has greatly



Jonathan Normand, Lipan ISD secondary principal, shows a side-by-side comparison of what the 2023-2024 academic calendar will look like with a five-day traditional school week, a five-day modified week, and a four-day school week during the monthly school board meeting on Feb. 22.

helped with "teacher burnout." After hearing from several parents and administrators from other schools, the committee took a vote for the decision they felt was best for the district. Out of 16 that voted, 11 voted for a four-day week, three were for a hybrid schedule, and two preferred a regular five-day school week.

James Lott, Lipan High School so-PLEASE SEE LIPAN | B2



MARY VINSON HOOD COUNTY NEWS

While their folks enjoyed a getaway, kids got to play at the recent Hood County YMCA's Kid's Night Out-Disney Night. It was a cold and dreary night on Friday, Feb. 24, and the YMCA extended a warm welcome for kids like Cory, who is pictured, enjoying a dip in the YMCA indoor pool. Please see more photos, B2.

BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER

Housewife Celia Campbell became a beloved Hood County sheriff at age 57

elected set of County Commis-

sioners proposed replacing her

The tied 2-2 vote was broken by

County Judge R.S. (Dolph) Long,

who sided with Umphress. That

decision proved disastrous for

Judge Long since he lost his next

election – due in large part to

previous Lipan supporters turn-

ing against him. Celia Campbell

obviously was a beloved figure in

the Lipan community, described

by a neighbor as "the dearest per-

with Dick Umphress.

Here's a little historical tidbit that most readers probably do not know. Hood County had a surprisingly early start on diversity in hiring employees. Way back in 1948, Mrs. Celia

Campbell was appointed Hood County sheriff to succeed her recently deceased husband, Sheriff Oscar L. Campbell, by a unanimous vote of the Hood County Commissioners Court.

Oscar was in his third term as sheriff when he died unexpectedly before his term expired in 1950. So, in November of 1948, Mrs. Campbell donned the sheriff's badge! Sadly, she held the position for only two short months. Her unique story in the pantheon



Dr. Tom Hamilton has been a Granbury resident since 1975, retiring from his dental practice in downtown Granbury after 40 years. He is a member of the Bridge Street History Center's Board of Directors and an avid golfer and gardener. Tom and Martha live in Water's Edge and enjoy the lake and their grandkids.

of Hood County history follows.

Appointed at age 57, Celia had always been a stay-at-home housewife at the Campbell farm in Lipan, bearing 10 children and also raising a pair of nephews and a niece while producing all the food and clothing for her extended family.

Without an outside source of income after her husband's death, she lobbied the Commissioners to let her finish the sheriff's term. They agreed, and shockingly, the new Mrs. Sheriff Campbell then a married couple, Mr. and Mrs. K.H. Faulkner, as her deputies! But only two months later, on Jan. 10,

1949, a newly

appointed son there ever was."

Still needing a source of income, Mrs. Campbell took a job as the jail matron for a few years. Besides feeding and looking after the prisoners, Celia received credit for preventing a jail escape. While preparing food one evening, she heard a sawing noise and reported it to a deputy. Investigation revealed several window bars sawed nearly in two, and the potential escape was foiled.

Eventually, Celia Campbell returned to her Lipan farm and the support of her family. She died in 1980 at age 89, leaving an indelible mark as the only female sheriff in Hood County history.



Celia Campbell

COURTESY PHOTO



The sign on the wall read "Toddler Room", but for these little ones, the Hood County YMCA Kid's night out was a virtual wonderland of Disney-themed activities.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS





Above: Niko and his Mom Molly Sanchez strike a quick pose for the camera. Sanchez is the Hood County YMCA's Playhouse Coordinator.

Left: Mickey Mouse ears for everyone! The Mickey Mouse ears put a smile on every face in the Toddler room, which is reserved for kids ages 1 to 4 .



Good times at the Hood County YMCA's Kid's Night Out. Kids ranging in age from 1 to 4, and 5 to 12, are invited to participate. Registration is required, as space is limited. https://bit.ly/Ymcakidsnightout.

The next Hood County YMCA Kid's Night out themed St. Patty's Day @ the Y! takes place from 6:00 p.m. -10:30 p.m. on Friday, March 10.

LIPAN FROM PAGE B1

cial studies teacher and coach, said he was "largely in the minority" but didn't feel that a four-day school week was what was "best for kids."

He explained that several students are involved in extracurriculars and sports and are already missing several days of school.

He also pointed out that only attending school four days out of the week is "not preparing them for the real world," adding that his own children would "waste the day away" by sleeping in and playing video games.

Lott also included a recorded video from Lee answering his question on if the four-day school week is what's best for kids.

"I don't know if this is the best thing for kids," Lee said in the video. "I really don't, because we have kids who don't eat. They're up there running the streets. I'm not sure if it's the best thing, and I'm not here to tell you that, 'Oh, you better do it.' I'm not saying that. The attendance and in the scores, I don't know if anybody really knows at this point, but I know teachers love it and I know that our kids love it."

Following presentations from both Posey and Lott, Lipan ISD Superintendent Ralph Carter read responses from seniors regarding the potential transition to a four-day school week.

Some students mentioned the pros a four-day school week would have for students who work, but also noted the detriment it would bring to students who rely on the school for food.

Jonathan Normand, Lipan secondary principal, said the primary reason for the four-day school week is to combat teacher shortages and improve their mental health, but added that the district needed to consider the disadvantaged and special needs

students.

Carter chimed in that most of the bigger schools in Texas aren't even considering the idea of shortening the school weeks.

"Dr. Glenn (superintendent) at Granbury, they're not even toying with the idea of a four-day week," Carter said. "They think it's bad for kids. There's only 67 districts out of over 1,200 in the state of Texas that are even considering this right now, which to me says a whole lot about how the state feels."

Carter said he had recently attended a meeting regarding the four-day a week schedule but didn't see enough evidence that it was beneficial for students.

"I kept hearing what was good for adults, I kept hearing what was good for staff, and I'm all for that, but I think there's other ways we can compensate," he said. "The other thing I would say is, nobody's given me anything that would say it's best for kids." He then recommended that the district move to a five-day modified calendar.

"My recommendation would be to consider a five-day modified with extra student and staff days in places where we normally have no breaks," Carter said. "For example, October was a long month. March can be a long month, February can be long, April can be long, so I think we can intersperse some days in there and modify our calendar in a way that would benefit both teachers and students to give them needed breaks — that would be my recommendation."

Nikki Callaway, Lipan ISD board member, agreed that she didn't see enough proof that the four-day schedule would benefit students, while Lipan ISD Secretary Ellyn Grove said she needed more data on the four-day school week.

After a unanimous decision to move to a five-day modified schedule, Carter said the board will put together a calendar for the 2023-2024 academic year. The calendar will list the new days off but will still include the mandatory 75,600 minutes that Texas schools must be open a year.

Carter finished the discussion by adding that "this is a transition year," meaning the schedule may change again after the district reevaluates staff and student performance.

"This is an opportunity for us to look to see if modifying that schedule affects kids in a positive way or a negative way and if it affects staff in a positive way or negative way," Carter said. "Is there something we need to pull back on or is it something we need to consider even more days off to be able to do that? We can transition into a four-day if that's what we want to do over a two-to-three-year period if we start seeing good things out of what's happening."

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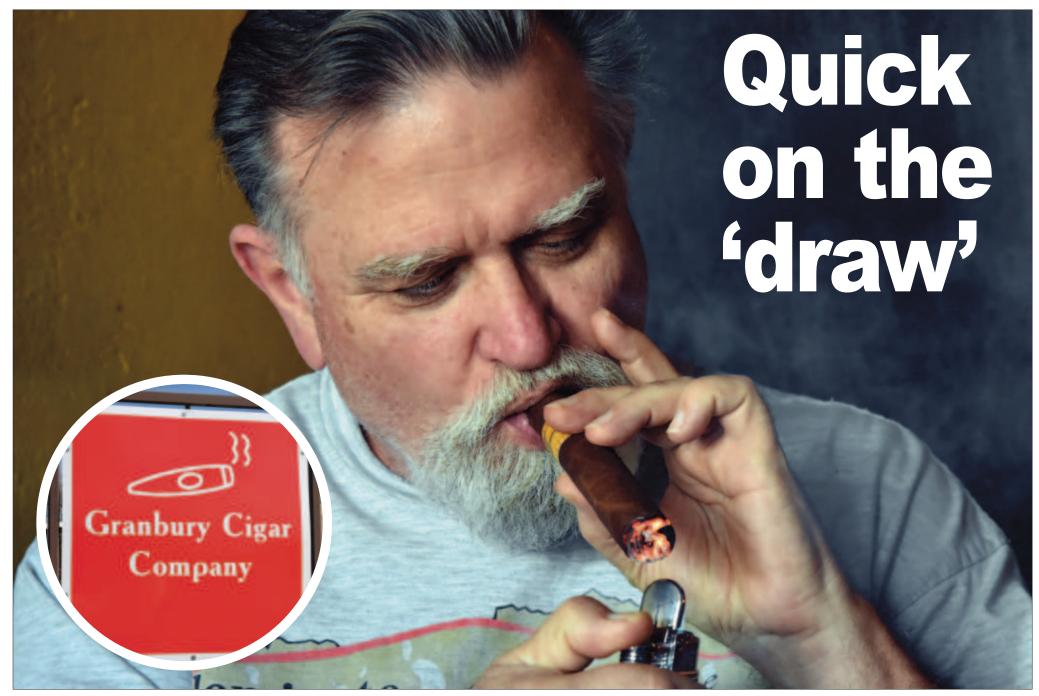




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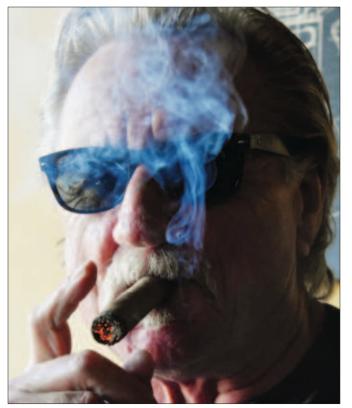
SATURDAY, March 4, 2023





PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS Tom Willis lights a cigar Tuesday afternoon at Granbury Cigar Company, a cigar shop that has been owned by David Lampert for the past three years.

Granbury Cigar Company 'smoking' out competition through camaraderie



BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer you don't have to. There are people, retired drinkers I call them, and they feel very comfortable, so there's no pressure to do it and the guys support each other." With supporters from not only Granbury, but also Pecan Plantation and DeCordova, Lampert said his business has started to draw in more of a younger crowd — and females. "We have a lot of women too. I would say 20% (of the customers are female)," he said. "During the day, it's usually retired guys who come and hang out. It's amazing. We have every walk of life here. We have young guys, 21, who are just starting to get into it, and they're getting more and more invested. We have a good crowd — a lot of regulars."

Dave Jansen takes a long drag from a cigar Tuesday afternoon at Granbury Cigar Company, located at 201 Kings Plaza.



Backgammon is Granbury Cigar Company's game of choice perfect for customers to smoke a fat stogie and relax from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

any people hear the words "cigar shop" and immediately picture it as a place for older men to kick back and smoke — hence the phrase "fogies with stogies."

But David Lampert, owner of Granbury Cigar Company, has a different perspective.

"It's really a cool kind of energy," he said. "One thing about cigar people is they relax to find that space, that meditative state (and a way to) decompress. I've been in (the trade) long enough to know that (with cigars), it's a community and it's a culture."

Lampert, who has been in the cigar business for more than 30 years, started out as a sales representative in distribution before working for Rocky Patel — the cigar industry's most recognizable businessman — in manufacturing.

"I worked my way into training manager, sales manager, VP (vice president) of sales, and then I ended up somehow in Granbury," he said, chuckling. "Which is awesome."

He moved from Illinois to Granbury four years ago when he was asked to become the managing director of Micallef Cigars in Weatherford.

But the draw to pursue another business venture was too strong for Lampert to ignore.

With the help of three local cigar enthusiasts, he made the decision to open Granbury Cigar Company at 201 Kings Plaza in March 2020 — at the height of COVID.

"I opened at a really tough time, but the community has been so amazing," he said. "A lot of people moved here because of this shop, and they tell their stories all the time. How they were looking at different areas, and while the wife was looking at the house, the husband came in here for a cigar, loved the energy, loved the people, loved the views, so they moved here. It became a thing of its own."

The yellow and red walls at Granbury Cigar Company give off a cheery and homey vibe, while the lounge area provides a space for customers to relax, drink, and play a game of backgammon.

"What's cool about it is we have so many new people that move to our community and they don't know anybody, so what do they do? They come here," Lampert said. "You don't have to drink. You're welcome to, but He said he's especially enjoyed hearing the "amazing" stories from retired athletes and Vietnam military pilots.

"I never served but it's really awesome," he said. "I really have a whole different view of the quality and character of those who served. We are so lucky."

In fact, it's because of those retired veterans that the walls of Lampert's shop are covered with war-related décor representing all the different branches of the military.

"I can't tell you how many of these guys have thanked me for giving them a place to go and meet people, but customer service is what it's all about," he said. "My goal here is to get people to just relax and enjoy themselves. I want them to find the best cigar they can for the best value and just enjoy it. It's fun for me."

Granbury Cigar Company boasts numerous display cases containing a variety of 600 different cigars or "facings."

Lampert added that if a specific cigar is well-liked by the public, it will stick around.

"We represent four or five different accessory companies," he said. "We can get anything if we don't have it. I pride myself on having a great selection, great prices, great service, and a great place to hang out— that's one thing that I hope I can always make sure that we offer."

Lampert said he loves the art form of cigars and how they're all handmade, adding that he likes to drink coffee, Diet Dr Pepper, or diet root beer while smoking one.

"There's not much left in this world that's all done by hand, aged, and consistent and that's the big part of what I love about it," he said.

As for the future of Granbury Cigar Company, Lampert said he hopes to expand PLEASE SEE CIGAR | B5



pjslawn@yahoo.com • www.pjs



CIGAR FROM PAGE B4

the business into a 24/7 lounge with features like a movie theater and a game room.

"It's our third year. We plan on growing," he said. "So, that's kind of our longterm plan, and we feel the need for it with having a lot of pilots in different walks of life, especially in Granbury. A lot of these guys want to come in at four or two in the morning if they're coming back from the airport. I think a dream would be to have a 24/7 separate lounge where everybody can enjoy and then have our retail space."

Granbury Cigar Company is open from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12-5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, visit the Facebook page, Granbury Cigar Company or call 682-205-3334.

"Our customers have really made something out of (Granbury Cigar Company)," Lampert added. "You're part of the family and that's really what it's all about."

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The yellow and red walls at Granbury Cigar Company give off a cheery and homey vibe, while the lounge area provides a space for customers to relax, drink, and play a friendly game of backgammon.



David Lampert, right, owner of Granbury Cigar Company, has more than 30 years' experience in the cigar business, and said he enjoys listening to the many stories from customers who are also retired military veterans.

"Device Free Weekend: A Thriller" proves to be a fine read

arrived

So when the fancy

with glitter and silver

and a number on the

back, Stephen waf-

fled; did he want to

keep the window shut

and skip the weekend

at Ryan Cloverhill's

private Pacific North-

west island? Then

again, how could he

pass up an all-expens-

es-paid three days of

invitation

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

ou have a lot of catching up to do. How long has it been since you were all together last? Doesn't matter, the years fall away when you're with your oldest, longest friends. There was a time when you were inseparable and man, it feels good to reconnect, but as in the new novel, "Device Free Weekend" by Sean Doolittle, how well do you still know them?

Had it actually been 20 years since the Stillwater Seven was together?

Stephen Rollins added it up on his Chicago-to-Denver flight. Yep, it had been every bit of two decades since his college chums had all been in the same room. Last time was Will and Perry's wedding day, and yeah, it'd been awhile.



COURTESY PHOTO Author Sean Doolittle

boating, whale-watching and reminiscing?

He was really glad to see Emma on the same flight, Denver to Seattle. Once, Stephen was in love with her and so was Ryan, and It was so unlike him.

He begged Stephen not to tell the others. And then he drugged everyone at supper the first night, and Ryan disappeared....

Draw the connections however you want, between social media, the online world, ubiquitous devices, techxperts and all – the fact is that with one finger on a digital pulse and one on a trigger, "Device Free Weekend" is a pretty fine thriller.

While you might sense what's going to happen in the first few pages - and you'd be right - author Sean Doolittle keeps readers guessing on the details of this novel - details that readers will be happy to note are believable without going full I.T. on anyone. Reading this book doesn't take you into CPU territory; no, it's current but with the usual, comfortingly familiar elements of a thriller - revenge, bullets, spy devices, high-speed chases - perched on a tightrope between good and greed and killers with morals. Like many thrillers, "Device Free Weekend" can lag sometimes, but take it as a chance to snag a breath before being plunged back into a story that turns you every which way. If you're up for that, it's a book to catch.



He'd kept up with everyone, sometimes, more or less. Will and Perry filled him in on Emma's life in Minnesota; he'd semi-followed Beau and Lainey (known as Blainey) on You-Tube. As for Ryan, well, Stephen watched from afar; his old roommate was too busy running a multinational, multi-multi-milliondollar social media corporation to stay in frequent touch.

there were regrets – but reconnecting with her felt right. This would be good.

Not good, though; once they'd arrived, Ryan confiscated everyone's cell phones, tablets and watches, and he acted weird. Also not good: Ryan looked awful, and he singled Stephen out to say that he had cancer, and that the weekend was his last hurrah.

©2023, Grand Central Publishing 288 pages, \$28.00

Trolling method provides an effective way to locate fish

s the water warms and the fish get more active, trolling live or artificial baits can help you locate active fish. You can cover a lot of water in a short period of time. This is also extremely effective when the bite is slow and you have to search for those few fish that will bite.

Many anglers all over the country use

trolling techniques to catch fish. Many different species can be caught in this fashion. In fact, it can be so effective it is generally against the rules in black bass tournaments. I never really totally understood why it is not allowed, but it has something to do with covering more water than the other guy who is casting and chunking baits. Trolling is typically allowed in striped bass tourneys.

The types of artificial baits that are normally trolled include jigs, crankbaits, and spinners. Sand bass and striped bass are the most popular fish caught trolling on our area lakes.

The simplest form of trolling and most widely used is to drag your bait behind the boat and go as slow as the big motor will allow. The fish will essentially catch themselves when they hit the bait.

When using crankbaits, try a variety of baits that dive to different depths. Some of the largest lipped crankbaits will get you down near 20 feet. Standard lipless crank baits such as the popular rattletrap will go between 2 to 4 feet. For colors that work on our area lakes, I prefer chartreuse-colored baits with an orange belly especially in murky water and/ or overcast days. On clear days, I prefer a chrome, white, bone, or blue/chrome, or black back/chrome combinations. Bomber Long A's, Fat Free shad, rattle traps, shad raps and redfins are some consistent producing baits.

The line size you use will also affect how deep your baits will dive. The lighter the line, the farther the dive. Boat speed can be crucial. When using your big motor, you may be moving your bait too fast depending on the season. Other fishermen in specialized boats control their speed accurately. Most of us here just go as slow as we can. Early in the year, I will troll on occasion with my trolling motor to slow down the presentation. Other boats utilize kicker motors to get those slow trolling speeds, which is very effective and is desired if you can afford it.

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. all know, is an effective way to get your baits to the desired depths. This is generally a

ging, as you

summer pattern but will work at other times of the year. I have used a downrigger in the winter with my trolling motor to cover more water when the fish are scattered. You can use virtually all types of artificial baits on the downrigger. If you don't have a downrigger, they sell several types of diving rigs that I call "pink ladies" that will get your bait down to a certain depth, depending on how it's connected and how much line you let out. These devices are inexpensive and do work. They work well with jigs and swimming soft plastics, but are not recommended for use with crank baits.

You can also troll live bait, but not with the big motor. This is more like a controlled drift with a trolling motor. Just let out enough line while moving to ensure you have the bait at the desired depth. You may have to use a heavy weight to keep the bait in the strike zone.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Water temperatures are rebounding around the 60-degree mark. Some parts of the lake are reporting a golden algae bloom based on the evidence of dead or dying fish. Fishing is slow in these areas. Other parts of the lake are not experiencing the bloom (the lower end, and in the river near Tin Top). Fishing for sand bass is good in the river near Tin Top on road runners and live minnows. Best striped bass action is on the lower ends on soft plastics and live shad. Largemouth bass continue to be caught near major creek entrances and near laydowns in the river. Catfish continue to be good on cut bait on several areas of the lake. Best crappie action continues near deeper structure.

OTHER AREAS

Comanche Creek reservoir continues to boast on great catches of largemouth bass and limits of channel catfish. I

Downrig- do not have a tilapia report for Comanche Creek.

Lake Whitney striped bass continue to be good on trolled Alabama rigs and live shad. Best action is from McCown Valley north. Largemouth bass are good on crankbaits and soft plastics fished near main lake points and near The Bluffs.

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



Plantation's Recreational Vehicle Club enjoyed a restaurant dinner at its most recent meeting when more than 40 members attended. At the meeting, folks received registration forms and held discussion about the upcoming spring ral-



ly. Several RV Club members were absent while camping in Port Aransas, and during this excursion, they attended Mardi Gras parades and toured the famous King Ranch. The next RV Club meeting will happen on Tuesday, March 14 at Pecan's Shady Campground pavilion. For complete information on the RV Club and its activities, contact David Kroon at dk1341@swbell.net.

ELECTION TIME

Pecan's annual meeting is happening today, Saturday, March 4, beginning at 11 a.m. at the clubhouse. Pecaners will elect three new members to its board of directors. Vying for the opportunity to serve are Doug Bacon, Gene Barron, Chris Fair, Larry Johnson, Randy Larson, Robert Taber, and Tim Webster. Paper ballots must be delivered to the PAC or clubhouse before 9 a.m. today.

BATTER UP

Pecan's spring senior (ages 55 and up) softball league begins Monday, March 6 at 9:30 a.m. at the softball field next to the PAC. Contact Jerry Gazda for complete information: jvgazda@vahoo.com.

BREAKFAST CLUB

The Pecan Plantation Breakfast Club will meet again on Wednesday, March 8 at 9 a.m. in the Terrace Room of the clubhouse when Callie Crow will address the crowd. Callie has taught more than 5,000 people and 60 Texas first-responder units how to save an overdose victim. Callie's organization, Drew's 27 Chains, is named in memory of her son and dedicated to saving people from opioid overdoses, as well as bringing awareness to the opioid crisis. All Pecaners

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.

> precious metals, donating a part of their proceeds to Pecan's emergency groups.

Furthermore, 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. The meeting will be preceded by a soup social beginning at 6.

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.myppwc. com/bootscootin to order tickets. All proceeds from the event will benefit Hood County charities as well as PPWC scholarship recipients.

CLEAN UP

In agreement with TXDOT, Pecan Plantation has adopted two miles of Fall Creek Highway beginning at our neighbor-

from Pecan businesses.





DAVID KROON I COURTESY PHOTO

The Pecan Plantation Recreational Vehicle Club recently met to discuss plans for spring outings. Pictured, from left, are Bill Winkler, Judy Winkler (RV Club treasurer), Gene Chiappe (RV Club vice president), and Carol Chiappe.



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GO PLAY

GOPLAY calendar will feature recurring activities that are open to the public. These items will run each week along with other activities across the area. Submit Go Play listings to calendar@hcnews.com and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

MONDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes. 9 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10: 30 a.m. exercise; 11:15 a.m. chair yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

GRANBURY BRIDGE Club, ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge game, noon at Texas Cottage, 5920 Henslee Court. \$8, earn Masterpoints. Details: 817-480-4472.

SONS OF the American Legion Post 491 of Granbury Burger Night. 5 - 7 p.m. American Legion Post, 3409 Davis Road. Funds raised are used to support veteran and community youth programs. Open to members and guests. Details: 515-554-6498.

GRANBURY CIVIC Chorus rehearsals, 7 p.m. at Acton United Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Details: granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com.

MODERN SQUARE Dancing lessons every Monday at the Granbury YMCA at 1 p.m. For more information contact Ted at 435-720-6920 or Faye at 682-309-8504.

TUESDAYS

LINE DANCING 2 p.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

GRANBURY JAM Session 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Brock's Food and Drink, 4012 Acton Highway. Bring your instrument or get up and sing! Details: 505-710-5100.

WEDNESDAYS

HAND AND Foot game day. 10 a.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County volunteers needed. Go to 3710 S. Sagecrest Court, Rancho Brazos. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lunch and tools provided. Details: visit habitatofhoodcounty. org or call 817-573-2812.

HOW LONG IS 10 YEARS?

IT SEEMS TO GO BY IN A FLASH.

GRANBURY BRIDGE Club offers a "fun duplicate" bridge game at noon at the Texas Cottage, 5920 Henslee Court. \$4. Details: 817-480-4472.

THURSDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes. 9 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. tai chi; 10: 30 a.m. exercise; 11:15 a.m. chair yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

CHESS CLUB, 5-9 p.m. at YMCA, 1475 James Road. U.S. Chess Affiliate, all ages and skill levels, children 10 and under must be accompanied by adult. Y membership not required. Details: HoodCountyChess.com.

GENERAL TRIVIA, 7-9 p.m. at Brew Drinkery, 206 E. Pearl Street. Prizes and fun. Use your phone to play. Free.

MELODY BELLES singers, women's choral group rehearsals. 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon, at First Presbyterian Church Memorial Hall (the Annex), 301 W. Bridge Street. Details, please call 817-999-1364.

SATURDAYS

- HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County volunteers needed. Go to 3710 S. Sagecrest Court, Rancho Brazos. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lunch and tools provided. Details: visit habitatofhoodcounty. org or call 817-573-2812.
- HOOD COUNTY Hummers Walking Club, 8 a.m., meet every Saturday at Hilton Garden Inn, 635 E. Pearl St., for 5K or 10K walk for fun, fellowship and fitness. Details: 972-567-3278.
- THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has Mini tournaments every Saturday at 2 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

FIRST MONDAYS

HOOD COUNTY Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Monday each month at 7 p.m. at the Hood County Emergency Operations Center, 401 Deputy Larry Miller Drive.

LOVE KNOTS Prayer Shawl Ministry. The ministry is in need of people to crochet, knit, or

EPLACEN

use a knitting loom to make gifts to comfort the ill, bereaved, infants, etc. 1 - 3 p.m. Acton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-4693.

FIRST TUESDAYS

GRANBURY DOLL Club meeting, 2 p.m. Granbury Doll House Museum, 421 E Bridge St. All doll appreciators are welcome!

SECOND TUESDAYS

GRANBURY KNITTING Guild meets to knit, learn and share knitting tips each month at First Presbyterian Church Annex, 303 W. Bridge St. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. and meeting from 10-11:30 a.m.

FOURTH TUESDAYS

HOOD COUNTY Historical Society meets the 4th Tuesday each month (except November and December) at 7 p.m. at the Historic Granbury Railroad Depot, 109 E. Ewell St. Contact Karen Nace 817-279-2995 for additional details.

FIRST THURSDAYS

BRAZOS RIVER Corvette Club meets on the first Thursday each month for fellowship, planning events and other business. Dinner, if desired, at 6 p.m., meeting from 7-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Barbegue, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377. Details: bskaggs8aol.com.

SECOND SATURDAYS

2ND SATURDAY Showoff at Fuzzy's Taco Shop, 115 W. Pearl St. Car show, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

THIRD MONDAYS

GRANBURY QUILTERS Guild meets on the third Monday each month at United Coop Electric, 320 Fall Creek Highway, 6 p.m. Details: 817-296-8186.

LOVE KNOTS Prayer Shawl Ministry. The ministry is in need of people to crochet, knit, or use a knitting loom to make gifts to comfort the ill, bereaved, infants, etc. 1 - 3 p.m. Acton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-4693.

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KNIEPER REAL ESTATE *Real estate ... never boring, and always changing*

ou would think by now I would have run out of things to talk about as they pertain to Real Estate, but the truth is I learn something new almost every day. The industry itself can change on a dime, which it has done recently, but more importantly it's the people. Young and old, single, married, filthy rich, or just scraping up enough for a down payment, all have different wants and needs and all deserve the very best representation. Which means we, as REALTORS® need to be stay current not just about today's interest rates, deed restrictions or



negotiating tactics but also about changing trends. It is critical we, as REALTORS® understand what is driving the market, because staying current 'helps us help you' make better real estate decisions. Did you know that the demand for second homes has grown almost 99% since 2015? There continues to be a strong and consistent need for more lakefront and resort properties. A large percent-

BY PAM KNIEPER

Pam Knieper, Broker/Owner of Knieper Real Estate, is and has been the #1 Top Producer for more than 15 years in Hood County and running. She is known as the Waterfront Expert and the Authority on Real Estate.

age of this increase can be attributed to the surge in vacation rentals. Many people that could not ordinarily afford a second home can now actually pay for that second home by renting it out during peak vacation seasons. Making owning a lake house a realistic goal for a lot of people. How about this interesting fact: It has been reported that an estimated 50% of Millennial Investors choose to invest in real estate. So,

while Baby Boomers are still the generation with the most reported wealth in real estate, Millennials are working hard to catch up. Saving an estimated 10% of their income for investments and consistently choosing real estate over the stock market, working with an agent who targets Millennials in its advertising should be high on home sellers' lists of priorities.

Do you enjoy entertaining outdoors? If so, you are not alone. More than two-thirds of millennials and Gen Xers want large yards and outdoor spaces. Most millennials realize that their first house may not be their forever home. However, outdoor space is at the top of their priority list. Outdoor kitchens, pools, and large covered porches are more popular than ever, so when considering home projects don't forget to look at your backyard.

High-Tech is making a strong impact on home sales: An estimated 73% of home buyers say they would pay more for a home with smart devices. Multifunctional smart hubs are the most popular devices with video doorbells and smart lighting following closely behind. Being able to adjust your thermostat from the office, lock and unlock your door with your phone, or turn lights on and off automatically while on vacation are just a few of the smart features tech savvy buyers are looking for.

Fun Fact: Did you know that open houses used to last 12 hours? I think I can speak for everyone when I say Thank Goodness that trend has gone the way of the dinosaur...LOL! As always thank you for taking to time to read our article. If you have questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us. Give us a call at 817-219-0456 of visit us online at www.WeSellGranbury. com.

pamK@knieperteam.com | 817-219-0456

GHS program: Hands-on experiences can lead to medical careers

BY JILLIAN TREMBLE

Special to the Hood County News

In medical facilities all around Granbury, there are high school students as young as 16 getting the chance to gain hands-on experience in the career fields they hope to enter. This is through a medical internship program, referred to as clinicals, organized by the CTE department at Granbury High School. This program allows students to do two semesters, one junior and one senior year, interning at medical facilities.

These students are required to take principles of Health Science their first year and Anatomy and Physiology their second before they are allowed to enter into any class that would allow them to work in the medical field. Then they are allowed to take a semester of Health Science and Theory and then — during the second semester of their third year they can finally begin clinicals at a hospital. For their senior year, students are allowed to specialize by choosing between three clinical options: pharmaceutical, EMT, and CNA/EKG.

Alan Davila, a senior at GHS, speaks very highly of the program. He hopes to enter into a yet-to-be decided career in the medical field after graduating, and he believes that the program has "opened his eyes" to the many possible career paths he could pursue. He indicated that he believes that the ability to gain such valuable experience so young has made a "huge impact" on his life.

In addition to the invaluable experience the program offers, Davila — who is currently enrolled in the pharmaceutical clinicals — described the certification he will be able to earn at the end of his course. He has the opportunity to earn a PTCB card, which will allow him to work unsupervised in a pharmacy straight out of high school.

This program is not without its challenges, however. Alyse Hagar, another senior enrolled in clinicals, described the program as impacting her future in medicine in another way. She recalled one specific incident in her first year of clinicals when she was in the room when a patient "coded" – an incident that convinced her that a career working hands-on with patients was not for her. She "still really wants to be able to help people," but this program has helped her realize that a position in pharmaceuticals or psychology would be the better way for her to do so.

In spite of her disillusion with working in a hospital, Hagar had nothing but good things to say about the program. She credits the program for allowing her to gain the experience to make an informed decision as to what she wants to do as a career at age 17 – instead of not coming to that conclusion until she is in college or possibly even medical school.

This speaks to the benefits that clinicals, and many other CTE courses, are offering GHS students. Students are leaving GHS with hands-on experience that allows them to make educated decisions about their future career paths, and get a step ahead in either the workforce or college.



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