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Hood County News

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PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Lake Granbury Conference Center may look small, but it's increasingly mighty — and just the right size for the community, according to Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley.

GOP to hold first official monthly meeting

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The newly formed United Republicans of Hood County will hold its first regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 13.

The group's inaugural gathering was held in early March and was primarily an opportunity for organizers to detail the organization's purpose and goals and to seek input from attendees. Its leadership includes former chamber president and CEO Mike Scott and former Granbury School Board trustee Nancy Alana.

The April date will kick off United Republicans of Hood County's regular monthly meetings. The meeting will get underway at 6 p.m. at The Wiley Center at 420 E. Highway 377. The event venue is next to Wiley Funeral Home, in the remodeled building that was once a Sears store.

Jeff Hinkson, former campaign director for State Rep. Glenn Rogers, R-Palo Pinto, will be the guest speaker. Rogers represents House District 60, which until recently included Hood County.

United Republicans of Hood County was created for Republicans who are committed to the party's principles but do not care to be part of what some perceive as a divisive political climate.

Those with questions can email URofHC@gmail.com for more information.

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'SHINING STAR' After years of struggle, Lake Granbury Conference Center on the rise

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

For years, the Lake Granbury Conference Center was a target for criticism. The City Council shouldn't have spent the money. Why isn't it bigger? Whose bright idea was it not to have a full-service kitchen? Why aren't there more bookings?

As with anything, there may always be critics of the city-owned facility. But after being moved under the Visit Granbury umbrella, with both staffs working in partnership toward the same goals, the LGCC on East Pearl Street is thriving. And when the conference center thrives, so do tourism and the local economy.

"We see the success of our conference center every day," Visit Granbury director Tammy Dooley

said. Visit Granbury is the city's convention and visitors bureau.

The events calendar posted on the LGCC's website, which currently shows events booked through May, doesn't tell the whole story, according to Dooley. The list does not include events such as weddings or other less public gatherings.

Now in its 15th year, the conference center was the vision of a pre-

PLEASE SEE **LGCC** | A2



Lake Granbury Conference Center manager Mike Linnabery and Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley work together to promote the benefits of booking a conference or convention in Granbury.

Commissioners, Pecan Valley hope to create "one-stop" for veterans

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Efforts are underway to create a one-stop military veterans assistance program in Hood County. Currently there are only two such locations in the state, according to Josh Morrison, veterans ser-

vices program manager for Pecan Valley Centers for Behavioral and Developmental Healthcare.

Pecan Valley serves six counties: Hood, Somervell, Erath, Parker, Johnson, and Palo Pinto. It has administrative offices in Granbury.

Morrison's idea of a one-stop location in Hood County, with

free transportation provided to veterans from throughout Pecan Valley's service area, has the support of Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews and Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson, himself a veteran.

Hopes of placing the one-stop inside Annex 2 across from Granbury

City Hall didn't work out because storage space was needed for peace justices, Andrews noted.

A one-stop could further enhance Pecan Valley's efforts to aid the 38,000 veterans served by Morrison and his staff.

Shortly after joining that organization in June 2020, Morrison

asked for and received permission to apply for grant funding from the Texas Veterans Commission. He said he asked for one grant for \$150,000 but instead received two — one for mental health, the other for financial assistance. The grants

PLEASE SEE **ONE-STOP** | A4



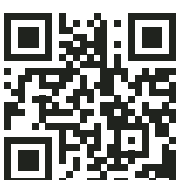
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Local, zone(s): 2 sections, 16 pages, plus supplements | State: 2 sections, 16 pages

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"The pandemic kicked us in the teeth a little bit, but those days are behind us, and we are moving forward. We get excited to go get business. We celebrate that. We do bid presentations, we do phone calls, we do zoom conferences, we do everything we can to generate business."

TAMMY DOOLEY
Visit Granbury director



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley stands inside the Lake Granbury Conference Center's downstairs ballroom, which can accommodate about 300 people. In the background is Mike Linnabery, the conference center's manager. The LGCC is now under the Visit Granbury umbrella and both staffs work together to promote all things Granbury.

LGCC

FROM PAGE A1

vious City Council, back when the late David Southern was mayor. Those elected officials succeeded in bringing the Hilton Garden Inn here specifically to serve conference attendees and they constructed a beach with white sand as well as a boardwalk to help connect it all to the nearby square. The beach idea, in particular, was a hit.

Municipal conference centers typically aren't built to put cash in city coffers but rather to help local businesses. They put heads in beds at hotels, seats in chairs at restaurants, and shoppers with disposable incomes in shops and boutiques. Nevertheless, the fact that the LGCC was so often in the red caused headaches.

Eventually, city leaders found the right medicine.

In October 2018, when a new fiscal year got underway, the city moved the conference center under the umbrella of Visit Granbury. In Dooley's opinion, that is why things began to turn around.

The LGCC's small staff, which includes facility manager Mike Linnabery, work with the Visit Granbury crew to not just market the conference center but to

promote everything that the lake community has to offer, including smaller city-owned venues available for rentals, such as American Town Hall by the library, the Langdon grounds near the square, and the Neely House on East Rucker Street.

Their shared catchphrase is "Meet me at the lake."

The conference center's sales executive, Crystal Douglass, and Visit Granbury sales manager/assistant director Kristen Gibson work closely together and Visit Granbury provides support services to the LGCC, Dooley said.

"We take care of groups from start to finish," she said. "If the group needs tickets to the Opera House or The New Granbury Live, or they want to coordinate something on the square, like through (the Historic Granbury Merchants Association), or they want to take a tiki boat ride or they want to have a big party at Warren's Backyard, we facilitate and help them plan the whole thing."

Abbie Carswell and Rhiannon

"The conference center is just rockin' and rollin'."

TAMMY DOOLEY
Visit Granbury director

Crump are another example of teamwork, according to Dooley. Both are event coordinators, Carswell for the LGCC and Crump for Visit Granbury. Crump's duties include coordinating welcome bags to distribute to attendees of conference center events.

"It's just a really great relationship because it's all under one umbrella, which makes sense because we have the same mission," Dooley said.

Things at the conference center haven't been completely smooth since the transition, but that was because of COVID-19.

"The pandemic kicked us in the teeth a little bit, but those days are behind us, and we are moving forward," Dooley said. "We get excited to go get business. We celebrate that. We do bid presentations, we do phone calls, we do zoom conferences, we do everything we can to generate business."

In an email to the Hood County News, City Manager Chris Coffman stated, "The Lake Granbury Conference Center continues to

be a shining star on the lake. The center's leadership and staff serve a wide array of clients. Almost without exception, the feedback on their customer service is excellent. Recently the staff has expanded the number of venues they oversee, adding American Town Hall, for example. Even with a more diverse clientele, the service is still first rate."

Dooley summed it up this way: "The conference center is just rockin' and rollin'."

TRADE SHOWS, CONVENTIONS

Local groups use the conference center but almost half of its bookings involve out-of-town guests who book hotel rooms, according to Dooley.

In 2022, the LGCC hosted 115 groups and saw 17,000 people pass through its doors.

A Shriners convention was recently held at the LGCC. The Lubbock-based Plains Cotton Cooperative Association, which held its convention at the LGCC last year, is coming back in July, putting 180 heads in beds. In

August, Granbury will host the Texas-Oklahoma district Kiwanis convention.

"That's one we bid on," Dooley said of Kiwanis. "We went to Georgetown — myself and Kristen and Mike Linaberry — and we did a big presentation to the entire convention. They are coming here and it will have over 300 room nights in our community. They are utilizing the Hilton and they have overflow at the Best Western and we are currently trying to find a third hotel."

Visit Granbury offers lodging establishments the opportunity to bid for conference center business, which helps fill rooms while also offering deals to event attendees. As an added perk, Visit Granbury offers trolley service to and from hotels for LGCC guests.

The LGCC is also doing more trade shows such as the Hank FM Home & Garden show and pool and spa shows. There is also the annual Spooky Spectacle, a popular pre-Halloween season event that is the brainchild of Granbury's Brandy Herr.

The number of weddings booked at the LGCC has declined but Dooley said that is because several wedding venues have opened in and around Granbury. She esti-

PLEASE SEE LGCC | A3

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UNTIL ALL OF US ARE FREE."

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Seems like there are a lot of experts these days

**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.

The creation of the internet has brought to our fingertips an infinite amount of information. Just this past weekend I needed to change the cabin air filter in my wife's car. She had recently gotten the oil changed and when the serviceman examined her vehicle, she was advised the in-cabin air filter needed to be changed. She declined the offer to have the shop install a filter and came home and asked me what she should do.

Not being particularly mechanically minded, I jumped on YouTube and found a video which showed me step by step, how to make the installation. After a trip to the auto parts store where I purchased a filter, I went to work. The job was quick, easy, and watching the video

saved me time and frustration. The internet was a great source of information.

Of course, I use the internet for other things too. As a young man there were no VCR's and if you missed a show when it was aired, you were out of luck until rerun

season rolled around. Some of you may remember back in the 80s, when Hill Street Blues was the number one TV show and aired on Thursday night. Folks would schedule their life around when the show was aired because they did not want to miss an episode. I was one of those people.

With the internet, people now watch the shows they want to see when they want to watch it, whether it be in the middle of the night or first thing in the morning. The internet has made entertainment "on demand" and suddenly our needs are served instead of our lives having to conform to a programming schedule.

The unfortunate part of the internet is many times it gives a person access to information where people learn 10% of a subject matter, and then consider themselves to be informed. They then happily share their opinions to the world with a "high level of authority".

Some of the medical information websites are a good example. I have had several doctor friends relay to me the misperceptions they sometimes cause. The sites allow medically untrained people, like me, to type in their symptoms and receive a possible diagnosis of their medical condition. It is a positive to receive information which aides a person in learning of the status of their own health, but unfortunately in many cases of diagnosing issues with the human body, it is more complicated than answering a few simple questions. It is the reason doctors run tests and call for bloodwork before they draw an "informed opinion" as to what is going on. My medical friend says it is not uncommon for someone to use the internet, draw a conclusion, then make themselves "sick" with worry only to find out when they do go to the doctor, their medical conclusion was unfounded and wholly incorrect.

On social media there are an unlimited supply of untrained constitutional law experts, who expound very firm positions about the law, the government, and who knows what else. Mind you these folks are not lawyers, or constitutional law professors, they are simple everyday folks who read one article or one piece of commentary and make conclusions which are simply not accurate nor based on recognized law.

I am all for free speech and the expression of ideas. All the while I pray for discernment on the part of the users of the internet. Just because it is on the internet, doesn't make it "the gospel".

Thought for the day: It is better to be slapped by the truth than kissed by a lie.

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

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TxDOT urges Texans to give driving their full attention

Submitted item

AUSTIN - Distracted driving is on the rise in Texas, and TxDOT is urging all Texans to pay attention on the road.

In an instant, Karin Zaltsman lost her teenage daughter when a driver made the decision to take their eyes off the road to text while driving. In recognition of National Distracted Driving Awareness Month, TxDOT is sharing the Zaltsman's story of losing 13-year-old Emily, to remind Texans to keep their eyes up and phones down while driving. Described as kind, funny, smart, and driven, Emily had her whole life ahead of her, but one driver's decision to text and drive cut her life short.

"Emily didn't die in an accident," said Karin Zaltsman of her late daughter. "Emily died in a crash that could have been prevented."

Emily is one of more than 2,000 people killed due to distracted drivers since 2017. Disturbingly, distracted driving deaths increased by 10% in 2022. Approximately one of every six crashes on Texas roadways last year was attributed to distracted driving.

"Distracted driving is a choice, and it has devastating consequences for communities," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "Texting, adjusting audio or navigation systems, or scrolling on a social media site can wait until you're safely parked. We're urging Texans to make the right choice and put the phone away."

Texting while driving is not only incredibly dangerous, it's a crime. Since Sept. 1, 2017, it has been illegal to read, write or send a text while driving in Texas, and violators can face a fine of up to \$200.

Distracted driving crashes are 100% preventable. TxDOT offers these tips to help drivers steer clear of a potentially deadly situation:

- Always give driving your full attention—any distraction is dangerous.
- Put your phone away, turn it off or use an app or phone settings to block texts and calls while driving.
- Pull off the road entirely and come to a complete stop before you use your phone.
- Tell friends, family, and coworkers you won't respond to texts or calls while driving.
- Avoid eating or drinking until you are parked.

TxDOT's "Talk. Text. Crash." distracted driving awareness campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

Affordable Connectivity program offers assistance for internet service

From Staff Reports

The Child Nutrition Department of GISD wishes to share information about internet service options through the Affordable Connectivity Program. This program is separate from Granbury ISD.

The ACP is a nationwide benefit program through the Federal Communications Commission

(FCC) that helps ensure that households can afford the internet service they need for work, school, healthcare and more. Households may be eligible to receive a monthly discount on a new or existing internet service plan through the ACP.

According to the FCC, the benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households

and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price. The ACP is limited to one monthly service discount and one device dis-

count per household.

There are several ways to qualify for the ACP: through your participation in other government programs, based on your annual household income, or by participating in an internet service provider's low-income plan. More information is available at <https://www.fcc.gov/acp>.

City offers 'Shred It to Protect It' event to prevent ID theft

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The city of Granbury occasionally offers special services to the public, such as its twice-yearly Bulk Trash Pick-Up days, and one such special service is planned for later this month.

On Saturday, April 22, the city will hold a "Shred It to Protect It" event, an opportunity for

the public to shred up to three boxes of paper to reduce risks for identity theft.

Shredding will take place at Hewlett Park, 621 East Pearl St., from 9 a.m. until noon.

Identity theft can occur if someone gains access to your personal information, including date of birth, Social Security number, full name, address,

home or work phone numbers, and driver's license number.

The Federal Trade Commission offers tips for preventing and recovering from identity theft at ftc.gov/idtheft online.

Those who participate in the city-sponsored paper shredding event will also have an opportunity to donate to the Granbury

Volunteer Fire Department's "Fill the Boot" campaign.

Volunteer firefighters have served the community for 115 years. The department responds to an average of 125 calls per month, responding, on average, in less than two minutes.

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LGCC

FROM PAGE A2

mates that those wedding venues result in almost 4,000 hotel room bookings every year.

"Granbury still gets the business and it leaves the conference center to focus on more multi-day conferences," including mid-week bookings, Dooley said.

SERVING LOCALS

The conference center is a popular location for galas and fundraising events for nonprofits, offering a ballroom, a centralized location, a concourse where silent auctions can be held, scenic views of Lake Granbury, and a 35% discount rate.

The downstairs ballroom can hold about 300 people and can be divided. There are large projection screens and, while there is not a full-service kitchen, there are kitchen facilities that

serve the needs of restaurants hired to cater events.

Prior city officials who planned and built the conference center intended for it to boost local restaurants through catering contracts. Dooley said this arrangement provides more freedom of choice for those who book and organize events.

The facility's second floor offers additional event/meeting space. The larger Brazos Room can hold 200-250 people depending on set-up, Dooley said, and can be divided into three segments. The Comanche Peak Boardroom can also be divided.

The Brazos Room has served as the location for such events as city budget workshops, which are open to the public, and candidates forums during election season.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

It has been a long time since the conference center opened its doors in August 2008. To

keep her from showing her age, the city's annual budget in recent years has included funds to keep the facility appealing and up to date.

A new marquee was purchased a couple of years ago and last year the downstairs ballroom received a fresh coat of paint.

The current fiscal year budget provided money to repair the front fountain and to install colored lights. All of the air walls, or moveable panels, were recently serviced, Dooley said, and furniture was added to the upstairs balcony, where guests can step out for a private cell phone call while enjoying views of the beach. Soon, the upstairs carpeting will be replaced.

Dooley said that the budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year will include money to replace monitors in the concourse. If the expenditure is approved by the City Council, the monitors will become more "way-finding and directional," she said, rather

than showing promotional videos or welcome messages.

The Lake Granbury Conference Center has been quietly chugging along, not making waves, which is perhaps a sign that the ink is more black now than red.

"We work together daily on leads and business prospects. We have a great staff with little to no turnover," Dooley said. "We have a tourism-friendly attitude and we understand our mission is to generate economic impact through tourism for this community. And our conference center is our biggest tool to do that."

She added, "It really is a shining star here, and we're so fortunate to have it. The people who thought ahead to do that were really putting Granbury in a good place. And so now, it's our job to keep it that way."

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OBITUARIES

Drew Keely Bower

October 16, 1959 - February 24, 2023

Drew Keely Bower, 63, died unexpectedly at Penn State Holy Spirit Medical Center in Camp Hill, PA on Friday, February 24, 2023.

Drew was born October 16, 1959 in Harrisburg, PA and grew up in Perry, Florida where he became a diehard Florida State Seminoles fan. Before graduating from DeVry Technical school with an associate's degree in computer science, Drew worked at nuclear power plants around the country. Drew then created Bower Maintenance Service and worked in Granbury from 1989 through 2018. He loved working outdoors with landscape and saddened many satisfied customers when he decided to retire due to health issues in 2017.

Drew enjoyed watching college football, especially the "Noles". He loved fishing and would frequently visit friends in Homestead, FL to do just that. Drew also was a talented guitar player and played and sang in his church home here in Granbury.

Drew was a kind and loving father and is survived by his two children, Benjamin Porter Bower of



Anchorage, Alaska and Justine Olivia Bower of Granbury. He was most proud of his children and always lifted their spirits with his positive and loving words.

Drew is also survived by his wife, Tiffany Bower and sister, Linda Morgan both of Harrisburg, PA.

Drew would not want tears, instead he would say, plant a tree or a "posey" to make this world a more beautiful place, take your kids fishing and never forget to tell them how much you love them.

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged. Deuteronomy 31:8

Clinton Ray Sanders

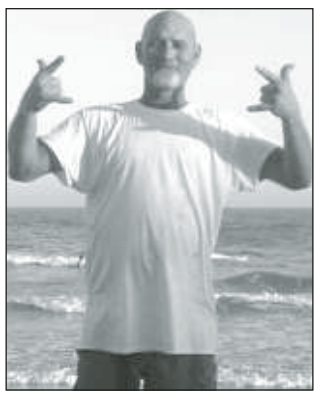
July 20, 1968 - March 29, 2023

Clinton Ray Sanders passed away on March 29, 2023, in Granbury, Texas. He was 54.

Clinton was born in Fort Worth, Texas on July 20, 1968, to Leroy Sanders and Ethel Marie Ledbetter. He was the youngest son out of five children and played football and baseball growing up. He was a concrete pump operator for more than 30 years and he loved what he did for a living. There are multiple photo albums to prove it, lol.

When he wasn't working, he loved spending time with family and friends. He enjoyed fishing and competed in several tournaments with his brother, Chuck. He loved going to church on Sundays at Stonewater in Tolar, Texas. He had a heart of gold and would help anyone with anything.

He is preceded in death by his mom Ethel Marie Ledbetter, his father Leroy Sanders, and two brothers Richard Minard and Roy Lee Sanders.



He is survived by his two daughters, Natasha Allen of Tolar, Texas and Natalie Allen of Granbury, Texas; one son, Nathaniel Sanders of Granbury, Texas; his brother, Chuck Minard of Granbury, Texas and his sister, Pamela Burris of Burleson, Texas. He is also survived by seven grandchildren.

Clinton was loved by many and will be dearly missed.

A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. on April 8, 2023 at Martin Thompson & Son Funeral Home, 6009 Wedgwood Dr., Fort Worth.

TPWD, DPS advise gun storage safety for spring hunting

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

AUSTIN — Now that spring turkey hunting season has begun, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) want to remind gun owners that safe gun storage saves lives. Proper storage protects those you love and keeps firearms out of the hands of criminals.

The Pew Research Center estimates more than 45 percent of Texans own a gun. One-third of homes with children have a firearm, and many of these may be unlocked and loaded, according to DPS.

The "Keep 'Em Safe Texas" program was created three years ago to inform and educate gun owners about the importance of safely storing firearms when they are not in use.

"Education about home firearm storage and safety is paramount to keeping guns out of the wrong hands," said Assistant Chief Jason Hester of DPS Regulatory Services. "We appreciate the efforts of our partners statewide, as they are diligently and consistently helping us to communicate this lifesaving message to protect Texas families and prevent accidents."

As the state's hunting authority, TPWD developed a Hunter Education program more than 50 years ago, teaching 1.5 million Texans how to safely handle and store guns. Hunting-related accidents in Texas are at an

all-time low since the course became mandatory in 1988.

"We spend a lot of time teaching about safety in the field — it is equally as important to safely store your gun before and after the hunt," said TPWD Hunter Education Coordinator Steve Hall.

THREE SIMPLE RULES FOR GUN SAFETY

1. Store Firearms Properly — Store guns unloaded and secured by a trigger lock, biometric lock, gun case, strong box, gun cabinet or gun safe.

2. Lock up ammunition — Store ammunition safely, always locked away separately from firearms.

3. Restrict access — Keep others from access to stored firearms 24/7; this includes family, friends, children or other visitors.

Partner participation is key in educating the public about safe gun storage and reducing the risks of gun-related incidents. "Keep 'Em Safe Texas" provides a partner toolkit that includes training presentations, informative



videos, posters, coloring pages, infographics and other resources. The associated social media resources page includes turnkey posts for partner use. Contact info@safegunstoragetexas.com with questions.

About TPWD, hunter education

TPWD manages and conserves the natural and cultural resources of Texas and provides hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Every hunter in Texas (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, must successfully complete hunter education. The minimum age for certification is 9 years old. Cost is \$15. Mandatory hunter education became law in 1988. Since 1972, TPWD has offered hunter education courses that have certified

nearly 1.5 million students. About the 'Keep 'Em Safe Texas' Campaign

DPS cares deeply about protecting and serving the citizens of Texas. In 2019, at least 3,683 deaths in Texas were due to firearms, higher than the national rate. This number has risen every year since 2011. In 2021, the Texas Legislature appropriated \$500,000 to DPS over the next two fiscal years (2022-23) to establish and promote a statewide safe gun storage campaign. By educating the public about safe gun storage, we can reduce the risks and better protect the citizens of Texas. So far, more than 50 partners, including more than two dozen local law enforcement agencies throughout the state of Texas, have united to help spread this crucial message

tpwd.texas.gov

ONE-STOP FROM PAGE A1

were for \$300,000 each, a combined total of \$600,000.

The state renewed the grants without Morrison even having to apply.

Morrison feels that a centralized location where veterans can apply for financial assistance or mental health services and receive help with claims and benefits would be a great service, especially since many struggle with transportation challenges. Wilson told the Hood County News that veterans are often forced to drive to multiple locations for different services.

At a recent interlocal government meeting involving

the city, the county, and the Granbury school district, Wilson advocated for a veterans one-stop to be included in plans for repurposing the city-owned Decker Gym and surrounding properties. Six offices and a meeting room large enough for 15 would be needed, he stated.

The repurposing is dependent on a grant that would fund costly asbestos abatement.

The city is partnering with United Way of Hood County in efforts to secure such a grant with the goal of creating a centralized hub for United Way, the Hood County Committee on Aging, and the Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center.

Veterans are among those

who benefit from services provided through United Way and the Hood County Committee on Aging.

According to United Way Director Crystal Moore, the grant application must be submitted by Friday, April 14. Grant awards will be announced in July, she said, with funds disbursed in October. She and City Manager Chris Coffman indicated that discussion

of a veterans one-stop at the Decker properties is premature.

Regardless of what happens with the city-United Way grant endeavor, Andrews indicated to the HCN that efforts to find a location for a veterans one-stop will continue.

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Obituaries are submitted online at obituaries.hcnews.com. Advance payment is required and you may do so online when placing the obituary.

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

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

Time for financial 'spring cleaning'

TONY MOBLY
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



Mobly

Now that we've put winter behind us — at least on the calendar — it's time for us to think about sprucing up our homes, inside and out. But it also may be time to do some financial spring cleaning.

Some of the same ideas involved in tidying up your home can also be used to help put your financial house in order. Here are a few suggestions:

DUST OFF YOUR INVESTMENT STRATEGY

As you look around your

home, you might find that many items — tables, desks, bookshelves, and computer and television screens — could benefit from a good dusting. And, once you've accomplished this, you'll get a clearer view of all these objects. Similarly, your investment strategy needs to be "dusted off" every so often, so you can see if it's still working to help you move toward your financial goals, such as a comfortable retirement. Over time, your personal circumstances and risk tolerance can change, and these changes may lead

you to reexamine your future financial and investment decisions.

DE-CLUTTER YOUR PORTFOLIO

If you took a survey of your home, would you find duplicates or even triplicates of some things — brooms, vacuum cleaners, toasters, and so on? If so, it may be time to do some de-cluttering. And the same could be true of your portfolio — you might have several identical, or substantially identical, investments taking up space. If so, you might want to replace these redundancies with investments that can improve your diversification. While diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against

losses in a declining market, it may help reduce the impact of market volatility on your holdings.

GET ORGANIZED

If your closets are overstuffed, with clothes and miscellaneous items crammed on shelves and the floor, you may well have trouble finding what you're looking for — but with a little straightening up, your searches will become much easier. And when you're trying to locate financial documents, such as investment statements or insurance policies, you'll also benefit from having everything organized in one central location. Even if you get most of these documents

online, you can save what you need and keep them in a file on your desktop, laptop or tablet. (And it's also a good idea to tell your spouse, adult child or another close relative how these documents can be accessed, just in case something happens to you.)

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM DANGERS

If you look around your garage, shed or other storage area, you may well find some objects — such as gardening tools, paint thinners, engine fluids and leaning ladders — that could be dangerous if they aren't stored properly. As part of your spring cleaning, you'll want to remove

these hazards to safeguard yourself and your family. But have you addressed the various financial risks that could threaten your loved ones? For example, if something were to happen to you, could your family members maintain their lifestyle? Could your children still go to college? To guard against this risk, you may want to discuss protection strategies with a financial professional.

Spring cleaning can pay off — in a cleaner, safer home environment and in helping ensure your financial strategy continues to work hard for you.

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NOTICES

9031
Public Notices

LEGAL AD

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, ACI Shops & Storage, Ltd. located at 1650 South Meadow Drive Granbury, Texas 76048 will have a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 10:30 am. Sign-in at the office. Property will be sold by the unit to the highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with a brief description of contents in each space. TIFFANY DIANE BOWER, tv, tarp, microwave, bedframe; STACIE DIANE THORNBERG, household furn., baby items; LISA ANNE GLAZENER, rocking horse, gun safe, grandfather clock, secretary's desk, household furn.; SAVANNAH NICOLE HILL, Shop vac, jack, cutting torch, air hose, tools; JOSEPH MICHAEL STEPHENS, exercise step, climbing harness, tool belt, toys; JENNIFER MICHELLE HARRIS, dryers, bed, trunk; SUSAN LYNETTE TEEL, washer, dryer, mirror, clothes, couch; BRANDY KAY MATA, washing machine, gas fryer, baby bouncer, loveseat; JODY WILLIAM SMITH, shop tool boxes, metal shelves, safe, armoire, fishing gear; DAWN MARIE SONTAG, vacuum, rocking chair, chest; JOSHUA ALLEN HOLMESLY, speaker, keyboard, suitcase, bicycle, entertainment center; SHEYENNE RACHEL CARVER, detergent, water bottles, Igloo, rug, kids life vest, air tank, heater; ROYCE JAMES GUILLORY, bicycle, shelves, step ladders, filing cabinet, portable deer blind, Craftsman tool box, circular saw.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF CRESSON REQUEST FOR REZONE
Notice is hereby given that the City of Cresson has received a request from Justin Howe for a change in zoning from Rural Residential "RR" to Planned Development "PD" for a 1.440-acre tract of land in the B.B.B. & C. R.R. Company Survey, Abstract No. 159, Parker County, Texas, being more particularly described by metes and bounds. A complete legal description of the property can be found on file with the City Secretary's office. The City of Cresson will conduct a public hearing regarding the requested rezoning change on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 7:00 pm at Cresson City Hall Council Chambers located at 8901 Hwy 377, Cresson, Texas 76035. All interested parties are invited to attend. The Cresson City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Request for accommodations or other services must be made 48 hours in advance. You may contact the City of Cresson at 817-396-4729 for further information.

LEGAL AD
Hood County Commissioners' Court has received an application to consider a site development plan for:

ALLSUP'S CONVENIENT STORE

located at 6801 Glen Rose Hwy, Granbury, TX. The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the site development plan on Tuesday, April 25th, 2023, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

9031
Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The City of Tolar will hold a public hearing on April 17, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. to receive comments for a request for a zoning change on the property of 704 N. Elm St., 386 acres from Single Family Residential (8000 sf) (R8) to Single Family Residential (6000 sf) (R6), subdivision and re-plat. All owners of property within 200 feet of the above described property are being notified of the meeting by mail. The public will have the opportunity to address any questions or concerns about the proposed changes at the meeting. If you're unable to attend the meeting, you may address any questions, concerns or objections by mail. If you need further clarification about this notification, please contact Michelle Burdette, City Secretary at 254-835-4390.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of AIMEE ELISABETH PRATER, Deceased, were issued on March 23, 2023, in Cause No. P09911, pending in the County Court of HOOD County, Texas, to: Christopher Jeremy Prater.

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: Jeremy SoRelle
Hyde Law Firm
827 W Pearl St
Granbury, TX 76048
DATED the 4th day of April, 2023.
/s/ Jeremy SoRelle
Jeremy SoRelle
Attorney for Christopher Jeremy Prater
State Bar No.: 24056352
827 West Pearl Street
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 579-5997
Facsimile: (817) 573-4933
E-mail: jeremy@hydefirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sheila Atkinson Higgins, Deceased, were issued on March 29, 2023, in Docket No. P09977 pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Ellen Marie Bebee.

The residence of the Independent Executor is in Sarasota County, Florida, and the post office address is: Estate of Sheila Atkinson Higgins
c/o Andrea Moore, Attorney
P. O. Box 5095
Granbury, TX 76049-0095
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 the Texas Estates Code.
Andrea Moore, Attorney for Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SHERRIE NELL MATLOCK, Deceased, were issued on March 29, 2023, in Cause No. P09951, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: RHONDA LE'ANN SIMS.

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: Steven G. Kuban Attorney at Law
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 30th day of March, 2023.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Rhonda Le'Ann Sims
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
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9031
Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 8 - LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS AND, ARTICLE 13 - TREE PRESERVATION REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 5.

Any person, firm or corporation, who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-29

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1.

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ORDINANCE NO. 23-30

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ORDINANCE NO. 23-31

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Heavy Commercial [HC] to Light Commercial [LC]

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Granbury 76048
Garage Sales 76048

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MOVING SALE 3913 Scenic Hill Ln. Household and shop. Saturday 4/8 starting at 8am.

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ORDINANCE NO. 23-09

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY AMENDING ARTICLE 8 - LANDSCAPE REQUIREMENTS AND, ARTICLE 13 - TREE PRESERVATION REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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ORDINANCE NO. 23-29

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GRANBURY LADY PIRATES GOLF TEAM QUALIFIES FOR 5A REGIONAL

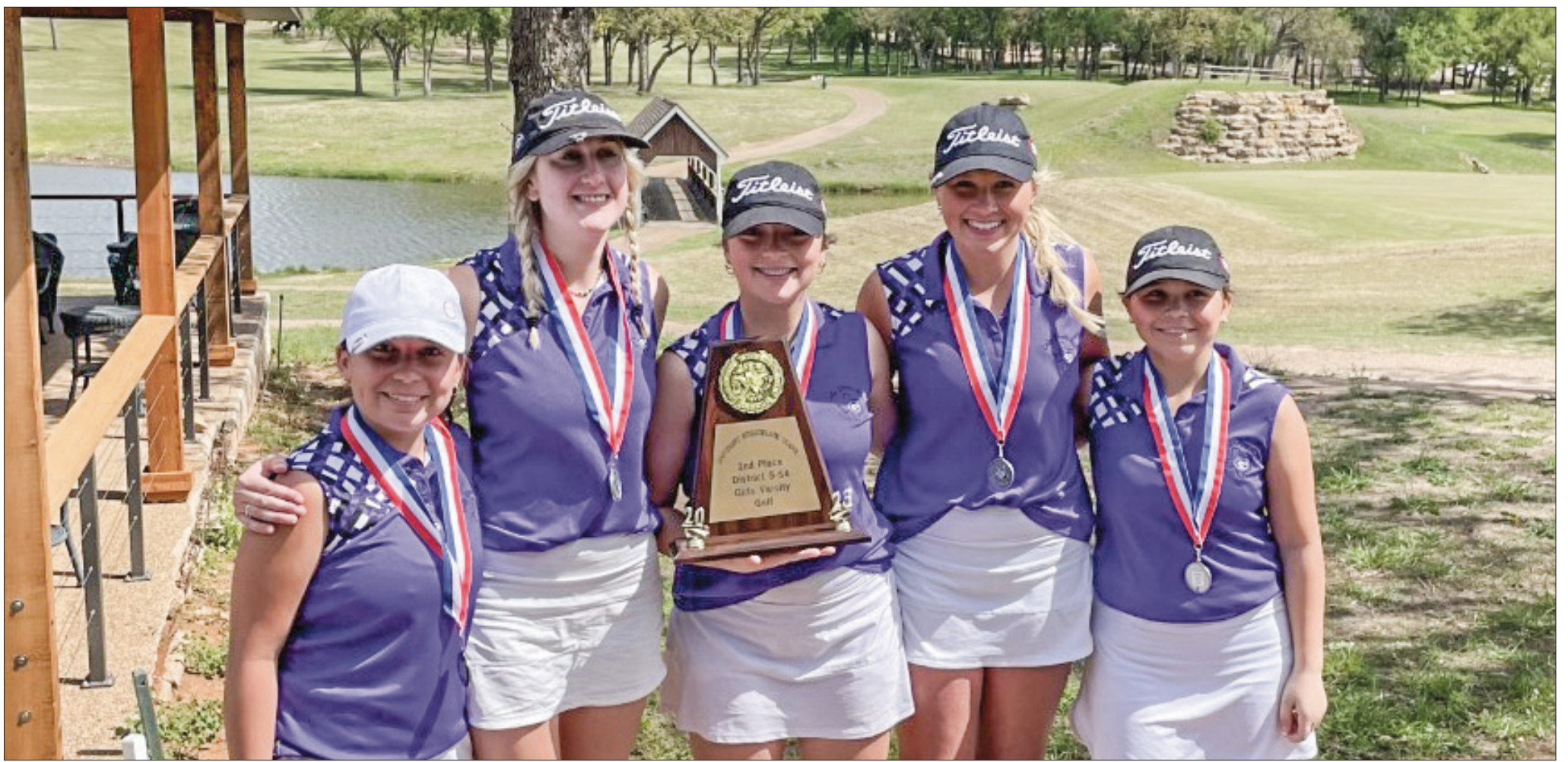


PHOTO COURTESY OF BECKY ADDISON.

The Granbury Lady Pirates Purple team qualified for the Class 5A Region 1 Tournament in Lubbock by finishing second in the District 5-5A Tournament. Pictured are (from left) sophomore Grace Jimenez, senior Hailey Golen, sophomore Halle Carr, junior Akyah Ditto and freshman Ariel Jimenez.





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What will it take for you to believe?

BY PASTOR LINDSAY LUEDEKER
Waples Baptist Church

How many times have you been asked if you believe in Jesus? Some may ask if you believe that Jesus died and rose again? In the Scriptures, we see the different ways Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and the disciples in order to help us understand He reaches each of our hearts in different ways as we see in John 20 (NKJV).

MARY MAGDALENE... JESUS CALLED HER BY NAME, AND SHE BELIEVED:

¹¹ But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. ¹³ Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." ¹⁴ Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that

it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

THE DISCIPLES, EXCLUDING THOMAS... THEY SAW THE SCARS AND THEY BELIEVED:

¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disci-

ples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

THOMAS... HE HAD TO TOUCH JESUS TO BELIEVE:

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." ²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were



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Do you believe Jesus is risen?

again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands;

and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." ²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Thomas, be-

cause you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Will you believe? He is wanting you to accept His love for you.

The significance of various symbols of Easter

(MetroCreative Connection)

Easter Sunday is a day when Christians across the globe celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Data from the Pew Research Center indicates there are approximately 2.4 billion Christians across the globe, which accounts for nearly one-third of the global population.

Though certain Christian groups do not celebrate Easter, many consider it the holiest day of the year. Given that significance, it's no surprise Easter is steeped in symbolism. The following are some of the many symbols

of Easter and what they represent to faithful Christians across the globe.

EGGS

Eggs might now be more instantly associated with Easter egg hunts for children, but the American Bible Society notes that eggs are symbolic of more than just fun for kids. Eggs represent the new



life that's symbolic of spring, which is when Easter occurs in the northern hemisphere. Christians view eggs as a reminder of the resur-

rection of Jesus. Interestingly, though colored eggs are often seen as a fun Easter activity for kids, the ABS notes that the tradition dates back to the early days of Christianity, when red-colored eggs were used to repre-

sent the resurrection.

CRUCIFIX

The crucifix, which is a distinct representation of a cross with Jesus Christ on it, is symbolic of the crucifixion and subsequent resurrection of Jesus. The ABS notes that the resurrection of Jesus symbolizes his victory over the power of sin and death.

THE LAMB

Jesus is referred to in the Bible as the "Lamb of God" (Revelation 5:6-14), so the

lamb is another important Easter symbol for Christians. In addition, in John (1:29), Jesus is referred to by John the Baptist as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world."

EASTER BUNNY

Another symbol, like Easter eggs, that people could be forgiven for mistaking as purely secular, the Easter Bunny is not entirely separate from the spiritual meaning of the holiday. As noted, Easter,

even though it's a moveable feast, takes place in spring in the northern hemisphere each year. Spring is symbolic of rebirth, and the hare was a symbol of fertility among the ancient pagans. The spirit of rebirth associated with rabbits, particularly in spring, also is reminiscent of the resurrection of Jesus from his tomb.

Easter is celebrated across the globe. Those celebrations feature many significant religious symbols that have withstood the test of time.

Explaining the meaning of Easter to children

(MetroCreative Connection)

Explaining Easter to children can be a delicate matter, especially for very young children who may not fully understand the tenets of the Christian faith. Although Easter ends with Jesus Christ emerging from his tomb, prior to this glorious miracle there are subjects of betrayal, suffering and death. These religious messages can confound when mingled with the imagery of bunnies delivering chocolates, chicks and pastel-hued eggs. How do well-meaning parents relay the message of Easter without scaring or confusing children?

adults to wrap their minds around that visual. It briefly can be mentioned that he was placed on a cross, as was customary during that era, but forgo the finer details.

FOCUS ON THE RESURRECTION

Parents will not want to talk about death without ending on the high note of Jesus' Resurrection. Remind children that Christ's death was temporary and that He now always will be with adults and children. Read passages from scripture that exemplify the Good News

and the happy components of the Easter celebration.

EXPLAIN SECULAR IMAGES

Young children may be more focused on the commercial images of Easter rather than the religious ones. Parents may want to gear symbolism toward the religious explanations and focus their traditions thusly. Baking hot cross buns can be fun and showcase the crucifix. Explaining how eggs are representative of Jesus Christ's new life when coloring them is another way to cut through mixed messages.

TEMPER THE MESSAGE TO THE AUDIENCE

A child's age bears consideration when gauging just how much to share about Easter. Between Palm Sunday, when Jesus triumphantly entered Jerusalem, to Easter Sunday's Resurrection, the story of Easter features torture and death — which are topics not easily digested by anyone, especially children. Even the core symbol of the Christian faith — the crucifix — is shocking.

For the youngest children, the extent of the torture and betrayal can be muted. For example, parents may say that Jesus was bullied and made fun of and that people didn't believe him when he spoke. Parents can note that even some of the closest friends to Jesus had their doubts. This may be easier for kids to digest because it's something they may relate to.

Children may not understand the death on the cross; it's even challenging for

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MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Amber Pilgrim, left, founder of Kingdom Reign Marketing and Rachel Brister, right, Butterflies of Granbury coordinator, hold a butterfly statue. The statue is a miniature replica of the three-and-a-half feet tall and four feet wide butterfly statue that local business owners can purchase and display outside their businesses to draw in more customers.

BRIDGE STREET HISTORY

Hood County Sheriff Tom Mullins - Big Man With a Big Mission



BY DAN VANDERBURG

Dan Vanderburg is an author and speaker who loves Texas history. He has published seven historical fiction novels about exciting events in Texas history. As a speaker, Dan presents programs about everyday life in early Texas. Dan is a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, David Crockett Chapter in Granbury, Texas and is also a member of the Granbury Bridge Street History Center Board of Directors. Learn more about Dan at danvanderburg.com

Of all the 34 men and one woman that have worn the sheriff's badge in Hood County since it was founded in 1866, Tomas Patrick Mullins, Jr. was probably one of the most colorful. Tom Mullins (b. 1876, d. 1946) was a well-liked local character long before he became sheriff. Tom was a middle son of a large family whose father died when he was only sixteen years old, so Tom took on the responsibility to help support the family at an early age. He never married and continued to live with his mother and brother's family in the family home at 1030 West Pearl Street (an empty lot now) his entire life.

Tom was always a big man with a big appetite for food and didn't hesitate to take on challenges for "all you can eat" opportunities. Once in Tidwell's restaurant, a friend challenged him to eat a two-pound steak. He put it away, along with the side dishes that went with it. Mullins said he'd eat another just like it if the friend would pay for it. The friend accepted the challenge and paid up again after Tom cleaned his second plate.

A frequent sight around town was Mullins on his big, white horse driving herds of cattle along Pearl Street into town and then north to the cattle pens along the railroad. Other times when he wasn't driving cattle, hardly a day passed that he wasn't seen riding his horse along Pearl or Bridge Street to join his "whittle and spit" cronies on the north side of the square. He enjoyed sharing stories, including some "pretty tall tales," according to his

PLEASE SEE HISTORY | B6



The Bridge Street HISTORY CENTER
Granbury, TX

'CREATING UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY' Granbury resident aims to unite local businesses with butterfly statues

BY ASHLEY INGE

Staff Writer

You can't spell "community" without "unity" — and no one understands that phrase better than Rachel Brister. As a community advocate and Granbury native, Brister is determined to bring local businesses and residents closer than ever before with her new project: Butterflies of Granbury.

Inspired by the town of Hutto — known for its hippo mascot and statues — Brister has made it her goal to instill that same feeling of unity in her hometown that she experienced just driving through Hutto.

"I know it sounds so simple, but when you go to Hutto, Texas, everybody has a hippo and when you see how united they are, it is just beautiful," she said.

According to huttotx.gov, Hutto residents and businesses proudly tout their hippo spirit with concrete hippos in many different sizes and styles displayed throughout the community. While estimates vary, it can reasonably be estimated there are between 5,000 and 10,000 concrete hippos throughout Hutto.

Utilizing the same concept, Brister approached Visit Granbury with her best friend, Amber Pilgrim, to pitch their idea for a community mascot.

"We originally designed the (idea with) pirates thinking that Granbury would be known as the pirates (to coincide with the school), but then the Cultural Arts Commission suggested we change the pirate design to a monarch butterfly," she explained.

According to Brister's brochure on the project, butterflies represent many things, from unification to transformation to education.

"Granbury is also fortunate enough to be part of the annual

route that the monarch butterflies take from Mexico to Canada," the brochure states. "These butterfly statues are just a small glimpse of the amazing beauty this migration encapsulates."

With help from Pilgrim, the founder of Kingdom Reign Marketing; Deborah Rollins, event chairman of Romancing the Monarch: A Butterfly Festival; Cora Werley, board chair of the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission; and Greg Ray, the owner of Set in Stone Statuary — and the same artist who sculpted the hippos in Hutto — the Butterflies of Granbury project was born.

UNITY

Operating under her self-founded organization, UNITY Protecting Our Protectors, LLC, Brister began the Butterflies of Granbury project with one goal in mind: to unify our community.

"We are in very dark times within our nation and UNITY wants to show just how powerful love is," she said. "The '1' in UNITY is the number 'one.' Symbolically, this represents the unification with Christ, and how it only takes one person (him within us) to unite a city, nation, and world when we step out in faith with him."

Brister said she originally came up with her organization during

PLEASE SEE UNITY | B2



COURTESY OF RACHEL BRISTER

Greg Ray, the owner of Set in Stone Statuary and the sculptor who created the hippos in Hutto, works to sculpt a butterfly statue for the Butterflies of Granbury project. The first delivery of the statues is currently scheduled for July 4.

"We are in very dark times within our nation and UNITY wants to show just how powerful love is. The '1' in UNITY is the number 'one.' Symbolically, this represents the unification with Christ, and how it only takes one person (him within us) to unite a city, nation, and world when we step out in faith with him."

RACHEL BRISTER

Butterflies of Granbury coordinator, UNITY founder

GISD middle schools honored military families with breakfast program

From Staff Reports

April is Month of the Military child. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, there are more than 1.6 million military children who face challenges and unique experiences because of their parents' service. Granbury ISD middle schools recently hosted Military Family Breakfast. The event was held to honor the families who serve our country.

"We would like to say

thank you for your time, bravery, and sacrifice for this country," Granbury Middle School principal Dr. Andy Smith said.

On Monday, April 3, Acton Middle School opened the breakfast with a presentation of colors by the GHS MCJROTC and the national anthem by the AMS choir. Sixth grade student Rachel Dueck — a recent UIL oral reading medalist and military child — read a special poem dedicated to military families.

On Tuesday, April 4, Granbury Middle School opened the breakfast with a presentation of colors by the Boy Scout Troops, along with the national anthem by choir teacher Noah McGuire. Military families were given cards created by art students.

More information about the ways Granbury ISD supports military families is available at <https://www.granburymiddle.org/militaryfamilies>.



COURTESY OF GISD

Granbury Middle School art students created cards to present to military families for the Month of the Military Child program

AMS wins 3rd place at UIL District meet

Submitted Copy

The Acton Middle School UIL Academics team placed third overall at the UIL A+ Academics District meet at Weatherford Hall Middle School on February 28 and March 27, 2023.

The seventh grade placed fourth while the eighth grade finished second.

The AMS UIL Academics students are listed by academic event followed by their place.

MODERN ORATORY

Saylor Smartt - 4th Place

7TH GRADE ORAL READING

Rachel Dueck - 2nd Place
Breyer Schenewark - 5th Place

7TH GRADE READY WRITING

Karina Reyes - 1st Place

8TH GRADE READY WRITING

Madison Drehmann - 1st Place
Reina Rosas - 3rd Place

7TH GRADE SPELLING

Brendan Thorne - 2nd Place

8TH GRADE SPELLING

Morgyn Dawson - 2nd Place

7TH GRADE SCIENCE

Raymond Valadez - 5th Place

8TH GRADE SCIENCE

Nolan Porter - 1st Place
Lelan Brown - 3rd Place
Auran Baker - 5th Place

7TH GRADE CHESS PUZZLE

Zak Krantz - 3rd Place

8TH GRADE MAPS, GRAPHS, AND CHARTS

Carmen Wright - 4th Place

7TH GRADE NUMBER SENSE

Caden Campbell - 6th Place

8TH GRADE NUMBER SENSE

Finnegan Renard - 4th Place



Pictured is the Acton Middle School UIL team.

COURTESY OF GISD

7TH SOCIAL STUDIES

Collin Jennings - 1st Place

8TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

Emma Ferrell - 1st Place
Carmen Wright - 2nd Place

Madison Drehmann - 5th Place

The Acton Middle School campus coordinator is teacher Lisa Stuckey.

UNITY

FROM PAGE B1

COVID, when she felt called by God to create masks for local first responders.

"(Butterflies of Granbury) wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the start of COVID and God teaching me that even when things are scary, unknown, and uncertain, he will bless it, he will guide it and he will send the people that he needs to send to get you to your end goal," she said. "I think this is a testimony of that and his faithfulness to us."

BUTTERFLIES OF GRANBURY

Brister's goal for the Butterflies of Granbury project is to have a statue placed at almost every business in town to draw more customers and to show a sense of unity within Hood County.

"My heart is to see these all over town and to see local nonprofits benefiting; that's my main goal," Brister said.

Proceeds from each statue sale will benefit local nonprofits, with the first being Granbury Lion's Club — which is the current feature partner of the project.

"My goal is to change (the) local nonprofits (that benefit with) every (certain number of statues) sold, so that everybody can get a portion of the funds that are coming in; that's kind of my heart in doing this," Brister said.

"(Butterflies of Granbury) wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the start of COVID and God teaching me that even when things are scary, unknown, and uncertain, he will bless it, he will guide it and he will send the people that he needs to send to get you to your end goal. I think this is a testimony of that and his faithfulness to us."

RACHEL BRISTER

Butterflies of Granbury coordinator, UNITY founder



COURTESY OF RACHEL BRISTER

This 3D rendering of the butterfly statues gives a sneak peek of what they will look like when delivered. The concrete butterfly statues cost \$1,500 each and will measure three-and-a-half feet tall and four feet wide. The statues will arrive unpainted, weighing approximately 900 pounds.

The concrete butterfly statues cost \$1,500 each and will measure three-and-a-half feet tall and four feet wide. The statues will arrive unpainted, weighing approximately 900 pounds.

"We're just hoping it really kind of kicks off and also creates jobs for local artists," Brister said. "The Cultural

Arts Commission will be sourcing out local artists, so when a business comes by and they purchase one, they will be given a sheet of paper (with a list of local artists), so that they can hire somebody off that page to come paint their statue however they want to."

Every statue painted must

follow the city's ordinances, like no wording and no inappropriate images. For more information, refer to the city of Granbury's website.

"Each business has the freedom to paint it to reflect their business or however they feel," Brister said.

Businesses who purchase a butterfly will be added to a

map of Granbury that will be used to give locals and tourists an opportunity to locate and view all the butterflies around town — like a scavenger hunt.

Orders for the statues are now being accepted, with the first delivery set for July 4. Statues will be delivered to Granbury once a month.

"My goal in doing this just like I did with the Fort Worth Police Department and Fire Department is to give back in some way," Brister added. "For this, I just want to focus on challenging others to step up, to give back, and see how many lives we can change."

She added that in the future, she hopes to create several miniature versions of the butterfly statues so Hood County residents can place one outside their home to also "take part in the town's unity."

The Butterflies of Granbury project is approved by Visit Granbury, Lake Granbury Master Gardeners, Texas Master Gardeners, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, Romancing the Monarch: A Butterfly Festival, and the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission.

To purchase a statue, call Brister at 817-559-1465 or email butterfliesofgranbury@gmail.com.

"I feel like this is going to be something very beneficial for the city of Granbury," she added. "In my heart, I want to be an example of God's love and give back to the community. It's all for UNITY, and that's what UNITY is — creating unity in the community. It's all set in stone."

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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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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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And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.
 Romans 8:28

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Hood County ACTIVITIES

YOUR TICKET TO THINGS TO DO

HOOD OUTDOORS



COURTESY OF MICHAEL ACOSTA

Pictured, from left, are Granbury's Marcus Tipton and his father James Tipton. They caught some really nice striped bass to 9 pounds last weekend on Lake Granbury.

Here are some of the best live bait options to have success on our area lakes



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.

Lake Granbury usually is a nutrient-rich lake that breeds baitfish in unbelievable numbers. However, the recent Golden Alga event, which I believe is over, has reduced the numbers of baitfish right now. There is still an abundant supply, but you will have to work a little harder to get the size and quantity you need for the day.

Another good live bait on Lake Granbury is live bream. Bream can be caught in a trap or you can use a small hook under a cork with a piece of worm to catch them. In my opinion, natural bream from the lake is a good second choice. Live bream is a good choice for striped bass, yellow catfish and largemouth bass. Many will bait their trot-lines with live perch.

The third option is to buy some bream or minnows at the bait store, as they will work as well. If you have a

hard time getting bait, the bait store can supplement what you have. Another good option is to focus on using artificial baits as many do. There are a variety of artificials for different species, as you all know. However, there will be slow days when live bait will be the best choice.

Small minnows are always effective for crappie. Right now many are catching crappie in the backs of creeks/sloughs where they are spawning.

Learning to seine or toss-

ing a cast net are a couple of options. I use a cast net all the time. Right now working the backs of the sloughs and also the entrances to those sloughs are good choices. The warmer days will have more shad back in the shallows. Of course, try to avoid areas where there is a lot of underwater snags. Losing or tearing a net is no fun. You will get snagged on occasion and you will have to repair your nets on occasion as that is part of the deal. If you are just learning to throw, it is a good philosophy is to practice throwing in the yard before heading out. The positive side to catching bait comes afterward when you are out catching fish.

Generally, once you pattern the bait fish out, you can catch a sufficient quantity of baitfish for the day. I have noticed that there is an abundance of bigger shad to be caught right now. You might think they are too big, but keep a few of those bigger ones. On a recent trip on Lake Granbury the bigger shad up to 10 inches were preferred and the striped bass we boated

were large. I know you have heard "match the hatch," as I believe these stripers are currently used to feeding on larger baits (my theory). They hit some smaller baits, but the bigger ones were preferred at least on the last couple of trips.

In addition, if the bait population is down due to the dreaded alga, then the fish are more apt to find your bait presentation. Fishing for striped bass has been really good lately which may be partially due to forage issues (less baitfish) and the fish are getting more active as the water warms.

It is good to see Granbury action picking up as it appears that the Golden Alga is over. So if you get a chance, get out there and experience the fishing on our area lakes. See you on the water!

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

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Lake Granbury water temperatures are in the middle to upper 60s. Some 70-degree water can be found in the backs of sloughs. Black bass are either on their beds or are close to their spawning grounds and are good to 8 pounds on soft plastics and spinner baits. Crappies are good to excellent on small minnows and tube jigs in the backs of sloughs where they are spawning. Sand bass spawn is still on-going, however I believe most of the sandies are returning to the main lake. Striped bass up to 12 pounds are possible on live bait and Alabama rigs fished from Indian Harbor to Striper Alley near channel ledges. Large yellow and blue catfish to 30 pounds are possible on cut shad/drum fished near Hunter Park.

Comanche Creek closed March 31 and will re-open in October.

Lake Whitney stripers are good to excellent on live bait and umbrella rigs with sassy shad tails. Best areas are from McCown Valley to Cedar and Bear Creeks. Lots of good largemouth bass are being caught in the river from Lakeside north.



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BOOK REVIEW

When public health and individual freedom collide

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Everything hurts. Your joints, your bones, your skin, even your hair hurts. You don't want to move – which is fine, since you barely can. So, what do you reach for? A phone to call the doctor or, as in the new book “If It Sounds Like a Quack...” by Matthew Hongoltz-Hetling, does that idea just make you wanna duck?

If you've ever fallen sick, broken a bone, or needed a doctor's excuse for work, you know that “America's health care ecosystem is... full of wealth and nonsense...”

Understanding it is impossible. Working your way through it, even more so, and “millions of Americans” don't even want to try. Instead, they reach for an unproven, alternative “One True Cure” that very rarely works. Doing so, says Hongoltz-Hetling, is a personal prerogative, a freedom, somewhat like consuming sugary drinks, not getting vaccinated, avoiding a seatbelt, and using recreational drugs. Those are things one person does that can ultimately affect the population as a whole.

So, is there a solution to a problem when “public health and individual freedom... collide?”

That's hard to answer. Some alternative medicines have been proven, sort of. Others do nothing or make an illness worse. Still, big bucks are spent each year on unproven cures, pills, herbs, lasers and caustic cocktails, and the government chafes.

Hongoltz-Hetling found Toby, for instance, a Montana man who sold “herbal concoctions” that he claimed could heal anything, until the FDA said he couldn't make that claim anymore. Robert in Utah, an ambitious man of God, embraced a debunked 19th-century cure. Alicja, born and raised in Poland, immersed herself in hirudotherapy, or the use of leeches, which challenged the FDA for a label. Dale and Leilani of rural Wisconsin believed that prayer could cure all, until they lost their youngest daughter to ketoacidosis. Larry was certain that lasers stopped disease in its tracks, but the FBI disagreed. The “alien who lived in Jim Humble's skin” claimed

that only ancient, other-worldly medicine was right.

Meanwhile, says Hongoltz-Hetling, millions of Americans aren't “opting out of health care.... just professional health care.”

Are you uncomfortable yet? Because you should be. Author Matthew Hongoltz-Hetling should make you squirm here – but you're also going to laugh.

For sure, “If It Sounds Like a Quack...” is wry, irreverent, and hilarious, poking equal fun at presidents, patients, and quack practitioners alike, while it makes a big point: faux medicine is relatively harmless, until it's not and someone gets hurt. And people do, often, but as Hongoltz-Hetling shows, government oversight (or overreach, depending on your viewpoint) is ineffectual and can't always save people from themselves.

“We can all make fun,” says Hongoltz-Hetling – and he does in these stories that read like a collection of novelettes – but he never loses sight of reality: One True Cures have “serious consequences.”

Before you click on that online ad, before you buy another bottle of herbs or an untested medical method, reach for “If It Sounds Like a Quack” first.

Reading it might make you stay safe. It sure can't hurt.

“If It Sounds Like a Quack...”
by Matthew Hongoltz-Hetling

C.2023, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, \$29.00, 336 PAGES

COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY OF ENVATO.COM

Granbury holiday closures

Most City of Granbury offices will be closed Friday (April 7) in observance of Good Friday and Sunday (April 9) for Easter.

Visit Granbury will be open Friday and Saturday. Visit Granbury will be closed on

Easter Sunday.

Rise and Grind will happen Friday at 9 a.m. at the Langdon center grounds.

The Granbury Trolley will run its regular schedule all weekend.

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NEWS ON THE GO

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HISTORY

FROM PAGE B1

friends. It was the summer of 1901 when Mullins became a part of keeping Granbury's image alive as the "wild west" with the shootout at the Aston Landers saloon on the north side of the square. It seems that Tom, who was constable at the time got into some difficulty with Nat Tracy at a picnic at Thorp Springs. When Tom walked into the saloon several days later and found Tracy there, drinking, Tracy challenged Tom with a gun. Tom was unarmed, but unwilling to back down. He told Tracy he'd fight him, but he would have to go home to get his gun first. When he returned with his gun and pushed through the saloon door, Tracy started basting

away. Tom returned fire, but missed Nat altogether. One of Nat's bullets wounded Tom in the leg while several stray bullets went outside the door toward the courthouse. G. C. Rothwell had just untied his horse from the chain fence at the courthouse yard. While placing his foot in the stirrup, he was struck by one of Tracy's stray bullets in the private parts. He was carried to a store across the street and treated by doctors. Thankfully Mr. Rothwell fully recovered and fathered several children in the years after the incident. Tom Mullins also fully recovered and Nat Tracy was arrested for attempted murder. Tom was elected to serve two terms as Hood County sheriff, 1914-1918. He was later appointed as Deputy U.S. Marshall for the Fort Worth

District, 1921-1922 and served with honor there. Sheriff Mullins was considered by some to have a "rough and ready" exterior manner but was always polite and courteous in the old fashioned way. He had a keen understanding of what was going on in his areas of responsibility and had a strong sense of being faithful to his duties in an orderly manner. He was well liked throughout the community and was honored by being asked to lead the huge celebration parade on his big, white horse for the opening of the new Brazos River bridge on June 8, 1933. The facts for this article were obtained from an entry in the Hood County Genealogical Society written by Vince James Maloney in 1973.

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

SUDOKU
Solution for the puzzle on April 5 (Puzzle 16).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT
Friday, 07 April 2023 - Thursday, 13 April 2023

AIR (R)
Fri: 1:30PM, 4:15PM, 7:00PM, 9:45PM.
Sat: 11:25AM, 2:05PM, 4:50PM, 7:35PM, 10:20PM.
Sun: 11:25AM, 2:05PM, 4:50PM, 7:35PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:25PM.
Thurs: 2:30PM, 5:15PM, 8:05PM

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves (PG13)
Fri: 11:15AM, 2:30PM, 5:45PM, 9:00PM.
Sat: 12:40PM, 3:45PM, 6:55PM, 10:00PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 2:05PM, 5:10PM, 8:15PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:30PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 5:15PM

His Only Son (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 6:30PM, 9:00PM.
Sun: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 2:45PM

John Wick: Chapter 4 (R)
Fri: 11:40AM, 3:20PM, 7:00PM.
Sat: 12:00PM, 3:45PM, 7:25PM.
Sun: 11:50AM, 3:30PM, 7:10PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:15PM, 6:20PM.
Thurs: 8:25PM

Renfield (R)
Thurs: 5:00PM, 7:20PM, 9:40PM

The Pope's Exorcist (R)
Thurs: 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 9:30PM

The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG)
Fri: 11:05AM, 12:00PM, 1:25PM, 2:20PM, 4:40PM, 6:05PM, 7:00PM, 8:25PM.
Sat: 10:45AM, 11:45AM, 1:05PM, 2:05PM, 4:25PM, 5:45PM, 6:45PM, 8:05PM, 10:25PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 12:40PM, 1:20PM, 3:40PM, 5:20PM, 6:00PM, 7:40PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 6:40PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 6:45PM, 7:40PM, 9:05PM

The Super Mario Bros. Movie in 3D (PG)
Fri: 3:45PM, 9:20PM.
Sat: 3:25PM, 9:05PM.
Sun: 3:00PM, 8:20PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 4:20PM, 7:40PM.
Thurs: 4:25PM, 10:00PM

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Barney is a male dog and a shepherd mix. He is approximately 3-1/2 months old and weighs about 40 pounds. Barney is social and full of energy. Special adoption fee of \$25! The adoption fee includes sterilization, rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, Pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

Monkey is a male tuxedo domestic short-hair cat. He is approximately 5 years old. He would do best in a quiet home. The adoption fee of \$25 includes rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, Pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

Hood County Animal Control
1550 Weatherford Highway • (817) 573-4277
Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
First Saturday of each month (adoptions only) 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Adoptable cats can be found at PetSense in Granbury!

Check us out on Facebook at Hood County Animal Control, TX

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GO PLAY

GO PLAY 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.

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 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 Barbeque, 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.

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.

MONDAY, APRIL 10

LGAA PRESENTS M. Douglas Walton's demonstration Transcendence in Motion at Shanley House Studio located

at 224 N. Travis St. in Granbury on Monday April 10, 2023 at 6 p.m.

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting. Guest speaker: Iris Garcia, Executive Director of Tarrant County Democratic Party. 11:00 a.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Hwy 377, Granbury. Details: 254-716-5195.

THE NORTH Central Texas Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 10, at Spring Creek Bar-Que, 317 E. Hwy 377. The program will be presented by Dr. Brian Jordan, PhD, an Associate Professor of History at Sam Houston State University. Dr. Jordan will speak on "A Thousand May Fall", the story of an ethnic German regiment from northeastern Ohio in the Union Army. Visitors are welcome, with no

charge for the first meeting. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.ncentexcwr.com>.



PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | B8

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972-921-5655

THE IDLE AMERICAN



COURTESY PHOTO

Rusty is a graveyard dog who has made his home the Oakland Cemetary.

Rusty to the rescue



BY DON NEWBURY

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

They generally give us the benefit of the doubt even when we are dead wrong, wagging their tails while licking the hands that feed them. In their way, they pledge unending devotion, no matter what.

One doesn't have to look very far into literature or incline their ears to very many songs to hear dogs revered by the masses, but reviled by some who have no use for them.

Elvis Presley reminded some canines that they were "nothing but hound dogs," and an expression from the lips of thoughtless people suggests that some situations "shouldn't happen to a dog."

THEY HAVE US

A canine defender compared dogs with cats. "When owners say 'sit' to their dogs, they usually sit. Extend the same command to a cat, and the pet responds that it'll 'get back with us later.'"

We who admit to being dog fanciers — and the same is probably true for feline owners — feel strongly about our choices. Reasons do not have to be given from either quarter.

Truth to tell, we don't have dogs; they have us.

RUSTY'S PLACE

All this aside, dogs assist the living in many critical ways. Think about it, you never hear about "drug-sniffing cats." And don't expect even the most muscular cat to join a dogsled team.

Thanks to the inquiring mind of Sharon Grigsby, brilliant Dallas Morning News journalist, we learn that at

least one dog assists the dead as well.

His name is Rusty, and he's found his place in life. Instead of a junkyard dog, he's a graveyard canine who chooses to wander around the 27,000 resting places on the 48-acre Oakland Cemetery, where dirt was first turned in 1892.

EVASIVE

Rusty and a pack of four other dogs wandered into the historic south Dallas cemetery some three years ago. Almost immediately, animal control personnel rounded up the animals, sans Rusty.

For more than six months, they tried repeatedly to capture Rusty, but he fell for none of their enticements. They set up video cameras and traps — not to mention his favorite treats — and nothing worked.

Finally, Rusty's file became inactive.

KEEPING DISTANCE

He has become a celebrity dog, said Monica Newbury (no relation). "Vets are offering free services, and visitors to the cemetery are bringing treats by the truckload," Monica said.

She war, warned, however, that Rusty gets along just fine without cuddling or petting, sometimes growling so folks will keep their distance. He not only roams the prem-

STORIED NAMES

Several have offered to adopt the 60-pound collie mix, but no dice. The doggy in the window has a price; Rusty is not for sale.

The old cemetery has fallen on hard times, and it's hard to keep up with volunteer help.

A gift of cash or pledge to work honors Rusty and is invaluable to a storied cemetery. Interred there are numerous state representatives, eight mayors, a senator and numerous other luminaries. Many markers have names synonymous with street signs in Dallas and Highland Park.

Others include the founding president of Dallas Power and Light (now TXU). Two recently-discovered granite markers — 6-feet tall and 10-feet wide — mark resting places of persons who provided major funding for the establishment of Children's Medical Center in Dallas.

The graves were obscured by brush and brambles back in 2019, when the cemetery board declared bankruptcy, clearing the way for a new beginning. Monica and Armando Gonzalez Jr. work part-time to organize burials, meet family needs, keep records and maintain the grounds. They urge folks to visit the cemetery, and to bring along weed-eaters when they come. (More information about volunteering or making donations can be found at <https://oakland-cemeterydallas.com> online)

Persons helping are honoring the deceased and paying tribute to a unique service dog. Monica and Armando hope visitors will at least get sight of Rusty, working until they are, well, dog-tired.

newbury@speakerdoc.com

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NUMEROUS PRIZES!!

- Lowest score
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Information Brochures/Entry Forms:
available at Golf Etc and Local Golf Club Pro Shops and
Nutcracker Golf Club / Pecan Plantation

For more info contact:

John Jaeckle

jtjaeckle@gmail.com

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B7

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

THE SALVATION Army Women's Auxiliary of Hood County will hold a meeting on April 11 at De Cordova Bend Country Club located at 5301 Country Club Dr. Meet and greet starts at 10 a.m. and meeting and presentation start at 10:30 a.m. Program: Domestic Violence: From Invisible to Invincible, Dawn Milson, author and survivor will discuss causes, cures, and ways to prevent domestic violence as she shares her personal story of abuse and hope through Jesus Christ. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. A Fajita Taco Platter with Key Lime Pie will be served. Please bring \$20.00 cash for lunch. RSVP by sauxiliaryofhoodcounty@gmail.com to attend meeting only or meeting and luncheon.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13

KIWANIS CLUB meeting at noon at Farina's 202 N. Houston St. on the square. The speaker is Hannah Hoffman, Hood County Extension Agent.

THE GRANBURY Women's Club will meet April 13 at 5:30 for a light meal at the Woman's Wednesday Club House located at 306 North Travis Street. Tammy Dooley, Director of Visit Granbury, will give an update of the Granbury Tourism Program including the many upcoming events. Three scholarships from the club will be awarded to Granbury Senior Girls, two will be given to graduates of Granbury High School and one to a graduate of STARS Accelerated High School. All women who are interested attending the meeting may contact Club President, Donna Engel at 817-219-3246 for additional information or to register for the meeting.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

GISD SCHOLARSHIP fundraiser sponsored by the Joyce Carver Memorial Scholarship will take place on Sunday April 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Brew Drinkery and Bistro located at 206 East Pearl Street in Granbury. The public is invited to a concert with Alex Dezen. Tickets are available at \$30. All proceeds will benefit scholarships for GISD students. For more information, call 817-381-8871.

MONDAY, APRIL 17

ELIZABETH CROCKETT Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Program: Mary Flores, Crime Victim Liaison on PHONE SCAMS. Acton Methodist Church, Education Building, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, TX. Social begins at 9:30 a.m. the meeting is called to order at 10:00 a.m.

CLASS OF 2023

ATTENTION

Parents, Grandparents, & Loved Ones

Joey

Congratulations on your achievements! Remember to take life just one pitch at a time!

We are so proud of you!

Grandma & Granpa

\$55.00

includes color

2 col. x 4" ad (actual size)

Scan this QR code to get started!

Tell your special graduates how proud you are of them in the special section "CLASS OF 2023" to be published in the Hood County News **May 24, 2023** and distributed at the graduation ceremony.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

May 8, 2023