

Published Wednesday and Saturday

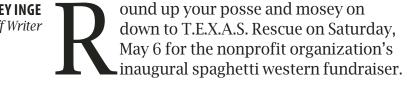
A ROOTIN'-TOOTIN' TIME



Vicki, left, and Tracy Miller are the owners and operators of T.E.X.A.S Rescue, a nonprofit organization that rescues, rehabs, and rehomes donkeys, horses, and mules. Funds from the spaghetti western fundraiser on Saturday, May 6, will help offset the costs of feed, veterinary care, and fuel costs for the organization.

T.E.X.A.S Equine Rescue to host spaghetti western fundraiser May 6

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer



T.E.X.A.S (Texas Equine Xperience and Sanctuary) Rescue was established as a nonprofit organization last vear with the mission to rescue, rehab, and rehome donkeys, horses, and mules.

"We rescue animals that have been starved, abused, neglected, forgotten, whatever the case may be," said Tracy Miller. co-founder of T.E.X.A.S Rescue with his wife, Vicki. "Part of our mission statement

is 'We're helping the animals whose ancestors built the great state of Texas.'

SPAGHETTI WESTERN FUNDRAISER

To help offset the costs of feed, veterinary care, and fuel costs, T.E.X.A.S Rescue is hosting a spaghetti western fundraiser from 2-6 p.m. on

PLEASE SEE T.E.X.A.S. | A2

"All donations for meals and photos will ao to T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, and 100% of donations will be used for the feeding, care, and welfare of our

MARY VINSON I HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE PHOTO

rescues."

TRACY MILLER Co-founder of T.E.X.A.S Rescue

Commissioners vote 3-2 to shift septic maintenance to homeowners

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

This week the Hood County Commissioners Court, in a 3-2 vote, took the first step to possibly allow homeowners to maintain their own septic systems rather than contracting with a service provider.

For some, that possibility has stoked fears of possible contamination of Lake Granbury and the state no longer allowing it to be a recreational lake.

However, Precinct 2 **Commissioner Nannette** Samuelson, who sponsored the agenda item along with Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews,

emphasized that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will review the proposal. Even if the state agency gives approval, the county will hold a public hearing before amending its rules, she said.

Samuelson also stated that no rules would be loosened as part of the amendment to county regulations. The only change would be as it pertains to who does the septic work

The discussion, which lasted just under 50 minutes, included comments, both pro and con, from several audience members. Among those who addressed the court was Steve Biggers, who has sponsored septic system mainte-

nance classes and publicly advocated for properly trained homeowners to be allowed to do their own septic maintenance.

Last year, Biggers lost a case in district court brought against him by the county for not maintaining the on-site sewage disposal

PLEASE SEE SEPTIC | A3

SEE MORE INSIDE

Granbury Midas to offer free oil change for those who give blood. Please see story, A3.

Addison still leading youth to success on course and in life. Benefit dinner, auctions planned for El Tesoro grief camp. Granbury Oink Oink Fest sure to be a 'pig' deal for year two. Please see stories, B1.



BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

Looking for something to do next Saturday, on April 22? Just a reminder that the city of Granbury has two communityrelated events planned at Hewlett

Park on East Pearl Street. At 8 a.m., volunteers for the

Great Granbury Clean-up will gather at the park across from the conference center to be given materials and instructions before heading out to spend a couple of hours picking up trash around

town and helping Granbury maintain its Scenic City certification. Volunteers will be divided into teams, which makes it a great opportunity for civic groups, according to city officials.

Participants will be given safety vests for visibility and "grabbers'

that will allow for picking up trash without touching it or bending down.

Online registration is underway. Go to Granbury.org online, scroll down to "Granbury News," click

PLEASE SEE HEWLETT | A3



137TH YEAR, NO. 65

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

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"The volunteer program is predominantly about helping the rescue and we're trying to get everything nailed down for what individuals will be able to do out here, but it also depends on your expertise. So, if you have experience with animals, you'll get to do a little bit more around the animals than somebody who's never been around them. For volunteers who don't have any experience, it's going to give them an opportunity to be around and learn about the animals."

TRACY MILLER Co-founder of T.E.X.A.S Rescue

T.E.X.A.S. FROM PAGE A1

Saturday, May 6, located at the rescue at 950 Williamson Road.

"Basically, the whole day is about fundraising. There's a huge expense with what we do, and it's gotten very expensive to feed the animals,' Tracy Miller said. "Our number one goal with rescuing anything, whether it's a horse, a donkey, or a mule, is making sure they're fed well, so buying feed is our number one priority. Any amount of donations that come in, whether it's online, or whether we meet somebody in the grocery store, and they donate to us, 100% of any donation goes directly to our rescue animals."

Based on the old spaghetti western movies — a broad subgenre of western films produced in Europe — the event will transport attendees back to the old west.

"There will be a costume contest, so come in your best dressed western attire. If you want to come in with gun belts on, we're good with that. If you want to be the saloon girl, that depends on whether or not you shave your beard that day," Tracy joked. "But come on in. There will be a prize (for the best dressed) and that will be a stay in our B&B here on the property."

Guests can feast on the perfectly fitting — spaghetti dinner provided by T.E.X.A.S Rescue board members and volunteers.

Following the meal, games and activities will commence, including a cakewalk, silent auction, a Kiss-My-(Butt) photo booth, and Donkey Dung Bingo.

"The mini horses and donkeys will be pretty much mingling through the crowd, while the draft horses will be behind a rope for photo ops but will still be able to be up close and personal (with the attendees)," Tracy said.

Dessert treats from Victoria's Bake Shop will also



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE PHOTO

Tracy Miller gives a heartfelt hug to one of his rescue animals. He said he hopes after coming to the spaghetti western fundraiser that community members will start to see the kindness that these animals have and realize why board members and donors "all fall in love with these animals."

of donations will be used for the feeding, care, and welfare of our rescues," Tracy said.

Individuals who wish to donate ahead of time can visit the website texasrescue. org, and click "Donate Now" under the "Donating" tab.

For more information, contact Tracy and Vicki at 661-972-5492.

VOLUNTEERS

The volunteer program for T.E.X.A.S Rescue is now underway, with 17 community members attending the first orientation a couple of months ago.

"The volunteer program is predominantly about helping the rescue and we're trying to get everything nailed down for what individuals will be able to do out here, but it also depends on your expertise," Tracy said. "So, if you have experience with animals, you'll get to do a little bit more around the animals than somebody who's never been around them. For volunteers who don't have any experience, it's going to give them an opportunity to be around and learn about the animals.'

read a book in front of an animal that's apprehensive around humans. "We have a miniature

horse in particular, and he is scared to death of absolutely everything," Tracy said. "We don't know what went on in his past life, but it's pretty evident he was abused. So, if we put him into a small corral area, a child with a parent can sit in a chair right outside that corral, and the child can practice their reading to mom or dad. The animal gets to hear that tone and it starts loosening them up to where they get used to people. It really is a big help for us to gentle some of these animals, so that'll be for the

under-12 group."

Those interested in volunteering can give Tracy and Vicki a call at 661-972-5492 for more information and to fill out an application.

EQUINE THERAPY

Many veterans and first responders experience high levels of stress and sometimes even PTSD from a traumatic experience.

To help ease stress levels, Tracy and Vicki have decided to open their rescue to those hard-working individuals so they can experience equine therapy.

"There's a lot of people who need a little R&R in their life — first responders, po-



lice, firefighters, emergency medical services, people in ERs, hospital workers and military veterans; we have hundreds of them," Tracy said. "They don't always deserve what they get, and they don't always get what they deserve, so we want to be able to give back. Any of them can be dealing with PTSD, and to come out and be able to sit in the chair and be able to pet on the donkey and feed them their animal crackers — which is their favorite treat — it gives them a place to just sit and relax. and we wanted to do that in addition to families and especially, families with kids." Tracy and Vicki's rescue

animals have also proved to be calming to children with autism, as they help with the development of empathy, social, and communication skills.

"We have seen people who are non-verbal with autism come out, spend time with the animals, and they're talking," he said. "That's a magical thing when you figure families never get to see that, so that's a big deal for us too, so we want to have a day where families who have a family member or a friend with autism can come out. We want to be able to open up to any of these folks (so they can experience) what we get to see and be around every day to people who don't have that opportunity. Besides rescuing the animals, the animals are now helping rescue people."

Tracy said he and Vicki are excited for the opportunity to educate Hood County residents about a cause that is so near and dear to their hearts.

'There's a lot of folks that don't understand equine rescue," Tracy added. "They understand dog and cat rescues, but they go 'Really? Horses and donkeys need to be rescued?' They don't see that. It opens people's eyes, and it gives them an opportunity to see the kindness in these animals. Having this event is going to give them that opportunity to see what these animals are all about and why – not only us, but our board members and donors — all fall in love with these animals."

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be provided.

There is not a specific price point required for the spaghetti dinner or to attend the event, but monetary donations of any figure will still be accepted.

"All donations for meals and photos will go to T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, and 100%

1450 E. Hwy. 377,

Bee Healthy Nutrition Cente For children age 12 and under, they can still volunteer at T.E.X.A.S Rescue by participating in Volunteer Reading Day, where they can

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Quick, what was the best day of your life?



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.

he older I get, the more I understand the way we humans make our way through life is interesting, curious, and sometimes mystical.

The other night I was watching television and found the movie "City Slickers," starring Billy Crystal. The storyline is centered on the life of three men who have been friends since early childhood. All are going through life challenges: one a divorce, one who has never been married trying to determine if he wants to settle down, and a third who feels disillusioned about his status in life, his marriage and his future. The three decide to take a week's vacation to a dude ranch, where they are to drive cattle from one location to another. The three being from New York, are far from being "cowboys" and their driving cattle has a great many humorous moments and more than a few life lessons.

During one scene the friends ask each other what was the best day

of their life. They exclude the birth of children as a choice as in their mind that would be too simple of an answer. Interestingly one character said it is the day his dad took him to his first Yankees baseball game. Another indicated it was his wedding day because all his friends and family were present, and everyone was so happy and joyous. The third man reflects and after a long pause, tells the story of when he was 14, his mother and father were involved in a physical altercation. He got between his parents and told his father to leave the house and not come back. He relays how from that point forward he took care of his mother and sister and never saw his father again. He then repeats with pride, "that was my best day." His friends had never heard the tale and were overwhelmed with the sadness of the story. They

immediately asked their friend, "Gosh, then what was your worst day?" With no hesitation the friend responded, "The same day."

It seems we humans live life in episodes, never truly knowing if our experiences are good or bad until we move on to the next chapter in our life. Moving on from a bad relationship may hurt and cause pain in the present but might lead to a positive relationship in the future. So much of life depends on our reaction to an event.

What was my best day? I have been blessed to have many "good days" in my life. It is hard to single out one day as the "best." There were times when I thought an event or occurrence was extraordinary, but as life moved on to the next episode, I realized they paled to the "good days" which might come in the future. Similarly, there have been "bad days" which at the time seemed crippling, but they shaped and molded me in a way that created the opportunity for future joy.

As the episodes of life come and go, each happy moment has a special place. At the same time, each tragedy causes one to reflect on the experience and try to understand its meaning. In life there truly is no "good day" nor a "bad day"; there is the life we choose to live. How we react and deal with those experiences creates the totality of our life.

Thought for the day: The only difference between a good day and a bad day is your attitude. Until next time ... I will keep ridin' the storm out.

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Citizens group challenges Comanche Peak license renewal

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

A group called Citizens for Fair Utility Regulation has posed a challenge to the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant's license renewal efforts.

An oral argument related to the challenge is set for Wednesday, April 19.

A Nuclear Regulatory Commission Atomic Safety and Licensing Board will conduct the proceeding via WebEx beginning at 2 p.m. Eastern time (1 p.m. here).

The public can't comment but can listen in.

The session concerns a petition to hold an adjudicatory hearing on Vistra Operations Company's application to renew the operating licenses of Comanche Peak's Units 1 and 2 for another 20 years. The nuclear power plant is near Glen Rose in adjacent Somervell County.

The oral argument will focus

on three questions posed by the board regarding the admissibility of the four proposed contentions from the petitioner, Citizens for Fair Utility Regulation, that challenge safety and environmental aspects of the application. The board will hear argument from representatives of that group as well as from Vistra and NRC staff.

The board is composed of three administrative judges from the NRC's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel. Boards conduct adjudicatory hearings on major NRC licensing and enforcement actions, and they are independent of the NRC staff.

A board's rulings may be appealed to the Commission, which is the five-member body that sets NRC policy.

To listen to Wednesday's oral argument call 301-576-2978 and enter the passcode 371 346 201, followed by the number sign (#). The public comment period for the license renewal application ended March 1.

The Granbury City Council recently adopted a resolution in support of the renewal.

The Comanche Peak license renewal application can be viewed on the NRC website, at the Somervell County Library at 108 Allen Dr. in Glen Rose, and at the Hood County Library at 222 N. Travis St. in Granbury.

kcruz@hcnews.com | 817-579-1886

Granbury Midas to offer free oil change for those who give blood

From Staff Reports

As part of Midas' 67th birthday celebration this month, Granbury Midas will host a blood drive in conjunction with Carter Blood Center on Saturday, April 22.

Those who give blood will receive

a free oil change. The blood drive will take place

from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Granbury Midas, 1441 N. Plaza Dr. To honor its decades of serving communities Midas has set a goal of

communities, Midas has set a goal of completing 67 acts of kindness by 67 store teams in the cities, towns, and suburbs where they operate, during the month of April.

Events will include blood drives, catalytic converter theft-prevention sessions, collections for food banks, Project Spark car donations, Little League sponsorships, among others. Those who plan to participate in the blood drive can register in advance online at bit.ly/3mrj5iS or by contacting Granbury Midas at 817-776-8372. It's also OK to simply show up on the day of the event.

SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER TODAY



put in place to correct problems. She said that last year the Brazos

ns. involved when homeowners zos maintain their own septic syssystem directly or through a maintenance contract." "I don't think we should take a hance." he said.

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system at his home in accordance with county regulations. Those regulations were approved by TCEQ.

County Environmental Health Director Jeannie Stacks also addressed the court. She detailed that in 2008 Lake Granbury did not meet the state's water quality standards and that measures were River Authority published a report indicating cause for concern around the Highway 51 bridge.

Samuelson noted that the negative change occurred despite the county's mandate for septic system maintenance contracts.

Stacks acknowledged this to be true but said that the contracts "are there to assist the county in finding issues."

Andrews said there is work

tems, and he indicated a belief that those who choose that option will handle their responsibility competently.

"The vast majority of people are not going to live in their own sewage," he said.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle recited Texas Health and Safety Code 366.0515 (g) which states, "The owner of a single-family residence shall maintain the "In my opinion, we just need to go back to state rules and saying that people will have enough sense to take care of their own aerobic system or their own septic system," he said.

County Judge Ron Massingill disagreed. He noted that Lake Granbury went from being "impaired" to not impaired once stricter regulations were put in place. Samuelson made a motion to send the proposed amendment to the TCEQ. Andrews seconded the motion, and it passed with a favorable vote from Eagle.

Massingill and Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson voted nay.

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HEWLETT FROM PAGE A1

on "View All," then scroll down to the announcement titled "The

Great Granbury Clean-up Needs Your Help." The announcement contains a link to the registration form and as well as a link where people can suggest areas in need of trash pickup. On-site registration will also be available, according to Communications Manager Jeff Newpher.

From 9 a.m. until noon that day, the city will host a "Shred It

to Protect It" event at the park. Members of the public can bring up to three boxes of papers for shredding.

Participants will have an opportunity to donate to the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department's "Fill the Boot" campaign.

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OBITUARIES

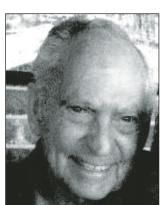
Ray Edward Menefee

December 15, 1924 - April 5, 2023

Ray was born in Fort Worth, Texas in 1924. He graduated from North Side High in 1941 and joined the Army Air Force to become a pilot in 1942. While on leave he married Mary Belle Strain from Grapevine.

Belle was the love of his life. She and Ray were never without each other, always holding hands and showing outward affection for each other. They went everyplace together. Ray would be quick to tell you she was the most important thing in his life. He returned home in 1945 to Belle and twin sons, Larry and Garry, and attended T.C.U to graduate in 1949. A daughter, Donna, was born in 1947.

His first job was advertising at the Star-Telegram in 1949. Having remained in the A.F. Reserve, in 1951 he was called to service again to serve as a pilot for 2 more years during the Korean War. He then returned to the Star-Telegram. In 1956, he joined KTVT television management where he remained until accepting the Vice-Presidency of KFJZ and KWXI radio, the Texas State Network and the Dal-las Cowboy Radio Net-work. He retired from ra-dio in 1977 and bought Mark Federick Company to turn into a complete sup-plier of everything needed in kitchen equipment for service mess halls, hospitals, schools, and jails. His



largest job was the G.I. hospital in Hawaii. After 10 years, he sold Mark Federick and retired in 1987. Ray was voted into the Radio Hall of Fame in 2003 for his work in building the Cowboy Radio Network from 12 stations to 146 stations.

Ray and Belle raised two of their grandchildren, Angela and Michelle, beginning in 1979 which they always told as being one of the highlights of their lives. They built their dream home in Pecan Plantation in 1996.

Ray always said he was the "luckiest guy in the world" to have Belle, his family, and friends, and that if everyone could be as lucky this old world sure would be a great place to live.

Do not grieve for me and seek comfort in knowing that I have loved and been loved over a complete lifetime by most all I have met. See you upstairs!

Velma Sue Kyle Gilliam

April 14, 1928 - April 6, 2023

Velma Sue Kyle Gilliam, 94, passed away April 6, 2023 in Fort Worth, Texas. Visitation was held on Friday, April 14, 2023 from noon until service time at Southcliff Baptist Church located at 4100 SW Loop 820 Fort Worth, Texas 76109. Service was held at 1 p.m. Interment followed at Acton Cemetery in Granbury, Texas.

Velma was born April 14, 1928 in Donley County, Texas to Chalmer Guy



Hazel Katherine Snyder

November 26, 1932 - March 31, 2023

Hazel Katherine Snyder, 90, went home to be with her Savior on March 31, 2023. Hazel was born in Dallas, Texas to Arthur Nealy and Willie Frances (Passons) Smirl on November 26, 1932. The family moved to Borger, Texas where Hazel graduated from high school. She attended and graduated from West Texas State in Canyon, Texas where she met her husband Freddie Joe Snyder. They were married on May 28, 1955. Hazel and Joe served as missionary educators for 17 years with the International Mission Board; four years in Beirut, Lebanon and 13 years in Nairobi, Kenya. They moved to Harlingen, Texas in 1979, where Hazel completed her training in Pastoral Care and served as a chap-lain for the Valley Baptist Medical Center until she retired. During that time she also began her 30-year career as a Mary Kay consultant, becoming a director in 1992 and earned multiple vehicles including a pink Cadillac. After moving to Granbury in 1998, she was active in local civic affairs, served as a volunteer at Lake Granbury Medical Center, and actively served in her church at Acton Baptist. She was a godly woman full of love, compassion, and service to others.

Hazel is preceded in death by her parents, her siblings and their spouses: Lucille and Lyndle Cook, Eugene Smirl, and Virgina and A.T. Rhodes, and her grandson Paris Theodorakakis.

She is survived by her

Ronald Leon Harding

November 26, 1945 - March 25, 2023

Ronald (Ron) Leon Harding, age 77, passed away on March 25, 2023 in

Granbury, TX. Ron is survived by his wife of over 57 years. They had three sons, Stephen (Kathy), Michael (Tracey) and Robert (Wendy), eight



husband Joe, their son Joel and his wife Karen, their daughter Lydia Adams and her husband Andy, their daughter Rhea Boone and her husband Dan. Her grandchildren were the joy of her life: Antonios Theodorakakis, Katherine (Boone) and Chris Brown, Beth (Boone) and Chris Benson, Caleb and Brittany Boone, Jessica (Boone) and Edgar Edwards, Jason and Kayla Snyder, Kristen (Snyder) and Evan Smith, Jacqueline (Adams) and Blake Ash, and Whitney (Adams) and Brandon Song. She was also blessed by 21 great-grandchildren. Hazel loved and was loved deeply by her family and will be missed terribly until we meet again.

A celebration of Hazel's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 29 at Acton Baptist Church located at 3500 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, TX.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts can be made to the International Mission Board, Attn: Development, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230 (or online at imb.org/give) or to another charity of your choosing.

5 - March 25, 2023

Eufrasia Speer

March 13, 1926 - March 29, 2023

Eufrasia Speer, 97, of Tolar, died March 29, 2023 at the Granbury Care Center.

She was born on March 13, 1926, to Augustine and Crestina Castro in Edna, Texas and graduated from high school in Rockport, TX.

She married Arthur Speer in Corpus Christi, TX and soon moved to the west coast. the first of several stops including Guam and Hawaii, during her husband's time serving in the Navy. After living in southern California for many years, they moved to Tolar, TX in 1973. A few years later, Eufrasia began working for the Tolar ISD in several different roles. She enjoyed very much working with her students and when she retired, she said it was because of dealing with administration, because she so enjoyed working with her students.

She enjoyed traveling, reading, spending time with family and friends,

volunteering at the Granbury Opera House and playing bingo at the Senior Center. She was a Texas Rangers fan, watching or listening to games each season, and she never missed an episode of Wheel of Fortune.

She is survived by two daughters, Laura Monistere of New Orleans, LA, Betsy Speer of Irving, TX and one granddaughter Heather Sabin of Laguna Beach, CA.

Memorial will be Saturday, April 22, 11:00 a.m. at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury, Texas.

Billy Bob Howton

October 28, 1946 - April 11, 2023

Billy Bob Howton left his worldly home on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, at home with loved ones by his side. Billy Bob was born October 28, 1946, in Archer City, Texas to Audie Leo and Leta Gage Howton.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jolyn "Jody" Seale Howton and a daughter Angela Lee Russell.

Billy Bob is survived by his daughter, Lynda Grissom; grandchildren, Haley Grissom, Brandon Russell, and Rebecca Russell.

Visitation was from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, April 14, 2023, at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury, Texas. Service will be held at 2



p.m. Saturday, April 15, 2023, at Wiley Funeral Home Chapel in Granbury with burial following at Holly Hills memorial Park in Granbury under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home of Granbury.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries are submitted online at obituaries.hcnews.com. Advance payment is required and you

Kyle and Isabel Osborne Kyle. Velma married Schueler DeWitt Gilliam in 1946 in Amarillo, Texas. She loved reading, cooking, and crocheting. She worked as a nurse until she retired at 78 years old. She was a member of the Early Bird Sunday School Class at Southcliff Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. Velma was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

Velma was preceded in death by her husband, SD Gilliam; sons, John and Dale Gilliam; three sisters and four brothers.

Velma is survived by her

Funeral Home &

Darby; daughters, Peggy Perkins and husband Jerry; Ann Richmond and husband Wayne; grandchildren, Michael Gilliam, Josh Gilliam, Gabe Gilliam, Jordan Gilliam, John Perkins, Geoffrey Perkins, Jeremy Perkins and their families; 19 great-grandchildren; and many loving nieces, nephews, and cousins.

son, Jim Gilliam and wife

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to missions at Southcliff Baptist Church or Joni and Friends Ministries.

Under the direction of Martin's Funeral Home, Granbury, Texas.

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grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is preceded in death by his father, Curtis Harding, Jr. and his mother, Gertrude Westerfield.

Ronald was born on November 26, 1945 in Topeka, KS. He graduated from Hayden High School in 1963. In 1965, Ron began his career with the railroad and worked there for over 40 years until he retired in 2005. He also served in the Army Reserves from 1966 to 1972.

For the majority of his life, Ron enjoyed NASCAR, golfing, bowling and col-

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lecting antique cars. He also loved fishing with his grandsons and playing games and holding tea parties with his granddaughters. Friends and family will remember him as a generous friend and a warm, loving family man.

Services will be held out of state. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to People Helping People in Granbury, TX.

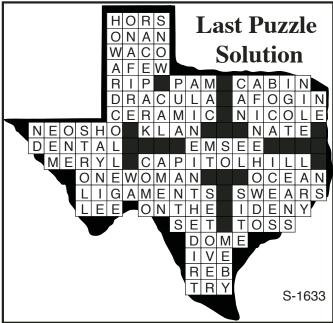
CHECK OUT

OUR FACEBOOK

may do so online when placing the obituary.

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

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



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Granbury, TXNew law may offer financial opportunities

TY ANDREW

Edward Jones Financial Adviser

Your own decisions and actions typically determine your financial strategies. But outside events can affect your choices, too. And that may be the case with the recent passage of the SECURE 2.0 Act.

This piece of legislation covers many areas. But here are some changes that may be of interest to you, depending on your situation:

IF YOU'RE A RETIREE

• Higher age for RMDs: The age at which you must



increased from 72 to 73, effective this year. (If you turned 72 in 2022, but still haven't taken your first RMD, you will need to do so this year.) And in 2033, the RMD age will increase again, to 75. You don't have to wait until these ages before taking withdrawals, but the new age limits may affect your withdrawal decisions.

• Lower penalties for missed RMDs: If you don't take at least the RMD for a given year, you could face tax penalties. Previously, this penalty was 50% of the amount you were supposed to have taken but now it's reduced to 25%.

New options for qualified charitable distributions

If you're 70½ or older, you can make a one-time qualified charitable distribution (QCD) of up to \$50,000 to entities that previously couldn't receive these QCDs, including charitable remainder annuity trusts, charitable remainder unitrusts and charitable gift annuities that meet certain criteria. Because QCDs are typically excluded from your taxable income and could satisfy some or all of your required RMDs, which are otherwise taxable, these expanded opportunities may prove beneficial from a tax standpoint. Consult with your tax advisor to determine if and how QCDs make sense for your situation.

IF YOU'RE STILL WORKING

• Roth contributions to retirement plans: Starting this year, if you participate in a 401(k) or similar plan, you can take your employer's matching and other contributions on a Roth basis. While these contributions will count as taxable income, they can ultimately be withdrawn, along with any earnings they generate, tax free, provided you meet certain conditions.

IF YOU'RE A BUSINESS OWNER

• Increased tax credit for starting a retirement plan:

If you have 50 or fewer employees, you can now claim a startup credit covering 100% — up from 50% — of the administrative costs of opening a 401(k) plan, up to \$5,000 for each of the first three years of the plan.

• Employer contribution credit: You may now be able to get a tax credit based on employee matching or profitsharing contributions. This credit is capped at \$1,000 per employee and phases out gradually over five years.

• Military spouse tax incentive: If you have 100 or fewer employees who earn at least \$5,000 annually, you can earn a tax credit of up to \$500 for three years if you make military spouses eligible for a retirement plan, such as a 401(k) or SEP IRA. You can receive the credit for the year in which the military spouse is hired, plus the next two taxable years.

These aren't the only provisions in the SECURE 2.0 Act that may be relevant to you, and some parts of the new law go into effect in the future. You may want to contact your financial and tax advisors to see just how you might ultimately be affected by this legislation, and how you could take advantage of it.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



COURTESY OF OPERA GUILD OF GRANBURY

Eight Granbury Theatre Academy students received scholarships from the Opera Guild of Granbury during its last meeting totaling \$5,450. Pictured are (from left) Julia Huggins, Meghan Murray, Lauren Murray, Micah Chesney, Topher Martin, Rachel Mastick, Lily (Finch) McClendon, Hannah Baker and Granbury Theatre Academy Director, Matt Beutner.

Opera Guild of Granbury awards \$5,000 in scholarships

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

ight Granbury Theatre Academy students were recently awarded scholarships by the Opera Guild of Granbury. Totaling \$5,450, seniors received a \$700 scholarship, while juniors and other underclassmen received a \$650 scholarship.

Students who received scholarships included: Julia Huggins, Meghan Murray, Lauren Murray, Micah Chesney, Topher Martin, Rachel Mastick, Lily (Finch) McClendon, and Hannah Baker.

The scholarship funds can

be used to help pay for any Granbury Theatre Academyrelated activity such as classes, summer camp fees, and the Junior Theatre Festival.

"On behalf of the Granbury Theatre Academy, I can't thank the Opera Guild enough," said Granbury Theatre Academy Director Matt Beutner.

"They constantly support us and in particular, these kids really deserve this support. They were all nominated by me, not just by their talents, but their professionalism on and offstage, and it's really awesome that the Opera Guild was able to help them pursue more theater endeavors. Every one of these kids wants to pursue theater, and several of them are high school seniors and are ready to follow that path."

The Opera Guild of Granbury — established in 1978 — is an all-volunteer organization that aims to help support the Granbury Opera House and its allied arts.

Every year, the organization holds fundraisers to ensure scholarships can be awarded to Granbury Theatre Academy students. The awards are given to students who excel as thespians, serve in some capacity in the community, and appear in productions at the Granbury Opera House and other venues to showcase their talent and skills.

"All of us in the Opera Guild work diligently all year to build our funds and that's one of the main things that we want to do is help the kids learn and hone their craft," said Gari Wise, vice president of the Opera Guild of Granbury and scholarship director.

The Opera Guild of Granbury held three fundraisers this past year — Stumpy's Chow Down for Charity, Bingo Night at La Bella Luna, and Sip & Support at D'Vine Wine — to raise funds for not only scholarships, but also for needed repairs at the Granbury Opera House.

Wise said the Opera Guild of Granbury has already pledged \$30,000 for the purchase of 80 seats in rows A through D of the Opera House for necessary upgrades and repairs.

"We're hoping that our bingo fundraiser on October the 12th really does well," she said. "We're looking for a sizable pledge amount towards the chairs in our next fiscal year."

She added that it's important for the Opera Guild of Granbury to play a part in helping local students improve in theater, so they're able to follow their dreams.

"The kids are our future," she added. "We're the present but they're the future."

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The annual golf tournament is the auxiliary's larg-

its success, golfers, sponsor-

ships, and more raffle prizes

Teams are currently being

formed, and spaces are fill-

ing up fast. Sign-up is hap-

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Auxiliary is happy to announce it has received its

The Pecan Plantation

BY DIANE LONG

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

> ter activity six days a week as the pool is closed on Wednesdays. Lifeguards will not be on duty until late May, so for now, swimming is "at your own risk." The clubhouse pool will open May 26.

SCRUMPTIOUS MEAL

Many thanks to Chef Jordan Ray and his team who served lovely holiday fare at the clubhouse this Easter. Members are raving about the delicious food and excellent service.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club gathered last week when Dr. Tod Farmer, who is president of Weatherford College and has led the school through tremendous growth in recent years, addressed the group. The next meeting will happen Wednesday, April 26 in the clubhouse Terrace Room with buffet service beginning at 8:30 a.m. and the program commencing at 9. Reservations are due by noon on Tuesday, April 25: 817-573-2641.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club will host one of its most popular meetings of the year on Thursday, April 20 when a spring fashion show hits the runway. "Cruising into Spring" is the day's theme when ladies will enjoy seeing lovely apparel from local merchants.

DINNER GROUP

Pecan's Widows and Widowers Club will meet on Tuesday, April 25 with a reception beginning at 5:30



COURTESY PHOTO

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary thanks Georgia Crane for contributing a patriotic themed quilt as the very first raffle prize for the organization's 2023 golf tournament fundraiser set for June 24. Shown holding the quilt are (left) Nathan Delaney and Brock Lewis, both EMTs with Pecan's EMS. Photo credit goes to Lana Robinson.

p.m. followed by dinner at 6 in the Terrace Room. Deborah Rollins, a Lake Granbury Master Gardener, will present a program titled "Welcome Spring with Butterflies, Hummingbirds, and Bees." The group invites Pecaners who have lost their spouses and would like to meet new friends, partake of good food, and enjoy an evening of entertainment. Secure a spot at the gathering by sending email to Caryl Mahaffey at caryl.mahaffey@ charter.net before noon on Wednesday, April 18.

PICKLEBALL PLAY

The pickleball community in Pecan is thriving, and players are reminded that using an outdoor court at the PAC requires a reservation. Folks may use the Court Reserve app to secure a spot.

COURSE WORK

A major construction project for Pecan's golf course happened last week when the installation of a new pump house began. Ground crews have been preparing for the new pump station, and this addition will ensure water to even the hottest parts of the course as well as provide a nicer, cleaner look to the area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The PAC is a busy place filled with activity in our community, and a number of upcoming events are on the calendar.

Instructor Susan Thillen will lead a fused class work-

shop on Friday, April 21 when participants will make a plant stake and picture frame.

A cookie decorating class comes Saturday, April 22 when attendees will be decorating golf-themed cookies and will take them, in addition to decorating tools, home upon completion of the day. The class is limited in size, and sign-up is necessary.

A free CPR/AED class will be held Saturday, April 22 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Although no certification will be provided, attendees will learn lifesaving skills. The day is sponsored by George Gerdes and Pecan's Emergency Medical Service. Finally, the Green Thumb

Garden Club's annual plant

sale comes Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the PAC gym. All proceeds from the day support this hard-working group and its efforts to keep our front and back circles looking lovely.

Sign-up for all of these happenings by contacting the PAC front desk: 817-573-7952.

BATTER UP

Spring senior softball continues at the PAC softball field for players ages 55 and over. The start time is 9:30 a.m. on Mondays. For complete information, contact Jerry Gazda at jvgazda@yahoo.com.

dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360



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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 THORNBURG, household furn., baby items; LISA ANNE GLAZENER, rocking horse, gun safe, grandfather clock, secretary's desk, household furn.; SA-VANNAH NICOLE HILL, Shop vac, jack, cutting torch, air hose, tools; JOSEPH MICHAEL STEPHENS, exercise step, climbing harness, tool belt, toys; JEN NIFER 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.

Pecan Valley Centers for Behavioral and Developmental Healthcare has released a request for proposal for laboratory testing services. Please visit our website at www.pecanvalley.org for more information about the RFP under Quick Links.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following items will be considered at a Public Hearing conducted by the ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT of the City of Granbury on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

ZBA-2023-03, Request of Stacie Parker for a Variance to Zoning Ordinance, Section 11.2.D. Parking Table to reduce parking requirements; and a Special Exception to Zoning Ordinance, Section 11.7.C.12 "Articulation Standards". The property is located on Weatherford Hwy, north of the Granbury Cemetery and is the future Lot 4, Block 1 of the Corridor 51 Busi-⁻enter Addition

Public Notices

9031

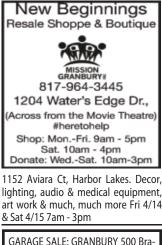
The Tolar Independent School District (TISD) is accepting proposals in response to its Request for Competitive Sealed Proposals (RCSP) for a contractor for the Tolar Ag Barn project. The project will include removing current structure (leaving the pens) and building structure as presented in drawings. Location of the project is 301 Rock Church Hwy. Structure is located behind the baseball field and next to the city water storage tank. RCSP package details can be found at www.tolarisd.org and by email reto cmurphy@tolarisd.org. quest Sealed proposals are due by Tues., Apr. 25, 2023 by 1:00 p.m. delivered to the Tolar ISD Administration Bldg, Attn: Travis Stilwell, 305 S Oak, Tolar, TX 76476.



Garage Sales 76048



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Granbury 76049 Garage Sales 76049

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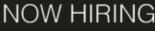
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A. § 551.071. Consultation with Attorney. The Zoning Board of Adjustment may convene in executive session to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on any legally posted agenda item, when the Zoning Board of Adjustment seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the provisions of Chapter 551.

For more information, contact the Community Development Department at (817) 573-1114, Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge Street.

PUBLIC SALES

Estate/Moving Sale, Fri, April 14, 9am-3pm and Saturday, April 15, 9amnoon. 706 Pintail Ct. ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSI-

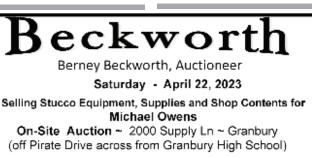
TIONS: PECAN PLANTATION 9202 Hanging Moss Dr.- Garage Sale Days - Gates Open Saturday! Vintage clothes, breweriana, vintage stereo components, gas golf cart, tools, vintage children's/ladies clothes, men's boots/hats, tools, golf gear, collectibles. Photos at estatesales.net, search "Pecan Plantation." FRI: Pecan Residents Only SAT: 8a-4p

Sat 4/15, 8 till at Acton Tabernacle. Some furniture, clothes, shoes, housewares, lamps, blankets, comforter sets and what nots.

Multi Family-3603 Abes Landing Dr, Fri 4/14 & Sat 4/15, 8-6. Kitchen items, clothes, home decor, pet kennels, art work, vintage & antique itmes, old doctor's exam table, lots of misc



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TPWD: Catfish stocking arrives at Neighborhood Fishin' lakes in April



COURTESY OF ADOBESTOCK.COM

Starting the week of April 14, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will start stocking thousands of catfish at 18 Neighborhood Fishin' lakes, including five in Dallas-Fort Worth.

director of Inland Fisheries.

"Catfish are fun and easy to

catch for anglers of all ages

you've never fished before,

these are the perfect places to

get started. If you are an expe-

rienced angler, these are the

perfect places to introduce

fishing to a friend or family

nel catfish every two weeks

through the end of October -

with a brief pause during the

heat of August – to ensure

there are plenty of angling

Each lake will receive chan-

member."

and experience levels. If

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

USTIN — Spring is here, and that means catfish angling is back at Texas Parks and Wildlife Depart-► ment (TPWD) Neighborhood Fishin' lakes across the state. The program provides an opportunity for friends and families to participate in the Texas traditions of outdoor recreation by reeling in catfish close to home.

Beginning the week of April 14, TPWD will start stocking thousands of catfish at 18 Neighborhood Fishin' lakes, including five in Dallas-Fort Worth, four in the Houston area, two each in Austin and San Antonio, and one each in Amarillo, College Station, San Angelo, Waco and Wichita Falls.

"Neighborhood Fishin' lakes are conveniently located in urban and suburban areas so that Texans don't have to travel far to have a great experience," said Craig Bonds,

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opportunities for everyone throughout the spring, summer, and early fall.

Neighborhood Fishin' lakes are located in city and county parks with ample parking, restrooms, lighting and other recreational amenities, in addition to fishing.

Anglers can keep up to five catfish of any size per day. At some locations, cleaning tables are available nearby to make it easy for families to clean their catch. Children under 17 fish for free, but adults who fish must have a fishing license. Fishing licenses can be purchased for as little as \$11 for "one-day, all-water" access. All proceeds go toward management and conservation of the fish and their habitats.

To find the Neighborhood Fishin' Lake near you, find stocking locations or to sign up for email updates, visit www.neighborhoodfishing.org.

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KNIEPER REAL ESTATE Mandatory HOA's — Nirvana, or nightmare?



BY PAM KNIEPER

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

e've all heard them; Nightmare stories about HOA's (Home Owner's Associations) and the ridiculous abuse of power that can sometimes occur.

I have heard stories about HOA's using drones to make sure no one is growing vegetables in their backyards, or homeowners being fined for not bringing in their garbage cans within 15 minutes of pickup (hard to do if you work for a living). I read one story about a homeowner who was sued by his HOA after installing new windows,

apparently the new frames were "the wrong shade of eggshell cream." It's stories like these that cause some buyers to shy away from HOA's.

No one wants to be told what they can or cannot do with their own home, it can feel invasive and controlling, but consider the alternative ... the horror Stories from

owners in poorly managed HOA's or outside of an HOA with no recourse beyond hiring an attorney when things go wrong. Even if you live in a community with deed restrictions prohibiting things like old cars on blocks or knee-high weeds and grass, without an HOA to enforce the restrictions your remedies are at law, in a courtroom. Failure to enforce deed restrictions affects not only the quality of life in an area but can negatively impact property values.

HOA's began in the 1960's as a direct result of the federal government's push for more residential developments. People were rapidly leaving the cities, choosing instead to live in the suburbs. Developers soon

figured out that shared, common recreational space allowed for smaller personal lot sizes, allowing more homes to be built to meet the growing demand. Associations would be appointed to manage these developments and function as type of local government managing things which were previously taken care of by municipal workers, and the HOA was born

Along with these amenities, like pools, playgrounds, green spaces, golf courses, and security gates came the cost of maintenance. Hence, mandatory assessments. Unlike membership in a private club, assessments are tied to property ownership, and can vary from less than a \$100 a year to several hundred dollars per month. Choosing to buy a home in a mandatory HOA or not is a very personal decision. No matter what you decide it will never be absolutely perfect. Whether it's a mildly irritating rule that, while inconvenient, was clearly designed to protect property values, or a major conflict with a neighbor over the goats in their backyard, life happens.

So how do you choose? First and foremost, know what is important to you. Second, ask questions. And finally, work with a LOCAL REALTOR[®] who is familiar with the HOA's in our area. Someone who knows what the amenities, restrictions, and fees are. A good

REALTOR® should never let their client fall in love with a property only to later discover the transfer fees or monthly assessments exceed their budget, or that the Deed Restrictions won't allow them to park their boat or RV in the driveway.

I live in an HOA (Bentwater), and I love it. However, I recognize it may not be the right choice for everyone, so if you have questions about HOA's give us a call at 817-219-0456 or visit us online at www. WeSellGranbury.com. We love talking about Real Estate and we would love to talk to you.

pamK@knieperteam.com | 817-219-0456

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.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

GISD SCHOLARSHIP fundraiser

morial Scholarship will take place

p.m. at the Brew Drinkery and Bis-

are available at \$30. All proceeds

will benefit scholarships for GISD

817-381-8871.

students. For more information, call

MONDAY, APRIL 17

ELIZABETH CROCKETT Chapter sponsored by the Joyce Carver Me-Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Program: Mary Flores, on Sunday April 16 from 7 p.m. to 9 Crime Victim Liaison on PHONE SCAMS. Acton Methodist Church, Education Building, 3433 Fall Creek tro located at 206 East Pearl Street in Granbury. The public is invited to Hwy, Granbury, TX. Social begins a concert with Alex Dezen. Tickets at 9:30 a.m. the meeting is called to order at 10:00 a.m.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

LIONS CLUB will host their general meeting on Tuesday April 18 at

noon at Spring Creek BBQ located at 317 E. US Hwy 377. Guest speaker will be Sean Bryan, district 2-E2 Lions Diabetes Awareness Club. Public is welcome to attend.

THE GREATER Granbury Chapter-MOAA will host Terry Kinney for their monthly membership meeting and dinner at 6 p.m., April 18, 2023 at Harbor Lakes Golf Club located at 2100 Clubhouse Dr, Granbury, TX. Mr. Kinney worked for many years on the United States Space Program with NASA. The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the nation's

largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

HOOD COUNTY Republican Women monthly meeting will be held at the Women's Wednesday Clubhouse located at 306 North Travis Street, Granbury 76048 on April 19, 2023. Social/check in is at 10:30 a.m. The meeting starts at 11:00 a.m. This month's guest speaker is Sheriff Roger Deeds. Let's show our

patriotism by wearing red, white, and blue.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

KIWANIS CLUB meeting at noon at Farina's 202 N. Houston St. on the square. The speaker is Kylee Peterson, GTE/GISD.





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Addison still leading youth to - success on course and in life



BY RICK MAUCH Special to the Hood County News

ecky Addison began her career as a volley- coaching it," Addison said. ball coach — and a very successful one. But, as life will do, it had other plans. She's still coaching, but a different sport.

And she is still very successful. In fact, her Lady Pirates golf team is competing in the Class 5A Region 1 Tournament Monday and Tuesday at the Rawls Golf Course in Lubbock, seek-

year as the Granbury Lady Pirates golf coach. In all, she is in her 28th season coaching the sport. That included her first seven at Lamesa, where she led her team to the 1999 Class 3A state

"I have played golf since I was in grade school just because we were members of our small, local country club and all the kids played some. Once I started coaching golf, I grew to love it. All the male coaches in Lamesa played, so we spent most of our spare time on the golf course after work and in the summers.

"I became a good golfer and I try to make my kids understand you will get back what you put into your sport. Even though most of

my kids do not pursue college golf, I believe they understand they have a sport for life with golf.'

Addison is from Lamesa and was a volleyball standout there, playing four years in high school. Her team reached the state semifinals her sophomore season. She later played in college at Southwest Texas State (now Texas State).

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Above, Becky Addison, fourth from left, is in her 21st year as the Granbury Lady Pirates golf coach with 28 years total coaching the sport.

ing to land a top-three finish and a berth at state in Georgetown May 15-16. Addison is in her 21st

championship. "I was such a fanatic about volleyball, I never really focused on golf until I started

"Volleyball was my true love and the reason I went back to get my degree from

PLEASE SEE ADDISON | B2

Benefit dinner, auctions planned for El Tesoro grief camp

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

Most Hood County residents may know Camp Fire's Camp El Tesoro for its summer camps and Breakfast with Santa events. But this year will mark El Tesoro's 35th year offering a week-long grief camp for children who have experienced the death of a loved one.

To support the Granburybased camp's efforts to help grieving children heal, a dinner with a silent auction and a live auction will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 25.

The event will take place at The Round Up Inn at

Will Rogers Memorial Center, located at 3401 West Lancaster Ave. in Fort Worth.

Auction packages include HoneyTree treehouse getaways in Fredericksburg; a cabin at Lake Graham; a guided fishing trip on Lake Texoma; a bao cooking class for 1; a Lone Star Park excursion; a private wine class; a Little Firefighter Birthday Party; and a "Create Your Own Adventure" opportunity from Southwest Airlines.

The event directly supports the 35th annual weeklong grief camp where grieving kids can cry, play, laugh, and heal together.

Reservations for the dinner can be made online at campfirefw.org/camp-eltesoro/. Click on "Events," then click on "El Tesoro de la Vida Benefit Dinner.'

Table sponsorships are available at a range of prices. Individual tickets are free but the organization asks for a donation to the camp's scholarship fund. Online bidding is under-

way on the auction items.

Those with questions can email Events@CampfireFW. org or call 817-831-2111, ext. 161.

kcruz@hcnews.com | 817-579-1886





COURTESY OF HISTORIC GRANBURY MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

The second annual Granbury Oink Oink Fest will be underway this weekend at the Langdon Center and the Granbury Square Plaza, complete with live music, various vendors, children's activities, and an authentic German pig roast.

Granbury Oink Oink Fest sure to be a 'pig' deal for year two

BY ASHLEY INGE Staff Writer

The second annual Granbury Oink Oink Fest will have you squealing with joy after seeing all the fun activities that the Historic Granbury Merchants Association and Ketzler's Schnitzel Haus and Biergarten has planned.

Set as part of a threeday event this weekend at the Granbury Square Plaza, 201 E. Pearl St., and the Langdon Center, 308 E. Bridge St., the Granbury Oink Oink Fest will transport attendees to Germany with its authentic German pig roast.

"It's a festival that was based on the history of Germany having a swine fest to eradicate wild hogs in the village and it became a national holiday," said Ken Hackett, HGMA president. "Ketzler's was one of the main instigators to create an April event, and our great friend from Visit Granbury, Mrs. Tammy Dooley liked the words 'Oink Oink' to make it fun and playful."

The celebration will include beer, pork sandwiches, and a children's play area at the Langdon Center called "Kinderplatz," that will include bounce houses and a mechanical bull.

Live music will also be provided by Tina Lawrence, Jerry Audley, Bryan Lucas Band, Jaxon Malone, and Michael & Alicia, with accordion music by Mike Borelli, and karaoke with DJ Shane.

"We've got it loaded up at Langdon and Granbury Square Plaza," Hackett said. "We'll have music at both. We won't have a street dance, but we will have a dance at the plaza stage Saturday night, and we will have music throughout the

PLEASE SEE OINK | B6

"I have played golf since I was in grade school just because we were members of our small, local country club and all the kids played some. Once I started coaching golf, I grew to love it."

ADDISON FROM PAGE B1

Texas Tech so I could coach," she said.

And she was a darn good volleyball coach. She returned to Lamesa and coached volleyball in the fall as the junior varsity/assistant varsity coach, along with coaching golf in the spring. Her record coaching volleyball was an eye-popping 168-15 over seven seasons.

GOLF SUCCESS

After winning state in golf in 1999, Addison returned to Lamesa for one more year and again led the Golden Tornadoes to state, finishing fourth.

"Winning state with my daughter (Jill) as one of the members of that 1999 group, watching Mason Lewis win the 2020-21 title, and making the move to Granbury," are things she lists among the most memorable moments of her coaching career.

Lewis made history by becoming the first GHS Lady Pirate golfer to win a state championship. It is one of many major accomplishments the Lady Pirates have with Addison at the helm.

She has led the Lady Pirates to numerous district championships and regional berths, and a pair of state tournament appearances (2003, 2009). However, there would be at least one more state appearance had the current University Interscholastic League rule of three teams advancing from the regional level been in place sooner.

"Becky is a players' coach. She demands a lot and loves them even more," Granbury Athletic Director Dwight Butler said. "She teaches not only golf but how to be a productive citizen in life. She is always there for athletes on and off the **BECKY ADDISON** Lady Pirates golf coach



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Addison has led the Lady Pirate golf team to numerous successes.

course. She is the kind of mentor we would all love to have for our own kids.

"She is a champion in every sense of the word. We are fortunate that we have her as a leader of young women. Pure class."

STILL PLAYS HERSELF

As much as Addison loves coaching golf, she still loves playing. In fact, she has an 8.5 handicap and is preparing for several big tournaments in which she'll play this summer.

"Playing a good round of golf is the reason everyone comes back. You will have bad rounds, but they are easily forgotten when you post a good score," she said. "I still play, not as much as in the past, but I still have very high expectations every time I step on the course.

"I have played sports for as long as I can remember. I played volleyball until I was 44. I also played softball, water skied, snow skied, racquetball, and tennis. I am pretty much down to golf and water sports due to me wearing myself out as a kid."

As for her own inspiration, Addison said she simply grew up in a time where youngsters played outside and played all day.

"We did not have all the electronics that keep kids indoors these days, so we played games that required physicality," she said.

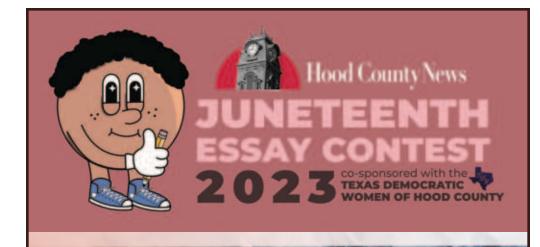
Addison also makes a concerted effort to keep up with her players once they have moved on from her team.

"I still see and talk to many of my ex-players, and it always brings me great joy to see how they are thriving as young adults," she said.

Don't expect her to stop coaching any time soon. While she knows it can't last forever, she's going to do it for as long as she can and the "R" word is not in her vocabulary.

"Everyone is constantly asking me, 'When are you going to retire?' The fact is I love my job!" she exclaimed. "I know I am getting to my ending point, and it really makes me sad. I have had the greatest privilege to work in this wonderful community for 21 years.

"All the people, parents/grandparents, businesses, and golf clubs have been so generous to my golf program, and I want to say thank you for your support."





This year's prompt:

WHAT JUNETEENTH MEANS TO ALL AMERICANS

HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

1st Place	
2nd Place	.\$75
3rd Place	\$50

 1st Place
 \$75

 2nd Place
 \$50

 3rd Place
 \$25

500 max word count

350 max word count

Contestents must be a middle or high school student residing in Hood County & also attach a cover sheet that includeds their Name, School, Grade, Phone Number, Email Address, Mailing Address, and their Parent's Name.



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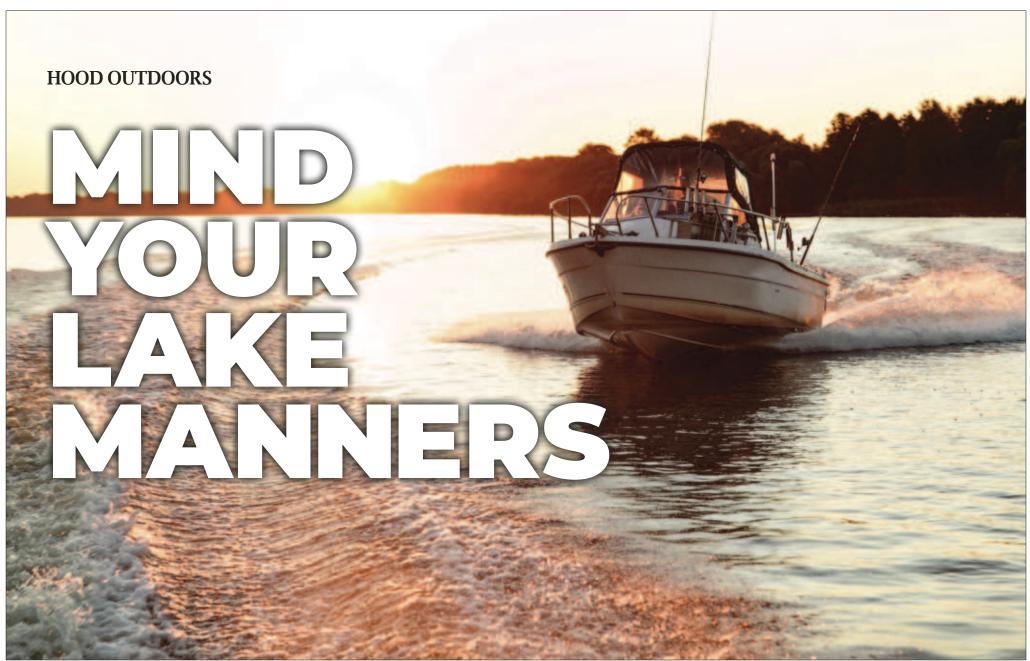
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Hood County ACTIVITES YOUR TICKET TO THINGS TO DO



When operating a boat, be mindful of others on or near the lake.

Showing common courtesy in, out of lake is the right thing to do



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

can avoid getting close to other anglers, veer away as your boat could upset their fishing. If you want to see what is going on, turn off your big motor and approach with your trolling motor. Texas boating laws require you maintain at least 50 feet from other boaters. The Brazos River Authority on Lake Granbury requires 100 feet. They are enforcing these laws. The water ways are supposed to be similar to driving on the roads. If you are approaching another boater you are supposed to stay to the right. If both boaters follow this guideline, then you will be OK. However, do not expect the other boater to do the right thing. Be on guard.

If you see a boater in trouble, offer a helping hand if you can.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Water temperatures are in 60s across Lake Granbury, with some



has been a licensed guide since 1998.

he springtime season is really upon us and many more anglers are venturing out. In fact it is getting warm enough that many pleasure boaters are enjoying our area lakes as well. A little common courtesy between all users is needed at the ramps and on the water.

Generally, most of the crowds are on the weekends, but courtesy should be extended to any day of the week. We all have to share the use of the ramps, docks, and the waterways. A little preparation before you launch can make everything run smoother for all.

If you are going to launch your boat, do not pull up and block the launch if you are not ready. Stop out of the way and put your boat plug in, load your equipment such as life jackets and ice chest, remove hold-down straps, and verify your battery is good prior to backing your boat down the ramp. In fact, you probably should have checked your battery at home before you left.

Once you are ready, you can quickly launch the boat and minimize your time on the ramp. Even if it is a slow day, it is still a good policy to ready your boat before you use the ramp. You may have another person pull up while you're blocking the ramp. I have seen individuals testing their boats in the spring and actually leave their trailer on the ramp so that they can put it back on pretty quick. If you were trying to launch, you would not appreciate anyone leaving their trailer on the ramp or blocking the way. This is some of the common courtesy that I am talking about.

The docks near the launch are for launching boats and most have signs that do not allow fishing and swimming from these docks for safety reasons. It is also not a good idea to leave your boat tied up to the dock for an extended period of time as others may be trying to launch or they may be trying to put their boats back on the trailer.

If you are on the lake and see some folks fishing or you see folks on a dock, do not get so close as to upset their activities with your wake. Also, if you One day it may be you in need of that help.

Most boaters are courteous and everyone usually waves to other boaters. This is a good policy and makes for a better day on the water.

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



Be mindful of of anglers who may be fishing from the shore or dock.

70-degree water in the backs of shallow sloughs. Crappie angling in the shallows is good on many areas of the lake. Crappie reports are coming in from Indian Harbor, DeCordova, Tin Top, The Shores and any other locations where the fish are spawning in the shallows. Jigs and minnows are the best choices.

Sand bass action up near Tin Top is still reported to be fair, but many of the sand bass are returning to the main lake with catches reported from Hunter Park to DeCordova. Striped bass are good to excellent to 10 pounds on live bait fished near DeCordova to Blue Water Shores. Black bass fishing continues to be good to 7 pounds on the beds in the backs of most creeks and sloughs. Blue and yellow catfish to 30 pounds are possible on cut bait fished on the upper ends.

OTHER AREAS

On other reservoirs, Lake Whitney striper action continues to be excellent from the Island to Cedar Creek near channel ledges. Best baits are Alabama rigs and live shad or shiners. Possum Kingdom Lake striped bass action is good to excellent as well on down-rigged jigs and live bait. Some good topwater action on redfins have been reported.



'Untold Story': Don't miss surprising behind-the scenes tale of Edith Wilson

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

ehind every great man, they say, is an even greater woman. You might not see her but she's there, cajoling and nudging to keep things on track. She's part helpmate, partner, co-conspirator, and ally, making him shine but not always expecting her own glitter. Sometimes, she leads. Sometimes, she pulls. And in the new book "Untold Power" by Rebecca Boggs Roberts, sometimes, she runs the country.

Born after the Civil War was over, Edith Bolling decided early in life that she didn't "have the childhood she thought she deserved." Though her parents had once been well-to-do, the War "upended her family's wealth and social status" and Edith never forgot that.

Growing up, she was fiercely independent but she could be snobbish. She "always claimed she didn't want to marry," so she surprised everyone when, in 1896, she wed jeweler Norman Galt who, Roberts says, was a "fusspot" and not at all Edith's type. Still, theirs was a good marriage, until Galt died of the flu in 1908.

For a number of years then, Edith traveled back and forth to Europe and had many beaux but none was as persistent as then-President Woodrow Wilson, himself a widower. Wilson overcame Edith's reluctance to wed again with passionate letters and, moreover, by encouraging her to be his helpmate in policy-making and paperwork.

That was something Edith could understand.

By the time they were married in late 1915, "Woodrow," says Roberts, "had come to rely on Edith as much as, if not more, than any man in the administration."

This was essential to him as America headed for war with Germany, despite his wish to avoid entanglement. Even after World War I ended, the pressure on Wilson was enormous and he fell ill. In the fall of 1919, after the war's end, he suffered a debilitating stroke and Edith swung into action. She conspired to issue a statement that he would be back on his feet soon.

In the meantime, she decided, she'd do his work and "pretend everything was fine."

So you say it's about time we had a woman in the Oval Office? Give a woman a chance, right? In "Untold Power," you'll see how that's



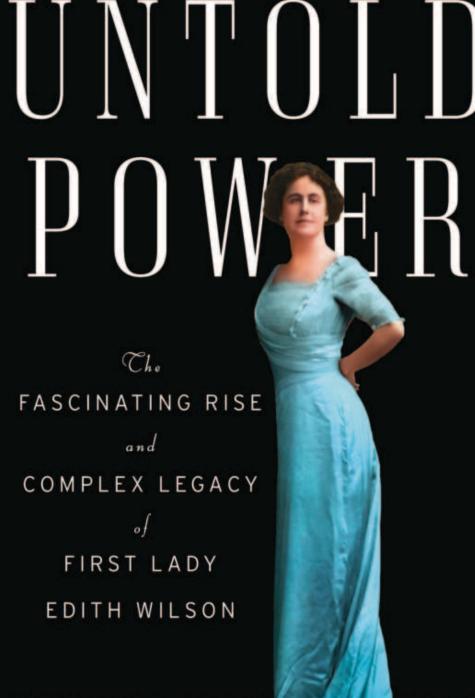
COURTESY OF VIKING ADULT (HC) 2022 **Pictured is author Rebecca Boggs Roberts**

more-or-less already in the bag.

Oh, my, but a book like this is fun to read, and here's why: readers will scarcely be able to imagine anything like what happened more than a century ago, happening now. We're too savvy, too 24/7, too demanding for a First Lady to pull off such a thing, which just leaves us to marvel at and appreciate Edith Wilson's determination, guts, and her audacity.

Author Rebecca Boggs Roberts does a perfect job showing readers how Wilson came by these qualities, and why her tale's been a hiddenin-plain-sight story for so long. That might make you wonder what other silent stories lurk in the corners of history.

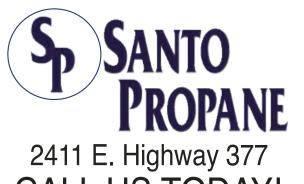
There are lots of them, and this is one you shouldn't miss – especially if you love women's history with spirit. If that's you, then you'll find "Untold Power" to be pretty great.



REBECCA BOGGS ROBERTS

COURTESY PHOTO

"Untold Power: The Fascinating Rise and Complex Legacy of First Lady Edith Wilson" by Rebecca Boggs **Roberts** C.2023, VIKING, \$30.00, 320 PAGES







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A Tribute to Karen Caprenter Dawn Turlington as Karen Carpenter April 28th, 2023 | 7:30pm

Radio Flashback Radio Hits from the 70's & 80's April 29th, 2023 | 7:00pm





2 Guys Comedy Mark Riccadonna & Tom Briscoe May 5th, & 6th 2023 |

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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.

OINK

event."

FROM PAGE B1

While attendees are enjoy-

entertainment, they can also

shop around at the 40-plus

vendors that will be set up

ing the pig roast and live

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

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.





Friday, 14 April 2023 - Thursday, 20 April 2023

AIR (R)

Fri: 1:25PM, 4:05PM, 6:45PM, 9:25PM. Sat: 11:15AM, 1:55PM, 4:40PM, 7:25PM, 10:10PM. Sun: 11:30AM, 2:20PM, 5:10PM, 7:50PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:45PM. Thurs: 3:45PM, 8:10PM

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret Early Access (PG13)

Wed: 6:00PM

Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves (PG13)

Fri: 11:35AM, 2:40PM, 5:40PM, 8:40PM Sat: 11:20AM, 2:25PM, 5:25PM, 8:30PM. Sun: 12:00PM, 3:30PM, 7:00PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:40PM. Thurs: 2:00PM, 5:05PM

Evil Dead Rise (R) Thurs: 7:00PM, 9:25PM

Renfield (R)

Fri: 12:10PM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:25PM, 10:00PM. Sat: 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM, 10:00PM. Sun: 12:00PM, 2:20PM, 4:40PM, 7:00PM. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3:05PM, 5:25PM, 7:45PM

The Pope's Exorcist (R) Fri, Sat: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 9:30PM. Sun: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:20PM, 4:50PM, 7:20PM

The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG) Fri: 11:30AM, 12:30PM, 1:50PM, 4:10PM, 5:10PM, 6:30PM,

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

to the event's growth.

to give it more room and

pork options for people to

taste," he added. "Ketzler's

beers, and we've got lots to

offer people in the form of

festivities and music. It's

will be selling German

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.

taking off — and we're go-"We've expanded the roast ing to have great weather." For more information, visit granburysquare.com we're going to provide many online

> ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

7:30PM, 8:50PM, 9:50PM. Sat: 11:00AM, 12:00PM, 1:20PM, 2:20PM, 3:40PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM 8:20PM, 9:20PM, 10:40PM. Sun: 11:00AM, 12:15PM, 2:35PM, 3:40PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:20PM, 8:20PM. Mon, Tues: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 6:40PM, 7:40PM. Wed: 2:45PM, 5:05PM, 7:25PM. Thurs: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 5:20PM, 6:40PM, 7:40PM, 9:00PM The Super Mario Bros. Movie in 3D (PG) Fri: 2:50PM Sat: 4:40PM. Sun: 1:20PM.

 Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice (682) 260-5920 | cinergy.com/locations/granbury/



in booths around the area.

Following the activities

from Friday, the event will

continue from 10 a.m.-

Sunday, April 16.

8 p.m. on Saturday, April

15, and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on

Hackett added he is ex-

pig roast — especially due

cited for Granbury's second

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BY MAURICE WALTON

Maurice Walton is a retired attorney, a longtime Granbury resident, and president of the Bridge Street History Center.

hat would Georgia think? I have been thinking lately about my friend, Georgia Ramay. I have written before about the important role Georgia played in establishing the Bridge Street History, so let me just say, at the outset of this column, that it was her idea. Plain and simple it was her vision that our community have a museum with the mission "to collect, preserve and interpret the life stories of the people of Granbury and Hood County."

I know it was her idea because I was there when she came up with it. I have also written about my friend, Vircy Macatee, and related the important role she played in the early days of the history center, but there wouldn't have been a Bridge Street History Center if it hadn't been for Georgia Ramay.

Vircy's interest in the work of the history center began after she understood and whole heartedly embraced Georgia's idea. My friendship with Georgia began while she was a client of mine. Over the years the attorney-client relationship grew into a friendship centered primarily around our common interest in history, particularly local history.

If you are going to appreciate Georgia and her interest in local history it is important for you to understand that she had deep roots in Granbury and Hood County. Let me briefly tell you about it. Georgia's great-grandfather, Harrison Jefferson (H.J.) Nutt, according to the family Bible, "arrived in Granbury, Tex. on Wed. Nov. 11, 1890." H.J. fought in the Civil War and was a sergeant in Co. B., 17th Tenn. Inf. and was a part of General Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia that surrendered to the Commander of the Union Army, General Ulysses S. Grant, on April 9, 1865, at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

Georgia's grandfather, Jefferson (Jeff) Newton Nutt, Sr. was 18 years old when he arrived in Granbury with his father H.J. in 1890. Jeff later graduated from Baylor Commercial College in Waco and then went to work for his relatives, Jacob and Jesse Nutt, in their mercantile business on the square in Granbury. In 1900, he went to work for First National Bank of Granbury and served as cashier and then vice president of the bank until his death in 1932.

Georgia's father, Jefferson Newton (J. Newton) Nutt, Jr. and her mother, Glenn Etta Nutt, were both 1928 graduates of Granbury High School. J. Newton was verv involved in the insurance business in Texas and served as the Insurance

Commissioner for the state. a position he was appointed to in 1963 by Governor John Connally. He was also commissioned an Admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Price Daniel, in 1960. J. Newton died in 1968.

Subsequently, Georgia retired from teaching in the Dallas Independent School District, and she and her mother moved to Granbury. They eventually purchased and restored the Nutt family home at 421 E. Bridge St. What really prompted me to start me thinking about Georgia was her birthday, on Feb. 14.

As I thought about Georgia the one thought I could not get out of my mind, or the nagging question on my mind was this: "Would Georgia be satisfied with the progress we have made on her idea of establishing a museum in Granbury?" As I asked myself this question, I began to go over in my mind some of things the history center has done since Georgia hatched her idea in 2005. It has been a process which technically began on Jan. 17, 2006, while the visionary David Southern was serving as mayor of Granbury and Harold Sandel, also a man with vision, was city manager.

We were formally created on that date as a committee of the city by ordinance enacted by the City Council. We are no longer affiliated with the city. Today, we are an independent 501(c) (3) organization governed by a 12-member board of directors and advised by Iohn Versluis, Dean of the Texas Heritage Museum in Hillsboro, Texas. (As you can see, organizationally we have come a long way since 2006.)

The center of our world is in the home built in 1879 by David Lee and Sudie Nutt Home located at 319 East Bridge St. David Lee and Sudie were the grandparents of Mary Lou Watkins, and this is the home she lived in while she was reigning supreme in Granbury. What use do we make of this historic treasure?

We currently have exhibits on the Mitchell-Truitt Feud (Granbury/Hood County's own real feud, no legends here, just the facts.) We also have an exhibit detailing the grand re-opening of the Opera House on June 19, 1975, (and no, the Opera House has not always looked like it does today.) With the help of local historian and friend, Melinda Ray, we are in the process of updating our exhibit on the Founding Families of our community.

However, operating a museum is not our only undertaking. Because of the suggestion of our good friend, Dominique Inge, we have endeavored to "take the history to the people," and not just wait for folks to come see us. With Dominique's challenge ringing in our ears, we established, in 2015, The Ramay-Macatee Speaker's Series. Through our Speaker's Series event we have endeavored to broaden our mission so that for an evening every fall we go beyond the limits of our city and county and bring to our community some of the finest Texas historians/ authors out there today, e.g. Steve Harrigan (Big Wonderful Thing), in 2021 and S.C. Gwynne (Midnight of the Summer Moon) in 2022.

In November 2023 we will feature Justice Ken Wise, the creator of the very interesting and informative podcast, Wise About Texas. With the help of our good friend, TCU history professor, Dr. Steven Woodworth, we sponsored a Civil War

symposium in 2018. Local legend Phil Groschel has also helped us put on two plays for our community, one at Granbury Live on the Mitchell-Truitt Feud and one at the Granbury Opera House telling the story of the grand re-opening of the Opera House.

Our own Cody Martin has helped us create a program to tell the stories of Granbury and Hood County with the creation of our Local Tales by Local Folks program. We have also been privileged, by the gracious invitation of Jon and Becky Brumley, to have hosted over the years two events at their historical property, the aweinspiring Crockett's Bounty. And, I haven't even told you about the oral history program, spearheaded by Dr. Tom Hamilton, we are working on with Tarleton State University.

We have also begun work on a project with our longtime consultant, Dr. Steven Woodworth, to bring you a program about local author John Graves (Goodbye To A River). I don't have enough



The Bridge Street HISTORY CENTER Granbury, TX

CLASS OF 2023



space to tell you about our

new program to document

and Hood County, but you

can read about our ideas in

my column of Jan. 7, 2023.

So, as I have thought about

Georgia would be happy with

our efforts to tell the stories

of the lives of the people of

Granbury and Hood County.

Honestly, I think Vircy would

still be skeptical, but then

If you think the stories

of the people of Granbury

and Hood County are worth

preserving, we invite you to

please join us as a Friend

Center. Dues are \$25 for individuals, \$50 per fam-

\$250 for patrons. Please

of the Bridge Street History

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mauricewalton408@gmail.

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you down.

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again "that's just Vircy."

it, I have concluded that

the Renaissance of Granbury

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Joey

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Grandma & Granpa

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Hood County News











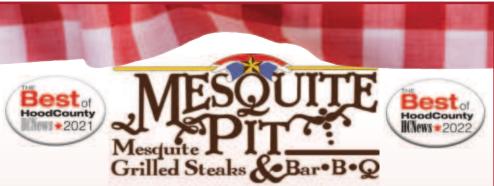


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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Judgmental me: Perhaps not cut out to take post-pageant criticism



BY DON NEWBURY

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

ay back when, I agreed to serve as judge of pageants held annually in Fort Stockton and DeLeon. I — and another couple of judges — were to select queens of the Water Festival and the Peach and Melon Festival, respectively.

It shouldn't have been "rocket surgery," but I didn't realize that I would be detested (or near thereto) by all attendees, save the families of the winners.

One guy chanced to attend both festivals. Disgustedly, he called me "an equal opportunity offender." Upon hearing this snarky comment, I vowed to let others fill judging roles at all such future events.

UNEXPECTED

Quite unexpectedly, I'm breaking my own rule, the one regarding repositioning of myself to onlooker status. You'll understand more two paragraphs hence.

When my wife and I boarded the Ruby Princess in Galveston for our first cruise in almost four years, we anticipated good food, pampered treatment and a wide array of entertainment.

We did NOT, however, expect to be privileged to

enjoy the most entertaining personality we've ever seen on 25 or so cruises over the past two decades.

HIS BEST EFFORT

Tom Franek is billed as a "pianist/singer/comedian," and if "best" preceded the billing, you'll get no argument from us.

He is proudest, of course, of his piano accomplishments, including recordings considered for three Grammy Award nominations. After playing all sports in grade school in his hometown of Northfield, Minnesota, he gravitated toward the arts in high school. Then he studied music at St. Olaf College, where he was awarded the Bachelor of Music degree.

Tom throws his best self into every performance, with sweat to prove it. He has learned to wipe away the droplets every few minutes, because when moisture enters a microphone, it goes dead.

A SPLIT PERSONALITY

He is beyond animated, twisting himself into unlikely positions at — or near — the piano. The contortions include — but are not limited to — standing on his head, sliding under the piano with his hands reaching the keys, and sitting backward on the piano bench. Fearless, he takes on Chopin, Gershwin and others.

He admits that there have been unexpected challenges. He has endured broken strings, faulty benches and captains making announcements that override his music.

The entertainer, with a half-dozen suits of various bright colors (when wearing red attire, he claims sponsorship of Heinz ketchup), once had a substantial problem. His seat-of-thepants stitching split when he was positioning to play from underneath the piano. He calmly addressed what had happened to those who didn't know, then kept on going, keeping his frontside toward the audience, never revealing his backside. (Now, his suits have reinforced stitching in strategic places.).

BRAND NAME

Who is he like? He re-

minds us of many late, well-known entertainers, including Mark Russell, political satirist and pianist in Washington, DC, for 30 years; classical pianist Liberace and zany Jerry Lee Lewis.

He has performed for more than a decade for nine cruise lines. Princess **Cruise Lines** booked him first. In 2018, he was named the cruise line's "entertainer of the year."

Tom is personable, appreciative, accommodating, gracious and thankful, hoping one day to offer programs dominated by his own compositions....

OVATION-WORTHY

The youngest of three children of Northfield's fire chief and a nurse, he is proud of his Midwest upbringing. He is humble to the core, beginning each show with, "How's everybody doin'?," answering, "Pretty durn good!"

Watch for Tom on cruises, or at corporate conven-

tions, state fairs, or other events with unique entertainment. He of our cruise, rewarded by room on

im-

mediate standing ovations after all four performances, all of which we witnessed. Check YouTube, see clips

from his ABC television appearances or visit his website, www.tomfranek.com. You can't miss his unique haircut, swept up on all sides. I asked if he gets haircutting estimates, or if his stylist stands on a ladder. "I cut my own hair," he said, admitting there's plenty of room on the top of his head for birds to nest....

newbury@speakerdoc.com

Pictured is Tom Franek who is billed as a "pianist/singer/comedian."

COURTESY PHOTO

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