



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[WEDNESDAY, May 3, 2023]

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'Bonnetts in Bloom' contest winner is Josh Rosenfeld



COURTESY PHOTO BY JOSH ROSENFELD

Congratulations to Josh Rosenfeld, grand-prize winner of the 'Bonnetts in Bloom' photo contest sponsored by Mattressville.

I am not sure anyone at the Hood County News expected the tremendous response we received for our "Bonnetts in Bloom" contest sponsored by Mattressville. We received a huge number of bluebonnet photo entries and each week it was harder and harder to select a winning photo. In order to select the Grand Prize winner, several staff members met, argued, lobbied and discussed which photo to select, until we finally agreed on the tremendous entry by Jeff Rosenfeld.

For me, the winning photo encapsulates springtime in Hood County. The Brazos flowing in the background and the curious deer in the foreground blend to become a truly noteworthy photo. Congratulations to Jeff for his outstanding work. Stop by the newspaper and pick up your Grand Prize of \$100, as well as a T-shirt and a one-year subscrip-

tion to the Hood County News! I also want to thank the weekly winners and all those who submitted entries. I encourage all our readers to go online to hcnews.com and pull up the photo gallery to see the contest entries. They are terrific! Something about looking at photos of bluebonnets makes this Texan's heart smile.

I would also like to give special thanks to our contest sponsor, Mattressville, for helping bring this contest to life. We are already looking forward to having another bluebonnet contest next year!

Sam Houston
Publisher, Hood County News

For me, the winning photo encapsulates springtime in Hood County. The Brazos flowing in the background and the curious deer in the foreground blend to become a truly noteworthy photo.

Commissioners again eye whether current jail fixable

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Despite years of "kicking the can down the road," as some have described the long debate over a bigger jail, some on the Hood County Commissioners Court are back to wondering whether the current facility is

salvageable. If so, it could be used as part of an expansion project rather than a complete rebuild, saving taxpayers millions. That idea is not new and has been discussed before, but it is being revived again by court members intent on examining

PLEASE SEE **JAIL** | AX

INSIDE

The Granbury Wine Walk enticed crowds to sip and savor wines from 20 Texas wineries. Please see photos, page A9.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Hood County seeks solutions to dangerous Stroud Creek flooding

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The Hood County Commissioners Court has agreed to enlist a "secondary engineer" to do a feasibility study in an effort to find a solution to dangerous flooding that occurs at the low water crossing in Stroud Creek Estates on Lipan Highway.

The flooding on Vegas Road, the subdivision's only entrance

and exit, landlocks those who live there and happens whenever there is heavy rain.

The problem has been featured on a Metroplex news station and video footage of an SUV being swept off Vegas Road into rushing high water can be found online. The two adults in that SUV were able to escape the vehicle.

Eight years ago, a woman

PLEASE SEE **CREEK** | AX



137TH YEAR, NO. 70

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

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Commissioners approve new agreements for out-of-county inmate housing

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

At the same Hood County Commissioners Court meeting where county officials tapped the brakes on building a new jail, the county judge and commissioners approved two interlocal agreements allowing for inmates to be housed at other facilities.

The 192-bed Hood County Jail has been dealing with overcrowding for the past 23 years. The county has been paying to house inmates at other county jails since 2000.

According to Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson, who has researched the issue, costs to house inmates at other facilities have been averaging about

\$350,000 per year. When other expenses related to inmate transports are factored in, the annual cost to the county is more than \$540,000, he said.

At the April 25 regular meeting of the Commissioners Court, Sheriff Roger Deeds briefly addressed the county judge and commissioners on both agenda items relating to the interlocal agreements. He

indicated that his office's ability to house inmates at the county jails in Parker and Johnson counties will depend on whether those jails, too, are at capacity.

The sheriff has told the court on prior occasions that overcrowding at other jails is starting to become an issue, posing challenges for his office. He stated as much again at the meeting where new interlocal

agreements were approved. "It's getting harder to find places that we can take them," he said of inmates.

Deeds stated that the daily cost per inmate at the Parker County Jail is \$92.50 and the daily cost per inmate at the Johnson County Jail is \$100.

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JAIL

FROM PAGE A1

every option before making an expensive commitment.

Four items relating to the Hood County Jail, presented by Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews, were on the agenda for the court's regular meeting on April 25.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson expressed that the considerations meant the county was "starting from scratch," but Andrews denied that was the case.

"Let's get a realistic view of what it takes ... before we consider spending \$100 million on a new facility," he stated.

Last October, the court considered two options presented by AG/CM, a professional project management firm whose help the court enlisted. Option 1 was to commission program-

ming for a new facility at a cost not to exceed \$85,000. Programming is work that is done prior to architectural drawings. It determines what the needs are and how many square feet are required to meet those needs.

Option 2 was programming for renovation of the existing 54,000-square-foot building as well as a 200-bed addition. The \$104,000 price tag was more expensive because of challenges involved in rehabbing the existing building. It is in such poor condition that county Maintenance Director Jay Riley has assigned one of his staff to work fulltime there.

The county went with Option 1: a new building. AG/CM presented its architectural programming report to the Commissioners Court in January.

At the April 25 Commissioners Court meet-

ing, Andrews questioned some of the company's determinations.

A new jail, large enough to house about 400 inmates, and a new Law Enforcement Center for Sheriff's Office staff and 911 dispatch is expected to take two to three years to build and will cost around \$100 million, based on AG/CM's estimates.

Andrews said he had assumed that the cost might be \$40 million to \$50 million and that when the projection came in at twice that amount, there was "sticker shock" among those on the court.

The Lipan resident said that he wanted to "look at individual pieces" of the project.

Discussion of the agenda items included opinions expressed by some in the audience as well as those on the court.

NO CHEAP FIXES

The matter of how best to deal with the jail problem is complicated and multi-faceted, with no cheap or easy solutions.

Adding to the pressure is that project advisors have told the court that construction costs will rise, the longer the project is delayed. According to County Auditor Becky Kidd, the county is currently in good financial shape for moving forward with building a new jail.

If the current jail at 400 Deputy Larry Miller Drive is refurbished rather than razed, it would likely mean having to relocate the 192 inmates who occupy it. As it is, the county is spending more than a half million dollars per year in charges related to housing inmates at other county jails because of overflow. Those jails are now starting to experience over-

crowding, too, according to Sheriff Roger Deeds and jail administrator Captain Eric Turbeville.

Although the existing building built cheaply in 1995 has many problems, Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle pointed out that it has a new roof and that 80% of its air conditioning units are new.

The court approved three of Andrews' proposals but tabled the fourth.

The court voted unanimously to seek quotes/bids for UV protected waterproofing of the concrete block portion of the existing jail's exterior, including gaining access to the portion of the building that is below grade and replacing soil to prevent moisture penetration into the building.

The court voted 3-2 to explore options and seek quotes/bids to remediate

deteriorating pipes in the jail and LEC. Wilson and County Judge Ron Massingill cast the nay votes.

Third on the list was to engage a structural engineer to explore structural deficiencies identified in AG/CM's Hood County Jail Facility Condition Assessment Report. The court voted unanimously to have AG/CM engage a third-party structural engineer to provide a proposal on structural deficiencies at the jail.

The item that was tabled was to request a programming proposal for a 100-bed jail expansion, a 200-bed jail expansion, an LEC, or request funding options and analysis from Hilltop Securities for a new 430-bed jail/LEC.

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CREEK

FROM PAGE A1

started a petition on change.org for the problem to be addressed, netting 141 supporters.

"This is a life safety issue," Kevin Andrews, who lives in Lipan and is commissioner for Precinct 1, said at the Tuesday, April

25 regular meeting of the Commissioners Court. "There is 19 square miles of runoff that end up in a 100-foot-wide ravine right here that the residents of Stroud Creek Estates have to drive through, in and out, to get to their homes."

He noted the danger that the situation presents for any resident who experiences a medical emergency dur-

ing a storm when the road is impassable and medical helicopters can't safely fly.

Development Director Clint Head said he was told that the cost to build a bridge at that location would be about \$2 million.

When Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson commented that road needs are covered through federal American

Rescue Plan Act dollars, Head stated that a cost-benefit analysis would have to be done to justify spending \$2 million for a bridge that benefits only a small number of people.

Fire Marshal Jeff Young weighed in, telling the county judge and commissioners that every time there is heavy rainfall, "we're down there fishing people in cars"

out of the water.

He posed the possibility of an entrance/exit that is used only for emergencies and said that nearby railroad tracks pose challenges for creating another access point.

"The fight there is going to be with the railroad," he said.

Young said the railroad company indicated a willingness to consider it but that

a different railroad crossing might have to be sacrificed.

"The more crossings they have, of course the more liability they have," he stated.

The court's vote to hire a secondary engineer in hopes of a solution that won't involve a costly bridge was unanimous.

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Joey

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May 8, 2023

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Community journalism at work

Once again, the Hood County News is winning awards



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.

This past weekend I had the opportunity to travel to Nacogdoches for the purpose of attending the North and East Texas Press Convention. The annual event hosts newspapers from the northern and eastern sections of the state, where we share ideas, discuss mutual problems and listen to informative presentations about our industry. As a relative newcomer to journalism, I have found these meetings to be enlightening and very supportive. I look forward to learning from my contemporaries while creating new professional relationships.

One portion of the meeting is dedicated to the "Better Newspaper Contest." Regional newspapers submit their best entries in numerous newspaper categories from the past year, and the entries are then judged by outside professional journalists. Recognition is given in areas from writing, to photography, to design.

I am proud to share with you that Hood County News won first place in three different categories: Advertising, layout, and headline writing. We were also finalists in several other categories.

It is truly rewarding to be recognized by your peers for excellence. The staff of HCN works very hard to be the very best community

newspaper in Texas.

Newspapers are changing because our society is changing. We no longer live in the 1950s — an era in which almost all news and information consumed by the public came from newsprint and radio. The internet and the cell phone have changed the world and given people instant access to tons of information that had never previously been accessible.

However, the newspaper remains acutely relevant. Who else but your local newspaper is going to keep you informed about your local schools, your city and county government, clubs and organizations, and tell you interesting and entertaining stories about your friends and neighbors? There is a substantial difference between social media gossip and rumors, and "news" that has been vetted for accuracy, fairness, and truth.

Upon taking control of Hood County News nearly three years ago, we have made significant changes in how the newspaper is presented, its size and its message. I am acutely aware we still have a few detractors. I appreciate criticisms from those who hope to

make us better and even more relevant. I am thick skinned regarding comments from those who do not wish to take responsibility for their actions and find it convenient to blame the press. I assure you no reader is more critical of the product we produce than our staff.

Are there times we fall short of our own expectations? Of course, and when that happens, we pick ourselves up and work to do better ... every single day ... every single edition.

Last year HCN was recognized by the Texas Press Association for being the best bi-weekly paper in the entire state of Texas! Such an award speaks volumes about the quality of the product we are producing. Over the past three years, I have seen many locals transcend from being opposed to the newspaper's tone and message, to now referring to the HCN as their newspaper, and say so with a sense of pride in their community. Our advertising sales are up, as are subscriptions. We are in fact, "the fastest growing newspaper in Texas."

We are not resting on our laurels. We are making changes that will come to light in the next few weeks

and will make the Hood County News a bigger, more impactful, and more readable newspaper. We will have more breaking news appear on our website and social media to keep you informed as news occurs, but still create a print newspaper worthy of your readership. We will keep you informed, entertained, and educated about OUR community.

The Hood County News is one of the oldest and most awarded newspapers in the state of Texas. It is my honor to lead the men and women who work so hard to create each edition. Our upcoming changes will make us even better. The future of community journalism is about to unfold in front of your eyes, and we could not be more excited.

The Hood County News, here today and for a long time to come.

Thought for the day: Change for the better begins at the end of your comfort zone.

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

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

Friends of Memorial Lane to honor firefighters on Saturday

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The Friends of Memorial Lane will host an event on Saturday, May 6, to honor local firefighters and to commemorate International Firefighters Day.

International Firefighters Day is Thursday, May 3. It is a time to honor firefighters for their service and to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice through firefighting.

Saturday's event will take place at 10 a.m. at Memorial Lane at the Jim Burks Firefighters Memorial Park,

561 N. Travis St.

Parking will be available at the city-owned building next to the park. Those who cannot walk the short distance or prefer a ride can ride the free shuttle that will be provided. The shuttle service will begin at 9 a.m.

The Friends of Memorial Lane board asks that everyone wear red and blue ribbons that day to represent fire and water. They also ask the community to pause at noon Saturday to say a prayer for firefighters and for those firefighters who lost their lives.

Firefighters of the Year from all nine of the county's volunteer fire departments will be recognized and \$50 Kroger gift cards, donated by The Friends of Memorial Lane board, will be given to each station.

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TPWD provides anglers with best practices for alligator gar catch and release

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

AUSTIN — Alligator gar hold a special place in Texans' hearts as the largest and longest-living freshwater species in the state. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) works to ensure healthy populations remain in Texas for future generations to enjoy. As waters warm and alligator gar fishing heats up this summer, TPWD is working with anglers, who play a key role in conservation efforts through proper catch-and-release practices.

"Catch-and-release fishing for alligator gar has become quite popular and data from a current evaluation in progress indicates high survival rates for released fish," said Dan Daugherty, TPWD Inland Fisheries senior scientist. "We've even recorded some fish being caught and released three or four times over multiple years."

TPWD biologists have put together some best practices for anglers to follow when they head out to the water in search of these massive fish. Alligator gar can grow up to eight feet long and weigh more than 300 pounds. The best available science suggests gar anglers follow

these key guidelines to maximize survival of the fish:

SMALLER HOOKS

TPWD recommends the use of single hook styles no larger than 3/0 when fishing for alligator gar. Larger hooks are more likely to result in damage to internal organs, particularly for smaller fish. Stainless steel hooks and leaders have been shown to persist in fish for years, while bronze hooks and leaders degrade relatively quickly.

LAND LARGE FISH ON SHORE

Whenever possible, landing the fish on shore is a better practice than lifting the fish over the gunnel and onto a boat deck. The use of lassos or snares to lift a fish over a boat gunnel may result in internal injury to a heavy fish like alligator gar. If possible, keep the fish in or near the water; fully support the weight of the fish when taking photos before release. Minimize handling time.

TIP ON DEEPLY HOOKED FISH

Hooks lodged beyond the mouth cavity (in the throat, gullet or stomach) should not be removed — most studies suggest additional



COURTESY OF TPWD.TEXAS.GOV

The Texas parks and Wildlife Department gives advice to anglers on catching alligator gar.

damage is often caused by attempting to remove a deep hook. Long-term survival is more likely if the line or leader is cut and the hook left in place. Non-stainless-

steel hooks degrade relatively quickly and can be more easily shed by a gar.

TPWD's alligator gar webpage provides comprehensive information on the species,

including management practices and additional tips: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/fishboat/fish/management/alligator-gar/> or scan the QR code.



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According to TxDOT, more people are dying in motorcycle crashes in Texas.

May is National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Texas Department of Transportation

AUSTIN — As motorcycle fatalities continue to rise and the spring weather draws more riders to Texas roadways, TxDOT is urging drivers to look twice and be considerate on the road around motorcycle riders.

Amy Jo Miller was enjoying a ride on the back of her boyfriend's motorcycle in Bell County when an inattentive driver turned left in front of them, hitting the bike and throwing her across the road. Seconds later, another vehicle then ran her over in a hit-and-run crash, leaving her with multiple serious injuries. Fortunately, she survived, but 15 years later, Amy Jo is still recovering from her injuries.

Amy Jo, now 49, is just one of thousands of Texas motorcyclists seriously injured — or worse, killed — in crashes every year. In 2022, 562 motorcycle riders were killed in motor vehicle crashes, an 8% increase over the previous year.

"People on motorcycles are more vulnerable on our roadways," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "It's important for drivers to pay extra attention and look out for motorcycles — especially at intersections, when turning in front of oncoming traffic and while changing lanes. We all want to get home safe."

In addition to National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, TxDOT's annual safety campaign "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" also aims to protect motorcyclists by educating drivers on how to safely share the road. Below are safety precautions all motorists should keep in mind to help prevent motorcycle crashes.

STAY ALERT

Give driving your full attention. Even a momentary distraction, such as answering a phone call or changing the radio station, can have deadly consequences.

SPECIAL ATTENTION AT INTERSECTIONS

One-third of all motorcycle fatalities happen at roadway intersections.

EXTRA CARE ON LEFT TURNS

Always assume motorcycles are closer than they appear and avoid turning in front of an oncoming motorcycle.

LOOK TWICE WHEN CHANGING LANES

Check mirrors, check blind spots, and always use turn signals.

GIVE ROOM WHEN PASSING THEM

Move over to the passing lane and don't crowd the motorcyclist's full lane.

STAY BACK

If you're behind a motorcycle, always maintain a safe following distance. When a motorcyclist downshifts, it can catch drivers off guard since there are no brake lights to signal reduced speed.

SLOW DOWN

Obeys posted speed limits and drive according to conditions.

To help drivers fully understand the importance of driving safely and the dangers motorcycle riders face, TxDOT is taking its "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" campaign exhibit on the road during National Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. The exhibit will feature a virtual reality component that gives participants the opportunity to experience high-risk traffic situations from the perspective of both a driver and a motorcyclist.

TxDOT's "Share the Road: Look Twice for Motorcycles" campaign is a key component of #EndTheStreakTX, a broader social media and word-of-mouth effort that encourages drivers to make safer choices while behind the wheel to help end the streak of daily deaths. Nov. 7, 2000, was the last deathless day on Texas roadways.

Granbury Civic Chorus prepares for May 18 spring concert

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The Granbury Civic Chorus is gearing up for its spring concert, which is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, at Acton Methodist Church.

In preparation for the concert, the Granbury Civic

Chorus has been extremely busy with rehearsals in the hopes of perfecting a beautiful program of Broadway hits for Hood County.

The spring concert is free and will include old favorites as well as some newer songs that are sure to have attendees humming along and tap-

ping their feet.

For more than 20 years, the Granbury Civic Chorus has worked to promote quality choral music.

The community group is led by Dr. Steven Quinn, and currently consists of approximately 60 members who meet weekly at Acton

Methodist to rehearse.

For information on joining the Granbury Civic Chorus, visit GranburyCivicChorus.org online or send an email to granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

OBITUARIES

Amy Watts Phillips

September 23, 1941 - May 1, 2023

Amy Watts Phillips died peacefully on May 1, 2023 after a lengthy illness in Granbury.

Amy was born on September 23, 1941 in Houston, Texas to Cecil and Madge Watts.

She graduated from Liberty High School where she was a cheerleader.

Amy attended Trinity University where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1964. She taught second grade, married, and had two sons—Robert and a few years later Greg.

Amy met Edgar Phillips in 1991 and they married in 1992. Amy and Ed started their life together in Abilene, Texas before moving to Granbury in 1998.

For more than 30 years, Amy and Ed were devoted companions, travel buddies, and best friends.

Whether they were at home or exploring the world, they filled their time with love, laughter, family, and friends. Amy especially enjoyed holiday cruises and trips to Myrtle Beach with her family.

Amy was a voracious reader and an accomplished cruciverbalist. She was also an excellent cook who inherited her mother's territorial instincts in the kitchen. When Amy said she did not need help with dinner, she meant it.

As Amy's health declined over the last few years, she faced many obstacles. She never complained and lived each day to the fullest.

Amy was predeceased by her parents and her brother Edwin Watts.



She is survived by her loving husband Edgar Phillips; sons Robert (Vicky) and Greg (Maria) Joyner; grandchildren Celie (Sam) Schrock and Zachery Joyner. She is also survived by her Edgar's sons Tracy, Billy (Antho-ny), and David (Karen) and step-

grandsons Zane Phillips and Erik Garcia.

The family would like to thank the staffs at Harbor Lakes, Kelley Reed from Interim Hospice, Waterview The Cove, Clearpath Homecare, and Dr. Barnes for the kind and expert care provided to Amy.

Visitation will be 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, May 3, 2023, at The Wiley Center, 420 US Hwy 377 East, Granbury, Texas. A graveside service will be held at Acton Cemetery, 10:30 a.m., Thursday, May 4, 2023, Ac-ton, Texas. The family will host a luncheon reception immediately following the graveside service at the Wiley Center in Granbury.

In lieu of flower please consider making a donation to The Salvation Army Beds for Children campaign.

Frankye Nell Simons

January 3, 1932 - April 8, 2023

Frankye Nell Simons passed away peacefully on April 8, 2023. She was born January 3, 1932 in the community of Post Oak, north of Detroit, Texas to parents Bernice Ford and Benjamin Franklin "BF" Crawford.

She graduated from Clarksville High School in 1949.

In 1950, she met and married the love of her life William Roy Richardson, Jr. after his service in WWII with the U.S. Navy.

They had four children: William Roy, Frank Allan, Brian Keith and Leah Ann.

Roy Richardson tragically passed away in 1962.

Her family of four became a family of seven when she met and married Henry Havelock "Jack" Simons of Midland Texas in 1965 after his service in the U.S. Army. Jack had three children: Cindy Suzanne, Timothy Havelock "Have" and Jean Anne.

Frankye was preceded in death by her parents, her first husband William Roy Richardson, eldest son William, her second husband Jack Simons and step-son Timothy Havelock. She was also preceded by siblings Jacqueline Crawford Brown (Clarksville, TX), Johnny Crawford (Paris, TX) and Benjamin James "BJ" Crawford (Deport, TX).

She is survived by children Frank Richardson and wife Carol of Palacios, TX, Brian Richardson and wife Patricia of Midland, TX, Leah and Jeff Pittman of New Braunfels, TX, Cindy and David Murdock of Boerne, TX and Jean Anne and Frankie Knebel of Holiday Beach, TX. Additionally, she is survived by siblings Sue Partin of Center, Texas and Nathan Craw-



ford of McKinney, Texas.

Franky Nell was a beloved Meemaw to countless nieces, nephews, grandkids, great-grandkids, and great-great-grandkids. She was a quilter. She probably made 50 plus quilts for her grandchildren, always with their name, date of birth and scripture. She was famous for her homemade "sugar syrup n biscuits."

Frankye "Meemaw" loved the Lord and her family with a deep unconditional passion. She quoted scripture with love to all who would listen. She was a bowler, a quilter, a bridge player and so much more! She loved to tell stories of the past and she had various stories that kept her family in stitches.

The family would like to express their sincerest thanks to the community of Palacios and the members of Agape Family Outreach Church for their love and support in the last several years.

A celebration of life ceremony will be held at the Agape Outreach Church, 1811 Newsome Blvd. in Palacios, Texas on May 6, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. Arrangements are with Palacios Funeral Home, Palacios, TX. 361-972-2012.

Ramie Allison Hundley

1950 - 2023

Ramie Allison Hundley of Granbury, TX passed away peacefully on April 22, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband James Hundley and survived by her children

Jayme Haney (husband Dustin), James Jason (JJ) Hundley, Jenita Hundley, sister Rayla Allison (wife Brenda), grandchildren, and extended family members.

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TEXAS CROSSWORD
by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- TXism: "let him ___ in his own juice"
- in Hays County on I-35
- Jimmy Johnson was NFL "Coach of the ___" in 1990
- dir. from Dublin to McGregor
- TX Dan Jenkins' "Life ___ Ownself"
- labor union federation that represents 240,000 Texans
- TX Brickell who married Paul Simon
- finger" (done easily)
- TX Willingham film: "Of ___ Men"
- woodworking "joint"
- simple ___ with no laces"
- TXism: "___ sheared like a spring lamb" (swindled)
- acetone is the simplest ___
- "___ alone" (did not bother)
- a change in Astro headwear (2 wds.)
- San Antonio Spurs CEO: ___ Buford
- TX Nolan Ryan had knee ___ repaired in 1993
- historical periods
- TXism: "___ the trail"
- tasty orange Texas melon: can ___
- yearly earnings partner, Fred (init.)
- writer with ink
- TXism: "he could shoot the ___ of a gnat" (good marksman)
- pecans, e.g.
- graduating h.s. students
- TXism: "gotta ___ your spurs" (achieve)
- Cowboy scores (abbr.)
- Texas Tiguan use this in some pottery (2 wds.)
- "on a grand ___"
- "___ heap of trouble"

DOWN

- TXism: "___ pilot" (preacher)
- in Taylor County on highway 84
- TXism: "his facts are ___" (liar)
- TXism: "___ to eye" (agreeing)
- TX Tanya's "Texas When ___"
- TX B.J. Thomas sang song from "Butch Cassidy ___"
- ___ Kid"
- TX Ginger's dance partner, Fred (init.)
- RV gas (abbr.)
- Texas-born Gene Autry wrote "Here ___ Claus"
- TXism: "___ ain't true, there ain't a cow in Texas"
- director Preminger
- intense feelings
- winter flurries rarely seen in the Rio Grande Valley
- units of electrical inductance
- constructs a building
- Tommie of 1990 Cowboys or 1973 Astros
- MLB leag. of Astros and Rangers
- "I smell ___" (suspect betrayal)
- TX Preston Jones' ___ Ann Hampton Lavery Oberlander"
- large primate
- TX Don Henley had a lot of these with the Eagles
- a Texas Gatlin horse"
- TXism: "plain as the ___ on a mule"
- in Upshur County on FM 450 (2 wds.)
- Santa ___
- she was "The Big Valley's" Audra (init.)

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

TEXANS TOP BAYLOR, 6-2 *Tarleton received first-ever baseball victory over Power 5 team*

Tarleton Sports Information

WACO - Tarleton State University led from start to finish in a commanding 6-2 win over the Baylor Bears at Baylor Ballpark on April 25.

The win was a notable one for the Texans (22-16) as it was the program's first ever win over a Power 5 team. The purple and white have now won five straight and eight out of their last nine.

Tarleton outthrew the Bears (15-26) 12-6 and held Baylor to just two runs that both came in the fifth inning. The Texans scored one run each in the first three innings, staking an early 3-0 lead that they would never give up. Baylor used seven and Tarleton used four.

The early momentum on the offensive side was coupled by a stellar performance from Piercen McElyea (W, 2-1) on the mound. The junior right-handed pitcher tossed 5.0 innings, striking out a season-high 10 and walking none. He allowed just two runs and threw a first pitch strike to 18 of 23 batters he faced. The 10 strikeouts are tied with Will Stevens (10 vs. PVAMU on 3/3) for the most strikeouts in a game from a Texan pitcher this season.

Tarleton struck out 16 Baylor batters, a season-high for the Bears. Three pitchers came out of the pen in Matt Haley, Zach Poe and Zane

Badmaev with each having scoreless outings.

Haley tossed 2 innings in the sixth and seventh, striking out two and allowing just one hit. Poe threw the eighth in setup for Badmaev and worked around two Bear baserunners with a two out strikeout. Badmaev threw the ninth, striking out two and inducing a foul out.

Offensively, Trace Morrison of Stephenville led the Texans, going 3-5 with two RBI. Mason Hammonds was 2-5 with two runs scored and an RBI. Jordan Andrade finished with a hit and two RBI while Dylan Kurahashi-Choy Foo had two hits and a run scored. Cris Enriquez walked twice and scored a run.

The scoring started early for the Texans as they loaded the bases in the first inning with Hammonds eventually scoring from third on a passed ball to give Tarleton a 1-0 lead.

In the second, Morrison singled to right center field to score Hammonds and make it 2-0.

The third inning saw Andrade single to center field to bring home Choy Foo and give the Texans a 3-0



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

Piercen McElyea, a junior right-hander from Edmond, Oklahoma, earned the pitching victory for Tarleton State University in a 6-2 decision over Baylor University. In five innings, McElyea struck out a season-high 10 batters and did not give up a walk, improving to 2-1 on the season.

lead. Both teams brought runs home in the fifth inning. Andrade hit a sacrifice fly to right field to score Enriquez, putting the Texans up 4-0. In

the bottom half, Baylor designated hitter Walker Polk launched a two-run home run to left center field to cut the Texan lead in half. Tarleton held the Bears to

no runs on three hits over the final four innings to complete the win. The Texans used two insurance runs in the eighth to stretch the lead to 6-2. Hammonds ground-

ed out to the second baseman for an RBI groundout and Morrison singled down the right field line to score Kooper Shook, making it 6-2.

Four-time all-state player signs to play basketball with Texans

Tarleton Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE - The Tarleton women's basketball program has announced its first player signing under new head coach Bill Brock, as the Texans have added the widely celebrated Winnsboro High School post player Faith Acker.

The 6-foot, 2-inch tall Acker was an All-State player all four varsity years among numerous accolades suiting up for the Lady Raiders. The Winnsboro native scored more than 2,500 points in her prep career, consistently proving to be the best player on the court with routine 20-point, 10-rebound performances.

Acker took the Lady Raiders to three state playoff tournament appearances, snapping the program's decade-long drought, including two trips to the semifinals and a title-game run. Last season, Acker recorded a game-high 22

points and 16 rebounds in Winnsboro's state semifinal game, capping off her UIL Girls Basketball State Championships Class 3A All-Tournament Team recognition.

She is the first announced signing under Brock's tutelage at Tarleton. The Texans plan to announce several more signings over the coming days.

Her junior year, Acker took the Lady Raiders to the state championship game, and tallied a game-high 24 points and 19 rebounds. She again made the state's 3A All-Tournament Team.

Along with her four All-State honors and her two All-Tournament honors in the playoffs, Acker was also a four-time First Team All-Region player, the District 13-3A All-District Basketball Team MVP twice, Newcomer of the Year, All-East Texas Newcomer of the Year, and the East Texas Player of the Year.

This past month alone Acker participated in the WHO'S NXT? All-American Game and the Hoops for Autism All-Star Game. In May, she'll play in the TABC All-Star Game.

In January, Acker was the Tyler Morning Telegraph Girls Basketball Player of the Week after averaging 25.5 points, 15.5 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 4.0 blocks per game in wins over Palestine and Mineola.

Acker's Lady Raiders had a combined 123-27 (.820) record across her four-year prep career.

Acker, who also competed on the track team four years at Winnsboro, originally committed to Louisiana-Monroe before switching to the Texans.

In the classroom, Acker was named to the Academic All-District team all four years. She plans to pursue a degree in kinesiology upon arrival at Tarleton.



COURTESY PHOTO

Faith Acker, a four-time all-state basketball player coming out of Winnsboro High School, is the first player to sign to play with Tarleton State University under new head coach Bill Brock.

ASUN-WAC football partnership rebrands as United Athletic Conference

Tarleton Sports Information

The ASUN Conference and Western Athletic Conference (WAC) football partnership is now officially known as the United Athletic Conference, as announced jointly on April 17 by the football-sponsoring members of both conferences.

Entering its third year as a formal football partnership but first as a single entity, the United Athletic Conference now fully operates like a single-sport conference with an independent budget, policies and governing documents. The group

will recognize its own league champion and at-large FCS playoffs automatic qualifier under a singular conference banner beginning with the 2023 football season.

The newly christened United Athletic Conference currently has nine participating institutions, including Tarleton State University: Abilene Christian University, Austin Peay State University, University of Central Arkansas, Eastern Kentucky University, University of North Alabama, Southern Utah University, Stephen F. Austin State University, and



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

Utah Tech University. The conference will officially add the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) in

the fall of 2025 when it begins sponsorship of football. As previously announced on Jan. 5, the governance

structure of the United Athletic Conference features co-chairs of the Council of Presidents, Dr. James Hurley from Tarleton State University and Dr. David McFaddin from Eastern Kentucky University. Also included in the leadership is Executive Director Oliver Luck, WAC Commissioner Brian Thornton and outgoing ASUN Commissioner Ted Gumbart, with incoming ASUN Commissioner Jeff Bacon officially joining upon Gumbart's retirement at the conclusion of the 2022-23 academic year.

The 2023 United Athletic Conference schedule will be limited to six conference games among its nine members. The 2024 schedule will feature a full eight-game single round robin. The team with the best conference record (and owns any applicable tiebreakers in the case of matching league records) will be declared the United Athletic Conference champion and FCS playoffs AQ. A full conference rollout including official marks, an official website and more information will be released in the coming months.

Six from area advance to state track; Tolar, Lipan softball advance with no-hitters

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

Kassidy Kirkpatrick and Miller Schenewark are flying high these days. Well, they're actually jumping high. But either way, they have earned their way to Austin to compete in the Class 5A State Track Meet May 11-13 at the University of Texas.

Both will be competing in the high jump after Kirkpatrick, a senior, won the Region I Meet this past weekend in Lubbock and Schenewark, a freshman, qualified as a wild card. She cleared 5 feet, 5 inches, sharing the tallest height cleared, but won in a tiebreaker with fewer misses.

"Kassidy has been very determined to finish this season doing her very best. She has been working hard with coach (Desiree) Shahan and has been jumping very consistent in meets and peaking at the right time," Lady Pirates head coach Amber Ward said.

Kirkpatrick is the first Lady Pirate to qualify for state since Madison Northcutt did so in the pole vault three consecutive years (2010-12).

Meanwhile, Schenewark tied for second and an automatic qualifying berth, but lost a tiebreaker. So that meant waiting to see how he fared against other third-place jumpers across

the state's four regions. Again, he was tied for the best third-place performance, but this time he won the tiebreaker to join Kirkpatrick for a trip to Austin.

Class 5A Region I Track Meet

April 28-29 in Lubbock Granbury results

Top two finishers in each event qualify for state Running events in meters, field events in feet

Girls

100 hurdles: 14. Aubrey Ward, 17.64, prelims, no finals.

High jump: 1. Kassidy Kirkpatrick, 5-05.

Long jump: 9.

Kirkpatrick, 17-04.

Boys

100: 11. Jadon Rogers, 11.11, prelims, no finals.

3,200: 16. Bryan Hailey, 10:25.79.

110 hurdles: 13. Hayden Burns, 16.13, prelims, no finals.

High jump: 3. Miller Schenewark, 6-06.

Pole vault: Rylan Brennish, no height.

TOLAR/LIPAN TRACK

Dillon Soileau of the Rattlers qualified for the Class 2A State Track Meet, finishing second in the 110-meter hurdles this past weekend's Region 2 Meet in Springtown. Soileau clocked a finals time of 14.94 seconds, about a second and a half better than his preliminaries time.

He will joined by three friends and teammates who ran with him on the 400 relay. The quartet of Garrison Nation, Caden Pate, Wyatt Jones and Soileau posted a time of 43.40 to place third.

However, they had the best time of all third-place finishers in the event across all four regions, meaning they will advance as a wild card.

Soileau narrowly missed qualifying in a third event as he placed third in the 300 hurdles.

Class 2A Region 2 Track Meet

April 28-29 at Springtown

Tolar results

Top two finishers in each event qualify for state

Running events in meters, field events in feet

Girls

800: 8. Allyson Dobbs, 2:39.17.

High jump: 10. Senne Imel, 4-8.

Shot put: 11. Karley Richardson, 29-11.75.

Boys

100: 16. Ty McClure, 11.90, prelims, did not reach finals.

400: 5. Caden Pate, 53.47.

110 hurdles: 2. Dillon Soileau, 14.94.

300 hurdles: 3. Soileau, 41.78.

400 relay: 3. Garrison Nation, Pate, Wyatt Jones, Soileau, 43.40.

800 relay: 12. McClure, Rowdy Tryon, Dacen Watkins, Isaac Blessing, 1:38.07, prelims, no finals.

1,600 relay: 9. Pate, Jones, Nation, Matthew Behrens, 3:42.82, prelims, no finals.

Long jump: 7. Jeffery Collie, 21-0.75.

Triple jump: 4. Collie, 42-03.5; 7. Reis Brown, 41-0.25.

Pole vault: 6. Brylen Feist, 12-0; 8. Logan Stein, 11-6; 10. Julian Noyola, 10-6.

Discus: 10. Mason Berry, 124-01; 15. Peyton Brown, 113-08.

Shot put: 7. Sam Stewart, 44-03.25.

Lipan results

Girls

800 relay: 3. Madison Cornelius, Lynsey Little, Jolie Russell, Taylor Branson, 1:51.21, prelims, no finals.

Discus: 9. Trinity Benitez, 99-1.

TOLAR SOFTBALL

The Lady Rattlers (19-1-1) ran their unbeaten streak to 20 games and their win streak to 10 with a 24-0 dismantling of host Itasca in their Class 2A bi-district playoff encounter on Thursday, April 27.

Reese Tryon pitched her third no-hitter of the season and her eighth shutout.

All 15 outs by the Lady Wampus Cats were via strikeout by Tryon, who walked one and hit a batter. She also had a pair of base hits offensively, with a walk and three RBI.

Also for the Lady Rattlers on offense: Senne Imel, 3-for-5, double, RBI, stolen base; Courtney Hogan, 2-for-3, double, two walks, two RBI, two stolen bases; Allyson Dobbs, 2-for-2, two walks, two RBI, five stolen bases; Kanyyn Deaver, 2-for-3, hit by pitch, RBI, stolen base; Ava LeCluyse, 1-for-3, walk; Lane Gardner, 1-for-2, walk, hit by pitch; Kaira Krause, 1-for-3, hit by pitch, RBI, stolen base; Landri Kammel, two walks, hit by pitch, RBI, stolen base.

The Lady Rattlers stole 13 bases, received nine walks and had four players hit by a pitch.

In a warmup game earlier in the week, the Lady Rattlers won 12-2 at

Benbrook as Tryon was 2-for-3 with a double, home run, walk and three RBI. She also pitched a three-hitter with no earned runs, 11 strikeouts, three walks and a hit batter.

Also for Tolar: LeCluyse, 2-for-4, RBI; Gardner, 2-for-3; Imel, 1-for-4, two stolen bases; Hogan, 1-for-4, RBI; Dobbs, 1-for-2, walk, RBI.

The Lady Rattlers also capitalized on 11 Benbrook errors.

Next for Tolar is a best-of-three series against Muenster (20-8) in Springtown. Game 1 is Thursday at 5:30 p.m., Game 2 is Saturday at 11 a.m. and a third game, if needed, will be played after.

LIPAN SOFTBALL

The Lady Indians (10-6) made short work of Hamilton in their Class 2A bi-district series in Glen Rose, winning 22-0 on Friday, April 28, and 12-0 on Saturday.

Ella Sharp pitched a no-hitter in Game 2 after tossing a one-hitter in the opener.

Game 1: Hitting - Neali Overton, 3-for-4, double, RBI, two stolen bases; Ashlyn Clark, 3-for-4, double, walk, four RBI; Sharp, 2-for-4, two walks, two RBI, three stolen bases; Addison Tarpley, 1-for-1, double, RBI, stolen base; Finley Shockley, two walks, two stolen bases; Sarah Marcantonio, two walks, two stolen bases. Pitching - Sharp, five innings, one hit, 11 strikeouts, five walks.

Game 2: Hitting - Marcantonio, 2-for-3, double, walk, hit by pitch, three RBI, stolen base; Overton, 1-for-5, double, RBI; Savannah Green, 1-for-4, two RBI, stolen base; Dixon Sinclair, 1-for-2, double, two walks, two RBI; Shockley, 1-for-3, hit by pitch, stolen base; Dawson Oliver, three walks, three stolen bases. Pitching - Sharp, six innings, no hits, eight strikeouts, three walks.

The Lady Indians will next face Collinsville in the area round, a best-of-three series Thursday through Saturday. Times and site were being determined at press time.

GRANBURY BASEBALL

The Pirates (12-16 overall) missed the postseason, finishing 5-7 in District 5-5A with a 2-0 loss at home to Justin Northwest to end the season on April 28. They kept their hopes alive earlier in the week, winning 3-1 at Northwest on April 25 as Tyler Guidry pitched a three-hitter.

Game 1: Hitting - Guidry,

3-for-4, triple, two RBI; Blake Bramlett, 1-for-4, double; Gavin Current, 1-for-4, stolen base; Cooper Brown, 1-for-4; James Byrd, 1-for-2, walk; Hudson Hamilton, walk, hit by pitch. Pitching - Guidry, seven innings, three hits, one run (none earned), 10 strikeouts, four walks.

Game 2: Hitting - Levi Martinez, 2-for-3; Byrd, 1-for-2. Pitching - Bramlett, three innings, two hits, no runs, four strikeouts, four walks; Noah Madearis, three innings, six hits, two earned runs, one strikeout, two walks, hit batter; Hunter Jones, one inning, two strikeouts, one walk.

TOLAR BASEBALL

The Rattlers (14-7-2), after winning the District 13-2A championship with a 6-0 record, now enter the postseason. They will play the winner between Crawford and Moody later this week.

ALL-DISTRICT SOCCER

Freshman Jillian Williams led all Granbury honors, being selected as the District 5-5A Newcomer of the Year by the league's coaches. She is one of 10 Lady Pirates and six Pirates to receive accolades.

Also chosen from the Lady Pirates were: First team - Dominique Callahan and Emery Kirby, juniors, midfielders/forwards; second team - Riley Morris, junior, defender; Claire Burdett, senior, goalkeeper. Honorable mention - Maddie Black, senior, midfielder; Kyleigh Chavez, senior, midfielder; Madison Rogers, senior, defender; Elise Mikulskis, sophomore, utility; Tessa Rohleder, sophomore, forward.

Selected from the Pirates were: First team - Brack Peacock, senior, forward; second team - Justin Massey, senior, defender; honorable mention - Weston Cantrell, junior, forward; Abel Aguado, sophomore, midfielder; Kevin Aguado, sophomore, forward; Robby Castaneda, sophomore, midfielder.

The Lady Pirates advanced to the second round of the playoffs.

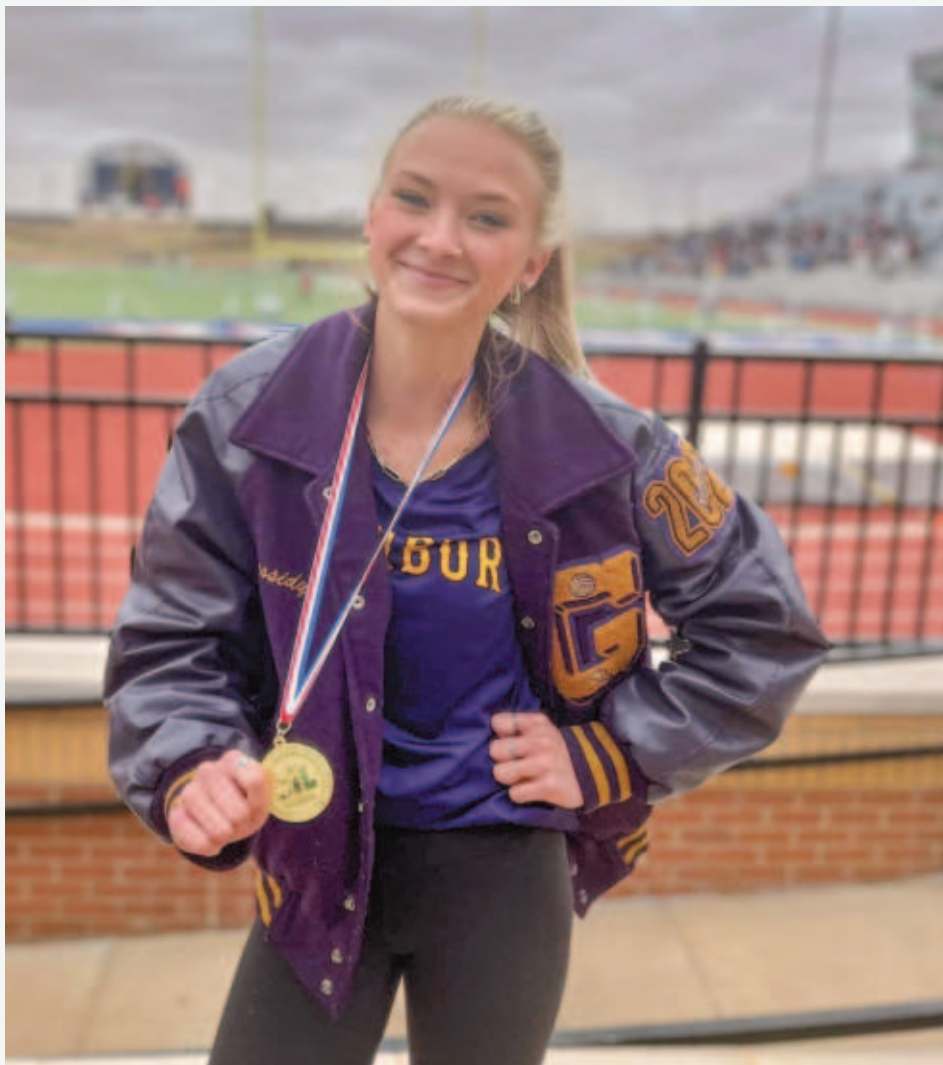


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMBER WARD

Granbury High School senior Cassidy Kirkpatrick won the Class 5A Region I high jump championship and is the first Lady Pirate to advance to state since Madison Northcutt in 2012. State is May 11-13 at the University of Texas in Austin.

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1050 \$380,000 Contact Lee Overstreet, Agent 817-219-5246

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3-2 ranch style, on lake, 2-car attached carport w/ 400 square foot storage room w/ electricity. Fenced in back yard, stone walkway to 3-stall boat house w/ electric boat lifts. Large back porch. CH/A, w/ butane fireplace. Needs cosmetic upgrades, interior painting, new carpet, etc.

1050 Text me if interested 512-466-4206, asking 550,000. Nego.

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EMPLOYMENT

General

HOUSEKEEPING needed at North Central Texas Academy. Please pick up an application at our front gate located at 3846 N. Hwy 144, Granbury, TX, or download from our website, northcentraltexasacademy.org.

Lake Granbury Harbor is looking for a part time maintenance person to join our team. This person must have general maintenance knowledge. Tractor and mower experience is a plus. Contact us at 817-573-6171 or 817-771-0825. Leave us a message and we will return your call ASAP.

Full time job openings, courtesy gate/courtesy patrol/maintenance. Pick up job application at front gate. 2001 Steepleridge Cir. Canyon Creek POA.



The Hood County News is hiring responsible, committed part time help in our insert room.

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Come join the Hood County News team!

Professional

North Central Texas Academy is seeking elementary teacher, high school English teacher, chemistry/math teacher, assistant volleyball coach and assistant basketball coach. Full and part time positions available.

Apply at <https://www.northcentraltexasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/>

NOTICES

Notices

Looking for some hometown fun? Sky Harbour HOA Spring Fling, 5/6/23, 9am-4pm. Craft fair, silent auction and car wash. 2707 Galaxy, Granbury

Public Notices

ATTN: Private Non-Profit Schools
Private schools incorporated in this State of Texas as a non-profit corporation, exempt under section 501(c)3 of the IRS Code, may have students eligible for federal education services under the Title 1, Part A, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). To learn more about these services, please contact Kristina, Federal Programs Coordinator - Granbury Independent School District, at 817-408-4038 or kristina.sosebee@granburysd.org by May 12, 2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Guardbox Storage in Granbury, which is located at 1400 Weatherford Hwy., Granbury, TX 76048, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at www.StorageTreasures.com. The auction will end on or around 11:00 A.M. on March 17, 2023. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. A \$100.00 cash deposit for removal and cleanup will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: Fairy Seay- dollhouse, furniture; Tina Garzababy misc., household misc.

Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estates Of DAKODAH HORTON, Cause No. P10038, County Court of Hood County, Texas. CYNTHIA HORTON in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application To Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of DAKODAH HORTON, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

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

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

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this 27th day of April, 2023.
KATIE LANG
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ CHRISTINE LEDERMANN, Deputy Clerk

Public Notices

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate by MULLIGANS GOLF, INC. dba Mulligans Golf and Sports Bar to be located at 6021 E US Hwy. 377, Granbury, Hood County, TX 76049. Bruce Baird - President Sean T. Daly - Secretary

PUBLIC SALES

Garage Sales 76048

Old widow woman downsizing, 4016 Apache Trail Ct, Indian Harbor. Fri-Sat, May 5-6.

Huge garage sale!! 1324 Lauren Ln behind Miyakos. Fri & Sat 5/5 & 5/6. 8am till 4pm

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE
Rummage Room Open Tues & Thurs, 8am-2pm, First Sat. of the month 9am -1pm 306 Kings Plaza. 817-573-7801.

Garage Sales 76049

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY Saturday, May 6, 8am to 1pm - 3500 Carla Court, Granbury- Clearing out our shop. Small tools, vintage tools, drill bits, wrenches, work benches, tool box, lots of random stuff including taps, dies, rivets. Must see to appreciate. No Early Sales! Cash only. Rain or Shine.

ESTATE SALE: GRANBURY 8816 Cleburne Hwy, Granbury, TX 76049-Saturday, May 6th from 8 AM - 3 PM. Items include tables, chairs, side tables, dresser/bed frame, shelving unit, Sofa set w/ottoman, lamps, washer & dryer, TV. Call 817.894.5057 for questions. Rain or Shine.

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 3320 E Weems Crt - Multi Family - Lots of Men, Women & Kids clothes of all sizes. Toys, Furniture & lots more. Fri-Sat, May 5-6, 8am-5pm. No early birds please. Rain or Shine.

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 610 Apollo Ct- Huge sale, lots of fishing equipment, tools, power tools, large desk, storage cabinets, small boat motor, trolling motor, & more. Rain or Shine. Friday May 05 & Saturday May 06.

Garage Sales 76476

ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSITIONS: TOLAR 307 Pine- Sewing, Coca-Cola, Chippendale, steins, tools, appliances, med equip, collectibles. Photos at estatesales.net, search 'Pickin' on Pine.' 12p-5p THR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT, April 4, 5, 6



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Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

City of Granbury
Main Lift Station Improvements
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RE-BID

General Notice

The City of Granbury (Owner) is requesting sealed Bids for the construction of the following Project:

Main Lift Station Improvements

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the City Service Center located at 401 N. Park Street, Granbury, Texas, until **Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.** local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work: Installation of a new sewage lift station with 12' diameter concrete wet well, three (3) submersible pumps, piping, controls, diversion structure, electrical improvements, on-site gravity sewer piping (24" PVC), manholes, all related work and associated site work.

Owner anticipates that the Project's total construction cost will be approximately \$2,100,000.00.

Obtaining the Bid Documents

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

www.civcastusa.com

Bidding Documents may be downloaded from the designated website. Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda, lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a sealed Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bid Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bid Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the designated website.

The Issuing Offices for the Bidding Documents are:

Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc. 402 Cedar Street Abilene, Texas 79601	Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc. 1310 Weatherford Highway, Suite 116 Granbury, Texas 76048
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Instructions to Bidders

For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents

This Advertisement is issued by:

Owner: **City of Granbury**
By: Rick Crownover
Title: Assistant City Manager
Date: May 3, 2023

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Want to lease an area (small acreage) to find Indian arrowheads in the sand dunes of West Texas. I will pay up to five figures for the right property. Call 979-218-3351.

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Online Auction - Rocking F Ranch, 300 +/- ranch, 2 homes, beautiful rolling hills, seasonal creeks, 8 ponds, 175 native pecan trees, 10 cross fenced pastures, rural water, native and Bermuda grasses, shop & working corrals with scales. Open house - Sat. May 6, 9-Noon or by appt., 30622 Hwy 7 Davis, OK 73030. Auction Ends Tues, May 9, 10:00 a.m. soft close. Ken Carpenter Auction & Realty LLC, 405-620-1524.

CATTLE


LIM-FLEX & LIMOUSIN PRODUCTION SALE Sat., May 6, Noon, At The Ranch, Chattanooga, OK, 1 mile W, 2 miles S, 1 mile W on Hwy 5. Bid LIVE www.LiveAuctions.tv. 580-597-3006, www.coyotehillsok.com.

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Hood County News

20 TASTINGS AND 20 TEXAS WINERIES

Granbury's Wine walk event April 28-29 enticed crowds to sip and savor the many flavors of Texas



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Wine lovers everywhere are drawn to Granbury year-round to sip and savor the local wines produced at our area wineries. This past weekend's annual Wine Walk drew 20 of the finest Texas wineries to our Historic Granbury Square to celebrate Texas wine and support Texas agriculture.



Wine Walkers sipped and savored 20 tastings with 20 Texas wineries featured at Granbury's Wine Walk on April 28th and 29th.



Wine Walk attendees shopped until they dropped, with an eclectic array of vendor booths in clusters in and around the Historic square. Participated vendors offered up Texas flavors in wine, food, and art.



These local Granbury Wine Walk attendees thoroughly enjoyed food, friends, music, and Texas wine together!



Celebrating good times with the ladies of Century 21 on the square as they greet Granbury Wine Walk attendees upon their arrival.



The Whiskey Road Winery was just one out of 20 Texas wineries that kept the wine flowing with enthusiasm and a smile.

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RICKY YOUNG
U.S. Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Guard Reserve

Ricky Young is a U.S. Air Force veteran from Rocky Mount, Virginia. He grew up with a great respect for the military and soon after graduating high school he joined the Air Force and attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. He then attended the initial phase of Radiography (X-Ray Tech) school at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls. After serving two years and seven months of his four-year enlistment, he applied for the Palace Chase program and transitioned to the Air Force Reserve 459th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Andrews AFB, where he retrained to earn the job of medical administrator. He completed his initial service in 1990.

After nearly five years away from the military in the civilian sector, Mr. Young rejoined the military in 1995 by entering the West Virginia Air National Guard. He initially returned to his job as a medical administrator and in 2001 entered the Active Guard Reserve (AGR), Air Force Reserve Command as a recruiter. Young spent the next 17 years as a recruiter receiving numerous awards such as Century Club status for enlisting over 150% of assigned goal. One of his most memorable tours was in Aviano, Italy where he was an In-Service recruiter, responsible for recruiting separating active-duty members stationed at Aviano Air Base and Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. In 2016 Mr. Young was stationed at his final duty location, Naval Air Station / Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, and in 2018 retired at the rank of Senior Master Sergeant (E-8) after 29 years of service.

HOOD COUNTY HEROES

Every Wednesday of every month we will publish one of four tributes to our local

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- TO PROTECT AND SERVE — for sheriff deputies

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELIZABETH BERRY

Josa (left) and Kina Berry in formal dress from their homeland in Ukraine. The twins, once orphans, were adopted by Elizabeth and Jason Berry in 2016.

Twins from Ukraine found new home in Granbury

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County
News

Years before the current ongoing war in Ukraine, twins Josefina and Karolina were living in an orphanage in that same country, wondering what the future held for them.

Turns out, it held happiness and a trip to an entirely new country and life, thanks to being adopted by Elizabeth and Jason Berry seven years ago when the twins were 9 years old.

"We started talking about adoption when Lawson, our second son, was 5," Elizabeth recalled. "It just never really worked out, even though we did do some research, and the boys just kept getting older and we were super busy so it just kinda went to the side.

"One day, many years later, I received a Facebook message from Lisa White, the wife of one of the Stonewater (church) pastors. It was a photo of her with little twin girls saying that someone needed to adopt them. I saw the picture and just was instantly in love."

So when Elizabeth picked up her sons, Lawson and Seaton — ages 12 and 14 at the time — from school, she asked what they thought about having two new sisters join the

family and they were onboard. That night, when they had dinner, Jason made it unanimous.

"We hosted them for four weeks at Christmas 2014 to meet them and see how they did, and when we put them back on that plane to Ukraine, we couldn't get that adoption going fast enough," Elizabeth said.

"There was never any question that the whole family was on board," Jason said. "The boys and both of our extended family have been amazing. Our extended family have loved the girls from Day One.

"The girls have been a blessing beyond measure, and we are thankful for the opportunity we were given to love them and be their parents."

TOUGH START TO LIFE

The girls, nicknamed Josa and Kina, were born under poor circum-

PLEASE SEE **HOME** | B2



Kina (left) and Josa shown enjoying themselves at the beach earlier this year.

INSIDE

The buzz of energy was high at Lake Granbury on April 29, as local Granbury ISD students prepared for the fourth annual C.A.S.T. for Kids event in Hood County. Please see story, B2.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



GISD board approves purchase of security window film to enhance safety

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

An additional security measure will soon be put in place at all Granbury ISD campuses following a unanimous vote from the GISD school board during its monthly meeting on April 24.

The board approved the purchase of security window film and impact protection adhesive that will be installed at every campus in the district to safeguard against potential intruders.

Emmett Whitefield, chief financial officer for GISD, said the total expenditure of the film purchase for all 10 campuses — plus Little Buccaneers GISD Staff Childcare Center — is \$353,767 from the lowest bidder: Epic Solar Control of McKinney.

Whitefield also said that the funding for the film will be provided by

a \$400,000 state security grant.

Grant funding was offered by the state to every district in Texas to assist with the recent mandate from the Texas Education Agency.

According to the Campus Safety Magazine, the TEA is now mandating that each school district and open-enrollment charter school install entry-resistant film on ground-floor windows, glass doors, and windows near glass doors.

Specifically, TEA is requiring that, "Windowed doors on the ground level or windows that are adjacent to or near a door and are large enough to allow someone to enter if broken must be reinforced with entry resistant film unless within a secured area."

According to Business Wire, the State of Texas Legislative Budget Board approved a total of \$400 mil-

PLEASE SEE **WINDOW** | B3

C.A.S.T. for Kids instills happiness in youth, adults

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The buzz of energy was high at Lake Granbury on April 29, as local Granbury ISD students prepared for the fourth annual C.A.S.T. for Kids event in Hood County.

As STEAM Academy at Mambrino students exited each bus and made their way to the dock at DeCordova Bend Park on Friday morning, the excitement was palpable as smiles appeared in eager anticipation of what the day would bring.

Created for ages six to 18, the C.A.S.T. for Kids event is designed to provide an opportunity for children with special needs to enjoy a quality outdoor recreational experience through the sport of fishing.

The event was created and organized by the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation — a public charity formed in 1991.

“The foundation has been around for 32 years, but this is the fourth year (for Hood County),” said Jim Behnken, regional director of the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation.

C.A.S.T. stands for Catch A Special Thrill and spreads a positive message that kids with disabilities can accomplish anything.

“It just started out because one of the Mambrino special needs teachers came to an event we had and was like, ‘We got to do this for our kids,’” Behnken said.

The event is presented by Texas



Smiles could be seen all around during the C.A.S.T. for Kids event at Lake Granbury last Friday as students awaited in eager anticipation of what the day would entail.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Farm Bureau Insurance and for the past few years, the business has limited participation to only 40 children — until now.

“This will be the largest event in our 32-year history,” Behnken said.

A total of 73 special needs students visited Lake Granbury for an

afternoon of fun and fishing, complete with their lifejacket, T-shirt, hat, fishing pole, and tackle box that were generously provided by local sponsors.

“It’s a little bit about the fishing, but it’s a lot about the children being around the cream of the crop

— people from this community,” Behnken said. “I mean, people that took off work on a Friday brought their boat out here and blessed them for a couple hours. In this world, you give blessings, and you receive them back and I promise you, these boaters will come in and

their hearts will be touched. They’ll have a great time giving a kid an opportunity to do something he never would have been able to do, so it’s really special.”

Behnken said that each special needs student was accompanied by a fifth grade Mambrino student who served as a chaperone.

“They came off the bus and they held hands all the way down here till we got them on a boat,” he said. “No child goes into a boat without a parent or guardian. At the school, they signed permission slips when we had registration, so everybody’s covered.”

Local volunteers spent the day educating students on how to properly cast, reel, and bait the hook.

Of course, not every child was interested in fishing.

“We had a boat captain meeting earlier and I told them, ‘You got one job, keep them smiling,’” Behnken said. “If they want to go for a boat ride, you go for a boat ride. If they want to stop and fish, you stop and fish. If they want to help you steer the boat, let’s do that. They’re the boss today. Whatever it takes — bringing joy, that’s what we do.”

Behnken — who has been involved with the foundation for 22 years — said he has never seen a community come together for this event like Granbury.

“It’s just the people — that is what makes the event so special,”

PLEASE SEE C.A.S.T. | B7

HOME

FROM PAGE B1

stances and immediately were placed in Ukraine’s version of Child Protection Services. At age 2, they were returned to their family, and it was their biological brother, 10 years older, who actually cared for them.

Their dad was assumed dead and their mother disappeared to Moscow. The girls never knew either parent, only the brother and the maternal grandmother, who was an alcoholic.

“The girls never attended school. They mostly fed themselves and have scars to show their lack of understanding hot pots and feral animals and many other things,” Elizabeth said. “When the brother graduated from high school and went to automotive trade school he sought help for the girls so he could have his own life.

“The Charity Center is a non-government-funded private Christian orphanage in Oleksandria. This is very rare, but the girls were so blessed to be given a home there at age 6. They were very well cared for and started going to school. The Center works hard to reconcile these children with their families just like we would in the USA, but the girls had no adults who could care for them and that’s how we ended up adopting them.”

COMING TO AMERICA

While they were entering a loving environment, acclimating to the U.S. was nonetheless a challenge for Josa and Kina. They didn’t know English, they were leaving friends — and they didn’t even like most food.

“Ramen noodles was all we would eat,” Josa said. “We didn’t have any friends, and at the orphanage we had a whole house of friends.”

Kina said once it was learned they would be adopted, they got a

“People are always saying how blessed these girls are that we adopted them, and I always walk away from that comment with such a weird feeling. Losing your birth family is hard! Adjusting to a new country, new language, new food, new friends, and new family. And yet they have handled it with such grace.”

ELIZABETH BERRY

helping hand in getting a head start on the English language.

“The orphanage director, Marina, started working with us on reading and writing small words and learning the alphabet,” she said.

Suffice to say the two have settled in nicely with their family, community and school as sophomores at Granbury High School. Both are in student leadership, along with being in the Junior Optimist Club. They also run cross country and track for the Lady Pirates.

Josa is studying graphic design and art and wants to enter that for a career. Kina is studying restaurant management and is president of the GHS chapter of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.

And they love the weather in Texas compared to the harsh winters in Ukraine.

One of their absolute favorite freedoms is driving. Of course, they are teenagers and that is a whole new level of freedom for any youngster — but one they might not be doing were they still in their homeland.

“We were able to learn to drive and get our own car. Women in Ukraine usually do not drive,” Josa said.

ACCLIMATING

The girls have been in the U.S. seven years as of April 7. First things first, they learned English.

Within eight months they quit speaking Ukrainian and were only speaking English.

In school, they maintain mostly A’s in class.

They have continued to study the Russian language because although they spoke three dialects from Ukraine, they did not know how to read or write it other than the alphabet. They study at school through an online tutor as their high school language credit and also have a Sunday tutor who is a dear friend and neighbor who grew up in Ukraine.

“It’s like having a Ukrainian aunt down the road,” Elizabeth said.

The Berrys are a sporty family, so learning to swim and run was just like learning English for the twins. The girls excelled on the SEALS swim team right away and did so until they entered high school. Then they opted to focus on cross country and track, making varsity in both.

They are also both very involved at Stonewater Church. Kina volunteers almost every Sunday with the little children and Josa volunteers with the video and audio production.

They also both maintain a part-time hostess job at DeCordova Bend Estates and summer lifeguard at the swimming pool.

But Elizabeth said that, to her, their biggest accomplishment has been blending into a family that they can call their own.

“It’s not easy to be in a family,” Elizabeth said. “There is a lot to living with others and getting along, and moving into a house with two teenage boys. But they have learned to love it.”

REACTION TO CURRENT WAR

Before the war, Elizabeth and Jason made a commitment to take the girls back to Ukraine to see their brother, Serozha. They went twice before COVID-19 restrictions were in place.

“In 2017, we did see their brother and they had a nice reunion at the orphanage. We have not had any contact with the grandmother although we have tried,” Elizabeth said.

Then came the invasion of Ukraine by Russia in late February of 2022.

“At first, we hid it from the girls, but they were coming home from school and were scared from what teachers and classmates were saying to them,” Elizabeth said. “We discussed what was happening and then finally turned off the news.”

“We have stayed in close contact with those we know and love, and have continued to pray and support financially.”

While the Berrys have not personally brought any other Ukrainians into their home to live, they help financially through a nonprofit that Elizabeth belongs to that supports the orphanage. They have also helped with those who have

been brought to Granbury through the work of others, hosting them at their house and assisting with certain needs.

The girls have also reached out and become friends with some of the refugees.

“We have gone on little outings like to Ulta to do makeup or Dairy Queen for a Blizzard,” Kina said. “At school, we have helped get them to their classes and have tried to reassure them that they will be able to make friends and will like being in Granbury.”

LOVE CONQUERS ALL

“People are always saying how blessed these girls are that we adopted them, and I always walk away from that comment with such a weird feeling,” Elizabeth said, noting that it is a sobering thought to think they could still be in Ukraine.

“Losing your birth family is hard! Adjusting to a new country, new language, new food, new friends, and new family. And yet they have handled it with such grace.

“They are typical sassy teens who sometimes wear us out but they wake up happy and thankful. We are the ones who have been blessed.”

Jason added that their adaptation has been so good that most people don’t know Josa and Kina are adopted.

“They look like us and their English is so flawless and with little accent that most people have no idea, even though it has only been seven years. Only seven years ... seems like yesterday but can’t remember life without them hardly,” he said.

“We love our family and are thankful,” Josa said, to which Kina added, “We prayed every night for a family to adopt us when we were at the orphanage and we are thankful to be here.”

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College applications — from perspective of high school seniors

BY JILLIAN TREMBLE

Special to the Hood County News

To many Granbury residents, May 1 is a date that will come and go with very little notice. To the numerous graduates preparing to leave GHS, however, that date is nearly instantly recognizable as college decision day: the deadline at which most colleges require a final commitment.

But what does the college selection process really look like?

For Alyse Hagar, a senior at Granbury High School who is committed to attending

schools. The more difficult part, Hagar recalled, was the decision to be made after results began to be mailed out. With a multitude of responses from different schools, she, along with many others, was faced with a difficult decision and only a few months to make it. She had to weigh numerous factors, including size, cost, scholarship offers, quality of education, and more, to make a choice that will affect her next four years and beyond.

For some others, this process looked very different. For Brennan Fisher, a

senior who will be studying music education at Texas Christian University starting in August, the application went far beyond an essay and some questions. After submitting the same application as other students to be accepted to the college, Fisher has to begin a whole other application process to be chosen for the College of Music. That process begins with an online audition that he had to pass through to get the opportunity to audition in person. After passing that first round, Fisher then had to prepare a whole other audition to attempt to wow the

judges in person. Only after that could Fisher compare colleges for quality, price, and scholarships to make a choice.

For others, the post-grad application process was as unique as the plans being pursued. Jordyn Justice, who will be learning cosmetology at Ogle Cosmetology School starting in August, described an application process entirely different from the two previously mentioned. For Justice, there was no writing portion, just a brief questionnaire that would be filled out before a multiple-hour-long interview. These few

hours determined everything for Justice, from application to financial aid.

Despite the differences in the decision processes, one thing that is universally clear is that these students, regardless of the path they're on, have had to work and stress incredibly hard to make their goals a reality. As graduation approaches, it is time for these seniors, among many others, to pursue their carefully laid plans, and the future seems bright for the class of 2023.

WINDOW

FROM PAGE B1

lion to assist school districts in “replacing or upgrading doors, windows, fencing, communications, and other safety measures to get compliant with the new Texas school safety standards established in November of 2022.”

However, Whitefield said that Granbury ISD must use the grant money specifically for the security window films before the district can spend the money on other

projects.

“It’s true that one of the stipulations of the grant is that you have to meet certain level of criteria, and one of those criteria was intruder resistant film,” confirmed Wade Clark, GISD chief of security during the meeting. “It’s something though that we actually will benefit from, and it will harden our facilities and make our facilities much more difficult for somebody to gain entry to.”

Clark explained that the inner trim is removed from the windows first, and then the 3M Ultra 800 Safety Film

is installed and locked in before the trim is put back in place.

“The difference is, without this film, you could go up to some of these windows and throw a rock through them and the whole glass pane just falls out, and then you can walk through,” he said. “With this film in place, you can (hit) on it for a long time with a baseball bat, you can shoot holes in it, you can kick it, you’ll spend a lot of time before you ever have a hole in it large enough that you could physically enter.”

Clark said he also

spoke with the security at Princeton ISD who said they had a situation where students tried to break in one night — however, due to the security window film, they were unsuccessful.

“They spent almost 15 to 20 minutes on video trying to get in, never got in, but damaged the window pretty badly ... but if that film buys you that kind of time, then it’s worth it,” he said.

Clark also elaborated on additional minimum requirements that the grant mandated including: a silent panic alarm system, secured

vestibules, fencing requirements, and the electronic control to lock out exterior doors — all of which every GISD campus now has in place.

“The silent panic alarm piece was done in the beginning of the year with a different grant — the SPAT grant — and that’s when we added the Raptor alert system for all staff members to be able to sound an alarm from wherever they are,” he said.

School systems are required to source a contractor by August 2023 and certify compliance by the beginning

of the 2023 school year, according to blr.com.

“I want to thank the collaboration between Wade Clark and our security department in the business office,” added GISD Superintendent Jeremy Glenn. “Obtaining a \$400,000 grant is pretty remarkable in and of itself, even if \$350,000 has to be spent a certain way — it’s something that we need, and we can use it.”

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

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.

MAY

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

LAKE GRANBURY Art Association’s Hood County student art exhibit will take place on May 3-20, 2023 Art

teachers, please bring your students’ artwork to the Shanley house located at 224 N. Travis Street (across from the Hood County Library) on Saturday, April 29 1:00-4:00 p.m. or Sunday, April 30 1:00-4:00 p.m. The work will be hung up for exhibit on June

2, 2023. The reception will be held on May 20, 2:00-4:00 p.m. for the students, their families, friends, and the public. All are invited to attend. Questions? Contact loyd.barbara@gmail.com

THURSDAY, MAY 4

LAKE GRANBURY Newcomers Club will have a meeting on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at the De Cordova Bend Country Club located at 5301 Country Club Drive in Granbury. Social hour will begin at 9 a.m. and the meeting will start at 10:15 a.m. Reservations are required by noon on Friday, April 28, 2023. We will be announcing the recipients of the three female seniors from Hood County for the LGNC Scholarships and announce the recipients of the five nonprofit organizations that will receive a donation from LGNC. There will also be a presentation from the owner of B Blumen Flower Farm.

ting GISD Seniors will take place on Saturday May 6 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Park Pavilion located at Pearl Street in Granbury. This event is sponsored by the Hood County Democratic Club and the Texas Democratic Women. The public is invited to a Family Picnic and BBQ Lunch. Adults \$15 and children \$5. Entertainment Pirates vs Hollywood. All proceeds will benefit GISD Scholarships. For more information call 817-776-3724.

General Ulysses S. Grant, and, as General Grant, will discuss some of his experiences during the war. Dr. Fields has spoken to the group before and presents a program that you will not want to miss. Visitors are welcome, and there is no charge for first-time attendees. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.ncentexcwrt.com>.

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting will take place on May 8 at 11:00 a.m. at Spring Creek Barbeque located at 317 E. Hwy 377, Granbury. The guest speaker will be local author and historian Melinda Ray. She will talk about the founding families of Hood County and their democratic values. For more information call 254-716-5195.

ACTON CEMETERY Annual Meeting will take place on May 6, 2023 at First National Bank of Granbury located at 3000 Fall Creek Highway 76049. Any lot owners are welcome to come. Bring a covered dish. We will start at 11:00 a.m. with lunch then the meeting will follow.

LGAA WILL hold its monthly meeting on Monday, May 8 at 6 p.m. There will also be a two-day workshop May 9 and 10 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost to attend is \$160 for members and \$180 for non-members. There is no supply fee. Register at lgaaworkshop@gmail.com

FRIDAY, MAY 5

FRIENDS OF the Library is having a \$1.00 Book Sale on May 5 and 6 from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day at the Friends of the Library bookstore located at 222 N Travis St. All proceeds from the sale go directly to the Hood County Library. For more information contact is Ann Jalbert, hoodcounty@gmail.com.

HONORING OUR Firefighters is a ceremony taking place on Saturday, May 6 and is organized by Friends of Memorial Lane to come and say “thank you” to these heroes. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. and will be held at the Jim Burks Firefighters Memorial Park located at 561 N. Travis in Granbury. Please arrive by 9:30 a.m. and shuttle or walk over to the park.

TUESDAY, MAY 9

THE SALVATION Army Women’s Auxiliary of Hood County May 9 at De Cordova Bend Country Club located at 5301 Country Club Dr. Meet and Greet starts at 10 a.m. and meeting & presentation will begin at 10:30 a.m. The program will be Founder’s Party & Installation of 2023-2024 Officers. Chloe Steinhagen, Founder of Women’s Service League/SAWA will share personal stories of the history and inspirations behind SA and SAWA. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. The menu will be Chicken Breast stuffed with wild rice & mushrooms, sides, and dessert. Please bring \$20.00 cash for lunch. RSVP by sauxiliaryofhoodcounty@gmail.com to attend meeting only or meeting and luncheon.

MELODY BELLES singers present a Spring Concert, “Down Memory Lane”. The concert will take place on Friday May 5, at 7:00 p.m. at the Langdon Center Concert Hall located at 308 E. Bridge St. Event is free to the public. Donations welcome. Call (817) 326-2687, for information.

THE MONTHLY Community Food pantry will be held from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Friday, May 5. The pantry is at Granbury First United Methodist Church garage area located at 301 Loop 567, Granbury 76048.

MONDAY, MAY 8

THE NORTH Central Texas Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, May 8, at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que located at 317 E. Hwy 377. The program will be presented by Dr. Curt Fields, who will be dressed as Union

SATURDAY, MAY 6
SPRING PICNIC and Scholarship Fundraisers benefit-

55-16, 26-17, 172
(817) 412-7272

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

Property owners have the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- the appraised (market) value of your property;
- the unequal value of your property compared with other properties;
- the inclusion of your property on the appraisal records;
- any exemptions that may apply to you;
- the qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal;
- the taxing units taxing your property;
- the property ownership;
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal;
- failure of the cited appraiser or appraised review board (ARB) to send a required notice; or
- any action taken by the chief appraiser, county appraisal district (CAD) or ARB that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review
If you wish to speak with your appraiser about an informal settlement, contact the Hood Central Appraisal District by phone or email:
817-573-2474
hcotapp@hoodcad.net

Review by the ARB
If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the CAD, you file a notice of protest requesting to have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that hears and determines protests regarding property appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the CAD to make the necessary changes based on evidence heard during the ARB hearing.

If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing and send you written notice of the time, date, place and subject of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday. You may use Comptroller Form 50-132, *Property Appraisal - Notice of Protest*, to file your written request for an ARB hearing.

Prior to your hearing, you may request a copy of the evidence the CAD plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. Before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your agent and the CAD are required to provide each other with a copy of any materials (evidence) intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. Evidence may be submitted for any hearing type either in paper or on a small portable electronic device (such as a CD, USB flash drive or thumb drive) which will be kept by the ARB. Do NOT bring evidence on a smart phone. The ARB’s hearing procedures regarding all the requirements to properly submit evidence on a small portable electronic device must be reviewed.

To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or your designated agent may appear in person, by telephone conference or videoconference call or by submission of a written affidavit to present your evidence, facts and argument. You must indicate the type of hear-

ing you request on your written notice of protest filed with the ARB not later than the 10th day before the hearing date and provide your evidence and written affidavit before the ARB hearing begins. You may use Comptroller Form 50-281, *Property Owner’s Affidavit of Evidence to the Appraised Review Board*, to submit evidence for your telephone conference call hearing or for hearing by affidavit.

You and the CAD representative have the opportunity to present evidence about your case. In most cases, the CAD has the burden of establishing the property’s value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property’s value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. ARB members are required to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH
After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the ARB’s decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. As an alternative to district court, you may appeal through binding arbitration or the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) if you meet the qualifying criteria.

If you choose to go to district court, you must start the process by filing a petition with the district court within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB’s order. If you choose to appeal through binding arbitration, you must file a request for binding arbitration with the CAD not later than the 60th day after you receive notice of the ARB order. If you choose to appeal to the SOAH, you must file an appeal with the CAD not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB’s order. Appeals to district court, binding arbitration or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

If you believe that the ARB or chief appraiser failed to comply with an ARB procedural requirement, you may file a complaint with the local taxpayer liaison. If it is not resolved by the ARB or chief appraiser, you can request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or the chief appraiser to comply.

Tax Payment
You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

More Information
You can get more information by contacting your CAD at:
Hood Central Appraisal District
1902 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-2474

You can get Comptroller forms and additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller’s website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

protest you filed, the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of decision was delivered to you.

If you believe the CAD or ARB should have sent you a notice and did not, you may file a protest until the day before taxes become delinquent (usually Feb. 1) or no later than the 125th day after the date you claim you received a tax bill from one or more of the taxing units that tax your property. The ARB decides whether it will hear your case based on evidence about whether a required notice was mailed to you.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*
Usual Deadline
Not later than May 15 (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed for good cause if you miss the usual deadline. The ARB decides whether you have good cause. Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

Special Deadlines
For change of use (the CAD informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

For ARB changes (the ARB has informed you of a change that increases your tax liability and the change did not result from a

* The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.

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BY ZAC WILSON

Zac Wilson is a Certified Travel Advisor, ASTA Verified Travel Advisor, CLIA Master Cruise Counselor, and owner of Daydream Vacations Travel Agency in Granbury. www.DaydreamVacations.com

Is travel insurance right for you? Is it worth the cost? What does it cover? As a travel advisor, I receive these questions daily. Although many say the answer is not easy, I disagree. Buy travel insurance!

Before I answer any questions, I always tell my clients "I am a travel advisor. I am not a licensed insurance agent and cannot answer specific questions related to the policy or claims." Then I immediately say, "But I highly recommend the purchase of travel insurance."

Here is my personal experience as a travel advisor related to travel insurance with my clients over the past eight years.

A wonderful lady celebrat-

ing her 40th anniversary on a cruise in the Caribbean was surprised with the passing of a kidney stone in the Bahamas. She had to go to a hospital while in port. Her regular health insurance didn't cover it due to the international hospital location. The cruise line insurance paid the \$5,000-ish claim.

Alaska Cruises are very popular, as they are a great way to visit more remote locations like Skagway. However, if you have a hospital-related

emergency like a stroke, heart attack, broken bone, or the like, you will need to be taken by helicopter or floatplane to the neighboring hospital. This is called Emergency Evacuation coverage found in most travel insurance policies. The flight costs between \$50,000 and \$70,000.

Travel is basically non-refundable. Whether it's a cruise, airline, resort package, tour, etc, they all have a cancellation policy. It's filled with important dates that describe how much is non-refundable and when it changes from 25% to 50% to 100%. But the truth is nearly all the cancellations I process as a travel advisor happen within the last week before travel when it's 100% non-refundable. Whether you're spending \$5,000 on a couple's getaway, \$10,000 on a family vacation, or \$20,000 or more on that lifetime milestone daydream vacation, you don't want to lose your money to an unexpected cancellation.

Airlines are not dependable. There, I said it. Today's travelers are experiencing more delays, schedule changes, and cancellations than I have ever seen before. You want trip delay, lost bags, and cancellation coverage!

No one wants to talk about it, but your parents are getting older. It happens too often that right before a couple or a family departs for their trip that their parents/grandparents become hospitalized or pass away. This is the most heart-wrenching need for cancelling an expensive trip. And no matter how much you plead, beg, and cry, non-refundable is still non-refundable. Please, buy insurance. I hear it all the time, "I don't need insurance because I am healthy." You may be healthy, but it's not just about you.

It's true that if your trip has no unexpected issues that the cost of travel insurance appears to be a wasteful added cost. However, peace of mind is worth a lot.

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CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Next Civil War Round Table gathering is scheduled for May 8



BY BILL DYESS

Bill Dyess, a retired attorney, has lived in Granbury since 2007, and has had an interest in the American Civil War since childhood. He is a member of the steering committee of the North Central Texas Civil War Round Table.

The North Central Texas Civil War Roundtable is scheduled to meet again at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 8, at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 Hwy 377 East, in Granbury. Our program will be presented by Dr. Curt Fields, an authority on the life and times of Ulysses S. Grant. He portrayed General Grant at the 150th anniversary of Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, in 2015, and was featured as the general in a three-part documentary series on the Discovery Channel. Dr.

Fields appears in uniform as General Grant and will speak as Grant on his experiences at one or more battles of the Civil War. He presented our program in May 2022, and his return has been greatly anticipated.

At our last meeting, April 10, Dr. Brian Jordan, an associate professor of history at Sam Houston State University, presented a most informative program on the story of an ethnic German regiment in the Union army, speaking on the regiment's trials and tribulations both during and after the war.

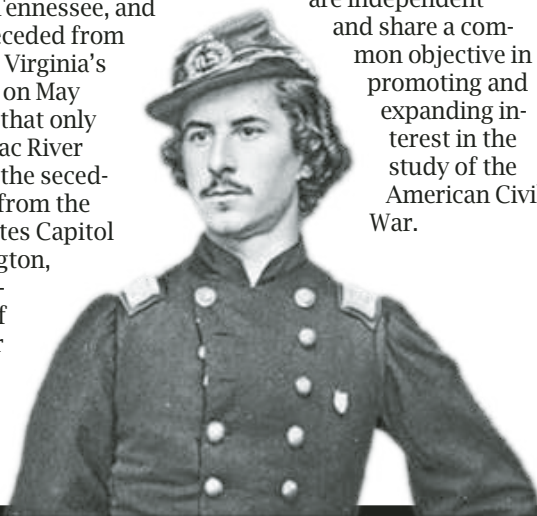
MAY IN THE CIVIL WAR
Following the surrender of

Ft. Sumter, April 14, 1861, and President Lincoln's subsequent call upon the states for additional troops to put down the rebellion, the states of Arkansas, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia seceded from the Union. Virginia's secession, on May 23, meant that only the Potomac River separated the seceding states from the United States Capitol of Washington, D.C. In recognition of the danger to the capitol, on May

24, Union troops crossed the river using both bridges and boats, and occupied the city of Alexandria, Virginia.

The Confederate troops in the city retreated in good order, and few shots were fired. The Union suffered one man killed, Colonel Elmer Ellsworth, commander of the New York First Fire Zouaves. Ironically, Ellsworth, who was the first Union officer to die in the Civil War, was not killed by a Confederate soldier, but by one James Jackson, a civilian hotel keeper, who shot Ellsworth as he attempted to haul down a Confederate flag flying from the hotel. One of Ellsworth's troops then immediately shot and killed Jackson. Ellsworth became a martyr for the Union, as did Jackson for the Confederacy.

Civil War Round Tables exist in cities and communities worldwide. All are independent and share a common objective in promoting and expanding interest in the study of the American Civil War.



COURTESY OF

Right is Colonel Elmer Ellsworth. Above depicts is a painting of Colonel Elmer Ellsworth being shot by a civilian named James Jackson. He did not survive his wounds.

Did You Know?

DID YOU KNOW?

When the Civil War began, of the 25 largest cities in the nation, only three — New Orleans, Louisiana; Charleston, South Carolina; and Richmond, Virginia — were in the seceding states.

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table meets on the second Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m., at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 Hwy 377 E in Granbury, and guests are always welcome. For more information, please refer to our website: www.ncentexcwrt.com, or call either David Wells, at 817-579-5769, or Bill Dyess, at 817-326-8216.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE B3

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

FORWARD TRAINING

Center's Jobs for Life Spring Graduation will be held May 10 at 7 p.m. at the First Christian Church in Granbury. Our Jobs for Life classes help men and women develop character, become connected to a community of support, and

help them obtain far more than just a job.

FRIDAY, MAY 12

MELODY BELLES singers present "Down Memory Lane", Spring Concert & Dinner taking place on Friday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. at DeCordova Bend Estates Country Club. The program will be followed by dinner. Public invited to attend. Cost is \$20

per person plus tax & tip. For reservations, call the Club at (817) 326-2381.

SATURDAY, MAY 13

SPOTLIGHTING OUR local Law Enforcement. Friends of Memorial Lane invite all citizens to attend a ceremony on Saturday, May 13, to honor and spotlight members of our Law Enforcement. The ceremony will start at 10 a.m.

but please arrive by 9:30 a.m. Parking is limited, so please park next door, and shuttle or walk over. A limited number of seats will be available. Water will also be available. This gives everyone an opportunity to shake hands and say "thank you" to those first responders that daily make our community a better and safer place in which to live. This ceremony takes place at the Law Enforce-

ment site in Memorial Lane, at the Jim Burks Firefighters Memorial Park located at 561 N. Travis, Granbury. For more information call 817-578-7879.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

STROLL ACROSS Texas. Please join us for the annual Stroll Across Texas at the Acton Cemetery located at 3600 Fall Creek Highway on

May 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This family-friendly event will bring early Texas history to life with demonstrations and displays, interpreters and re-enactors, live music and live cannon fire. Stroll back in time to learn about various Texas historical events. Come and go as you please. Free to all. www.texasheroesfoundation.org

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SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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

EVERY DAY

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

ACTON 12-STEP Group. Meeting daily at 7 p.m. 3609 Acton Highway (behind Madison Park).

EVERY SUNDAY

STARTING A New Life is a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one through death. This includes the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, or close friend. For the past 26 years this group has helped people work through their grief process. If you, or someone you know, is suffering from the loss of a loved one, come or bring them to our next session that began March 19, 2023. We are Christian based, nondenominational, and welcome all who are suffering. We meet 3-5 p.m. on Sundays in the Parish Hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Ben Bradley at: 575.706.5703 or Sherry Bingham 817.657.0822

EVERY MONDAY

PROMISES AL-ANON group meets every Monday at 6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, west entrance, 303 W. Bridge St.

EVERY TUESDAY

PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. A non-contact boxing and fitness program designed for people with Parkinson's. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

GRIEF SHARE 14-WEEK seminar Sept 13 - Dec 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Presented by StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: GriefShare.StoneWaterChurch.com or call 817-579-9175.

AMATEUR RADIO Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed Amateur Radio Operators welcome. 7:00 pm, on the 147.240 MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

EVERY THURSDAY

TAKE OFF Pounds Sensibly (TOPS). 8:45 - 10:45 a.m. Lakeside Baptist Church, room 133C, 500 W. Bluebonnet Drive. Maximum weight scale: 400 pounds.

GRIEF SHARE RECOVERY seminar and support recovery seminar and support group meets at 10 a.m. at Interim Hospice, 1314 Paluxy Drive, Suite 200. Childcare is not provided. Fee for Grief-share workbook is \$15. De-

tails: 817-573-7474.

FIRST TUESDAY

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

EVERY FRIDAY

PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. A non-contact boxing and fitness program designed for people with Parkinson's. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

SECOND SATURDAY

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

FIRST MONDAY

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

THIRD MONDAY

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

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on April 29 (Puzzle 22).

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 28 April 2023 - Thursday, 04 May 2023

Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret (PG13)
Fri, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:35PM, 7:10PM, 9:45PM.
Sat: 10:45AM, 1:20PM, 3:55PM, 6:30PM, 9:05PM.
Sun: 10:45AM, 1:20PM, 3:55PM, 6:30PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:20PM, 3:55PM, 6:30PM

Big George Foreman (PG13)
Fri: 1:10PM, 4:05PM, 7:00PM, 9:55PM.
Sat: 10:20AM, 1:15PM, 4:10PM, 7:05PM, 10:00PM.
Sun: 10:20AM, 1:15PM, 4:10PM, 7:05PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:15PM, 4:10PM, 7:05PM.
Thurs: 4:40PM, 7:35PM

Evil Dead Rise (R)
Fri: 2:45PM, 5:10PM, 7:35PM, 10:00PM.
Sat: 10:35AM, 1:00PM, 3:25PM, 5:50PM, 8:15PM, 10:40PM.
Sun: 10:35AM, 1:00PM, 3:25PM, 5:50PM, 8:15PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:00PM, 3:25PM, 5:50PM, 8:15PM.
Thurs: 2:15PM, 4:50PM, 10:30PM

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG13)
Thurs: 3:00PM, 6:30PM, 7:00PM, 10:30PM

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 in 3D (PG13)
Thurs: 3:30PM, 10:00PM

Guy Ritchie's The Covenant (R)
Fri: 1:05PM, 3:55PM, 6:45PM, 9:35PM.
Sat: 10:15AM, 1:05PM, 3:55PM, 6:45PM, 9:40PM.
Sun: 10:15AM, 1:05PM, 3:55PM, 6:45PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 1:05PM, 3:55PM, 6:45PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 7:15PM, 10:10PM

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

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GARDEN PATCH

Contrast your landscape color palette to create more eye-grabbing depth

BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER



Phyllis Webster earned a degree in journalism before embarking on a long career in public relations and marketing. A Granbury resident since 1998, she has been deeply involved in the community. She is an award-winning writer and photographer, as well as a Master Gardener. She has authored Garden Patch since 2001.

Far too many landscapes lack color and contrast. There is, of course, an abundance of green and brown derived from turfgrass, foliage and bark. But while functional and beautiful in their simplicity, these basic landscapes are missing the character and personality derived from a wider color palette. Color brightens, adds depth, creates interest and grabs the eye.

Homeowners can be shy about using color, often claiming a lack of artistic design abilities. Others worry their neighbors won't approve of their choices. Never fear! The most famous gardens of the world use color to their advantage. Here's how.

Know that colors change constantly as they are influenced by light and surroundings. For example, a color's brightness is affected by nearby colors, particularly those that contrast. Contrasting colors are positioned opposite one another

on a color wheel, as are blue and orange. An orange daylily will look particularly bright adjacent to blue flowering salvia.

Designers also use other types of contrast to build a garden's color scheme, such as warm versus cool. Warm colors include red, orange and yellow. These hues stand out in a landscape. Cool colors include blue, green and purple. These hues recede in the landscape. Combine warm and cool to create visual variety. In a space where too much contrast creates



COURTESY PHOTO BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER

This spring planting attracts attention to the garden by using contrasting color, texture and plant heights.

chaos, you can give the eye a rest by incorporating areas that are "neutral," which means using shades of white, grey, silver, tan, dark green or near-black — colors that won't compete with your design, but rather blend the whole composition together.

Contrast is also achieved with texture. For example, mix large-leaved plants with those sporting smaller foliage or mix variegated leaves with solid green. And don't forget shiny foliage versus dull, or spiky leaves adjacent to smooth. In many Japanese

gardens, contrast is achieved through foliage texture, a mix of light-to-dark green hues and seasonal changes.

Yet another way to incorporate contrast is with varied heights. Think about the mature size of plants before purchase. Plant taller speci-

mens in back or center of garden beds, surround them with mid-sized plants with petite plants at their base. An example is a redbud tree surrounded by dwarf yaupon holly shrubs with perennial spreading lantana around the edge. For larger landscapes, consider adding one or two more height layers. Your only restriction is space. For an even more exciting display, vary color and texture layer by layer.

Still unsure? Start with green and restrict yourself to only two other colors. Or you may limit yourself to one or two "islands" of color inside your green oasis. Within the islands, plant flowering annuals, bulbs, and perennials. Yet another idea is to create one zone within the overall space that by contrast calls attention to itself, such as a meditation garden filled with calming pastel hues surrounded by evergreens. Using color is empowering, so don't be afraid to experiment.

For answers to your horticulture questions, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hood County at 817-579-3280 or go online to visit lakegranburymastergardeners.org.

pwebsterco@gmail.com / 817-680-4849

C.A.S.T.

FROM PAGE B1

he said. "Nobody's getting paid. They're here because they're great people in this

community. I'm 62 years old, but today, I'm 10 years old again and I love it. It keeps you young."

After a few hours of fishing and lunch, each child received a personalized plaque

that included a photo of them in the boat.



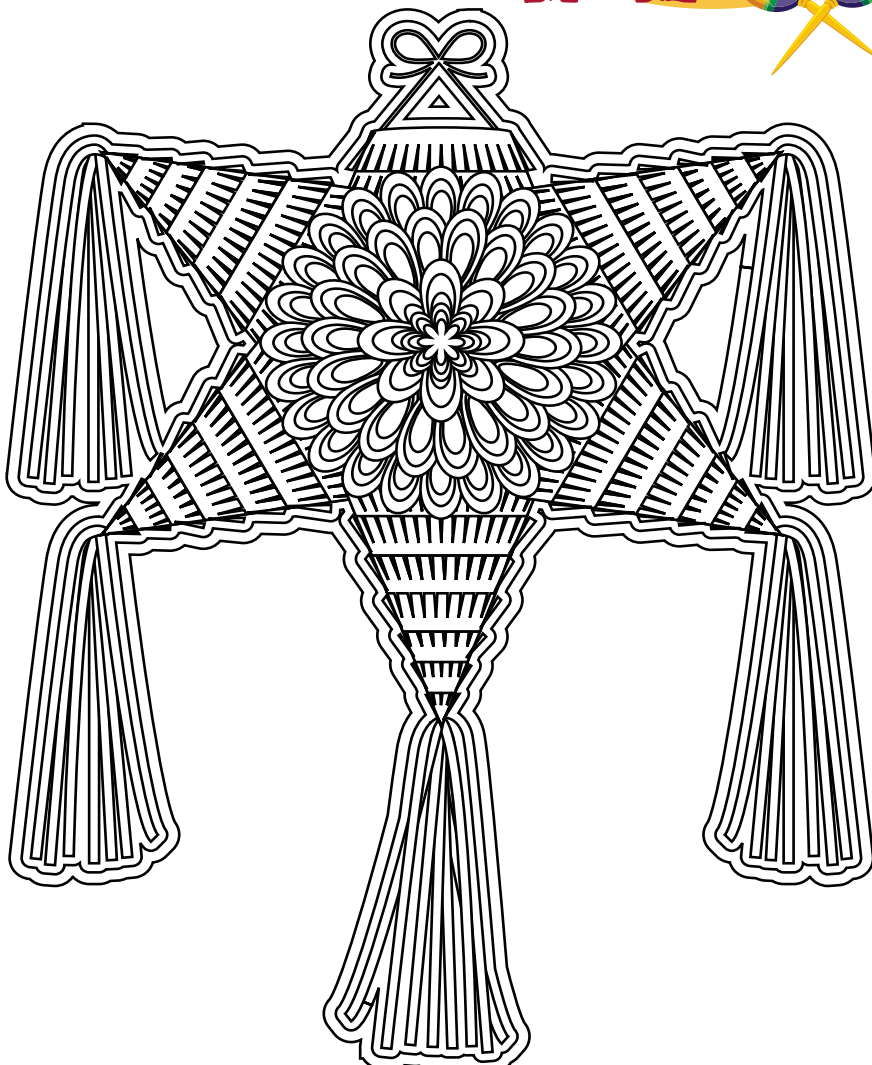
"Our real goal in the foundation is maybe they'll start pestering their parents to say, 'Can we go to the pond?'" Behnken added. "Nothing

beats family time and the outdoors. Hopefully a few of these kids, we'll see them on the shoreline here next week or on their local pond with their mom and dad having a little picnic lunch. Family

togetherness — that's what we're after, so that's the main goal. It's life-changing; it's just great."

For more information about C.A.S.T. for Kids, visit castforkids.org online.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

Pinatas are traditionally bright and colorfully decorated and contain "treasures" inside. The treasures are discovered by hitting the pinata with a stick. They are usually found at parties and celebrations. Pinatas were originally used by Spanish missionaries as a tool for evangelism. Color the piñata above in bright and festive colors. (You may want to use colored pencils for this one)


Cinco de Mayo is a holiday that is celebrated on May 5th every year. It is a special day that commemorates the Mexican army's victory over the French army at the Battle of Puebla on May 5th, 1862. **Cinco de Mayo** is celebrated mainly in Mexico and the United States, where it is a chance for people to celebrate Mexican culture and heritage. On this day, people often have parades, wear traditional Mexican clothing, listen to Mexican music, and eat delicious Mexican food like tacos and guacamole. It is a fun and exciting holiday that brings people together to celebrate Mexican pride and history!

Cinco De Mayo

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

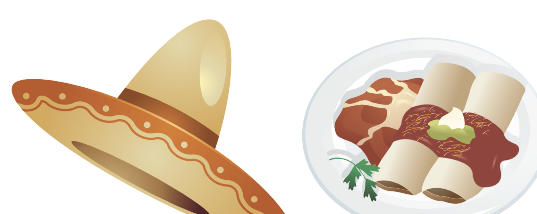

S	T	R	A	D	I	T	I	O	N	V	S	H	O	C
S	Y	U	T	P	F	H	F	Q	X	H	E	H	V	S
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R	K	A	Q	K	L	G	D	B	R	C	S	O	R	A
Y	M	M	T	M	E	H	E	H	I	Z	T	T	H	A
C	N	T	B	T	A	W	M	V	P	R	Z	T	C	A
Z	W	A	A	J	L	R	A	T	A	N	I	P	A	E
L	Y	C	G	K	I	E	I	E	F	A	D	I	I	H
U	M	O	M	B	U	H	T	A	H	C	C	E	X	K
O	W	X	G	S	J	K	F	N	C	Z	R	H	M	E
E	A	G	U	M	E	X	I	C	O	H	E	W	E	D
F	C	F	W	N	E	H	W	Y	Q	X	I	O	T	S

Victory Battle Mexico Parade	Fiesta Heritage Mariachi Guacamole	Tradition Pinata
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I'VE BEEN THINKING



MAY IS NATIONAL PET MONTH

COURTESY OF ADOBESTOCK.COM

Even though cats and dogs are two of the statistically most popular types of pet, some people prefer an exotic pet.

CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER



Carol Goodman Heizer is an author who moved to Hood County from Louisville, Kentucky in 2019. She has had short stories and articles published in six editions of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. Her column for the Hood County News will appear every two weeks. She was a public school teacher for 17 years, earlier in her professional career.

Statistics show that dogs (in more than 49 million homes) and cats (in almost 32 million homes) are the two most popular types of pets in America. However, we also know that other animals fall into the "pet" category. We question how some make the list, considering how we show affection to the top two pets. Below is the remaining list of the most popular animals owned as pets in the U.S. (and the number of households owning the pet): Fish - 1,047,500; reptiles (366,900); other mammals (197,800); rabbits (153,400); pet poultry (139,700); pet livestock (49,400); ferrets (32,600); all others (32,200).

As we read this list, we wonder how one can become emotionally attached to a fish. Its owner cannot hold

it, cuddle it, or take it for a walk. Although rabbits are cuddly and adorably, can an owner train it to use a litter box? Why are reptiles becoming more common as pets, especially among younger people?

In one list of American's pets, I found cockroaches, millipedes, tarantulas, and hermit crabs listed. What is the rarest pet in the U.S.? According to the 2019 AKC registration data, the English foxhound holds this position. Some of the most exotic pets include the wallaby, chimpanzee, serval, capybara, and tiger.

What are some of the hardest pets to care for? How about pigs, songbirds, hamsters, turtles and tortoises, and rattlesnakes. I apologize to all snake lovers out there, but with my terrible fear of them, I cannot go into a home where I know they are. I simply cannot keep my eyes open during a movie that has snake segments. My eyelids

automatically shut.

What are the scariest dogs in the world? The Rottweiler, Doberman Pinscher, American Bully, Great Dane, German Shepherd, Belgian Malinois, and the Newfoundland.

What is the easiest exotic animal to care for? The hedgehog, perfect for someone who wants a pet but who does not have a significant amount of time or resources to devote to their care.

Michael Jackson was among the first celebrities (followed by George Clooney, Miley Cyrus, and Tori Spelling) to own exotic animals as house pets. Although it may be legal to own them as pets, people are advised against it because of the special care some of them require. But among such animals are the anteater (owned by Salvador Dali); tiger (the majority of which live in captivity, not in the wild); foxes (being as smart as dogs, may be on the way

to being domesticated); alligator (a huge commitment that might outlive you); kangaroo (controversial but legal in some states); llama (often used as a therapy animal needing plenty of outdoor space); skunk (a playful creature — after having its scent gland removed — that needs attention, affection, and discipline); porcupine (an easy-going pet that can also be prickly); cougar (said to be tamed but never domesticated); sloth (high-maintenance creature whose slow-moving nature should not be mistaken for comfort); bear (your best friend or worse enemy that is legalized as a pet in more than 12 states); and monkey (like raising a toddler for up to 40 years).

So choose your pet, friend! Will it be a guinea pig that my daughter and I took to nursing homes to elicit smiles and laughs from patients? Will it be a llama to calm a troubled individual? Will it be a skunk to surprise

your friends and neighbors at your dinner party? Will it be a bear to see which of you is the "baddest"? Will it be a monkey to entertain you for the next few decades? Or will it be the more traditional dog or cat?

Whichever pet you choose, think it through carefully — not in a rush and then regret your decision. Do what is best for both you and the animal. Pets have feelings, and they become attached to their humans. Do not do yourself and your pet a disservice by discarding it when you believe it's too much trouble. If necessary, surrender it to a reputable organization that will care for it until it finds its forever home.

Regardless of the nature of the pet, along with the nature of the owner, if the animal is well cared for and the owner is happy — I suppose that all is well with the world!

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