



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

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Decade after deadly tornado, homes, lives restored

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

To this day, Tammy Mullins still finds glass when she gardens in her back yard. The shards trigger memories of that night when, in the blink of an eye, her life and so many others were shattered. Some were ended.

Monday will mark the 10th anniversary of the EF4 tornado that decimated the Rancho Brazos neighborhood, including Habitat for Humanity homes, and damaged other areas. Six people were killed.

The whirlwind was the first deadly tornado event in Texas since the Piedras Negras-Eagle Pass tornadoes of 2007.

An EF4 tornado is a superstorm that has wind speeds between 166 mph and 200 mph. On April 25, 1994, an EF4 tornado slammed the Dallas suburb of Lancaster, leaving three people dead and almost 50 injured. Several families who attended the same church and lived in the same neighborhood sheltered in their laundry rooms and recited the Lord's Prayer. They all survived, and their laundry rooms were all that remained of their homes.

On the night of May 15, 2013, there were actually two tornados in Hood County, according to the National Weather Service. One was the EF4 and the other was an EF1 that damaged 15

homes and one business in Pecan Plantation but caused no known injuries.

After the EF4 struck, 16 people were taken by ambulance to Fort Worth hospitals. Twenty-eight people with fractures and lacerations ranging from minor to severe went to Lake Granbury Medical Center. Half were admitted, while the other half were treated and released.

The tornado and its devastating impact on Hood County made international news. Then-County Judge Darrell Cockerham was interviewed on CNN and BBC. National, state and regional media descended on Hood County.

"It quickly became a national event, so we had lots of media," Sheriff Roger Deeds said. "And Governor (Rick) Perry came with the Attorney General Abbott."

Perry, along with Greg Abbott, who is now governor, toured Rancho Brazos and participated in a news conference held against a backdrop that looked like a war zone.

PLEASE SEE **TORNADO** | A2



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE
The EF4 tornado that struck Rancho Brazos and the surrounding area on the night of Wednesday, May 15, 2013, killed six people and destroyed dozens of homes. Among the dwellings destroyed was Habitat for Humanity's 66th house, which was scheduled for dedication just three days later.

See Texas history come to life in Acton May 20

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

For the last 11 years, the Texas Heroes Foundation has been promoting Texas history education through its annual Stroll Thru Texas History event — and this year is no exception.

The Stroll Thru Texas History event is scheduled to be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, May 20, at the Acton Cemetery, 3600 Fall Creek Highway.

The mission of the Texas

PLEASE SEE **STROLL** | A8

COURTESY OF
STROLL THRU TEXAS HISTORY

Stroll Thru Texas History hosts more than 1,500 students, teachers, and visitors each year, while the historical characters visit schools and civic groups to foster interest in Texas history.



INSIDE

Happy Mother's Day to Hood County moms. Please see A6-A7 for gift ideas and other ways to make the day special.



137TH YEAR, NO. 73

Local, zone(s): 2 sections, 20 pages, plus supplements | State: 2 sections, 20 pages

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"We're sitting outside on the porch, everybody's just talking, the kids are playing (with) chalk on the driveway, and it started getting dark, And then, it was just there, I mean, we're looking at it."

TAMMY MULLINS



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE

Some described Rancho Brazos as looking like "a war zone" after the 2013 deadly tornado. Vehicles were tossed as if they weighed nothing, propane tanks spewed gas, and downed power lines sparked, posing a danger to survivors as they made their way to the nearby American Legion Post.

TORNADO

FROM PAGE A1

The EF4 struck with breathtaking speed that night, leaving residents of Rancho Brazos with little time to take cover. Hood County's then-Emergency Management Coordinator, Ray Wilson, had been on the job just two weeks when a Code Red alert was activated to about 18,000 phones in Hood County at 8:03 p.m. that Wednesday night.

Moments later, between 8:10 and 8:20 p.m., according to Deeds, the tornado hit.

"IT'S HERE!"

Mullins, who lives on Highview Drive in the Habitat section of Rancho Brazos, was on her back porch visiting with friends, a man named Wade and a woman named Sheila. Her disabled son Cody, 20 at the time, and her daughter Jessica, then 14, were there, as was the daughter of a neighbor who worked for the Sheriff's Office.

"We're sitting outside on the porch, everybody's just talking, the kids are playing (with) chalk on the driveway, and it started getting dark," Mullins recounted.

The neighbor who worked for the HCSO phoned and told them to take cover immediately. A tornado was "coming across the lake."

Suddenly, there was hail, Mullins said. At first, it was pea sized but then it became the size of softballs. And it was spiked. She still has a picture on her cell phone of one of the monster hail stones.

Mullins and the other adults rushed to move their cars to the other side of the street hoping that large trees there might protect their vehicles from the hailstorm. Then they all dashed inside Mullin's house.



In the days after the whirlwind, residents of Rancho Brazos sorted through piles of debris looking for salvageable possessions.

"(It was) extremely scary because we knew it was heading for us."

ANGELA NETTLES

"And then, it was just there," Mullins recounted. "I mean, we're looking at it."

The tornado was headed straight down the narrow street.

Cody, who has "sensory issues," Mullins said, didn't understand the danger. He thought the tornado was "the coolest thing he had ever seen," his mother said, and was laughing and "bouncing around the hallway."

"I literally had to tackle him," Mullins said.

As Mullins threw her body on top of her disabled child, she heard Sheila yell, "It's here!"

Simultaneously, every window

in the house blew out, sending glass everywhere.

"I was praying," Mullins recounted. "I was praying God, please help me save these children."

Although her home sustained major damage, the most destruction occurred on the other side of the street, where there were mobile homes.

The aftermath "looked like a war zone," Mullins said, echoing words that the sheriff also used to describe the scene.

The trailers across the street were gone. Propane tanks spewed and downed power lines sparked. Some of the roofs that remained

were impaled by two-by-fours. Vehicles, their windows broken, were tossed as if they weighed nothing. Mangled sheet metal hung from tree branches after being hurled there. Debris was everywhere.

Mullins and those with her assisted the wife of a truck driver who lived nearby. Mullins said the woman was "severely injured" with a leg wound.

First responders arrived and directed everyone to head to the American Legion Post a short distance away on Davis Road.

From there, buses transported tornado victims to other loca-

tions. Mullins said that she and her family were initially taken to Oak Woods School but emergency workers there said there was no more room. The bus then transported them to a shelter set up at First Christian Church of Granbury near Tractor Supply on U.S. Highway 377.

All over the county, those affiliated with emergency services, churches, and nonprofits sprang into action.

"WE KNEW IT WAS HEADING FOR US"

At another house in the Habitat neighborhood, on Tumbleweed Lane, Angela and Thomas Nettles also raced against time to save children from the powerful force headed their way.

The couple was home with their three kids, two daughters and a son, and a couple of their sons' friends. The boys had been playing baseball in the yard. Angela Nettles told the kids that they would not attend church that evening because there was a severe thunderstorm warning.

The severe thunderstorm warning turned into a Code Red tornado alert.

"(It was) extremely scary because we knew it was heading for us," Angela Nettles said.

Nettles said that she and her husband told the kids to get the family pets, two dogs and a cat, and go into the bathroom. At that time, the couple's oldest daughter was 18, their middle daughter was 15, and their son was 12.

The kids made it into the bathroom OK, but the change in pressure brought by the tornado made Angela and Thomas' efforts to join them more difficult. By that time, the door had become "vacuum sealed," Nettles said.

PLEASE SEE **TORNADO** | A4



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

What happens after graduation is what really counts



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.

We are getting precariously close to the start of graduation season. Just another couple of weeks and our high school seniors will walk across the stage, receive their diploma, and move on to the next chapter of their lives. It is an exciting time for family and friends and sometimes a little overwhelming for graduates.

So many questions are directed at the graduates as to their "plans" for the future and it would seem the expectations of the world are laid at their doorstep. "Where are you going to school? What do you want to become?" These are questions we elders repeatedly throw into conversations with young people. After the first 100 or so inquiries, I can imagine some graduates might wish they should wear a sign around their neck declaring

their intentions, to avoid yet another recitation.

Of course, the questions are asked with good intentions and genuine concern about the student, but why is there so much focus on a "plan"? Is it because society compels graduates to have a plan? Do we place pressure on graduates and imply they must know how they want to spend the rest of their life? Why is there such a rush to decide? Is some of

the concept of "the plan" to benefit parents, so they can tell their friends and family their child's lofty goals and receive affirmation they have done a good job as a parent?

I had ideas of what I wanted to do with my life when I graduated high school but thank goodness, I had a degree of self-awareness and on occasion, took the road less traveled. Instead of only doing what I knew would please my parents or fulfill the expectations of my inner circle of family and friends, I gave myself the gift of exploring the world around me and trying to find the place that was the best fit. Now nearly 50 years later, I still frequently take the road less traveled and will go to my grave happy I have done so.

But my choices are not the best choice for everyone. I do admire people who, for example, decide they want to be a veterinarian in the third grade. They study furiously through high school and college to make the grade, enter vet school to get their advanced education, and then spend the

next 40 to 50 years doing the task they have been trained in. Their lives must be uncomplicated because of their dedication to one purpose, and one goal. If such a person feels fulfilled and satisfied with their life choice, more power to them.

Alternatively, I have witnessed many people in life who spent years of time and a fortune in dollars to "become" something, and once they achieved their goal, did not really enjoy where they landed. Young people can become enamored with a vision or fantasy of their future, and when the reality of life comes to pass, they can find the dream did not fulfill them as they expected.

Life only happens once. We will all make at least a few poor "life choices" during our time on earth, but decisions about careers are one of the major decisions in all of life — right up there with whom to marry and whether to have children. It is best to have eyes wide open and be as certain as possible on how to spend those precious hours that make up our lives.

Graduates, have a plan, but keep your options open. Look around and see if the vision of life you have imagined is truly the one you want to have. Every occupation has its rewards and its drawbacks. There will be challenges in every job, and you alone must determine if the challenges of a specific career are something you wish to face. Life is long. You will grow and learn as you gain experience. Do not be afraid to reconsider or change from your original "plan." Alternatively, don't be afraid to stick to a plan if it is what you truly wish for yourself. The grass is not always greener.

Thought for the day: "You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward. You must trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future." — Steve Jobs.

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

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COURTESY PHOTO

This photo shows the aftermath of an accident that occurred Wednesday shortly after students from STEAM Academy of Mambrino students were heading home. One student who was riding in the bus was treated at Lake Granbury Medical Center and was released to go home. The driver of the car was also transported to have medical treatment, but the condition of that individual was unknown at press time.

Bus crash: One student treated, released, car driver transported for surgery

From Staff Reports

One GISD student, along with the driver of a car, were transported for medical treatment Wednesday, May 10 after a school bus was struck from behind by the passenger vehicle.

GISD Communications Director Lissa Oliver provided the Hood County News this information about the incident, via email:

"A Granbury ISD school bus departing students from the STEAM Academy at Mambrino was rear-ended by another vehicle near Highway 144 and Williamson Road," Oliver explained. "One

student was transported to the hospital (Lake Granbury Medical Center) from the scene. An adult bus monitor also received medical treatment. The driver of the other vehicle was also treated for medical care."

Oliver said that no specific information identifying the name or age of the student or the driver of the car could be shared. She said that STEAM Academy at Mambrino has students ranging from kindergarten age through the fifth grade. The accident happened after school had been dismissed at 3:05 p.m., at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Oliver noted that the student was released from LGMC later that same day, and stated that the driver of the car was awaiting surgery as a result of her injuries. The driver of the car is not a student in the district, but has a female sibling who is a student, Oliver stated.

Oliver said that GISD officials want to thank everyone who helped during the situation, adding, "We will continue to pray for the driver of the other vehicle. The family appreciates all who have reached out and covets your prayers for her surgery and full recovery."

Oliver praised the GISD transportation staff for quickly notifying the parents and guardians of the other students who had been on the bus so that they could come and pick them up.

"It was an incredible team effort," Oliver said. "We also extend a huge thank-you to our bus driver, bus monitor, transportation department, Mrs. (Heather) Boisjolie (the school's principal), campus and district administration, and first responders who all assisted in the safety of our students."

County development director's resignation rescinded

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The Hood County Commissioners Court voted 4-1, with one abstention, to reinstate Development Director Clint Head.

Head submitted a letter of resignation after being offered a similar position with another governmental entity but then decided he would rather stay with the county. He was originally hired as Hood County's director of development in December 2018.

An item on the Tuesday, May 9, agenda for the regular meeting of the Commissioners Court was to rescind Head's resignation, which was effective May 4, and to reinstate him immediately.

Before voting, court members went into closed session. They remained there for 90 minutes.

After returning to the public portion of the meeting, Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson made a motion to rescind Head's resignation and to reinstate him. The motion was seconded by Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews.

The nay vote was cast by Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle. He did not publicly state a reason.

The court's most junior member, Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson, who was seated on the court in January, abstained.

Head later provided a written statement to the Hood County News. It stated, "I am thankful that the court, in my opinion, made the best decision to accept my rescission. I strive to be the best at anything I do and do what is right. Sometimes that is just a personal feeling you feel inside. It is not every day you find yourself in a position where you find out if others think you are pulling your weight."

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Commissioners commit \$5,000 to another jail review

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The Hood County Commissioners Court this week moved forward in its re-evaluation of the current jail by voting unanimously to authorize the county judge to sign a proposal for an independent engineering firm to perform a structural condition assessment of the

facility. The cost, not to exceed \$5,000, will be paid from Fund 55, which is the county's general fund. The action taken Tuesday, May 9, was related to discussions led by Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews that took place at the court's previous regular meeting on April 25. The court seemed poised

to move forward on building a new jail large enough for approximately 400 inmates rather than attempting to remodel the current building and construct an add-on, but Andrews placed four items on the April 25 meeting agenda designed to essentially pump the brakes. Andrews explained that he wanted to "look at indi-

vidual pieces" of findings and recommendations provided by professional project management firm AG/CM before committing \$100 million for a new facility. The court agreed at that time to request that AG/CM engage a third-party structural engineer to provide a proposal on structural deficiencies at the jail. Its action on Tuesday was to pay for

that service. The need for a larger jail has been discussed for years by a Commissioners Court that has changed over time as elected officials have come and gone. Problems with the existing jail, which was built in 1995, and whether it is worth the cost of rehabbing, have been part of the discussions. If the Commissioners

Court ultimately moves forward with building a new jail, the facility is expected to take two to three years to build. In the meantime, the Sheriff's Office will continue to house jail overflow at other county jails. kcruz@hcnews.com / 817-579-1886

OBITUARIES

Cameron Riley Hill

March 3, 1980 - April 30, 2023

Cameron Riley Hill, 43, went to be with our Lord on April 30, 2023.

Cameron was born March 3, 1980 in Weatherford, son of Dwight and Patricia (Jennings) Hill.

Cameron had a love for life, he always had a smile on his face and never met a stranger. He had a way of making you feel like you were the most special person in the world. He always had a positive spin on life no matter what the situation was.

He graduated from Aledo High School in 1999 where he was the MVP quarterback in the 1998 Aledo State Championship and was an all-around athlete in any sport he played.

Cameron was a beloved brother and father. He resided in Hood County for the last seven years.

Cameron was employed by Pool-Tex for the last six and a half years, and was well known to the community that he served. He had cultivated relationships with his customers and



was a pivotal part of the company. He is preceded in death by his parents. Survivors include his children, Corilea Hill, and Corbyn Hill; brothers, Brad Hill (Melissa), Mike Hill, Donnie Hill (Angie), and Jason Tinsley; numerous nieces and nephews; and a host of extended family members and friends. A memorial was held at White's Funeral Home in Weatherford, Texas on Saturday May 6, 2023 where his life was celebrated by family and friends.



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE

In the storm's aftermath, sheriff's deputies and other first responders had the grim task of searching for bodies, trapped survivors, and pets.

Ten years later, the only damage that remains is that which cannot be fixed by hammer and nails.

TORNADO

FROM PAGE A2

Thomas, who was shirtless, sustained scratches on his back but was able to get through the bathroom door. Nettles was blown into the bathroom, landing on her knees with the imprint of the home's thermostat on the back of her right arm.

"They were scared. They were screaming for me," Nettles said of her children. Somehow, they managed to get the bathroom door closed.

AFTERMATH

Like the group from the Mullins household, the people in the Nettles group, too, survived the tornado's assault and made their way to the American Legion

Post. During the months when work was done to restore her home, Mullins and her children lived with Sheila. The Nettles family lived with relatives. Due to drainage issues in their backyard on Tumbleweed Lane, the Nettles' home was rebuilt in a different location within the Habitat community, on Sundown Trail. The families are doing well, though some emotional scars remain. There is more apprehension this time of year. More caution when storms are in the forecast.

Based on reporting by the Hood County News in 2013, 250 people were transported out of Rancho Brazos that night, either by private vehicle, ambulances, or buses.

Out of approximately 110 homes in Rancho Brazos, all but 13 sustained damage. Seventeen had major damage and 36 were destroyed. Among the homes destroyed was Habitat's 66th home, which had been scheduled for dedication in just three days, on Saturday, May 18. Ten years later, the only damage that remains is that which cannot be fixed by hammer and nails. Mullins and Nettles don't dwell on that, though. They focus instead on how the community came together and made sure that everyone who suffered was made whole. "It was amazing," Nettles said of the outpouring of generosity and caring from so many in the community.

"They were coming by for weeks afterwards asking if there was anything we needed." New trees were planted in yards to replace ones that had been uprooted, and six trees were planted in the neighborhood in memory of those who died that night, Nettles said. The Rancho Brazos community is even closer than before, thanks in no small part to the Rancho Brazos Community Centers and initiatives made possible by generous donations and the dedication of staff and volunteers. "So," Nettles said, reflecting on the current state of Rancho Brazos, "a lot of good has come from it." kcruz@hcnews.com / 817-579-1886

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries are submitted online at obituaries.hcnews.com. Advance payment is required and you may do so online when placing the obituary. Obituaries should come from the funeral home. Obituaries placed by next of kin must be verified with the facility handling the body or the church where service will be held. You must provide the contact info for verification when submitting the obituary. The Hood County News deadline for obituaries is 10 a.m. Monday for the Wednesday paper, and 10 a.m. Wednesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.



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Some 'did-you-knows' about estate plans

TY ANDREW
Edward Jones Financial Adviser

If you've done any estate planning, or even if you're just familiar with it, you probably know the basics — that is, a comprehensive estate plan can help you pass on assets to your family while also achieving other goals, such as designating someone to take care of your affairs if you become unable to do so. But you may not know about some other estate-planning issues that could prove important in your life:



POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR STUDENTS
Children heading off to college may be considered legal adults in many states. Consequently, you, as a parent, may not have any control over medical treatment if your child faces a sudden, serious illness or is involved in an accident. Instead, a doctor who doesn't know your child or your family may decide on a course of action of which you might not approve. To help prevent this, you may want to have your college student sign a medical power of attorney

form, which will allow you to make decisions on your child's behalf if doctors don't think your child can make those choices. You might also want to combine the medical power of attorney with an advance health care directive or living will, which lets you specify actions you do or don't want to happen. In any case, consult with your legal advisor before taking any of these steps.

COMMUNITY PROPERTY VERSUS COMMON LAW

Not all states treat married couples' possessions equally. If you live in a community property state, the property you acquire during your mar-

riage is generally considered to be owned in equal halves by each spouse, with some exceptions. But if you live in a common law state, the property you obtain while you're married is not automatically owned by both spouses. In these states, if you buy some property, you own it, unless you decide to put it in the name of yourself and your spouse.

This doesn't necessarily mean, however, that your spouse has no rights, because common law states typically have rules that guard surviving spouses from being disinherited. But here's the key point: If you move from a community property state to

a common law state, or vice versa, you might not want to assume that your and your spouse's property ownership situations will remain the same. Consequently, if you do move, you may want to consult an estate-planning attorney in your new state to determine where you stand.

PET TRUSTS

You always strive to take good care of your pets. But what might happen to them if you become incapacitated in some way? Unless you have a close family member or friend who's willing to take over care for your pet, you might want to consider setting up a pet

trust, which can take effect either during your lifetime or after you pass away. A trustee typically will make payments to the caregiver you've designated for your pet, with payments continuing for the pet's lifetime or a set number of years. Again, an estate-planning attorney can help you with this arrangement. Estate planning certainly involves the big-picture issue of leaving a legacy to the next generation. But the issues we've discussed can also be meaningful to you, so you'll want to address them properly.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Woman's club to gather for final meeting of club year

BY DIANE LONG



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

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club will hold its final gathering for the club year on Thursday, May 18 with social time beginning at 9:30 a.m. and President Carol Herrick calling the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Following the business meeting, ladies will enjoy a program titled "Let's Play a Musical Game" provided by the talented Carolyn Troland in conjunction with Susie Strong and Rebecca Faiola. Past PPWC presidents will be honored, and officers for the 2023-2024 year will be installed. The tabletop charity for the day will be Second Chance Farm, and ladies may donate with cash or check.

START ENGINES

Pecan's eighth annual truck and car show is coming to the PAC parking lot today, Saturday, May 13, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pecan's executive chef Jordan Ray will be serving barbecue and beverages while music from the 1950s and 1960s plays. This free, family-friendly event will provide Pecaners the opportunity to "talk cars" with folks who love them. Everyone is welcome.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Pecan Plantation's Community Gardens Club happily announces an event sure to enhance gardening and landscaping efforts in our community. On Tuesday, May 16, master gardener Tom Scott will be present at Pecan's Ace Hardware from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to give outdoor advice and answer questions. A formal presen-

tation will occur at 11:30.

Tom has been a master gardener since 2007 in Tarrant, Parker, and Hood counties with specialties in vegetable gardening and greenhouse management. He is also a master naturalist, citizen forester, and farm owner, and Tom's presentation will center around the fall vegetable garden. Attendees are invited to bring a chair and a friend; refreshments provided.

GENEALOGY GROUP

Pecan's Genealogy Group is taking a field trip on Tuesday, May 16 to the Somervell County Library beginning at 10 a.m. Folks will meet at the library in Glen Rose, and everyone is welcome. While on site, attendees will enjoy a tour of the genealogical resources which include not only Texas but all of the United States. After the May meeting, the Genealogy Group will recess until September.

For more information on the Genealogy Group and to be added to its email list, call, or text Kay Holly at 682-459-5718.

AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary's next fundraiser will include pancakes and

all the trimmings being served from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at Planeview Park Pavilion (4500 Wedgefield Road) on Saturday, May 27. Tickets, which will be sold in advance and at the door, are \$10 each for adults and \$5 for children (ages 5-10). Folks are invited to the airport park to eat as well as to enjoy a musical performance by Frank and Rebecca Faiola (JetBlacq) beginning at 9 a.m.

In addition, the auxiliary's annual golf tournament is set for Saturday, June 24 on the Pecan course, and auxiliary members are selling tickets in advance of the tournament for prizes to be raffled.

For folks wishing to donate items or participate by assembling items or services in a themed basket for the raffle, please contact Julie Logan at 727-252-3702 or Susan Lee at 972-743-1292. No contribution is too small.

Finally, golfers may register for the golf tournament at the Pecan Pro Shop (817-573-2645). The 4-person scramble will offer golfers three hole-in-one opportunities, which all boast fabulous prizes.

PICKLEBALL PLAY

The Pecan Plantation Pickleball Association is hosting an outdoor pickleball tournament on Saturday, May 20 beginning at 8 a.m. Registration forms are available at the PAC until Tuesday, May 16.

HIGH FLYING

Pecan's EAA Chapter 983 will hold a free information meeting for folks who have dreamed about learning to fly and would like help in getting started. The session is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Planeview Park. For more information, contact Tom Woodward at 817-279-3080



COURTESY PHOTO OF KATHIE SCHOEPF

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club will enjoy its final meeting of the 2022-2023 club year on Thursday, May 18. Former PPWC presidents will be honored, and new officers will be installed. Pictured are three

or send email to buhwana@charter.net.

DINNER GROUP

Pecan's Widows and Widowers Club will gather on Tuesday, May 23 in the Terrace Room for a 5:30 p.m. reception followed by dinner at 6. Attendees will enjoy a Broadway themed musical program presented by Ray Scott and Lois Akers. This group (which had 42 attend-

ees at its April meeting) invites widows and widowers living in our community for an evening filled with meeting new friends and enjoying good food and entertainment. Planning to join the event? Send email to Caryl Mahaffey before 12 noon on Tuesday, May 16: caryl.mahaffey@charter.net.

MEMORIAL DAY

Pecan's annual Memorial

Day celebration will take place on Monday, May 29 with day-long events at the clubhouse concluding with a street dance in the evening. A variety of food and beverage items will be available for purchase (with pre-purchased tickets) in addition to a pool party.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Families can work together to ensure this Mother's Day is a day for Mom to relax and bask in all the extra attention she deserves.

MOMS NEED TIMEOUTS, TOO

(MetroCreative Connection)

While time-outs may be torturous for young children eager to get up and go, alone time may sound like paradise to busy mothers.

It can be helpful for parents to schedule daily timeouts, though breaks a few times per week can do the trick as well.

Timeouts can benefit moms who need a break during or after a long day. Such breaks can be restful and reenergizing.

Any woman can benefit from a time-out, but working mothers juggling careers and home life may be especially in need of scheduled breaks.

Women who want to incorporate more breaks into their daily routines should know that it's possible to do so, even on the most hectic days.

YOU DON'T NEED MUCH TIME

A break doesn't need to be extensive to be effective. Schedule around 30 minutes for the timeout. That's just enough time to watch a sitcom, read a chapter in a book or enjoy a nice, steamy bath.

CHOOSE A KID-FREE TIME OF DAY

If possible, select a timeout period when the kids are away from home or you can be guaranteed some alone time. If this is not possible, make an arrangement with your spouse to look after the kids while you get some alone time.

FIND AN ENJOYABLE ACTIVITY

Select an activity for the timeout that you may not have the opportunity to enjoy when other people or tasks require your attention. Listening to music, taking an exercise class, writing in a journal, engaging in artwork or other crafts, or reading a book make for great timeout activities. A timeout is not the time to catch up on chores.

TREAT YOURSELF ON OCCASION

Build an extra treat into the timeout, such as a bite of a favorite dessert or purchasing a clothing accessory or a luxurious body butter. This can make the timeout even more enjoyable.

Timeouts can be utilized by women who feel they need opportunities to unwind and put themselves first for a short time.

How to ensure a relaxing day for Mom this Mother's Day

(MetroCreative Connection)

The unconditional love and undying patience moms exhibit as they raise their children is worthy of more than just a single day of appreciation in May. Moms do a lot for their families, and though that's something to celebrate every day, Mother's Day merits upping the ante in regard to showing Mom how much she's loved and appreciated.

This year, families can work together to ensure this Mother's Day is a day for Mom to relax and bask in all the extra attention she deserves.

SERVE BREAKFAST IN BED

Mom might be on breakfast detail on hectic weekday mornings, but Mother's Day marks the perfect time for spouses and kids to take over those responsibilities. This year, keep the cereal in the pantry and go the extra mile by preparing a homemade

breakfast and serving it to Mom in bed. Present the meal with a small bouquet of flowers and some reading material and then let Mom eat in peace and quiet if she so prefers.

TURN THE EN SUITE INTO A SPA

Nothing complements a relaxing breakfast in bed better than a subsequent dip in Mom's own private spa. Transform the en suite or another bathroom into Mom's personal soaking space. Clean the bathtub, light some

candles around the tub and bathroom, turn on some relaxing music, dim the lights, and then invite Mom in to soak in a freshly drawn hot bubble bath.

KEEP MOM OUT OF THE KITCHEN

Keep the relaxing vibe going by making sure Mom doesn't have to lift a finger in the kitchen. Make sure all the dishes are washed before Mom comes downstairs for the day and let her know you've already ordered lunch from a local restaurant. Even if Mom loves to cook, a day off from kitchen detail can make Mother's Day that much more relaxing.

BOOK SOME TIME IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

If the weather allows, visit a nearby park as a family and go for a walk. Nature has its own way of helping people relax, so some time outdoors in the spring

air can keep the peaceful vibe going into the afternoon. If the family includes young children, choose a park with a playground so Mom can relax and watch the kids play from a nearby bench.

BOOK A DINNER RESERVATION

It might require some advance booking, as Mother's Day reservations can be hard to come by, but a night at Mom's favorite restaurant can be the perfect conclusion to a relaxing day. If Mom's more of a homebody, whip up a homemade meal and let Mom relax with a glass of wine as you prepare a feast.

Mother's Day is the perfect time to plan a day of relaxation for mothers who do so much for their families throughout the year. Some simple planning can ensure Mom gets the R&R she deserves.

Crafts lead the way for Mother's Day gifts

(MetroCreative Connection)

Mother's Day is a special time for children to show their appreciation for their mothers, grandmothers and the other special women in their lives. Older children typically are capable of designing their own Mother's Day crafts or even shopping for gifts for Mom, while younger children will likely need some help from an adult.

Youngsters may not be able to take charge of Mother's Day festivities alone, but they certainly have the energy and enthusiasm to chip in. Handmade craft gifts are a thoughtful way for young kids to show their love for Mom. Here are a few ideas that can occupy even the youngest of hands.

HANDPRINT BUTTERFLY PHOTO CARD

All that is necessary for this craft is a printed photograph of the child's face, paper, scissors, glue, and finger paints. The child should dip hands into the paint and make four handprints on paper in some preferred colors. When dry, cut around the perimeter of the handprints. These will serve

as the "wings" of the butterfly. Glue the picture of the child's face in the middle of a piece of paper or card stock. Draw a butterfly body underneath it (or print out a stock image to use). Draw antennae sticking out of the child's head and attach the handprints around the head and butterfly body to make the wings.

HEARTFELT MASTERPIECE

Children can draw and color all over a large sheet of construction paper or another durable paper. An adult can then use another sheet of paper to make a frame mat of sorts, cutting out a heart shape from the middle. Both pieces of paper are then trimmed to the dimensions of a photo frame. The artwork is placed first and then the heart matting on top so that the artwork will show through the heart shape. Frame everything together for a lasting memento.

FUZZY FLOWERS

Kids can make Mom a bouquet of flowers that will never wilt. Print a photo of the child's face and attach it to a piece of circular card

stock that is roughly six inches in diameter. Have the child paint a popsicle stick green, and then attach that to the back of the round card stock. The child then glues small fuzzy pom poms to the card stock surrounding the picture to

make a flower. If desired, attach a magnet to the back of the flower so it can be secured to the refrigerator.

Crafts are a great gift option for young children looking to give something special to Mom on Mother's Day.



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SEE MORE MOTHER'S DAY CONTENT, A7



Great gifts for moms from all walks of life

(MetroCreative Connection)

Mother's Day is an opportunity to show moms how much they're loved and appreciated. Though many moms may insist they don't want anything beyond spending the day with their children, gifts are a big part of Mother's Day.

No two moms are the same, and though standards like flowers and greeting cards will always have a place on Mother's Day, the following are some gift ideas that can put smiles on the faces of moms from all walks of life.

BOOKWORM

There's no end to the gift options for mothers who love to curl up with a good book. Of course, some new books may delight Mom, but gifts that can improve the reading experience also merit consideration. For example, an ergonomic backrest reading pillow can make bedtime reading sessions more comfortable and ensure Mom's neck and back get ample support as she reads the latest page-turner. A nightstand book holder also can be ideal for moms who can't seem to keep track of their bookmarks.

FITNESS ENTHUSIAST

Some moms simply love to get in a good workout. Shoppers whose mothers or wives love to break a sweat might want to look into home gym equipment, as many fitness enthusiasts transformed part of their homes into exercise areas

during the pandemic. If that sounds like the mom on your shopping list, then a suspension training system won't take up much room but can provide an intense, full-body workout. A new yoga mat, some wireless Bluetooth headphones or a compression stretching mat are some additional gifts that might make exercise-loving moms smile this Mother's Day.

TRAVELER

Moms whose children still live under the same roof may not have much opportunity to travel, but empty nesters and grandmothers might. For such moms, a foldable, hanging travel bag can make it easy and convenient for mom to carry all of her toiletries and access them without taking up what's often minimal hotel room counter space. For moms who want to document their excursions, a leather travel journal encourages them to note their experiences and gives them something they can revisit for years to come. Of course, some new luggage can make the perfect gift for newly retired moms who can't wait to start visiting places on their travel bucket lists.



COURTESY PHOTO

The following are some gift ideas that can put smiles on the faces of moms from all walks of life.

BUSINESSWOMAN

Millions of moms manage to juggle the obligations of family life with a challenging career. Mother's Day can be a great time to recognize that balancing act. A

self-heating coffee mug can ensure Mom's morning cup o' joe doesn't go cold as she traverses her way through a hectic morning routine. Another great gift is a charging mouse pad that can charge all of Mom's devices

even while she's working. If you want to help Mom remain calm as she navigates her way through a day filled with personal and professional obligations, an essential oils diffuser can create a sense of relaxation on the

most hectic of days. No two moms are the same. Fortunately, great gifts can be found for moms from all walks of life this Mother's Day.

Happy Mothers Day

Thank you for your love. There is nothing warmer than a mommy's hug.

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Learn the meanings behind popular Mother's Day flowers

(MetroCreative Connection)

Mother's Day is a time to express love and appreciation for mothers, sentiments that are often expressed with gifts. Flowers are a popular present to bestow on Mother's Day, as they can brighten a room and bring a sweet aroma to any household.

While any flowers may ultimately suffice on Mother's Day, gift givers may want to select flowers for Mom that convey specific messages. The language of flowers has been recognized for centuries. Though perhaps not as heralded as it once was, flower symbolism persists to this day. Here's a look at some of the meanings behind certain types of flowers to help guide Mother's Day gifting.



Here's a look at some of the meanings behind certain types of flowers to help guide Mother's Day gifting.

AMARYLLIS

These plants start as bulbs and are naturally spring-blooming flowers. The name comes from the Greek word "amarysso," which means "to sparkle," and they symbolize pride.

They're beautiful and symbolic of love and affection.

ASTER

These daisy-like flowers are delicate-looking perennials. Asters make great gifts because they symbolize love and daintiness.

BUTTERCUP

These are associated with youthfulness and cheerfulness and can call to mind childhood days spent picking buttercups and holding them under chins to reveal that you like butter. The flower is known for its beauty and innocent charm.

BEGONIA

There are more than 2,000 types of begonias, and the flower symbolizes deep thoughts. Begonias were made famous by French horticulturist Michel Bégon, who thought the blooms looked like beautiful girls.

CAMELLIA (WHITE)

White camellias stand for purity and innocence, but they also symbolize admiration and respect. Camellias make beautiful additions to any bouquet.

BLEEDING HEART

These flowers are red and pink blossoms that look like the perfect heart shape with a teardrop at the bottom.

DAISY

Daisies are happy-looking flowers, and according to Norse mythology they represent motherhood and children.

DELPHINIUM

Delphiniums come in pink, white and blue varieties and embody youth and renewal. They're a good pick if you want to convey a continued or renewed affection for a person.

TULIP

Tulips with an orange hue are thought to represent understanding and appreciation. They can express appreciation for Mom or another special person. Yellow tulips symbolize happiness, while pink tulips are symbolic of love. Red blooms should be reserved for sweethearts. Various flowers symbolize feelings people want to express to their mothers, grandmothers and other special women on Mother's Day.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF STROLL THRU TEXAS HISTORY

Many families enjoy spending the day watching the demonstrations and displays, interpreters and re-enactors, listening to historical live music, witnessing the Elizabeth Crockett Memorial Ceremony, and observing live cannon fire.



Heather Flannery, board member and treasurer for the Texas Heroes Foundation, said children love the demonstrations at the Stroll Thru Texas History event. "They get to have a firsthand look at everything, hear the cannon shot, things you don't get to see every day and the kids love it," she said.

STROLL
FROM PAGE A1

and it makes it so much fun."

Additionally, the event is a huge learning opportunity for students. Stroll Thru Texas History hosts more than 1,500 students, teachers, and visitors each year, while the historical characters visit schools and civic groups to foster interest in Texas history.

"Friday (May 19) is open to our schools," Flannery said. "We've got some fourth-grade classes, a homeschool group and a seventh-grade class from Lipan coming. They get to have a firsthand look at everything, hear the cannon shot, things you don't get to see every day and the kids love it. They learn so much and they have so much fun that they go home and tell their parents about it."

We've had a lot of the parents come back for the next day because their children had so much fun, they went home and talked all about it."

For more information, visit texasheroesfoundation.org online, or follow the Texas Heroes Foundation Facebook page.

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Characters of Native Americans, frontiersmen, ranchers, and soldiers keep attendees at the Stroll Thru Texas History event occupied with stories from the past.

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1050
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1050
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3-2-2CP ranch style home on lake
 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.
 Text me if interested 512-466-4206, asking 550,000. Nego.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1510
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 2bd - 1 bth Downstairs
 No Pets - No W&D Connections
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6670
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7020
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sm481764@gmail.com

EMPLOYMENT

8510
General

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

Flexible times and hours.
Competitive pay and great work environment.
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Come join the Hood County News team!

Busy cleaning business needs responsible people to help clean residential/commercial some nites/weekends. Must speak English. Must have clean driving record - pass background. 254-396-3417

Now hiring a FT/PT position energetic, responsible and mature individual with customer service experience. Must be able to lift 50 pound package. Apply in person at UPS Store, 1030 E Hwy 377, Suite 110.

FRONT GATE ATTENDANT needed at North Central Texas Academy. Please pick up an application at our front gate located at 3846 N. Hwy. 144, Granbury, TX 76048.

8510
General

Granbury ISD is currently looking for a Groundskeeper to join our outstanding Maintenance team. Only responsible and qualified candidates need apply. Criminal background checks and fingerprinting will be required. Competitive wages and excellent benefits, including health insurance and retirement. Apply online at
https://www.granburyisd.org/jobs
Granbury ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

8540
Medical/Dental

NOW HIRING

Night Shift
Charge Nurse
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Night Shift CNAs
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AVAILABLE



8560
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Apply at https://www.northcentralexasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/

NOTICES

9031
Public Notices

Notice of Public Sale pursuant to Chapter 59 of Texas property code to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held for Honeycrisp Self Storage - Tolar at 205 Tolar Cemetery Rd., Tolar, TX 76476 on storageauctions.com starting on May 6, 2023 at 9:00am CST and ending on, May 18, 2023 at 9am CST. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold to the highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant and is primarily household items and furniture.
Cars: Glasscock - 2 units

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 May 22, 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: Tina Garzababy misc., household misc.
Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DAVID LYNN SOUTHERN, Deceased, were issued on May 3, 2023, in Cause No. P09987, pending in the County court of Hood County, Texas, to: CLAUDIA JEAN PARRISH SOUTHERN.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Steven G. Kuban
Attorney at Law
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 3rd day of May, 2023.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Claudia Jean Parrish Southern
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

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9031
Public Notices

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL
CITY OF TOLAR**

The City of Tolar (Owner) is accepting proposals for a Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) wastewater treatment system. Proposals shall be delivered to the Engineer in digital PDF format, by email at brittany.white@e-ht.com, no later than **5:00 P.M. on Thursday, June 1, 2023**. Proposer shall call to confirm receipt verbally at 325-698-5560.

SCOPE OF PROJECT: The selected Respondent to this Request for Proposals (RFP) shall supply an SBR system with a design capacity of 0.3 million gallons per day (mgd), consisting of all required equipment, controls, appurtenances, and manufacturer's services as defined herein for a complete and operational system. The SBR supplier shall be regularly engaged in the design, manufacture, and assembly of SBR systems of the size and type specified.

The SBR system will be installed by a general contractor (GC) in new concrete basins constructed by the GC as part of the City's Wastewater System Improvements project, funded by the City. The GC project will be bid separately. The basin configuration and similar aspects of the GC project scope will be tailored to the selected SBR Supplier's system. The selected SBR proposal and price will be included in the Contract Documents of the GC project when it is bid, with the SBR price as an allowance line item on the GC bid form.

PROPOSAL PROCESS:

1. A pre-proposal conference will not be held for this RFP.
2. Requests for Information (RFI's) shall be submitted to the Engineer, in writing, no later than **5:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 25, 2023**. The Engineer's contact information is:

Brittany White, P.E.
Enprotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc.
brittany.white@e-ht.com
325-698-5560
402 Cedar, Abilene, TX 79601
3. Proposal packages shall be submitted to the Engineer at the email address listed at the top of this proposal. Proposer shall call to confirm receipt verbally.
4. Proposals will be opened after the closing hour of the due date. Proposal contents and cost tabulations will not be disclosed until the evaluation process is completed.
5. Proposals shall be subject to acceptance for a period of 365 days from the proposal closing date.

Proposal documents Drawings and Technical Specifications are available from the engineer via CivCast. Please visit www.civcastusa.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of JENNIFER PAIGE BERBERICH, Deceased, were issued on May 1, 2023, in Cause No. P09986, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: PATTI BERBERICH.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Steven G. Kuban
Attorney at Law
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 2nd day of May, 2023.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Patti Berberich
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Grace Evelyn Neilson, Deceased, were issued on April 12, 2023, in Cause No. P09998, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Roger Russell Neilson.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Robert Christian
1405 West Pearl Street
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 3rd day of May, 2023.
Robert T. Christian
Attorney for Roger Russell Neilson
State Bar No.: 00798106
1405 West Pearl Street
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (682) 936-4003
Facsimile: (682) 936-4024
E-mail: robert@christianandchristianlaw.com

PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048
Garage Sales 76048
1301 N Meadows Dr- Roll top desk, recliner, clothes and lots of misc.
Sat 5/20, 8 till?

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Shop: Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm
Sat. 10am - 4pm
Donate: Wed.-Sat. 10am-3pm

THIS OUT!

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE!
Kids Lemonade Stand
Saturday the 13th
8AM-2PM
409 N Baker St
Granbury Tx 76048

ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSITIONS: GRANBURY 1107 Calinco Dr. - Tools, media, sewing, electronics/ stereo, Barbie/Ken dolls. Photos at estatesales.net, search 'Cozy Calinco.' 12p-5p THR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT

9031
Public Notices

ADVERTISING TO THOUSANDS TWICE A WEEK!

Garage Sales 76048

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 1114 Walters Drive- Fri. and Sat. May 12-13 8-5 and 8-3. Patio sets, outdoor bench and coffee table, outdoor chairs, bicycles, 2 large armoire, drop leaf table/4 chairs, bar stools, doll house, hot wheels garage, stove, 2 over range microwaves, kitchen items, small appliances, glassware, decorative items, pictures, girls and boys clothes, adult clothes, shoes, and a ton of misc. items.

Granbury 76049
Garage Sales 76049

YARD SALE: GRANBURY 3802 Birdsong Ct- Kitchen, dog items, home decor, dresser, garage items, tires, grilling tools, & more. Doing clean out for more room. Rain or Shine. Friday May 12, Sat May 13. Possibly Sun.

Deliver your ads to thousands twice a week!

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Hood County News
817-573-7066

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK

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EVENTS

Discover Secrets of Ancient Egypt, An Evening with Dr. Zahi Hawass. The time to reveal the secrets of ancient Egypt has finally come! Exciting announcements & new groundbreaking discoveries will be revealed for the very first time! Houston: June 22.; Dallas, June 24; San Antonio: June 27. Register now at ZahiLectures.com.

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We buy oil, gas & mineral rights. Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI). Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation. Call today: 806-620-1422. Lobo Minerals, LLC, PO Box 1800, Lubbock, TX 79408-1800, LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearing will be considered by the GRANBURY CITY COUNCIL on Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearing will be held within the Council Chambers of Granbury City Hall, 116 W. Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

1. SUP-2023-11, Request of Jim & Penne Gehring for a Specific Use Permit to allow a "Bed & Breakfast, Hosted" in a Residential-8,400 (R-8.4) zoning district. The property is addressed as 512 N. Travis St.

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

9031
Public Notices

CONSTABLE'S SALE - REAL ESTATE

On June 3, 2021 in the 355th District Court of Hood County, Texas, in Cause No. C2019320, CAZ CREEK TX, LLC as Intervenor, and GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, HOOD COUNTY, AND PRIORITY LIEN FEES recovered judgment against:
Judy Garcia (In Rem Only), Fred Morris (In Rem Only) and Peggy Morris (In Rem Only)

By virtue of an Order of Sale, I did on May 10, 2023, levy upon the Defendant's interest, if any, in the following described land as the property of the above-named Defendant(s), situated in Hood County, Texas, to wit:
ACCT: NO. 12970.001.0034.0 (R000018977 and R018977); Lot 34, BLOCK 1, LAKE GRANBURY ESTATES SECTION ONE OAK TRAIL SHORES SUBDIVISION, AN ADDITION TO HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN CABINET 'A', PAGE 374-B, PLAT RECORDS OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

And I will on JUNE 6, 2023, the same being the first Tuesday in JUNE A.D. 2023, starting at approximately 10:00 a.m. in the morning, offer the said land for sale for cash to the highest bidder, at the Hood County Courthouse, said location being the 2 Floor Courtroom in the Hood County Courthouse, located at 100 E. Pearl Street, in the City of Granbury, Texas.

For questions or payoff amounts, please contact Yanira Reyes with Harrison & Duncan, PLLC at (210) 821-5800.
Chad Jordan
Constable, Precinct 4
Hood County, Texas

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CALENDAR

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

MAY

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 op-

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

THE GRANBURY Volunteer Fire Department (GVFD) will officially place their new truck, Tanker 10, in service with a traditional Push-In Cer-

emony on Saturday, May 13 at 3 p.m. This brief ceremony will take place at GVFD Station 1 located at 1701 West Pearl St. Everyone is invited to attend, learn about this new truck, and watch as GVFD members push the new truck into the fire station.

TUESDAY, MAY 16

LGMA LUNCHEON meeting will be held at and hosted by Hope community Church at noon on May 16. Hope Community Church is located at 3206 West Highway 377 in Granbury. There will be a pan-

el of speakers. Please RSVP to office@granburyministries.org by noon Friday, May 12. Please note this is the last meeting until summer break. We will meet again on August 15.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

HOOD COUNTY Republican Women monthly meeting will be held at the Women's Wednesday Clubhouse located at 306 North Travis Street in Granbury on May 17. Social/check in is at 10:30 a.m. The meeting starts at 11:00 a.m. This month's guest speaker is Callie Crow. She will be speak-

ing about the fentanyl crisis. Let's show our patriotism by wearing red, white and blue. We hope to see you there.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 26

HOOD COUNTY Hospital District Board of Directors will hold their regular meeting on Friday May 26 at noon. The meeting will be held in the Annex 1 Meeting Room located at 200 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. For more information call 817-579-3200

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RESPONSE TO 'MR. GOP ON SEPTIC MAINTENANCE'

"Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Slip in half-truths and falsehoods in place of evil and this quote is spot on. Precisely why I am speaking out. My name is Mitch Coleman, owner, and operator of Coleman Aerobic Septic in Granbury and I am frankly fed up with the outright defamatory, and distorted "number two" coming from the GOP Chair and certain Hood County Commissioners. Mr. GOP and certain commissioners have attempted to legitimize their cause by ignorantly lumping all maintenance companies into one category: worthless money

grabbers. They also claim that maintenance companies are extortionists. How absurd! Homeowners are free to contract with whom ever they wish, or not. I am not forcing anyone to sign a contract with my company. Frankly, this sort of thinking is preposterous and is a direct attack on the integrity of my company. Mr. GOP Chair and certain commissioners, whose names shall remain anonymous, you should be ashamed of yourselves.

Mr. GOP openly proclaims the need for septic maintenance contracts is over. In a post in Hood County Breaking News, found on April 11th, 2023, Mr. GOP's claims, "Commissioners Court voted 3-2 to change septic rules. Homeowners can now self-maintain!" On May 8th, 2022, he announced his self-concocted training class that would

allegedly give a homeowner the proper training necessary to self-maintain. Quote, "Next homeowners septic training class is Saturday June 11th, 8:30-4:30 @ \$150. Limit, 20 people. Be contract free and stop the extortion." Unquote. Wow! I guess he believes he is the septic God and can make up the rules as he goes.

While it is true that Mr. GOP has approached the commissioners with his desire to alter current rules and regulations regarding the maintenance of aerobic septic systems, by no means is it set in stone. Regardless of what Mr. GOP asserts. Dear Sirs, your nonsense casts doubt on your credibility. Like an omelet, the truth requires a broken egg.

If Mr. Chair and Honorable Commissioners wish to provide their constituents with the truth in its entirety, who better to hear from than

the providers who wade in septic, breathe the sweet aroma of feces, witness daily dangerous, egregious negligence, and on occasion, ingest waste.

Mr. GOP, Commissioners, and citizens of Hood County, please contact me for an informed version of the argument. Don't rely on the hoopla coming from Mr. GOP. Hood County is a renowned community, known for its beauty, lake, and town square. Do you really want to jeopardize Hood County's illustrious reputation? You are the judge. Be informed. Call your commissioner with your concerns.

**Tammy Coleman
Granbury**

ON PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL SOLAR PLANT

The Save the Brazos... Say No to Solar Facility is a grass roots group opposed to the approximately 2,500 acre (3.9 square miles) proposed Yellow Viking II industrial solar facility. The facility would have the Brazos River on three (3) sides. The group spoke at Hood County Commissioners Court from October 2022 until the Court in early 2023 tabled the Tax Abatement Guidelines that were due for renewal for the next two years. Judge Massingill and our four Hood County Commissioners have been very responsive to the citizens of Hood County whose community would be adversely affected by the Yellow Viking Development II industrial solar facility. The Save the Brazos

Group and the vast majority of Pecan Plantation residents are very thankful to the Court. They are all approachable and responsive. Their actions show that they believe in the free market and that tax abatements are not needed to attract industry to Hood County.

The Save the Brazos... Say No to Solar Facility group is opposed to this solar project for many reasons. There is very high potential for contamination of the Brazos River. When 2,500 acres of land are clear-cut, the surface water runoff will carry silt into the river. This will endanger the aquatic life and wildlife that lives along the River. There are bald eagle nests along the Brazos River where the industrial solar facility will be constructed documented by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. There will also be an increased potential for flooding of riverfront homes. Connie Turner, Brazos River Authority Director of Lake Granbury and the DeCordova Bend Dam said at a Breakfast Club meeting in Pecan Plantation in April that there will be flooding again in Pecan Plantation. It is just a matter of when. According to Connie Turner, no changes were made for the release of floodwaters after the 2016 flood event. Lake Granbury has no storage capacity and floodwaters have to be released through the sixteen gates at the DeCordova Bend Dam. Surface water runoff from a Yellow Viking II industrial facility would be added to released water from the dam during a flood event, presenting a safety risk to residents and inten-

sification of flood damage to homes.

The 88th Texas Legislature is quickly coming to a close. So far, no Texas laws have been passed to regulate, inspect, or fine, "green energy" companies. Oil and gas facilities are highly regulated and inspected. Our Texas Senator, Brian Birdwell, has co-authored a Senate Bill 1290 that would study the effects of renewable energy. Many Texas agencies would be involved in the one-year study. The Save the Brazos... Say No to Solar Facility group strongly supports this bill. Please call or email his office and let him know how important this bill is to Hood county residents. Senator Birdwell does listen and is responsive. Let him hear from Hood County.

**Cynthia M Highsmith
Granbury**

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Email letters to sam@hcnews.com. Letters must include author's first and last name, and home address. Specific address will not be published.

Writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

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

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

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COURTESY OF GRANBURY ISD

Mario Morales, the Granbury ISD director of bands, was recently named as a quarterfinalist in the 2024 Music Educator Awards.

'IT'S NOT A JOB TO ME'

GHS band director named quarterfinalist for 2024 Music Educator Award

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Mario Morales has only been the director of bands at Granbury High School for one academic year — but he has already left a lasting impact that his students will remember forever.

Morales was recently named a quarterfinalist in the 2024 Music Educator Awards. And no one is more surprised than Morales himself.

"I was like, 'What?' like, you know, just surprised," he said, chuckling. "But I feel honored. The whole point of this is inspiration and motivation, and an impact (that I made on someone — a student, or an administrator — so I'm very

honored and I'm in disbelief." According to grammy.com, the Music Educator Award is open to current U.S. music teachers, and anyone can nominate a teacher — students, parents, friends, colleagues, community members, school deans, and administrators.

"I have no idea who did it," Morales said. "It's just one of those things where it could have been a student, it could

have been a parent, it could have been an administrator; we won't know, and they won't tell you. But it's humbling for sure."

The Music Educator Award recognizes educators who have made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of music education and who demonstrate a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools, according to the website.

Morales is one of 212 music teachers who were named as quarterfinalists, including 15 other teachers from Texas.

PLEASE SEE **AWARD** | B5



COURTESY OF MARIO MORALES

Granbury ISD Director of Bands Mario Morales joined the district last fall from Kauffman ISD and has already made a lasting impact on his students.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Granbury Jazz Orchestra will host the Big Band Dance from 8-11 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, at Oasis Tranquilo, 950 Williamson Road.

Jitterbug to 1940s swing music on May 27

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The Granbury Jazz Orchestra plans to transport Hood County residents back in time with its inaugural Big Band Dance from 8-11 p.m. on Saturday, May 27, at Oasis Tranquilo, 950 Williamson Road.

Featuring popular swing music of the 1940s, participants can jitterbug on the dance floor to some of their old favorites from Glenn Miller like "In the Mood," "Little Brown Jug," "American Patrol," and "Moonlight Serenade."

The Big Band Dance will also spotlight music from other famous dance bands of the 40s and 50s like Artie Shaw, Woody Herman, Stan Kenton, Les Elgart, and Tommy Dorsey.

Mark Hettle, director of the Granbury Jazz Orchestra, said the Big Band Dance will give the band another place to perform besides the biannual concerts.

"We wanted something a little bit more," Hettle said. "It's no fun rehearsing if you don't have someone to play for, so we came up with the idea of having dances."

Hettle said he hopes that the Big Band Dance is the first of many that the Granbury Jazz Orchestra can put on for Hood County.

"There's a lot of people who are in their 60s, 70s, and 80s, who are very familiar with the dance music of the bands that played in the 40s and 50s, like Stan Kenton and Woody Herman," Hettle said. "People of that age group will recognize these people, and that's the kind of music they like to dance to."

Formal attire — coats and ties for men and dresses or pantsuits for women — is requested for the event.

David Talmage, manager of the Granbury Jazz Orchestra, said participants don't have to dance.

"It's okay just to come and listen," he

said.

A full cash bar will also be available during the Big Band Dance.

Tickets are \$15 each or \$25 for a couple and can be purchased at the door on the day of the event. Only payments of cash or checks will be accepted.

GRANBURY JAZZ ORCHESTRA

The Granbury Jazz Orchestra was organized in 2007 under the name Langdon Center Big Band. The name, however, was later changed in 2022 to better fit with the nonprofit organization's style.

Hettle was a former member of the One O'Clock Lab Band at the University of North Texas in Denton — known then as North Texas State University.

Right out of high school, he attended the United States Naval School of Music where he received his formal music

PLEASE SEE **MUSIC** | B2

Bridge Club seeks donations to benefit Alzheimer's Association

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The Granbury Bridge Club is seeking donations from the community to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

With over 350 participating bridge clubs within the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) last year, the Granbury Bridge Club was the smallest club ever to make the top eight in the nation through contributions — and it's all thanks to Hood County's generosity.

"The significant community support received last year totaled

\$22,800," said Granbury Bridge Club Manager Carmond "Fitz" Fitzgerald.

As a result of the community's large donation, Fitzgerald received recognition from the national Alzheimer's Association on March 20, through the presentation of the Linda Powers Award "for leadership and achievement in significantly advancing the mission of the Alzheimer's Association through participation in The Longest Day."

The Longest Day is the day with the most light known as the sum-

mer solstice and typically takes place around June 20. During the months leading up to the Longest Day, people from across the world will fight the darkness of Alzheimer's through fundraising activities. The Granbury Bridge Club will hold special duplicate bridge games during the week of June 20 to benefit the Alzheimer's Association.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, Alzheimer's is the fifth leading cause of death in those 65 and over. Today, an estimated 6.5 million Americans are

living with Alzheimer's.

Donations for the Alzheimer's Association will be gratefully acknowledged in the Hood County News at the end of June through donation categories: Bronze (\$50), Silver (\$100), Gold (\$250), and Platinum (\$500 and up).

Individuals can send donations to: Granbury Bridge Club, 5918 Henslee Court, Granbury, TX 76049. Checks should be made out to the "Alzheimer's Association."

"One in three Americans will experience Alzheimer's or a re-

lated dementia and there is no cure," Fitzgerald added. "The Alzheimer's Association is the primary research organization searching for a cure for this dreaded disease. Almost everyone knows someone who has suffered from Alzheimer's. Your donation could help find a cure and therefore benefit you in the future."

For more information, contact Fitzgerald at 817-578-0289. All contributions are tax deductible.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

T.E.X.A.S. RESCUE SPAGHETTI WESTERN PUT THE 'FUN' IN 'FUNDRAISER'

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Based on the old spaghetti western films, the recent inaugural Spaghetti Western Fundraiser transported attendees back to the old West. Supporters and friends of T.E.X.A.S Rescue, a Hood County nonprofit organization that rescues, rehabs, and re-homes donkeys, horses, and mules, enjoyed mingling with the mini horses and donkeys, and the draft horses were behind a rope for photo ops, still able to be up close and personal with the attendees.

Austin Miller (left) of Austin Imagery, son of T.E.X.A.S Rescue owners and operators Vicki and Tracy Miller, is pictured enjoying co-hosting the fun-filled event. Miller has not only contributed long days of labor for their rescue efforts, but his photography and graphics talents are also extensively utilized in promotions, social media posts, and much more.



With the mission to rescue, rehab, and re-home donkeys, horses, and mules, T.E.X.A.S Rescue was established in 2022 as a nonprofit organization. Individuals can donate any time by visiting the website texasrescue.org, and clicking on "Donate Now" under the "Donating" tab.

Co-Owner/Operator Vicky Miller strikes a pose with artist/photographer Kathy Braune, a huge T.E.X.A.S. Rescue supporter. Braune photographs and creates wonderful works of art for every rescue animal under the T.E.X.A.S. Rescue umbrella.

Learning to paint with light in mind

BY EDEN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Dallas painter Cecy Turner is enamored with the play of light across a floral or landscape and she desires to pass this knowledge on to her adult students.

"I emphasize not so much the object but the effect the light has on the object," Turner said. "We are not painting a bird so much as we are painting the light on the bird. Does the light on the bird light it up, does it warm it?"

Turner shared her knowledge this past week as part of Lake Granbury Art Association's monthly demonstration and workshop series.

The experience level of the students varied. Some students have been painting for decades "with always more to learn," while others were less experienced and desired more confidence with the medium.

Desiring a "looser" look to their work and trying to avoid "mud" in their work were common concerns. "Mud" is a word used to describe a painting that

has a muddled look, often happening when a piece is "overworked" or where not enough thought given to layering color.

Long time Granbury artist and workshop attendee Patsy Walton bemoaned the struggle "of trying to master more than one medium" at once.

"It's said that watercolor is the hardest media, I think I agree," laughed Turner who has worked in oil and watercolor for over 40 years.

Her goal is to paint a place the viewer would like to visit and to convert the mood, light and enthusiasm she felt at that particular moment.

By establishing "light paths" the viewer's eye is led around the painting by the use of color and well-placed lights and darks.

A graduate of Vanderbilt University with graduate



Cecy Turner teaches the art of painting with light in mind.

work done at the University of North Texas, Turner's second home in Colorado allows her the opportunity to daily paint the Rocky Mountain National Park in the summer.

"I love painting outdoors. I didn't always, but I do now. I love it," Turner said. "I love the morning light at about 9:00 or 10:00 a.m. and I love the early evening light around 5:00-7:00 p.m. That low light, with long shadows, I love it. Plein air painting has its challenges, but it keeps you coming back, you learn from it."

Both days of the workshop were studio days and included a full demonstration as well as a lot of individual help and critique. Instruction included

composition, coaching in tonal studies, color mixing, as well as how to achieve "light" in your paintings.

Turner taught on breaking your landscape into large shapes and instructed on how to "move the eye" around the painting. Day one of the workshops was a day to work on an architectural piece and day two was devoted to a floral.

Lake Granbury Art Association monthly demonstrations are the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. Shanley House Center for the Arts is located at 224 North Travis, Granbury. Email lgaa-workshops@gmail.com for information on future workshops.

MUSIC

FROM PAGE B1

training. For the next 40 years, Hettle played professionally with various bands. He said he remembers a "changing of the guard" that took place in the music scene.

"When I first started playing with dance bands back in the 70s, the crowd was always very elderly," he said. "But as they started passing away, sadly, all of a sudden a thing came on the scene called swing dance, and younger folks love to swing dance and jitterbug, so we started seeing people come up in their 20s and 30s to dance, so it was a whole new audience dancing to the music of the 40s."

Talmage joked that Hettle heard the Langdon Center Big Band perform an outdoor concert one day and realized how much help they needed, which was why Hettle decided to join as director in 2008.

"The reason I joined the band with David is because I thought I could impart some of that experience that I had to the players — that's the whole thing," Hettle said. "And I love it. It's good music, and I enjoy working with everybody."

Now, the Granbury Jazz Orchestra is a 20-piece dance band that performs at various functions in the city throughout the year. The GJO consists of 20 musicians and two vocalists.

"We only rehearse twice a month," Talmage said. "We rehearse every other Sunday at First Christian Church. We've been rehearsing there since 2007, and they've never sent us a bill. It's wonderful to get to have a place like that to do it."

Talmage said he is excited for the Big Band Dance to see Hood County residents dancing to the music from their youth — especially knowing that he will be playing a huge part in instilling happiness in others.

"As musicians, you get this adrenaline when you have an audience out there that loves what you're doing, and you look out there and see people on the dance floor," he said. "There's a lot of times I'll look out there because I'll see a couple dancing that are really good at swing dancing, and I'll lose my place in the music. It's just really fun to see people having a good time listening to music that they grew up listening to — that's why we do it."

For additional information on directions to the event, ticket purchase, or protocol, call Talmage at 817-219-4130 or send an email to granburyjazzorchestra@gmail.com.

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 Romans 15:13

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When I thought, "My foot slips," Your steadfast love, O LORD, helped me up. When the cares of my heart are many, Your consolations cheer my soul.
 Psalm 94:18-19

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
 Isaiah 41:10

DEVOTIONAL

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

No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
 1 John 4:12

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 Romans 8:28

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Hood County ACTIVITIES

YOUR TICKET TO THINGS TO DO

HOOD OUTDOORS

Hybrid Striped Bass in Texas



BY MICHAEL ACOSTA

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

Many Texas lakes are stocked with hybrid striped bass as they can grow big, and they can and will control populations of shad in our Texas waters. In fact, over the years the hybrid, which is more tolerant of the Texas heat, has replaced the full-blooded striped bass in many of our reservoirs. Pound for pound the hybrid striped bass is one of the hardest fighting fish in fresh water and is great table fare.

The hybrid striped bass or the technical name "palmetto bass" are produced by artificially spawning a male white bass with a female striped bass. The hybrid striped bass, when young, looks more like a white bass than a striped bass. A hybrid striped bass can usually be distinguished from a striped bass by its broken lateral stripes along the lower sides of the body (generally continuous on a striped bass) and a distinctively shorter, thicker, and deeper body form. Hybrid striped bass and striped bass can be distinguished from

white bass by its two tooth patches on the tongue as opposed to only one tooth patch on the white bass. As they grow older, hybrid bass become thicker and deeper-bodied, giving them a distinctive short and stocky appearance. In addition, the white bass usually only has one lateral line extending to the tail. The hybrid striped or striped bass usually has three lateral lines extending all the way to the tail.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife rules and regulation booklet has diagrams to help you tell the difference



COURTESY OF

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has stocked hybrids in numerous area lakes to provide anglers with trophy-sized gamefish and to introduce a predator that could feed on large gizzard shad.

between these species. The legal-size limit for hybrid striped bass is 18 inches and you are allowed five fish per day. You can keep 25 White bass or sand bass as we call them here with a minimum length of 10 inches. You don't want to be caught with an illegal fish.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has stocked hybrids in numerous area lakes to provide anglers with trophy-sized gamefish

and to introduce a predator that could feed on large gizzard shad as I mentioned earlier. All Texas lakes except Lake Caddo are manmade and these fish help to control shad populations in many of our reservoirs.

Some of our area lakes with Hybrid Striped bass include Bridgeport, Proctor, Benbrook, Lewisville, Ray Hubbard, Tawakoni, Cedar Creek, Richland Chambers and Belton. Granbury has

a few by accident that may have escaped from the hatchery below Possum Kingdom or were sent downstream during a flood. The Brazos River lakes namely Possum Kingdom, Granbury and Whitney are stocked with the full-blooded striped bass.

In Texas, hybrids commonly reach 7 to 10 pounds. Occasionally, an angler catches a 15- or 16-pound fish. The current world record stands at over 27 pounds.

During most of the year, hybrids can be located near main lake points or near structures. Live bait (live shad or bream) during most of the year is a good choice. In the winter, soft plastics such as jerk baits and swim baits are extremely effective.

This time of the year late spring or early summer is a great time to look for these

PLEASE SEE
OUTDOORS | B7

A funny and dark Gotham novel

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Forget about it. Put it out of your mind, don't worry about it. It's likely nothing, so let it rest. Let it go and don't be afraid because, as in the new book "Harley Quinn: Ravenous" by Rachael Allen, fear is how they make you scream.

Being a first-year intern at Gotham University was going to be The. Best.

Having completed the University's gap-year program last year, Harleen Quinzel was practically bouncing. She'd decided on research, possibly psychology, as a career and first year program included mentorship and a chance to study some of Gotham's worst, most notorious criminal minds. The Joker, Two-Face, King Shark, Mr. Freeze, she could be assigned to any one of them at Arkham Asylum.

First year was also going to be a bit of a relief.

Sure, she'd still have to put up with classmates like the jerk who kept asking if she was "straight now" (nope, still bi, today, tomorrow,



COURTESY OF
LAUREN WRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Pictured is author Rachel Allen.

last week) and she'd have to try to fit in, which was hard to do after what happened at the end of last year. Then, some of Harleen's friends were attacked with a fear spray that made them scream and scream, and her best friend died from it. There was gossip but Harleen had her research to

PLEASE SEE **BOOK** | B5

"Harley Quinn: Ravenous" by Rachael Allen C.2023, RANDOM HOUSE, \$19.99 349 PAGES



Visit Granbury to promote total eclipse deals in 2024

BY KATHY CRUZ

Senior Staff Writer

Staffers at Visit Granbury are masters at creating and promoting tourist-drawing events and it could perhaps be said that an occasion they are planning for 2024 will eclipse all others.

Next year, on Monday, April 8, Granbury will be "in the path of totality" for a solar eclipse, according to Visit Granbury, the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau.

In other words, Granbury will experience a total solar eclipse, which happens when the moon passes between the sun and the earth, completely blocking the face of the sun. When that happens, the sky darkens as if it were dawn or dusk.

Naturally, Visit Granbury

is working it.

The staff plans to coordinate eclipse events, hotel deals and specials for the once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Although total solar eclipses happen somewhere on earth every 18 months on average, they occur at any one location only once every 360-410 years, according to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

With the eclipse happening on a Monday, that could mean a three-day weekend in Granbury for tourists.

According to Visit Granbury, the total solar eclipse will last for 2 minutes and 6.8 seconds. It will start at 1:39:26 p.m. and end at 1:41:33 p.m.

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AWARD

FROM PAGE B1

The quarterfinalists — who hail from 197 cities — were selected from more than 2,000 submitted nominations.

According to grammy.com, one recipient will be selected from 10 finalists and will be recognized for their remarkable impact on students' lives. The 10th annual honoree will be flown to Los Angeles to attend the 2024 GRAMMYs, officially known as the 66th GRAMMY Awards, as well as a range of GRAMMY Week events.

The nine additional finalists will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and the schools of all 10 finalists will receive matching grants.

Fifteen semi-finalists will also receive a \$500 honorarium with matching school grants.

Morales, who previously taught as the band director at Kauffman ISD and Castleberry ISD, said coming to Granbury was the best decision he's made.

"It has been wonderful," he said. "Everyone's been welcoming. Our students have been willing to work hard for all the new directors. The community members, superintendent, and administration have just been wonderful and really supportive in the arts."

He said his favorite part about being the band director at GHS is being able to work with students and create music.

"It's not a job to me," he said. "Creating music, that's my entire day."

Morales said he is all about his students and that their future is a priority to him.

"At the end of the day, I want our students to have fun in band," he said. "I want them to continue to work hard and learn the skills that they learn in band so when they leave high school, they have the tools they need to be productive and create lifelong memories; just building that culture."

Semi-finalists for the 2024 Music Educator Award will be announced this September. The ultimate recipient will be recognized during GRAMMY Week 2024.

"I think it's super cool, and I can't wait until the next phase," Morales added. "We'll see (what happens)."

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

THE IDLE AMERICAN



COURTESY PHOTO

Audiophiles — those who have a great interest in sounds — may find themselves lamenting the sounds of a bygone time or delighted by sounds of the present. Even some automobiles come fitted with tech to play a wide range of sounds at the push of a button.

New sounds and those from another time

Dilemma horns seemed to gore when I contemplated this week's piece. I could have ridden (written?) off in either direction and still wound up with words to spare.

Would I write about what I miss most — sights or sounds — that now seem permanently closeted in yesteryear?

I yearn to ask readers for directions to a place where fireflies still fly on summer nights, as if celebrating the setting of the sun. I'd burn a few gallons of gas to get

there, remembering such times when such bliss was taken for granted. Recalled are moments of serenity and reflection, putting aside the probability that mosquitos chose the same night to seek their prey.



BY DON NEWBURY

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

MISSING SOUNDS

But, no. I'm going to expound a bit about sounds, thanks largely to a call from my academician brother, Dr. Fred Newbury, who is seven years my junior. Only lately has he admitted to joining the ranks of us who lament a lot.

I'd been thinking about old sounds, only a few of which I'll mention. Some would find neither rhythm nor comfort in again hearing the clacking of manual typewriters in a newsroom. I'd love to hear such sounds again.

The same is true of roost-

ers crowing to help us start our days, sometimes much earlier than we'd planned. Similarly, the clucks of hens are missed. Their clucking usually meant that their daily mission of laying one egg each had been accomplished. Sometimes, their clucks also summoned chicks frittering about the barnyard. Too often now in our digital world, sounds have grown silent, replaced by cursors darting silently across computer screens. It

PLEASE SEE **IDLE** | B7

BOOK

FROM PAGE B4

enjoy, she loved her mentor, and she was fascinated by Talia al Ghul, who'd tried to assassinate Gotham's mayor. Talia was a great study-subject - even though Harleen wasn't technically supposed to ever speak to her.

Until Talia said that she

knew who made the fear spray. She needed information for information, tit for tat, and she hinted that she knew the truth about Straw Man, who was rumored to haunt Arkham and who had a hand in the fear spray, so...

So, then Harleen woke up in the hospital, the victim of a bad accident and amnesia. But was it an accident? Were this guy, Win, and the adorable Ivy trustworthy? And

the escape of Gotham City's worst, most violent criminals... was Harleen at fault?

Let's say a movie theater munched its film to a pulp and made a novel from the leftover cells. Or they used the mush to paint a Ben-Dot artwork panel, but in words. That's kind of how you could think of this book. As a part of the "DC Icons" franchise, "Harley Quinn: Ravenous" almost screams

graphic novel or comic book.

So, what's the problem? Nothing, as long as you know that before you pick it up, because that's the sort of feel you'll get in what only looks like a regular novel. Nothing, if you relish a story that starts with action and peppers it with chaos before dropping readers into a land of dark monsters and crime. Nothing at all, if you've read author Rachael Allen's

novel-before-this-one - otherwise, you'll be awash in humor, feminism, superheroes, and scrambling to find your footing. Be warned.

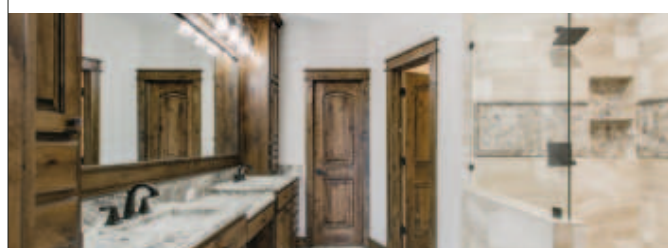
Overall, love a funny, crazy-paced dark-Gotham novel with a feminist warrior, you'll devour "Harley Quinn: Ravenous." As for a bookmark...? Nah, forget about it.

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GO PLAY

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

MONDAYS

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

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

SONS OF the American Legion Post 491 of Granbury Burger Night. 5 - 7 p.m. American Legion Post, 3409 Davis

Road. Funds raised are used to support veteran and community youth programs. Open to members and guests. Details: 515-554-6498.

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

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

TUESDAYS

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

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



PLEASE SEE **PLAY** | B6

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PLAY
FROM PAGE B5

BEGINNERS' CHAIR Yoga 45-minute Class. Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. - Donations for Local Charities are accepted. Class will take place at Emmanuel Lutheran Church located at 2301 Fall Creek Hwy, 76049. For more information call 817-326-2201

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has Mini tournaments every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

SATURDAYS

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

HOOD COUNTY Hummers Walking Club, 8 a.m., meet every Saturday at Hilton Garden Inn, 635 E. Pearl St., for 5K or 10K walk for fun, fellowship and fitness. Details: 972-567-3278.

SUNDAYS

THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has Mini tournaments every Sunday at 2 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

FIRST MONDAYS

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

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

FIRST TUESDAYS

GRANBURY DOLL Club meeting, 2 p.m. Granbury Doll House Museum,

421 E Bridge St. All doll appreciators are welcome!

SECOND TUESDAYS

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

FOURTH TUESDAYS

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

FIRST THURSDAYS

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

SECOND SATURDAYS

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

THIRD MONDAYS

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

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

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

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SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on May 10 (Puzzle 26).

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Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret (PG13)
Fri: 2:00PM, 4:35PM, 7:10PM, 9:45PM.
Sat: 11:00AM, 1:35PM, 4:10PM, 6:45PM, 9:20PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 1:35PM, 4:10PM, 6:45PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:35PM, 7:10PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM

Book Club: The Next Chapter (PG13)
Fri: 2:35PM, 5:10PM, 7:45PM, 10:20PM.
Sat: 10:20AM, 12:55PM, 3:30PM, 6:05PM, 8:40PM.
Sun: 10:20AM, 12:55PM, 3:30PM, 6:05PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:35PM, 7:10PM.
Thurs: 2:05PM, 4:25PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM

Fast X (PG13)
Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:05PM, 7:00PM, 8:10PM

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG13)
Fri: 2:25PM, 3:45PM, 7:00PM, 8:55PM, 10:20PM.
Sat, Sun: 10:25AM, 12:30PM, 1:45PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:40PM, 3:45PM, 7:00PM.
Thurs: 5:15PM, 8:30PM

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 in 3D (PG13)
Fri: 5:40PM.
Sat: 3:45PM, 10:15PM.
Sun: 3:45PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 6:00PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM

Nefarious (R)
Fri, Thurs: 7:00PM, 9:30PM.
Sat: 10:05AM, 12:30PM, 7:35PM, 10:00PM.
Sun: 10:05AM, 12:30PM, 7:35PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 4:20PM, 6:50PM

Rally Road Racers (PG)
Fri: 2:15PM, 4:35PM.
Sat, Sun: 10:10AM, 2:55PM, 5:15PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM.
Thurs: 4:35PM

The Super Mario Bros. Movie (PG)
Fri: 2:35PM, 4:55PM, 7:15PM, 9:35PM.
Sat: 10:00AM, 12:20PM, 2:40PM, 5:00PM, 7:20PM, 9:40PM.
Sun: 10:00AM, 12:20PM, 2:40PM, 5:00PM, 7:20PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:20PM, 4:40PM, 7:00PM.

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OUTDOORS

FROM PAGE B4

fish pushing bait fish to the surface. Top water action can be tremendous. If you get a chance, you might try putting some of these in the cooler. See you on the water.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water levels continue to be about 2 feet low. Some rain has been falling, so hopefully we will get some run-off to bring up lake levels. Granbury water temperatures are around the 70-degree mark and rising. White bass and small striper action is good near Indian Harbor on slabs and live bait. Bigger striped bass to 111 pounds are located on the lower ends and are best on large live bait. Largemouth bass numbers continue to be good with an occasional fish of 81 pounds being caught. Best action for largemouth is in the backs of major creeks and near main lake points. Big Blue and Yellow cats continue to be caught on cut bait fished on the upper ends near Hunter Park. Best crappie reports are coming from deeper docks on minnows and jigs.

On other reservoirs, Whitney limits of striped bass continue on Alabama rigs and live shiners/shad fished from the Island to the Katy Bridge. Same is true on Possum Kingdom mid lake from the dam to Hogs Bend. Largemouth bass are good to excellent as well on Possum Kingdom from Broadway to the Peanut Patch (work the back of the creeks feeding these areas).

Premier High School received national recognition

BY EDEN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Premier High School received the “Capturing Kids’ Hearts National Showcase Schools Award” for the 2022-2023 school year, an award only granted to 468 school campuses across the United States.

“We really do capture kids’ hearts at Premier High School,” Marsha Grissom, Director, Granbury’s Premier High School said.

Premier exists to fill the needs of local high school students whose needs may differ from what more traditional educational settings provide. A tuition-free credit recovery school, Premier has open enrollment and is fully accredited by the Texas Education Agency. They can sufficiently serve as many as 180 students at a time.

“Some of our students are ready to move more quickly through high school to graduate early. Some of our students are bound for medicine or law and they know that they will be going to school for a long time. Some of our students who have

fallen behind in a more typical classroom come to Premier to catch up. Some of those students will return to the more traditional setting after having done so,” Grissom shares.

After working in the traditional setting for 35 years, Grissom is keenly aware of the limitations of more traditional classrooms where students all have to move at the same pace. At Premier, students self-pace.

“After graduating from Premier we have had students attend D-1 schools, Community College, Technical Education Centers, and join the military. We really try to get our students to think about what is next for them,” Grissom said.

Premier participates in “Capturing Kids’ Hearts,” a program started by found-

er Flip Flippen in College Station. This program is a respected source of professional development for educators across the country.

“Capturing Kids’ Hearts” serves more than 50,000 educators. Supporting professionals in K-12 education through experiential training, expert coaching, a character-based curriculum for students and personal support. The “Capturing Kids’ Hearts” Process creates a good foundation that dovetails with the goals of Premier.

“Our primary goal at Premier is to establish relationships where the students understand beyond a shadow of a doubt that they are cared about as a person,” Grissom explains.

And “Capturing Kids’ Hearts” exists to equip educators to “Implement a transformational process focused on fostering student connectedness and growing a relationship-driven culture.”

Grissom describes the program.

“The teachers go through a week-long training and every month we meet with a “Capturing



Hearts” representative. They have endless resources: For example, they may provide activities to meet a small group goal,” she added.

The process of selecting schools for awards includes various data and surveys including student surveys, parent surveys and teacher surveys. Social, emotional, curriculum and character building are all key components in the success of Premier.

“Our kids know they are safe. We have procedures.

We don’t have serious discipline issues. We put an emphasis on kindness. The students sign a contract where among other things they commit to respect themselves and each other,” Grissom said, “We have students who are friends at Premier who would never be friends at traditional schools.”

Grissom is pleased they have met the goals of both Premier and “Capturing Kids’ Hearts,” which endeavors “to change the trajectory of student’s lives.”

IDLE

FROM PAGE B5

is a different day.

SOUND DOWN UNDER

My brother wasn’t breathless, but he was borderline gleeful that his memory of playful childhood sounds had been refreshed. He has a friend who has one of those electric Tesla automobiles. It has several features that are absolute “jaw-droppers.”

We who can’t converse intelligently about either com-

puters and apps — or autos and features — simply can’t wrap our brains around one of the Tesla features.

Simply stated, Fred claims that his friend finds great delight in activating the “whoopie cushion” that is factory-imbedded in his auto’s passenger seat. No, it doesn’t emit any sound associated with a passenger’s “plopping down,” but does so when the driver presses the activation button. The driver has the option of sum-

moning all types of sounds--Fred says--including bass or

treble that may be short or protracted.

FUNNY

It has been decades since thoughts of joke-playing with “whoopie cushions” crossed my mind, but recollection now makes me smile. They were often the hit of birthday parties, early days of first grade or even opening moments of vacation Bible school

JEST AS YOU ARE

Researching the topic

just a tad reveals that we’re all “Johnny-Come-Latelys.” Roman Emperor Elagabalus (History “fuzzies up” concerning his date of birth, either 203 or 204 AD) enjoyed placing similar cushions in chairs of pompous guests.

Perhaps it was his court jester who learned that inflating animal bladders could result in unlikely sounds upon the application of pressure.

Whatever, the emperor enjoyed it, so jesters probably wore it out, holding out hope that such new tomfoolery

might lead to promotions. Enough said, I’m thinking.

NOT THAT SINFUL

Anyway, I can provide contact information for my brother if you have a friend who owns a Tesla. Maybe his — or hers — doesn’t have this feature.

If you mention the topic to him, he’ll burst out laughing before responding. I’ve had still another hearty chuckle this week. It was provided by my friend, longtime journalist Danny Andrews, whose

long tenure at the Plainview Daily Herald was measured as they estimate the ages of stalagmites and stalactites in the caverns. Among the many typos he remembers is an obituary claiming a woman to be survived by “three sins.”

Luckily, the survivors seemed to understand. Years later, he ran across a man who said he was “one of the three sins.” Andrews replied, “Say no more.”

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Spring Concert

BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER

Background of Granbury Opera House: Thank you, Mr. Kerr

Nowadays many people think that the Granbury Opera House just appeared a few years ago. They are so wrong. Let me start at the beginning. Theatres with Vaudeville shows were just beginning to appear in the smaller towns of Texas in the early 1880s.

Henry Kerr who had come to Texas in 1843 moved to Granbury in 1886. He erected the Opera House building starting in that same year. Kerr's Hall occupied the second floor but did not officially operate until 1891. A saloon and a saddle shop occupied the first floor. Kerr brought in entertainment from all over the area, everything from Shakespeare to Minstrel shows. Some of the local "old timers" said it was the most beautiful place they had ever seen.

Kerr did well in the entertainment business until Carrie Nation came to Granbury. The story goes that that she brought her ax to town in 1905 or some say 1911 and chopped up all the saloons. With no saloons, business at the theater slowed down. The final curtain went down in 1911.

After the theater closed, several businesses operated out of the building.

The first was J.B. Wilson's grocery. Next came a liquidation store, and then the first bowling alley. Some years later, the Doyle Insurance Agency office was there until it moved to its current location.

In the 1940s Joseph Carmichael operated a grocery store there. In the early 1950s his wife, Margaret Carmichael, took over the Estes Abstract company and re-named it Hood County Abstract Co. Granbury was a poor community so many of the old buildings had been

neglected, especially the Opera House.

When the roof began to collapse, I remember seeing Mrs. Carmichael working under a canvas tarp strung across the inside of the building, like a tent, to protect them from rain. Her grandson, John Campbell, told me about going there and playing in the back of the building where feed and hay from P.H. Thrash Feed Store was kept. He said that the old elevator to the theater still existed. In 1965, the Carmichaels sold the building to a relative. He held on to the property until 1972, when he sold it to Joe Nutt. At that time, the old building was in much worse shape.

Joe Nutt was an ancestor of the Nutt Brothers, who were some of the founders of Granbury. He and his wife, Lou, had moved back to Texas from Colorado. It is said that Lou fell in love with the building when she saw it. In 1974, Nutt made a deal with some local residents, who formed the Granbury Opera Association, to sell the building to them. The Granbury Opera Association borrowed \$16,000 from First National Bank to purchase the building at Nutt's original cost.

The resurrection of the Opera House started immediately. Architects were brought in to see what could be done to fix the old treasure. It was just four walls by that time. They finally came



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS FILE PHOTO

Pictured is the Granbury Opera House as it looks today.

up with a figure of \$200,000 to fix her up. The Nutts knew that fundraising would have to start for such a large project like this. The story goes that the Nutts were playing golf with a friend one day (a story was the friend was a nun). They were introduced by the friend to Jo Ann Miller, a Texas girl who was interested in archeology and the theater. Jo Ann was very interested in the Nutt's plans for the Opera House and was easily persuaded to become the manager.

JoAnn had her work cut out for her. Joe Nutt had already told her what the project would entail. She first went to work on fundraising. Fortunately, there were several wealthy families and foundations in the area and most of the money came in.

The people of Granbury also pitched in by donating time, labor, and money. The

first project was cleaning out the collapsed ceiling, the old rotted wood and the hay left behind. Often the old wood could be salvaged. Local craftsmen and builders helped with rebuilding the structure. Local people donated period pieces for use in the plays. Lou Nutt and Connie Lee came up with a project where local people needlepointed covers for the old seats. Only a couple of examples remain since the covers wore out. These are on display at the Bridge Street History Center.

JoAnn and the Board had a tight budget. She had the knowledge to go around Dallas and find left over fixtures from old theaters. From the Palace Theatre in Dallas came old footlights and a velvet drapery for the stage. The metal ticket window came from the old Granbury Post

Office. Nationally known artist Cynthia Brants painted a second canvas curtain, called an olio. The olio had advertisements paid for by local merchants to help pay for the vaudeville shows. Old theaters had done this when Kerr was in business. The community worked to make the Opera House look authentic.

Finally, the Opera House was ready to open in June of 1975. The Second Grand opening show, a "meller-dramer," as Jo Ann called it, was "Gold in the Hills." She had written it herself because the Association could not afford to pay the royalties of a play or Broadway type show. Students from Texas Christian University and Tarleton State University acted in the plays. Since the students were here in the summers, they "camped out"

on South Houston Street. The Opera House was not open year-round then since tourists did not come in the winter.

The Opera House has continued through thick and thin. It was patched together and has had two major remodels. What you see today is nothing like the original second floor theatre. It is somewhat similar to the theatre I wrote about here. I wish the readers could have experienced the fun of the old plays JoAnn wrote. They were quite a treat.



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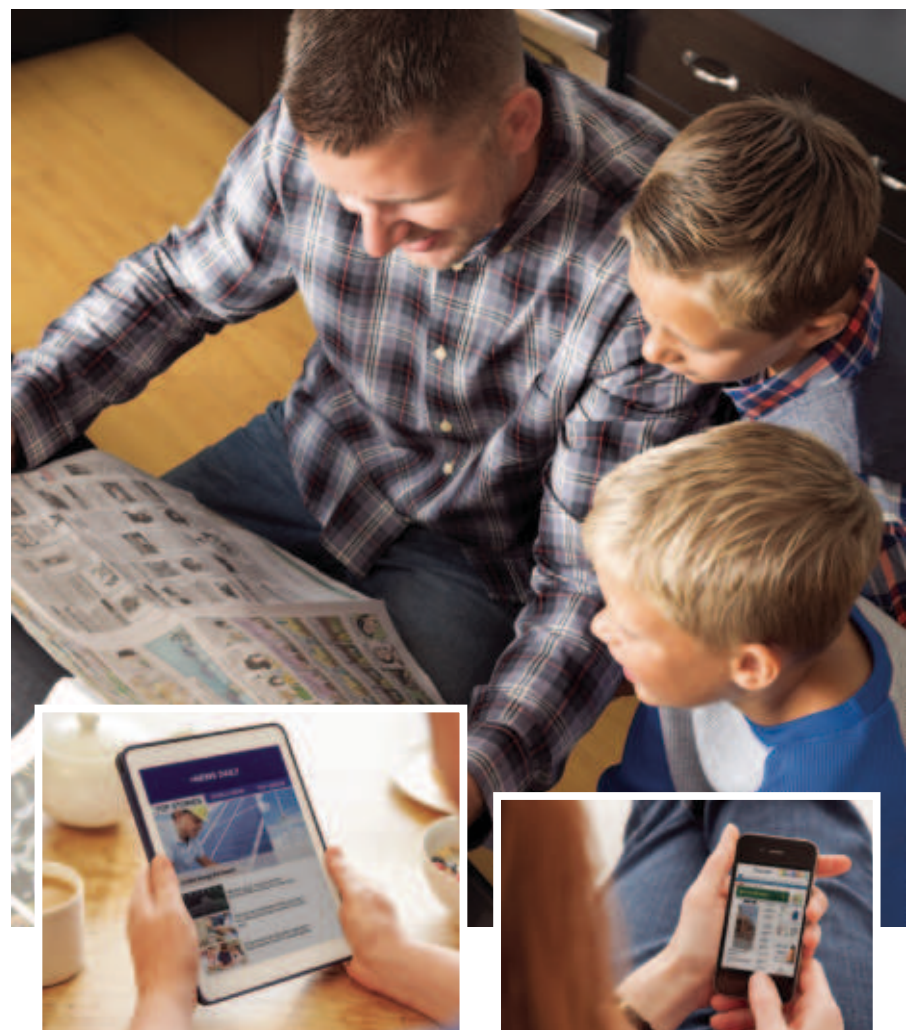
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