



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

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GROWING PAINS

HCN examines Hood County's evolution, struggles, triumphs through real people



GROWING PAINS

DAVID MONTESINO | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Construction of the multi-story waterfront Dolce Vita apartment complex for seniors changed Granbury's skyline, upsetting some who want Granbury to keep its small-town charm.

Increasingly, Hood County is becoming home to people who didn't grow up here but choose to live here. Retirees, especially, are drawn by the lake, the golf courses, and the upscale gated communities, but younger families are moving here, too.

Many non-natives want the community's growth to stop upon their own arrival. How can Granbury continue to have the small-town charm that attracted them, they reason, if it is no longer a small town?

But the growth hasn't stopped, nor will it. Texas is the fastest growing state in the country and Granbury, where tourism is the main economic driver, holds a lot

of appeal.

A few years ago, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that Hood County was the ninth fastest-growing county in the country based on growth that occurred between July 1, 2017, and July 1, 2018.

Last month, the U.S. Census Bureau ranked Fort Worth as the fastest-growing city in the country based on July-to-July growth be-

tween 2021 and 2022.

Will some of that growth migrate this way?

Of course, it will, and such was noted during Tuesday morning's city budget workshop at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. City and county officials have their work cut out for them as they strive to keep property tax rates low while meeting significant infrastructure and staffing needs.

Through the "Growing Pains" series that begins in this issue, the Hood County News explores some of the challenges posed by the community's evolution. It does so not through dry facts and statistics but through the life stories of

real people.

Unlike standard news articles, those featured in "Growing Pains" are referred to by their first, rather than their last, names. That's because the story of Hood County — what it was, what it is, and what it is becoming — is a tale about our friends and neighbors.

kcruz@hcnews.com | 817-579-1886



State historical experts tour burned Nutt House Hotel

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Two representatives of the Texas Historical Commission came to town last week at the invitation of Mayor Jim Jarratt to tour the Nutt House Hotel on the Granbury Square, which was just weeks from reopening after a lengthy remodel when it burned in an early morning fire in March.

Katharine Sheldon, a project reviewer for the Disaster Assistance Program in the THC's Architecture Division, and Austin Lukes, also a THC project reviewer, joined up with Jarratt; owner Cindy Thrash Nobles; two of her family members, Trey and Paula Thrash; local historian Mary Saltarelli; and city staff members at Granbury City Hall before walking the short distance to survey the hotel's damage.

Grant funds are available through the THC and Jarratt indicated to the Hood County News that he is hopeful that, should Nobles choose to pursue grant funds, they will help defray the cost of repairing the building that has long been part of Granbury's history.

Sheldon and Lukes provided information to Nobles and the Thrashes and answered their questions. Nobles and Trey Thrash are descendants of Granbury's first mayor, Patrick H. Thrash.

The hotel sustained severe damage in a fire that was discovered around 1 a.m. on Thursday, March 2. Multiple volunteer fire departments responded to the scene.

Although the blaze was contained to the second floor, the entire building suffered smoke and water damage.

No cause for the fire has yet been publicly reported.

Jarratt credited Saltarelli with helping him connect with the right state officials who might be able to help Nobles.

"We view that hotel as part of our historic heritage," he told the HCN, noting that the Granbury Square is a "national historic square."

He added, "Hopefully, the state of Texas and the Historical Commission feel the same way."

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County approves pay raises for prosecutors 'courted' by other counties

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

A special meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court was called last week to discuss what is becoming an ongoing budgeting headache: employees leaving because they can earn more working for other counties.

Such special meetings have resulted in higher pay for Sheriff's Office employees and 911 dispatchers. This time, the pay raise request was for assistant district attorneys.

The district attorney's office headed by Ryan Sinclair has five ADA positions. Two ADAs have quit and a third might follow, he said, having been offered an additional \$25,000 to work for the Johnson County DA's office.

If that person departs, that would leave Sinclair with just two assistants at a time when his office is

servicing two courtrooms due to a "cross-assignment" agreement.

That agreement allows 355th District Judge Bryan Bufkin and county Court-at-Law Judge Richard Hattox to hear each other's cases. The arrangement helps moves cases along faster, and it was noted by Sinclair and members of the court that the jail population has decreased in recent months, saving taxpayers money.

Voting on salary increases that run counter to the county budget is something that not all court members agree on.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson was strongly opposed to Sinclair's request, which came at a time when the Commissioners Court is about to begin working out the details of the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget that will

PLEASE SEE PAY | A3



137TH YEAR, NO. 80

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 32 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 32 pages

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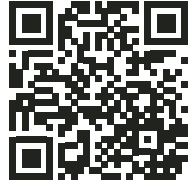
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Restaurant report card for May

Staff Reports

Each month, health inspections are conducted at city restaurants and commercial kitchens — any establishment with a license to serve food. The scores are published on the city of Granbury website. The Hood County News will publish the findings of these inspections on a monthly basis.

Each establishment with a food license is subject to inspection twice a year, according to an email from the city of Granbury. Only the schools and day care facilities are given prior notice of inspection.

In May, a total of 27 establishments were inspected. There were no failing inspections.

GRADING SYSTEM

According to the Granbury.org website, each inspection results in a score based on the number of violations found. Each score is based on a point system from 0-100, with a score of 100 being perfect. Each violation has a demerit value; this value is subtracted from 100 to give the inspection score.

Scoring Range	Meaning	Required Action
100-90	Very good	Regular inspection schedule
89-80	Good	Regular inspection schedule
79-70	Passing	Increased inspection frequency
69-60	Failing	Requires a compliance inspection within 48 hours
59-0		Requires immediate closure and re-inspection before reopening

VIOLATION SEVERITY

Violations may be classified as critical or non-critical. Critical violations, such as temperature control and cross-contamination issues, are more likely than other violations to contribute to food contamination, illness, injury, or cause an environmental health hazard. In the event that a critical violation is found, immediate action is taken to resolve the issue to ensure that public health is not put at further risk.

A non-critical violation is one that does not seriously affect public health. Any non-critical violations found during an inspection must be corrected by the time of the next inspection.

At times, violations are corrected at the time of inspection.

MAY		Score	Establishment	Score
5/2	Acton Middle School	100	5/10 Gigi's Cupcakes	100
5/2	Oak Woods Elementary	100	5/10 Lake Granbury Medical Center	98
5/3	GHS Gally	93	5/16 Granbury Care Center	88
5/3	Nettie Baccus Elementary	100	5/16 McAlister's Deli	94
5/3	Granbury High School Cafeteria	100	5/16 Golden Chick	88
5/3	GISD Admin offices	100	5/17 Big Lots	100
5/4	Granbury Middle School	100	5/17 Funky Munky	100
5/4	Mama's Pizza	90	5/18 Brew Drinkery	93
5/5	Emma Roberson	100	5/19 Fuzzy's	78
5/5	Brawner Elementary	100	5/22 Honeybee Ham	94
5/9	Burger King	76	5/23 Anise	100
5/9	Los Nares	93	5/30 Hot Wings & More	96
5/10	Asian Grill	77	5/31 Frog Juice Co.	93
			5/31 El Chico	84

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

REP. STENHOLM'S DEATH

The loss of Granbury resident, Congressman Charlie Stenholm last month, feels like the end of an era.

As a rural Democrat serving into the 2000s, he was elected to the U.S. House for 13 consecutive terms. Evidence that in the not-so-distant past, rural Texas was largely Democratic. A fact that seems to be forgotten by the Texas has always been and always will be red, folks.

Stenholm's specialty was reaching across the aisle. Known as a conservative Democrat, a description rarely heard today.

He knew how to get things done for his constituents, he had to compromise.

In a recent interview, he said, "You can have the greatest idea since sliced bread, you can be 100% right. But unless you can convince 217 of your colleagues, your solution is good, and then 61 senators, and then a president, pardon the grammar, it ain't gonna happen."

Charlie was successful working under both Democrat and Republican administrations; he was a leading architect of U.S. agriculture policy.

PLEASE SEE **LETTER** | A16



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GROWING PAINS — PART THREE

‘Million-dollar question’



PHOTOS BY DAVID MONTESINO | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Tolar rancher and former Precinct One County Commissioner James Deaver insists that developers played no role in his decision to nominate Jarrod Reynolds, not Mike Massey, to the board of the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District. Deaver said his main concern was landowners' rights.

Longtime ranchers, friends disagree on Upper Trinity aquifer, future groundwater supply

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Just as Mike Massey has returned to his ranching roots after being unseated from the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (UTGCD) board, so, too, has the man who helped remove him.

James Deaver, former commissioner for Precinct 1, shares commonalities with the man he considers a friend. He and Mike were both raised in Hood County on ranchland that has been in their families for generations, and both have a deep love for that way of life.

Water is what divided them.

While Mike feels a responsibility to safeguard groundwater for future generations, James' concerns are for those who are here now. He disagreed in 2019 when the UTGCD's board proposed increasing the minimum tract size for water wells from two acres to five.

In James' view, such a rule was not only unnecessary, but it would also have infringed on property owners' rights and negatively impacted economic development. An additional irritation was that board members did not confer ahead of time with the elected officials who had appointed them.

"To me, they were just trying to shove it down our throats," he said.

James worked in the county's Road Operations department for 26 years before being elected twice to a seat on the Commissioners Court. In all, he banked 34 years' worth of paychecks from Hood County.

The county jobs provided a more reliable income than ranching. The Deaver family's 260-acre ranch, which currently has about 50 head of cattle, is considered a small operation.

Though James is no longer collecting \$77,000 per year as a commissioner, he has no regrets about not seeking a third term. These days the only bleating he hears is from calves, not unhappy constituents.

James heard from some of those constituents in 2019 when UTGCD board members warned about the Upper Trinity aquifer trending down. But he insists that his disagreement with Mike, and other board members, was due to his own opposing views and not because of pressure placed on him by developers or anyone else.

The months-long controversy was continuing to cause heartburn in Hood County in May of that year when Mike's term on the UTGCD board was set to expire. The Commissioners Court appoints two local representatives to that board, and they serve staggered terms.

Instead of recommending that Mike be reappointed, James nominated Jarrod Reynolds, a Lipan resident who also comes from a longtime ranching family.

With the exception of then-Precinct 2 Commissioner Ron Cotton, everyone on the court voted for Jarrod, or, perhaps more accurately, against Mike.

James insists that his own actions against Mike weren't personal. He believes that there could be other options for future water supplies - options that, unlike the proposed five-acre rule, wouldn't infringe on landowners' rights.

Seventy-five percent of the earth's surface is covered by water, so it's not as if there is a true water shortage, in James' mind. Who's to say that technology won't someday allow for ocean water to be purified and transported far inland to supplement groundwater?

Another issue for James in 2019 was that if a rule requiring larger tract sizes for water wells was adopted, it might lead to large commercial wells being drilled.

"It looked to me like the path they were wanting to go was to sell water to people, and I'm firmly against that, being a country guy," he said.

James felt more comfortable with the information that Jarrod submitted when he applied to serve on the UTGCD board. The principal owner of CORE Management, LLC, a company that provides water treatment and wastewater treatment along with consulting services for public water systems and oilfields, Jarrod offered up research that painted a picture different from that presented by the UTGCD board. He had charts and graphs to support his views.

Jarrold, family man in his early 40s who lives on a 100-acre ranch in Lipan that has been in his family since his grandfather bought the land after serving in World War II, represents a younger generation stepping up to tackle groundwater conservation. His wife Sheree also gives back. She serves on the Lipan School Board.

Jarrold has a bachelor's degree in hydrology from Tarleton State University and a master's degree in water resources engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington. He even, he told the Hood County News in 2021, did some doctoral work in ground-



James Deaver drives his white pickup truck to tend to cows on his 260-acre ranch in Tolar.

"It looked to me like the path they were wanting to go was to sell water to people, and I'm firmly against that, being a country guy."

JAMES DEAVER

water modeling, studying under Gordon D. Bennett, "the godfather of MODFLOW," a computer code that solves the groundwater flow equation and is used by hydrogeologists.

During that 2021 interview, Jarrold stated that in 2019 the UTGCD board presented simulated drawdowns that were based on MODFLOW and included well logs and drawdown tests. Together these are used to create the DFC — Desired Future Conditions — which are a requirement of the district. He said that there is a "a lot of heterogeneity" in the aquifer and that MODFLOW simulated drawdowns might not always present the full picture.

"Where I'm at in Lipan doesn't necessarily behave the same way as in Granbury," he said. "My water table near my house is at 13 foot. (In Granbury) it's at 500 foot."

James likes the fact that the UTGCD now has someone like Jarrod on its board. It might benefit from some fresh ideas and perspectives, he reasons. Maybe the mysterious underground lake beneath Hood County is deep enough to provide water for a long, long time.

"The water will be available," Jarrold said about the future. "But will cheap water be available?" Jarrold has experience in purifying water, a process that can make water as expensive as gasoline. High TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) water is extremely expensive to treat, he said.

"As it gets more and more valuable as a resource, it becomes worth more and more money," he stated. "Common sense says if you put more and more straws in something, it's going to lower down. It will eventually reach an equilibrium where it

won't support any more and the recharge will equal the withdrawal rate. In many cases the withdrawal rate already exceeds recharge."

James mused, "You know, my daddy always told me, 'One of these days water is going to be the most precious commodity in the world.' And it will be, one of these days."

Might that happen sooner rather than later?

"That," James said, "is the million-dollar question."



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OUR MISSION: The Hood County News shall provide news and insights to our readers through the independent and impartial presentation of information that educates, enriches and entertains. We are proud to be a community newspaper committed to the people we serve.

OBITUARIES

Rose Putteet

January 26, 1933 - June 2, 2023

Rose Putteet, 90, passed away on June 2, 2023, in Granbury, Texas. Rose resided at Waterview The Point Independent Living for the past six years. The place she really called home was Cresson. She had been a longtime resident of Cresson until 2017, when she moved to Waterview.

Services were held at the Cresson Methodist Church on Wednesday, June 7, 2023. Rose was the pianist and organist at her church for over 49 years and was a member for over 70 years.

Rose was born in Mineral Wells, Texas, to Lewis Augusta and Lucille Herrin Moore. Rose married Billy Joe Putteet in July 1951, in Granbury. She moved to Granbury in her Senior year in high school where her father served as Superintendent. She played the first basketball game at the Decker Gym in Granbury. Upon graduation, Rose studied at Tarleton University. It was not long before she married her sweetheart, Bill Putteet.

Rose was a wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother to her family. She was a talented seamstress, homemaker, accomplished musician, volunteer, teacher, artist, floral designer, Granbury High Band volunteer and leader in her church and in the Cresson community. She led the way to ensure that Cresson and her ranch remained part of the city of Cresson. She was an officer and member of the Granbury Junior Woman's Club as well as the Wednesday Women's Club. In 1979, she was the recip-



ient of Mother of the Year from the Granbury Junior Woman's Club. Rose loved to travel, enjoyed her camping group and was the nucleus of her family. She never met a stranger, loved to play games, and was the life of the party at Waterview.

Rose is preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Bill Putteet; parents, Lewis, and Lucille Moore.

Rose is survived by her son, Larry Putteet, and wife, Karin Putteet of Granbury and her daughter, Teena Putteet Conway, and her husband, Jerry Conway of Cresson. She had three grandchildren, Caroline Conway Elliott and husband, Coleman Elliott of Colleyville, Blake Conway of Cresson, and Cole Conway of Grapevine. She is survived by one great-grandchild, Campbell Elliott of Colleyville. She also was blessed with her two sisters, Johnowene Hall of Weatherford and Charla Jo White, and her husband, Ronnie White of Cross Plains. She was an aunt to special nieces and nephews and a friend to many.

Gary Duane Smith

May 26, 1955 - June 5, 2023

Gary Duane Smith of Granbury, Texas departed this world on June 5, 2023, at Baylor Hospital from complications following a heart attack. He was 68 years old.

Gary was born in Brownwood, Texas where he spent his childhood playing a game that would be his biggest passion—football. He graduated from Brownwood High School where he played football, won a State Championship, and was awarded All-State Linebacker honors. Gary continued his education at Tarleton State University graduating with bachelor's degrees in English and Physical Education. His goal was to teach English and coach high school football; however, along the way he developed a new passion for the grocery business. Gary found great success in pursuing a grocery career. He was one of ten in the country awarded a grant to attend the University of Southern California for the Food Industry Management program.

This career path led him to join the Walmart management family, a job he loved and served for over 30 years. During that time, he managed multiple stores where he experienced the joy of training many associates. He loved the daily opportunities to interact with a wide array of people.

Most important to Gary was his family. As a young man, he fell in love and married Karen Denise Car-



mack. Their 46-year marriage brought them two children, Eric and Tarin; and four grandchildren, Baylee, Lucas, Evelyn, and Oliver. Gary was an amazing father and grandfather. Whether it was travel, holiday parties, or sports events, Gary was always happiest with his family, and he never missed an opportunity to spend time with them.

Gary is survived by his wife, Karen; his son Eric and wife, Ashlee; his daughter Tarin and husband, Vince; his grandchildren Baylee, Lucas, Evelyn, and Oliver; his sister Darla and husband, Mike; his brother Bruce and wife, Sherry. He also leaves behind a large, beloved extended family and friends. Gary is preceded in death by his parents Dave and Melba Smith.

A visitation was held at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury Thursday, June 8, 6 - 8 p.m. The funeral service was held at Stonewater Church in Granbury Friday, June 9, 11 a.m.

Edelmiro Pena Villarreal

October 23, 1991 - June 2, 2023

Edelmiro "Eddie" Villarreal, 31, passed away on June 2, 2023. Born on October 23, 1991 in Granbury, TX, Eddie was the son of Edelmiro (Sr.) and Leonor (Najera) Villarreal. He was a beloved son and brother who was always looking out for everyone. He graduated from Premier High School (Granbury) in 2010.

Prior to graduating high school, Eddie started his own landscaping business. He went on to work in the oilfield, eventually earning his CDL and becoming a truck driver. He had a contagious sense of humor and loved spending time with his family and his two dogs.

He is preceded in death by his father, Edelmiro Pena Villarreal Sr.

Survivors include his



mother, Leonor Villarreal; siblings, Sylvia Stoker, Norma Villarreal, Hector Serrano, Leonor (Abel) Hernandez, Xavier (Carolyn) Serrano; numerous nieces and nephews, Vanessa, Brooklyn, Jason, Jade, Reagan, Amber, Celeste, Alyssa, Jonathan, and Miranda.

A private memorial service will be held by his family at a future date.

Mary Jean Smith

December 4, 1950 - May 30, 2023

Mary Jean Smith, of Godley, TX, passed away on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at the age of 72.

Memorial Service: 2 p.m. Thursday, June 15, 2023, at First Baptist Church Godley, 101 E. Allen Ave, Godley, TX 76044.

Mary is preceded in death by her mother, Joyce Hamm; father, Cliff Sifford; step-father, Joe Hamm.

She is survived by her loving husband of 45 years, Clayton Smith; their three beautiful daughters, Jessica Nielsen and husband Charles Nielsen, Megan Smith, Emmy Smith; sister, Patti Hughes; brother, Larry Sifford; grandchild-



dren, Skylar, Mia, Ella, Kash, Brielle, Taytum, Tucker; and one great-grandchild, Xander; numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members and dear friends.

Please see OBITUARIES, page A 14.

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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 1 ooze
 5 in Hays County on I-35
 6 Cowboys' Tom Landry was 1966 "Coach of the ____"
 7 TX Forrest of "North Dallas Forty" (init.)
 8 early name for TAMUCT (abbr.)
 9 in Canton: "Kingdom Paradise Island" (waterpark)
 15 TXism: "there are two chances, ____ and none" (unlikely)
 16 business of the Johnson Space Center in Houston
 19 Astros former spring training site: "____ County Stadium" in Florida
 21 Caesar or taco, e.g.
 22 across the river from Rio Grande City
 27 Washington bills Longhorn Band drum: "Big ____"
 29 kids start with ____ (IPV) shot at two months
 30 Cage of 2017 "Mom and Dad" with TX Anne Winters
 32 17th governor: ____ Roberts
 33 TX Chesnut's "____ Home" paper
 36 "Azle ____" paper
 37 female deer
 38 1977 film of UT grad Eli Wallach (2 wds.)
 39 stores all over Texas
 41 style of many Fair Park buildings: ____ Deco
 42 Floresville is the seat of this county
 45 they're "upon you" in Texas
 46 "____ long" (goodbye)
 47 TXism: "does a cat have a climbing ____?" (yes)
 48 ____ Boston, Texas
 49 very short socks
 52 ____ night
 53 "you don't have to ____ it in"
 54 OJ's judge, Lance
 55 biblical donkey

DOWN
 1 TXism: "____ pilot" (preacher)
 2 ____ of the storm
 3 stretchable
 4 TXism: "useless as ____"
 8 additionally
 9 in May and June, Cowboys have off ____
 10 TX-born Rashad who was "Clair Huxtable" (init.)
 11 TX Owen Wilson's co-star in "Marry Me" is aka "J-____"
 12 first "A" in "STAAR"
 13 how TX George Foreman would train
 14 Texas wants to ____ massive immigration at its border after traveling, it's ____ be back in Texas
 16 Baldwin of "Pearl Harbor" with TX-born Jennifer Garner
 17 TXism: "in ____ with" (associated)
 18 he was "Mingo" when TX Fess was "Daniel Boone" (2 wds.)
 20 TXism: "chew ____ awhile" (ponder)
 22 21st governor: ____ Culberson
 23 rented residence (abbr.)
 24 "it's a ____ point"
 25 Hawaiian "howdy"
 26 car imported from an oriental country
 28 cry noisily
 31 Mc____, Texas
 34 Chris ____Doux both competed and sang at Houston Rodeo
 35 TXism: "____ chaser" (early riser)
 37 Cowboy Hall of Fame WR, Pearson
 40 "the ____ have it" (passed)
 43 Sam Houston's last wife, Margaret ____
 44 a Spanish wine mascot of Sul Ross State University
 51 Harris of "The Right Stuff" with TX Dennis Quaid

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 P-1641

Are you protected from disability risk?

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 Like many people, you may try to stay healthy by exercising regularly, following a good diet and avoiding dangerous activities. But as we know, life is unpredictable, and despite your best efforts, you may encounter an injury or illness that can leave you unable to work for several months — or longer. If this happened, would you have difficulty paying your bills? Or would you be forced to dip into investments meant to help you achieve long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement?
 To help prevent these outcomes, you may want to

protect yourself against the possibility of a disability. One good move is to build an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Even if you never need this fund for a disability, it's hardly a wasted effort, because you could use the funds for other unexpected costs, such as a major repair to your home or car.
 But to feel truly prepared for a disability that could threaten your financial situation, you may also need to consider disability insurance. If you work for a mid-size or

large company, your employer may offer group coverage as an employee benefit. This coverage can be valuable, but it may not be sufficient. For one thing, many employer-sponsored disability policies won't fully replace your lost income. Also, some group policies may make you wait longer than you'd like before your benefits kick in. And these policies aren't always "portable," either — if you leave your job, you might also be leaving behind your disability plan.
 For these reasons, you may want to consider purchasing a long-term disability insurance policy. However, the features of these policies vary greatly, so you'll want to be diligent in choosing the poli-

cy that's right for you.
 What are the key features to compare among policies? For openers, look at the type of policy — is it noncancelable or guaranteed renewable? With a noncancelable policy, the terms and premiums can't be changed, but a guaranteed renewable policy can increase premiums.
 Here are some other features to consider:
COVERAGE AMOUNT
 How much will you receive in benefits? You may be able to replace up to 100% of your after-tax income.
WAITING PERIOD
 How much time must pass from the onset of your dis-

ability until you start receiving benefits?
BENEFIT DURATION
 How long will you receive benefits? To protect against a long-term disability, you might want a policy that replaces income until your planned retirement age.
INFLATION COVERAGE
 How much will your benefits increase each year? Ideally, you'd like your benefits to keep pace with inflation and keep up with what you might receive from future salary increases or promotions.
DEFINITION OF DISABILITY
 If you choose an "Own

Occupation" policy, you'll receive benefits if you can't work at the job you had when you became disabled. With an "Any Occupation" policy, you'll receive benefits if you can't work at any job based on your qualifications.
 Clearly, there's much to consider when choosing a disability policy. You might want to consult with a financial professional, who can help you pick a policy that fits within your overall financial strategy. But don't wait too long — you may never need to use this protection, but you might like having it available.
 PAID ADVERTISEMENT

LETTER
FROM PAGE A11

Today, partisan politics has caused great divide in our county. Many now view any opposition as an enemy, who must be defeated. Charlie never looked at things that way, instead he looked for the common ground. He knew as Americans, If the ship goes down, we all go down with it, regardless of what side you're on.

When asked about working with Republicans he said, "So I learned, and I learned real quickly, Republicans were not my enemy, except during elections, then that we were opponents, not enemies. ... I looked for anybody that would agree with me, and I looked for others to agree with."

In a time when politics has become a sport of winners and losers, Charlie kept to his bipartisan values.

Last October, I spoke to Congressmen Stenholm about the upcoming state elections. He was very enthusiastic about our Democratic slate of candidates. At the end of our conversation, I exclaimed, Turn Texas blue! (The forever optimistic Texas Democrat rallying cry)

Charlie paused, smiled, looked at me and said "Purple!"

As we reflect on his legacy, we remember a leader who saw beyond party and worked for the good of all Texans.

How different our current state of politics could be, if we had a little less us versus them, and a little more Charlie Stenholms.

We keep his wife Cindy, his family and friends in our thoughts and prayers.

The Honorable Charlie Stenholm and his wisdom, integrity, and willingness for compromise will be greatly missed.

Adrienne Martin
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.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

RIBBON CUTTINGS



COURTESY PHOTO

Empire Realty Group LLC, virtual office. Granbury. Ribbon Cutting to celebrate their one-year Anniversary. Owner: Kevin Watson

Texas Master Naturalist program leads cleanup of Brazos River

From Staff Reports

The Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program led its sixth annual river cleanup over the Memorial Day weekend — transforming the Brazos River into a pristine and clean waterway.

More than 60 conservation-minded "river rats" converged on a 17-mile stretch of the river, removing almost two tons of trash during their efforts.

Members of the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program (representing Hood, Somervell and Johnson



COURTESY OF GARY MARKS

The Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program led its sixth annual river cleanup over the Memorial Day weekend, with more than 60 volunteers helping to clean up the Brazos River. During the cleanup, three teams utilized canoes, kayaks, and foot patrol to remove 143 unsightly tires from an otherwise pristine section of the river.

PLEASE SEE **CLEANUP** | A16

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CLEANUP

FROM PAGE A15

Counties) were joined by four other Texas Master Naturalist chapters, along with Friends of the Brazos, Brazos Outdoor Center, Texas Conservation Alliance, Texas Land Conservancy, and the Brazos River Authority in a collaborative project to clean up the Brazos River — with some volunteers traveling from as far away as Sugar Land, near Houston.

The cleanup concentrated on a remote stretch of river between the Highway 67 bridge, east of Glen Rose to the Brazos Point bridge 17 miles downstream. This year's "catch" included tires that have been dumped or used inappropriately in an attempt to stabilize the sand banks over the past 60-70 years.

During the past six cleanups, the Rio Brazos Chapter has removed more than 600 tires, dozens of bags of bottles and cans, a weather balloon, a computer, and other river debris.

This year, three teams utilized canoes, kayaks, and foot patrol to remove 143 unsightly tires from an otherwise pristine section of the Brazos.

Following the cleanup, Valerie Taber, a member of the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists, presented a lecture on dragonflies, while Friends of the Brazos later hosted a dinner for the group.

To top off the evening, Texas Parks and Wildlife Biologist Sam Kieschnick presented a lecture on insects of the night, followed by a mothing party that took place until the early hours of the morning.

On Sunday, May 28, advanced training classes and nature walks were presented by — and for — Texas Master Naturalists. The goal of these lectures was to aid in the continuing education required to maintain qualification as a Texas Master Naturalist.

To learn more about the Texas Master Naturalist program, go online to <https://txmn.org/rbc/>.

KNIEPER REAL ESTATE

Luxury, second home, and lakefront sales



BY PAM KNIEPER

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

During the pandemic, second homes became popular because of the rise in work-from-home flexibility. That's because owning a second home, especially in the luxury or lakefront market, allowed those homeowners to spend more time in their favorite places or with different home features. Keep in mind, a luxury home isn't only defined by price. In a recent article Investopedia shared additional factors that push a home into this category: location, such as a home on the water or in a desirable city, and features, the things that make the home itself feel luxurious.

A recent report from the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing (ILHM) explains just how much

remote work impacted the demand for second and luxury homes: "The unprecedented ten-fold increase

towards remote work since the pandemic is an historic development that will continue to fuel second home demand for many years to come."

But what if you bought a second home that you no longer use? If you're now shifting back into the office or are seeing your priorities and needs change, you may find you're not utilizing your second home as much. If so, it may be time to sell.

And if you own what's considered a luxury home, buyer demand for it may be even greater. In another report, the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing explains:

"... the last few years have left their legacy for the luxury market. While it might only represent a small percentage of the overall real estate market,

luxury homeownership's influence is growing. Not only has the purchase of homes valued over \$1 million (a figure considered by the National Association of Realtors to be a benchmark for luxury) tripled from 2.6% to 6.5% since 2018, but demand for multiple luxury properties has soared over the last two years.

And we have seen this happening in our beautiful hometown of Granbury. Sales in 2023 for homes valued over \$1,000,000 have increased by 25% over the same period in 2022 and sales for Lake Homes priced over \$500,000 are up almost 30%. That is significant and a large majority of those buyers are cash buyers, so the rising interest rates are not having the same effect on sales in this category.

This phenomenal increase has been driven by a growing affluent demographic who consider owning a luxury property a necessity in their asset portfolio. All indications are that this trend is here to stay.

If you own a luxury second home or Lake-House that isn't being used as much anymore, now's the time to sell. There are still buyers in the market who are looking for a home like yours today.

As always, we thank you for taking the time to read this article. If you have questions or comments, we would love to hear from you. Give us a call at 817-219-0456 or visit us online at www.WeSellGranbury.com.

pamK@knieperteam.com / 817-219-0456

AgriLife Extension expert provides tips to restore turfgrass

Submitted Item

Drought and harsh winter weather has taken a toll on lawns throughout Texas, leaving many homeowners wondering what can be done to restore turfgrass this summer.

"Last year we experienced severe drought conditions across the state and then winter featured some harsh freezes, particularly in North Texas and down through Central and South Central Texas," Young-Ki Jo, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service plant pathologist in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, Bryan-College Station said. "Water restrictions during the drought also prevented lawns from getting sufficient moisture to sustain growth.

Homeowners can take advantage during the spring by re-sodding or plugging turfgrass. This is the perfect time before it gets too hot."

ABOVE-NORMAL TURF LOSSES TO DISEASE

Following last summer's drought, Jo said precipitation returned to create a different type of stress - turfgrass diseases.

"This late-season precipitation promoted large patch disease caused by *Rhizoctonia solani*, a common fall disease that infects and decimates turf until plants go completely to winter dormancy," he said. "During the past summer and fall, turf damage was more than usual."

Jo said this dead turfgrass

is likely visible this spring, and turfgrass sometimes never recovers even with sufficient fertilizer and water.

"Fertilizer and water may promote dormant grass to grow but will not make dead plants revive," he said.

TAKE-ALL ROOT ROT DISEASE

Take-all root rot, a fungal disease by *Gaeumannomyces* species, has also been appearing in Texas lawns among St. Augustine grass, Bermuda grass and zoysia grass varieties. Jo said the fungus survives in soil, roots and stolons for extended periods and infects turfgrass during warm weather and wet soil conditions.

"The fungus can be found in unhealthy grasses in

damaged turf," he said. "However, it can also be found in healthy-looking grasses near the same damaged turf area. Drought stress can exacerbate the symptoms of the disease. When turfgrass is already infected with the fungus, drought stress can cause infected plants to rapidly decline, leading to death."

Fortunately, there are many fungicides available to control take-all root rot disease for homeowners. Many of these products labeled for the disease are available at lawn and garden retailers. The best time for application is the spring.

Jo said homeowners need to realize that dead areas of the lawn will not return to normal unless the dead plant material is removed and

plugged with new turfgrass and a soil amender.

"Also, make sure these newly established areas are well watered," he said.

Texas A&M AgriLife As the largest comprehensive agriculture program nationally, Texas A&M AgriLife brings together a college and four state agencies focused on agriculture and life sciences within The Texas A&M University System. With over 5,000 employees, and a presence in every county across the state, Texas A&M AgriLife is uniquely positioned to improve the quantity and quality of food production to benefit human health and lower health care costs, while increasing profitability for producers and ensuring environmental sustainability.



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COMMUNITY BUSINESS



CHAMBER NEWS

Membership an investment, not an expense

Brian Bondy, Chamber President

Membership organizations, like a chamber of commerce, are undergoing dramatic transformations as the number of companies, non-profits, and service businesses create monthly membership levels as a way to build cash flow and encourage doing business with them. For decades, there were chambers of commerce, civic clubs like Rotary, Kiwanis, and Optimists as well as fraternal organizations that were membership based. The proliferation of 'member benefits' has caused chambers of commerce to reassess their relationships with their members.

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce spent decades on a membership platform that was based on the number of employees that a business had. If you had 1-5 employees, members paid the lowest rate; however, if you had 100-plus employees, you paid the highest rate. The theory was simple — larger businesses can afford to pay more, and if you were a financial institution, not only did you pay a higher rate, but you also paid an amount based on the deposits in your bank. It was not unusual for banks in the 1990s and early 2000s to pay upwards of \$100,000 for chamber memberships in larger metro areas.

Even though memberships were based on number of employees, the benefits that members received were identical at all levels. Following the banking crisis in 2008, a significant number of banks began reassessing their investments in local chambers of commerce citing their financial commitment versus their implied benefits. During the early 2000s, the tiered membership concept was born. Any business could join at any level based on a series of direct and indirect benefits. The more that the company invested, the greater the number of benefits available to be used. With a membership system like this, chambers of commerce quickly found that they could welcome any kind of business seeking membership-based benefits.

When the Granbury Chamber of Commerce transitioned to tier-based membership levels, we found that while most members continued to be basic business members, there were many more that valued the extra benefits that came with one, two, or three tier higher memberships. By placing a value on the services provided by the Chamber, we can offer members a variety of marketing options without asking for any additional monies. This is why we talk about chamber membership as an investment and not an expense — and why joining a local chamber of commerce is still one of the best ways to build visibility for your company.

Hood County sees a 61.45% increase in sales tax revenue in May

By Staff Reports

Local sales tax revenue had increases and a few decreases in the month of May, according to a report from the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. The majority of May sales tax revenue is based on sales made in April and remitted to the agency in May.

Hood County net sales tax revenue totaled \$887,263.19 in May, a 61.45% increase from May 2022 when the sales tax totaled \$549,542.53.

Out of the four major cities in Hood County — Granbury, Lipan, Tolar, and Cresson —

Tolar saw the most net sales tax revenue increase while Cresson saw a decrease during May compared to the same period last year.

Starting with the highest increase, Tolar's net sales tax revenue totaled \$21,327.34 in

May, a 21.46% increase from the same period last year, where the sales tax revenue totaled \$17,558.83. Granbury saw a modest increase in sales tax revenue of \$1,094,130.47 or 1.59% from the same period in 2022, where sales tax revenue totaled \$1,076,925.86.

Cities in Hood County that saw a slight decrease in net sales tax revenue were Cresson with a total of \$103,255.88 or -1.33% from the previous year of \$104,657.54, and Lipan with a total of \$9,296.14 or -1.06% from the previous year of \$9,396.31.

Texas Comptroller Glenn

Hegar said state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.84 billion in May, 4.1% more than in May 2022.

"The rate of sales tax revenue growth continues to moderate, with the increase in May — compared with a year ago — representing the lowest annual rate of increase observed in the 26 months since the end of pandemic restrictions," Hegar said. "This slower growth is expected and in line with the economic outlook we detailed in our Biennial Revenue Estimate, as both the rate of inflation and

PLEASE SEE TAX | A3

RIBBON CUTTINGS



Anslay Vacuum & Sewing, located at 1030 E. Hwy 377, Suite 108 Granbury. Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening. Owner: Nick Anslay.

COURTESY PHOTO



Stonewall Title Company & The Reid Firm, located at 1840 Acton Highway Granbury. Ribbon Cutting for the 15-year Anniversary of Stonewall Title Company and the Grand Opening of the New Suite of The Reid Firm. Owners: Steve Reid and Samuel Reid. Steve Reid is also the owner of Stonewall Title Company.

COURTESY PHOTO



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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The Hood County News is overflowing with exciting news



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.

It is my sincere hope that everyone enjoys the larger, more inclusive Hood County News. Our staff is tremendously excited to move to a once-a-week publication because it will allow us to provide more and better coverage for our readers. Additional pages will allow us to keep you abreast of what is going on in the community we all love. Please remember to go online to the hcnews.com website for breaking news, daily.

We all know there is always something going on in Granbury! The HCN has added a variety of information to the expanded paper, including a community business page to report news such as building permit numbers, new developments, businesses coming to town, sales tax allocations, and ribbon cuttings. We will be having reports from the Granbury Chamber of Commerce about the Women in Business group and the Young Professionals, as well as recognizing the anniversaries of long-time local businesses.

We are adding more coverage of our schools, a column on "gaming" and more features on your neighbors, friends and folks who

are a part of our community. We will even have a "Folks Around Town" segment that will introduce you to one of your fellow citizens.

Once a week allows us to produce larger, more in-depth stories like the Growing Pains series, which is making its first appearance in today's paper. We will have even more photos and in-depth stories as we roll along.

If there is something you would like to see covered, feel free to send me an email and share your thoughts. I always enjoy hearing from readers. We are YOUR community newspaper, and WE COVER YOU!

HCN staff award, recognition
The past weekend I attend-



CLAUDIA PEREZ RIVAS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

From left, Hilary McAllister, Ashley Inge, Mary Vinson, and Kathy Cruz.

ed the Texas Press Association Convention. The information I was able to absorb in those three days will serve me well throughout the year. Learning and listening to other professionals is very much a positive and helps our paper move forward to achieving our goal of being the best community newspaper in the state.

An exciting portion of the convention is when the statewide

awards are presented in the various newspaper categories. It is my great pleasure to announce the Hood County News staff was singled out to receive the following awards:

Mary Vinson
1st place Feature Photography

Hilary McAllister
1st Place Layout

Kathy Cruz, Ashley Inge
1st Place Feature Writing

Ashley Inge
1st Place Headline Writing

Congratulations to this dedicated group of newspaper professionals! Their work is exemplary, and their recognition is well

PLEASE SEE **PORCH** | A4

Folks around town



SAM HOUSTON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Randy Leach

Say hello to our neighbor, Randy Leach!

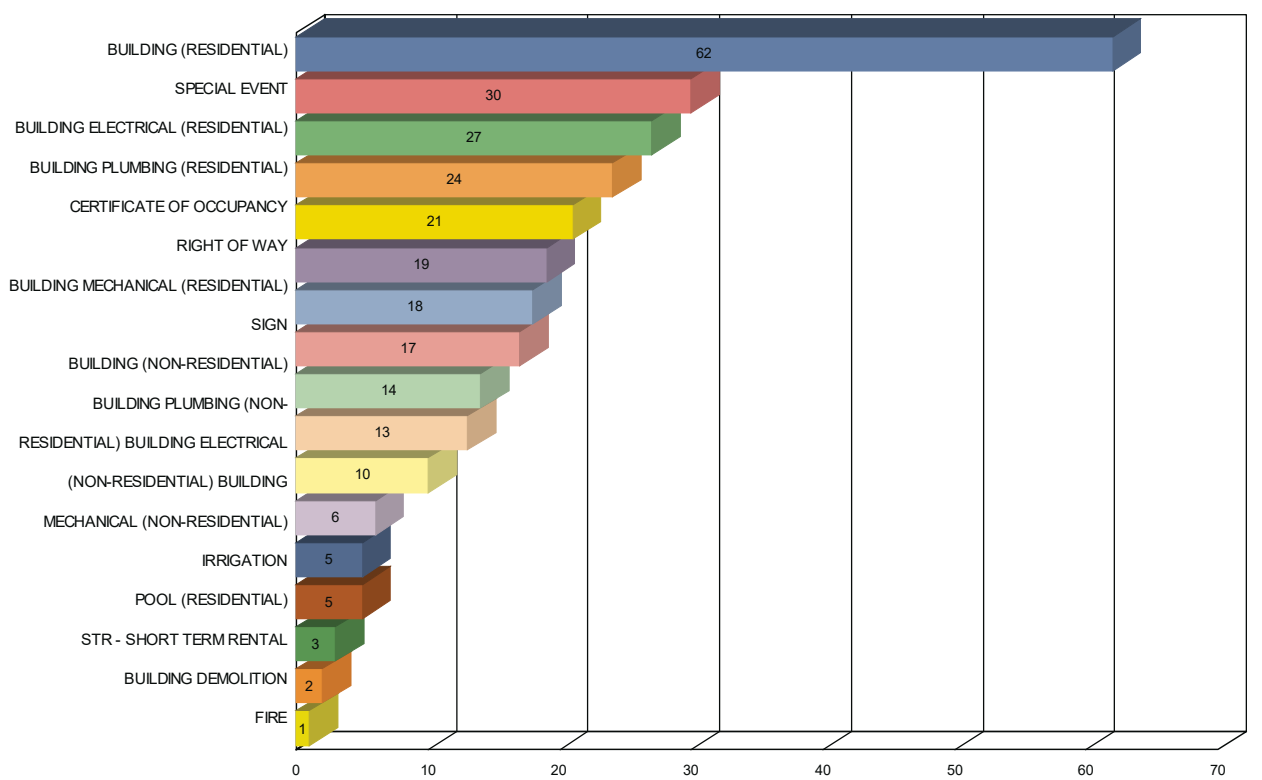
He retired after serving 41 years as a public-school educator, with 37 of those spent at the Granbury ISD where he served as a teacher, baseball coach, head football coach, athletic director and Director of Facilities and Maintenance. He currently serves on the Granbury Education Foundation Board and the Pecan Plantation Tennis Board. He is also a proud member of the local David Crockett Chapter of the Sons of the Republic of Texas.

He enjoys playing tennis, baseball, hiking and fly fishing.

Randy is one of the good guys! When you see him around town, say hello! He is your neighbor.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CITY OF GRANBURY BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED BY TYPE IN MAY



TAX

FROM PAGE A2

growth in real economic activity slow as demand cools in the face of higher interest rate policy and reduced fiscal stimulus from the federal government.

"While receipts from the oil and gas mining sector continued their large year-over-year gains, with remittances once again nearly 50 percent higher than they were the same month last year, growth in receipts from other sectors driven by business spending stalled. Receipts from the construction, manufacturing and wholesale trade sectors bare-

ly exceeded year-ago levels.

"Remittances from the retail trade sector were negative in May compared with May last year, making it the second time in three months receipts from retail trade have dipped below year-ago levels. Declines were evident in most subsectors, including building materials and home improvement stores, clothing and accessories stores, electronics and appliance stores, furniture and home goods stores, general merchandisers, and sporting goods and hobby stores.

"Restaurant receipts increased at about the inflation rate for food away from home in April."

Total sales tax revenue

for the three months ending in May 2023 was up 5.6% compared with the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 56% of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes:

- motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$599 million, down 1% from May 2022;
- motor fuel taxes — \$340 million, up 6% from May 2022;
- oil production tax — \$497 million, down 17% from May 2022;
- natural gas production tax — \$199 million, down 52% from May 2022;

● hotel occupancy tax — \$71 million, up 4% from May 2022; and

● alcoholic beverage taxes — \$156 million, up 2% from May 2022.

Fiscal 2023 franchise tax collections totaled \$6.22 billion year-to-date through May. Compared with collections through May 2022, year-to-date franchise tax collections were up 20.7%, an extraordinary increase driven by boom conditions in 2022 following the pandemic as well as pricing dynamics in the high inflation environment driving corporate revenues up faster than costs, according to the Texas State Comptroller of Public Accounts.

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

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THE PAPER YOU LOVE, BROUGHT TO LIFE IN PRINT, ON YOUR DESKTOP, TABLET OR SMARTPHONE

CALENDAR

MONDAY, JUNE 12

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting. Program: Meet our High School Senior Scholarship Winners. 11:00 a.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Hwy 377, Granbury. Details: 254-716-5195.

GRANBURY WINE Society will meet from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Bull Lion Wine Shop located at 104 N. Houston Street. Anyone interested in becoming a member is encouraged to attend; MUST be 21 years of age and hold a current TABC Server certificate. Members are requested to wear their name badges. Check us out on Facebook. Details call Vickie D, Society President at 407-595-9226.

LAKE GRANBURY Art Association (LGAA) monthly meeting will be 6 p.m. at Shanley House Center located at 224 N. Travis St, Granbury, TX 76048. The featured artist is Kay Wirz. There will be refreshments and a free demo. More information on Wirz: Complex Color Relationships, Abstract Line and flat shape patterns, and mixed textural elements in her paintings. She has participated and received recognition in statewide juried shows and exhibits.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

THE GRANBURY Bridge Club will hold a special game of Fun Duplicate with lunch and dessert provided at 11 a.m. to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Donation is \$30; trophies will be awarded to the winners. Location: The Captain's Texas Cottage at 5918 Henslee Court, Granbury. Call to reserve your spot at 817-480-4472. Space is limited.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

KIWANIS CLUB will hold its meeting on June 15 at noon at Farina's located at 202 N. Houston St. on the square. The speaker is Sam Houston, Publisher of the Hood County News.

MONDAY, JUNE 19

THE GRANBURY Bridge Club will hold a special game of Fun Duplicate with lunch and dessert provided at 11 a.m. to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Donation is \$30; trophies will be awarded to the winners. Location: The Captain's Texas Cottage at 5918 Henslee Court, Granbury. Call to reserve your spot at 817-480-4472. Space is limited.

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

KIWANIS CLUB will hold its meeting on June 22 at noon at Farina's located at 202 N. Houston St. on the square. The speaker is Shelly Curtsinger, Director GISD Special Education Program.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

MARINE CORPS League Detachment 1297 Meeting monthly the last Thursday of each month at the American Legion Hall 3409 Davis Rd. Granbury, Tx. 76049. Chow is at 18:00 meeting at 19:00. Marines, FMF Navy Corpsman/Navy Chaplains Memberships available. Associate memberships also available. All hands welcome. Next meeting is June 29th. Semper Fidelis. 682-498-3250

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.



Appraisal District names Petree interim director

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The board of the Hood Central Appraisal District has named Richard Petree as interim chief appraiser following the resignation of Chief Appraiser Eddie Roe.

With years of experience, Petree takes the reins at a critical time, when taxing entities are preparing budgets for the upcoming fiscal year.

According to a statement emailed to the Hood County News, Petree has served as a consultant to the HCAD on various projects over the past several years, and thus has special insight into the workings of that office.

The press release stated that Petree "will hit the ground running with his proven record of leadership, experience, and commitment to his responsibilities during the interim period."

Roe was named chief appraiser in May 2020 after serving for a

brief time as interim chief appraiser following the retirement of longtime HCAD leader Greg Stewart. Roe submitted his resignation to the board at its regular meeting last month.

Petree's background includes being elected tax assessor-collector for Taylor County in 1976 and serving two terms. During his last term, he was named as the first chief appraiser for that county.

Under his leadership, the Taylor County Appraisal District received the Excellence in Assessment Administration award from the International Association of Assessing Officers in 2013, the first appraisal district in Texas to receive the honor. Petree retired from that office that same year.

In 1988, Petree was the recipient of the Texas Association of Appraisal Districts' Earl Luna Award, which recognized him as the outstanding chief appraiser in Texas.

He was recognized with the Excellence in Education award in 2004 by that same organization for his creation of the Chief Appraiser Institute, a training program for new chief appraisers that is now required by law.

Since 1981, Petree has been a member of the International Association of Assessing Officers. He was elected to the organization's executive board in 2004 and has served on various committees, including IAAO's Nominations, Awards, and Education panels.

In 2010, Petree was named IAAO's Member of the Year.

He was a contributing author to the Assessment Administration textbook written for tax administrators across the world and has authored several articles for publication in IAAO magazines and for the Texas Association of Appraisal Districts.

Petree has also been a member of the Texas Association of

Assessing Officers since 1977 and a member of the Texas Association of Appraisal Districts since 1982 where he has served in all office positions. He is a certified instructor for the state of Texas, teaching various courses in appraisal and ethics.

In addition to his role as interim chief appraiser for Hood County, Petree is a licensed facilitator for the Franklin-Covey organization and teaches "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People" and "Great Leaders, Great Teams, Great Results" to interested persons in government.

According to the press release, Petree was the top, unanimous choice of HCAD's board of directors "to lead HCAD while ensuring a smooth transition up to hiring and including training the next permanent chief appraiser."

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817-579-1886

Man who jumped from bridge for 'fun' receives fine

From Staff Reports

A man was detained last week after he told officers he jumped from a bridge because it was something fun to do.

Hood County 911 received a call in the early evening hours on June 1, indicating someone had jumped off the Hwy 377 bridge that spans Lake Granbury.

First responders as well as Granbury Police and Brazos River Authority Lake Rangers arrived on the scene after the 911 call came in at 7:26 p.m., according to information received from officers.

BRA Information Officer Judi Pierce said the man was not injured and was issued the citation by a BRA lake ranger on the scene because jumping off a bridge on

Lake Granbury from that height is unsafe and is against BRA regulations.

"Diving or jumping into the lakes from a public highway, roadway bridge, railroad bridge, water intake structure, utility tower or any other structure that is not privately owned," state the regulations.

The man was released shortly

before 8 p.m., without further incident. According to BRA Sargent John Riley, "this type of incident occurs several times per year with thrill seekers."

An email from Pierce stated, "On arrival, the man, wearing only pants, had swam over to the east bank of the lake and was found sitting under the bridge."

Granbury looks to hold steady on property tax rate for 2024

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The city of Granbury's proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year keeps the property tax rate what it is now, at .38 cents per \$100 valuation.

However, that doesn't mean that homeowners' property tax bills will be the same as they were for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Property valuations have been going up over the past decade and have increased 15% this year, according to the city.

At the rate of .38 cents per \$100 valuation, someone whose home

is appraised at \$300,000 will pay \$1,140 in property taxes to the city, according to Chuck Licata, a broadcast specialist in the city's communications department. He was featured in a short explanatory video shown at the city's annual budget workshop held Tuesday at the Lake Granbury Conference Center.

The proposed property tax rate was among topics discussed at the workshop.

Property taxes are the city's second highest source of revenue. Its top source of revenue is sales taxes. Other sources of revenue

include permitting fees and Parks and Recreation fees.

Property valuations are determined by the Hood Central Appraisal District. The city received preliminary numbers from the HCAD on April 30 and expects to receive final numbers in July, according to Finance Director Eva Gregory.

According to budget workshop materials, the city anticipates more than \$9.5 million in property tax revenues for the upcoming fiscal year. Of that, almost \$5 million (\$4,950,600) will go toward debt and almost \$4.6 million will go to-

ward maintenance and operation. Sales tax collections are projected to be \$12 million.

Hotel Occupancy Tax collections, which are used to promote tourism, are projected to total about \$1 million.

The public will have a chance to speak on the proposed budget and property tax rate at the City Council's regular meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 5.

The new budget will take effect Oct. 1.

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PAY

FROM PAGE A1

take effect Oct. 1.

However, County Judge Ron Massingill called the matter "an emergency situation" that was not Sinclair's fault.

"We cannot sit here and let his department lose that many people," he said.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle said he understood both viewpoints.

During the Wednesday, May 31, meeting, which lasted more than an hour, Sinclair stressed that the pay allotted for Hood County's ADAs is considerably less than what prosecutors working for other counties earn.

The discussion included comments from Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews and questions posed to Sinclair

by Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson.

Almost 30 minutes into the meeting, Samuelson made a motion to table Sinclair's request for "further conversation" about the "impact" of approving the pay raises.

Massingill stated that he was opposed to tabling it.

As the back-and-forth exchanges continued, Samuelson noted that Hood County offers one of the best, if not the best, in retirement and benefits.

She also stated that, where salary surveys are concerned, Hood County's pay scale may be appropriate because it is significantly smaller than some other counties. She said that Johnson County is three times the size of Hood County and Parker County is twice Hood's size.

"We have so many benefits here that other counties around us do not have," she said.

Sinclair indicated that non-competitive pay nevertheless presents a retention problem.

Ultimately, Samuelson's motion to table died for lack of a second.

Massingill then attempted to make his own motion but asked County Auditor Becky Kidd to assist with the proper verbiage.

The court approved pay increases, but not at the level Sinclair requested for the top two positions.

Here is a breakdown of what Sinclair asked for and what the Commissioners Court approved:

- Assistant DA: current annual salary, \$99,000; requested, \$120,000 (a difference of \$21,000); approved, \$112,000.

- Assistant DA (CPS cases): current annual salary, \$98,000; requested, \$115,000 (a difference of \$17,000); approved, \$110,000.

- Assistant DA (trial): current annual salary, \$85,000; requested, \$103,000 (a difference of \$18,000);

approved, \$103,000.

- Assistant DA (intake): current annual salary, \$78,000; requested, \$103,000 (a difference of \$25,000); approved, \$103,000.

- Assistant DA (trial): current annual salary, \$78,000; requested, \$90,000 (a difference of \$12,000); approved, \$90,000.

The vote to approve was 4-1, with Samuelson voting nay.

Some of the increased pay will be paid from \$20,000 that is available in Sinclair's budget, with the county likely needing to pay additional needed amounts from the contingency fund.

Kidd said that she will review the situation "in a couple of months" and will submit a budget amendment, if needed.

The increases took effect on Monday, June 5.

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PORCH

FROM PAGE A3

deserved. I am proud to be associated with each one of them.

I have been preaching for several years that the newspaper industry is not dying, it simply needs to restructure and refocus to provide the community information people want in an impartial and objective way. The newspapers that do so have suc-

cess and thrive. The HCN has seen ever-increasing numbers in subscriptions as well as advertising sales. People want and need a good community newspaper to inform them and promote their businesses and services. We will never stop filling that role.

Recently the TPA had an independent survey conducted of 1,000 random people across Texas. It turns out that 85% of Texas adults read a newspaper at least once a month, and 9 out

of 10 said newspaper advertising is important. Important because 60% of those readers use newspaper ads to guide them on which brands and services to purchase. Newspapers are the leading source, with TV at 58%, radio at 33% and social media at 32%. If you think newspapers have lost their effectiveness as an advertising media, you are mistaken.

Enjoy your Hood County News. We are here for you and will be for a long time to come. We will

keep evolving, keep getting better and keep leading the way. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your lives.

Thought for the day: Rudeness is a weak man's imitation of strength.

Until next time ... I will keep riding the storm out!

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GROWING PAINS — PART ONE

BRA's creation of Lake Granbury altered the course of the Brazos River - and Hood County's destiny



PHOTOS BY DAVID MONTESINO | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Brazos River Authority scrapped its Six Dam Program but did build one levee that was part of that project: the DeCordova Bend dam, which created Lake Granbury. Once the lake was open for business, developers quickly descended.

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

Under an ashen, rain-swollen sky on Nov. 11, 1957, John Graves nudged the bow of a canoe into the waters of the Brazos River near a bridge just below Possum Kingdom dam. Early Spanish explorers had dubbed the tributary Rio de los Brazos de Dios - River of the Arms of God - and Graves had felt those arms envelop him. He had fished in the river's waters and hunted and camped along its banks during the carefree days of his boyhood, before a Japanese grenade blinded him in his left eye during the Battle of Saipan.

Now the river was in danger of morphing into something that Graves feared he might no longer recognize. The Brazos River Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers planned to construct a string of lakes and dams from Possum Kingdom to the levee at Lake Whitney, about 30 miles northwest of Waco, effectively drowning the flatwater stream.

Graves had no way of knowing it then, but the BRA's plans would, over the course of half a century, bring dramatic change to Hood County, leading to it becoming one of the fastest growing counties in the country and a mecca for Texas tourists seeking weekend getaways.

Thirty-seven and divorced, Graves had returned home to Fort Worth that year to be with his ailing father and to teach undergrads at Texas Christian University. The younger Graves had served as a captain in the Marine Corps during World War II, then attended graduate school at Columbia University on the GI Bill, earning a master's degree in 1948.

An aspiring writer, Graves, like many green scribes of the day, endeavored to emulate the minimalist style of Ernest Hemingway, a renowned American novelist, journalist, and short-story writer. But the literary world thus far had been unmoved by his prose.

On the day that Graves set out to spend three weeks on the Brazos rowing past plains, limestone cliffs and hills dotted with pecan, cottonwood, post oak and elm trees dressed in fall foliage, he was focused on two goals: successfully traversing the entire 175-mile-long route to Lake Whitney and penning a nostalgic travelogue to be published by Sports Illustrated.

Graves connected with nature on

that trip, but his essay did not connect with the magazine's editors. After demanding several revisions, the magazine dropped its plans to publish the piece.

The rejection stung, but something better was around the bend.

In 1960, Graves' "Goodbye to a River" became a celebrated book, and his most enduring legacy. It was even required reading for students at Texas State University.

Some believe that Graves' book influenced the BRA's decision to scrap its Six Dam Program, but BRA Public Information Officer Judi Pierce said it had more to do with pushback from industrial and agricultural interests in the lower basin. Those interests feared that flows in the Brazos River would be diminished, and quality compromised.

One levee that was part of the Six Dam Program did get built, however: the DeCordova Bend dam, which created Lake Granbury.

Just as the lake altered the course of the Brazos River, it also altered Hood County's destiny.

Mike Massey, 71, watched it all unfold.

"When work began on the dam, most of what is now the lake was the best farmland in the county," he said. "Much of it was planted in peanuts every year as was hundreds of

acres, if not thousands of acres, of other farmland. Peanut production was the single largest money crop in the county for farmers, followed by production of grain, mostly oats and maize. The acreage not being farmed was being used as pastureland for cattle."

He continued, "Hood County was very rural. Most, if not all, of the folks living in the Fall Creek community had never pulled the keys out of their vehicles nor locked the doors to their houses unless they were going to be away for a vacation prior to the lake. In Fall Creek there was so little traffic on the roads that all of the residents recognized the individual sounds of the neighbor's vehicles so that we knew who was passing by without even looking out the window."

After construction began on the dam in late 1966, truck traffic on Acton Highway and Route 2 - where the Massey family lived, and which is now called Rollins Road - became extremely heavy, Mike said, and traveling the curvy road from Fall Creek to Acton became dangerous. "As the dam was being built, the

was that it disturbed rattlesnakes, big ones, causing an alarming number of them to seek dry ground.

"We killed dozens of rattlesnakes in the fall of 1969 and the spring of 1970," Mike said. "We killed so many that our family quit mentioning that they had killed one unless they were as long as a hoe handle. A hoe handle is about 5 feet long and when rattlesnakes get that big their bodies get to be the size of a grown man's forearm."

Mike's father had a rule: If his sons came across one of the venomous reptiles, they could not "disengage" until it was dead, no matter how long it took.

When the dam was completed and the gates were closed in the fall of 1969, heavy rains caused the lake to fill up almost overnight.

On June 19, 1970, when Mike was 18, Texas Gov. Preston Smith traveled to Granbury to attend a dedication ceremony marking the lake's completion. Local preachers gave the invocation and benediction, and a celebratory barbecue supper featured entertainment by the Granbury High School band.

"It wasn't very long before folks in our area began removing keys from their vehicles, finding the keys to the doors on their houses so that they could lock them anytime they were not at home, and realizing they could no longer recognize their neighbors coming and going just by listening to the sound the vehicles made as they passed."

MIKE MASSEY

old farmers and ranchers lamented the loss of thousands of acres of the most fertile soil in the county as it was slowly being covered by water," Mike stated. "My brother and I and our friends made a makeshift ramp into one of the ditches on property owned by some of our kinfolks, Pete and Linard Roberts, so that we could launch a ski boat and because we knew where the river channel was located, we were able to ski well before the dam was completed.

"When you have walked on, hauled hay on, fed cows on, cleared brush from, and ridden horses across most of the area south of Acton you'd be amazed at the detailed information you might accumulate and how it might come to practical use some day."

An unintended consequence of filling the river bottom with more water than it had ever seen before

Lake Granbury, with its 103 miles of scenic shoreline, was officially open for business. It did not take long for developers to descend.

"There were people selling lots all over the county," Mike said. "My family was not involved in any of the development, but we watched as some areas sprouted homes and other areas had trailer houses or weekend cabins built on them.

"DeCordova Bend Estates was the first large development in our area, and my best friend and I rode horses through the area as they buried used water pipes, some said taken from Tarrant County, to serve the residents that were soon to begin buying lots and building houses there."

Like the creatures whose natural habitat had been disturbed, some of Hood County's long-timers began to feel that their own home was now different. They became less trusting

and felt less safe.

"It wasn't very long before folks in our area began removing keys from their vehicles, finding the keys to the doors on their houses so that they could lock them anytime they were not at home, and realizing they could no longer recognize their neighbors coming and going just by listening to the sound the vehicles made as they passed," Mike said.

The county sprouted 128 housing developments and became a mecca for retirees wanting to live near water and golf courses.

Tourism became Granbury's No. 1 industry. In 2019, 2020 and again in 2021, the city was voted Best Small Town in America in USA Today's "10 Best Historic Small Towns" competition.

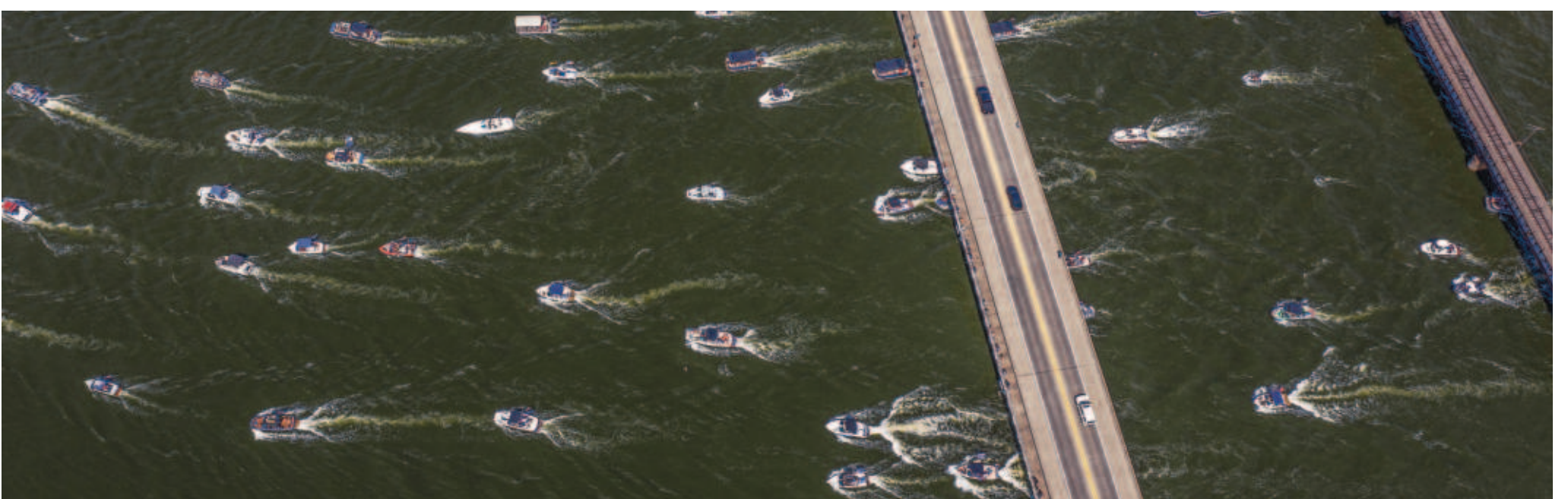
The community's growth accelerated, outpacing predictions. The U.S. Census Bureau deemed Hood County the ninth fastest growing county in the country based on growth that occurred between July 1, 2017, and July 1, 2018. Currently its population is more than 64,000.

In May 1970, when Mike was battling rattlesnakes, O.B. Ratliff of Lubbock wrote to BRA Assistant General Manager T.B. Hunter asking if Hunter could recommend a motel in Granbury where he could stay when he came to town for the lake dedication.

Granbury at that time was so small that Hunter recommended the Holiday Motel in Stephenville, some 30 miles away.

Today, the tourist destination boasts 588 hotel rooms, 67 bed and breakfast rooms and an ever-growing number of short-term rentals. No one really knows how many there are within the county's 437 square miles, according to Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley.

Hood County in 2023 is far different from the Hood County of 1957, when a man and his dog navigated the twists and turns of the Brazos River, bidding farewell to something that, for good or bad, was about to be changed forever.



Lake Granbury is a recreational lake and the main reason for tourism being Granbury's top economic driver.

GROWING PAINS — PART TWO

'Cones of influence'

Longtime rancher Mike Massey sounded the alarm on developers and the groundwater supply. It cost him.

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

After what happened back in 2019, Mike Massey has more time for working the land that has been in his family for generations. Not a lot, but more time than he had during the 12 years prior to 2019.

A conscientious man who takes a volunteer position every bit as seriously as a paid one, Mike no longer prints hundreds of pages of documents every month from the printer at his Fort Worth gun shop, Firearms Unlimited, where there is highspeed Internet. Over the years there were many nights when he stayed late, studiously absorbing the scientific data detailed in the papers and usually taking them home for further study on his days off.

Mike burned through two printers and had started on a third when he literally and figuratively was put out to pasture. While the current printer is "much relieved" that he doesn't ask it to work so hard anymore, it has not been completely silenced. The printer is called into service a good bit due to Mike's wife Christy serving on three volunteer boards.

These days, every Sunday and Monday when the gun shop is closed, Mike spends his time checking on the cows that roam the 400-plus-acre portion of Massey family property where he and Christy have lived for the past 17 years. He no longer stays up late on Sunday nights pouring over papers scattered across a big table in his living room. There is no need for all that anymore.

The acreage where Mike and his wife live now is off Mambrino Highway near SH 144, but the Massey family also owns land in the Fall Creek area, near the front entrance to Pecan Plantation. Mike and Christy used to live over that way. They raised their three boys in the house on Rollins Road where Mike and his brother Robert were brought up. Their youngest son Paul now lives there with his family.

The Masseys are among the oldest blood lines in Hood County, their history here dating back to 1860. The log cabin that was once the home of William R. and Caroline Massey, Mike's great-great-grandparents, still stands today in Fall Creek, where early settlers found cool, clear drinking water and good soil for farming.

Generations of locals caught catfish and perch in the creek, and the same waters that witnessed the shenanigans of skinny-dippers also washed away their sins at a baptizing hole. Robert was probably among the last to be baptized at that brook after he found an agreeable preacher to perform the ritual there in 1989. Father Mike, he was baptized at a Church of Christ that was once near the square, his father Julian joining him that day as they both committed their lives to the Lord.

Neighborliness runs deep in the Massey family. Mike recalls a story told to him as a boy by his great-grandmother, Nancy Rhodes Carmichael, about Caroline, the exceptional wife of William R.

When the young Masseys first moved to Hood County from Alabama in the mid-19th century, Indians still roamed the area, and they plagued settlers with raids. The continual assaults caused the Masseys to move five times in less than a year before moving to Fall Creek and staying put.

One day William R. was out with other men from the community chasing after Comanches who had been causing trouble. While they were out, a small group of Indians that included old men, women and children ventured

across the Brazos River close to the Massey homestead.

Instead of reacting with fear or anger, Caroline chose compassion. She instructed her children to move the family's dining table into the yard and there she served the weary travelers a homecooked meal. "My great-great grandmother said the Indians were just tired and hungry and appreciated the kindness," Mike said.

The generosity of Mike's ancestors led them to give away some of their 636 acres of land for the betterment of the community. They donated land for a church, a school, and a cemetery at Fall Creek. The church and school aren't there anymore, but the cemetery, located not far from Camp Fire's Camp El Tesoro, has served for generations as a final resting place for Massey descendants, those who were kin to Masseys by marriage and other locals. William R. and Caroline are buried there, and someday Mike and Christy will be, too.

Mike remembers sitting on a



PHOTOS BY DAVID MONTESINO | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Mike and Christy Massey have lived on ranchland owned by the Massey family, among Hood County's earliest settlers, since the fall of 1978.

ers and ranchers and a young woman who was crowned Miss Rodeo Texas 1971. In the dark theater, Mike spent 45 minutes working up the courage to ask Christy if he could place her hand in his.

"She allowed me to hold her hand that night and I have not let go," Mike said.

The couple married in Christy's hometown of Electra shortly after Christy, a National Merit Scholar, graduated from TCU with a bachelor's degree in nursing. The bride's gown had Chantilly lace and the three-tiered wedding cake, served to guests at the Electra Community Center, was accented with lilac and purple roses.

The following year, Mike, a 1969 honors graduate of Granbury High School, received his own diploma from TCU, earning a business

degree with an emphasis in computer science. In the fall of 1978, he moved back to Hood County, his wife by his side. They have lived here ever since.

Virtually everything Mike holds dear is tied to his roots. One of his proudest possessions is a plaque presented to the Massey family by the Texas Department of Agriculture denoting continuous ownership and uninterrupted use of family land for agricultural production for 150 years. The plaque hangs in the entryway of his and Christy's home.

The honor was bestowed on the family in 2014, the year before Julian died of cancer at 88. The elder Massey was among four generations of Masseys that accepted the award in the House chamber at the Capitol in Austin. "My father was sick at the time and spent most of the day in a wheelchair, but the joy in his eyes and the pride in his heart because there were so many of his heirs present overcame his pain, making the trip home a wonderful journey," Mike said.

The Masseys' reputation in Hood County indicates that backbone and do-unto-others Christianity are among the family's hallmark qualities. They are straight shooters, and not just because they

have won national and state shooting competitions. Mike's tendency to be straightforward played a role in a chapter of his life that began in 2007 and ended in 2019 when, in his view, developers and politics took control of the county, endangering future generations, and the Hood County Commissioners Court silenced the messenger. He was the messenger.

In 2006, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) identified several counties in North Central Texas as either currently experiencing or expected to experience critical groundwater problems, either with quantity or quality, over the next quarter century. The TWDB designated a Priority Groundwater Management Area (PGMA) that included Hood, Montague, Wise, Parker,

dropped. During that time Mike and Christy traveled to Austin so that Mike could testify before the Senate Natural Resources Committee. As he waited his turn to speak, Mike could see that the die had been cast and that the legislation was going to pass. It did, during the 2007 session.

A confirmation election was held in 2007 and more than 78% of residents who cast ballots voted in favor of creating the UTGCD. The UTGCD's board members are appointed by the Commissioners Courts from the four counties. Each court appoints two members to serve four-year, staggered terms. The district's operations are funded through fees applied for the use of groundwater. The organization does not have the authority to levy

tax. Because of Mike's interest and his willingness to get involved, the Hood County Commissioners Court asked him to serve as one of its' two appointees to the board. Mike accepted because he felt that serving would be the best way to "manage" the water district he had opposed.

His appointment to the board meant years of study, listening to countless presentations given by hydrogeologists, driving to monthly board meetings at the UTGCD's office in Springtown and spending money on HP printers that ultimately succumbed under the burden of board packets that were 200-300 pages.

For 12 years, the groundwater conservation district operated under temporary rules as Mike, other board members and UTGCD staff collected data and learned the ins and outs of trends occurring deep underground within the Upper Trinity aquifer.

Mike served as president of the UTGCD board for the organization's first six years and served for 10 years as the UTGCD's representative to Groundwater Management Area 8. GMA8 comprises representatives of groundwater districts in 44 counties in North Central Texas.

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The UTGCD's board collecting

revealed that Parker County was starting to experience groundwater problems. For years, the county has led the state in the number of well permits issued.

Hood County has been drilling far fewer wells, 50-60 each year compared to Parker County's 1,200-1,300, but in the view of Mike and other board members, similar problems would be coming for Hood County if steps weren't taken. If too many wells were drawing water out of the ground like multiple straws in one milkshake, "cones of influence" would be created, threatening water availability for many.

"Those cones of influence, when they start overlapping, that gets ugly in terms of what's available down there" because of water being sucked out of the ground, Mike said.

In November 2018, Mike and fellow Hood County board member Richard English, general manager of the Acton Municipal Utility District (AMUD), appeared before the Commissioners Court to say that the board would soon vote to adopt permanent rules. One of the proposed permanent rules was a five-acre minimum tract size for water wells. The county had been operating under a two-acre minimum rule.

The court opposed that idea and unanimously adopted a resolution requesting that the UTGCD hold off on adopting permanent rules until mid-2019 to allow the rules to be vetted by all involved and to see if there would be any relevant related legislation from that year's legislative session.

Soon, the chamber and the Granbury Association of Realtors chimed in with their own resolutions, siding with the Commissioners Court in opposing the 5-acre rule. Among the complaints was that it would kill economic development, infringe on property owners' rights, and prevent the subdivision and sale of land, which would be especially problematic for those who inherited land and had no interest in farming or ranching.

The calendar soon turned to a new year and a new court. County Judge Ron Massingill and Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle were seated, replacing Darrell Cockerham and Steve Berry, respectively, both of whom chose not to seek new terms.

The groundwater conservation district's proposed permanent rules continued to be met with opposition as the clock ticked down to the board's vote. Another, more strongly worded resolution was adopted by the Hood County Commissioners Court in February 2019.

Eagle especially was unwilling to take at face value the data presented by the UTGCD. He suggested that the court retain legal counsel and hire a hydrologist to serve as a consultant to the court - suggestions that were supported by his colleagues. The El



Mike Massey served for years on the board of the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District because he wanted to make sure there is groundwater for future generations.

mount of dirt at the cemetery and watching as his father, a couple of uncles and a couple of neighbors dug a grave, sharing stories about the departed soul as they labored.

"Some were funny, and everyone laughed, and some were sad," Mike said of the grave-digging ritual he witnessed as a boy. "And there was no shame in an occasional tear."

Annual cemetery workings used to be held at Fall Creek Cemetery, but attendees grew fewer as the graves grew in number. For the past 40-plus years, Mike's offshoot of the family tree has looked after the graveyard. First it was he and Christy taking responsibility, then it was their boys and now Paul is handling the task with help from his wife Michelle and their kids.

The beginnings of Mike and Christy Eakin's union date back to a Valentine's dinner on the campus of Texas Christian University in the early 1970s. They each had a date, and Mike's was not amused when his attention kept wandering to the dark-haired beauty sitting across the table.

He later asked Christy out, and she accepted. Their first date was to see the John Wayne movie "The Cowboys" - a fitting choice for a young man from a long line of farm-

ers and ranchers and a young woman who was crowned Miss Rodeo Texas 1971. In the dark theater, Mike spent 45 minutes working up the courage to ask Christy if he could place her hand in his.

"She allowed me to hold her hand that night and I have not let go," Mike said. The couple married in Christy's hometown of Electra shortly after Christy, a National Merit Scholar, graduated from TCU with a bachelor's degree in nursing. The bride's gown had Chantilly lace and the three-tiered wedding cake, served to guests at the Electra Community Center, was accented with lilac and purple roses.

The following year, Mike, a 1969 honors graduate of Granbury High School, received his own diploma from TCU, earning a business

degree with an emphasis in computer science. In the fall of 1978, he moved back to Hood County, his wife by his side. They have lived here ever since.

Virtually everything Mike holds dear is tied to his roots. One of his proudest possessions is a plaque presented to the Massey family by the Texas Department of Agriculture denoting continuous ownership and uninterrupted use of family land for agricultural production for 150 years. The plaque hangs in the entryway of his and Christy's home.

GROWING PAINS — PART TWO

FROM PAGE A6

Paso-based law firm Kemp Smith, LLP was retained by a unanimous vote by the court at its March 26, 2019, regular meeting, and the hiring of engineer A.W. Blair to provide "technical support" was approved with a 5-0 vote on May 14, 2019.

During the months that the Hood and Parker County Commissioners Courts pushed back on the proposed five-acre rule, there was brief talk of maybe compromising with a 3-acre tract minimum. Ultimately the UTGCD, Mike included, agreed to keep the minimum tract size for water wells at two acres.

Even so, Mike knew what was coming. He had warned his fellow board members after that first presentation to the Commissioners Court that they needed to be prepared to move forward without him.

"I knew what I was up against," he said. On May 28, 2019, two weeks

after the Commissioners Court agreed to hire Blair, the court was to vote on an appointment to the UTGCD board as part of the regular appointment schedule. In past years, Mike had been reappointed. This time he wasn't.

A motion to appoint Jarrod Reynolds to the seat Mike had held since 2007 was made by James Deaver, a fellow rancher and Mike's friend. It passed with a 4-1 vote.

Mike doesn't hold a grudge over having been ousted from the UTGCD board. Nursing resentments does no good, he said.

When detailing his perception of what happened, he speaks matter-of-factly, with no insults directed at those who opposed him.

The majority of the UTGCD board - six of the eight - felt that a 5-acre rule was in everyone's best interest, including that of future generations, Mike pointed out.

He said that the UTGCD board was pressured by the

elected Commissioners Courts in Hood and Parker counties to back off the 5-acre regulation because the politicians caved to developers. County judges and commissioners in the other two counties, Wise and Montague, shared the board's concerns about the future and were willing to live with the proposed mandate.

In several areas of Parker County where development has occurred on two-acre parcels, each with a private well, some of those wells are producing just two to five gallons per minute, Mike said.

"It was my personal hope that Hood County would not have to experience this problem if we took some action now to decrease the number of wells in a concentrated area before we started having large scale development with 200 to 600 acres divided into 100 to 300 lots each with a private water well," he said.

So far, most of the county's development has been where drinking water is obtainable

through public water systems and not private wells. But Mike fears that the developers who are eating up Parker County will eventually head toward Hood County, where much development is already occurring.

Mike believes that two-acre tract developments with private water wells will, over time, bring the same problems that are being seen in Parker County. There will be too many straws in the milkshake. Underground water sources don't replenish themselves very quickly, he warned.

"It is a problem that could and can still be delayed and possibly avoided if we act proactively rather than waiting until the water levels drop so far that recovery requires draconian measures," Mike said.

In 2022, when Richard English resigned his seat on the UTGCD board, Mike applied for the appointment but was opposed by Eagle, who is now in his second term.

Last November, the

Commissioners Court voted 3-2 to recommend that the UTGCD board, which decides appointments, pick Mike for the vacated seat. Eagle sent a letter to the board asking that it delay its decision until January 2023 when a new commissioner would be seated for Precinct 2.

The letter further divided an already divided Commissioners Court. In January, Eagle, with the votes of Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews and Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson, was able to rescind the recommendation for Mike and replace it with one for Bob Lusk, whom the three said was well qualified for the post. Lusk is knowledgeable about the management of private lakes and ponds and serves on the advisory committee for Texas A&M's Range, Wildlife, and Fisheries Department.

In April, after months of delay, the UTGCD board voted 5-7 to seat Lusk. The

motion and second were made by Parker County's representatives.

Mike has no regrets about shooting straight with the Hood County Commissioners Court, even though his message was not well received, and some disagreed with his views.

"I could have changed what I did and probably still be there," he said. "But I couldn't sleep at night. So, for me the choice was simple enough, and it was my choice. I'm willing to live with the consequences. I understand human nature. Politics is a whole other can of worms, and I understand how that works, too. But there are times and places when I'm not willing to play games."



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North Central Texas Academy is seeking chemistry/math teacher, assistant volleyball coach and assistant basketball coach. Full and part time positions available.
Apply at <https://www.northcentraltxacademy.org/about-hhfa-employment/teacher-application/>

8570

Sales

FT/PT CASHIER'S WANTED All shifts available \$10 per hr. weekly pay Apply in person at JJ'S Fastop 902 E US Hwy 377 (818) 573-5009

NOTICES

9031

Public Notices

Public Notice is hereby given that LGI Homes - Texas, LLC on behalf of Cresson MUD No. 1, Hood County, State of Texas, will receive bids for the construction of a new PWS Trinity Water Well and related improvements. All bids must be sealed and received on or before June 29, 2023 at 2:00 pm at 201 Main Street, Suite 901, Fort Worth, TX 76102 to be considered by LGI Homes - Texas, LLC. Any bids coming after that date and time, unless LGI Homes - Texas, LLC extends the date and time for all bidders, will be rejected. Sealed bids must be hand delivered to Pape-Dawson, 201 Main Street, Suite 901, Fort Worth, TX 76102; Attn: Matt Gilbertson, PE.

The improvements generally to be made may include: drilling and construction of a new potable public water supply Trinity Water Well and necessary water lines, valves, electrical lines and related improvements.

Proposal forms, specifications, plans, and contract documents may be obtained at the office of the Engineer located at 590 East South Loop, Stephenville, Texas, 76401, phone number (254) 968-8741 for the purchase price of Ninety-Five Dollars and no/100 dollars (\$95.00) for each half size or full-size set of documents. No refunds will be made. Plans and specifications may be obtained electronically by contacting Matt Van Hattem of Collier Consulting by email at matt@collierconsulting.com or by phone at 254-968-8741.

Collier Consulting, Inc., on behalf of LGI Homes - Texas, LLC, reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any or all informalities. No bid may be withdrawn until the expiration of ninety (90) days from the date bids are opened. LGI Homes - Texas, LLC is acting on behalf of Cresson MUD No. 1.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF CRESSON
REQUEST TO AMEND PLANNED DEVELOPMENT NO. LF/LGI-PD
Notice is hereby given that the City of Cresson has received a request for a revision of Exhibits B and F of the Planned Development Ordinance 2022-004 (Planned Development No. LF/LGI-PD) to allow for an additional 4.7-acres of Commercial Zoning in the southern portion of the planned development adjacent to Highway 377. The request also seeks to revise the zoning standards for the "Courtyard Villas" residential areas of the concept plan (Exhibit F). The entire 238.02-acre tract is located in the JM Hays Survey, Abstract No. 262, and the Joseph W. Randle Survey, Abstract No. 483, City of Cresson, Hood County, Texas, and generally located between Highway 377 and Old Granbury Road. A complete legal description of the property can be found on file with the City Secretary's office.

The City of Cresson will conduct a public hearing regarding the requested rezoning on Tuesday, June 27, 2023, at 7:00pm at Cresson City Council Chambers located at 8901 Hwy 377 E, Cresson, TX 76035. All interested parties are invited to attend. Cresson City Hall is wheelchair accessible. Requests for accommodation or other services must be made 48 hours in advance. You may contact the City of Cresson at 817-396-4729 for further information.

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Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - TRC 109 & 114 STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO. C2023049

LEWIS DEAN WILLIAMS, vs. STROUD'S CREEK, LAND COMPANY, L.P., ET AL IN THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS TO: UNKNOWN OR MISSING PARTNERS, HEIRS, OFFICERS, AND ASSIGNS OF STROUD'S CREEK LAND COMPANY, L.P., a Texas limited liability partnership, if living, and if any or all of the above-named Defendants be deceased, the unknown heir of each or all of the said above named or described deceased persons; and, the unknown owner or owners of the property described herein. Defendant, Greeting; NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you." You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of the issuance of this citation the same being MONDAY the 3RD day of JULY 2023, before the Honorable BRYAN T. BUFKIN 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas, at the Hood County Justice Center of said County in Granbury, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court, on the 27TH day of JANUARY, A.O. 2023, in the above-entitled cause. A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: THE ORIGINAL PETITION IS A SUIT FOR CIVIL, CIVIL CASE - OTHER, as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit, the nature of which suit is PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON BEING a 1,238 acre tract of land situated in the S. Watkins Survey, Abstract Number 575, Hood County, Texas and being a portion of Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Slide A-388, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows; BEGINNING at a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the southwest corner of Lot 7, Block 1, Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 1, Page 39, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows; BEGINNING at a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "RPLS 5696" found at the southwest corner of that called 0.620 acre tract described by deed to Lewis Dean Williams, recorded in Volume 2303, Page 19, Deed Records, Hood County, Texas, said iron rod also being the northeast corner of said Lot 6, said iron rod also being the southeast corner of Lot 6 of said Block 6, of said Stroud Creek Estates; THENCE South 51 degrees 26 minutes 54 seconds East, 158.72 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "MAN-HARD" set in the north line of Block 6, of said Stroud Creek Estates; THENCE South 51 degrees 27 minutes 35 seconds West, 290.82 feet along the north line of said Block 6 to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "MAN-HARD" set; THENCE North 21 degrees 59 minutes 51 seconds West, 198.49 feet, departing said north line of Block 6 to a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the southwest corner of said Lot 7; THENCE North 58 degrees 48 minutes 43 seconds East, 256.00 feet along the south line of said Lot 7 to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 47,984 square feet or 1.102 acres of land, more or less, and alternatively for declaratory relief concerning such property. BEING a 0.724 acre tract of land situated in the S. Watkins Survey, Abstract Number 575, Hood County, Texas and being a portion of Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Slide A388, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows; BEGINNING at a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "RPLS 5696" found at the southwest corner of that called 0.620 acre tract described by deed to Lewis Dean Williams, recorded in Volume 2303, Page 19, Deed Records, Hood County, Texas, said iron rod also being the southeast corner of Lot 7, Block 1, Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 1, Page 39, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas; THENCE along the south line of said called 0.620 acre tract the following calls: North 65 degrees 34 minutes 54 seconds East, 61.13 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "REALSEARCH" found; North 54 degrees 49 minutes 30 seconds East, 103.41 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "REALSEARCH" found; North 68 degrees 39 minutes 18 seconds East, 80.99 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "REALSEARCH" found at the southeast corner of said called 0.620 acre tract; THENCE South 13 degrees 44 minutes 02 seconds East, 124.03 feet to a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the northeast corner of Block 6, of said Stroud Creek Estates; THENCE South 51 degrees 27 minutes 35 seconds West, 207.45 feet along the north line of said Block 6 to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "MAN-HARD" set; THENCE North 31 degrees 26 minutes 54 seconds West, 158.72 feet, departing said north line of Block 6 to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 31,554 square feet or 0.724 acres of land, more or less. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 11 day of MAY, 2023. Attorney for Plaintiff(s): MARK B DEWITT, P.O. BOX 1274 GRANBURY, TX 76049. WITNESS:TONNA L. NEWMAN, CLERK OF THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD BY Susan Ashmore, Deputy

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Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION -TRC 109 & 114 STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO. C2023042

WILLIAM DEWITT MCCLARAN AND MELDA C MCCLARAN V 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS TO: THE UNKNOWN OR MISSING PARTNERS, HEIRS, OFFICERS, AND ASSIGNS OF STROUD'S CREEK LAND COMPANY, L.P. Greeting DEFENDANT: NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you." You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the Plaintiff's Petition at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of the issuance of this citation the same being MONDAY the 3RD day of JULY 2023, before the Honorable BRYAN T. BUFKIN 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas, at the Hood County Justice Center of said County in Granbury, Texas. Said Plaintiff's Petition was filed in said court, on the 27TH day of JANUARY, A.O. 2023, in the above-entitled cause. A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: THE ORIGINAL PETITION IS A SUIT FOR CIVIL, CIVIL CASE - OTHER, as is more fully shown by Plaintiff's Petition on file in this suit, the nature of which suit is PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON BEING a 1,238 acre tract of land situated in the S. Watkins Survey, Abstract Number 575, Hood County, Texas and being a portion of Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Slide A-388, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas and being more particularly described by metes and bounds as follows; BEGINNING at a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the southwest corner of Lot 7, Block 1, Stroud Creek Estates, a subdivision in Hood County according to the plat thereof recorded in Volume 1, Page 39, Plat Records, Hood County, Texas, said iron rod also being the southeast corner of Lot 6 of said Block 6; THENCE South 21 degrees 59 minutes 51 seconds East, 198.49 feet to a 5/8 inch iron rod with cap stamped "MAN HARD" set in the north line of Block 6, of said Stroud Creek Estates; THENCE South 51 degrees 27 minutes 35 seconds West, 290.80 feet along the north line of said Block 6 to a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the southeast corner of that called 2.2315 acre tract of land described by deed to Beau Gonzales, recorded in County Clerk's File Number 2019-0008005, Deed Records, Hood County, Texas; THENCE North 32 degrees 51 minutes 58 seconds West, 160.77 feet, departing said north line of Block 6 and along the east line of said called 2.2315 acre tract to a 1/2 inch iron rod found at the southwest corner of said Lot 6, said iron rod also being the northeast corner of said called 2.2315 acre tract; THENCE North 46 degrees 14 minutes 17 seconds East, 332.80 feet along the south line of said Lot 6 to the POINT OF BEGINNING and containing 53,936 square feet or 1.238 acres of land, more or less. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 16th day of May 2023. WITNESS: TONNA TRUMBLE HITT, CLERK OF THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS. BY Cami Roybal, Deputy

LEGAL AD
Hood County Purchasing Agent's office will receive sealed proposals at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, until 10:00 a.m., July 27, 2023. Proposals will be opened in a public meeting at that time and place.

Request for Qualifications
Civil Engineering Services
RFQ2023-05
Proposals may be submitted through Hood County's page on the BonFire website at <http://co-hood-tx.bonfirehub.com>. It is free to register and to bid. Proposal documents may also be obtained at the Purchasing Agent's Office located at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, or through the Hood County Purchasing website <http://www.co.hood.tx.us/purchasing.htm>.

Hood County reserves the right to waive formalities for the best interest of Hood County and the right to reject any and all bids. All invoices shall be paid at the regular semimonthly meeting of the Hood County Commissioner's Court.

For additional Information, contact Hood County Purchasing Agent at 817 408-3440.

LEGAL AD
Hood County Purchasing Agent's office will receive sealed proposals at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, until 11:00 a.m., July 27, 2023. Qualifications will be opened in a public meeting at that time and place.

Request for Qualifications
Land Surveyor Services
RFQ2023-06
Proposals may be submitted through Hood County's page on the BonFire website at <http://co-hood-tx.bonfirehub.com>. It is free to register and to bid. Proposal documents may also be obtained at the Purchasing Agent's Office located at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, or through the Hood County Purchasing website <http://www.co.hood.tx.us/purchasing.htm>.

Hood County reserves the right to waive formalities for the best interest of Hood County and the right to reject any and all bids. All invoices shall be paid at the regular semimonthly meeting of the Hood County Commissioner's Court.

For additional Information, contact Hood County Purchasing Agent at 817 408-3440.

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Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-38
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECTION 1.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit on the property addressed as 124 S. Travis St., as described in Exhibit 'A', City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, and located in the R-7,000 [R-7] district.

The Specific Use Permit (SUP) shall be issued to allow for "Short-term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted" as defined by the City of Granbury Zoning Ordinance under the following terms and conditions:

1. The Specific Use Permit shall automatically expire 1 year from City Council approval (June 6, 2024).
2. The site shall conform to the site plan (Exhibit B) and the floor plan (Exhibit C).
3. The Short-Term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted shall be limited to not more than three bedrooms.
4. Except as provided in these conditions, the Specific Use Permit shall be subject to the Supplemental Standards as contained in the Zoning Ordinance.
5. This Specific Use Permit is subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master Fee Schedule.
6. Any violation of the supplemental land use standards or terms and conditions stipulated in the SUP may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

SECTION 6.
Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00). Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-39
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECTION 1.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit (SUP) on the property located on an approximate 1.379 acre tract of land described the attached Exhibit 'A', City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, addressed as 512 N. Travis St. and located in the Residential-7,000 [R-7] Zoning District. The Specific Use Permit (SUP) shall be issued to allow for "Bed & Breakfast, Hosted", as defined by the City Zoning Ordinance under the following terms and conditions:

1. The Specific Use Permit shall automatically expire 1 year from City Council approval (June 6, 2024).
2. The site shall conform to the site plan (Exhibit B) and the floor plan (Exhibit C).
3. The Bed & Breakfast, Hosted shall be limited to not more than three bedrooms. (3 cottages with one bedroom in each of the cottages.)
4. Except as provided in these conditions, the Specific Use Permit shall be subject to the Supplemental Standards as contained in the Zoning Ordinance.
5. This Specific Use Permit is subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master Fee Schedule.
6. Any violation of the supplemental land use standards or terms and conditions stipulated in the SUP may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

SECTION 6.
Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00). Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-40
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, AMENDING THE AIRPORT FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023.

These ordinances are on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 116 W Bridge St. and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.

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Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons, including Terry Bullard, interested in the Estates of JAMES BULLARD, Cause No. P09999, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

CHRYSYAL GRIFFITH in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of JAMES BULLARD, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

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

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

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this 5th day of June, 2023.

KATIE LANG
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ CHRISTINE LEDERMANN, Deputy Clerk

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estates of PATSY LEE MACLEOD, Cause No. P09743, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

SARAH FLORES (MACLEOD) in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of PATSY LEE MACLEOD, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

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

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

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this 5th day of June, 2023.

KATIE LANG
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ CHRISTINE LEDERMANN, Deputy Clerk

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that, on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of Kenneth Christie, Deceased, were issued by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to Valerie Christie Fellhauer as Independent Executrix. Claims against the Estate may be presented to 217 Ranger, Hereford, Texas 79045 in care of "Representative, Estate of Kenneth Christie." All persons having claims against said Estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

PUBLIC SALES

9570

Auctions



Sat., June 10 at 10 a.m.

Benefitting the Hood County Livestock Raisers Association at 641 Reunion Ct. for building improvements

Taking consignments for farm and ranch equipment and some lawn equipment, plus donated items. (Please no small yard sale items)

Partial Listing

- 3 pt. 7 shank Mohawk chisel plow
- 3 pt. Massey Ferguson post hole digger (9 in Auger)
- 5 1/2 ft. 3 pt. box blade (no teeth)
- 250 gal. propane tank
- Water trough
- Electric cement mixers
- 5 1/2 ft. drag shredder w/ cylinder
- Hay dollies
- Overhead fuel tank w/ stand
- Grain buggy
- 100 gal. fuel tank w/electric pump on trailer
- Drag dump rake
- 3 pt. one row planter
- Breaking plows (3 pt.)
- Motorcycle trailer (homemade)
- 3 pt. 8 ft. long boom pole.

Taking consignments from
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. starting May 31, 2023 until auction time on Saturday, June 10.

For more information call
Lonnie Johnson 817-578-4862

Auctioneers: Lonnie Johnson TX #6396. Berney Beckworth TX #11678

AUCTION: TOLAR 7221 US HWY 377-The property of Jeramie Dykes, Raelii Young and Tressa Rader consisting of misc. household items. Will be sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale to the highest cash bidder. The facility retains the right to minimum bid. Affordable Storage 7221 US Hwy 377 Tolar TX 76476. 817-573-4130 Rain or Shine. Friday June 16, 2023 @ 10 am

9031

Public Notices

Construction
Invitation for Bids

The **Hood County Commissioner's Court** will receive bids for **TxCDBG Port Ridglea Grinder Pump Conversion REBID** until **10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023** at **Acton Municipal Utility District Office, located at 6420 Lusk Branch Ct., Granbury, Texas 79049**, at which time the Bids received will be publically opened and read aloud.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Base bid shall be for installation of thirty one (31) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location.
2. Additive Alternate Bid A shall be for installation of seven (7) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. Four (4) of these locations are under existing improvements, such as decks, porches, or awnings. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.
3. Additive Alternate Bid B shall be for installation of two (2) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. These locations are under existing structures and require access through crawl space to reach existing service lines. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.

The Bidding Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications may be obtained from Civcast at www.civcastusa.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents, Drawings and Technical Specifications at the Engineer's Office on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and the Acton Municipal Utility District Office, on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the **Hood County** or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

The **Hood County Commissioner's Court** reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by **Hood County Commissioner's Court** for a period not to exceed **30** days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

All contractors/subcontractors who's System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project

Hood County, Texas
Ron Massingill, County Judge
June 10, 2023

9590

Out of Town Sales

Final sale for restaurant supplies. Closing clothing store sale. Furniture and lots of misc. Fri-Sat, June 9-10, 8am-5pm. 1076 CR 1001, Glen Rose. For more info call Ernie at 817-894-8168.

Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

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

ESTATE SALE: 2314 Weatherford Hwy-June 8-9, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. CASH ONLY. Couch, chairs, dining tables, china hutch, roll top desk, Avon bottle collection, lawn mower, dishes, lamps, pictures, beds and linens. Much more!

9570

Auctions



Sat., June 10 at 10 a.m.

Benefitting the Hood County Livestock Raisers Association at 641 Reunion Ct. for building improvements

Taking consignments for farm and ranch equipment and some lawn equipment, plus donated items. (Please no small yard sale items)

Partial Listing

- 3 pt. 7 shank Mohawk chisel plow
- 3 pt. Massey Ferguson post hole digger (9 in Auger)
- 5 1/2 ft. 3 pt. box blade (no teeth)
- 250 gal. propane tank
- Water trough
- Electric cement mixers
- 5 1/2 ft. drag shredder w/ cylinder
- Hay dollies
- Overhead fuel tank w/ stand
- Grain buggy
- 100 gal. fuel tank w/electric pump on trailer
- Drag dump rake
- 3 pt. one row planter
- Breaking plows (3 pt.)
- Motorcycle trailer (homemade)
- 3 pt. 8 ft. long boom pole.

Taking consignments from
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. starting May 31, 2023 until auction time on Saturday, June 10.

For more information call
Lonnie Johnson 817-578-4862

Auctioneers: Lonnie Johnson TX #6396. Berney Beckworth TX #11678

PROMOTE YOUR GARAGE SALE
To Print & Online!
817-573-7066
classifieds.hcnews.com

9031

Public Notices

Construction
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Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Base bid shall be for installation of thirty one (31) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location.
2. Additive Alternate Bid A shall be for installation of seven (7) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. Four (4) of these locations are under existing improvements, such as decks, porches, or awnings. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.
3. Additive Alternate Bid B shall be for installation of two (2) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. These locations are under existing structures and require access through crawl space to reach existing service lines. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.

The Bidding Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications may be obtained from Civcast at www.civcastusa.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents, Drawings and Technical Specifications at the Engineer's Office on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and the Acton Municipal Utility District Office, on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

A bid bond in the amount of 5 percent of the bid issued by an acceptable surety shall be submitted with each bid [for those contracts that exceed \$100,000]. A certified check or bank draft payable to the **Hood County** or negotiable U.S. Government Bonds (as par value) may be submitted in lieu of the Bid Bond.

Attention is called to the fact that not less than, the federally determined prevailing (Davis-Bacon and Related Acts) wage rate, as issued by the Texas Department of Agriculture Office of Rural Affairs and contained in the contract documents, must be paid on this project. In addition, the successful bidder must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual identity, gender identity, or national origin.

The **Hood County Commissioner's Court** reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Bids may be held by **Hood County Commissioner's Court** for a period not to exceed **30** days from the date of the bid opening for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the bidder's qualifications prior to the contract award.

All contractors/subcontractors who's System for Award Management (SAM.gov) registration is not active or that are debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded from or ineligible for participation on federal assistance programs may not undertake any activity in part or in full under this project

Hood County, Texas
Ron Massingill, County Judge
June 10, 2023

Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

New Beginnings Resale Shoppe & Boutique

MISSION GRANBURY
817-964-3445
1204 Water's Edge Dr.,
(Across from the Movie Theatre)
#heretohelp
Shop: Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm
Sat. 10am - 4pm
Donate: Wed.-Sat. 10am-3pm

ESTATE SALE X 2 BY CARING TRANSITIONS: GRANBURY 1100 Fourth St.- Media by the thousands! DVDs, CDs, VHS, LP albums, cassettes, books; vintage stereo, reel-to-reel; drones x 4; power/hand/garden tools, table saws; sports equip., fishing/camping gear; HUNDREDS of puzzles; men's/women's clothes; vintage toys/collectibles; appliances. 2151 NE Loop 567- primitives; cast iron; salt glazed pottery/crocery; multiple rocking chairs; DVDs, VHS, LP/45 records, 8-track; blown glass; vintage electronics; sewing gear; pots, planters, garden art; baskets; Fire King, Pyrex; John Deere tractors; galvanized tubs; vintage/garden/hand/power tools; square mason jars. Photos at estatesales.net, search 'Treasure Hunt' & 'Life on the Loop'. JUN 8-10 12p-5p THR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT

Granbury 76049

Garage Sales 76049

MOVING SALE
2 Qu comforter sets, new Qu bed linens still in pkg, ladies handbags and sz 6.5 shoes & boots, Bissell rug cleaner, clothes steamer, dorm room ice-box, portable tv, incline treadmill, 1 book shelf and armoire. Too many things to list. All prices negotiable! Daily, noon-7pm. Text/call (512)466-4206 or come look or email mikegov.1969@gmail.com. 617 Aqua Vista Dr

ESTATE SALE: 2904 DAVIS RD
JUNE 9, 10 & 11, 9AM-3PM

Racks & racks of ladies & mens designer/high end clothing in perfect condition many still with tags. Ralph Lauren, Miss Me, Ann Taylor, Banana Republic, Guess, Old Navy & Harley Davidson, Cashmere, leather & silk. Purses, shoes, jewelry, household & kitchen items, office supplies, Lorex security system & monitor, motorcycle helmets, candles, heavy duty tools, lawn mowers & weed eaters, golf clubs & bags, workbenches, toolboxes. Too many items to list. This is one great sale you don't want to miss!

6413 Beacon Vista Cir- Fri & Sat June 9 & 10, 8am-3pm. Sunsetter electric awning, antique rockers, blow up lake toys, power tools, purses, shoes, bedding, Christmas decor, vacuum cleaners, electric attic fan, picture frames, and much, much more.

9031

Public Notices

Construction
Invitation for Bids

The **Hood County Commissioner's Court** will receive bids for **TxCDBG Port Ridglea Grinder Pump Conversion REBID** until **10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 26, 2023** at **Acton Municipal Utility District Office, located at 6420 Lusk Branch Ct., Granbury, Texas 79049**, at which time the Bids received will be publically opened and read aloud.

Bids are invited for several items and quantities of work as follows:

1. Base bid shall be for installation of thirty one (31) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location.
2. Additive Alternate Bid A shall be for installation of seven (7) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. Four (4) of these locations are under existing improvements, such as decks, porches, or awnings. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.
3. Additive Alternate Bid B shall be for installation of two (2) new grinder pump systems, service lines, electrical service improvements, and connection to existing plumbing and low pressure sewer system to replace existing septic tanks. Existing septic tanks shall be abandoned in accordance with 30 TAC 285.36 and local requirements. Refer to bid documents for location. These locations are under existing structures and require access through crawl space to reach existing service lines. Existing improvements must be repaired to existing or better condition upon completion of the project.

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Hood County, Texas
Ron Massingill, County Judge
June 10, 2023

Granbury 76049

Garage Sales 76049

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 601 Venus Drive- MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Thurs, Friday, Saturday Hours are 9 to 5 except Sat 9 to 2. Sporting goods, camping equipment, housewares, furniture, home decor, lots of good bargains! Rain or Shine. Thursday June 08, Friday June 10

Tolar 76476

Garage Sales 76476

HOT DEALS
GARAGE SALE: TOLAR 9204 Parkview Cir. Multi-family sale. Furniture, household items, new toys, bike, recliner, pack n'play, and more! Fri-Sat, 9th-10th. 8AM-3PM

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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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9031

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice of hereby given that on April 27, 2023, letters of permanent administration were issued to DONNA TAYLOR WASSON-BOONE by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled in the Estate of Donald Ray Taylor, under Cause No. P



Osborn lands more than just a record this time

And he follows with yet another record

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

Granbury's Barry Osborn and fishing records are as connected as beer and brats, politicians and promises, sweltering heat and August in Texas. But even he can't believe what he recently learned.

Fishing on Lake Granbury this past July he had the catch of his life. It wasn't the size ... he's caught plenty bigger. It was, however, unlike any other fish he's ever hauled in.

Without question it was his most unusual catch — and one of the most unusual in the history of fishing in Texas, or even in the United States.

And so began what he calls "the Cheeto Saga." Cheeto is what his wife Karen named the fish.

"I spent months finding a place to DNA test the fish. Finally, a few weeks ago we got the fish tested, and the results documented by the USGS (U.S. Geological Survey)," he said. "The DNA results were unexpected since the maternal DNA for the fish came back as an *Amphilophus trimaculatus* (three spot cichlid)."

Osborn said Cheeto appears to be a three spot cichlid hybrid, and he said he was informed it is the first documented orange cichlid hybrid of the species in U.S. waters. The three spot cichlid, also known as the trimac or red-eyed cichlid, is a species of cichlid from Mexico and Central America.

"The USGS tracks non-native species in the United States, and I contacted them about the catch," he said. "Cheeto is the first three spot cichlid hybrid fish that has ever been caught in the United States and currently has a listing with the USGS."

"What makes it unique is that it is all orange and does not show any of the typical outward physical characteristics of a three spot cichlid," Osborn said.

At press time, Osborn had been working with TPWD to get state record certificates for the fish.

RECALLING THE CATCH

"I saw an unusually bright orange fish in the water while I was fishing in June of 2022, but it stayed away from the shore and I could not get it to hit a fly. I went to fish in Alaska, chasing records, and did not return to fishing at Lake Granbury until July 2022," Osborn recalled. "When I walked up to the shore, I immediately saw the bright orange fish a few feet away. I cast my carp slayer fly to the fish and it immediately engulfed the fly."

"I lifted the fish onto the bank and was surprised when I could not identify the fish. I knew it was a cichlid, and should not be in Lake Granbury, so I filled a bucket with water and placed the fish in the bucket."

Osborn immediately took the fish home and put it in a 10-gallon aquarium, which was much too small for the fish. He decided to keep it until he could make an accurate identification.

"I contacted an inland fish hatchery at TPWD and told them about my catch. The timing was good because I was told the TPWD ichthyologist would be participating in a meeting with other biologists throughout the state, in the coming week," he said. "I sent pictures to the TPWD ichthyologist, the Fort Worth Zoo, the Biodiversity Center in Austin, and I contacted several pet stores that carried cichlids."

After much research Osborn determined that the fish was prob-

PLEASE SEE **OSBORN** | B2



COURTESY PHOTOS BY KAREN OSBORN

Barry Osborn with Cheeto, the three-spot cichlid hybrid he caught in Lake Granbury. It is believed to be the first fish of its kind ever caught in the United States.



Cheeto weighed less than a pound when Osborn caught him, but is currently about 12 inches long and weighs around 2 pounds. He could grow to 15 inches long and live for more than 10 years.

"The USGS tracks non-native species in the United States, and I contacted them about the catch. Cheeto is the first three spot cichlid hybrid fish that has ever been caught in the United States and currently has a listing with the USGS."

BARRY OSBORN

GHS MCJROTC to hold Air Rifle Camp June 26-29

From Staff Reports

The Granbury High School Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (MCJROTC) will soon be hosting an Air Rifle Camp for students entering grades 7-10.

Air Rifle Camp will be held from June 26-29, at the GHS MCJROTC air rifle range, located at 2000 W. Pearl St.

Students can choose between two different sessions during the camp — 8-10:30 a.m. or 11 a.m.-

1:30 p.m. Each student will attend the same session for all four days.

Appropriate attire for the camp includes jeans, sweatpants, T-shirts, sweatshirts, and gym shoes that don't rise above the ankles. Shorts, flip-flops, sandals,

and tank tops will not be authorized during training.

Additionally, the camp will serve as tryouts for students in grades 9 and 10 who are enrolled in JROTC and are also interested in trying out for the GHS rifle team for the

2023-24 academic year.

Cost for enrollment in the camp is \$100 and includes a T-shirt and the use of air rifles and pellets.

Students can register online for the camp using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/23GHSRifleCamp>.

Lake Granbury Area Shrine Club announces 2023 scholarship recipients



From Staff Reports

Four Hood County graduating seniors were awarded scholarships from the Lake Granbury Area Shrine Club on May 18, during the Senior Awards Ceremony.

Granbury High School seniors Logan Fuller and Hayden Daniel Newton were each presented with a scholarship. Fuller received the John H. Boozer Memorial Scholarship and Newton received the Pat & Carolyn Riley Scholarship.

Tolar High School senior Shylar Nunley and Lipan High School senior Hanna Reusch were also awarded scholarships from the Shrine Club.

According to a submitted press release, the Lake Granbury Area Shrine Club wants to thank all students who applied for the available scholarships this year. The club offers congratulations to the recipients on their achievements and gives best wishes for the four students on a very successful future.

Next year, the club will continue to offer scholarships to 2024 Hood County graduating seniors who will be attending four-year colleges and universities, as well as trade schools.

COURTESY OF THE LAKE GRANBURY AREA SHRINE CLUB

Four Hood County graduating seniors were awarded scholarships from the Lake Granbury Area Shrine Club on May 18, during the Senior Awards Ceremony. Granbury High School senior Logan Fuller, third from left, received the John H. Boozer Memorial Scholarship while Granbury High School senior Hayden Daniel Newton, second from right, received the Pat & Carolyn Riley Scholarship. Tolar High School senior Shylar Nunley, fourth from left, and Lipan High School senior Hanna Reusch, middle, were also awarded scholarships from the Shrine Club.

Abstraction, realism combined into art

BY EDEN GILBRATH

Special to the Hood County News

Monday's Art Demonstration at the Lake Granbury Art Association (LGAA) features Kay Wirz, an accomplished and dedicated local artist. Wirz has decades of experience to share, and her demonstration will be executed in acrylic and mixed media.

"Thanks to the perception of a second-grade teacher, who recognized a potential for art ability, my art career was launched at an early age," Wirz shared. Wirz received her

Bachelor's Degree in Art Education from Abilene Christian University and a Bachelor of Fine Art Degree from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas).

"After several years as an active artist and teacher, fine art was sidelined for a period of time as I focused on my work as an interior designer, licensed by the state of Texas," Wirz said.

After retirement, Wirz was again able to focus on her fine art. Her resume includes solo and group exhibits, national shows, work juried into scads of shows across the north and central Texas region. Awards and exhibit space granted in Granbury, Abilene, Weatherford, Dallas, Fort Worth, Graham, Arlington, Brownwood, Breckenridge, among others.

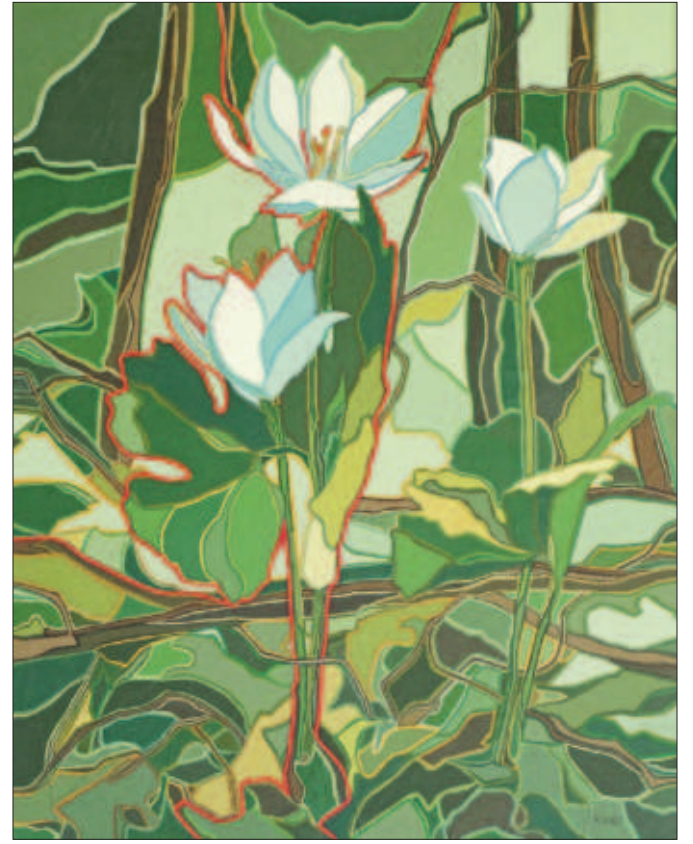
Wirz has lent her talents to the LGAA as well, volunteering in vital roles as president one year, vice-president more than once, treasurer one year, gallery committee another. Wirz has participated in other art groups of distinction as well.

Wirz is highly regarded, and her work is well executed, and immediately recognizable. She uses both her technical skill and her prowess with color to captivate her viewer. Her years as an interior designer and an educator are both influential.

Wirz describes her current body of work as a mixture of combinations.

"The best answer is that I paint in a 'Designed Realism' or a 'Readable Abstraction' style. By using flat, mostly hard-edge areas of color, careful line work and sometimes surface patterns, I develop the form of my subject matter," she said. "I believe my art is a combination of my experienced intuition and my acquired skills and is a means of self-expression and growth. While my techniques tend to reflect the rationality and objectivity of my architectural and color theory background, I fully enjoy painting both representationally and abstractly and respond to the qualities of both. The challenge is making a new whole by manipulating elements and materials to give a sense of subject in terms of design and composition rather than realistic description."

Monday, June 12, Wirz will show and explain her process. She will concentrate on how she begins with composition and color selection. Wirz always tries to encourage each artist to find their unique "voice"



COURTESY PHOTO

Samples of work by local artist Kay Wirz.

and though the demonstration will be in acrylic the principles could be used for any medium.

Art demonstrations are on the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m., at the

Shanley House Studio, 224 N. Travis Street, Granbury. You can see more of Wirz's work at kaywirzart.com



OSBORN

FROM PAGE B1

ably a red devil cichlid, or possibly a Midas cichlid. After receiving replies from all the organizations he had contacted, they came to the same conclusion.

"As a wildlife biologist, this catch became very exciting to me. Research indicated that this was the first documented catch of an *Amphilophus* species in Texas, and it appears that the fish had lived in the lake for over a month," Osborn said. "I immediately began trying to acquire a location to have the fish DNA sampled to determine what species I actually caught. I contacted one of my professors at Texas A&M and eventually Texas A&M conducted a DNA test for me."

Osborn said that Cheeto "is happily rearranging his aquarium." He has grown quickly, moving to a 55-gallon aquarium and now a 75-gallon tank.

"We hope that remains big enough," Osborn said with a smile.

While Cheeto weighed less than a pound when Osborn caught him, he is currently about 12 inches long and weighs around 2 pounds. He could grow to 15 inches long and live for more than 10 years, so the Osborns may have a pet for a while. Once Cheeto passes away, Osborn said he will join many other unusual species as part of the collection at Texas A&M University.

"The moral of the story is that non-native species should not be released into Texas waters," Osborn continued. "Although Cheeto probably could not have lived through the winter, other non-native species have become established with devastating consequences to native fish populations and ecosystems."

ANOTHER RECORD RECENTLY

Osborn recently added to his plethora of fishing records. He caught a common



COURTESY PHOTO BY KAREN OSBORN

Barry Osborn holds his latest record fishing catch, a 26.1-pound, 35.25-inch common carp he caught in Lake Granbury.

"I have fished in Granbury since 1989, and this was the biggest carp I have caught in the lake."

BARRY OSBORN

carp out of Lake Granbury that weighed 26.1 pounds and was 35.25 inches in total length.

It resulted in a Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame (FFHF) catch-and-release fly fishing world record and a Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) fly fishing catch-and-release state record. It is also pending as an International Game Fish Association (IGFA) all-tackle length fly world record.

"I knew the common carp was a big fish when it hit and I was only using a 17-pound tippet, so I had to be very careful not to pull the hook during the fight," Osborn said. "The common carp

took me 11 minutes to land.

"I have fished in Granbury since 1989, and this was the biggest carp I have caught in the lake.

But then, what's a few more records to a man who has somewhere in the neighborhood of 500 records and awards and has been featured in Ripley's Believe It Or Not? With well over 100 official state records, he has about twice as many official TPWD state records than anyone else.

And many of his records were caught in Lake Granbury, including this one, which he caught with a fly rod, unlike the PLNOR (pole, line, no reel) method he cre-

ated and loves.

"PLNOR fishing provides direct contact between you and the fish. You feel every bit of the fish's movement and have more control over the fish when compared to using a rod and reel," he said.

In fact, his largest documented TPWD record was with this method, a 102-pound black tip shark. He's also caught sharks weighing more than 300 pounds with other methods.

Osborn's first TPWD record was a Lake Granbury water body record he caught with a fly rod on April 23, 2007.

"It has been replaced many

times," he said humbly.

Which is OK with him, because he's registered many more records in its place.

A FAMILY OF RECORDS

Osborn did not grow up in a fishing family, though he did fish regularly with his grandpa since age 8. However, he and his wife Karen have been married 43 years, much of which has been spent fishing. And, of course, she has records as well.

"Karen is an excellent angler, and the first woman in Texas to achieve both the TPWD freshwater and saltwater Texas Elite Angler awards," he said proudly.

"The IGFA just approved her All-tackle Length Pacific cod at 78 centimeters fork length (just over 30 inches).

"I have two daughters, both married, and two grandchildren. I have fished with all of them from Colorado to Florida."

They, likewise, have some records.

"My grandson, Braxton Mosley, now 10, documented, and still holds the Lake Granbury junior angler common carp rod-and-reel record at 12 pounds. My granddaughter, Alexis Mosley, now 9, documented, and still holds, the junior angler state record blue catfish (0.83 pounds) on a fly rod when she was four years old," he said proudly. "It took me till I was in my 40s to get my first state record!"

In all, Osborn, who has lived in Granbury since 1989, has caught fish on more than 25 water bodies, including 17 lakes, four rivers and six oceans and bays. He even caught a world record blue/black rockfish from the Gulf of Alaska with a fly rod.

Osborn, who fishes about three days a week, has also received the Presidential Champions award for his fishing activities, which required the documentation of 5,000 hours of fishing.

NO PROFESSIONAL PLANS

But Osborn has never once considered taking up fishing as a profession.

"I have really enjoyed fishing for fun, and fishing for records. I have participated in a few local tournaments, but tournament fishing does not really appeal to me," he said.

He does, however, enjoy teaching young anglers to fish. He is a sponsor of the Lake Granbury C.A.S.T for Kids organization, and he and Karen volunteer to help with the event every year. They also participated in the recent Brazos River Authority fishing event.

"Helping kids catch their first fish brings me great pleasure," he said.

MONDAY - THURSDAY DAILY SPECIALS!

<p>Mon.</p> <p>BONELESS & BONE-IN WINGS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">.79</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 10px;">Plus Tax.</p>	<p>Tue.</p> <p>CHICKEN TENDERS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">.89</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 10px;">Plus Tax.</p>	<p>Wed.</p> <p>JUMBO SHRIMP</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">.79</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 10px;">Plus Tax.</p>	<p>Thur.</p> <p>BONELESS WINGS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">.69</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 10px;">Plus Tax.</p>
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Beloved educator Patti Sanderson bids farewell after 34 years in education

Granbury High School assistant principal leaves lasting legacy with students, staff

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

After 14 years of dedicated service as the assistant principal at Granbury High School, Patti Sanderson is bidding farewell to the school and the community she has called home for more than a decade. With a remarkable 34-year career in education, Sanderson has touched the lives of countless students and colleagues, leaving an indelible mark on the Granbury community.

Born in Longview, Sanderson's family moved to Fort Worth in 1969 when her father, legendary educator and coach, Paul Galvan, took a coaching job with the Fort Worth ISD. They remained in Fort Worth until the summer before her sophomore year in high school. "My dad had these grand plans to move to the country," said Sanderson, "so we moved to Everman, which was kind of in the country at that time, in the late seventies and early eighties. I ended up graduating from Everman High School."

Sanderson didn't immediately head off to college.

"I really didn't know what I wanted to do, so I just took some basic courses at Tarrant County College and worked as a land surveyor in Arlington and the surrounding areas," Sanderson remarked.

Once her career calling became clearer, she enrolled at Stephen F. Austin University, where she graduated in 1988 with degrees in kinesiology and mathematics. She began teaching in 1989 as a math teacher at North Side High School in Fort Worth ISD. After a 14-year teach-



COURTESY PHOTO

Patti Sanderson.

ing career that included North Side, Diamond Hill, and Springtown, Sanderson moved to campus administration at South Hills High School in Fort Worth. After six years as the assistant principal at South Hills, Sanderson came to Granbury High School in 2009.

Sanderson expressed immense pride in the school's transformation during her tenure.

"When I first came to Granbury, the high school was rated as 'unacceptable' by the Texas Education Agency. So, I would have to say that my first point of pride would be that I came here with a group of people

in 2009, and we worked hard," Sanderson said.

"We weren't necessarily the most popular people, but we worked very hard with the staff." Through the concerted efforts of the staff, they turned the school around in a single year, earning the prestigious "recognized" status. "We went from that one school year, and that was a huge point of pride for the whole school, the community, for everybody," said Sanderson.

Another source of pride for Sanderson was the significant improvements in the school's facilities made possible by a bond construction project in 2013. That initiative enhanced the school's offerings, including an exceptional automotive shop, a state-of-the-art health science area, an exceptional culinary kitchen, and outstanding fine arts and JROTC facilities. "Better facilities translate directly to better opportunities," Sanderson commented.

Reflecting on her time at Granbury High School, Sanderson said she cher-

ishes the strong bonds she formed with her colleagues. "We bind together, and we hold each other up. They're just a group of people that I trust with everything, and we laugh. I mean, we laugh so much," said Sanderson. "This can be an overwhelming job without that camaraderie and the ability to laugh. It sounds corny, but we're like a family. We lean on and support one another like a literal family."

As she transitions into retirement, Sanderson said she plans to spend quality time with her son before he embarks on his own college journey.

"My son is going off to school this fall, so this summer, my main purpose is to enjoy time with him and prepare him for his next step. My husband and I like to travel, so we want to continue to travel a bit. I also want to spend more time with my parents in Fort Worth. I'd also like to spend more time working in one of the outreach areas of my church. Beyond that, we will just wait and see. I'm too young to prop my feet up and do

nothing!"

In parting, Sanderson offered valuable advice to young and aspiring educators.

"If your heart says, be an educator, then you need to do that. I truly believe that God puts in our heart what we need to do, and if God has placed in their heart that education is where they need to be, then that's what they need to do," Sanderson said.

"But they've got to tune out all the noise. There is a lot of noise and ugliness out there these days, and so much of it is directed at public education. So, they need to tune it out and simply listen to their heart and just love children. Our job as educators is to pour into them and love them. Yes, we teach them reading, writing, and arithmetic. Sure. But we've got to love them simply for the people they are. So focus on the kids, not the politics, and remember, at the end of the day, it's about the kids. And if you can love them and teach them at the same time. Well, you're a winner."



The Granbury ISD Customer Care Team presented Jamie Turner with a recognition award at the STEAM Academy at Mambriño afternoon assembly on May 23.



The Granbury ISD Customer Care Team presents First Baptist Church with the Superfan Award. Pastor Mike Corb, third from left, and his wife, Heather, fourth from left, accepted the award on behalf of the congregation.

GISD Customer Care Team presents awards

From Staff Reports

The Granbury ISD Customer Care Team presented Jamie Turner with a recognition award at the STEAM Academy at Mambriño afternoon assem-

bly on May 23.

Turner, who is part of the child nutrition team, is known and loved by every Mambriño student and staff member. Child Nutrition Director Amy Whiteley

praised Turner for her dedication to serving students at the presentation announcing the award.

The district thanks Cheerful Heart Gifts & Boutique for the gift card

donation.

Granbury ISD Customer Care Team also presented First Baptist Church with the Superfan Award.

While presenting the recognition award, the district's

Child Nutrition Department thanked the congregation for providing backpack meals this year and helping with the healthy meal program this summer.

Pastor Mike Corb and

his wife, Heather, accepted the award on behalf of the congregation.

The district thanks Brightworks Car Wash for the gift card given to First Baptist Church.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 20
Mineral Wells: 11:45am-12:30pm at MINERAL WELLS FEED & FARM SUPPLY
Stephenville: 1:30-2:15pm at HAY & FEED RANCH
Granbury: 3:00-3:45pm at RUSSELL FEED
Glen Rose: 4:15-5:00pm at BUTLER FEEDS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21
Cleburne: 7:30-8:15am at ROWLETTE HARDWARE

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Solution for the puzzle on June 3 (Puzzle 33).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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OUR MISSION: The Hood County News shall provide news and insights to our readers through the independent and impartial presentation of information that educates, enriches and entertains. We are proud to be a community newspaper committed to the people we serve.

GISD's free summer meal program now available

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Students who attend Granbury ISD can now eat for free at eight different locations this summer through GISD's Healthy Summer Meals for Kids program.

Spearheaded by the GISD Child Nutrition Department, the annual summer meal program serves free meals to children ages 18 and younger, as well as enrolled students up to 21 years old with disabilities.

The six-week program contains locations at Granbury High School, Granbury Middle School, Mambrino Elementary, Arrowhead Shores, Whippoorwill Bay, Sky Harbour, and Oak Trail Shores.

The program provides meals to students Monday through Friday

and operates in two parts during the summer: June 5-30 and July 10-21.

Summer 2023 meal sites and serving times are listed below:

GRANBURY HIGH SCHOOL/ CAFETERIA SIDE ENTRANCE:
JUNE 5-JUNE 30

2000 W. Pearl St.
7:10-7:40 a.m.
Noon-12:30 p.m.

GRANBURY MIDDLE SCHOOL/ BACK COURTYARD: JULY 10-21

2000 Crossland Road
7:10-7:40 a.m.
Noon-12:30 p.m.

MAMBRINO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/ CAFETERIA: JUNE 12-29 (MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY)

3835 Mambrino Highway
Noon-12:30 p.m.

ARROWHEAD SHORES/POOL AREA

5705 Parkside Court
11-11:30 a.m.

WHIPPOORWILL BAY/ PARK AND POOL AREA (MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY)

207 Skylark Drive
10:30-11 a.m.

SKY HARBOUR/ COMMUNITY CENTER

2707 Galaxy St.
11-11:30 a.m.

OAK TRAIL SHORES/ PARK AND POOL AREA

3911 W. Oak Trail
10:30-11 a.m.

OAK TRAIL SHORES/RUTH'S PLACE

2723 Maplewood St.
11-11:30 a.m.

Sites will be set up in a grab-and-go format. Parents or guardians may pick up once their child has been verified at the site.

Documents allowed to verify children include student ID badge, student report card, birth certificate, or attendance record from Skyward Family Access.

Below is the weekly food schedule for the GISD Healthy Summer Meals for Kids program:

Monday: chicken sandwich, broc-

coli, carrots, apple, and choice of milk

Tuesday: cheeseburger, pork n' beans, carrots, 100% juice, and choice of milk

Wednesday: pizza stuffed sandwich, green beans, carrots, orange, and choice of milk

Thursday: steak fingers, broccoli, carrots, 100% juice, and choice of milk

Friday: pretzel with cheese stick, corn, apple, and choice of milk

For more information, please call GISD's Child Nutrition Department at 817-408-4085 or visit granburyisd.org/healthykids.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

LIPAN SCHOOLS

Lasting memorials created for lasting accomplishments

At Lipan strive to memorialize our hard work and success. Indeed, there are several ways to remember our triumphs, whether that be through newspaper articles, actual footage, or a friend telling a friend. However, for numerous years, The Sterling Monument Company of Granbury has provided LHS with lifelong tributes to capture our accomplishments.



BY SARAH MARCANTONIO

Sarah Marcantonio is a sophomore at Lipan High School who hopes to attend college on a journalism scholarship and pursue a career in writing. She participates in softball, yearbook and student council.

The company has made all eight of the basketball state championship monuments that stand outside of

the Lipan Gym. In fact, the company has graciously donated the monuments since the Harris family took over

the Granbury business back in 2015. Curtis and Jenna Harris have supervised the construction of the Girls' 2021 State Championship monument as well as this year's additions to the yard.

When asked what led them to donate all these years, the owners replied with honor, "We are just proud to be from Lipan," Curtis Harris

said, "and we're really proud to support all of athletics, but especially the great achievements of this year's boys and girls basketball teams."

Scan the Qr code to view pictures at lipanindians.net



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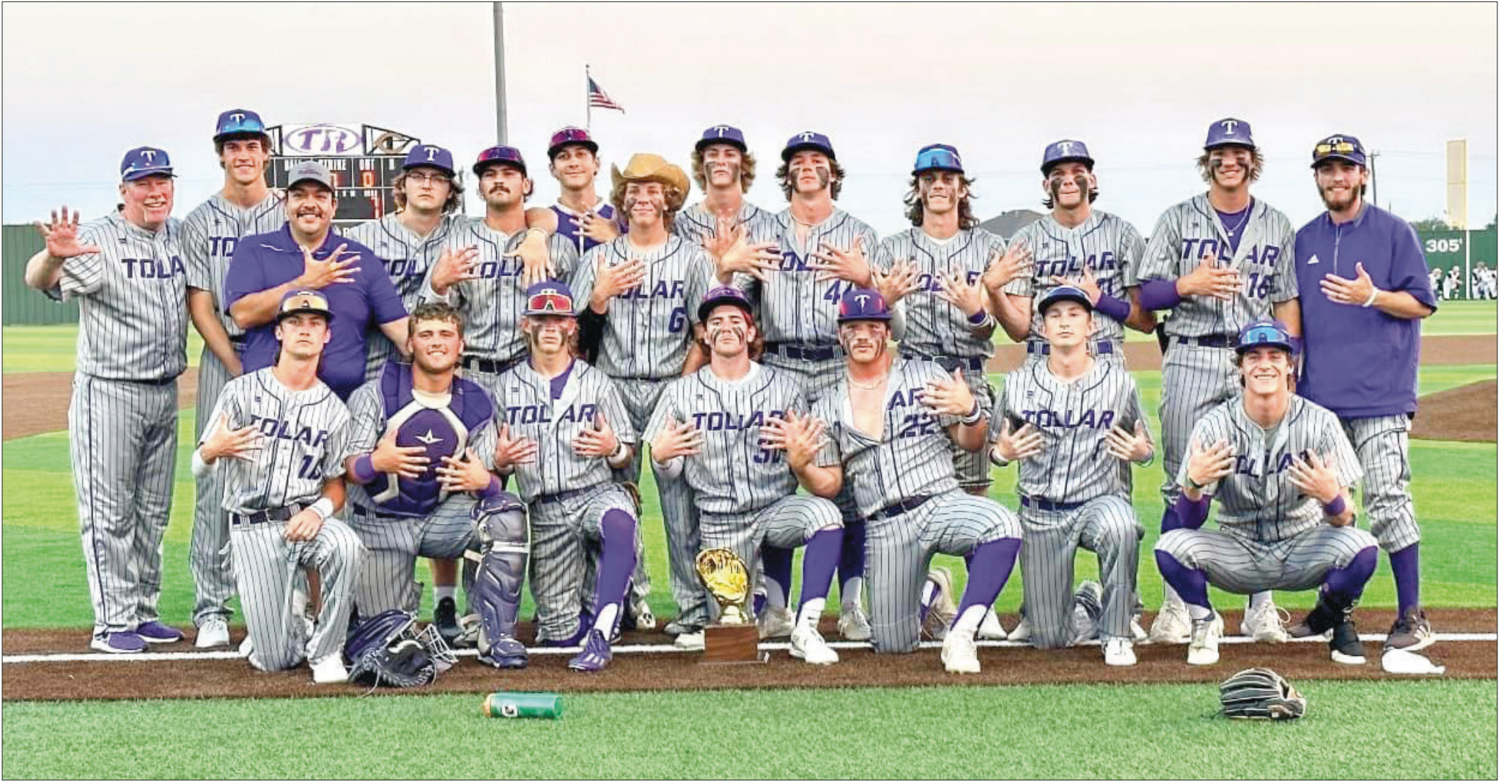
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SPORTS Roundup



COURTESY PHOTO BY STEVE MORPHEW

Tolar High School's most successful baseball season ever came to a close in the Class 2A Region II playoff finals when the Rattlers lost their best-of-three series to Collinsville, two games to one. The Rattlers completed their 2023 season with an overall record of 25-10-2.

Rattlers enjoyed best baseball season ever

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

The greatest baseball season in Tolar history came to a stunning end Thursday, June 1, but not before the Rattlers gave their fans and all of Hood County the most memorable season ever by the team.

The Rattlers finished with a 25-10-2 record and a Class 2A Region 2 finals berth. They appeared to be on their way to a first-ever state tournament appearance after defeating Collinsville (32-6-1) 6-4 in the first game of their best-of-three series at Chisholm Trail High School in Fort Worth on May 31.

However, a day later, the Pirates countered with wins of 10-0 and 9-0.

"We came out strong in Game 1 and set the tone from the first pitch. The kids were confident and played lights-out just like we have all year long," Tolar coach Lance Alford said. "Thursday, we felt great coming in but unfortunately we just didn't get the job done. It is still one of the most heartbreaking defeats I've been a part of. Still very proud of these guys and everything they accomplished."

The Rattlers won the District 13-2A championship, followed by four consecutive playoff series — including against No. 2 ranked and defending state champion Valley Mills.

"At the end of the 2022 season, we knew we were going to be loaded for bear. We had six solid seniors coming back and a very strong pitching staff," Alford said.

The Rattlers were coming off a 22-7 season that saw them reach the third round of the playoffs for a second straight year.

"Before the season started I was having sleepless nights because of all the talent we had coming back and trying to find playing time for those guys. It was a very good problem to have," Alford said.

The Rattlers also overcame a huge blow before the season began as they lost one of their top pitchers in Luke Willmon.

"He had an outstanding season playing defensive end for the football team when he started his preseason pitching workouts. One day he felt a pop in his elbow while throwing," Alford said. "Our biggest fears were realized when he tore his ulnar collateral ligament and had to have season-ending Tommy John surgery."

"Before that happened, we had already put a schedule together that would challenge us all year long."

The Rattlers backed down from no one, starting with the opening week-end of the season in the Glen Rose/Stephenville/Godley Tournament. Playing short-handed because the basketball team also advanced to the regional final, the Rattlers



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLY MOODY

Brock Owens of the Tolar Rattlers receives a throw and prepares to tag out a runner in a 6-4 baseball playoff victory over Collinsville. The Rattlers finished with a 25-10-2 overall record, reaching the Class 2A Region 2 final for the best season in program history.

went 0-3 with losses to Class 4A Glen Rose, which went three rounds deep in the playoffs; 4A Brownwood, which went two rounds deep; and 3A Boyd, which was in the state semifinals at press time.

"Our last game in that tournament was against 4A Stephenville (regional finalists). Before the game the team had a players-only meeting and it was during that time that they came up with our team motto 'Find

A Way,'" Alford said. "They fought their tails off that game and we found a way to tie them 1-1."

After the basketball players came onboard, the Rattlers went 23-6-1. Along the way they would beat 4A Krum twice (two rounds into the postseason), 3A Vernon, 3A Jacksboro (two rounds deep), Southwest Preparatory Conference state champion Fort Worth Trinity Valley School, and tie 3A Brock (regional finalist).

Alford reflected on the players who played in the majority of the games this season:

Seniors

Keaton Morrison, moved from second base to utility player. "Catalyst of the team. Set the tone for us on every game. Led the team in steals (17)."

Jackson LeCluyse: Three-year starter. Player of the

Talan Brown of the Tolar Rattlers baseball team started the season 0-2, then reeled off 10 consecutive victories, including a perfect game. He was 4-0 in the playoffs as the Rattlers reached the Class 2A Region 2 final.

PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLY MOODY

Year 2021, MVP 2022 and all-state player 2022. "Was a servant leader in that he would do all the little things without being asked and without seeking praise."

Cade Moody: Three-year starter and first team all-district all three years. "Great outfielder with a strong arm. Threw out seven base runners from the outfield, including three huge ones at home plate during the playoffs."

Reis Brown: Three-year starter. District MVP '21, POY '22. "Reis' season was shortened by an injury he sustained in the regional final (basketball) game vs. Lipan. When he returned to the lineup his impact was immediate. Played outstanding shortstop and outfield. Had arguably the biggest hit of the season when he mashed a walk-off grand slam against Moody in the first round of the playoffs."

Brock Owens: Three-year starter. Two-time first-team all-district. Moved to second base from third. "Played outstanding defensively. Had a 12-game hitting streak during the season."

Juniors

Merritt Imel: First-year starter. "Ask me how great it is to have a first baseman that

is 6-6! Great hands, not only in the field but at the plate as well."

Jesse Owen: Three-year starter. District Newcomer '21, Co-offensive POY '22 and '23. First-team all-state catcher in '22. "Never caught before but was willing to take on the challenge as a freshman and has been our rock behind the dish. Led the team in extra-base hits (13)."

Talan Brown: Three-year starter. Two-time Utility POY. "Was by far our most consistent pitcher (10-2 with a 1.24 ERA, including 4-0 in playoffs). Started the year 0-2 then reeled off 10 W's. Always around the strike zone as his numbers show. Solid shortstop who made all plays look easy."

Sophomores

Talan Culberson: Two-year starter. Newcomer of the Year '22. "If the ball was ever hit to center field, it was caught when he was in there. Heady ball player who loves the big stage. Makes playing the outfield look easy."

Drake Owens: First-year starter. "We saw what Drake was capable of when he played third base in the last playoff game for us in 2022. His range, arm strength

PLEASE SEE
ROUNDUP | B7

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Three transfers sign to play for Tarleton's women's tennis program

TSU Sports Information

Despite a roster full of underclassmen last year, Tarleton State University's women's tennis squad finished second in both the Western Athletic Conference regular season and WAC Tournament. Now the program adding some NCAA Division I veteran transfers to continue their rising status.

The Texans announced on Thursday they have signed transfers Noelia Lorca from Lamar University, Maretha Burger from Liberty University, and Adeliya Mukhutdinova from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA).

"This year's recruiting class is very exciting, we are bringing in a lot of collegiate tennis experience to our already strong team," TSU head coach Elinne Douglas-Miron said. "Each of these players are going to play an important part in our success next year and I can't wait to start working in the fall with them."

Tarleton has posted a 35-11 record over the past two seasons, including a 17-3 mark in conference play. Since becoming an NCAA Division I program, the Texans have won the WAC Coach of the Year award, the WAC Player of the Year award, the WAC Freshman of the Year award, and 11 All-Conference honors (six Singles All-WAC First Team, one Doubles All-WAC First Team, three Singles All-WAC Second Team, one Doubles All-WAC Second Team).

Lorca played the last two years at former WAC member Lamar, going 18-17 overall in singles and 14-17 in doubles.



Three transfers have signed to play tennis with Tarleton State University. From left, they are Noelia Lorca from Lamar University, Maretha Burger from Liberty University, and Adeliya Mukhutdinova from the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA).

She played all 22 singles matches in the No. 2 position last season, going 10-11, including a 7-1 stretch in March-April that carried over into Southland Conference play. She also played between Courts 1-2 in doubles, earning a 9-8 mark (5-0 SLC), with eight wins in the No. 2 spot. Lorca earned First Team All-SLC at the No. 2 Doubles line for her efforts.

Her freshman campaign put her at 8-6 in singles, including a 5-4 mark on Court 3. Her top wins at Lamar included a Court 2 singles win vs. UTRGV, a Court 3 singles victory at Stephen F. Austin, a Court 4 singles win vs. Oral Roberts University, and a Court 1 doubles win at UTSA.

Lorca is from Murcia, Spain, where she attended IES Licenciado Francisco Cascales. In her junior career, she ranked as high as 122nd in the country, picking up nine wins against nationally ranked players, including six in the top-100. She won the 2015 Spanish Women's Regional Championship, and followed that with runner-up finishes at the 2019 Women's Regional, 2019 and 2020 Junior Nationals and the 2019 Absolute tournament. She also finished second in the Marbella Marca Junior Cup. Upon arrival at Tarleton, she'll pursue a degree in psychology.

"We had a chance to play against Noelia when she com-

peted in the WAC, and my assistant coach Sonia Carlson and I were very impressed," Douglas-Miron said. "We loved her energy, her grit and her competitiveness. Noelia has the same fire that all of our girls have. She will make an impact on the court immediately and we are very excited to see her wear the purple and white."

Burger played the last two seasons at Liberty, a program that advanced to at least the ASUN Tournament Semifinals in each of her years, going 36-17 overall, 12-5 in conference play. Burger was 7-11 overall in singles in dual match play, plus 14-15 on Tour. She also logged 23 doubles wins across dual match and

tour play over the past two seasons.

She is from Ashton, South Africa, and attended Hoërskool Stellenbosch in the Western Cape province. Burger reached the No. 1 ranking in U18 girls combined, U18 girls doubles and open mixed doubles in South Africa. She was ranked as high as No. 3 in the South Africa women's rankings and No. 312 in the International Tennis Federation (ITF) World Junior Tennis Tour Rankings. She compiled a 103-16 junior tournament record over the final two years of her junior tennis career.

Academically, Burger was honored as an ITA Scholar-Athlete and was named to the

ASUN Academic Honor Roll while at Liberty. At Tarleton, she will major in kinesiology exercise and sport studies while minoring in sport psychology.

"I've been following Maretha since her senior year in high school, and as soon as I had an opportunity to recruit her, I knew I wanted her on our team," Douglas-Miron said. "Maretha brings a mature understanding of the game of tennis. She is a doubles expert and will help push the level of our doubles next spring. Maretha is known for her leadership, outgoing personality and desire to win. She will fit in great with our culture."

Mukhutdinova played her freshman campaign at UTSA this past year, going 9-9 in doubles with two singles wins for the 14-10 Roadrunners. Against Tarleton in the Texans' 4-3 win in San Antonio,

She joined the Roadrunners from Spanish River High School in her hometown of Boca Raton, Florida, although she was born in Siberia, Russia. She rose as high as No. 3 in the Florida rankings, had a career-high ranking in Florida of No. 30, plus nationally she topped out at No. 2004 in the junior girls ITF ranking.

Academically, she earned a Conference USA Academic Medal while at UTSA. She'll study kinesiology at Tarleton.

"We competed against Adeliya last spring and she gave us a great fight," Douglas-Miron said. "Her aggressive game style will fit in well with our team."

Texans' outfielder Alec Williams named to WAC All-Defensive Team

TSU Sports Information

Tarleton baseball centerfielder Alec Williams was honored by the league's coaches for his defensive play during the 2023 season, the Western Athletic Conference announced.

Williams was one of 10 student-athletes from across the WAC to be named to the all-defensive team and one of three outfielders.

Williams, a senior from Huntsville, was stellar in center field, consistently using his speed to keep opponents off the base paths.

He made no errors during the season, posting a 1.000 fielding percentage to go with 85 putouts in his second season in Stephenville.

Williams was also impressive at the plate for Tarleton, leading the Texans in WAC play with a .372 batting average. In conference play alone he had a .479 on-base percentage, 29 hits, 11 RBI and 11 stolen bases — which was good for third in the conference.

The Tyler Junior College transfer added to his collection of defensive awards, hav-

ing been previously named the 2021 NJCAA Division III Defensive Player of the Year at TJC.

The award was the lone postseason honor Tarleton baseball picked up from the conference.

2023 WAC BASEBALL AWARDS (as voted by the 13 head coaches)

WAC Player of the Year
Grayson Tatrow, Sr., OF, Abilene Christian

WAC Pitcher of the Year
Liam Rocha, Jr., RHP, California Baptist

WAC Freshman of the Year
Wehiwa Aloy, SS, Sacramento State

WAC Defensive Player of the Year
Jacob Wilson, Jr., SS, Grand Canyon

WAC Coach of the Year
Gregg Wallis, Grand Canyon

All-WAC First Team

SP - Liam Rocha, Jr., RHP, California Baptist
SP - Daniel Avitia, So., RHP, Grand Canyon
SP - Casey Anderson, Jr., RHP, Utah Valley
RP - Chandler David, Jr., RHP, Sam Houston
C - Martin Vincelli-Simard, Sr., Sacramento State
1B - Tyler Davis, Sr., Sam Houston
1B - Brandon Pimentel, Grad, UTRGV
2B - Daniel Dickinson, Fr., Utah Valley
3B - Justin Wishkoski, Jr., Sam Houston
SS - Jacob Wilson, Jr., Grand Canyon
OF - Grayson Tatrow, Sr., Abilene Christian
OF - Homer Bush Jr., Jr., Grand Canyon
OF - Joe Redfield, Jr., Sam Houston
DH - JP Smith, Fr., Sacramento State
All-WAC Second Team
SP - Zach Thornton, Jr., LHP, Grand Canyon
SP - Coltin Atkinson, Jr., RHP, Sam Houston
SP - Angelo Cabral, Jr., RHP, UTRGV

RP - Brodie Cooper-Vassalakis, Grad, RHP, Grand Canyon
C - Michael Carpentier, So., California Baptist
1B - Zach Yorke, Fr., Grand Canyon
2B - Kevin Jimenez, Sr., NM State
3B - Mitchel Simon, Jr., California Baptist
3B - Christian Perez, Fr., NM State
SS - Wehiwa Aloy, Fr., Sacramento State
OF - Dusty Garcia, Sr., California Baptist
OF - Keith Jones II, Jr., NM State
OF - Matt Boissoneault, Sr., Seattle U
DH - Ryan Black, Fr., UT Arlington
WAC All-Defensive Team
OF - Logan Britt, Jr., Abilene Christian
IF - Garret Ostrander, Jr., California Baptist
IF - Emilio Barreras, Fr., Grand Canyon
OF - Cade Verducco, Jr., Grand Canyon
SS - Jacob Wilson, Jr., Grand Canyon
1B - Zach Yorke, Fr., Grand Canyon



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

Tarleton baseball centerfielder Alec Williams was honored by the league's coaches for his defensive play during the 2023 season, being named to the all-defensive team. Williams committed no errors during the season, posting a 1.000 fielding percentage to go with 85 putouts.

C - Nick Gore, Jr., NM State
OF - Alec Williams, Jr., Tarleton
2B - Isaac Lopez, So.,

UTRGV
1B/OF - Brandon Pimentel, Grad, UTRGV

First details of TSU's women's soccer schedule for next season released

TSU Sports Information

STEPHENVILLE — Year No. 2 of Tarleton Texas soccer is just around the corner, starting this August.

The Texans have released their schedule for the 2023 season, which will be the second season of competition for the program.

Tarleton will play 11 regular-season matches at the Tarleton Soccer Complex with eight matches on the road. There are 10 non-conference matches and a nine-game Western Athletic Conference

slate that make up the 19-match season.

"We're excited to have the opportunity to take another step in our program as we play against quality opponents this fall," said head coach Pete Cuadrado. "There is nothing more exciting than playing in front of our fans at home as they always make it such a special environment."

The Texans are eligible to participate in the 2023 WAC Women's Soccer Tournament for the first time this coming season. The top six teams in

the conference standings will advance to the tournament, hosted by California Baptist in Riverside, California, beginning on Sunday, Oct. 29.

"The WAC slate is very challenging," said Cuadrado. "Every match is tough and in order to get results in this conference you must be ready to battle for 90 minutes. That's something we are looking forward to."

The Texans' first competition of the calendar year will be an exhibition match at home as the Baylor Bears

out of the Big 12 will travel to Stephenville on Aug. 10 for a 7 p.m. contest.

Following that, the first three matches of the season will be played within the friendly confines of the Tarleton Soccer Complex. They open the regular season with Louisiana Monroe (Aug. 17) followed by Texas A&M-Commerce (Aug. 20) and Nicholls (Aug. 25).

The first road match will take place as the Texans travel to play the Houston Cougars on Aug. 27.

New foes the Texans will see for the first time this season include Grambling State at home (Sept. 1), Oral Roberts in Tulsa (Sept. 14) and Prairie View A&M in Stephenville (Sept. 16) as well as previously mentioned Texas A&M-Commerce and Houston.

WAC play starts with three consecutive road matches. The Texans travel to SFA (Sept. 21), UTRGV (Sept. 24) and rival ACU (Oct. 1). That is followed by two straight at home with Utah Valley (Oct.

5) and Seattle U (Oct. 8) making the trip to Stephenville.

A Utah road trip marks the final road games of the regular season conference slate as the Texans take on Utah Tech (Oct. 12) and Southern Utah (Oct. 15).

California Baptist (Oct. 19) and Grand Canyon (Oct. 22) mark the last two games of the regular season, with both being played at the Tarleton Soccer Complex.

Broadcast and ticket details for each match will be announced at a later date.

BOOK REVIEW

Three Juneteenth children's books for storytelling sessions

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

The celebration is coming soon, you can feel it in the air.

Your entire family will gather together for one special day. There'll be picnics and tasty foods, dancing, and storytelling. No, it's not Christmas or your birthday, not Easter or Ramadan. It's Juneteenth and these three new books will help you understand why that day is important...

For the uninitiated, Juneteenth has a lot of traditions! In "Jaylen's Juneteenth Surprise" by Lavaille Lavette, illustrated by David Wilkerson (Little Golden Book, \$5.99), a young boy learns how all the pieces fit in his new favorite holiday. The fun begins when Paw Paw Jimmy comes to visit, and he introduces Jaylen to the frottoir, a musical instrument that means there's

going to be dancing. With the cute and simple illustrations in this book and the excitement it conveys, you know it's gonna be a party, and this book is a great (and inexpensive!) Juneteenth introduction for kids ages 3 to 5.

In David's house, Juneteenth doesn't start until Grandma's ready to tell stories and in "The Night Before Freedom: A Juneteenth Story" by Glenda Armand (Crown Books / Random House Kids, \$18.99), the best one is the one that her grandmother told her. Mom Bess was just a little girl when the first Juneteenth arrived, and hearing the story is a can't-miss for David and his family. Five-to-8-year-olds will love this tale, told as a beautiful, fantastical memory. Parents will love the artwork by Corey Barksdale inside the covers.

Find "A Flag for

Juneteenth" by Kim Taylor (Neal Porter Books / Holiday House, \$18.99) for your 5-to-8-year-old, and share it with your favorite seamstress. Here, all the illustrations are quilted, crafted, and embroidered, leaving readers with nostalgia to match the tale of almost-10-year-old Hulda, who wakes up on her birthday morning to hear the best news ever. "All slaves are free," she and her parents are told, and everyone celebrated - everyone, that is, except the plantation owners. And while her neighbors danced, some women sat down and sewed freedom flags that looked like warm, soft quilts. The children found branches for use as flagpoles, and their fathers carved the branches with designs and symbols like the intricate "Fawohodie." It means independence and freedom." Be absolutely sure that you read the author's



Juneteenth Books by various authors and illustrators C.2023, VARIOUS PUBLISHERS. \$5.99 - \$18.99. VARIOUS PAGE COUNTS.

COURTESY PHOTO

note at the end of this story; it's a great explanation, written for parents who will appreciate knowing about the work that went into this book.

These three tales might not be enough for your family, which is why your favorite librarian or bookseller is waiting for you. They'll have something perfect for

every age group and everyone in your household who'll partake in your Juneteenth picnic or party. They'll know just the thing you want to read for yourself, or read aloud.

One of the best parts of

Juneteenth is the storytelling, and these great books will help you do that in a way your child can understand. Make them a new tradition in your house, and add to the celebration.

ROUNDUP

FROM PAGE B5

and quick hands make him the perfect guy for the hot corner."

SEALS SWIMMING

The Granbury SEALS opened the summer swim season in Weatherford this past Saturday, June 3. Top finishers were:

Females

6-Under

Eliana Sanchez, third in 25 free, 29.96; first in 25 back, 28.23.

Camille Vazquez, third in 25 back, 31.36.

8-Under

Madeline Baysinger, first in 25 fly, 31.75; first in 25 free,

22.44.

Shelbie Matlock, second in 50 free, 50.33; third in 25 back, 27.73; second in 25 free, 22.53.

Aubrey Snow, third in 50 free, 53.09.

9-10

Leah Citzler, first in 50 free, 39.65; first in 25 back, 20.55; first in 25 breast, 22.27.

Sydnie Matlock, third in 25 back, 26.14; third in 25 free, 20.89.

11-12

Harper Fox, first in 50 back, 40.92; second in 50 fly, 37.51; third in 100 IM, 1:25.37.

Lilli McKelvy, second in 50 back, 42.70.

13-14

Abigail Beatty, third in 50

breast, 43.30; first in 100 IM, 1:23.71.

Carmen Citzler, second in 100 free, 1:08.62; second in 50 free, 29.74; second in 200 free, 2:30.29.

Bailey Stone, first in 50 back, 38.75; third in 200 free, 2:42.70.

Autum Stuart, first in 100 free, 1:06.64; first in 50 free, 29.70; first in 200 free, 2:25.95.

Valentina Uzcatogui, third in 50 fly, 39.94.

Hannah Ward, first in 50 breast, 39.11; first in 50 fly, 31.51; first in 100 IM, 1:14.45.

15-17

Bethany Crowe, second in 100 free, 59.34; first in 100 IM, 1:07.42; first in 200 free, 2:18.69.

Rayah Gifford, first in 100 free, 58.91; first in 50 fly,

29.67; first in 50 free, 26.78. Elise Ward, third in 50 back, 38.55; third in 50 fly, 32.52; third in 100 IM, 1:17.23.

40-Over

Tristy Stuart, first in 100 free, 1:10.37; first in 50 fly, 37.89; first in 100 IM, 1:23.34.

Males

8-Under

Reid Holdridge, third in 25 back, 29.46.

9-10

Jaxon McKelvy, third in 25 fly, 28.84.

Asher Beatty, third in 25 breast, 23.35.

Mason Prince, first in 25 back, 19.20; first in 25 fly, 16.59; first in 25 free, 16.17.

John Stone, first in 50 free,

35.79; second in 25 breast, 22.84; first in 100 IM, 1:41.40.

11-12

Kyle Brawner, first in 100 free, 1:07.57; first in 50 breast, 39.73; first in 50 fly, 34.45.

Adler Snow, third in 100 free, 1:12.13.

Jude Ward, third in 50 back, 38.41; second in 50 free, 30.70; first in 100 IM, 1:16.93.

13-14

Logan Crowe, second in 100 free, 1:02.00; first in 50 free, 28.01; first in 100 IM, 1:10.67.

Aiden Gifford, second in 100 free, 1:10.89; first in 50 back, 36.68; third in 50 free, 31.03.

15-17

Heath Crowe, first in 100 free, 57.63; third in 50 fly, 28.59; third in 100 IM, 1:07.08.

Zane Herndon, second in 100 free, 58.88; first in 50 breast, 30.75; second in 200 free, 2:10.11.

Lee Stuart, second in 50 breast, 32.34; first in 100 IM, 1:04.61; first in 200 free, 2:06.56.

GRANBURY BASEBALL

Several members of the Granbury Pirates were named to the All-District 5-5A Academic Team. Honored were Garrett Jones, Tyler Guidry, Ty Halvorson, Braxton Heffernan, Gavin Current, Hunter Jones, Blake Bramlett, Hudson Hamilton and Kyler Crites.

HCN

Junior

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JUNE 8

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Did you know?

The world's largest animal is the Blue Whale.

A blue whale is a very big animal that lives in the ocean. It is the biggest animal on the planet! It can grow to be as long as three school buses lined up end-to-end (100 feet), and it weighs as much as 25 elephants (200,000 pounds)! Blue whales have a very unique appearance. They have a very long and streamlined body that is colored dark blue on top and lighter blue on their underside. They have a small dorsal fin on their back and two flippers that are almost 30 feet long!

They also have a very big tail, called a fluke, that they use to swim through the water. Blue whales eat tiny animals called krill, which are like small shrimp, and they can eat up to 4 tons of krill every day! They use a special technique called "filter-feeding" to catch their food. Blue whales are amazing creatures, and it's really special to be able to see one in real life.

The oceans hold a LOT of water! In fact, if you filled up a big bathtub with water over 320 million times, that's how much water would be in the oceans!

Can you imagine filling up your bathtub that many times? It would take you a very, very long time!

And that's not all! The oceans are so big that if you could take all the water out of the oceans and spread it out over the whole world, it would be like putting a blanket of water over everything, even the tallest mountains!

So you see, the oceans are really, really big, and they hold a lot of water. They're home to many amazing creatures, and they play a very important role in our planet's ecosystem.

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CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

May 8 meeting featured expert's portrayal of Union General Ulysses S. Grant



BY BILL DYESS

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

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table enjoyed a tremendous program on May 8. It was presented by Dr. Curt Fields, an expert on the life and times of Union General Ulysses S. Grant.

Dr. Fields, who holds a Ph.D. from Michigan State University, portrayed General Grant at the 150th anniversary of Lee's surrender to Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, in 2015, and was featured as the General in a three-part documentary series on the Discovery Channel. In presenting our program, he appeared in uniform as the general, and assumed the general's persona. He spoke on the Vicksburg campaign.

The Round Table does not meet during the months of June, July, and August. Watch for our August calendar notice and column for news about our September meeting.

JUNE IN THE CIVIL WAR

While there was minor skirmishing between Union and Confederate forces in northern and western Virginia in the first few days

of June 1861, the first actual engagement of the war was fought in southeastern Virginia, near the end of the peninsula between the James River, on the south, and the York River, on the north. There, despite Virginia's secession, the Union continued to hold — and in fact had greatly re-enforced — Ft. Monroe, the most important military installation on the Atlantic seaboard. Not only did Union troops conduct raids out of the fort, capturing and destroying material deemed important to the Confederate war effort, but the fort lay only 90 miles from Richmond, and thus was an obvious "jumping off" point for an attack on the Confederate capitol.

With this in mind, the Confederacy sent General John Magruder to prepare defenses across the peninsula. General Magruder's advance force, about 1,400 men and several pieces of



COURTESY PHOTO

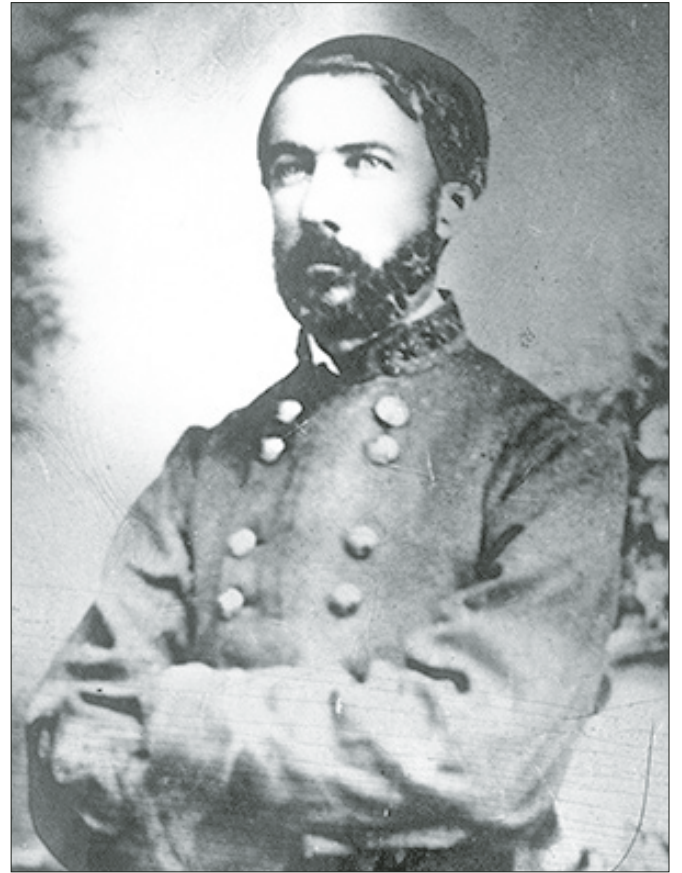
Depicted is Union General Ebenezer Pierce.

artillery, under Colonel D.H. Hill, entrenched on a high point dominated by a church, known as Big Bethel, about 10 miles north of Fort Monroe. On June 10, approximately 4,000 Union troops, led by General Ebenezer Pierce, attacked Hill's forces at Big Bethel. In the ensuing battle, the Union forces were decisively defeated and

routed, losing 18 killed, 53 wounded, and 5 missing. Confederate losses were one killed and 7 wounded.

MEETINGS

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table meets on the second Monday of each month except June, July, and August, at 6:30



COURTESY PHOTO

This portrait of Confederate Colonel Daniel Harvey Hill was taken by George S. Cook sometime between 1861 and 1865.

p.m., at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 Hwy 377 E. in Granbury, and guests are always welcome. There is no charge for first-time attendees. For more information, please refer to our website: WWW.ncntexcwrt.com, or call either David Wells, at 817-579-5769, or Bill Dyess,

at 817-326-8216. Civil War Round Tables exist in cities and communities worldwide. All are independent and share a common objective in promoting and expanding interest in the study of the American Civil War.

Did You Know? DID YOU KNOW?

When the Civil War began the State of West Virginia did not exist — the area was simply a part of Virginia. Unlike the rest of the state, however, it was staunchly anti-secession, and, after Virginia seceded, it sought to establish its own government and become a state. In early 1862, already primarily controlled by the Union, it petitioned to become a state of the United States, and on June 20, 1863, it became the state of West Virginia.

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Pictured are Juanell and Bob Caldwell.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Brick by brick

Acton Place Park fundraiser to aid in construction process

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

A fundraising campaign for Acton's new community park will allow Hood County residents to have their names immortalized in stone — essentially becoming a part of the park forever.

Acton Place Park is currently under construction at 360 Silverton Drive, with its board of directors working diligently to create a much-needed outdoor space for children and families of Hood County.

But in order to get the park completed, the Acton Place Park board of directors needs the community's help.

The Hood County Development District No. 1 donated \$80,000 to the project. However, preliminary numbers in January 2022 estimated that the current master plan for Acton Place Park will require \$1.5 million in funding.

"I think something that a lot of people aren't familiar with is the difference between a city park and a county park," said Todd Hall, president of the Acton Place Park board of directors. "The city park is being funded by city taxes that those folks who live inside of the city limits pay, and those are going back into those beautiful parks you see in Granbury. But when you're in the county, the county doesn't have a budget for a park that doesn't exist, so this is a grassroots effort to build something that the entire county can enjoy on that side of town."

As part of a community effort to fund the new park, the board has launched an engraved brick fundraiser.

Individuals, families, or businesses can become part of the park's construction by donating \$50 to the project. In return, donors will receive an engraved brick with three lines of text and optional clipart choices of a flag, star, music note, butterfly, cross, and various sports symbols.

"The bricks will be laid in various places," Hall said. "Our plan is to have bricks in the garden area once Lot One is developed, around the raised flowerbeds, and then also potentially using them in sidewalks that cross over Silverton. (We want to use the) bricks as kind of a commemorative 'thank you' for the folks who are investing in the park."

The idea for the park began back in September of 2020, when a group of friends and neighbors came together to discuss the idea. In February 2021, a board of directors for the project was formed.

"The community really doesn't have anything that's in this area that has walking trails," Hall said, in a previous interview with the HCN. "Some of these commercial areas that you've probably been to in Fort Worth that have outdoor turf areas, and people are hanging out, playing catch, and they're doing outdoor movies — that's kind of the vision for this park is to have a multifaceted amenity area for families to be able to use."

The HCDD No. 1 purchased the land needed for this project off North Gate Road between the Main Place, Grand Place, and Acton Landing neighborhoods.

"The development district has budgeted \$80,000 for seed money, so to speak, to get this initial phase of construction off the ground," Hall said.

With help from Rockin' J Masonry, Bruce White, Hood County Road Operations, and Pro Earthworks LLC, several aspects of the project have already been completed.

Hall said culverts are installed, concrete headwalls on the culverts are put in, and the initial road base is completed.

As of May 30, Silverton Drive between Main Street and White Horse Drive is also officially closed. Residents may notice a few new signs on Clearwater Plaza as well, where the crosswalk will be installed.

The next phase, Hall said, will include installing turf and a sidewalk around Clearwater Plaza and Silverton Drive.

PLEASE SEE **PARK** | C2

Couple of kids still having fun together 75 years later

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Bob Caldwell smiled and said of his longtime marriage to his wife Juanell, "We started out as a couple of kids from poor families."

Be that as it may, they are rich in love now and have been for more than three quarters of a century. They celebrated 75 years of being married on June 9, followed by a party on June 11 at Pecan Plantation, hosted by their three sons and two daughters-in-law.

Bob, 94, is from Hamlin and Juanell, 92, was originally from Graham. They first met when

her dad took a job in Hamlin in the early 1940s, and she immediately captured Bob's heart.

"I kinda liked him too," Juanell said with a smile. "He was a very handsome young man. It was love right away."

As Bob said, "It grew into a lifetime love story. We set the wedding, things got going and (we've) been going ever since." Bob went to work in the oil

patch in 1951, working for Conoco.

"I thought I could make a little better living for my family. We started our family early," he said. "It was the last job I ever asked for. I continued with Conoco for the rest of my career."

Their life together has taken them all over the U.S. and the world. They even lived in Egypt and Scotland. As golfers, Bob recalled playing one of the most legendary courses in the world while in Aberdeen, Scotland.

"Cecil (their oldest son) came over and we played," he said, adding that he plays with Cecil

and their middle son Jerry almost every week now. They have a youngest son, Matt.

Bob and Juanell have seven grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Also while in Aberdeen, the Caldwells helped build an international Baptist Church. They are now members of Lake Baptist Church in Granbury.

"We couldn't buy property to build a church, so we leased property for 100 years. I'm not sure what's gonna happen in 2083 when the lease is up," Bob said with a chuckle.

During their time in Egypt

PLEASE SEE **COUPLE** | C2

"It grew into a lifetime love story. We set the wedding, things got going and (we've) been going ever since."

BOB CALDWELL

Second Chance Farm to host groovy party June 26

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

It's time to pull out those dust-covered bell bottom jeans and platform shoes for Second Chance Farm's Summer of Love Party.

Set from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday, June 26, at Warren's Backyard (2901 Weatherford Highway), the 1970s-themed party will have everyone searching for the best peace sign accessory to complement their attire for the evening.

"Warren's Backyard is really all about being outside, so we really wanted to have a summer event," Rebecca Faiola, who is producing the event for Second Chance Farm. "This whole Summer of Love party just really stuck in my head; it's going to be super hippie cool."

The party will feature groovy

party attire, face painting, a dance party hosted by DJ Jimmy D, live and silent auctions, a dog kissing booth, and 70s-themed baby photos.

"You wouldn't believe the participation we have (in the silent and live auctions)," Faiola said. "We have (gifts from) Pug on a Pontoon, Signature Beauty Bar & Fashions, and Wings Etc. We have live auction items from Bond Arms. We have a really cute pink pistol called the Mama Bear, which I'm going to be bidding on. We have a Granbury getaway package with Hotel Lucy. Brandy Herr has donated her book she wrote about ghosts in Granbury, as well as the ghost tour that she leads. We probably will have 30 silent auction items and baskets."

There will also be a costume contest given to the best stellar attire with the most creative and

"far out threads."

"It's all for a great cause," Faiola said, adding that 100% of proceeds from the event will be donated to Second Chance Farm, a nonprofit special needs animal rescue and rehab.

SCF was first established in 2012, but owner Sandi Walker previously told the Hood County News that she's been helping animals for more than 20 years.

Over the years, Second Chance Farm has become a home for not only special-needs dogs, but also donkeys, goats, chickens, cows, ducks, and pigs.

"Sandi just has an ongoing need for funds," Faiola said. "I mean, I've had the opportunity to see her speak in front of two separate groups in the last two weeks and she tears up about the stories of these animals and it's very emotional for her. It's really a huge labor of love to

support Second Chance Farm."

Tickets for the event are \$20 for adults, and free for children 12 and under. Tickets can be purchased onsite or online at tinyurl.com/t8cnpumb.

"Everyone loves Sandi and Second Chance Farm," Faiola added. "Her whole thing is rescue, rehabilitation, and re-homing, but she does have her little lovebugs that she will not part with, like Samsonite."

PLEASE SEE **PARTY** | C2

The Second Chance Farm Summer of Love Party is set for Sunday, June 26 at Warren's Backyard. The 70s-themed event will feature auctions, a dance party, face painting and costume contest as well as food trucks and beverages for purchase.

COURTESY GRAPHIC



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Biblical favorite up next for Broadway on the Brazos

Submitted item

Granbury Theatre Company will continue its Broadway on the Brazos season with “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” on June 9-July 9, 2023, at the historic Granbury Opera House in Downtown Granbury.

According to Concord Theatricals, “The musical follows the Biblical story of preferred son Joseph. After being sold into slavery by his brothers, he ingratiates himself with Egyptian noble Potiphar, but ends up in jail after refusing the amorous advances of Potiphar’s wife. While imprisoned, Joseph discovers his ability to in-

terpret dreams, and he soon finds himself in front of the mighty but troubled, Elvis-inspired, Pharaoh. Joseph’s solution to Egypt’s famine elevates him to Pharaoh’s right-hand man and reunites him with his family.” Credits include lyrics by Tim Rice and music by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Leading the cast is Ben

Rongey as Joseph with Jennifer Nickell as the Narrator.

Other cast members are Alvaro Aguilar, Takara Bailey, Katelyn Bernard, Bailey Brewer, Benny Brown, Griffin Bruce, Makenna Clark, Reagan Curry, Bryn Darby, Maudie G. Davis, John David Dvorak, Eme Looney, Bailee Love, Allie McGrane, Nicolas Medaris, Elizabeth Miller, Sam Morales, Lena Morales, Jacob Myers, Hannah Nickerson, Molly Pruetz, Dan Powderly and Thomas Powderly. Landon Denman and Courtney Doucet are understudies.

The play is under the direction of Nolan Moralez assisted by Kendrick Booth,

who both are leading choreography. Music direction is by Haley Twaddell. Designers for the production are William Byrum, set (assisted by Eme Looney); Natalie Guess, lighting; Kyle Hoffman, sound; Devon Kleine, costumes; Benteigh Nesbit, props. Nesbit is the stage manager assisted by Rachel Mastick.

Regular performance times are 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and 2:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Tickets are available now through the GTC box office at (817) 579-0952 or online at www.granburytheatrecompany.org. Tickets are \$35 for the floor and \$30 for



COURTESY GRAPHIC

the balcony. Discounts are available for seniors aged 65 and older, active-duty military service members, veterans, children, and students. Online and box office processing fees apply.

Granbury Theatre Company is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that manages the Granbury

Opera House, produces critically acclaimed plays and musicals, and hosts concerts and other special events. The company also includes the Granbury Theatre Academy, which offers after-school and summer programs to provide acting, dance, and singing instruction for children and youth.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Jaunell and Bob Caldwell smile as they ready to go for a drive.

COUPLE

FROM PAGE C1

Bob recalled guards outside the church.

“We never had a problem, though,” he said. “But if we’d left the country we probably couldn’t come back.”

While there they also journeyed up Mount Sinai, the place where Moses received the 10 Commandments from God.

“That was very special,” he said.

They moved to Hood County in 2001. Cecil had settled here about a year earlier in Pecan.

“He told me Pecan is a perfect place to live,” Bob said. “So we decided to get closer to the kids. Juanell suggested it and I’m glad she did.”

Nowadays they regularly play 42 dominoes together. They also took up golfing together years ago, and Bob still plays regular tournaments at Pecan. She was president of the Nutcracker Women’s Golf Association in 2008.

And they’ve been to the historic Masters Golf Tournament together several

times.

“I took the game up and she said she didn’t want to be a golf widow, so she started playing,” Bob said with a chuckle.

They also love taking drives together. In fact, they bought a Camaro convertible two years ago.

“We had a Corvette up in Colorado. We’d take some wine and go out by the river,” Juanell said, recalling one of their many favorite memories.

Bob added, “It takes a lot of give and take. We have never had a serious argument. It’s a matter of patience. It’s a partnership.”

They’ve also fought through health challenges together. Juanell had a stroke in 1980 and defeated breast cancer in 2009. Bob had a heart attack two years ago and has had knee replacement.

Through it all, however, they keep each other strong.

“It’s just unbelievable when you think about all the things we’ve done together,” Juanell said. “You need to do things together as a couple, and that’s what we do and plan to continue.”



COURTESY OF TODD HALL

Rockin’ J Masonry work to install concrete headwalls on culverts during the construction of Acton Place Park, located at 360 Silverton Drive.

PARK

FROM PAGE C1

Hall said after those projects are completed, he hopes the brick engraving fundraiser will encourage local businesses and community members to donate so other amenities of the project can be built.

“We would love to do all of it, but we have to continue to partner with the community to fundraise for all the other elements,” he said. “We would really like to see the dog park go in, but the pricing and fence is high, so we’re hoping that a community partner will step up and help us out with the dog park as well.”

Plans for the park include two playgrounds, a sand volleyball court, a garden, a walking trail, a dog park, a pavilion, restrooms, a concert stage with an inflatable movie screen, an area for food trucks, and a basketball court.

Hall said in addition to the brick fundraiser, the board is also putting together a donation benefit package, where Hood County residents can sponsor individual components of each section of the park.

“If someone said, ‘OK, well, I’d like to donate toward the dog park,’ and they’ll pay for the fence, but maybe some others can’t afford to do all of the

fencing, but they could afford to do a watering station for the dogs or a park bench,” Hall said. “We’re working on ways to put a nameplate on those sorts of things as a ‘thank you’ as well.”

He said the park will also have a monument sign made of chopped stone with an engraved wall containing names of donors.

“It’s an exciting time for the people in Acton and on that side of Hood County to be able to benefit because there’s really not another park in the area, aside from the ones that are in gated communities,” Hall added. “We’re actively looking for different partners in the

community who are willing to step forward and help out. We’re 100% dependent on the community’s involvement in it because otherwise, there’s no funding source, so we really are just encouraging anyone who has a passion for kids and the community to help us out in any way that they can.”

To donate to the brick fundraiser, visit bit.ly/ActonPark. For help or questions on the fundraiser, email actonplace.brick@gmail.com. For future updates, follow the Acton Place Park Facebook page.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

PARTY

FROM PAGE C1

SAMSONITE’S STORY

Samsonite, a pit bull mix puppy, recently made headlines for being cruelly burned, stuffed into a suitcase, and discarded.

In November 2022, a judge in Bell County sentenced Samsonite’s tormentor Alex Soto Cruz to three years in prison for what he did to the seven-month-old pup in November of 2021.

However, a new development in Samsonite’s case has recently surfaced, concerning a second suspect in the abuse.

Cruz and former roommate Keishaw Aquino-Rodriguez were both indicted by a Bell County grand

jury last year on the charge of animal cruelty.

But when the pair bonded out of jail, Cruz came back to court and faced trial, while Rodriguez fled the area and has since been on the run for two years — until now.

On May 24, Rodriguez was booked into the Mahoning County Jail in Youngstown, Ohio, on an unrelated domestic violence charge.

Mahoning County Sheriff Jerry Greene told WFMJ-TV that Rodriguez will “have his day in court before being extradited back to Texas.”

“Animal cruelty is now a third-degree felony so he’s got a felony on his record; we just have to get him back down here to do the time,” Walker told WFMJ-TV on June 1. “We were at the sentencing of the first guy and

we just about packed that courtroom and we will be there for this one too. I want to pack the courtroom for sure this time. I really do.”

With Walker’s help, Samsonite has since recovered and now resides happily at Second Chance Farm.

SCF ROCK STARS

Samsonite, who is currently known as one of SCF’s rockstars, is also set to make an appearance at the Summer of Love event.

“Sandi has her animal ‘Rock Stars,’ but she is my ‘Rock Star’ farm girl who is living and caring every day for these animals,” Faiola said, in an email to the HCN. “She’s doing the work we all would do if we knew what all she knows. She’s a real farm girl being born onto a farm

and just knowing about animals and their care. I believe those of us who support Sandi truly believe her work is so very important.”

Faiola said that several volunteers along with dozens of local businesses, merchants, and community members are coming together to make this event a “fun fundraising” time at Warren’s Backyard.

“This will be the event of the summer,” Faiola added. “The goal is to have a big party, dress up, and have fun with our kooky costumes on.”

For more information or to support Second Chance Farm, email Faiola at rebeccashowbiz@gmail.com.

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Joseph
and the
AMAZING
TECHNICOLOR
DREAMCOAT

PETS OF THE WEEK

Ocher (left) and Rusty are domestic shorthair male kittens. They are approximately 10 weeks old. Both kittens are very friendly and would love to find their forever homes. The special adoption fee is \$25. The fee includes sterilization, rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

Ember is a female Husky mix. She is approximately four months old, and is playful and inquisitive. The special adoption fee is \$25. The fee includes sterilization, rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

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Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
First Saturday of each month (adoptions only) 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
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Check us out on Facebook at Hood County Animal Control, TX

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CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, June 9 2023 - Thursday, June 15 2023

Elemental (PG)
Thurs: 5:40PM, 8:20PM

Elemental in 3D (PG)
Thurs: 3:00PM

Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:30AM, 2:50PM, 6:10PM, 9:30PM.
Sun: 11:30AM, 2:50PM, 6:10PM.
Mon, Wed: 11:35AM, 2:55PM, 6:15PM.
Tues: 12:10PM, 3:30PM, 6:50PM.
Thurs: 12:25PM, 6:50PM

Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway - Kids' Summer Series (PG)
Tues, Thurs: 10:00AM
Spider-Man: Across The Spider-Verse (PG)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:30AM, 1:35PM, 4:40PM, 7:45PM.
Mon, Wed: 10:35AM, 1:40PM, 4:45PM, 7:50PM.
Tues: 11:00AM, 12:20PM, 3:25PM, 6:30PM.
Thurs: 11:50AM, 2:05PM, 5:10PM, 8:15PM

The Boogeyman (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 12:10PM, 2:35PM, 5:00PM, 7:25PM, 9:55PM.
Sun: 12:10PM, 2:35PM, 5:00PM, 7:25PM.
Mon, Wed: 12:15PM, 2:40PM, 5:05PM, 7:30PM.
Tues: 10:25AM, 2:10PM, 4:35PM, 7:00PM.
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:30PM, 4:35PM, 7:00PM, 9:25PM

The Flash (PG13)
Thurs: 3:00PM, 6:10PM, 9:20PM

The Little Mermaid (PG)
Fri, Sat: 12:20PM, 3:25PM, 6:30PM, 9:35PM.
Sun: 12:20PM, 3:25PM, 6:30PM.
Mon, Wed: 12:25PM, 3:30PM, 6:35PM.
Tues: 12:50PM, 3:55PM, 7:00PM.
Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 3:45PM

Transformers: Rise of the Beasts (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:30AM, 1:20PM, 2:25PM, 4:10PM, 5:20PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM, 9:50PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 1:20PM, 1:55PM, 4:10PM, 4:50PM, 7:00PM, 7:45PM.
Mon, Wed: 12:00PM, 1:55PM, 2:55PM, 4:50PM, 5:50PM, 7:45PM.
Tues: 10:25AM, 1:20PM, 3:20PM, 4:15PM, 6:15PM, 7:10PM.
Thurs: 10:35AM, 3:20PM, 6:15PM, 9:10PM

Transformers: Rise of the Beasts in 3D (PG13)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:30AM.
Mon, Wed: 11:00AM.
Tues, Thurs: 12:25PM

• Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice
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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Uncle Mort: Consulting in waiting

My aged Uncle Mort sometimes stumbles across what he calls “business opportunities,” not unlike hogs stumbling over acorns every now and again.

He claims that an epiphany experienced during a recent Sam’s Club visit has led to his dusting off a rarely-used business card indicating that he is a “consultant.”

I’m not sure anyone should bill himself or herself until others opt to engage their services, but Mort figures that when he reveals his “can’t miss” suggestions to Sam’s management, he will be signed on post haste.

Upon entering Sam’s Club on a recent week night, he thought about Sam Walton, founder of Walmart and perhaps the inspiration for big box Sam’s Club stores that entered the retail race with a single store in 1983, 21 years after Walmart began.

He also thought of Sam’s wife, Helen, who is credited with coining the slogan Walton stores continue to promote. Maybe you have seen the words splashed across their store walls: “It’s not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.”

Anyways, Mort marveled at the smooth-as-silk atmosphere up and down most



BY DON NEWBURY

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

aisles.

There was one exception, and it was the food court, where down-to-earth prices attracted long lines of customers.

Maybe the gathering is unavoidable. I mean, where else can one purchase a hot dog and what amounts to a “bottomless cup” of soft drink for \$1.45.

Mort is pretty sure, though, that the “scattering” can be minimized if Sam’s researchers can come up with mustard/mayonnaise/relish packets that can be opened without yard sheers, chisels or TNT. “Dry cleaners have got to love it,” Mort joked. “It’s a rare person who can eat a hog dog without staining clothes, and in some cases, shoes get the treatment because many packets are stepped on. They may be dropped, or perhaps thrown floorward by folks who simply can’t get them open.”

Mort says his recommendations will be simple and to the point. He wants to explain that several companies — including the ones making bags for individual

servings of hot tea — have long known that contents are readily accessible because of a small slit in a corner of each packet. Can’t condiment companies do the same thing? And if patrons can dress their hot-dogs more quickly, wouldn’t this reduce the gathering and enhance the scattering of customers to other areas of the store?..

Referencing relish caused Mort to hearken back to one of his earlier suggestions that never got traction.

In his youth, he thought he’d come up with a sure-fire way to “make pickles cuter.” He joined legions who believe that warts on pickles detract from their appearance.

He never proved it as far as I know, because his “pitch” was cockamammy, at best. Mort recommended turning pickle seeds inside out before planting. He reasoned that so doing would cause the pickles to have dimples instead of warts....

“Tis the season for young entrepreneurs to begin their retail pursuits by setting up makeshift lemonade stands

in their neighborhoods.

Back in the day, youngsters living across the street from each other set up competing stands, one offering lemonade for five cents a cup. Across the street, a slightly larger sign made for longer lines of patrons. It read: “All the lemonade you can drink for a nickel.” When the first customer emptied his cup, he requested another. The youngster said, “That’ll cost you another nickel.”

The man countered, pointing to the “all-you-can-drink-for-a-nickel” sign. But the young entrepreneur was ready for him: “You are right, sir. But one cup is all you can drink for a nickel.”

Speaking of concessions, fans of the National Basketball Association no doubt are scratching their heads about the paucity of women referees in the playoffs.

During the regular season, it was not uncommon to see women officiating games. I’ve seen parts of virtually all playoff games and have yet to see a woman official.

I don’t mean to be a whistleblower about no women whistleblowers, but I’m just saying next season may be different.

newbury@speakerdoc.com.

GO PLAY

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

PLACE YOUR AD TO RUN IN PRINT AND ONLINE AT CLASSIFIEDS.HCNEWS.COM

HOME IN ON MORE BUYERS

Willie's on the road to Granbury, sort of

Michael Moore to pay tribute to music legend

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

Michael Moore remembers as a child the impact Willie Nelson's music had on him as he would listen to it coming out of his grandmother's AM radio as he was growing up in McKinney.

"My grandmother would listen to WBAP and they played a lot of Willie's songs," Moore recalled. "Then, in high school I'd come visit my uncle and he listened to Willie all the time."

Not surprisingly, Moore became a fan of Willie's music himself — as have many folks the world over. Now, he finds himself portraying the musical legend onstage, which he will do Saturday, June 17 at Granbury Live with shows at 3 and 7 p.m.

It will be Moore's first appearance on the Granbury Live stage, and he is excited about coming to town.

"If they like to have a good time, then we're going to have a great time together," Moore said.

History has shown folks attending the shows do indeed, and Moore plans to keep that tradition going.

"I try to get as close to what he does as possible, his phrases, his mannerisms onstage," Moore said. "You can never be as good a Willie as Willie is, though, and we all know that. Willie is a walking, talking, moving piece of art."

"I call myself a musical actor."

Apparently, however, Moore does as good a job of portraying the 90-year-old Willie — who is still touring himself, by the way — as anyone out there. Some have even called him the best in the world outside of the original Willie.

He's played to many large

crowds throughout America, including as many as 7,000-plus at Wild Bill Days in South Dakota a handful of years ago.

HOW IT STARTED

Moore, now 60, has been playing Willie and his music onstage for more than half his life — about 35 years. He remembers the first time the opportunity came up, when he was actually in an Elvis tribute band.

"I was talked into singing a Willie song and it just kinda stuck," he said with a chuckle. "It's a real honor to pay tribute to a true Texas Legend."

Moore has met Willie a few times.

"He and I have a mutual friend. It was easy to meet that way," Moore said. "The first time I was star-struck, I have to admit. I didn't want to tell him what a fan I was or anything like that because I knew he hears that all the time. But then we got to talking and things loosened up and it was a great time."

Moore has even played golf with Willie.

"He's better than I am, but that's not really saying anything," Moore said, laughing.

Willie has also seen a video of Moore's tribute to him and was impressed with what he

PLEASE SEE **MOORE** | C7

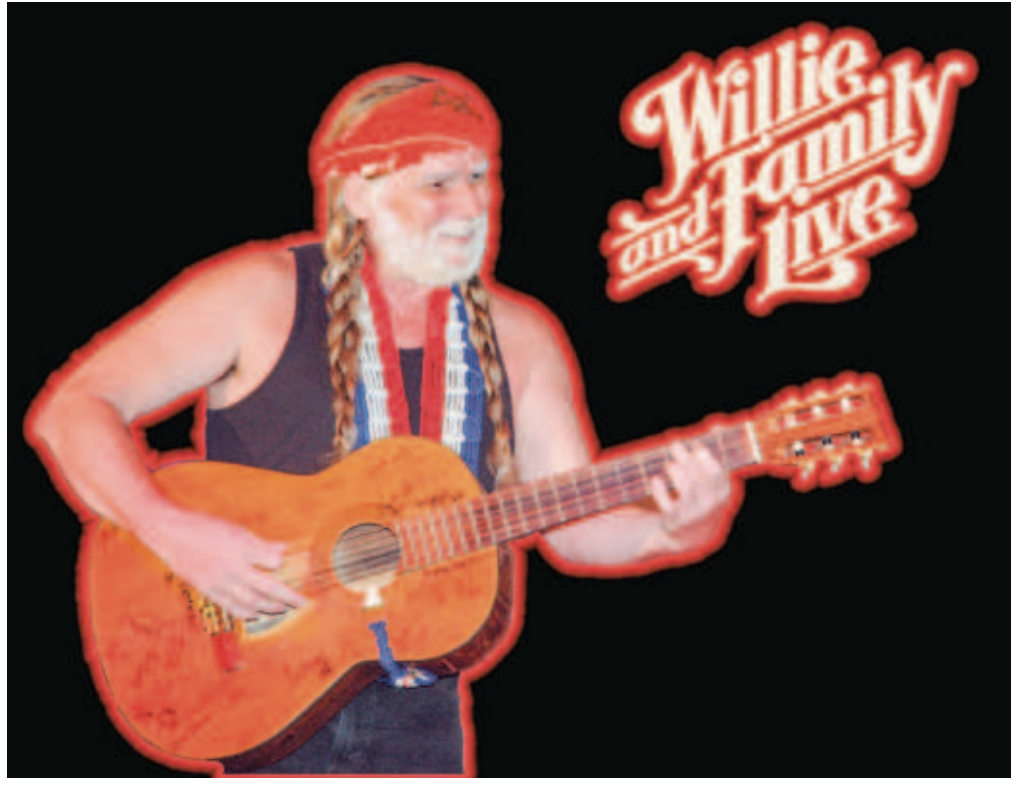


PHOTO COURTESY OF GLOBAL TOURING AND PROMOTION

Michael Moore will bring his Willie Nelson tribute to Granbury Live Saturday, June 17 for shows at 3 and 7 p.m.

"I try to get as close to what he does as possible, his phrases, his mannerisms onstage. You can never be as good a Willie as Willie is, though, and we all know that. Willie is a walking, talking, moving piece of art."

MICHAEL MOORE
Musical actor

HOOD OUTDOORS

The heat is upon us, so it's time to review information to avoid heat stress



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.

Out on the lake all day fishing a tournament, in the heat at work or participating in other outdoor activities in this brutal Texas heat can cause overheating of your body. Too much heat stress can lead to a heat illness that is the body's way of saying it can't take the heat.

Here is some information on three types of heat stress. Each type may require a different action. You should seek medical attention if there is any doubt of the seriousness of the stress.

There are three kinds of heat illness — heatstroke, heat exhaustion and heat cramps. They can occur separately or in combination.

Loss of body salt can lead to heat cramps. Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms. The arms, legs and abdomen are usually affected first, but any muscles used when working are susceptible. Heat cramps strike those who sweat profusely

and drink a lot of water but fail to replace body salt lost through sweating. Low salt content in the muscles cause painful cramps during or after work hours.

To treat a victim of heat cramps press firmly with your hands on the cramped muscle or gently massage them to relieve the spasm. If the victim has no other medical condition, you can give the victim half a glass of salt water (one teaspoon of salt per glass of water) every 15 minutes for about an hour. Victims with other medical conditions should see a doctor.

When body fluids get low, heat exhaustion can set in. Heat exhaustion develops when the body loses more fluid through sweating than it is taking in. A victim of heat exhaustion sweats profusely but becomes extremely weak or giddy. In more serious cases, the victim may vomit or faint. The skin becomes clammy and the complexion pale,



Pictured, from left, are Maxwell Scott, Sam Ludlum, and Parker Hull from California. They were visiting family in Granbury (Janice Maxwell, not shown). They caught their limit of striped bass on Lake Granbury.

COURTESY PHOTO BY MIKE ACOSTA

but body temperature stays fairly normal.

To treat a victim of heat exhaustion, have the person sip water for about an hour while lying down. Loosen any clothing and raise the victim's feet 8-12 inches. Then apply cool, wet cloths and fan the victim. If vomiting occurs, discontinue fluids and take the person to a hospital where an IV can be

started and intravenous fluids can be administered.

Heatstroke happens when sweating stops. Heatstroke occurs when the body's heat-regulating system breaks down under stress and sweating stops. There may be little warning, and unless the victim receives quick treatment, death can

PLEASE SEE **OUTDOORS** | C8

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GAME ON

The good old days... weren't.

From Zork to No Man's Sky, home computer gaming has come a long way.



BY JENNIFER HARRISON

My opinions on computer gaming and some of my favorite games. I've been playing games on the home computer since the days of the Trash 80. I love indie, open-world, unique, puzzle, and resource games. The cake is a lie.

Computer games have been around for almost as long as we've had computers. But until 1972, they weren't small enough to fit inside your house.

My love of home computer gaming started in 1979, when my dad brought home a TRS80. It ran on Basic. To run a program on the computer, you had to type it in, line by line. It took days. If you wanted to create a graphic, you had to enter data for each pixel, including duration, location and color. Then you had to debug the program and make sure every line was correct, or it wouldn't run correctly. And you couldn't save the program either, so if you wanted to play the game again, you had to type it in again.

If you think this sounds like a lot of work, you are correct. But for somebody who had never seen a computer before, this simple

little machine was amazing. We had a computer magazine and managed to type in a few programs to run on the computer, including a waterfall simulation. Dad eventually got a tape drive and a memory expansion interface (giving it a whopping 16K.) With the tape drive, you could load a program into the computer, then pew pew pew to your heart's content. We had two games, and I learned how to play them whenever I wanted.

That computer, and its replacement, an Apple IIe, was my go to 10 all through college. I wrote all my papers on the Apple, and of course played lots of games. Even though it only had two colors, green and very dark green. (There was a color



COURTESY PHOTO

No Man's Sky screenshot.

monitor available, but I only had the monochrome.)

One of my favorite things to play were interactive text adventures. I played quite a few on that computer, including Zork. It allowed you to solve puzzles and progress in the game through a text interface. You could type commands like "kill troll with axe" or "get knife." They made the universe of the game feel larger, because of the seemingly endless possibilities. Zork can still be played online, with advertisements - here's one link: <https://classicreload.com/zork-i.html>

There were plenty of games that relied on graphics for gameplay. Instead of the smooth lines you see today, games were made up of sprites, which were groupings of pixels used as animation elements. They were typically side scrolling

(except for Tempest, which was a weird center scroller,) and only had 16 colors and a 320 x 200 screen to work with. Making a challenging game that was also fun to play wasn't easy.

If you wanted good graphics, you went to the arcade. Up until the 90s, arcade games looked better than a game on a home PC. The onboard computers for these arcade games were built to do one thing only, always had color screens, and sturdy controls so that any ham-fisted teen could smash and bash his/her way to a victory.

And then Pentium came along in 1993, and everything turned upside down.

We got Doom. And Mortal Kombat. And Myst, an arguably revolutionary game in terms of game mechanics and concepts.

As our processors have

gotten better, the games have gotten more complicated. It's a natural progression of being able to crunch more data into a rendering, improving the experience for the player. Being able to map an image onto a vector has transformed gaming. We're able to combine vector graphics with bitmaps, and control light and shading.

Embedded AI controls the NPC's (non-player character) behaviors in the game based upon alert statuses. Open-world game play, pioneered by the Ultima series, got even better when we could render three-dimensional foliage and terrain. We even have realistic water simulations, the Holy Grail of game animation.

Now you can play a game called No Man's Sky, which "is a game about exploration and survival in an infinite procedurally generated uni-

verse." This means that each player has a unique experience, as it's generating an entire open world for each individual. This is so far beyond "eat sandwich" that it makes me feel old. But in a good way.

I can't wait to see what the future brings. I'm always on the trailing edge of technology, upgrading just enough that I can continue playing my favorite games.

This column will be mostly about games I've played that you might not have heard of, combined with a little game design theory, what I like in gaming, and maybe even some mainstream games that I've played that I'd like to analyze.

All suggestions welcome! Do you have a game you'd like me to review? Just email the Tri-County Reporter at info@tricityreporter.com, subject line Game On.

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DEVOTIONAL

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

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 1 John 4:12

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- Granbury Baptist
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 Romans 15:13

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 Isaiah 41:13

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 Proverbs 3:5-6

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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

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 Romans 8:28

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Schedule for the Week
 Sunday: 8:45 am Sunday School
 10:00 am Worship
 Wednesday March 22nd & 29th
 5:45 pm Fellowship Meal
 7:00 pm Lenten Worship Service
 Services live streamed on Facebook
 facebook.com/OurSaviorLutheranChurchGranbury

DINNER IN *White*



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SARAH HARVEY TOTH

The Granbury Arts Alliance (GAA) held their Annual Membership Drive and "Dinner in White" picnic on the Langdon Center lawn (one block east of the Square) on Friday, June 2, at 5:30 p.m. The event was held outdoors and all those attending were in white attire, with all white table settings. Each participant brought their own setup (tables, chairs, or a blanket), food and beverages. Live music was provided. The event hosted artists at the Dan and Judy Coats Western Art Show and sale. Proceeds went to help kickstart the Shanley Park sculpture garden.



MOORE

FROM PAGE C4

saw. In typical Willie style, he told Moore, "I hope you have as much fun being me as I have."

Moore said he certainly tries to. He even has another

act in which he incorporates Waylon Jennings and Johnny Cash tribute performers called Highwaymen Live. That was the name of the actual Nelson/Jennings/Cash trio.

SIMPLE, BUT TOUCHING

Moore said he loves performing Willie's songs because "They are really very simple. They appeal to the common man. Everybody has something they can relate to in those songs."

His personal favorite is

"You Were Always On My Mind."

"It's the one song I spent the most time learning. Plus, it's a song that touches a lot of people," he said. "Of course, we get a lot of requests for songs like 'On the Road Again' and a lot of his hits."

Willie, it has been said, may take his final breath onstage performing. In fact, Moore believes the legend has several more years of entertaining folks in him.

"Who can say with him? I think he's probably going to outlive all of us. He's still out there doing 100 dates a

year," Moore said.

And for himself? Will he still be hitting the stage regularly three decades from now when he's Willie's age?

"Oh, who knows? I definitely love doing this," he said. "And like I said, Willie may still be around."

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PECAN PLANTATION BITS

New member orientation sessions greet neighbors in Pecan

Living in Pecan Plantation offers many advantages, the greatest of which is the people. One of the ways new residents of our community may initially meet folks is at New Member Orientation, facilitated by Pecan's Membership Orientation Committee. Twice monthly, committee members welcome new Pecaners and acquaint them with the amenities of our neighborhood. Long-term residents are also welcome to greet new neighbors as well as to stay informed on Pecan events and happenings.

An orientation session is happening today, Saturday, June 10, at 10 a.m. in the clubhouse ballroom. Folks wanting to register for the next orientation gathering or receive more information about the sessions may contact Jimmy Flannigan of Pecan member services (817-573-2641, extension 335) or email Kathie Schoepf at kschoepf@charter.net.

BRUSHES READY

Pecan artist Kathy Yoders will facilitate a paint party at the PAC today, Saturday, June 10, from 4:30 to 8 p.m.



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.

when participants will complete a step-by-step acrylic painting. All supplies are included in the registration fee, and artists should bring their own beverage as well as wear an old shirt or apron.

SING ALONG

Pecan's monthly karaoke night happens today, Saturday, June 10 with a "breakfast-for-dinner" buffet from 6 to 7:45 p.m. and sing along music starting at 8. Karaoke is free, and dinner reservations may be secured by calling the clubhouse front desk: 817-573-2641. Rumor has it that the first participant to sing "Eat It" by Weird Al Yankovic receives a free dinner!

GOOD CATCH

Pecan's annual fishing tournament for children of all ages happens Monday, June 12 at 8 a.m. on the No.

10 golf course pond. Bring fishing poles; bait provided.

ART GUILD

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild will meet again on Tuesday, June 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC. Guests and prospective members are welcome. Attendees are asked to bring discarded paint brushes to the meeting for donation to the PPAG's Art Rocks Camp. For complete information about the guild and its presence in Pecan, visit www.pecanplantationartguild.com.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club will meet again on Wednesday, June 14 at 9 a.m. when Hood County Commissioner Nanette Samuelson will address the crowd. Reservations are requested by noon on Tuesday, June 13: 817-573-2641.

WOMAN'S CLUB

While official meetings of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club recess for the summer, Chit Chat luncheons are on the calendar with the first one coming Thursday, June 15. Social time begins at 10 a.m., and lunch will be served at 11:30. This informal gathering of ladies will feature good food and sweet fellowship.

DAD'S DAY

Father's Day is coming on Sunday, June 18, and reservations for a holiday brunch are now being taken. Three seating times are available (10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m.). The menu will boast "lots of meats" for dad to enjoy. Call the clubhouse front desk to reserve a table: 817-573-2641.

Before Father's Day weekend arrives, little ones may participate in a "Dad's Day" craft at the PAC on Sunday, June 11 at 2 p.m. Registration required: 817-573-7952.

SHARP DESIGN

Pecan is seeking to up-

date our front entrance, and residents with a talent for design are needed. Our community is holding a competition open to all members who would like to have a lasting impact on Pecan in addition to winning a four-course meal for four created by Chef Jordan Ray, a plaque at the newly redesigned front entrance, and of course, bragging rights. Send both inquiries and submissions to Jay Arrington at jay.arrington@ppoaweb.com. Entry deadline is Friday, June 23.

SUMMER GOLF

Pecan's PGA Junior League for golfers ages 4 to 17 began last week, and the participants have embarked on fun, team playing golf for the summer. Folks desiring more information on this program may visit the PGA Junior League website or call the golf shop: 817-573-2645.

In addition, kids' junior golf camp sign up is happening now, and players interested in a three-day golf event may register. The first session will take place June 14-16 and the second on July 19-21. Inquiries and sign-up

welcome in the golf shop.

PARTY TIME

"Tacos and Two Steppin'" is on the calendar for Friday, June 16 from 5:30 to 10 p.m. in the Pecan ballroom. The meal will include a taco bar, and live music from Texas Backroads will fill the dance floor. Call the clubhouse front desk for a reservation.

MUSIC CLASS

Pecan will host an electric guitar workshop on Saturday, June 17 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This free event will instruct guitar players already proficient in basic chords on an acoustic guitar who would like to learn how to play rock music on an electric guitar. Folks in possession of an electric guitar and amplifier should bring them; extra instruments will also be on hand for participants to use. The workshop is limited on spots, and registration at the PAC is requested. Instructor Paul Knudsen may be contacted with inquiries or for more information: 682-500-6060.

dianedlong@yahoo.com / 817-579-9360

OUTDOORS

FROM PAGE C4

immediately. Enjoy our Texas sun as the season has definitely started, but be wary of any overheating warning.

HOOD COUNTY

FISHING REPORT

Granbury water levels continue to be about 2 feet low. Water temperatures are rising into the low 80 to mid-80s. I have seen evidence of a thermocline developing on the lower ends, which will push fish to the top layer of water. Striped bass to 13 pounds are excellent on live bait fished from near Indian Harbor to

the dam. Crappie are also excellent on minnows and jigs near underwater structure on many parts of the lake. Sand bass are fair on slabs and minnows fished near the Shores and Indian Harbor. Largemouth bass numbers are good with an occasional bigger fish to 7 pounds being caught. Some top water action early for largemouth and later in the day soft plastics and spinner baits have been effective. Granbury blue and yellow catfish continue to be fair to good on cut shad.

OTHER RESERVOIRS

On other reservoirs, Possum Kingdom Lake big striped bass are excellent on live bait and down

rigged jigs on the lower ends. Possum Kingdom largemouth bass to 9 pounds are possible mid-lake around major creek entrances. Lake Whitney striped bass limits continue to be common on live shad, bream or shiners. Proctor sand bass and catfish action continues to be excellent.

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

COURTESY PHOTO BY MIKE ACOSTA

Pictured, from left, are Andrew Dunn (Catalina Bay in Granbury) with Elan Preston and Carter Preston. They enjoyed catching their limit of big striped bass on Granbury this last weekend. Carter caught the most and the biggest.



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