



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[SATURDAY, August 5, 2023]

Published Saturday

hcnews.com \$1.00



PHOTO BY CLAYTON BRYANT

Billy Martin, Jonathan Sutton, Alex Sutton, Judge Ralph Walton and Maxie Walton on the day Billy and Maxie became legal guardians of Jonathan and Alex in 2019. The couple saved the brothers from being separated into the foster system.

County OKs 10% homestead exemption for 2024

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Although appraisals skyrocketed this year, Hood County homeowners are expected to receive a tax relief in 2024, following a unanimous decision from the Hood County Commissioners Court on July 25.

During the meeting, commissioners approved a 10% homestead exemption to property taxes that will take effect on Jan. 1, 2024.

"It came to my attention that Tarrant County passed a resolution similar to this a couple of months ago, so I started looking into it to see what it was about and what our options were," Nannette Samuelson, precinct 2 commissioner explained. "And as I looked into it more and more, I thought, 'You know, this is something that we can do for the residents and taxpayers of Hood County.'"

In simpler terms, the 10% homestead exemption means that 10% of a home's appraisal value will not be taxed by the county — meaning Hood County residents will see a decrease in the property taxes that they owe starting next year.

The court resolution on the homestead exemption states that elevated inflation levels and softening economy have made it apparent that taxpayers need relief from burdensome taxation.

Additionally, homestead exemptions will promote homeownership and reduce the likelihood of Hood County residents being taxed out of their homes.

The court resolution also quotes from economist Milton Friedman, who famously stated, "I am in favor of cutting taxes under any circumstances, for any excuse, for any reason, whenever possible."

"I agree with Milton Friedman, and that at any time we have an opportunity to cut taxes, we should take it," Samuelson said. "We hold ourselves up as being one of the most conservative counties in the state, so here's our opportunity to put our money where our mouth is."

Resident John Highsmith spoke in favor of the homestead exemption, while providing additional information about what other states are doing in terms of tax relief.

"When you look at 2021 or 2022, 43 states have adopted tax relief, and

PLEASE SEE COUNTY | A4

All about the kids

Martins saved brothers from separation, gave them new family

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

Having been members of the FBI for many years, Billy Martin and his wife Maxie helped solve many crimes. And when it came to the life of Alex Sutton and his older brother Jonathan, they believed it would have been a crime not to step up and come to the rescue.

Billy had mentored Jonathan, now 22, when Jonathan was at Granbury High School. Through that relationship also came a connection to Alex, now 19. So, when Jonathan informed Billy that he and his brother were about to be separated into the foster care system in 2017, it created an opportunity for Billy and Maxie. After thinking and praying, they realized what had to be done.

"After Jonathan told me he was going into foster care, Maxie and I prayed about it. I did not tell Jonathan that we would take him. We did not contact CPS (Child Protective Services) because we are told that CPS generally gets suspicious if you contact them and ask for specific kids," Billy said. "We literally prayed to God, 'If you want these boys to be in our home it will happen but if it is not your will it

will not happen.' Seven days later, after our prayer I received a call from CPS asking me if I knew the Sutton boys. I told them that I knew Jonathan because I had mentored him for several years. "CPS knew that Maxie and I were licensed foster care parents and that we did not have any kids in our home at that time. Maxie and I had previously considered retiring from being foster care parents due to our age. CPS told me that Alex knew we were foster parents and Alex had asked them to contact us. CPS told me that if we did not take Jonathan and Alex they would probably be separated and sent to a shelter in Fort Worth. Maxie and I could not bear to see those boys separated because we did not think they would survive being separated." It was bad enough that they had lost their father 15 years

ago and were being removed from their current family, but the Martins believed it would be even worse for the brothers to leave all their friends and be separated.

"We knew that some kids in the foster care system were already being removed from Hood County and sent to Fort Worth and Houston because there were not enough foster parents in Hood County," Billy said.

So, they agreed to take the boys and get counseling for them.

"Most people will not agree to foster older kids because they are generally broken and come with a lot of baggage," Billy said. "Even my wife and I preferred five-to-six-year-old kids. The boys' mom was not in any shape to take the boys back due to so many issues in her life."

They made the decision to go to court and become the legal guardians of Alex and Jonathan, and in 2019 it became official.

"I feel like my life would have been horrible and much harder," said Alex, a person of few words, but one to come straight to the point.

He added that after all the rough times he and Jonathan endured, he couldn't help but believe in the Martins because of "Their patience and undying love

for me and my brother as they took us in as their own."

HISTORY OF SERVING

Billy and Maxie, who chose not to be quoted in this article but expressed her support and appreciation, have a long history of serving others.

They retired from the FBI after 31 years. Maxie was an analyst, and he was the unit chief of the FBI's criminal history records section in the Criminal Justice Information Services Division. Billy is also a fingerprint expert.

They also volunteered at Big Brothers Big Sisters in Clarksburg, West Virginia and their "little brother" started working in the same FBI division where we worked after they retired.

"We have always loved working with kids," Billy said.

After retirement they relocated from West Virginia to Granbury. They contacted Granbury Middle School and said their church (Granbury Church of Christ) wanted to partner with them, so a mentoring program was started that continues today.

That is how Billy met Jonathan. He mentored him from grades 6-8, but the high school did not have a mentoring program. However, Billy was granted

PLEASE SEE KIDS | A5

Hood County extends burn ban to 90 days; excessive heat

BY ASHLEY INGE

Staff Writer

Following a seven-day burn ban issued by Hood County Fire Marshal Jeff Young on July 18, the Hood County Commissioners Court approved a 90-day burn ban during its meeting on Tuesday, July 25.

"I don't think there's anybody out here that thinks that we should not sign that burn ban, but Mike (Stafford) is here to confirm that," Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said during the meeting.

"I know Jeff came in and did a seven-day burn ban," Mike Stafford, deputy fire marshal

said. "But here recently in that seven days, we've gone up 65 points."

Even with the high temperatures and 100-degree days, Stafford said that it was still hotter in Hood County at this time last year.

"We're not near what we were last year," he said. "It was hotter believe it or not, as far as 100-degree days, but yeah, we recommend the 90-day burn ban."

According to the Texas A&M Forest Service, 150 counties in Texas are currently under a burn ban — a huge jump from the 97 counties that were under a burn ban only a couple of weeks prior.

The burn ban prohibits any outdoor burning or welding that would potentially create a public safety hazard.

A person violates this order if he/she burns any combustible material or conducts any outside welding without a dedicated fire spotter and adequate water supply.

Upon notification of a suspected outdoor burning, the fire department will be dispatched to the location of the fire and take immediate action to contain or extinguish the fire.

Anyone in Hood County who violates this order could receive a \$500 citation, which is a

Class C misdemeanor.

The burn ban for Hood County will remain in effect for 90 days unless the order is extended or lifted by the Hood County Commissioners Court.

If you see someone outside burning, please call the fire marshal's office at 817-579-3335 or stop by in person at 401 Deputy Larry Miller Dr.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243



137TH YEAR, NO. 87

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 34 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 34 pages

INSIDE

From My Front Porch — A3 | Zed — A4 | Obituaries — A8-A9 | Crossword Puzzle — A8-A9 | Classifieds — A10-A12

Est. 2017
Mattressville
4061 E. HWY 377 817-910-8957
www.mattressville.com

BACK TO SCHOOL SLEEP SALE

Sealy
Save up to \$200 on Sealy Hybrid!

Save \$400 on select Stearns & Foster Mattresses!

TEMPUR-PEDIC
Save \$500 on the All New Tempur Breeze!

COMMUNITY BUSINESS



CHAMBER NEWS

Fueling success, one sip at a time

Chamber Message

Looking for the perfect opportunity to make meaningful connections and strengthen your business presence in the community? Coffee & Connections is the event for you! This highly anticipated event is held the second Thursday of each month at a local venue and is more than just an opportunity to sip on steaming cups of coffee. It brings together local entrepreneurs and professionals for a morning of relationship-building and community synergy. This event has become a staple in the Granbury business community, and its growing popularity underscores its immense value to all who participate.

Coffee & Connections serves as a powerful platform for businesses to expand their networks, forge new partnerships, and exchange ideas that foster innovation and growth. With each event, the sense of camaraderie among attendees strengthens, creating a tight-knit business community that fuels our region's economic prosperity.

One of the key reasons why Coffee & Connections is so valuable to participate in is the opportunity to meet a diverse array of professionals from various industries. Whether you are a seasoned entrepreneur, a startup founder, or a representative from a large or small corporation, the event's inclusive nature ensures that everyone has a seat at the table. As participants chat and share their experiences, they gain insights and perspectives while creating new bonds.

The welcoming and informal atmosphere of the event sets the stage for meaningful interactions and fun! Attendees can engage in relaxed conversations that are free from the pressures of a formal business meeting. This setting fosters genuine connections, allowing people to get to know one another on a personal level and find common ground beyond just their professional pursuits.

Moreover, Coffee & Connections also features a brief spotlight presentation from our monthly sponsor giving the business the opportunity to showcase their product or service. Being a sponsor elevates your brand visibility, expands your network, and fosters valuable partnerships within Granbury's thriving business community. To become a sponsor, contact Holly Martin at holly@granburychamber.com or 817-573-1622.

Grab a cup of coffee and join the vibrant community at our next Coffee & Connections on Thursday, Aug. 10 at 9 a.m. at Oasis Tranquilo. The cost is \$10 for Chamber Members and \$20 for Not Yet Chamber Members. Register at www.granburychamber.com or call 817-573-1622 for more information.

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Ambassador Spotlight: Esther Schreiber

We are so thankful for our Ambassador, Esther Schreiber! This is Esther's first year as an ambassador. When asked why she loves being an ambassador she said, "I enjoy being an ambassador for so many reasons! One of them being how wonderful the ambassadors are towards each other and the community we live in is very loving."

Fun Fact about Esther: "I started playing the drums when I was 10 years old. I played in a Junior Symphony Orchestra then went on to play in a marching band! When moving here to Granbury I joined the Praise Team at Acton United Methodist church and played drums and percussion there for 4 1/2 years."

Thank you, Esther, for being an Ambassador of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

New Member Spotlight: Ansley Vacuum & Sewing

Our New Member Spotlight is Ansley Vacuum & Sewing! You will absolutely want to check out their top-of-the-line vacuums, sewing machines,

cleaning products, and services offered on your own vacuum and machines. Thank you Ansley Vacuum & Sewing for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!



RIBBON CUTTINGS



COURTESY PHOTO

Ribbon Cutting: Bright Beginnings Preschool at Granbury First United Methodist Church, located at 301 Loop 567, Granbury 76048. Grand Re-Opening (closed since COVID). Senior Pastor Steve Moss & Donna Lindquest, Preschool Director cut the ribbon along with other church staff, members of the congregation, Ambassadors.

Leadership Granbury proves perfect for people-person Karen Cooper

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

As a community liaison for Bridgewater Memory Care, Karen Cooper is always working with people.

From participating in local events to working with families on placing a loved one in long term care, Cooper is constantly spending time with members of the community.

"I love a challenge. I love people," she said. "All

of (my jobs have been) something different in the realm of working with people; it's what I love to do."

In a diverse background, Cooper previously served as a children's ministry director and was recently the director of events and membership with the Granbury Chamber of Commerce — a position that ultimately led to her joining Leadership Granbury.

"I had heard of Leadership Granbury before but didn't know a lot of details about it," she explained. "But one of the beauty parts about it was Brian Bondy, the president of the chamber, he was one of the leaders of the class, and so he was like, 'I'd really like for you to look at participating in this,' so I got to learn a little more about it

PLEASE SEE **COOPER** | A3



COURTESY KAREN COOPER

Karen Cooper, middle, poses with Crystal Douglass, left, and Carolanne Dunaway, right, during Leadership Granbury graduation in May.

MONDAY - THURSDAY DAILY SPECIALS!

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| Mon. BONELESS & BONE-IN WINGS .79 <small>C Plus Tax.</small> | Tue. CHICKEN TENDERS .89 <small>C Plus Tax.</small> | Wed. JUMBO SHRIMP .79 <small>C Plus Tax.</small> | Thur. BONELESS WINGS .69 <small>C Plus Tax.</small> |
|--|---|--|---|

1507 N. PLAZA DR. • GRANBURY
882-279-8980

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST Church will be having a Free Family Fun Day on Aug. 5, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Everyone is invited. There will be bounce houses, waterslides, movies, snow cones, and more. The event will take place at the Southside Baptist Church located at 910 Paluxy Rd. in Granbury. For more information call 817-573-1462.

MONDAY, AUGUST 14

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting with guest speaker Stephanie Cooper, Hood County Elections Administrator will be held at 11 a.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. Hwy 377, Granbury. For mor information, please call 254-716-5195.

LAKE GRANBURY Art Association's General Meeting will be held on Monday Aug. 14, 2023, at 6 p.m. at 224 N. Travis, Shanley House Free oil art demonstration by Audrey Caylor. Visitors welcome!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

HOOD COUNTY Democrat Club will be hosting having their monthly meeting on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at Annex I, 1410 W. Pearl Street. Refreshments at 6:30 p.m., meeting begins at 7 p.m., speaker will be Sam Houston, Publisher of Hood County News.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

HOOD COUNTY Hospital District Board of Directors regularly scheduled meeting will be held at noon in the Annex I meeting room, 202 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. For more information, please call 817-579-3200.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

FORWARD TRAINING Center to host the Granbury Airport Fly-In Breakfast fundraiser from 8-11 a.m. at 400 Howard Clemmons Rd. See the new runway in action with arriving and departing aircraft. Breakfast will include pancakes and sausage and the cost supports educational jobs skills training for youth and adults. Donations appreciated.

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.



STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

August in the Civil War



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 does not meet during the months of June, July, and August. We will next meet on Sept. 11, when our program will be brought by Dr. Rick McCaslin, of the University of North Texas History Department, who will speak on the cotton trade in Texas during the Civil War. More detail will be given in our September Hood County News column.

We have firmed up our scheduled speakers for the coming year. In addition to Dr. McCaslin in September, we will have the following speakers:
October 16, 2023—Dr. Andrew Bledsoe, Asst. Professor of History at Lee University
November 13, 2023—Dr. David K. Barnett, a

Jefferson Davis January 9, 2024—Dr. Leah Tarwater, Professor of History at Tarrant County College
February 12, 2024—Dr. Don Frazier, Director, The Texas Center at Schreiner University
March 11, 2024—Charles Pendleton, owner and curator of the Vicksburg



General Sterling Price

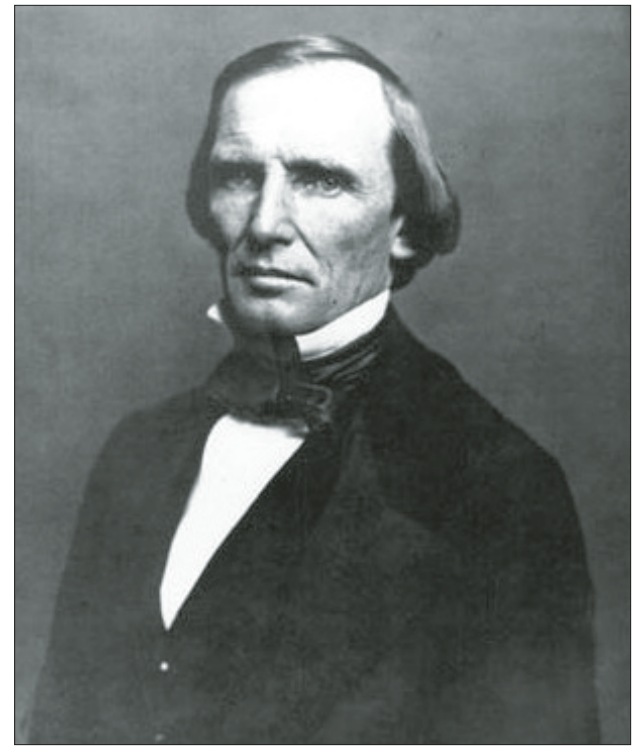
renowned local historian December 11, 2023—Bertram Hayes-Davis, a great-great grandson of

Civil War Museum April 8, 2024—Dr. Charles Grear, Professor of History, Central Texas

College May 13, 2024—Curt Fields, the nation's pre-eminent U. S. Grant living historian

AUGUST IN THE CIVIL WAR—Following the defeat of the Union forces at Manassas in July, 1861, small battles and skirmishes occurred across the southern half of the nation, from eastern Virginia to southern New Mexico. The next large battle—and the first major battle west of the Mississippi River—was the Battle of Wilson's Creek, fought in southwestern Missouri on Aug. 10. There, although outnumbered almost two to one (12,000 Confederates against 7,000 Federal troops), Union General Nathaniel Lyon divided his force, sending a portion of it, under Colonel Franz Sigel, to attack the Confederates from the rear while he led the remaining force against the Confederate front. The Confederates, commanded by Generals Sterling Price and Ben McCulloch initially gave way, but soon formed lines of resistance and counter-attacked. General Lyon was killed, and the Federal troops were routed. The major Civil War battle to be fought in Missouri was a resounding Confederate victory.

DID YOU KNOW—The American Civil War is generally viewed as having been fought in three geographic "theatres". The Eastern Theatre was generally those states along the Atlantic seaboard. The remaining states east of the Mississippi River made up the Western Theatre, and the Trans-Mississippi Theatre was the area west of the Mississippi River. The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table meets on the second Monday of each month except June, July, and August, at



Depicted is General Benjamin McCulloch



General Nathan Lyon

6:30 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.

COUNTY

FROM PAGE A2

often in both those years, and I think that that tax relief was an attempt to give taxpayers some help, because of the way they've been hit economically due to the federal government inflation," he explained. "Then for 2023, there are 12 states that are considering income tax cuts in 2023: Arkansas, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, and eight of those 12 states have already adopted reductions." Highsmith also quoted a Tax Foundation article from Feb. 1, 2023, which states the three highest tax reductions have already been accepted: Utah, with a 32.3% tax reduction, Idaho with 24.2%, and Arkansas at 18.7%.

"I think we're seeing a trend nationally to do things like this," he added. "I think it is very important, especially given the economic situation that we've been in."

Resident David Farris also agreed that the homestead exemption would reduce property

taxes but added that the county should do everything they can to "save the taxpayers' money," including repairing the Hood County Jail.

Resident Zach Maxwell said he was in favor of the homestead exemption if it would actually save taxpayers' money — which he argued that it didn't.

He asked Commissioner Samuelson if she could provide numbers on how much the exemption would save in county revenue, which she was unable to provide at the time.

"There are other people that pay property taxes other than homesteads," Maxwell said. "And one of the things that you had mentioned in your resolution was incentivizing home ownership. As a young man with a young family that is fortunate enough to own their home, I did go through many years of renting, but if you don't have those numbers, if you don't know exactly how much that's going to cost to pay for that exemption, then somebody else is going to be paying for that burden, which is going to be small business owners, and renters."

"This is the only allowable

way that the county can reduce taxes is through this exemption," Samuelson said.

Maxwell reiterated that he didn't believe the exemption would reduce taxes.

"You're just shifting it from homeowners to small business owners and renters because if you don't understand it, you don't know how much that's actually going to cost to pay for the exemption itself in revenue," he said. "You have to pay attention to that number because if you don't, then that burden is then going to shift somewhere else, and it is actually going to increase property taxes to business owners and renters."

Maxwell recommended that the commissioners wait to vote on the homestead exemption so that numbers could then be calculated and provided to the public as a "data-driven initiative," instead of a "feelings-driven initiative."

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle chimed in that he was in favor of the homestead exemption due to the "out of control appraisal district."

"I've heard many, many complaints from constituents in this county over the last several

years about people having their appraisals go up huge amounts, and they file a protest with the district and go up there and basically get hosed," Eagle said. "So, we're not going to get relief from the appraisal district at the way it's composed at this moment."

He added that it's impossible to know what the numbers are going to be next year, when the Hood County Appraisal District at the time had yet to send in the final appraisal numbers.

"This 10% proposed break exemption for people who own their homes takes it out of the appraisal district's hands, and anything we can do to do that right now, based on the current makeup of this appraisal district, I have to go along with," Eagle concluded.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews told Maxwell he had calculated the "number he had asked about," which came out to \$1.1 million based on "this year's percentages."

"I've spent a lot of time looking at this and trying to figure it out, and I believe that this is a good thing for the residential home-

PLEASE SEE TAX | A14

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

HOME in on more buyers

Place your ad to run in print and online at classifieds.hcnews.com

Buy more for less!



classifieds.hcnews.com

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

New boat towing service comes to Lake Granbury

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

A Granbury resident with a long history on the water, has partnered with the largest towing boat service for Lake Granbury boaters.

Captain Tray Hudgens moved to Granbury about five years ago and has been on the water ever since. He had been an independent tower and freelance boat captain for about two years before becoming a part of TowBoatUS in June.

He currently is a private charter captain, a tiki hit dinner cruise captain, and a boat rental operator all while running the towing service.

He most notably earned his U.S. Coast Guard license and earned his master's license. He described getting his U.S. Coast Guard license as a lengthy process. Hudgens had to track all his hours of operating a boat as a captain as a requirement

of the Coast Guard. The master's license is the highest license you can earn for water operations. Hudgens was required to become CPR certified as well.

Before Hudgens became a full-time worker on the water, he was a UPS driver and safety trainer for the freight division for 32 years. Hudgens has owned boats throughout his adult life and always had a love for the water. After retiring he knew he didn't want to just sit around and so he decided to pursue working full time on the water.

"Now with this new career, it's like you don't work a day in your life. You love what you do, and you don't mind going to work," Hudgens said. "I've always had a passion for helping other boaters. I love the boating community and going out there and talking to friends and cruising around the lake."

The business operates

with a 19-foot-long response vessel. Hudgens is a one-man show running the entirety of his business along with one friend helping from time to time. Hudgen's wife, LaDonna works at Carey and Sons Marine boat dealership here in Granbury.

Hudgen's partnership is a big success for the captain as TowBoatUS is the largest towing boat service in the United States. The towing service operates 24/7 as a one man show run by Hudgens.

Through TowBoatUS, Hudgens provides not only towing services but also, soft ungroundings, battery jumps and fuel delivery. The company also offers salvage assistance including recovery of property and re-floating the vessel. They also have equipment to contain spills of fuel or oil and even arrange local transportation to take customers to their destination.

Hudgens averages about



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Captain Tray Hudgens is the captain of a new tow boat service for Lake Granbury named TowBoatUS.

two to three calls a week from boaters who need towing usually because of engine failure or hitting tree

stumps.

Hudgens gave his most important safety tips for those going out on the lake in a

boat, "stay hydrated, make sure to top off your gas

PLEASE SEE **BOAT** | A13

Habitat for Humanity: "It's building so much more than a house, it's building a community"



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Houses are ready to get back under construction starting in September when Habitat for Humanity gets back out on the site.

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Habitat for Humanity of Hood County is a nonprofit

located in Granbury that builds homes for families in need.

The Granbury affiliate

started over 26 years ago in 1996 and is all run by non-paid staff.

The group raises money

throughout the year and receives donations from all over including individuals, businesses, churches and

many more. With the money raised and donations, the group builds homes from the ground up all with the help of the staff and many volunteers.

Families are hand-selected to become recipients of the home and are only required to pay the cost of materials. The price for families to pay only comes out to about half of the appraisal value. That money then gets fed back into the homes for the next year.

The families also are required to work 300 sweat equity hours to help with building the home. One hundred fifty hours must come from the adults that will be living in the house, and the other 150 can be from family members, friends, etc.

"We always say we're not building a house for them, we're building a house with them," Carol Davidson, executive director of Habitat for Humanity said. "Seeing families thrive has been the most rewarding part."

Due to the pandemic, the progress of building the previous homes slowed down. Those houses will continue to get built starting this September.

The houses are in the Rancho Brazos community, side by side. The homes typi-

cally have three bedrooms, sometimes four.

In the upcoming spring, the group plans to have another selection process for the next set of homes which usually entails three to four homes. Those homes will likely start being built in September of 2024.

Families that meet the income guidelines will be considered. To apply for the Habitat Housing Program, one can fill out an interest form located on the website habitatofhoodcounty.org under "apply".

Volunteers are always needed for these homes and include a free lunch. Hours typically range from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and operate on Wednesday's and Saturday's. There are no commitments for volunteers regarding hours.

Prior to volunteering one must read the construction safety and dress code policy, view the safety video, and print out and sign a liability release and waiver.

For more information on Habitat for Humanity of Hood County call 817-573-2812 or email at 817-573-2812. To visit the office please inquire about an appointment. The office is located at 3710 S. Sagecrest Ct. in Granbury.

KIDS

FROM PAGE A2

permission to meet with him once a week to have lunch, and one day Jonathan broke the sad news to him about himself and Alex.

INDICATIONS

Even before learning of their impending separation, Billy began to figure out the boys' home life wasn't good. While mentoring Jonathan in the sixth grade, he got permission from Jonathan's mother to take him to a Texas Rangers baseball game. On the way they stopped for lunch in Fort Worth and Jonathan ordered a cheeseburger and fries.

"When his food arrived, Jonathan just sat there staring at his food. After about 30 seconds he said, 'No one has ever bought me a meal like this before,'" Billy recalled. "It was all I could do to keep from bursting into tears."

Little did Billy know at the time he would later become his legal guardian.

Maxie and Billy have always made a big deal out of birthdays and special

occasions like Christmas. The boys told them that there were no birthday celebrations at their house and if they ever received a Christmas gift it would be something that they received from a charitable organization, but nothing they specifically asked for or wanted.

They also took the boys to Orlando, Florida to visit the Martins' oldest daughter and her family. They have two boys close to Jonathan and Alex in age.

"Jonathan and Alex loved spending time with my grandsons. They went to the beach and had a great time," Billy said. "One of my grandsons just graduated from the US Naval Academy and he is now on his way to becoming a Naval pilot. His younger brother just started his Naval Academy experience on June 29."

"We have two grown daughters and both of them and their families have always made Alex and Jonathan feel welcome in our family. Alex refers to my daughters as his sisters."

KIDS COME FIRST



PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLY MARTIN

Jonathan (left) and Alex Sutton on the day of Jonathan's wedding earlier this year. The brothers were set to be separated into the foster system before Billy Martin and his wife Maxie became their legal guardians.

Billy and Maxie insist there is nothing special about them, that what they do is

all about the kids and their needs.

"We have not made this

journey by ourselves. There have been numerous teachers, counselors and coaches from Granbury Middle School and Granbury High School that have nurtured and cared for these boys before Maxie and I entered into their lives," Billy said. "Doug Barnett (now retired), a counselor at Granbury High School, personally took Jonathan to get a tooth pulled because his family ignored his pain. Nova Dea, a counselor at GMS, has done so much for my boys. There are numerous other teachers, coaches and counselors in our school system that are unsung heroes who take care of so many kids."

Billy said an administrator at GMS once told him that some students would intentionally get in trouble hoping that they would have to stay late at school because things were so bad at home. He said Jonathan would sometimes prop the door open to the football dressing room and sneak in later to spend the night so he would not have to go home.

"My boys suffered mental and physical abuse, but as

far as I know they were not sexually abused. I cannot even imagine how difficult it would be to overcome sexual abuse and mental abuse, in addition to being beaten and deprived of food," Billy said.

The Granbury Church of Christ participates in a nonprofit organization known as Neighbors Feeding Neighbors. Churches and other charitable organizations work together to deliver bags of weekend snacks to every public-school campus in Hood County on Fridays so kids will have food on weekends.

"My boys used to get weekend food for kids, and they would hide the bags in a hole in the wall in their room because their mom and stepdad would try and take the food from them," Billy said.

THE BOYS TODAY

Jonathan recently got married and works in the oil fields in New Mexico. Their aunt made a trip down from Washington state to attend.

Alex graduated from GHS this year and left a legacy

PLEASE SEE **BOYS** | A13

Hood County honored with 2022 Safety Achievement Award

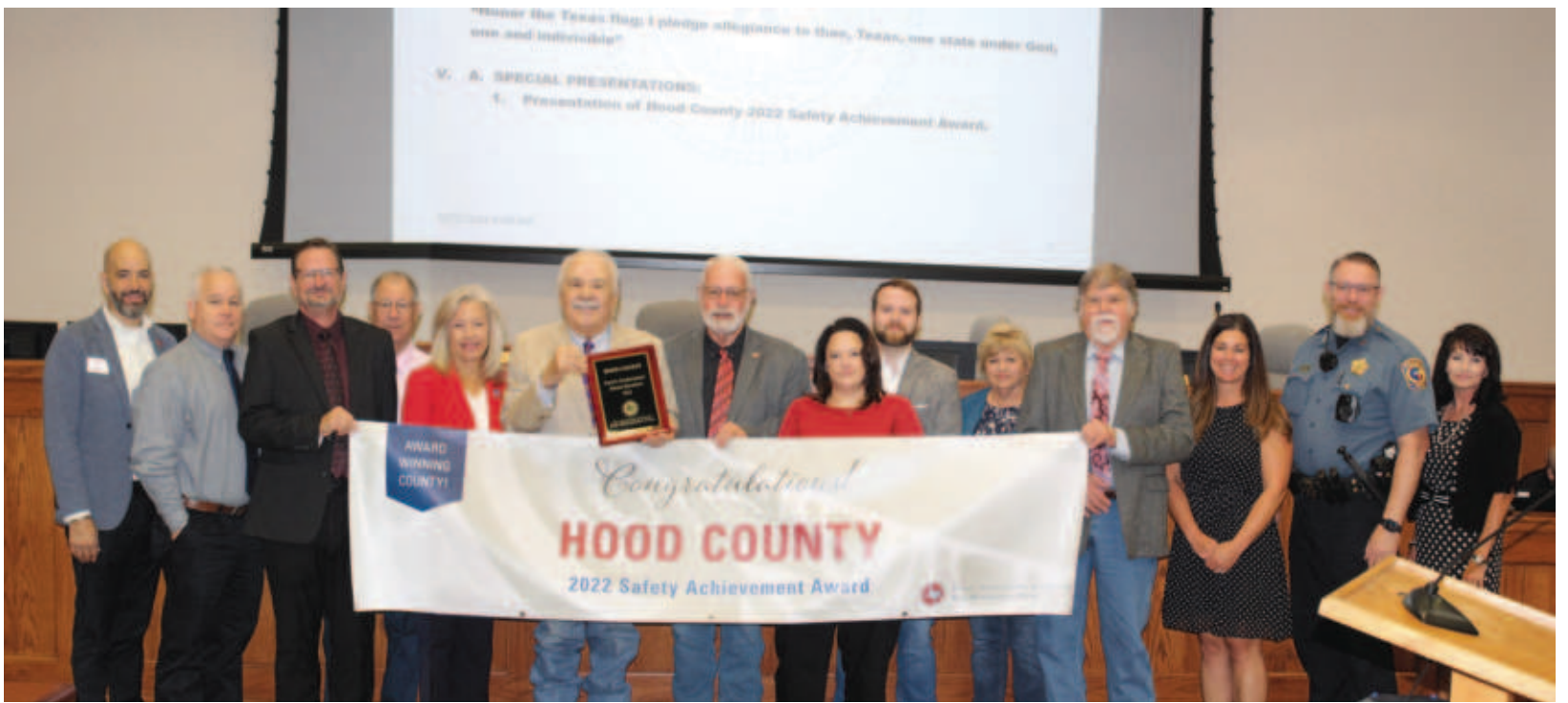
BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Hood County received an incredible honor during the Commissioners Court meeting on Tuesday, July 25, when the county was presented with the Texas Association of Counties' (TAC) Safety Achievement Award for 2022.

"I was in Galveston last week along with Commissioner (Jack) Wilson here, and people kept coming up to both of us and telling us that Hood County won the Safety Achievement Award for 2022, and what a huge deal that was," Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said during the meeting. "I mean, the other counties were really jealous of us."

"It is a big deal," Isaac Garcia, risk control consultant with the TAC said. "Of the entire state, 254 counties, less than 15% of the counties this year were able to meet the criteria for an award. We really appreciate all the efforts that Hood County is putting forth in safety — and not only in safety, but property measures as well — to make sure we're keeping our county in good condition."

Garcia added that the award is twofold: Keeping the employees safe while also keeping losses down, which means more money is



COURTESY PHOTO

put into the taxpayers' pockets.

"We really appreciate all the efforts that y'all are putting forth," he said. "It's really a county-wide award. Melissa (Welborn) and her office really put forth a lot of effort towards this award, but without

support from the Commissioners Court and without participation from every employee in the county, we would have a hard time getting this award. We really appreciate all your support, so congratulations."

Melissa Welborn, HR director, also

commended the safety committee for stressing to the employees and supervisors about the importance of safety.

"Hood County has had some catastrophic events in the past," she said. "I believe we're past all of that

and our record is proven clean, so every year hopefully we'll continue to get these awards, but again like Isaac said, we appreciate the court and the support that you give all of us."

Cinergy offering free movie tickets to teachers next week



COURTESY PHOTO

Starting next week, from Monday, Aug. 7 through Monday, Aug. 14, Cinergy Cinemas is gifting all teachers one free movie ticket per day.

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Teachers are some of the most hard-working individuals who selflessly devote their time and energy to shape the minds of the next generation.

But teachers need a break, too. And that's why Cinergy Entertainment Group is gifting all teachers one free movie ticket per day from Monday, Aug. 7 through Monday, Aug. 14.

For an entire week, all teachers are invited to visit their local Cinergy location to enjoy

one free movie ticket per day, simply by presenting a valid teacher ID.

Cinergy's news release states, "Teachers play a vital role in shaping young minds, empowering future generations, and igniting a passion for learning, so this is Cinergy's way of expressing our gratitude for their endless commitment."

For more information, or to view the current showings at Cinergy Cinemas in Granbury, visit cinergy.com/granbury.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

Job fair coming to the square

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

The Historic Granbury Merchants Association and Pug on a Pontoon are hosting a job fair on the square in August.

Many jobs are seeking employees for retail, manager positions, volunteer oppor-

tunities and much more.

Ashlee Stacey, operations manager of Pug on a Pontoon was walking around in the square and noticed many places had hiring signs.

"Why not all come together for a few hours, and help one another in the com-

munity," Stacey said. "This is a great opportunity for employers and employees. We are very excited and hope to turn this into a larger event throughout the year."

The job fair will take place Wednesday Aug. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon under the Granbury Square Plaza pavilion.

817-270-9239 ★ actexasmade.com

BEAT THE HEAT DURING Back-to-School TIME

TACL19165C

SPECIAL OFFER

1st time Customers

Pay \$0 diagnostic fee!

That's a savings of \$89

MAIN STREET MEDICAL SUPPLY
Grand Opening

Welcome to the grand opening of Main Street Medical Supply Granbury! Enjoy door prizes, snacks, giveaways, and enter to win a FREE lift chair!

THURS. AUG 3

1333 N Plaza Dr #102 Granbury, TX 76048 | 817-736-2373 | MainStreetMedicalSupply.com

A BETTER PATH FORWARD

Experience a fiduciary advisor, putting clients best interests first for 35 years in the industry.

GAIN FINANCIAL SECURITY, EXPERIENCE FINANCIAL PEACE, ENJOY FINANCIAL HAPPINESS, THROUGH EXPERT WEALTH MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE.

4800 Acton Hwy. | 817-910-8055
dan.phillips@michelsfamilyfinancial.com

TWC supports workplace learning on National Intern Day



Texas Workforce Commission 2023 interns, commissioners, and executive staff.

COURTESY PHOTO

Submitted item

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) reminds Texas employers and students about the opportunities to create a beneficial connection on National Intern Day celebrated on July 27. Texas Internship Challenge and the connected initiative Texas Interns Unite! support these efforts to promote work-based learning.

The Texas Internship Challenge is a Tri-Agency Initiative by TWC, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), and Texas Education Agency to encourage

industry and employer partners to offer more paid internships.

Texas Interns Unite! connects interns across the state with Texas employers and each other through virtual and in-person events, as well as a digital LinkedIn networking platform.

"Internships are an excellent example of how work-based learning can provide Texans with the skills they need and employers with the workforce they're looking for," TWC Chairman Bryan Daniel said. "This recruitment tool is another way to keep our state economy strong and

build the workforce of tomorrow."

Thursday, TWC and THECB co-hosted National Intern Day with the Texas Twist Conference in Austin. The event, part of the Texas Interns Unite! conference series, provided interns and employers the opportunity to network and gain valuable information to help interns grow in their careers. The conference series will continue with events throughout the state to provide connections and resources for interns and employers.

"Texas Interns Unite! expands this year with its mission to connect

Texas employers and students, by including areas such as internship information and opportunities for employers in rural communities and internship opportunities for people with disabilities" TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Aaron Demerson said. "I'm excited to champion this initiative which is a win-win for our Texas employers and students, as it is one of the best ways to find your future workforce while also providing our young Texans with an opportunity to find their career pathway."

In partnership with THECB

and Texas Working Off-Campus: Reinforcing Knowledge and Skills Internship Program (TXWORKS), employers interested in providing paid internships for undergraduate Texas college students can be reimbursed through TXWORKS. The state will fund \$10 per hour for eligible internships, and participating employers match that amount.

"Internships are a steppingstone for Texans to begin or grow their career through networking and learning valuable insights to help them find and succeed in high-

PLEASE SEE **TWC** | A13

AUGUST

WE'RE NO FORCASTERS, BUT WE'RE PRETTY SURE IT'S GONNA BE HOT!

CALL THE COMPANY YOUR NEIGHBORS TRUST

5 Stars
Google

DAFFAN
COOLING & HEATING

YOUR HOME'S *Best Friend*

817-757-4270

TACLA29191E

RESERVE YOUR TABLE NOW

for the **WWC Taste of Granbury Whiskey and Wine**

THURS. SEPT 28TH
5PM - 8PM
LA BELLA LUNA
7700 GLEN ROSE HWY

Enjoy tastings from 7 whiskey, beer, and wine vendors, and samplings from 11 food vendors.

Reserve your table now at www.tasteofgranbury.com or contact
Cathy Weeks
214-335-3518
Table of 8 - \$1200
Individual Tickets - \$150

Proceeds go toward the Lois G. Cleveland Memorial Scholarship Fund to benefit female graduates from Hood County

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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

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

EVERY SATURDAY
WOMEN'S WAY Out AA-Alcoholics Anonymous. Closed discussion for women only. Meets every Saturday at 10 a.m. at 301 W. Bridge St. For more information call 317-772-8124

EVERY SUNDAY
STARTING A New Life is a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one through death. This includes the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, or close friend. For the past 26 years this group has helped people work through their grief process. If you, or someone

you know, is suffering from the loss of a loved one, come or bring them to our next session that began March 19, 2023. We are Christian based, nondenominational, and welcome all who are suffering. We meet 3-5 p.m. on Sundays in the Parish Hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Ben Bradley at: 575.706.5703 or Sherry Bingham 817.657.0822

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

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

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

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

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

GRIEF SHARE RECOVERY seminar and support recovery seminar and support group meets at 10 a.m. at Interim Hospice, 1314 Paluxy

Drive, Suite 200. Childcare is not provided. Fee for Grief-share workbook is \$15. Details: 817-573-7474.

REJENGAGE MARRIAGE Enrichment meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at StoneWater Church in Granbury. For more information email to paige.kitchens@stonewaterchurch.com

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

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

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

SECOND SATURDAY
GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833

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

WAMS (WESTERN Area Modeling Society) radio control club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ, 317 W US Hwy 377. R/C aircraft, cars,

boats, gliders, helicopters, etc. Details: 817-475-2194

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

FOURTH TUESDAY
PARKINSON'S SUPPORT Group, 1 p.m. at Lakestone Terrace, 916 E. U.S. Highway 377. Open for those with Parkinson's and their families wanting to understand more about this disease. Details: 817-999-1470.

FOURTH SATURDAY
GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833

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

Recovered historical artifact comes to Granbury

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

July 28 marked a day of history for Granbury after Friends of Memorial Lane received a piece of the USS Arizona. Commissioner of the Historic Preservation Commission Stan Wasielewski is the uncle of James W. Newman who is a Historian for the Commander Navy Region in Hawaii.

The two were together for a funeral and talked about getting a new piece put in a Memorial Lane. Newman then made a visit to Memorial Lane Park and was very impressed with the park itself and the history within.

After Newman's visit, he mentioned having a piece of the USS Arizona and asked Wasielewski if they would be interested. Wasielewski then went to the city and Friends of Memorial Lane to which they were thrilled to hear the offer and gladly accepted.

The piece comes from the aft deckhouse superstructure of the battleship USS Arizona BB 39, which was hit during the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. The battleship was sunk and still remains at the bottom of Pearl Harbor.

"Over 1100 people lost their lives that day and to actually have a piece of that, I'm very honored. It's an

honor to our city and to our park," Julia Pannell an executive committee member of Friends of Memorial Lane said.

The committee is searching for partners to create a new site at Memorial Park as a remembrance of Pearl Harbor. Memorial Lane will hold a dedication and unveil the new site on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7.

The park will also officially be giving over the battleship piece to the City of Granbury at the dedication.

Friends of Memorial Lane will begin creating phases of the new site to come and the different steps leading up to the dedication soon.

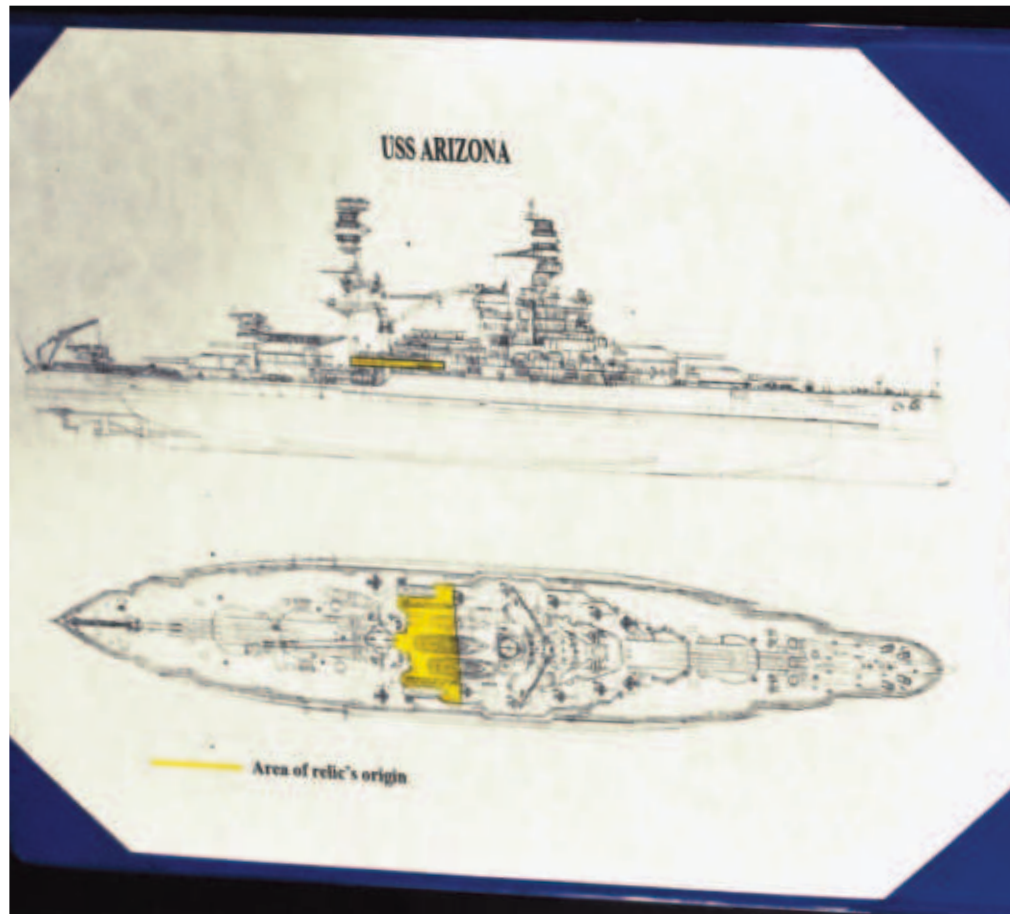


MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Photo upper right: A piece of the USS Arizona Battleship was given Memorial Lane in Granbury.

Photo above: Assistant City Manager, Michael Ross, City Council Member Greg Corrigan, Stan Wasielewski Donor Participant, Kevin Sklar/V. Chair Friends of Memorial Lane, Kay Wasielewski Donor Participant, Mary Mullen Friends of Memorial Lane Design Team, Julia Pannell Friends of Memorial Lane Design Team stand together with the historic piece from the USS Arizona Battleship.

Photo left: An area of the piece's origin is shown in scale as to where the piece comes from on the USS Arizona.



NEED EXTRA CASH !!! ???
I BUY RVs & MOBILE HOMES
 Travel Trailers • 5th Wheels
 Goosenecks • Bumper Pulls
 In Any Area!!! Any Condition!!!
 Old/New !!! Dirty or Clean !!!
I PAY CASH 956-466-7001
 No Title – No Problem – We Can Apply For One
 ANR Enterprises

Prepare for power outages today
 WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR
GENERAC
FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty* A \$695 Value!
 \$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS
 Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions
REQUEST A FREE QUOTE
 CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE
(855) 704-8579
*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

Last Puzzle Solution

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| P | O | R | T |
| A | R | E | A |
| S | I | A | M |
| S | O | L | E |
| E | L | I | S |
| E | O | M | O |
| R | E | N | O |
| D | E | A | B |
| A | B | A | T |
| E | M | E | N |
| T | S | P | T |
| O | S | M | O |
| R | E | O | N |
| I | N | C | A |
| S | E | A | F |
| E | E | H | A |
| R | D | G | O |
| H | E | A | R |
| T | L | I | V |
| E | R | M | A |
| R | Y | S | I |
| A | M | E | R |
| I | C | A | N |
| S | N | A | K |
| E | S | N | A |
| V | E | L | C |
| A | T | E | R |
| A | P | E | T |
| I | R | E | D |
| M | A | R | I |
| A | S | I | G |
| A | R | T | O |
| S | A | N | |
| B | Y | G | O |
| N | E | S | |
| B | O | C | A |
| B | O | R | A |
| D | E | N | |
| Y | E | T | |

S-1649

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM
817-573-7066
 Call to subscribe or advertise today

Classifieds

Deadlines: Saturday issue, 10 a.m. Wednesday

(817) 573-7066

Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday • 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday

CLASSIFIEDS DIRECTORY

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Real Estate for Sale</p> <p>1010 Acreage for Sale 1020 Cemetery Lots 1030 Commercial for Sale 1040 Duplexes for Sale 1050 Homes for Sale 1060 Waterfront Homes 1070 Lots for Sale 1080 Mobiles for Sale 1090 Waterfront Mobiles 1100 Real Estate Notes 1110 Townhomes & Condos 1120 Property For Trade 1130 Want To Buy</p> <p>Real Estate for Rent</p> <p>1510 Apartments for Rent 1520 Commercial for Rent 1530 Duplexes for Rent 1540 Homes for Rent 1550 Mobiles for Rent 1560 Rooms for Rent 1570 Roommates Wanted 1580 Spaces & Lots 1590 Townhomes & Condos 1600 Want to Rent</p> <p>Vehicles</p> <p>2010 Automobiles 2020 Parts & Accessories 2030 Big Trucks & Trailers 2040 Classic Automobiles</p> | <p>2050 Four-Wheel Drive 2060 Motorcycles 2070 Pickups & SUVs 2080 Vans & Campers 2090 Trailers 2095 Heavy Equipment</p> <p>Farm & Ranch</p> <p>3010 Corrals & Fencing 3020 Farm Equipment 3030 Feed & Pasture 3040 Stock Trailers 3050 Related Items</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>4010 Business Opportunities 4020 Insurance 4030 Investments 4040 Mortgages & Notes</p> <p>Home & Business Services</p> <p>5010 Adult/Elderly Care 5020 A/C Heating Repair 5030 Appliance Repair 5040 Automotive Services 5050 Bulldozer Services 5060 Business Services 5065 Carports 5070 Cement/Concrete 5075 Chimney Sweeping 5080 Child Care 5090 Cleaning Services 5100 Computer Services</p> | <p>5110 Construction 5120 Clock Repair 5130 Dock repair/Rebuild 5140 Electrical 5150 Electronics Repair 5160 Exterminating 5170 Fencing 5180 Floor Coverings 5190 Health Care 5200 Home Improvement 5210 Home Services 5220 Landscaping/Tree Service 5230 Interior Design 5240 Masonry 5250 Mobile Home Service 5260 Moving/Hauling 5265 Plumbing 5270 Sand/Gravel/Soil 5280 Roofing 5290 Painting 5295 Pressure Washing 5300 Septic/Sewer 5310 Small Engine Repair 5320 Secretarial/Office 5330 Storage 5340 Tractor Service 5350 Welding</p> <p>Sports & Recreation</p> <p>6010 Boats & Water Sports 6020 Recreation 6030 Golf 6040 Guns 6050 Hunting/Fishing 6060 Pools & Spas</p> | <p>6070 RV's/Travel Trailers 6080 Sporting Goods</p> <p>Merchandise</p> <p>6510 Antiques 6520 Appliances 6530 Arts & Crafts 6540 Building Materials 6550 Computers 6560 Electronics 6570 Fireworks 6580 Furniture 6590 Health 6600 Air Conditioners 6610 Lawn Equipment 6620 Miscellaneous 6630 Musical Instruments 6635 Pocket Stuffers 6640 Portable Buildings 6650 Tools 6660 Trees 6670 Wanted</p> <p>Education</p> <p>7010 Tutor/Instruction 7020 Music 7030 Computer 7040 Art Instruction</p> <p>Livestock & Pets</p> <p>8010 Livestock 8020 Livestock Lost & Found 8030 Pets 8040 Pets Lost & Found</p> | <p>Employment</p> <p>8510 General 8520 Construction 8530 Food Services 8540 Medical/Dental 8550 Office Employment 8560 Professional 8570 Sales 8580 Salon Personnel 8590 Employment Wanted 8600 Employment Information 8610 Carpool Information</p> <p>Notices</p> <p>9010 Happy Notes 9020 Free 9030 Public Notices 9040 Notices 9050 Personal Lost & Found 9070 Card of Thanks</p> <p>Public Sales</p> <p>9570 Auctions 9580 Flea Markets 9590 Out of Town Sales Cresson Garage Sales 76035 Granbury Garage Sales 76048 Granbury Garage Sales 76049 Lipan Garage Sales 76462 Tolar Garage Sales 76476</p> | <p>Business Hours</p> <p>Monday - Thursday, 8am-5pm Friday, 8am-1pm</p> <p>Deadlines</p> <p>Saturday issue, 10am Wednesday</p> <p>Special Offers</p> <p>Pocket Stuffers Free classified ads. Miscellaneous items up to \$100. Some restrictions apply.</p> <p>Wheels & Deals</p> <p>Place your ad with photo of your vehicle for only \$65.95. the ad will run until it sells or up to 2 months.</p> <p>Place your ad online at www.hcnews.com, call 817-573-7066, or visit us at 1501 S. Morgan St.</p> | <p>Classified Advertising Cost</p> <p>Classified ads for the Saturday edition are \$17.60 per week for 4 lines or less. Your ad will also appear on www.hcnews.com during the ad run.</p> <p>Error Responsibility</p> <p>Customers are asked to check their ad immediately after it appears in the paper and report at once any error found. Claims for adjustment should be made at that time. The Hood County News is responsible for an incorrect ad only the first time it runs, so check your ads carefully</p> |
|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|

CALL 817-573-7066 AND GET RESULTS • HCN CLASSIFIEDS ON THE WEB: WWW.HCNEWS.COM/CLASSIFIEDS

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

stay connected — hcnews.com

1050 Homes for Sale 1050 Homes for Sale 1050 Homes for Sale

OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY
11 A.M. TO 6 P.M.

OPEN HOUSE Weekend

VIEWS **VIEWS**

1911 GREEN WING 76049
LARGE HOME WITH 170
OF WATER FRONTAGE PLUS
COVERED BOAT DOCK WITH LIFT

\$1,345,000

PHOTOS ON ZILLOW
OWNER FINANCE POSSIBLE

817-360-5500

Homes for Sale

Granbury Property Sales


Don't let your house go into foreclosure.

If you've missed 1, 2 or 3 payments,
I can save you from foreclosure & having your credit ruined for 7 years. Give me an opportunity to show what we can do. Call or text today.

Call: (817) 296-7999.

New Listing

100% Military Disabled Vet



5510 Tin Top Hwy Granbury, TX

Open space. No plumbing. 100% Military Disable Veteran Wanted for purchase of two fully fenced electric gates 2 story unique custom rock structures at 5510 Tin Top Hwy, easy 4k+ sqf. 4 door garage Private spacious trees. Contact 817-925-0055 leave message

Negotiable

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1510 Apartments for Rent

APARMENT FOR RENT Furnished, washer and dryer. No pets, No smoking. Inspection required. Maximum 2 people. \$225 weekly, plus deposit. Contact Bob King (817) 279-3768

STORAGE
10x10, \$75
10x20, \$125
682-279-1570

1540 Homes for Rent


2-bedroom, 1 bath, no smoking absolutely no pets. \$900/mo, \$500 deposit. 682-500-5543.

1560 Rooms for Rent

Nice furnished room with TV. With use of kitchen and washer & dryer included. \$500/mo, all bills paid. 817-736-6511

VEHICLES

2010 Automobiles



Cadillac DTS, 2010, 68,700 miles, loaded, black with gray leather interior. Best offer. 214-862-4116.



2022 Toyota Corolla LE, 2600 miles, \$27,500. 817-578-1390.

2070 Pickups & SUVs

2003 Toyota Tundra SR5 pickup. \$6,500. Call 817-910-8181.

2003 Subaru Baja, black with black leather interior, 70,000 miles, great condition, \$12K. (817)579-1692 leave message

2080 Vans & Campers



2005 SOUTHWIND 32V 63,000 8.1 Chevy; 2slideouts;2roof a/c;leveling jacks;4dr,refrig.satellite;2tv;r;5.5 kw gen. \$34,900. 661-478-4432.

FARM & RANCH

3030 Feed & Pasture

Custom hay baling and hay for sale. (817)688-0550 or (817)253-7369

HOME & BUSINESS SERVICES

5070 Cement/Concrete

PATTERSON CONCRETE Quality Work with Pride. Professional Craftsmanship. 817-219-7483.

DOUG STULTS
CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

SINCE 1970
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Slabs. Driveways. Patios.
Retainer Walls.
Metal Buildings-RV Covers
Licensed & Bonded 817-279-8115

5090 Cleaning Services

KAREN'S EXPERT CLEANING SERVICES Residential cleaning. Serving our area since 1994. (817)776-0260

5100 Computer Services

NEED COMPUTER HELP?
Virus Removal/Repairs/Networks/Upgrades/Programming/Training and more. Over 25 years exp, Residential and Commercial (817) 579-8450

5120 Clock Repair

ANTIQUÉ CLOCK REPAIR
Specializing in older clocks
Work guaranteed. 20 yrs exp.
Call anytime, (817) 559-9123

5140 Electrical

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR
TECL#22551 50+ years
Residential/Commercial
AZZ-IZZ Enterprizes, LLC
NO JOBS TOO SMALL! (817) 613-1465, (817) 266-7239

Electrician available for any electrical work. No job too small or large. Plugs, switches, ceiling fans, or wire a building. Call or text. (817) 296-7999

ELECTRICAL WORK
Residential and Commercial.
No job too large or small.
Free Estimates. We take all credit cards. Call 817-566-4785

5170 Fencing

MAX-FENCING
All Types of Fence
Ornamental. Iron. Pipe. Wood.
Privacy. Chain Link. Farm. Barb Wire. Non-Climb Fence. RV Covers. Metal Buildings. Pipe Fence. Carports. Welding Service. Dock Repairs. Free Estimates. (817)559-2333
maxjuarez2018@gmail.com

Local. Honest. Community.

The paper you love brought to life in print, on your desktop, tablet, and smart phone.



817-573-7066
hcnews.com/subscription

Hood County News

www.hcnews.com

5170

Fencing



FENCING
254-434-1967

DOUG STULTS CONSTRUCTION
Since 1970.
Quality cedar fences.
Redwood patio pergolas.
Licensed & bonded. **817-279-8115**

5200

Home Improvement

CONSTRUCTION
Trench digging, Bobcat work, Land clearing, Brush Hog mowing, Tree work, Excavating, Gravel driveways, Demo and haul-off. Free estimates. Call Keith 817-559-0100

PROFESSIONAL TILE SERVICE
Exceptional showers and tile work. Complete bathroom remodeling. Dustless tile/wood removal. Knowledge * Talent * Integrity
PremierDesigns4u.com 817-905-4441

COUNTRY BOY HANDYMAN
DECK, PERGOLAS,
CARPENTRY, PAINTING & MORE.
(682)234-7852

GENTRIFIED PATIO COVERS We Offer An Array Of Screen Room Enclosure Options All Wood Or Aluminum. Patio Cover Options For All Budgets! We Build Decks, and Carpets As Well As Concrete. Give Us A Call! We Will Beat ANY Written Quote! We offer financing as well! Google us! Residential & Commercial, Insured, Free Estimates. (817) 243-4525

THE COWBOY HANDYMAN
Home Improvement and Repair
Locally owned
Brad Stone 806-676-9939
Dependable, Affordable Choice!

CONSTRUCTION WERKS
New construction, remodel, carpentry, paint, sheetrock, tile, stone, cement, doors, windows. Interior, exterior. Commercial, residential. Insured.
817-363-7656

RUSTY SPUR CONSTRUCTION
Residential and commercial construction. No job too big, or too small. Remodel, new construction, decks, outdoor kitchens and more. Call Charlie Coleman today for a free estimate (817) 905-0983

HANDYMAN OF GRANBURY
No job too small! Replace light fixtures, ceiling fans, leaky faucets, new furniture assembly, blind installation, light carpentry, punch lists, and other odd jobs.
Barry Hazel 817-891-2779

SNODGRASS PAINTING AND REMODELING, INC
One Stop Shop
A-Z Construction & Painting
A+ BBB Member
Accepting Credit Cards
snodgrasspaintingremodeling.com
(817) 578-8387 (817) 271-3324

5210

Home Services

MDDM DESIGN & MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC Residential plans for custom homes, additions & remodels. mdixon@mddmgroup.com
Mike Dixon, 817-559-1686

5220

Landscaping/Tree Service



SHORT CUT LAWN CARE
Tree and Bush trimming.
Flowerbed Maintenance.
Brush hauling, weedeat, blowing, mowing, leaf cleanup.
Call or text for free estimate.
817-736-5671



1st Choice
LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING
Make Us Your 1st Choice

CALL FOR SPECIALS
Tree work, gutters, Flower beds, shrubs, Brush hogging, tractor work. Senior discounts. **817-793-2245**

SUPERIOR LAWN CARE
Serving Hood County more than 8 years with 19 years Exp. Professional, dependable, competitive prices. Free estimates. (817)395-3490

5220

Landscaping/Tree Service



TEXAS TREE CARE
Proudly serving Hood County longer than any other tree service. Third generation arborist. Pruning, removals, sick tree diagnoses, root zone fertilization, Oak Wilt injections, stump grinding, tree hazard inspection and mistletoe removal. We are your tree care professionals. Free estimates and senior discount. Residential & Commercial, Free Estimates.
(817) 894-9449
TexasTreeCare@yahoo.com

5240

Masonry

AFFORDABLE ROCK WORK
*Sidewalks *Retaining Walls
*Mailboxes *Fireplaces
No job too small. FREE estimates.
(817)279-3212

5260

Moving/Hauling

HAULING & CLEAN-OUTS
Usually same or next day service, no job too large or small. Free Estimates. We take all credit cards.
Call 817-566-4785

5260

Plumbing

PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE WORK
Clean-outs, French Drains, and French Pit. Free Estimates.
We take all credit cards.
Call 817-566-4785

5270

Sand/Gravel/Soil

SAND AND GRAVEL
Will haul sand, gravel, top soil, road base, etc.
Call Carroll, (817) 219-2436

TOP SOIL
SAND GRAVEL
crushed rock • washed rock
6, 8, or 12 yd. loads • blade work
Richard Brock 817-573-2521

MERCHANDISE

6620

Miscellaneous

WAGON YARD.COM: We sell local honey, Watkins, Howard Products, Mexican Vanilla. Repair Battery Clocks, Elec Lamps. 817-573-5321

WE BUY OLD US COINS OF ALL DENOMINATIONS.
Call 817-559-3131

6635

Pocket Stuffers

Portable CD player with carry bag, \$40. 817-408-0194.

stay connected – hcnews.com

LIVESTOCK & PETS

8010

Livestock

Eggs, chickens, roosters and lots of pullets for sale. (817)964-9065, 3800 Paluxy Hwy, Granbury.

8030

Pets



ATTENTION! ANIMAL PLANET'S JACKIE BIBBY OF RATTLESNAKE REPUBLIC WILL BE HOSTING THE 23rd Annual Snake-Proofing Seminar Hunters, working dog/pets. Snake-proof your dog August 26, 2023. Click on Snake-Proofing Seminar at www.carringtonkennels.com or e-mail to: carringtonkennels@gmail.com (254)835-4010 or (817)776-1117

8030

Pets

STANDARD POODLE 7 Years, Male, Lovable Poodle needs good home. Loves kids & other dogs. House trained. Very intelligent & friendly just needs TLC. Current owner unable to provide him the attention he needs.
\$0.00 (817) 219-0313
gforce52@charter.net



JULIE'S DOG HOUSE GROOMING
Very Reasonable; Senior Discount
(817) 408-5288
wilsonjulianne@gmail.com



LOOKING FOR A COMPANION? If you are looking for a companion animal to give a forever home, OPT TO ADOPT!
Call or visit
Hood County Animal Control
1550 Weatherford Highway,
Granbury, Texas 76048
817-573-4277

8040

Pets Lost & Found

IF YOU HAVE LOST OR FOUND AN ANIMAL, please contact
Hood County Animal Control,
1550 Weatherford Hwy,
Granbury, Texas 76048.
817-573-4277

EMPLOYMENT

8510

General

EDUCATION - CREATIONS CHILD CARE Now hiring fun, loving, reliable teachers. Must have High School diploma or equivalent.
(817) 573-2808 GRANBURY.CREATI
ONS@GMAIL.COM

The City of Granbury has Full Time open positions for Senior Planner, First Class Lineman, Parks Laborer, Utility Equipment Operator, Utility Line Locator, Light Equipment Operator, Water Plant Operator. The city offers a competitive starting salary, depending on qualifications and experience, and a full range of leave and insurance benefits. The city participates in the Texas Municipal Retirement System at a 7% employee deposit rate with a city matching ratio of 2:1. A detailed job description and employment application can be found at www.granbury.org or 116 W Bridge St, Granbury, TX. EOE

- EXPERIENCED POOL CLEANING
TECH C & C Pool Service is currently looking for an experienced pool cleaning tech. Will consider training the right person but prefer experienced. 4 day work week, 12 pools per day. Top pay for right individual. Must have own transportation. If interested please call Holli at 432-288-5574 (432) 288-5574

APARTMENT MANAGER
Seeking self-motivated, experienced property manager for 50+ units. Must be well versed in all aspects of management, leasing and maintenance personnel. Minimum 7 years required. Salary based on experience. Send qualifications to gconn1@aol.com

HOA-CONDOMINIUM MANAGER
60 Unit, luxury, upscale condominium project is seeking an experienced manager for our home owner's association. Manager will be responsible for a/r, ap, financial reports, work orders, delegating maintenance personnel, budgeting, communications with all owners and a full understanding of the Texas property code. Salary determined based on experience and scope. Send resume' to gconn1@aol.com

CDL DRIVER Hiring Class A CDL Driver for Experiential Marketing Agency. As a Class A CDL Driver for our agency, you will travel alongside tour assistants to some of the most thrilling events across the country, including fairs, rodeos, sporting events, and car shows. Your primary role will be to promote a leading automobile manufacturer by showcasing their products and engaging with consumers. (817) 326-4277

8510

General

Looking for a reliable shop hand with reliable transportation, 40hrs. a week. Welding and cutting torch experience is a plus but not a requirement. Lots of opportunity to grow with the company. Call or submit resume to the below contacts.
Blake Deanda: 432-248-6917 / bdeanda@fossilimg.com or
Lee Patterson: 817-894-7034 / lee@fossilimg.com

GUTTER INSTALLERS Must have current DL. Experience preferred. Immediate openings available.
Call: (817) 243-6560

A+ CLEANERS Now Hiring Delivery Driver; 12-2 PM, M-F
For more Information, Call 682-553-2481

WE'RE HIRING!
GRANBURY AND SURROUNDING AREA POSITION
Santo Propane is looking for a full-time propane delivery route driver for our Granbury and surrounding service area.

Basic duties include delivering propane to residential and commercial customers in a safe and efficient manner; while also maintaining records with regulations and company procedures.

Candidate should possess a Class A CDL License, Tanker Endorsement, Hazmat Materials Endorsement and be able to pass a drug screen. (Railroad Commission License would be a plus!)

Please contact 254-646-2237 for more information regarding this position. You may also come by our Lipan or Granbury location to fill out an application.

You can email completed application and resume to the following email:
monty@santopropane.com

WE'RE HIRING!

MINERAL WELLS AND SURROUNDING AREA POSITION
Santo Propane is looking for a full-time propane delivery route driver for our Mineral Wells and surrounding service area.

Basic duties include delivering propane to residential and commercial customers in a safe and efficient manner; while also maintaining records with regulations and company procedures.

Candidate should possess a Class A CDL License, Tanker Endorsement, Hazmat Materials Endorsement and be able to pass a drug screen. (Railroad Commission License would be a plus!)

Please contact 254-646-2237 for more information regarding this position. You may also come by our Lipan or Granbury location to fill out an application.


You can email completed application and resume to the following email:
monty@santopropane.com

8540

Medical/Dental

NOW HIRING

Charge Nurse
LVN / RN
Certified
Medication Aide
Certified
Nurse Aide

EEOC kamii_minchew@csnhc.com
Come be a part of a caring team
where the residents come first!
301 S. Park St • 817-573-3726
Granbury, Texas

GIVE YOUR BUSINESS



Direction.
Advertise your business events with us!

Hood County News
1501 S. Morgan Street
817-573-7066 • www.hcnews.com

8510

General

8510

General



HIRING EVENT

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

MACHINISTS
2nd shift

MATERIAL HANDLERS
1st shift
Forklift experience required

ASSEMBLERS
1st & 2nd shifts
High School diploma or GED required
Seeking mechanically inclined applicants. Previous manufacturing experience preferred.

WHEN?
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

WHERE?
BEST WESTERN PLUS
121 S. Lockhart Road
Stephenville, Texas

Call and reserve your time in advance to guarantee an interview!

To reserve your time OR for additional information call Personnel Services 254-965-7904 or apply online jobs.psstaffing.com



NEWS ON THE GO

News
Sports
Culture
Lifestyle
Entertainment
Dining
Arts
Outdoors
Recreation
Community
Local Government

Hood County News

WE COVER YOU

Subscribe Online

www.hcnews.com/subscribe

Texas Sales Tax Holiday is fast approaching

Staff Reports

Shoppers will be able to save money on clothes and school supplies during the state's sales tax holiday taking place on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Aug. 11 to 13.

State law exempts sales tax on qualified items — such as clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks — priced below \$100, saving shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. The dates of the sales tax holiday and list of tax-exempt items are set by the Texas Legislature.

"As Texans prepare for the back-to-school bell, this is the perfect time to take advantage of the opportunity to save money on everything from blue jeans to ballpoint pens," Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar said. "As the father of three, I know how these expenses can add up." The Comptroller's office estimates that shoppers will

save \$136 million in state and local sales tax during this sales tax holiday.

Apparel and school supplies that may be purchased tax free are listed on the Comptroller's website at [TexasTaxHoliday.org](https://www.texas.gov/tax-holiday).

During the annual sales tax holiday, qualifying items can be purchased tax free online or by telephone, mail, custom order or any other means (including in-store purchases) when either:

The item is both delivered to, and paid for by, the customer during the exemption period; or,

The customer orders and pays for the item, and the seller accepts the order during the exemption period for immediate shipment, even if delivery is made after the exemption period ends.

Texas' sales tax holiday weekend has been an annual event since 1999.



STOCK PHOTO

BOYS

FROM PAGE A5

as the only boy ever to win a medal at state powerlifting - placing fifth in 2022.

"When I got that medal, all I wanted to do was show my dad and say, 'Look what I did!' but I could not do that, so I went to the people who helped raise me and taught me the most valuable lessons," Alex said.

As Alex contemplates a possible military future, he is working with a friend in a remodeling company. Their current project is turning a 14x38 foot pre-built shell building into a house that they will have completely paid off, in about five years, Billy said.

"This is Alex and his friend's plan. I had nothing to do with it," Billy said. "Alex seems to enjoy working in the remodeling business. He is learning a

new trade and the skills that go along with it."

And yes, the brothers' relationship is as strong as it has ever been.

"We are very close because we protected each other when things were hard at home," Alex said.

MORE CAN BE DONE

Billy said it is the hope of himself and Maxie that churches everywhere partner with schools to meet the needs of kids on the campus. Their church has expanded the mentoring program and now calls themselves the "Pirate Crew."

In addition to weekly mentoring, they try to encourage teachers and staff by bringing food and snacks to the teachers' lounge. They also help with individual special needs identified by counselors at the school in GMS.

"We make sure that every child at GMS gets a meal at

lunch if their parents get behind on their payments on the reduced lunch price program," he said.

Then, Billy recalled one of his favorite examples of kindness, an excerpt from "The Star Thrower" by Loren C. Eiseley.

"There was once a little girl standing on the shore of the ocean. She was picking up starfish and throwing them back into the ocean. A man came along and asked what she was doing. She said, 'I am saving the lives of these starfish because they are stranded on the shore.'" Billy began.

"The man looked around and said, 'There are thousands of starfish here and you cannot possibly make that much difference.' She looked at the man and picked up another starfish and as she flung it into the ocean, she said, 'I made a difference for this one.'"

TWC

FROM PAGE A7

demand, meaningful careers," TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Alberto Treviño III, said. "Texas Workforce Solutions focuses on developing all levels of Texas talent through internship, apprenticeship, and youth summer camp programs."

Visit TWC's Texas Internship Challenge website, which provides a no-cost central point for employers to post internships

and for students to access multiple paid and academic credit internship opportunities across the state.

Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers, and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and its services in coordination with its local workforce development boards network, call 800-628-5115 or visit <https://twc.texas.gov/>. Subscribe to email updates to receive notifications about TWC programs and services.

BOAT

FROM PAGE A5

before heading out to the water, stay by the channel markers, and keep your eyes moving constantly."

When it comes to the future, Hudgens is hoping to keep growing the

business as much as he can to be able to get a second response boat as well as another captain to help take on the workload.

For information on services provided or prices visit their website <https://www.boatus.com/towboat/lake-granbury> or call 817-992-9116.

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS

Edward Jones
> [edwardjones.com](https://www.edwardjones.com) | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

| | |
|---------|------------------------|
| 3-month | 4.90 % ^{APY*} |
| 6-month | 5.30 % ^{APY*} |
| 1-year | 5.30 % ^{APY*} |

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Tony Mobly, CFP®, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
510 W Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-6917

Ty Andrew
Financial Advisor
716 E Hwy 377
Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-0488

Taylor A. Mobly
Financial Advisor
401 Temple Hall Hwy Ste3
Granbury, TX 76049
817-268-9137

Chad C. Carroll, AAMS®
Financial Advisor
2007 Rockview Dr.
Granbury, TX 76049
817-573-6115

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 07/24/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-1867L-A © 2022 EDWARD J. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD

SHE NEEDS A VOICE LIKE YOURS

HELP US SPEAK UP FOR KIDS

You know there is suffering you don't see...

CHOOSE to see.

CHOOSE to help.

CASA volunteers get to know the child and everyone involved in the child's life to advocate for their best interests while in the foster care system. They are a voice making a difference at a critical point in the child's life.

For more information about becoming a CASA,
Call Justin Rossner at 87-936-4838

24-hour Crisis Hotline 844-579-6848

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

New business coming soon!



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburger national chain is coming to Granbury. It will be located in the same strip center that houses Five Below, Home Goods and Ulta. The building has been under construction since May and does not have an opening date at this time.

Kudos!



COURTESY PHOTO

Kay and Scott Loftin

Staff Reports

Brazos Home Watch has earned accreditation from the National Home Watch Association for a second year.

The NHWA was formed in 2009 in order to establish and maintain the highest industry standards for Home Watch and absentee homeowner services throughout the United States and Canada (nationalhomewatchassociation.org).

Home Watch is a visual inspection of a home or property, looking for obvious issues, which means that it is a service that "keeps an eye on things" at your vacation or primary home while you are not in residence. All principals of NHWA Accredited Member companies are background-checked, insured, and bonded.

Owners Scott and Kay Loftin are local Granbury residents. Scott has lived in Granbury his entire life, and Kay is a native Texan and has been a proud Granbury resident since 2006.

Scott earned a degree in building construction from Texas A&M University, and then worked as a superintendent in new home construction. He went on to spend 30+ years working

for government contractors supporting the federal defense and civil sectors. Scott held public trust and secret clearances during his tenure and managed multiple corporate teams.

Kay had a long career as an executive secretary in a regional private mortgage company, as well as supporting the chief credit officer in a public company servicing sub-prime auto loans.

Scott and Kay wanted to start a company that takes advantage of their acquired business knowledge, joined with their desire to provide much-needed services to Granbury and surrounding communities. Thus, Brazos Home Watch was born.

Scott is a graduate of the NHWA's Home Watch Boot Camp and has earned the designation of Certified Home Watch Professional, which puts him into the category of elite Home Watch providers in the industry.

Brazos Home Watch is a member of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce and serves Granbury and the surrounding area. You can reach them at (817) 219-0561 or at info@brazosshw.com. Learn more at their website, at brazoshome-watch.com.

TAX

FROM PAGE A4

owners of this county," Andrews said.

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill chimed in that he agreed with what both sides were saying, but that the county had time to make necessary adjustments before the tax exemption would be implemented next year.

He also added that with several new people moving into Granbury, cutting county expenses would also end up cutting back on necessary services like law enforcement and first responders.

"I'm for giving tax relief where we can and it is true that it will shift the burden, but we got to see how much and maybe the sales revenue of all these new people coming here, maybe that will offset something," he said. "We don't know what they're gonna do."

Jack Wilson, precinct 3 commissioner, said he agreed with Eagle's assessment of the appraisal district, but wanted to table the agenda item until more data and revenue numbers could be presented.

"Since we don't have the numbers, it doesn't go into effect till next year, and it's not going to affect this budget

cycle, I would make a motion that we table this at this point until we get a better handle on what kind of changes are going to be done at the appraisal district," Wilson said.

He also suggested potentially increasing the homestead exemption from 10% to 20%, which was the limit as proposed by the Texas Tax Code.

Wilson's proposed motion failed due to lack of a second, which prompted Samuelson to make a motion to approve the resolution establishing a 10% Hood County homestead exemption to property taxes.

The final motion was carried unanimously.

PARADISE POOLS
EQUIPMENT, SUPPLY & OUTDOOR

3906 E. HWY 377
Granbury, TX 76049

**WE ARE LOOKING
OUT FOR YOU
&
FOUND SAVINGS!**

15% OFF
POOL CHEMICAL
AND SUPPLY
SALE

A ROOF AS
TOUGH
AS **TEXAS**

DT ROOFING

817.579.7800 | DTROOFING.NET



DARREN CLARK | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Top left: Kylie Moody goes for the spike as officers look on. Top right: A uniformed officer looks on as his compadres attempt to score a point against the high school girls. Bottom right: The officers struggle to return a serve as they played against the Granbury High School volleyball teams.

You have the right to... bump, set, spike

BY DARREN CLARK

Special to the Hood County News

Instead of digging for clues and evidence, the Granbury Police Department tried to dig vicious spikes from ladies of the Granbury High School volleyball team. They braved the sand, sun, and summer heat in a sand volleyball outing at Decordova Bend Estates.

The annual event brought

the student athletes and Granbury's finest together in a competitive, chirpy, but friendly match. The action was intense and the smiles were plentiful.

Granbury High School Head Volleyball Coach Desiree Shahan said, "this is a good time every year. We usually have this in the gym in August, but we decided to do this [at Decordova] this year."

Shahan said that this is at least the seventh or eighth

year this event has happened. Her predecessor put it together.

Chief Mitch Galvan believes events like this are important to building strong relationships within the community.

"Anytime we're able to get out in the community and participate in events like this, especially with students, it builds the feeling that we're just normal people and they can come up and approach us and have normal conver-

sations," Galvan said.

While about 25 girls showed up to represent GHS in this voluntary event, the cops had just six players. The girls subbed in and out, but the officers went without breaks.

After receiving a perfect set, Senior Kylie Moody spiked the ball to the center of the officer's court, striking an officer square in the chest and winning the point for the ladies.

"I know what you drive!" the officer shouted as everyone laughed and high-fived.

While no actual score was kept, there were frequent, but jovial arguments over whether a ball landed in or out.

"We need a line judge over here!" yelled Officer Brandon Duckett with a laugh.

The Granbury High School Volleyball season kicks off with a tournament on Aug. 8 in Mansfield.

GISD's Michael Beauchamp named 2023 Region 11 Secondary Teacher of the Year

Staff Report

Granbury ISD's Michael Beauchamp, an automotive technology teacher at Granbury High School, has been named the 2023 Region 11 Secondary Teacher of the Year during a special awards ceremony on Aug. 1.

It's the second straight year that Granbury ISD has had the Region 11 Secondary Teacher of the Year as Priscilla Lumbreras, a biology teacher at Granbury High School, claimed the award in 2022. Granbury ISD becomes the first school district in Region 11 history to have back-to-back Secondary Teacher of the Year winners.

The event, hosted by the Education Service Center Region 11 and generously funded by the EECU credit union, recognizes all the

teachers of the year from school districts in the north Texas region. The Teacher of the Year Program, sponsored by the Texas Association of School Administrators, allows districts to submit one elementary and one secondary candidate to compete at the regional and state levels. Eighty-eight teachers, representing 46 school districts in Region 11, participated in this year's competition.

District winners who competed for the regional award were required to submit their resumes describing their educational history and professional development. In addition, they were asked to write their own professional biography as well as five lengthy essays detailing a defining lesson they have developed,

a special project or initiative they have participated in that creates school culture,

an example of how they connect students to the community,

how they have grown as a leader and learner as a result of being an advocate, and

their message/platform should they be selected as the National Teacher of the Year.

The regional selection panel, comprised of teachers (including two past regional winners), central office staff, and a superintendent from school districts within Region 11, reviewed and scored all the essays before selecting Beauchamp as the regional winner.

Beauchamp earned his bachelor's degree in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University.

He also brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to his role. A former U.S. Marine with 30+ years of experience, Beauchamp served in the military as a Logistics and Readiness Manager, a Maintenance Chief for a light-attack helicopter squadron and an aviation logistics squadron, and a Senior Training Manager from the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training. He took this wealth of experience and brought it to Granbury ISD, where he serves as an automotive technology teacher at Granbury High School.

"I just love the way he runs his classroom," shared Chandra Turrentine, a judge from Eagle Turrentine Saginaw ISD. "He also does so much to advocate for his students!"



Beauchamp

"He finds ways to motivate his students and sets them up for success outside of the classroom," stated Lisa Day, a judge from

PLEASE SEE **TEACHER** | B3



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

GISD's Glenn prepares for district's future with strategic plan, upcoming bond

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

As Granbury Independent School District continues to grow, the district will need to make some decisions regarding expansions and facility updates — and that's where the five-year strategic plan comes in.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The strategic planning process first began in March and the final five-year plan proposal was recently approved by the GISD Board of Trustees on July 17.

"Students were involved in the process, parents, community members, former educators, current educators, teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals," GISD Superintendent Jeremy Glenn told the HCN. "We really wanted a diverse group."

The five-year plan provided a way for those individuals to collaborate and figure out ways to overcome obstacles and discover new possibilities for students — essentially shaping the future of GISD.

Glenn explained that the five-year plan focuses on four main components: academics, human capital, facilities, and culture.

The goal for academics, Glenn said, is for the district to provide a solid academic foundation for its students.

"We want to be academically excellent," he said. "We want to be known for our academics."

Human capital focuses on taking care of teachers and providing a positive work environment for

them.

"The last two years, we, across the state of Texas have seen a lot of teachers leave the profession," Glenn explained. "In fact, last year, more teachers left the profession than any other time in previous years. Teaching has become a hard job, and that's why we always encourage people to be respectful, considerate, and compassionate when dealing with their teachers because it's a difficult job."

The culture component encompasses not only the culture in the district, but a culture in the community.

"We want people to be proud of the Granbury Pirates," Glenn said. "Our students do amazing things. We have programs that are not only state recognized, but nationally recognized, and we want to make sure that our community understands that, knows it, and embraces it."

Glenn said according to Zonda Education demographics, GISD is labeled as one of the fastest growing counties in Texas, which poses a problem for the district regarding facilities.

"Everybody knows Granbury is growing," he said. "And even with the slowdown in the economy and interest rates going up and the moratorium with the city, we know that we are primed for development here in Hood County, and we are already seeing the impact in our schools with increased enrollment among students."

For the last five years, GISD has set a record enrollment every year. In fact, Glenn said this year's esti-



Glenn

ated enrollment is 8,051, with roughly 1,200 total employees. "As we cross that 8,000-student mark, and we look at potentially being a 6A school district in February, we know that we have to put facilities on the ground to take care of our kids," he said. "And we want to make sure those facilities are innovative, we want to make sure they're educationally adequate, and we want to make sure — most importantly — that they're safe."

He said in the past, the district has put "band aids" on facilities, especially with the implementation of portable buildings.

"Really, it's not the best environment for our students to be in, and at Granbury, we believe that our students deserve the best," Glenn said.

Student growth is the number one challenge the district is currently facing, which is why the five-year plan also involves a new bond proposal.

BOND

The district hasn't passed a bond in 10 years, which is why the community rejection of the May 2022 bond convinced Glenn and the board to review the reasons behind the public's hesitation before submitting a new proposal.

"We've really taken time over the last year to study the mistakes of that bond to really listen to our community, to our stakeholders, to our taxpayers, so that when we

come back, and ask for another bond for facilities, that we put together something that can be supported by the community," he said.

He explained that the public's disagreement for the 2022 bond was largely due to a number of reasons, like the economic downturn and the concern over the additions of one large middle school and one large high school.

"We tried to really go through the vetting process to make sure that as we call this next bond, we really focus on what we need," Glenn said. "We want to keep it small and break it up. It was a rather large bond last time and we asked for a lot all at once, so this time we're going to back it up and say, 'Here's what we need right now,' and then as we need more later, we'll come back and ask our voters for that."

DISTRICT GOALS

Aside from the bond and student growth, the district is continuing to focus on student safety and academic success — two of the most important goals at GISD.

"After the tragedy at Uvalde, all districts in the state of Texas took a step back to reevaluate their safety protocols and precautions, so we're doing everything we can to make sure that we have the safest school environment possible," he said.

He added that when he became superintendent in 2018, he knew he would have work to do when it came to the academic success of the students.

"Academically, our primary focus is to make sure kids have a sol-

id academic foundation, so when I came on board, we had a couple of campuses that were struggling," he said. "So, every year we're looking to close achievement gaps and grow students so that they can be successful after high school."

A NEW YEAR

As a new school year approaches, Glenn said he is excited for the first day of school and for the first sporting events of the year.

"Something we do very well here in Granbury is we give kids a lot of opportunities to plug into their passions, so whether their passion is career and technical education or fine arts or a sport, we want to make sure that they have an opportunity to plug in," he said. "I definitely look forward to the first football game of the year because you got the cheerleaders out there, you have the band out there, you have the Stowaways out there, you have kids in the stands, and a lot of times it's right off a volleyball game, so those players are there. And as Granbury grows, it's a reminder that we still have that small-town feel, so seeing the kids back in the hallways is always an exciting time for any educator."

Glenn added that he is excited about the future of GISD and to be a part of a district that is "innovative, growing, and changing."

"We have such great community support," he added. "It's going to be a good year."

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

Sandy Ruiz named principal of Brawner Elementary

Staff Report

Granbury Independent School District recently announced the appointment of Sandy Ruiz as the new principal of Brawner Elementary School, pending board approval. Ruiz has been an assistant principal at Brawner since 2021.

Ruiz is taking over for Jincy Ross, who served as principal for Brawner for eight years and recently announced she accepted a position with Region 11 as a coordinator of certification.

"We are thrilled to have Sandy Ruiz lead our faculty and students at Brawner," GISD Superintendent Jeremy Glenn said. "I look forward to seeing all she will accomplish with the students, staff and families at Brawner as their leader."

Ruiz has 23 years of teaching and leadership experience, most recently at Brawner as the assistant principal (2021-23) and an instructional specialist (2017-21). Prior to joining Granbury ISD, Ruiz was a dyslexia coordinator in Coahoma ISD for three years and taught 4th-6th grade English in Coahoma from 2002-14. Ruiz got her teaching career started in Colorado City and Big Spring ISDs.

"I am honored to serve as the principal of Brawner," Ruiz said. "The Brawner community is special to me, and I look forward to partnering with staff, stu-



Ruiz

dents and families to continue the great things happening on campus."

Glenn also added, "I would also like to thank Jincy Ross for her eight years of leadership and dedication to Granbury ISD, serving as principal of Brawner. We wish her all the very best in her next professional chapter."

Ruiz has a Bachelor of Arts from Angelo State University and a Master of Education from Lamar University.

Granbury Cross Country Coaching Update

Submitted item

Granbury Independent School District Athletics is splitting the coaching duties for the Cross Country programs leading into the 2023 season. Jody Brown will be the head men's Cross Country/Track & Field coach while Amber Ward will continue to serve as the head women's Cross Country/Track & Field coach.

"We feel the need to concentrate on the growth of each specific program as our program numbers continue to grow," GISD Athletic Director Dwight Butler said. "This

will allow us to give maximum attention as we have the track programs and its success. Both coaches have done incredible things and we want them to have the opportunity to focus their attention on their individual programs and athletes as both cross-country and track are extensions of each other. I know our coaches will continue to do an excellent job leading our student-athletes."

Granbury Cross Country will begin its season on Aug. 26 for the Southwest Christian School Invitational in Fort Worth at 7:15 a.m.



Sign Today
And Get
1 Month
FREE

APPLY NOW



55+
**Active
Living**








dolce vita
Lakeside Granbury




Live
Free



1101 White Cliff Rd | Granbury
(817) 230-4414



SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

'So others may learn' New GHS principal excited to 'lead a great place'

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Granbury High School Principal Jamie Robinson said "goodbye" to the Boerne Greyhounds and has now officially become a Granbury Pirate.

As former principal Jeremy Ross assumes his new position as the assistant principal of academics at Cleburne High School, Robinson is excited to transition from a middle school principal to a high school principal.

"I wanted to come to a high school and live in a community that had the same values I did," he explained. "Granbury was the place we landed, and we're very thankful. It's worked out beautifully."

Robinson served as principal at Boerne Middle School South for two years. Prior to that, he was tasked with opening Van Raub Elementary in Fair Oaks Ranch as the school's first principal.

He also served as an assistant principal at Walzem Elementary (Northeast ISD) and Bradford Elementary (San Angelo).

Robinson started his public education career in the classroom in 2001, where he was a teacher for 10 years having taught second, fourth, fifth, and sixth grades in San Angelo ISD before moving to campus administration.

In total, he has served as an educator for over 20 years — but Robinson wasn't always so driven.

"I'm actually a first-generation college graduate," he said. "When I was in school, I got in trouble pretty often. My parents knew every principal I had. I wasn't horrible, but I wasn't the best student."

Once he started spending time with new friends, however, Robinson started going down a different — and better — path.

"With great teachers and great friend choices, I started seeing opportunities," he explained.

After spending some time debating on whether he wanted to

enlist in the Navy or head to college, Robinson chose education and soon got accepted into Angelo State University.

"The neat part about it was in high school, I was told by one of my counselors, 'You're too poor. You don't have good grades. Your behavior isn't good, so you need to choose either a trade or just go into the military,'" he said. "But I got up from her office and was like, 'You know, this isn't helpful. I do want to go to college.'"

His perseverance and determination to prove others wrong was the driving force behind his motivation to earn a degree — and he did. Robinson earned both his Bachelor of Science and master's degree from Angelo State University and completed his Texas Superintendent Certification through Lamar University.

"What I've been able to do from all that is when I see a kid that's acting out in class, I'm like, 'Look man,' and I have that conversation with them, and a lot of them straighten out," he said.

Robinson now uses his own experiences to influence students to make better choices — because he is living proof that you can still succeed even when you are constantly being told otherwise.

"I was named a distinguished graduate student in college, and it was cool, because way back in high school, I was the kid that couldn't or shouldn't, but then I was the only recipient of that award," he explained. "So, I tell people all the time, 'Wherever you are now, if you want to be further, you can do it.'"

He also encourages students to find a passion to help motivate them in the right direction.

"Band was my motivation, and that's why I want so many kids in the schools to find something," Robinson said. "I don't care what it is but be part of

something and get the right people around you, and then everybody will push each other to be better."

Robinson also abides by his educational mission, which is: "So others may learn."

"That's helped me structure things and set the stage for success," he explained. "When I'm putting things on our staff, and they say, 'Well, why are we doing this?' It's so our kids can learn, and we're better for it."

One goal that Robinson has as he assumes his new role of GHS principal is to provide support for students who are in need.

"I wasn't supposed to be successful, but I look at how many kids

are economically disadvantaged, and if I can show them what's out there, and we can provide all the support, we're going to have a more productive society," he said.

Robinson said he believes Granbury is an "ideal place to be," and he is excited to lead students into becoming "the best they can be."

"I think Granbury is a great place, and with the staff, the students I've met, and the community, I'm most excited that I get to come here and lead a great place," he added. "I don't think we've hit our peak yet. I think we have some areas whether it's fine arts, academics, or athletics, that we might not win at everything, but I'm ex-

cited to help them every day, and if we can do that for everybody on our campus, then I'll be a very happy man."

He added that he can't wait to see the positive impact that he and his staff make on students in the future.

"It takes time to see it, but I want to be here for the long haul and retire here," Robinson added. "I think I have another 15 to 20 years left in me, but we'll see what happens."

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243



Granbury High School Jamie Robinson is excited to start this fall as a Granbury Pirate, pulling from his own experiences to encourage students to be "the best they can be."

TEACHER

FROM PAGE B1

Northwest ISD. "He finds ways to continue growing so that he can give back to kids."

"He's a very student-centered educator," shared Dr. Jeff Russell, a judge from Denton ISD. "That sentiment was evident throughout his application."

Beauchamp will now compete with Dr. Isela Russell of Lewisville ISD, who was named the Region 11 Elementary Teacher of the Year, as they both strive to receive the Texas Teacher of

the Year award.

The Texas Association of School Administrators' selection committee will meet to review the applications of the regional winners on Aug. 14, and then name three elementary teachers and three secondary teachers as state semifinalists in the competition on Sept. 5. These six semifinalists will then participate in an interview with the selection committee on Oct. 19. The elementary and secondary state winners will be announced on Oct. 20.



Granbury ISD Automotive Technology Teacher Michael Beauchamp, fourth from left, was named the 2023 Region 11 Secondary Teacher of the Year during a special awards ceremony on Aug. 1.

Find us on Facebook.

Keep up with up-to-the-minute happenings in Hood County using one of today's greatest social media sites.

facebook.com/hcnews

HCNEWS.COM

SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on July 29 (Puzzle 41).

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | | 3 | 4 | | 9 | | | 5 |
| 4 | | | | | | 9 | | |
| | 6 | | | | 5 | | | |
| 6 | | 1 | | 5 | | 8 | | 9 |
| | | | | 6 | | | | |
| 3 | | 8 | | 2 | | 6 | | 1 |
| | | | 8 | | | | 1 | |
| | | 5 | | | | | | 6 |
| 1 | | | 5 | | 3 | 2 | | 8 |

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

WEST BLUFF DENTAL CARE

One Trusted Office For All Your Dental Needs

Dr. Smith & Dr. Fisher can now digitally fabricate your crowns and veneers in **ONE VISIT!** You can be in and out the door in about 2 hours with your new crown securely in place and worry free!

Best of Hood County HCNews 2022

- NO second visit
- NO need to get numbed multiple times
- NO goopy impressions (it's all done digitally)
- NO need to wear temporary crowns for weeks and weeks

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW PATIENT SPECIALS!

Dr. Alexander Smith | Dr. Katrina Fisher
310 W. Bluff St. | Granbury | 817.886.8297 | www.westbluffdentalcare.com

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

HCNEWS.COM

WE COVER YOU

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



GISD school supplies list

BY ASHLEY INGE AND EMILY NAVA
Staff Writers

As back-to-school commercials return and Walmart starts flooding aisles with school supplies, parents know that it's that time of year again to start shopping for the first day of school.

Granbury ISD returns to school on Tuesday, Aug. 15, so it's important to ensure your child is prepared for the first day with the necessary supplies.

"The 23-24 school supply list is available for download in English and Spanish (on the school website)," Stacie Brown, director of curriculum and instruction told the HCN. "But all the local grocery stores should have them. Most of them are packaged and ready to go."

An online shopping version is also available on the school website. Parents can access the Teacher List link on granburysd.org, select a school, choose a store, and add items to their cart.

However, if you still have not purchased school supplies, here is a detailed list of what to purchase organized by grade level.

PREKINDERGARTEN

- 1 backpack
- 2 boxes 16ct or 24 ct crayons

- 1 package 8ct washable markers
- 1 watercolor paint set
- 1 plastic school box (8 1/2 x 5 1/2)
- 2 boxes Kleenex
- 2 small glue sticks
- 1 towel for rest time
- Tennis shoes

*Other prekindergarten supplies will be provided by the classroom including glue, folders, paper, hand sanitizer, baggies, snacks, etc. Prekindergarten students will not need a lunchbox, or nap pad at this time.

KINDERGARTEN

- 1 Box of #2 Pencils
- 6 Boxes of Crayons, 24 Count
- 1 Box of Washable Markers, 8 Count
- 1 Watercolor Paint Brush Set
- 1 School Supply Box/Pencil Box, Plastic 8 1/2 x 5 1/4 x 2 1/4
- 2 Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors
- 8 Glue Sticks
- 8 EXPO Dry Erase Markers
- 1 Pair of Headphones (USB - child size, no earbuds)
- 1 Clorox Disinfecting Wipes (bleach free)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage Bags, Gallon Size with slide lock (Boys)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage Bags, Quart Size with slide lock (Girls)

- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage Bags, Quart size with slide lock (Boys)
- 1 Package of Manila Paper 9x12 (Girls)
- 1 Package of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors, 12x18 (Boys)

FIRST GRADE

- 2 Composition Notebooks Wide Ruled
- 3 Boxes of #2 Pencils
- 2 Boxes of Crayons, 24 Count
- 2 Boxes of Washable Markers, 8 Count
- 1 School Supply Box/Pencil Box (Plastic) 8 1/2 x 5 1/2
- 2 Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors
- 2 Glue Sticks, Jumbo
- 3 Pocket Folders, Plastic, with Prongs/Brads
- 1 Pink Eraser
- 2 Expo Dry Erase Markers, Black 2 Pack
- 1 Pair of Headphones (USB kids - no earbuds)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage Bags, Gallon Size with slide lock (Girls)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage Bags, Quart Size with slide lock (Boys)
- 1 Package of Manila Paper 9x12 (Girls)

- 1 Package of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors, 12x18 (Boys)

SECOND GRADE

- 2 Spiral Notebooks Wide Ruled
- 1 Box of #2 Pencils
- 1 Pencil Bag/Pouch (zipper for bag/7x9 box)
- 1 Box of Crayons, 24 County
- 1 Box of Washable, 8 Count
- 1 Pack of Colored Pencils, 12 Count
- 1 Highlighter
- 2 Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors
- 2 Glue Sticks, Jumbo
- 2 Pocket Folders, with Prongs/Brads
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 6 Expo Dry Erase Markers
- 1 Pair of Headphones (USB kids - no earbuds)
- 1 Package of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors, 12x18 (Girls)
- 1 Package of Manila Paper, 12x18 (Boys)
- 1 Roll of Paper Towels (Optional)
- 1 Clorox Disinfecting Wipes Canister (bleach free) (Optional)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Bags, Sandwich Size (Optional)
- 1 Box of Ziploc brand Storage

Bags, Quart Size (Optional)

THIRD GRADE

- 3 Spiral Notebooks Wide Ruled, 1 Subject
- 1 Composition Notebook Wide Ruled
- 2 Packages of Notebook Paper Loose Leaf/Filler Paper, Wide Ruled
- 1 2 inch 3-Ring Binder
- 2 Packages of Post-it Notes, 3x3
- 4 Packages of #2 Pencils, 12 Pack (no mechanical)
- 1 Pencil Bag/Pouch (zipper on pencil bag)
- 1 Box of Crayons, 24 Count
- 1 Pack of Colored Pencils, 12 Count
- 1 Pack of Crayola Washable Markers, 8 Count
- 2 Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors, 7 Inch Student
- 12 Glue Sticks
- 4 Pocket Folders, Plastic, with Prongs/Brads
- 2 Pink Erasers
- 2 Packs of Expo Dry Erase Markers, Black, 2 Pack
- 4 Highlighters
- 1 Pair of Headphones (USB)
- 1 Canister of Clorox Disinfecting Wipes (bleach free)

PLEASE SEE SUPPLIES | B7

HCN Junior sandcastle Day AUGUST 5



Sandcastles are like magical creations that can be built right on the beach! They are made by shaping and molding sand into magnificent structures. Building sandcastles is a fun and creative activity that children of all ages can enjoy.

To make a sandcastle, you need a few things. First, you need a good spot on the beach with lots of sand.

Then, you need a bucket and a shovel. The bucket is used to gather sand, and the shovel helps you dig and shape the sand.

Start by filling the bucket with wet sand. Wet sand sticks together better, so it's perfect for building strong sandcastles. Pack the sand tightly into the bucket, and then carefully turn it upside down and

lift it off the sand. Ta-da! You have the base of your sandcastle.

Now, it's time to get creative. You can use smaller buckets, seashells, or even your hands to add more layers to your sandcastle. Build walls, towers, and even moats! You can dig a trench and fill it with water from the ocean to create a surrounding moat for your castle.

Decorating your sandcastle is the most exciting part. You can use seashells, pebbles, or seaweed to add unique features. Draw patterns in the sand, build bridges, or make flags out of sticks and leaves to give your sandcastle a personal touch.

But remember, the ocean tides are like mischievous friends. They might come and wash away your masterpiece, but that's okay! Building sandcastles is about the joy of creating something beautiful in the moment. It's a chance to let your imagination run wild and have fun with friends and family.

So, gather your friends, siblings, or parents, and head to the beach. Let the sand tickle your toes, feel the warm sun on your face, and start building your very own sandy kingdom. With a little imagination and teamwork, you'll create sandcastles that will bring smiles and memories that will last a lifetime.



Did You Know?

The world's tallest sandcastle was built in 2007 as part of the "Sun Festival" which takes place in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The sandcastle stood approximately 50 feet high. It took ten days to create and the creators used over 300 truck loads of sand!

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE
817-573-7066
CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE ON THE HOOD COUNTY JUNIOR PAGE

SPORTS Roundup

Dolan second in nation; Football, volleyball practices underway



PHOTO COURTESY OF MACH I TRACK CLUB

Gannon Dolan of Granbury (middle) is on the medal stand after finishing second in the nation in the Boys 15-16 division in the 3000-meter run.

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

TRACK

Gannon Dolan of Granbury once again proved he is among the best young runners in America. A year after winning a national championship in the Boys 13-14 division, he finished as the runner-up in the Boys 15-16 division at the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics in Des Moines, Iowa this past week.

Dolan posted a time of 8 minutes, 49.76 seconds in the 3000-meter run. It was his personal best time and broke the Mach I Track Club's record.

Dolan set a national record in 2022, winning the Boys 13-14 3000 with a time of 8:59.

Dolan also competed in the 1500, again breaking a Mach I record with his time of 4:07 in the preliminaries of the event. In the finals he placed sixth with a clocking of 4:09.26.

This year he was joined by his younger brother, Malachi, who competed in the Boys 8-Under division. Malachi finished 22nd in the nation in the 1500 with a time of 5:57.52. It was more than six seconds faster than his time of 6:03.58, which won regional competition in Fort Worth last month.

"Gannon ran outstanding in the 3000. The 1500 didn't go as planned, but still got sixth overall in the nation,"

Mach I coach Lupe Torres said. "Malachi ran tough in the 1500. It was great to see him get experience in both the 1500 and 800 (he ran during season and at regionals)."

FOOTBALL BEGINS PRACTICES

High school football practices got underway at Granbury and Tolar Monday and both schools enjoyed strong turnouts.

Granbury had 180 players report for first practice on Monday. Tolar had 62.

Tolar held its first workout at 12:01 a.m. Monday. Coach Jeremy Mullins jokingly said it was because the University Interscholastic League wouldn't let them start on Sunday.

"That's as soon as we can go," he said with a chuckle. "The first day of football practice is always a fun time and doing it at midnight is just another fun memory for the kids. I think it also gives parents and the community people a chance to come be a part of the first practice."

"Heck, we even had the ice cream truck set up. Great first practice with ice cream afterwards. Doesn't get any better than that!"

The Rattlers are coming off a 13-1 season that saw them advance to the Class 2A Division I state quarterfinals, the best season in program history. They are preseason ranked No. 5 in the state in that division

and have won 14 consecutive regular-season games dating to Oct. 1, 2021.

The Rattlers feature all-state junior running back Peyton Brown, who rushed for 2,777 yards with a state-leading 49 touchdowns and 296 points last season.

Granbury, coming off a 4-6 season, will be led by interim head coach Sonny Galindo, a long-time assistant. He took over following the resignation of Chad Zschiesche this summer to pursue other career opportunities.

Granbury will scrimmage Fort Worth South Hills at Clark Stadium on Thursday, Aug. 10 at 7 p.m. before coming home to Johnny Perkins Field at Pirate Stadium to face Everman on Friday, Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. The Pirates host Carrollton Creekview on Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. to open the regular season.

Tolar will scrimmage at Eastland Friday, Aug. 11 at 7 p.m., and will be at home to scrimmage Cisco on Thursday, Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. They open the regular season at home against Peaster on Thursday, Aug. 24 at 7:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Practices began at both Granbury and Tolar this week, with the regular season beginning shortly after this coming week. Granbury had around 65 turn out and Tolar reported 41.

Granbury, coached by Desiree Sheehan, opens the regular season Tuesday,

Aug. 8 at Mansfield Lake Ridge. Varsity competes at 5 p.m.

The Lady Pirates are also in the Turner Classic tournament in Pearland Thursday, Aug. 10 through Saturday, Aug. 12. They host their own Granbury Classic the following weekend, Aug. 17-19.

Tolar, coached by Misty Rhodes, begins the regular season at home against Whitney on Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 6:30 p.m. The Lady Rattlers are then in the Brock Tournament Aug. 10-12.

TENNIS

Jeff Bramlett raised the level of Granbury High tennis during his eight years leading the program from 2006-13. It was one of several successful stops in a great career.

Now, Bramlett is being honored as an inductee in the Texas Tennis Coaches Association Hall of Fame. The ceremony will take place Dec. 8 in a banquet at Horseshoe Bay Resort.

Bramlett has been coaching tennis for 35 years and enjoyed significant success at Granbury. In 2013 his daughter Kate and her doubles partner Elizabeth Morton became the first players from Granbury to advance to state in 51 years, repeating the accomplishment the next season.

In all, Bramlett had 28 players advance to regional competition during his time with the Pirates/Lady Pirates. In 2011, 2012 and 2013 his squads qualified for regional team tennis competition.

In 2008 he was named the District 8-4A Coach of the Year.

"I cherish my memories at Granbury," Bramlett said. "I think we also provided the opportunity for many of the kids to go on to play college tennis that maybe would not have even had an opportunity of going to college. It was very rewarding and gratifying for me."

Prior to Granbury, Bramlett



PHOTO COURTESY OF MACH I TRACK CLUB

Granbury's Gannon Dolan competes at the Amateur Athletic Union Junior Olympics in Des Moines, Iowa. He finished second in the 3000-meter run among 15-16 Boys

coached 16 seasons at San Antonio Alamo Heights, where his legend was built. His teams won eight state championships in a 10-year span between 1993 and 2002 (missing only in 1997 and 2001). In 1997 he was named the National Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Coaches, along with being named the Class 4A Texas Tennis Coach of the Year that same year.

Also at Heights, he had two state singles champions, three state doubles champions and 16 state runners-up in individual play.

Bramlett left Granbury to start the program at East Texas Baptist University in Marshall. In his time there he guided the women's team to a top-32 national ranking and an American Southwest Conference championship in 2017.

Bramlett took over the Concordia last year in Austin program last year. He immediately coached the men

to a No. 39 national ranking and an ASC championship, while the women achieved a No. 16 regional ranking, the best ever for the program.

As a player, Bramlett helped Texas State (then Southwest Texas State) to the 1982 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics national team championship, while also winning a national title in doubles himself. He previously played two seasons at Texas Tech as their No. 1 singles and doubles player before transferring.

"The lifelong friendships with the players and coaches are priceless," Bramlett said, reflecting on his career. "I hope that I have given as much back to the sport as it has given to me."

Anyone interested in attending the induction banquet can make a reservation by visiting textastenniscoaches.com. Tickets are \$35.



PHOTO COURTESY OF RATTLER BOYS ATHLETICS

The Tolar Rattlers rush onto the field at just past midnight Sunday night/Monday morning as Midnight Madness began, the first practice of the new football season.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton Baseball set to host 2023 Texan Prospect Camp

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – The Texans will host their first camp under new head coach Fuller Smith on Sept. 10, the team announced Thursday.

As the summer comes to a close, the Tarleton Baseball coaching staff is preparing for the 2023 Texan Prospect camp. On Sept. 10, Smith and staff will give camp at-

tendees the opportunity to show case their skill set at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.

The 2023 Texan Prospect camp will welcome athletes who will be entering the fall of 2023 as high school freshman all the way to junior college sophomores.

Camp check-in will begin at 12 p.m. and the camp will

end at 4 p.m.

Information regarding equipment requirements as well as additional camp information can be found at texanbaseballcamps.com

For any camp inquiries, please contact assistant coach Cody Semler at tarletonbaseballcamps@gmail.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

Fans watch Texans baseball at the Tarleton Baseball Complex.

Texans have 96 student-athletes collect Spring Academic All-WAC awards

ARLINGTON, Texas — Adding to Tarleton State University's 41 honorees in the fall and winter, the Western Athletic Conference announced on Tuesday that 96 more Texan student-athletes have earned Academic All-WAC honors, increasing the total number to 137 selections for the 2022-23 school year.

The WAC announced its full list of 2023 Spring Academic All-WAC recipients along with transfers and freshman of all sports that have now completed two semesters of academic study at their current institution.

Honorees must have completed at least one academic year at their institution, held cumulative grade point averages of 3.2 or better, and competed in at least 50 percent of their team's contests.

Of Tarleton State's spring sports, Men's Outdoor Track and Field had the most earn the academic award, with 17 honorees. Women's Outdoor Track and Field added 16 members. Baseball totaled 14 selections and softball had 11 tabbed as honorees. Men's Golf earned four individuals honored and wom-

en's golf notched three.

Freshmen and transfers for all sports were also recognized after the spring semester if they had reached the academic and competitive parameters. Women's soccer had 12 members honored topping the non-spring sports honorees. Women's basketball added three more to its four members honored in the winter edition while men's basketball added on four to its original two. Volleyball was honored with three more selections to add to its six named after the completion of its fall season. Men's and women's cross country each added an honoree and football gained another recognition to add to the nine it received in the fall.

The full list of Tarleton State's All-WAC Spring 2023, Freshman/Transfer student-athletes is below:

BASEBALL (15)

- Jordan Andrade
- Zane Badmaev
- Hunter Day
- Grant Garza
- Matt Haley
- Mason Hammonds
- Peyton Hutson
- Ryan Jacobs
- Piercen McElyea



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

Tarleton University Boasts 96 athletes from 10 different sports who received spring academic awards.

- Trace Morrison
- Devon Patel
- Zach Poe
- Kooper Shook
- Jack Wagner
- Alec Williams
- Men's Basketball (4)
- Tydan Archibald
- Coreyoun Rushin
- Jakorie Smith
- Lue Williams
- Women's Basketball (3)
- Mayra Caicedo
- Viktoria Ivanova
- Starr Omozee

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY (1)

- Angel Contreras

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY (1)

- Morgan Lamberson
- Football (1)
- Patrick Jones
- Men's Golf (4)
- Jack Anderson
- Alvaro Huidobro
- Cristobal Sepulveda

MEN'S GOLF (3)

- Mathilde Brogens
- Rebeca Fernandez
- Sofia Rodriguez

MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD (17)

- AJ Alfaro
- Kevin Baez
- Ethan Bratton
- Cornelius Coleman
- Bryson Crippen
- Angel Gomez
- Jaden Hall
- Isaac Hutchings
- Brandon McKissick
- David Mvundura
- Maxon Newell
- Justin Raines
- Kyle Seymour
- Bailey Smotek
- Tyler Stone
- Gabriele Tosti
- Reid Vincent

WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD (16)

- Jordan Anglin
- Ashlynn Cash
- Bonnie Clifton
- Hailey Daniels-White
- Nakia Dunn
- Reagan Gallagher
- Rylee Hennig
- Karleigh Hill
- Sage Lancaster
- Aimee Landers-Wilburn
- Taylor McFarland
- Gentrye Munden
- Jordan Rae
- Rese Schoonover
- Elise Smith
- Danielle Thomas

WOMEN'S SOCCER (12)

- Adriana Alonso-Gomez
- Jaycie Bass
- Kiki Baumann
- Jenaya Brown
- Teaghan Dodd
- Nicole Fels
- Kaitlyn Flanagan
- Avery Harr

- Rylee Low
- Sydney Rouillard
- Lindsey Schiller
- Macie Witter

SOFTBALL (11)

- Tristan Bridges
- Jordan Dickerson
- Grace Garcia
- Austin Germain
- Kelci Hill
- Morgan Medford
- MacKenzie Peterson
- Brady Rowland
- Katy Schaefer
- Tristyn Trull
- Kayla Wallace

WOMEN'S TENNIS (5)

- Elsa Boisson
- Martha Makantasi
- Ximena Morales
- Emma Persson
- Celia Vaudiau

VOLLEYBALL (3)

- Emma Burke
- Megan Hodges
- Grayson Schirpik

All Tarleton State fall sports 2023 season tickets now on sale

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – Summer is winding down and Tarleton State University's fall sports are beginning to ramp up. Fans can now officially get in on the action as all season tickets to the Texans' 2023 fall campaigns are now on sale.

Texan Football season tickets are live, packages that will get fans into the gates of Memorial Stadium

for all five home games in 2023, beginning Sept. 9 against North Alabama on Purple Out night. Tarleton's other home games are Sept. 23 vs. Southwest Baptist (Family Weekend), Oct. 7 vs. Southern Utah (Legends Game), Oct. 21 vs. Morehead State (Homecoming) and Nov. 4 vs. Stephen F. Austin (Military Appreciation).

Season ticket packages

start at just \$99 for general admission seating, with reserved seating packages beginning at just \$200. Donations to the Texan Club to serve all of Tarleton State's student-athletes are included in all reserved seating packages.

Texan Volleyball season tickets are now on sale, a package that grants fans access to the Wisdom Volley-

ball Gym for all 15 of Tarleton State's home matches. Tarleton's final year of reclassification begins with the Texan Invitational on Aug. 25, with the home finale set for Nov. 4 against California Baptist. There will be eight Western Athletic Conference matches played at Wisdom Volleyball Gym and two tournaments consisting of four and three Tarleton

home matches, respectively.

Season ticket packages are just \$65 per seat.

For the second time in as many seasons, Tarleton State Soccer's home matches will be free of charge for everyone in attendance. The Texans will play 11 regular season matches at the Tarleton Soccer Complex, beginning Aug. 17 against Louisiana-Monroe. Their regular

season ends at home against Grand Canyon on Oct. 22.

The Texans will also host Baylor at the Tarleton Soccer Complex on Aug. 10 for an exhibition match.

To view all of Tarleton Athletics' season ticket options, visit www.tarletonsports.com/tickets. Fans can also call the Tarleton Athletics Ticket Office to purchase packages at 254-968-1832.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON UNIVERSITY

The Tarleton Men's Golf fundraiser at Harbor Lakes will benefit the Tarleton men's golf team.

Tarleton Men's Golf Fundraiser set for August 19 at Harbor Lakes

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas – After making a splash in their revival season, Tarleton State University's men's golf team will look to keep their momentum going, beginning with their fundraiser shamble set for Saturday, Aug. 19.

The Tarleton Men's Golf Fundraiser will be played at Harbor Lakes Golf Club in Granbury. It will be a four-

person shamble, with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start. Check-in will begin at 7:30 a.m.

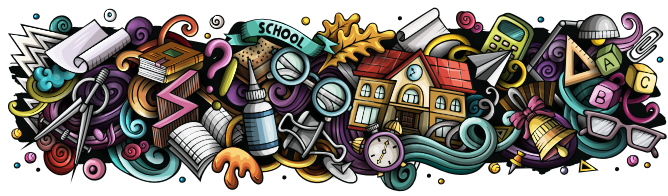
The four-person shamble includes breakfast, lunch, drinks (alcohol and non-alcohol), plus a custom polo and hat combo that's a \$120 value.

It is \$1,000 per team to participate, or \$250 per player. Those who signed up individually will be grouped together to form four-person teams. Team entry is included for

\$1,250 hole sponsors, otherwise it is \$500 to sponsor a hole.

All proceeds from the event, presented by Texan 18, will benefit the Tarleton men's golf program.

The deadline to sign up for the event is Aug. 12. Visit www.tarletonsports.com/tickets to sign up for the tournament or to sponsor a hole.

SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT**GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT****SUPPLIES**

FROM PAGE B4

FOURTH GRADE

- 1 Package of Notebook Paper Loose Leaf/Filled Paper, Wide Ruled
- 8 Highlighters
- 5 Packs of #2 Pencils, 12 Pack (no mechanical)
- 1 Pencil Bag/Pouch (zipper pencil bag)
- 1 Box of Crayons, 24 Count
- 4 Composition Notebooks Wide Ruled
- 1 Pack of Colored Pencils 12 Count
- 1 Pack of Crayola Washable Markers 8 Count
- 4 Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors 7 Inch Student
- 4 EXPO Dry Erase Markers
- 8 Glue sticks
- 4 Pocket Folders, Solid Color, with Prongs/Brads (no graphics)
- 1 Package of Construction Paper, Assorted Colors, 12x18
- 1 Pair of Headphones (USB)
- 1 Paper Towel Roll (Girls)
- 1 Clorox Canister of Disinfecting Wipes (bleach free)

FIFTH GRADE

- 2 Packages of Notebook Paper Loose Leaf/Filler Paper, Wide Ruled
- 1 Pencil Bag/Pouch
- 4 Packs of #2 Pencils, 12 Count
- 1 Package of Cap Erasers
- 1 Spiral Notebook Wide Ruled
- 3 Composition Notebooks Wide Ruled
- 1 Package of Colored Pencils, 12 Count
- 2 Large Boxes of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Pair of Scissors
- 1 EXPO Dry Erase Marker (black only)
- 8 Glue sticks
- 4 Highlighters
- 1 Pair of USB Headphones
- 1 Roll of Paper Towels
- 1 Clorox Canister of Disinfecting Wipes (bleach free)

SIXTH – 12TH GRADE

- 1 3 Inch 3-Ring Binder (Black mounted ring, no zippers, no trapper keepers)
- 2 Packages of Notebook Paper Loose Leaf/Filler Paper, Wide Ruled
- 1 Package of Notebook Paper Loose Leaf/Filler Paper, Wide Ruled, Hole Reinforcers
- 1 Set of 8 Tab Dividers
- 1 Large Zipper Pencil/Supply Pouch for 3-Ring Binder
- 1 Package of Pens, Blue or Black
- 2 Boxes of #2 Pencils
- 1 Roll of Duct Tape
- 1 Pair of USB Earbuds (Chromebook compatible)
- 1 Pink Eraser
- 4 Highlighters, Assorted Colors
- 1 Package of Colored Pencils, 12 Count
- 2 Glue sticks
- 2 Composition Notebooks Wide Ruled (with holes)
- 1 Box of Kleenex Brand Facial Tissues
- 1 Bottle of Hand Sanitizer

Acton Middle School introduces new classes, programs for fall

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

As summer begins to wrap up, teachers and principals excitedly start preparing for a new school year, while eagerly awaiting to see their students' smiling faces again.

But for Acton Middle School Principal Jennifer Pennington, the excitement she's feeling for this academic year is almost palpable as she prepares for the launch of two brand new classes this fall: principles of agriculture and project success.

"We brought on some new programs, and it's a major change because we're bringing (principles of agriculture) from the high school and it's one that the kids are excited about," Pennington explained. "It's ag — what kid doesn't like ag? We have a lot of kids signed up for that."

The second class, project success, is a mandatory requirement for all seventh graders to help prepare them for their future careers after high school graduation.

"It gets them thinking about 'What do you want to do when you grow up?' and I mean, that's the question I asked myself all the time," Pennington explained.



ASHLEY INGE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Acton Middle School Principal Jennifer Pennington said she is excited about the new school year and the implementation of two new classes: principles of agriculture and project success.

nington explained. "It helps kids start thinking about, 'If I like rocks, what can I do with that? I could look at going to the moon, I could look at archaeology. And if I want to do those things, where do I go study that? And if I start studying that, what kind of jobs can I do along with that, and where could that take me?' I think this opens so many doors for students, and that's really what I'm excited about for this upcoming year."

Pennington explained that the

district has been discussing the idea of potentially implementing more career and technical education courses at AMS.

"It's a great thing; it really is," she said. "It's good for all kids, so to see everybody being able to benefit from that is huge."

Another program Pennington is excited about is Capturing Kids' Hearts, a program that equips professionals in K-12 education to implement transformational processes focused on social-emotional wellbeing, relation-

ship-driven campus culture, and student connectedness.

"Capturing Kids' Hearts aligns with what we are wanting to do, along with our Granbury Strategic Plan, you know, bringing in and working on that Granbury culture, working on it right at the ground level, and working with our students, our teachers, our parents, and our community on bringing positivity," she said.

Although the new classes and programs are the biggest changes on campus this

fall, they aren't the only ones.

Pennington said enrollment at the end of last year was as high as 980, and this year, a total of 25 new staff members are joining the district.

"I'm excited about our new staff members," Pennington added. "We have some amazing staff members staying, but just seeing the energy from our new staff members, I know it's going to be a great year."

ashley@hcnews.com
817-573-1243

HOOD OUTDOORS

Night fishing offers cool opportunities

MICHAEL ACOSTA

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. The Granbury resident of 30 years has been fishing all of his life and has been a licensed guide since 1998.



Acosta

consensus is green is all that you need.

Most of all the newer lights and some of the older lights are submersible. The big advantage to submersible lights is the fact that the bugs are kept at bay. Very little light is reflected up which cuts down on the bugs. You know and I know that bugs can get unbearable from a hanging white light.

The action can be tremendous under the lights. Concentrating the baitfish will bring in the predators and at times the action will be outstanding especially if the fish are in a feeding frenzy. Many indoor fishing docks across the country use lights to attract fish. It is a known technique.

There are many different portable lights on the market, but there are four types I am aware of. These types include floating sealed beam lights, fluorescent lights, LED lights and submersible halogen lights. All of these types of lights will do the job. There are pros and cons to each of them.

Light Emitting Diodes (LED) lights generally have the longest life and use the least amount of energy. Fluorescent lights are generally a floating or submerged vertical tube light that is put in the water vertically. Submersible halogen lights operate under the surface so there is minimal impact due to wind and waves and you of course minimize the bug impact with the light under the water.

When night fishing on a boat



PEXELS.COM

Fishing at night is a way to beat the heat during the hot summer.

with lights, it is a good idea to anchor the boat securely so that movement is minimized. Either tie the boat between two trees or double anchor. The floating lights you choose can be placed right next to the boat/dock/bank. The other submersible type lights can be lowered to a desired depth around the boat/dock.

Wait a few minutes and the baitfish will move in. The bigger predators will more than likely be under or on the edge. Be careful not to spook the predators. Work different depths until you locate the best depth. If for some reason the fish don't move in, move and find another potential spot.

If you do decide to do some night fishing, make sure you know the

area where you are to fish. With less light, you need to be careful navigating. Every body of water I have ever been on looks different at night.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures are in the upper 80s to low 90s. Thermocline is fairly shallow in most areas (15 to 20 feet down). Largemouth to 6 lbs are possible on soft plastics, spinner baits and crankbaits. Largemouth bass are being caught on main lake points, by deeper docks and in the river above Granbury. Granbury striped bass continue to be good to 11lbs on live shad and downrigged jigs

with curly trailers on the lower ends. Best striped bass action is reported in front of Decordova Subdivision. Sandbass action is fair to slow on slabs and rattle traps near Decordova and near Indian Harbor. Crappie action continues to be good on submerged structure on jigs and small minnows.

Possum Kingdom stripers are good to 15lbs on live shad and large flutter spoons fished on the lower ends to near Hell's Gate. Whitney striper limits continue to be common on live/cut bait fished from Cedar Creek to the Island on channel ledges. Largemouth bass are good to excellent on Whitney as well near cliffs mid-lake and in the river near Kimball Bend.

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

The Granbury Generals march to new season



Young players work hard in the heat to prepare for this year's season.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Granbury's only youth football league, the Granbury Generals, began practice Monday, July 31 for their first ever season. Former players from Granbury's Pee Wee Football Association were assimilated by the Granbury Generals. The 25-year-old Pee Wee Football Association saw the positive opportunities and generously joined forces and combined assets and personnel.

The Granbury Generals League serves children ages four through

sixth grade and their families. In this inaugural year, the league will be serving 249 local families. In fact, the Generals already have 13 teams, one team shy of having their own league.

The Generals are part of the Power 5 Youth Football League. The Power 5 League was created in 2018 in order to gather a group of youth football organizations together and to provide fair and consistent rules and safety.

When deciding how to meet the need for local families and what league to join, President and founder of the Granbury Generals

Truxton Fox weighed every option. "We prayed about it at length, my wife Jess, my partner and Vice President Luke (Cunningham) and myself," Fox said.

Many of the Generals' players have never played football before. "This is my grandson Kendrick's (Hornbeak) first year to play. He is extremely excited. He has mild cerebral palsy, which we are a little nervous about. But we have done lots of therapy and we think he is ready. He is a big football fan. I am a big football fan. All four of my boys played, and my daughter was in band," shared Michelle Ragan about her 10-year-old grandson who attends Granbury public school.

"This is the first year to play for my son Bentley. He's played a lot with friends but not on a team. He hopes to play running back and linebacker," Jeremy Bowden said.

Bowden played those same positions when he was younger as did an older brother of Bentley's. Bowden and wife Ashley had brought Bentley, age 11 from Tolar schools to practice.

"Yes, this is the first year for my son Azar Chacon to play. He has played a bit in the yard, practiced a little in the yard. But we are excited to watch

him play tackle," Azar's father Robert Chacon said.

Fox is proud that many of the families will be participating in football for the first time. An encouraging approach to coaching is insisted upon. The coaches go through 35 hours of training before they can even be elected to coach.

"Half of our coaches are from the other (Pee Wee) league and it's unbelievable how they have created fraternity, all of the coaches. And that was all of them, they have set the culture for the teams. We (leadership) just let them know what was expected," Fox said.

Fox says there are several goals of the Generals. "We wanted to involve as many people as possible. We want to hand the middle school more accomplished athletes. It changes the lineage for Granbury football," he said. It will make a tremendous difference when these athletes are in High School."

Fox and partners desired football to be affordable for all families. The young athletes are provided almost all gear from the Granbury Generals organization,

from helmets to shoulder pads, to game jerseys, pants and more. All the families have to contribute is the mouthpiece, cleats and practice uniform.

Safety and technique are central tenants of the organization as well. Technique to reduce the chance of injuries. Hydration in the hot Texas summers is also stressed. Good news for parents like Kelly Fejfar, whose son is a 6th grader in Tolar Schools.

"Trevor (Fejfar) did conditioning camp and I was concerned but he didn't seem fazed by the heat," she said.

Trevor is playing contact football for the first time, he previously played flag football.

The foundation beneath all the safety, encouragement, coaching, technique, and leadership is something far more substantial.

"Our job as a male figure in their lives goes much deeper than football. We are teaching them life lessons through a sport. Football is just the vessel through which they can learn adversity, discipline, responsibility and teamwork," Fox said.

First game for the Generals will be Sept. 9. The schedule will be released on Aug. 11 through their Facebook page.



Young athletes get ready for the season.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Players learn passing and receiving during a recent practice

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Granbury ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 21, 2023 in GISD BOARD ROOM 217 N JONES ST GRANBURY, TX 76048. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The school district has elected to adopt a tax rate before receiving the certified appraisal roll from the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) and before adopting a budget. In accordance with Texas Tax Code, Section 26.05(g), the chief appraiser(s) of the appraisal district(s) in which the school district participates has (have) certified to the assessor for the school district an estimate of the taxable value of property in the school district as provided by the Texas Tax Code, Section 26.01(e). In accordance with the Texas Education Code, Section 44.004(j), following adoption of the tax rate, the school district will publish notice and hold another public meeting before the school district adopts a budget.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Maintenance Tax | \$0.7892000/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations) |
| School Debt Service Tax | \$0.1450000/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness) |
| Approved by Local Voters | |

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

| | Preceding Tax Year | Current Tax Year* |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| Total appraised value** of all property | \$12,391,136,861 | \$14,763,654,295 |
| Total appraised value** of new property*** | \$257,753,392 | \$320,567,678 |
| Total taxable value**** of all property | \$9,071,691,276 | \$9,967,246,862 |
| Total taxable value**** of new property**** | \$257,753,392 | \$320,567,678 |

*All values identified are based on estimate(s) of taxable value received pursuant to Section 26.01(e), Tax Code.
**Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.
*** "New property" is defined by Section 26.01(17), Tax Code.
**** "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness* \$76,845,000

*Outstanding principal.

Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

| | Maintenance & Operations | Interest & Sinking Fund* | Total | Local Revenue Per Student | State Revenue Per Student |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Last Year's Rate | \$0.8546000 | \$0.1450000 | \$0.9996000 | \$10.313 | \$697 |
| Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service | \$0.6192000 | \$0.0758000 | \$0.6950000 | \$8.345 | \$950 |
| Proposed Rate | \$0.7892000 | \$0.1450000 | \$0.9342000 | \$11.692 | \$1,120 |

*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both. The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

| | Last Year | This Year |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Average Market Value of Residences | \$314,069 | \$337,978 |
| Average Taxable Value of Residences | \$242,662 | \$204,180 |
| Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 | \$0.9996000 | \$0.9342000 |
| Taxes Due on Average Residence | \$2,425.65 | \$1,907.45 |
| Increase (Decrease) in Taxes | | \$-518.20 |

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$0.8827309. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$0.8827309.

Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s) | \$21,804,355 |
| Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s) | \$2,787,555 |

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.385000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Granbury.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| PROPOSED TAX RATE | \$0.385000 per \$100 |
| NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE | \$0.361895 per \$100 |
| VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE | \$0.893187 per \$100 |

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2023 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Granbury from the same properties in both the 2022 tax year and the 2023 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Granbury may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Granbury is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2023 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 5, 2023 AT 6:00pm AT City Hall 116 W Bridge St Granbury, Tx 76048.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Granbury is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Granbury City Council at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

FOR the proposal:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Jim Jarratt | Trish Burwell |
| Eddie Rodriguez | Bruce Wadley |
| Steven Vale | Greg Corrigan |

AGAINST the proposal:

PRESENT and not voting:

ABSENT:

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://www.texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Granbury last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Granbury this year.

| | 2022 | 2023 | Change |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Total tax rate (per \$100 of value) | \$0.380000 | \$0.385000 | increase of 0.005000, or 1.32% |
| Average homestead taxable value | \$369,011 | \$423,313 | increase of 54,302, or 14.72% |
| Tax on average homestead | \$1,402.24 | \$1,629.76 | increase of 227.52, or 16.23% |
| Total tax levy on all properties | \$7,334,615 | \$7,898,495 | increase of 563,880, or 7.69% |

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Granbury at 817-573-2471 or . or visit www.granbury.org for more information.

GHS Pirates begin practice for 2023 season



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Players waited for instructions as the GHS Pirates started practice for the 2023 UIL season.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Interim Head Coach Sonny Galindo gives instruction at one of the Pirates' early practices. Coach Galindo was named Interim Head Coach at the July 17 school board meeting. Galindo takes over for Coach Chad Zschiesche who left on June 29. Coach Galindo has experience at Saginaw, Hamilton, and Weatherford High School. He has been to the post-season 11 times in his career.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Players hydrate during practice as summer temperatures have repeatedly exceeded 100 degrees.



The GHS Pirates participate in drills during their sweltering summer practice.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Receivers participate in drills to prepare for the 2023 UIL season.

Back to School SALE

MOTORIZED

FIXED

FREE 50" FLAT SCREEN with patio purchase
Expires 8/31/23

AMERICAN PATIO ENCLOSURES
CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE! **817.605.8881**
AmericanPatioEnclosure.com

SPARKS Music School

Music lessons for the whole family!

- We teach kids and adults
- We offer group and private lessons, and homeschool band

REGISTERING FOR FALL NOW!
(817) 776-6459
SparksMusicSchool.com

2901 Glen Rose Hwy, Suite 105, Granbury, TX | hello@sparksmusicchool.com

NOW OPEN

MAIN STREET MEDICAL SUPPLY
BRINGING HEALTH & WELLNESS HOME
1333 N Plaza Dr #102
Granbury, TX 76048
817-736-2373

Where Senior Advisory meets Care and Compassion. Serving families, friends, and neighbors of Hood County. Concho Hearts

817-779-3426

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM
GO ONLINE OR CALL 817-573-7066 TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY

WE HELP VICTIMS



THE
HYDE
LAW FIRM, PLLC

- ✓ 18-WHEELER ACCIDENTS
- ✓ MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS
- ✓ SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURIES

817.579.LWYR
(5997)

TOGETHER WITH



hydefirm.com



ADVERTISEMENT

NO FEE GUARANTEE
WE WORK ON A CONTINGENCY FEE BASIS. THIS MEANS YOU DO NOT PAY ANYTHING UNLESS AND UNTIL WE GET YOU MONEY THROUGH SETTLEMENT OR TRIAL, IN WHICH CASE THE CLIENT WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CASE.

827 W PEARL ST.
GRANBURY, TX 76048
817-579-LWYR (5997)
817-573-HYDE (4933) fax

Attorney Paul Hyde is responsible for the content of this advertising



A spark and passion for music



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Llyod Hinkle and music instructor at Sparks Music School Taylor Dondlinger warm up before their lesson together on July 27.

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Granbury resident Llyod Hinkle has been playing instruments since he was four years old. The now 92-year-old is still making music and even taking lessons at Sparks Music School.

Hinkle's love for music began at the early age of four when he listened to a Victrola in his home state of Missouri. He started playing his now favorite instrument, the harmonica at 11 years old. Hinkle would play his harmonica during recess at school in his and caught the attention of the music teacher. The teacher decided to teach Hinkle how to play the alto horn because that was the only instrument not being played in the school band. He then learned how to play it and performed with the school band. A neighbor gave

Hinkle a violin to play, and so the music teacher also taught him to play that, which then led to the progression into the mandolin.

At the age of 16, Hinkle went off to serve in the Air Force.

"The only instrument that could go in my pocket was the Harmonica, so I took that," Hinkle said.

He has traveled around the world with his harmonica while serving the country and in his personal life. "I've played it in the military at 45,000 square feet in the air in the B36, I played it in

Tiananmen Square in China, I've played it in top of the mountains, in Alaska, in Europe. It's been a part of me ever since I first started playing," Hinkle said.

He made his move to Fort Worth after marrying his wife, then they moved to Granbury in 1999. He was with his wife for 61 years before she passed away in 2012.

Hinkle retired from the Air Force as a Major Officer and then went to work for another 26 years in a different industry before retiring. He has now been retired for 36 years.

Hinkle loves playing not only for his own entertainment but also for others. He currently plays at the jam sessions every week in Granbury as well as the Hood County Senior Center.

"I've always enjoyed music just for the enjoyment of it and people seem to enjoy it," Hinkle said.

Now he is continuing his love for music by taking music lessons at the Sparks Music School in Granbury. He is refreshing up on the mandolin and taking lessons once a week and has been taking lessons for the past four months.

"I appreciate Sparks taking someone my age and trying to teach me something. They've been very patient. They're really fine people," Hinkle said.

Hinkle says to those who have a desire for music, to go to a mentor and get taught and achieve those desires. Hinkle is a great example that strong passions won't fade away, no matter the age.



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Llyod Hinkle plays his harmonica during a lesson at Sparks Music School in Granbury on July 27.

Reagan Deming: Coloring Granbury's heart

BY MICKY SHEARON

Special to the Hood County News

In colors as vivid as a summer sunset over Granbury, one local artist's brush strokes bring color and life to its heart. Meet Reagan Deming, a gifted painter whose artistry adorns the town's walls and stages, leaving an enchanting mark on its landscape.

Born and raised in Granbury, Reagan's connection to the town runs deep. When asked about her favorite memory of growing up in Granbury, Reagan replied, "That's a tough one. I had a somewhat rough childhood and have forgotten a lot. I played outside a lot with my friend from next

door until he moved away. We had so much imagination and had so many great adventures. I did my best to stay outside for as long as possible. We would roam the neighborhood all day, finding paths to creeks and climbing trees," she reminisced. "My parents lived in my childhood home until about two years ago."

A graduate of Granbury High School's Class of 2005, Reagan's passion for the arts blossomed during her time there. Choir and art classes proved to be the steppingstones to her creative journey.

"Choir, for sure. Joy Hope and Duncan McMahan were very influential in building my love of choral

music," Reagan shared. "I decided on my degree in music because I couldn't imagine my life without choir. It was my family and my refuge and where I met my husband."

But art's allure was equally irresistible, thanks to her art teacher,

PLEASE SEE **HEART** | C2

INSPIRATION IN NATURE WITH A WESTERN TWIST



Artist Audrey Caylor

COURTESY PHOTO

BY EDEN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Audrey Caylor, a contemporary wildlife and western artist, will be sharing her expertise at the monthly meeting of the Lake Granbury Art Association on Monday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. at 224 N. Travis Street.

In her demo, Caylor will speak for about an hour about her approach to her art, how she crops her photos and how she studies the way the light hits the hide of the animal. She will then go on to explain how she applies the paint with a palette knife and a heavy stroke. "I'm driven by wildfire's natural beauty and how the simplicity of one brushstroke can depict that. I am pas-

sionate about painting animals in a bold brush style, while also portraying the softer side of wildlife," Caylor said. Caylor is heavily influenced by her western lifestyle.

"My process starts in the fields with my camera. It sometimes takes hundreds of photos before I find that one perfect shot," she said. "The one with the correct light effect, curvature of the hide and innocence in the square of a nose. The heavy brush strokes look effortless across the canvas, despite the countless time spent on design and sketching the plan."

In 2016 Caylor sold her company, Caylor Creek Boutique, located on Granbury's Historic Square. The sale of the store opened a life-changing opportunity for her and husband Justin - they were able to move further west

to buy a ranch in Lingleville, taking her back to her roots. The Caylor's now raise registered Brahman and commercial Angus cattle.

Speaking of roots, art has always been part of Caylor's story. When Caylor was growing up she was surrounded by family members with award-winning art careers. Her summer vacations were spent in art classes cleaning out the watercolor artist's water buckets for them and weekends were spent at art shows.

Though she originally studied art in college Caylor would receive a bachelor's degree in business administration. The sale of "Caylor Creek" allowed Caylor to pursue her art full time. She has made profound profes-

PLEASE SEE NATURE | C4

Veteran turns disabilities into powerful non profit

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

A Granbury resident and former veteran decided to create a retreat for veterans to help them with their mental health.

Kolton Krottinger served in the Navy from 2009 to 2013 in Somalia and suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and anxiety. After serving Krottinger ended up in a homeless shelter and started writing about dealing with anxiety. After writing so much he ended up creating an entire book. He was unsuccessful in finding someone to publish the book and ended up publishing the book himself on Amazon. Krottinger became a best seller in 12 hours with over 60,000 copies sold.

He was able to get out of the homeless shelter with such success from the book. He then created Facebook groups talking about the importance of mental health

as a veteran and now has 250,000 group members across and reaches 30 million people in a month over the social media platform. He also created a website and is the president of the non-profit group, Anxiety of America.

After seeing the amount of support and success from the Facebook groups he had the idea of creating a physical space.

"It's so much more rewarding in my opinion when you can do something physical," Krottinger said.

It was then he decided to have a meeting with his family to discuss how to make this goal come about. Krottinger's grandma suggested using his grandpa's property. His grandfather bought land in 1973. The property, Blue Branch Historic Ranch has now been in the family for 50 years. The family is in the process of having it named a historical property as it is the spot that Pleasant Thorp found the

Indians.

The property sits on 21 acres bordering the Strouds Creek and Blue Branch Creek.

The retreat is going to be completely free to all veterans and first responders. There will be week long or weekend options for a stay at the property. The attendees will sleep in big tents with memory foam mattresses and silk sheets for a cozy stay. There will also be many activities and amenities. There will be camping, fishing, swimming, stargazing, hiking, paddle boating, kayaking, therapy sessions with counselors, yoga, local comedians, Wi-Fi, showers, fire pits and much more.

"The one thing guiding me to do this is creating a place that could have helped me during my dark time. I've lost 52 service members, mostly to suicide. I think of them, and I think if they were able to disconnect for a week or a weekend and maybe try to seek some help

in a safe setting. I think the VA system has kind of failed us a bit. They just want to put us in a room and medicate us, so I think this is a better approach," Krottinger said.

He also plans to open the tents through Airbnb rentals for the public and put the money back into the retreat for the veterans. The Airbnb prices will range from \$30 to \$150 dollars depending on the amenities and time of the week.

Krottinger recently became

a member of the Chamber of Commerce in Granbury and is getting a ribbon cutting in the works for his new space. He plans to have the ribbon cutting and first retreat sometime in October.

For more information on the retreat, to apply or to donate, visit anxietyofamerica.org. You can also join the Facebook page under Blue Branch Historic Ranch to keep updated with the progress of the group and retreat.



HEART

FROM PAGE C1

Mike Tabor.

"He was great and encouraged me in his stoic Texan cowboy way," she recalls. "I remember dropping out of AP Art my senior year because it was a stressful year at home, and he told me not to give up on art."

Following her heart, Reagan pursued a degree in music at UT Arlington alongside her brother Logan, forming an unbreakable bond.

"We were and are very close," she said warmly. "We both were music majors and vocalists and lived together for a few years until Matt and I married between our sophomore and junior year."

The journey through college wasn't without its twists and turns, as Reagan changed degree plans multiple times. Ultimately, she earned a Bachelor of Arts



COURTESY PHOTO

Reagan Deming

in Music Composition, a perfect blend of technicality and creativity. While music became her professional pursuit, the love for painting continued to tug at her heartstrings.

"I missed painting though and debated getting my masters in art," Reagan admitted, revealing her inner struggle.

However, her devotion to supporting her family during some particularly chal-

lenging times led her down a different path.

"By that time, we had our daughter, and it was in 2009, just after the financial crisis, Matt had lost his job, and we were desperate," she recounted. "That resulted in me spending nine years in an office job. It was very demoralizing for me. I did not belong in an office. Sometimes we must sacrifice and do hard things for those we love, though."

Weathering the storm together, the Deming family grew even stronger after a heartbreaking loss.

"We lost our second daughter at just under two months old in 2013 from complications caused by cystic fibrosis," Reagan shared. "Your whole outlook on life changes after you lose a child. Everything and everyone matter more. I'm so grateful we made it through stronger on the other side."

Amid life's challenges,

Reagan's artistic spark never dimmed.

"In elementary school, I realized I was good at it," she recalled. "I've got loads of art pieces in the pipeline that, when Ari [her daughter] has graduated, I'll have time to paint. Hopefully."

Throughout Granbury, Reagan's vibrant artistry leaves a trail of inspiration. Her works, from murals at the Hood County Library to The Square Cafe, breathe life into spaces, capturing the town's essence.

"Probably the mural in the teen area of the Hood County Library," she replied when asked about her favorite painting. "It turned out pretty magical. Plus, I got to work on my love of books."

Not just confined to canvas, Reagan's artistry takes center stage as the Head Scenic Artist for the Granbury Theatre Company at the Granbury Opera House. Her creative flair graces backdrops and set

pieces for iconic shows like "Little Shop of Horrors" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

Reagan's dedication to her craft and her town has made her an invaluable part of Granbury's artistic tapestry. As she continues to paint murals, create captivating backdrops, and explore new creative avenues, her impact on the community remains immeasurable.

Reagan Deming colors

Granbury's heart with every brushstroke, weaving a tale of resilience, love, and boundless creativity. As she walks the path of an artist, she embraces the town's spirit, sharing her gifts with an open heart and inspiring others to do the same. Granbury is fortunate to have an artist like Reagan Deming, who brings life and beauty to its canvas, turning it into a vibrant masterpiece for all to enjoy.

FNB
Your Hometown Bank.
www.fnbgranbury.com • 817.573.2655

GRANBURY THEATRE COMPANY
133 E Pearl Street | GRANBURY | 817-579-0952
granburytheatrecompany.org

AUG 11 THRU SEP 10
MEREDITH WILSON'S The Music Man

THE Best of Hood County
11 Time Winner!

DR. JEFF BUSKE | DR. KELBY OKADA | DR. ROBERT GRAMMER

\$49 NEW PATIENT VISIT
Receive doctor consultation, x-rays, & exam. A value of \$247.

Granbury Dental Center
(817)573-3761
3412 EAST HWY 377, GRANBURY, TX 76049
GranburyDentalCenter.com

Bella Rosa
consignment gallery

- Consign your quality furniture & home decor.
- Gently-worn women's clothing & accessories.

Call for appointment or more details on the "Bella Experience"

E-mail photos of your furniture to pjsbellarosa@yahoo.com

Don't miss out...New Inventory Daily

Follow us on Facebook!

1452 E. HWY 377 | Granbury | 817-578-8588

MERCER TREE SERVICE

Insured
Free Estimates

Tree Removal • Stump Grinding • Trimming
Brush Chipping Service • Gutter Cleaning
Shrub Trimming

Emergency Service • Storm Damage

Darrell Mercer
Residential & Commercial
mercertreeservice.net

817-247-5651

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, August 4 2023 - Thursday, August 10, 2023

Barbie (PG13)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:25am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:25pm, 10:05pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10:15am, 2:05pm, 4:45pm, 7:25pm, 10:05pm

Haunted Mansion (PG13)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:25am, 1:15pm, 4:05pm, 6:55pm, 9:45pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10:05am, 12:55pm, 3:45pm, 6:35pm, 9:25pm

Meg 2: The Trench (PG13)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:30am, 2:15pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:30pm.
Mon, Wed: 10:00am, 12:45pm, 3:30pm, 6:15pm, 9:00pm.
Tues, Thurs: 12:35am, 3:20pm, 6:05pm, 8:50pm

Oppenheimer (R)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:20am, 2:10pm, 6:00pm, 9:50pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10:15am, 12:55pm, 4:45pm, 8:35pm

Paw Patrol: The Movie - Kids' Summer Series (G)
Tues, Thurs: 10:00am

Sound of Freedom (PG13)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:25am, 1:25pm, 4:25pm, 7:25pm, 10:25pm.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 10:00am, 12:55pm, 3:55pm, 6:55pm, 9:55pm

TMNT: Mutant Mayhem (PG)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 2:10pm, 4:35pm, 7:00pm, 9:25pm.
Mon, Wed: 1:50pm, 4:15pm, 6:40pm, 9:05pm.
Tues, Thurs: 2:40pm, 5:05pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

TMNT: Mutant Mayhem in 3D (PG)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 11:45am.
Mon, Wed: 11:25am.
Tues, Thurs: 12:15pm

• Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice

(682) 260-5920 | cinergy.com/locations/granbury/

PETS OF THE WEEK

Buddy is a male Doberman mix. He is approximately 5-6 years old and weighs about 55 pounds. Buddy is playful and very social. Special adoption fee of \$25! The adoption fee includes sterilization, rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

Sammy is a neutered male domestic shorthair cat. He is approximately 8 years old. Sammy is friendly and thrives on attention. His adoption fee is \$25. The adoption fee includes his rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

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

ANY DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED

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

Find us on Facebook.

Keep up with up-to-the-minute happenings in Hood County using one of today's greatest social media sites.

facebook.com/hcnews

I'VE BEEN THINKING

Interesting facts to ponder

CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER



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

We sometimes believe we have a fairly good grasp on the world around us. That is, until we learn a few very interesting facts about things and events taking place every day in our universe.

Please give your brain some exercise with this activity and try to give an answer to each question before proceeding to the next one, rather than merely looking at the answers below. You may even choose to write down your answers before comparing them to the correct ones when you have answered all the questions.

While it is entirely possible for an individual to find a different answer than the one listed below, it is not possible for this author to research a question to the extent that all other possible answers could be ruled out. Thus, for the sake of argument and readability, let us

assume that the listed answers are correct.

More interesting facts will be revealed in future columns, along with detailed explanations in some cases. But, for now, let us begin.

1. What is the main ingredient in household dust?
2. What country has the most pyramids?
3. What is the world's smallest mammal?
4. The human circulatory system is how many thousands of feet long?
5. What country has parts in all four hemispheres?
6. What part of the eye has no blood vessels?
7. In what country was the world's first animated film made?
8. In what state was German chocolate cake invented?
9. A one-way trip on the Trans-Siberian Railway involves crossing how many bridges?
10. Which precious metal inside the Earth can coat the planet?
11. What brand name came from the combination of words "spice" and "ham"?
12. How many days does it take one drop of water to travel the entire length of the Mississippi River?
13. Why did people once eat arsenic?
14. The first person processed at Ellis Island was a 15-year-old girl from what country?
15. Japan has one vending machine for every how many people?
16. Professional athletes did what during their off-season?
17. What color were the first oranges?
18. What letter of the alphabet does not appear in any U.S. state name?
19. For what purpose did Johnny Appleseed plant thousands of apple trees?
20. What country has 421 words for snow?
21. Why can you not successfully shoot and kill an Armadillo?
22. What language lays claim to having the longest word (containing 189,819 Letters)?
23. How many thousands of eggs do some octopus species lay?
24. On which paws do cats have fewer toes?
25. For what purpose was Kleenex tissues originally intended?
26. How many calories do blue whales eat in one mouthful?
27. For what purpose was the tiny pocket in jeans originally designed?
28. Thanks to 3D printing, what can NASA basically email to astronauts?
29. What percentage of the Sahara Desert is sandy?
30. With which part of the nose do dogs sniff?

PLEASE SEE **FACTS** | C4

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.

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

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's hosted by the Hood County YMCA will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at 1475 James Road. The program is led by a certified group fitness instructor and consists of a pre- and post-

fitness evaluation, and 45 minute spin/cycling session. Program will last 12 weeks For more information call 817-624-9791 or e-mail communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

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.

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's hosted by the Hood County YMCA will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at 1475 James Road. The program is led by a certified group fitness instructor and consists of a pre- and post-fitness evaluation, and 45 minute spin/cycling session. Program will last 12 weeks For more information call 817-624-9791 or e-mail

communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

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: bskaggs8@aol.com.

SECOND SATURDAYS

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

GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833

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.

BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER

Another look at the Mitchell-Truitt Feud, part two

BY MAURICE WALTON

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



In my last column we started our look at two men who played small, ancillary roles in the Mitchell-Truitt Feud. Last edition, we took a brief look at the role Wilson Hopkins Barker played. Today, I want to tell you about the role of Hood County Sheriff J. G. Swofford. Mr. Barker's role came at the very beginning of the feud, on March 28, 1874, when he was 55 years old.

Sheriff Swofford was born on Dec. 27, 1870, which would have made him three years old when the feud commenced. Yet, they both had roles in the feud. The span of time between their ages, if nothing else, tells you that the feud was played out over a long period of years. So, how did Sheriff Swofford become involved with the feud and what was his role in it?

To answer these questions, we will have to step back and see what happened

in the feud to set up his role. You will recall that Cooney Mitchell's son, Bill Mitchell, and his friend, Mit Graves, fled Hood County immediately after the shoot out on Mambrino road. Mit Graves was never seen again in Hood County. Bill Mitchell would be back, but it would be a while. After Mitchell fled Hood County, he hid out in various areas in Texas, before winding up in New Mexico, a fugitive from the law. Fast forward to 1886.



Pictured is Sheriff J. G. Swofford.

COURTESY PHOTO

Mitchell is living with his wife, Mary, and their children, in New Mexico. James Truitt is living in the East Texas town of Timpson with his wife, Julia, and their daughter. Truitt was a Methodist minister and publisher of the Timpson Times. You can safely assume Truitt remembered Cooney calling out to Bill from the gallows to revenge his death. However, he probably felt pretty safe, after all it had been 11 years since Cooney was hanged. He didn't realize that Mitchell had never forgotten the role he played in his father's hanging.

Upon learning that Truitt was living in Timpson, Texas, Mitchell made the long trip by horse back from his home in New Mexico to Truitt's home in Timpson. After being shown where Truitt lived by a small boy in town, Mitchell walked into the living room of the Truitt's home, shot him once in the head in front of his wife, walked out, got on his horse, and rode back to New Mexico. Fast forward again, this time to 1907. In March of that year, Mitchell is living with his wife in Otero

County, New Mexico under the alias of Henry "Baldy" Russell.

After a desperate struggle, Mitchell is arrested by the Otero County sheriff. The Otero County Advertiser gave this brief account of the arrest "Sheriff H. M. Denny of Otero County, N. M., Monday arrested at Estey City William Mitchell, alias Henry Russell, a stockman, charged with murder committed in Hood County, Texas, thirty-three years ago." Enter J. G. Swofford, Sheriff of Hood County, Texas. He had been elected sheriff in 1906 after serving as a deputy since 1895. He had received word that Mitchell was in New Mexico, and he had requested that Sheriff Denny arrest him.

Sheriff Swofford picked Mitchell up in El Paso for the train ride back to Granbury to face murder charges for the killing of Isaac and Samuel Truitt. There is no further account of Sheriff Swofford's involvement following Mitchell's return to Hood County. While he may have

PLEASE SEE FEUD | C5

BOOK REVIEW

Eleanor Roosevelt: To the frontlines and back

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You never were much of a homebody. Not you, not when there were things to see, people to meet, places to go. If there was a get-together, you were there. A trail to explore, you grabbed your boots. Once upon a time, you'd go anywhere for an adventure even if, as in "The First Lady of World War II" by Shannon McKenna Schmidt, it took you straight into the mouth of danger.

Eleanor Roosevelt always loved to fly.

She first jumped aboard an airplane in 1929, and it was so much fun that she did it twice in the same day. When the fledgling airline industry needed a boost,

Roosevelt let them use her name and photos to promote flying among women. She even became friends with Amelia Earhart, who offered to teach Roosevelt to fly but Roosevelt's husband, the President, put a stop to those plans.

Roosevelt flew whenever she could and by the summer of 1943, says Schmidt, seeing her in a seat on a plane was no big deal. That was a good thing because in August of that year, Eleanor Roosevelt, with the President's blessing, was planning an audacious, unthinkable-today mission to support the troops: quietly, secretly, she would head for the Pacific theater, near where the fighting was, to report on the war for America and for the Red Cross.

From Washington, she took a plane to San Francisco, ostensibly to attend a wedding. Wearing a Red Cross uniform in the belief that it might make her stand out less and seem more comforting, she boarded a converted bomber to visit soldiers in Honolulu, then she traveled to a series of small Pacific islands before visiting Bora Bora and American Samoa.

By then, the world knew that Roosevelt would go to New Zealand and Australia next.

What few knew, however, was that she wouldn't quit until she'd gone to Guadalcanal, to the frontlines...

Wow. There's a lot to say about this book. That's one of them.

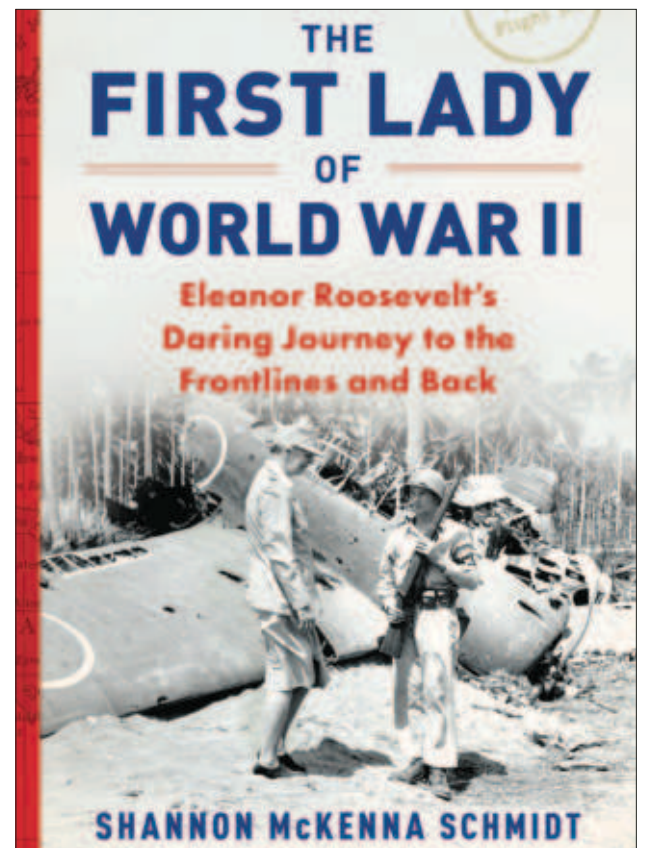


COURTESY PHOTO BY MARTHA PERALES PHOTOGRAPHY

Pictured is author Shannon McKenna Schmidt

Reading somewhat like a novel - which will make it more palatable for historical fiction fans - but packed with factual history lifted

PLEASE SEE BOOK | C5



COURTESY PHOTO

"The First Lady of World War II: Eleanor Roosevelt's Daring Journey to the Frontlines and Back" by Shannon McKenna Schmidt C.2023, SOURCEBOOKS, \$26.99, 336 PAGES

FACTS

FROM PAGE C3

good smells?

- 31. After what human organ were Avocados named?

Answers:

- 1. Dead skin cells
2. Sudan
3. Bumblebee bat
4. 60,000
5. Africa
6. Cornea
7. Argentina
8. Texas
9. 3,901
10. Gold
11. Spam

- 32. What color of makeup did T.S. Eliot wear?
33. No number before 1,000 contains what letter of the alphabet?
34. Why do we sometimes see Christmas spelled as "Xmas"?
35. What animal did Theodore Roosevelt have as a pet?

- 12. 90
13. Improve skin
14. Ireland
15. 40
16. Vaudeville performers
17. Green
18. Q
19. Hard apple cider
20. Scotland
21. Shell is bullet-proof
22. English
23. 56,000
24. Back paws

- 25. Gas masks
26. Half a million
27. Pocket watches
28. Tools
29. 25%
30. Left nostril
31. Reproductive
32. Green
33. A
34. Greek word for Christ starts with letter Chi that looks like an X
35. Hyena

NATURE

FROM PAGE C2

sional gains in that amount of time. Her work is well collected and well received with numerous awards and acceptance into nationally recognized shows.

Caylor is now known for her commission work of cattle, horses, donkeys, and pet portraits. Residing in the "Cowboy Capital of the World" allows her to have ample opportunity to study her favorite subject matters.

"With each stroke of the palette knife, I get closer to giving the viewer the hint of the character of the animal, in a close-up portraiture style of art," she said. "My goal is to capture the sweetness, innocence, or

personality of each creature and hope to make a breath-taking piece of art at the same time."

Caylor is represented by Adobe Western Art Gallery in the Fort Worth Stockyards. Her work can additionally be found in The Nest - Granbury, Blue-Eyed Buffalo - Stephenville, Hico Mercantile - Hico, the RTtown Gallery - Grapevine, the 904 Gallery - Buffalo and Clementine's Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

She is also a member of the Cowgirl Artists of America, the American Impressionist Society, the National Oil and Acrylic Society, the Cross Timbers Fine Arts Council and the Lake Granbury Art Association.

You can find Caylor on Instagram and Facebook as @audreycaylorart.

Visit GRANBURY TEXAS SHOP - DINE - PLAY - STAY
201 E. Pearl St. Granbury, TX 76048 (817) 573-5548 www.visitgranbury.com
Celebrate with us in Granbury
AUGUST 5 Blazin' Saddle 75 Bike Rally 19 Hood County Youth Rodeo
SEPTEMBER 1-4 Labor Day Weekend Celebrations 4 Labor Day Lighted Boat Parade on the Lake 9 Chisolm Trail 100 Car Show - Honoring Hood Co. Heroes 21-Oct.30 Edgar Allan Poe Experience - B C Experience 23 Spooky Spectacle 24 Art in the Vines at Pemberton Cellars 30 HANK FM Lake Fest
OCTOBER Sep.21-30 Edgar Allan Poe Experience - B C Experience 6-8 Oktoberfest 7 Romancing the Monarch Butterfly Festival 7 Mission Granbury 5K/1K Ghost Run 13-15 Here's to Clue--Spooky Edition
Information subject to change | Go to visitgranbury.com for more!

Extra! Extra! JOB OPPORTUNITY
The Hood County News has an opening for a reporter. Responsibilities include a variety of news ranging from community events, local schools, city and county government. A successful candidate should have strong writing skills, be committed to accurate, ethical journalism and be able to work as a team member. Experience preferred but will train the right applicant. Salary is commensurate with experience. The Hood County News does offer a strong benefits package to include paid time off, 401K, medical insurance and other benefits. Submit a writing sample and resume to sam@hcnews.com. No phone calls please.

KC donates \$50,000 to 13 nonprofit organizations

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The Knights of Columbus (KOC) Council 9748 from the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Acton is proudly proving its organization motto of "In service to one; in service to all" through its recent generous donation.

Members of the KOC organization presented checks to 13 local nonprofit organizations totaling \$50,000 on July 20.

Recipients of the donations included the Granbury SEAL Swim Team, Brazos Pregnancy Center, Habitat for Humanity of Hood County, The Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center, Hood County Committee on Aging, Mission Granbury, Neighbors Feeding Neighbors, Ruth's Place, People Helping People, Hood County Kash for Kids, Forward Training Center of Hood County, Rancho Brazos Community Centers, and Hood County Special Olympics.

"We get very excited about it," Longtime Knight and Past Grand Knight Bob Beckley said. "It's so fulfilling when you hand out those checks to folks."

He explained that his favorite story regarding donations was when the KOC presented a check to Janet Steenberge, head coach of the Granbury SEALS Swim Team.

"We didn't tell anybody, but we significantly upped the donations," he said. "After the meeting, she (Steenberge) comes up, and says 'Bob, thanks, I appreciate it,' and I was like, 'Did you look?' because (the checks were) in an envelope, and she said, 'No.' She opened the envelope, and the (amount) was about four times more than it used to be, and she just started crying. She said 'You don't understand. I have two or three kids that want to swim that I didn't have the money for. They didn't have the gear. I didn't know how I was going to get



COURTESY OF JAMIE FRANCO

The Knights of Columbus Council 9748 from the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church in Acton presented checks to 13 local nonprofit organizations totaling \$50,000 on July 20.

them into the program, and my prayers are answered.' That's why we do it. That's why we do these fundraisers."

The Knights of Columbus organization was originally founded in 1882 by Father Michael McGivney at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut to create a mutually beneficial society for a membership of practicing male Catholics.

"He realized that these Italian immigrants were working crazy hours, and they were the sole breadwinners of their family and when something would happen to them, you have a wife and kids and there was no one there to help them," Beckley said. "So, he started this organization and his whole goal was to provide. It all goes back to our charity, unity, and fraternity — a place where men could get together and help other men

or other families."

Today, the Knights of Columbus is a catholic fraternal organization consisting of more than 2 million men around the whole world who are dedicated to promoting and conducting education, charitable, religious, and social welfare works.

Beckley compares the organization to a men's club of a church — although at a much higher level.

"We're all about charity. We do it together," he said. "We're a Catholic men's international organization, but we're focused on Hood County, and how we can help our community — and we do that through multiple ways."

The KOC hosts several fundraising opportunities each year, like a golf tournament, several fish fries, and the Coats for Kids project.

"Our golf tournament and our

fish fry are our big fundraisers, and at the end of the year, if we've met all our budget goals, we then distribute the money to the charities that we support, but we break it down into two areas," Beckley explained. "We contribute to our parish, and we contribute to the community."

Through the fundraisers, members of the KOC assist with the parish by donating money for projects, praying for those who are sick or need help, and supporting seminarians (young men who are wanting to become priests).

"We had a parishioner, a young man who had just become a priest, and we supported him while he was going through school," Beckley said. "We also do scholarships for seniors, or students that are in college, and we give small gifts at Christmas time for the

youth in the parish that participate as altar servers."

Currently, the local KOC chapter has approximately 150 members in the council, with Beckley hoping that more young men join the organization in the future.

"We can always do more. We can always do better. But the whole goal is to help our community and help our church," Beckley added.

The KOC meets the third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 2301 Acton Highway.

For more information about the Knights of Columbus, visit kocf9748.org online.

ashley@hcnews.com |
817-573-1243

THE IDLE AMERICAN

About Birds and Bees...



BY DON NEWBURY

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

If the headline for this piece doesn't elicit at least minimal interest of most readers, perhaps I should find the goose, select the spot with a paucity of plumage and stick my quill back in.

My intent is far removed from the topic of human reproduction. I focus instead on this pair of topics broached on the 499th consecutive telecast of "CBS Saturday Morning" aired recently. Stories about birds—and another about bees—were about an hour apart, further divided by several other segments.

Hosts Michelle Miller, Dana Jackson and Jeff Glor seem to be relaxed to the max.

Thus, they help TV audiences to loosen up, highlighting who we were, who we are and who we are becoming.

They leave the "gloom and doom" newscasts to other purveyors, too many of whom seem

to lean toward cutting the world off at the knees, with little prospect of ever standing again.

Most newscasts seem tailored to appeal to the likes of Tarzan in his final days.

To set the stage, Tarzan is swinging toward his treehouse, barely able to hang on as he grapples from vine to vine. Upon reaching his treehouse on this maddening, late Friday afternoon, he crawls meekly into a corner, asking Jane for a glass of warm milk. She asks, "Tarzan, whatever is the matter? You don't seem to be yourself these days." Barely able to whisper, he answers, "Jane, you don't understand. It's a jungle out there."

I digress. Again. Let's get back to those two segments, dealing first with birds.

The slant on our feathery friends could be negative, to be sure.

Hard facts—supported by the Smithsonian in Washington—reveal that hundreds of millions of birds are killed each year as they fly into glass that adorns growing numbers of buildings in America. (Some authorities think the

figure likely is closer to a billion.)

This admitted, the CBS personalities outline ways that bird fatalities can be reduced.

They recommend artistic adornment on the glass panes, geometrically positioned in ways to help birds realize that they're heading toward objects that don't budge.

Architects, artists, and little children are challenged to help with pictures, drawings and designs on sliding glass doors and windows in homes, as well as plate glass in commercial buildings.

They emphasize that when birds see reflections in glass, they may believe that the trees they think they see are inviting. Immediate thought: And a little child shall lead them.

Most of us remember childhood expressions tossed carelessly around: "None of your beeswax!" We joked in this manner, of course, to make sure that whatever current discussion was none of their business.

Well, we've learned in recent years that bees are critical to life, here and around the world. Who would guess that bees pollinate more than a third of the plants of the world, and more than three-fourths of the flowers?

Their numbers, threatened annually, are up from the drastically low number some 15

years ago, when more than half of America's bees perished. Agencies in Washington, DC, as well as other federal agencies around the country, are now maintaining beehives and deeply involved in telling of bees' value. Bee populations are creeping upward. Beekeepers are learning how to rebound from losses caused by pesticides, parasites, and mites. Let's hear it for rebounding, across the board!

Maybe bees will help to sweeten up Washington, DC. We can hope, right? Finally, this "thank-you" to the crew at CBS Saturday Morning. Please never grow weary in well-doing. Your spirit, balance, and delivery help to keep us going!

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, has written weekly columns since 2003. He's "putting down his quill" until September when his columns will resume. He and wife Brenda will spend a few days in the cool mountains of New Mexico. He repeats a line used annually by the late Elston Brooks, for four decades amusements editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Elston said, "I'm taking vacation now. You notice I didn't say 'well-deserved' vacation!" Newbury contact: Phone: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@sspeakerdoc.com.

FEUD

FROM PAGE C4

been done with Sheriff Swofford, Mitchell's legal struggles weren't over. He still had before him seven years of tangled legal proceedings, including a not guilty verdict for the murders of Isaac and Samuel Truitt and a murder conviction for killing James Truitt. That doesn't include the appeals of his cases, a prison sentence, and a prison escape.

Sheriff Swofford lived just two years following the arrest of Bill Mitchell, and during those two

years, he had his own entanglements, not legal, but deadly. From the available accounts, and a review of the timetable of events, it appears that at the time of Mitchell's arrest, Sheriff Swofford was carrying on an illicit affair with Genevieve Snead, a young woman who was then living in Fort Worth. The exact date the affair commenced is impossible to say at this point. I say it was "illicit" because at the time, he was married and had a 16-year-old daughter. Some of his friends who knew of the affair encouraged him to end it, and he had agreed to do so.

On Sunday, March 17, 1909, Swofford boarded the train for Ft.

Worth. The next day, he went to the boarding house where Miss Snead was living, shot her twice in the head and then turned the pistol on himself, ending the affair. The community's response is best expressed in the following quote from the funeral sermon preached at his funeral service held at the First United Methodist Church of Granbury: "A gloom of sorrow was cast over the entire town Tuesday afternoon a few minutes after 1 o'clock when a telephone message reached here stating that Sheriff John G. Swofford had killed a woman and then taken his own life."

It appears that Sheriff Swofford

was popular and well-respected in the community; accordingly, it is sad to say, but it is true nonetheless, that today, J. G. Swofford's lasting legacy in this community is not his service as sheriff of Hood County, as commendable as that may have been. Nor is his legacy tied to his role in the Mitchell-Feud, as interesting as that little footnote to the feud may be.

His notoriety is the tragic end of his own life, and the shattering effect it had on his family and the community. There is more that could be said about the tragic life of Sheriff Swofford, but there is no space. Now you have heard about

two men from Hood County who were not Mitchell's or Truitt's but who had roles to play in the stories surrounding the Mitchell-Truitt Feud.



The Bridge Street
HISTORY CENTER
Granbury, TX

BOOK

FROM PAGE C4

from documents, My Day columns, and reports, "The First Lady of World War II" is a look at determination in action. Author Shannon McKenna Schmidt brings this unique secret-not-secret story to the forefront, where it has belonged all along. She also shows, not

at all surprisingly, that presidents, politics, public opinion, and a brave, resolute Eleanor Roosevelt weren't always in a four-way agreement.

What makes this book so readable is that Schmidt offers many, many side-stories to accompany her account of Roosevelt's work, and to explain. Though they're in here, this is not a tedious account of dates-

and-battles. It's not a dry textbook kind of story, and you're not left dangling, wondering about small details or annoying holes in the narrative.

That leaves readers room to enjoy an astounding slice of history that's good reading. For you who love a dashing adventure, "The First Lady of World War II" is a book to take home.

STAY CONNECTED AT
HCNEWS.COM
WE COVER YOU

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.



GRANBURY CARE CENTER ★ **Best of Hood County** 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

CARING, IT'S WHAT WE DO BEST! ♥

- 174 BED FACILITY
- PRIVATE REHAB SUITES
- 22 BED SECURE HALL
- SKILLED NURSING REHABILITATION SERVICES
- LONG TERM CARE

TO SCHEDULE A TOUR, CALL
(817) 573-3726



DEVOTIONAL

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

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ANGLICAN
Good Shepherd Anglican
3600 Fall Creek Hwy.,
817-326-2035

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Crossing Place
1900 W. Hwy. 377
214-930-7339

Elm Grove Assembly Of God
3630 Hill City Hwy., Tolar
254-835-4755

Faith Assembly Of God
300 Granbury Court
817-326-2270

First Assembly Of God
1900 W. Hwy. 377
817-573-1581

BAPTIST
Acton Baptist
3500 Fall Creek Hwy.
817-326-4693

Allison Baptist
9926 Allison Ct., Lipan
254-646-9926

Bible Baptist
4804 E. Hwy. 377
817-579-5424

Brazos River Baptist
2201 Mitchell Bend Hwy.
817-663-5384

Dennis First Baptist
7600 Fm 1189, Lipan
817-565-9027

Exalted Redeemer Baptist
1840 Acton Hwy.
817-247-7209

Fairview Baptist
5041 Weatherford Hwy.
817-573-8968

Faith Baptist Of Hill City
Hwy. 56
254-965-3840

First Baptist
7600 Fm 1189, Lipan
817-613-2322

First Baptist
214 Kickapoo Ct., Lipan
254-646-2484

First Baptist Thorp Springs
2815 Lipan Hwy.
817-573-3339

Glen Rose First Baptist
201 West Gibbs Blvd.,
Glen Rose
254-897-2351

Granbury Baptist
1200 Weatherford Hwy.
817-573-4943

Granbury First Baptist
1851 Weatherford Hwy.
817-573-7137

Iglesia Bautista Cristo Roca
Viva
315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd.
254-396-5773

Iglesia Bautista La Hermosa
3300 Oak Trail Dr.
Lakeside Baptist
500 W. Bluebonnet
817-573-2094

Mambrino Baptist
1625 Mambrino Hwy.
817-573-4901

Mission Bautista El Buen
315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd.
817-573-4133

Oak Trail Baptist
4501 Peppertree Rd.
817-279-6430

Paluxy Baptist
1844 Acton Hwy.
817-579-5111

Patillo Baptist
4791 Fm 2803, Lipan
940-769-2968

Pecan Baptist
7178 Fall Creek Hwy.
682-205-1565

Rainbow Baptist
1571 North Fm 200, Rainbow
254-897-2121

Southside Baptist
910 Paluxy Rd.
817-573-1462

Sovereign Grace Baptist
820 Paluxy Rd.
682-936-4988

Tolar Baptist
400 Tolar Hwy.
254-835-4375

Vineyard Baptist
320 W. Pearl St.
817-573-5318

Waples Baptist
1200 Temple Hall Hwy.
817-579-0509

Western Hills Baptist
507 Western Hills Trail
817-573-7588

BIBLE
Grace Bible
201 E. Clifton Rd.
682-498-3014

CATHOLIC
St. Frances Cabrini Catholic
2301 Acton Hwy.
817-326-2131

CHRISTIAN
Dayspring Christian
3314 S. Clifton
817-573-0107

First Christian
2109 W. U.S. Hwy. 377
817-573-5431

Iglesia Christiana Vno Nuevo
4900 Sonterra Ct.
817-578-0626

Promise Point Church
5904 Walnut Creek Circle
817-910-8868

The Evangelical Christian
608 Shady Grove Dr.
817-326-3041

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Downtown Church Of Christ
310 W. Pearl St.
817-573-9862

Granbury Church Of Christ
1905 W. Pearl
817-573-2613

Lipan Church Of Christ
112 N Caddo St., Lipan
254-646-2297

Old Granbury Church Of
Christ
4219 Old Granbury Rd.
817-573-6878

Thorp Spring Church Of Christ
3006 Thorp St.
817-776-1547

Tolar Church Of Christ
8604 W. Hwy. 377, Tolar
254-835-4397

CHURCH OF GOD
Church Of God
1106 Weatherford Hwy.
817-279-6753

EPISCOPAL
Good Shepherd Episcopal
4530 Acton Hwy.
817-326-6074

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS
Granbury Jehovah's Witnesses
3734 W. Hwy. 377
817-573-4259

LUTHERAN
Emmanuel Lutheran Elca
2011 Fall Creek Hwy.,
817-326-2201

Our Savior Lutheran
1400 N. Meadows Dr.
817-573-5011

METHODIST
Acton Methodist
3433 Fall Creek Hwy.
817-326-4242

Cresson United Methodist
110 South Crook St., Cresson
469-730-6496

Granbury First United
Methodist
301 Loop 567,
817-573-5573

Solid Rock Global
Methodist Church
201 E. Pearl St., Suite C207
682-498-3838

Temple Hall United Methodist
5601 Temple Hall Hwy., 682-317-9385

Tolar United Methodist
8812 Hwy. 377, Tolar
254-835-4005

Waples United Methodist
4323 Waples Rd.
817-573-9076

MORMON
The Church Of Jesus Christ Of
Latter-Day Saints
1226 Ross Lane
817-573-6825

NAZARENE
Granbury Church Of The
Nazarene
921 Lipan Dr.
817-573-4041

PENTECOSTAL
Hood Pentecostal
3100 Beechwood St.,
817-279-0363

Calvary Church of Granbury
4800 Glen Rose Hwy
817-559-7372

PRESBYTERIAN
First Presbyterian
303 W. Bridge St.
817-573-2337

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST
Granbury Seventh Day
Adventist
2016 Acton Hwy.
817-326-3573

OTHER
Anchor Fellowship
3200 Acton School Rd.
682-990-8551

Bear Creek Community
1855 South Hwy. 377,
817-396-3245

Brazos Covenant Ministries
1950 Acton Hwy.
817-579-0968

Calvary Family
3306 Oak Trail Dr.
314-606-1211

Center Point
4332 E. Hwy. 377,
817-554-3432

Christian Science Society
528 N. Crockett
817-573-0457

Church On Thistle Ridge
4900 Sonterra Ct.
917-326-5501

Crossroads
200 S. Crook St., Cresson
817-886-9577

Fellowship Church Of Hood
County
2401 Cedar Crest Dr.,
817-579-9332

Generations Church Of
Granbury
5718 E. Hwy. 377,
817-326-5378

Hope Community
3206 W. Hwy. 377
254-243-0350

Lipan Cowboy
205 West Lipan Dr., Lipan
254-396-3162

New Season Global Ministries
3755 Acton Hwy.
817-910-8777

Pure Praise
2901 Glen Rose Hwy.
817-279-3063

Rock Church Chapel
6101 Rock Church Hwy
Tolar, Texas 76476

St. John Victorian Mission Of
Granbury
5031 Bandy Rd.
817-573-2669

Stonewater
911 E. U.S. Hwy. 377
817-579-9175

The Bridge
1107 Weatherford Hwy
254-522-5330

The Heights
1921 Acton Hwy
817-558-2121

The Sanctuary
4400 Daugherty Ct.
817-326-2709

Triple Cross Cowboy
3470 Lipan Hwy
817-279-2470

Michelle Berry, CFP®
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™


Berry

WEALTH SERVICES GROUP

www.berrywealthservicesgroup.com
817-573-9595

RAYMOND JAMES®

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Romans 15:13

BRAZOS METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS
817-573-2400
5530 W HWY 377, TOLAR, TX 76476

ROCKIN S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.
817-573-4521

EXPRESS WAY Auto Repair & Lube Center

Alignments
Oil Change
State Inspection
Routine Maintenance
Auto Repairs
A/C Repair

621 West Pearl St. Granbury, TX 79048
817-573-0202

Chicken Express


25 pc Tenders special \$3.00 off with this ad

Chicken Express Supports Local Churches
Call Us For Church Catering Needs
2200 E. Hwy. 377 Granbury 817-573-4800

Christian Brothers Automotive®
People-First Automotive Care

Granbury • cbac.com/granbury • 817-910-4247

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Romans 15:13


G & G Electric, Inc.

Special thanks to John and PJ Gibbs

817-279-7777
GG@gelectricservice.com
3805 Weatherford Hwy Granbury
TECL#17631

Residential • Commercial • Industrial
Locally owned and operated since 1986

"For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"



Isaiah 41:13


GLENN AIRE AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING

Serving Hood County Since 1975

"Exceeding Expectations in Comfort and Efficiency"

310 LIBERTY ROAD, GRANBURY, TEXAS 76049 • 817-326-5311
WWW.GLENNAIRECOMPANY.COM

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.



Proverbs 3:5-6

GRANBURY APPLIANCE & FLOORING COMPANY

817-579-7440
100 Corporate Drive • Granbury, TX 76049

APPLIANCES
• Refrigerators
• Washer/Dryer
• Dishwasher
• Cooktops
• Ranges
• Wall Ovens

FLOORING
• Tile
• Wood Look Tile
• Wood
• Vinyl Plank
• Carpet

Your Comfort Experts
Hobson™ AIR CONDITIONING INC.

Serving North Texas Since 1962
Granbury: 817-573-2463 • www.hobsonac.com
It's Time to Tune-Up Your Heating System

TACL#A000388C

GRANBURY NISSAN (817) 776-5877


4601 E. Hwy 377 | Granbury
www.granburynissan.com

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.



Psalms 141:1-2

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

This Devotional & Directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

DT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

VOTED "BEST ROOFER" BY HOOD COUNTY SINCE 2013

817-579-7800

TRICOUNTY ELECTRIC

"Taking Care of our Member-Owners!"

817.444.3201 • trectexas.com

WILEY FUNERAL HOME
"Home owned and operated"
Granbury • 817-573-3000

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!
GRANBURY • WEATHERFORD • CLEBURNE • STEPHENVILLE • GLEN ROSE

PROVIDING EXCELLENT CARE WHEREVER YOU CALL HOME FOR 15 YEARS!

Interim HEALTH CARE. HOME CARE AND HOSPICE

1314 HALLLEY ROAD, SUITE 200 • GRANBURY, TX 76049
PHONE: 817-573-2474
FAX: 817-573-0092

Best of Hood County 2021

5 STAR MEDICARE RATING
ZERO DEFICIENCIES
HOME HEALTH CARE AND HOSPICE CARE
PHYSICAL, OCCUPATIONAL, SPEECH THERAPY
EXCELLENT CARE. EVERY PATIENT. EVERY DAY.

KIA VAN GRIFFITH KIA

www.vgkia.com
817-573-0400

AUTO • HOME • LIFE HEALTH • COMMERCIAL

JOHNNY T. HARRIS INSURANCE

817-573-2118
817-573-7959 Fax
clint@allamerins.com


2301 E. Hwy. 377
P.O. Box 1650
Granbury, TX 76049

Granbury Family MedClinic P.A.

Robert L. Lee, M.D.
J. Kelcie Moody FNP-C

805 Hill Blvd. Ste 103 | Granbury | 817-573-3447

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



Romans 8:28

Action COMPUTERS
817.579.8450

400 S. Morgan - Granbury
www.actioncomputers.com

Best of Hood County 2021

Computer Repair | Upgrades
Networks | IT Services

Locally Owned & Operated

MARTIN'S Funeral Home

100 S. Morgan Granbury
817-573-1154

Lakeview Dental

(817) 57FLOSS
(817) 573-5677

1309 Paluxy Rd.
Granbury, TX 76048

Jonathan Heizer, D.D.S.
Wyatt O'Grady, D.D.S.

www.lakeview-dental.com
Office Hours by Appointment

Bridgewater memory care

EMBRACE the Journey

900 Autumn Ridge Dr | Granbury
817-573-7720


www.bridgewatermemorycare.com

SANTO PROPANE

1-800-448-7803

Propane Sales System Installations • Tank Leases & Sales

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.



Jeremiah 29:11

WOODS FURNITURE

736 Hwy. 377 E. Granbury 817-573-2604

TEXAS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

2200 Commercial Lane
Granbury, Texas 76048
817.279.1408
www.MyTexasEms.org

Extraordinary Service!

Town Square Title

WAXAHACHIE • MIDLOTHIAN • RED OAK
• BURLESON • GRANBURY • WEATHERFORD

972-935-0800 • TOWNSQUARETITLE.COM

Wagon Yard

Downtown Granbury
817-573-5321
wagonyard.com

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

817-573-7066

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE ON THE HOOD COUNTY NEWS CHURCH PAGE



PECAN PLANTATION BITS

A rocking evening at Pecan Plantation



BY DIANE LONG

A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 29 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother, and former English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 16 years cumulatively. She spends her time both gathering neighborhood news and collecting new books to read.

In conjunction with the Men's Golf Association's Member-Guest Tournament last weekend, residents of Pecan Plantation enjoyed an evening of live music at the clubhouse.

Many thanks go to the Entertainment Committee and everyone who made the concert featuring Le Freak such a wonderful success. Pecaners may now look forward to the Labor Day street dance event.

GROWING GREEN

Our community's Green Thumb Garden Club keeps the common areas of our neighborhood in lovely shape, and members will be working at the front gate circle on Monday, Aug. 7 from 8 to 11 a.m. and at the back gate circle on Tuesday, Aug. 29. Volunteers are welcome to join.

PICKLEBALL PLAY

A beginner pickleball clinic will take place Monday, Aug. 7 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the PAC gym. The event is free, and all interested pickleball players are welcome. In addition, the Pickleball Association now offers players a ball machine for hourly rental on the outdoor courts, and Pecan Pickleball towels are available for purchase.

ART GATHERING

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild will gather again on Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC. Guests and

potential new members are welcome. The guild asks residents to put Friday, Sept. 29 on the calendar for its annual (and greatly popular!) gallery night. Finally, congratulations go to Susan Parker for being chosen artist of the month for the guild.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club will meet again on Wednesday, Aug. 9 when the day's mantra is "Bring a Friend" for the final gathering in a "Save-A-Life" series presented this year. Each attendee bringing a friend will be entered into a drawing where both the Pecan and friend will vie to win a Breakfast Club coffee mug. Callie Crow, founder of Dreads 27 Chains, will present a lifesaving Naloxone training. Breakfast service begins at 8 a.m. and the program at 9 a.m. Reservations are due by noon on Tuesday, Aug. 8.

GOLF TIME

After a very successful Member-Guest Tournament in July, the Men's Golf Association looks forward to its Member-Guest weekend on Aug. 12 and 13. Visit



COURTESY OF PECAN PLANTATION PUBLICITY

In conjunction with the Men's Golf Association's Member-Guest Tournament, a community wide concert by Le Freak at the Pecan clubhouse brought neighbors out to enjoy the grand party. Many thanks go to the Entertainment Committee and all who made this fantastic evening happen.

the pro shop for complete information on the event: 817-573-2645.

LUNCH BUNCH

The final Chit Chat luncheon of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club for the summer of 2023 will happen on Thursday, Aug. 17 with social time beginning at 10 a.m. and lunch being served at 11:30 a.m. All female Pecan residents are invited to join, and reservations are due by Friday, Aug. 11. Secure a spot by sending email to ppwcres@gmail.com or calling 361-215-4599. In addition, memberships

for the 2023-2024 PPWC year are now available. Ladies may visit www.mypwcc.com to join.

SING ALONG

A weekly karaoke class is coming to the PAC beginning Tuesday, Aug. 15 and running through Tuesday, Sept. 12. The six-week class will feature Rebecca Faiola (professional singer and Pecan resident) instructing students about their vocal range style as well as how to choose songs that fit a voice. Mastering proper vocal warmups and techniques will also be part of

the program, and students will showcase their talent at a "graduation" event at the clubhouse on Saturday, Sept. 23. Class size is limited, sign up at the PAC (817-573-7952), and email Rebecca for more information: rebecacashowbiz@gmail.com.

PAINT PARTY

"Pecan Paint Along" at the PAC will happen Sunday, Aug. 20, from 1 to 4 p.m. when Kathy Yoders leads an afternoon of step-by-step instruction (no experience necessary) of acrylic painting.

PLEASE SEE **PECAN** | C8

GAME ON

All you need is loathing...

Kingdom of Loathing, West of Loathing, and Shadows over Loathing



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.

I started playing "Kingdom of Loathing" (by Asymmetric Publishing) back in the old days, when the Internet was really slow. I think I still had dial up. 2003's "Kingdom of Loathing" (www.kingdomofloathing.com) is a parody of role-playing games, especially the dungeon crawler type games where you smash and bash (or zap) your way to a victory. It's a simple browser-based game, with turn-based role playing. It's very similar to the dungeon crawler games I used to play as a kid on the Apple, with one small change - this is a game for grownups. Or at least adults.

The artwork features crudely drawn stick figures that look like they were done in Microsoft Paint. It takes a bit to get used to, but it's completely consistent with the non-serious mood of the game.

What makes all of this really appealing are the jokes. It's full of weird jokes, puns, silly names, and a completely original storyline.

In the Kingdom of Loathing, there are six character classes and three main stats. Like every other dungeon crawler you've ever played, there's strength, dexterity and intelligence, but in the KOL universe it's Muscle, Moxie and Mysticality. You can play as your choice of Seal Clubber or Turtle Tamer (muscle), Accordion Thief or Disco Bandit (Moxie), Sauceror or Pastamancer (Mysticality.) Instead of gold you have Meat. Meat can be turned into Meat Paste (crafting component) or used to purchase items you'll need for your adventures. You'll get a Familiar to help you on your adventures - so far, I've had a mosquito, a leprechaun, and a turtle. Right now, my character has a miniature Adventurer familiar who also makes mini martinis.

I started playing this in 2008, and as entertaining time wasters go, it's perfect. A low stakes game that can be played with limited bandwidth, no animations,

no sounds, and it's free. Asymmetric Publications runs entirely on the donations of its supporters.

Zack Johnson created "Kingdom of Loathing" in a week. After developing several games that he felt weren't good enough, he decided to take things less seriously and just make a game that he would release in a week, no matter what. He published it in 2003, and within a year over 300,000 player accounts had been created. Before long he was able to quit his job as a programmer and start working on "Kingdom of Loathing" full time, along with his childhood friend Josh Nite. Asymmetric Publishing has grown quite a bit since then, and now employs around eight full-time programmers. Zack still does all the illustrations.

WEST OF LOATHING

When Asymmetric's "West of Loathing" (2017) showed up on Steam, I was of course intrigued. It was the perfect adaptation of the Loathing style to a larger platform. "West of Loathing" has complex puzzles and an entertaining storyline, while still keeping the stick figure animations and the Microsoft Paint style graphics. Just in a higher resolution. Game play is click through and not timed, which makes things less stressful.

It also has sound! Much of the music is the classic



West of Loathing screenshot.

Western movie music, as well as an out of tune piano and a disco banjo. You'll collect musicians throughout the game and enjoy their performance together at the end.

In "West of Loathing" you start as a character who's heading West toward the city of Dirtwater. Play as your choice of three character classes: Snake Oiler, Beanslinger, or Cow Puncher. Just as in KOL, you'll pick a character class and equip your character with items you'll find or purchase with Meat along the way. You have different options for your character's destiny. Do you choose the path of cow-ruption? Or do you take the Kellogg purity regimen? Maybe both!

I've played through the game a couple of times, because once a decision is made, you can't go back and change it, which keeps you from unlocking parts of the story. I've also played the DLC content for this game, "Gun Manor." A fun extension for the base game and worth the \$7.99 price.

SHADOWS OVER LOATHING

Set 20 years or so in



Shadows over Loathing screenshot.

the future of "West of Loathing," "Shadows over Loathing" (2022) is a bit darker. You're the niece or nephew of Uncle Murray, who has disappeared under mysterious circumstances while investigating cursed objects. Play as your choice of Pig Skinner, Cheese Wizard, or Jazz Agent. There are vampires, fishmen, mysterious shadow monsters, the mob, and a speakeasy. Depending upon your choices, you can un-

lock various stories within the game, solve puzzles, and help your Uncle Murray.

This is probably the first game I've ever played that had musical puzzles to solve. The music throughout the game is well done, very listenable. If you play as a Jazz Agent, you'll pick up instrument attacks to use during battle, and eventually will have a whole band playing with you as you fight.

I'm on my second play-

through and making different choices within the game. Just like in "West of Loathing," actions have consequences, and there's a couple of things I should have done differently. I don't want to spoil it for you, but you'll most likely play through this at least twice.

Available on the Steam platform from Asymmetric Publications for Linux, PC and Macintosh.

COURTESY PHOTO

COURTESY PHOTO

GARDEN PATCH

Begin Waterwise Practices

BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER



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

In summer, people dread getting a water bill. They're scared to see how much their bills have increased. Given that there is little anyone can do to combat utility prices, conservation is the only remedy.

Texas water utilities often charge higher rates in summer or increase rates incrementally based on use. Adopting waterwise conservation practices can reduce what you pay. Most homeowners realize the greatest savings by cutting back on outdoor watering. Why? Some people over water. Others water at inappropriate times. Many have wasteful irrigation systems. And still more install inappropriate landscape plants or too much turfgrass.

To conserve outdoors, first determine how much water your landscape plants need to live and remain healthy. This could mean allowing some species to go dormant during drought, such as spring/early summer blooming perennials. Next, adopt water-efficient landscape practices; mow grass at proper heights, use drought tolerant plants, mulch landscape beds and remove water hungry plantings or limit their numbers. Also, reduce containerized plantings since most need daily watering.

Achieve a more water efficient landscape by using mostly native or well-adapted trees, shrubs, and perennials. These plants better tolerate the area's climate. Remember, plants should be native/adapted to the specific conditions in which they are planted and not simply Texas natives. For example, a Houston native plant is not a good choice for North Central Texas.

Water only when needed. One inch of water once a week will keep most Texas lawns healthy. Durable plants also thrive on limited water once established. Proper watering helps grass, trees, and shrubs to develop deep roots. Overwatered plants develop short root systems, which cannot survive drought. If you've overwatered, help your plants to adjust to longer periods without water by gradually increasing the days between irrigating.

Irrigate only during late evening to early morning hours. Otherwise, about 60 percent of the water may be wasted due to evaporation. Adjust sprinkler heads to water vegetation only; do not allow water to run off onto pavement. Also, limit evaporation by turning off fountains on windy days and during drought and covering pools and spas when not in use.

Keep organic mulch, such as shredded hardwood, in your landscape beds to insulate plant roots, retain moisture and "feed" your plants as it breaks down. Let grass clippings remain on lawns to feed/insulate turf. Substitute groundcovers and other plantings to reduce lawn size.

Conduct an audit of your irrigation system and do needed repairs. Update older systems with "smart" controllers and adjustable spray heads. For greater savings, convert to drip irrigation. Drip irrigation has the added benefit



COURTESY PHOTO BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER

Drip irrigation saves water and benefits plants that prefer not to have water sprayed on their petals or foliage.

of minimizing plant diseases because water droplets do not sit on flowers or foliage.

Other savings tips: Harvest rainwater for later use. Sweep debris rather than washing it away. And minimize or eliminate fertilizer during drought. You'll need more water to support new growth. Also, fertilizer can burn roots in dry soil.

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

PECAN

FROM PAGE C7

Participants may bring their own beverages and should wear an old shirt or apron. Register at the PAC: 817-573-7952.

WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

Pecan's Widows and Widowers Club will gather on Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 5:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the clubhouse for a hamburger meal and a program about Second Chance Farm. RSVP to Carly Mahaffey by Tuesday, Aug. 15 at noon: caryl.mahaffey@charter.net. BOARD MEMBERS Nominations are currently being accepted for folks interested

in serving a three-year term on the Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service board of directors beginning Nov. 11. Resumes may be delivered to Rene Garrett at the emergency services compound or emailed to ppems@ppvfdems.com. Deadline for submission is Friday, Sept. 1. OPERATION HOURS In addition to its weekday and

Saturday hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday hours of noon to 6 p.m., the PAC now holds Wednesday operating hours of 8 a.m. to noon. The PAC pool, however, will remain closed all day Wednesday for cleaning and maintenance. GOOD EATS Pecan's Chef Jordan Ray has begun a new weekly feature for the

Brazos Room each Wednesday. In addition to a wine and pizza pairing, the menu will also boast a blue-plate special featuring a different down-home favorite each week. Residents should watch email announcements revealing the featured "country classic" food. dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

GOOD FOR HOOD

Business Directory

 Hood County News



Clear Choice Hearing Center
Dr. Bhaloo



682-936-4081



Doug's Floors Plus

Shower Experts | Backsplashes | Porches | Floors | Tub Surrounds
CARPET | TILE | WOOD | VINYL PLANK | LAMINATE
Located in the Home Source Showroom Center
817-910-2213 | 5353 Acton Hwy. Suite B | Granbury

Building Creative pools in Granbury since 1996




817-326-1468 • celebritypools.com



FIRST TEXAS
GENERAL CONTRACTING
Your Roof Restoration Specialists

ROOFING * GUTTERS * SIDING
817-964-7620
 5412 SEMINOLE CT., GRANBURY
 WWW.FIRSTTEXAS.ORG
 DOUG WEAVER - OWNER



Patti's Last Resort

Retreat Center for creative people to come together &

- Sew
- Scrapbook
- Make Jewelry
- Create a craft

6495 Smoky Hill Ct.
Acton (Granbury), TX 76049

3 bedrooms with ensembles
We sleep 12 people, no minimum
Self catered kitchen - Two night minimum

817-326-3287 | www.PattisLastResort.com



MAMA'S PIZZA

Join Mama's mobile COUPON CLUB
Text mamas to 21333 for specials and information



817-964-3333

ATTENTION, ALL WHO HAVE MEDICARE PARTS A AND B

FOR \$0 MONTHLY PREMIUM
Now you can get \$125.00 added back to your social security check!!!

Also, \$20,000 in Dental Benefits!!! AND MUCH MORE!!!

FIND OUT HOW!!
Carl Craig Bloomquist, LUTCF
682-551-4121

RUMNEY HOME IMPROVEMENTS

817-559-9802

Ron Rumney
Lake Granbury

- All home improvements
- Lake rental property maintenance & repair
- Handyman services
- Visit my website

rumneyhomeimprovements.com
Ronrumney@hotmail.com



MAVERICK DRIVING ACADEMY



Register for Classes
403 Temple Hall Hwy | Granbury
682-600-5734



BANDERA CONTRACTING

817-366-7315
GARY@BANDERAContracting.com




Legacy Park Salon

Shirley Barnett • 40 Years Experience
3501 Legacy Circle, Acton

Haircuts \$15 Perms \$35
Shampoo & Set \$15 Color \$40

(903) 641-2221
Call for appointment



This Space Available

Call 817-573-7066

Karen Chandler
817-573-7066 ext. 232 / karen@hcnews.com**Heidi Gebhardt**
817-573-7066 ext. 235 / heidii@hcnews.com**Madison Lazaro**
817-573-7066 ext. 236 / madison@hcnews.com

DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES

3 Months: \$40/week | 6 Months: \$35/week
12 Months: \$30/week