



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[SATURDAY, October 28, 2023]

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City declares catastrophe following network hack

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

Following the results of the city's computer network compromise this summer, Granbury City Council declared a catastrophe during a regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 17.

During the meeting, City Attorney Jeremy SoRelle recommended that the council declare a catastrophe due to the city not being able to comply with the rules associated with open records requests.

According to the Texas Secretary of State, the Texas



Government Code, Chapter 552, allows the public to access government records. All government information is assumed to be available to the public, and a public information officer or officer's agent may not inquire as to why the individual is

requesting the records. Within 10 business days, the governmental body must either release the information to the requestor; give the requestor written notice of the date and time the requestor will get the information; seek to withhold

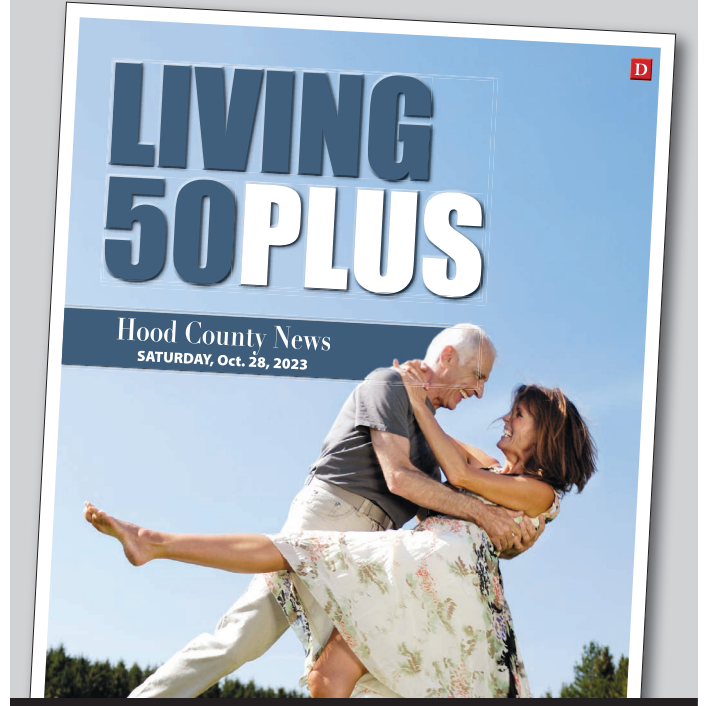
requested information by asking for a ruling from the Open Records Division; or withhold information based on prior authorization, according to texasattorney-general.gov.

However, because the city is still reeling from the after-effects of the network compromise, some documents and media that have been requested from the public in open records requests are unable to be accessed — leaving the city vulnerable and at the risk of potential lawsuits.

PLEASE SEE **HACK** | A2

SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

50 may be "over the hill," but it's not the end of the road! You can still be happy, healthy, and live a fulfilling lifestyle.



MONARCH BUTTERFLY MIGRATION MONTH

COURTESY PHOTO

Granbury City Council proclaimed October 2023 as Monarch Butterfly Migration Month during its regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 17.

City proclamation dedicates October 2023 to the Texas state insect

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

Granbury City Council proclaimed October 2023 as Monarch Butterfly Migration Month during its regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 17.

Mayor Jim Jarratt read the proclamation, which explains that the monarch butterfly is the Texas state insect and is known as the "Ambassador of the Americas" for its multi-generation 3,000-mile migration across Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

The proclamation also states that thousands of monarch butterflies travel through Texas on their fall journey south to Mexico, stopping in Granbury's green spaces to show their "brilliant" orange-and-black wings as they search for nectar-rich flowers.

Researchers are also trying to determine why the

monarch butterfly's population is sharply declining, but it's possible this situation is occurring due to loss of habitat.

To raise awareness of the importance of creating monarch butterfly habitats — especially due to the decreasing population — the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners maintain a demonstration garden to offer educational classes and host a yearly outreach to encourage the community to plant milkweed and nectar plants in preparation of the monarch butterfly migration through Granbury and Hood County.

"I, Jim Jarratt, mayor



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Deborah Rollins, left, chairman of the Romancing the Monarch Butterfly Festival, poses with Mayor Jim Jarratt, right, following the proclamation of October 2023 as Monarch Butterfly Migration Month.

of the city of Granbury, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2023 as Monarch Butterfly Migration Month in Granbury and encourage all citizens to join the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners in celebrating

the culmination of a year-long effort to romance adult monarch butterflies while on their migration through Granbury and Hood County," Jarratt said, reading the proclamation

PLEASE SEE **MONARCH** | A2

Explained: A breakdown of the 14 Texas constitutional amendments on the ballot

BY ASHLEY TERRY/
EMILY NAVA
Staff Writers

During the 2023 regular session and second called session, the Texas Legislature passed 14 joint resolutions to add to the Texas Constitution. Texans are now being asked to vote on these amendments in the upcoming election on Nov. 7.

The Texas Constitution was adopted in 1876 when it was declared that Texas is a free and independent state, subject only to the United States Constitution.

According to the Texas Legislative Council, since the adoption in 1876 through May of last year, the legislature has proposed 700 amendments to the constitution, 697 of which have gone before Texas voters, 517 of those have been approved by the electorate, and 180 have been defeated. Three amendments were never placed on the ballot.

With 14 propositions to vote on, it's imperative that Texans understand what each proposition means. The following is a breakdown of every constitutional amendment and what voters can expect following a potential approval.

PROPOSITION 1 – RIGHT TO FARM AND RANCH

Proposition 1 protects a person's right to engage in generally accepted farm, ranch, timber production or wildlife management practices on property that a person owns or leases. It also requires state and local governments to provide evidence that regulation protects public health and safety from imminent danger.

PROPOSITION 2 – CHILDCARE CENTER TAX EXEMPTION

Proposition 2 would allow either a county or municipality to exempt qualifying child-

care facilities from property taxes allowing any facility to run a childcare business. The value of the exemption would be required to be at least 50 percent of the property's appraised value. This would offer relief from childcare businesses that have been struggling due to COVID-19's impact.

PROPOSITION 3 – PROHIBITION OF WEALTH TAX

Proposition 3 would make lawmakers ask voters for authorization before they could enforce any new state taxes on residents that would be based off of a person's net worth or wealth.

PROPOSITION 4 – PROPERTY TAX RELIEF

Proposition 4 would send out \$7.1 billion dollars to school districts to allow them to lower their property taxes. This would also raise the state's school district home-stead exemption.

PROPOSITION 5 – TEXAS UNIVERSITY FUND

Proposition 5 would rename the National Research University Fund to the Texas University Fund. This would allow for a university to receive annual interest income and investment earnings from Texas's rainy-day fund that would support research at state universities.

PROPOSITION 6 – TEXAS WATER FUND

Proposition 6 would create a \$1 billion dollar water supply fund for the state. This would allow for future projects to have financing including fixing pipes that are aging and going bad as well as obtaining more water sources and lessen water loss.

PLEASE SEE **AMENDMENTS** | A4



137TH YEAR, NO. 100

Local, zone(s): 4 sections, 44 pages, plus supplements | State: 4 sections, 44 pages

INSIDE

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WE NEED MOORE/ALANA FOR GRANBURY ISD SCHOOL BOARD
WE HAVE THE EXPERIENCE AND THE INTEGRITY NEEDED IN GISD
YOUR VOTE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN THE NOVEMBER 7 ELECTION

Pd. Pol. Adv. Paid for by Treasurer Barbara Herrington

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

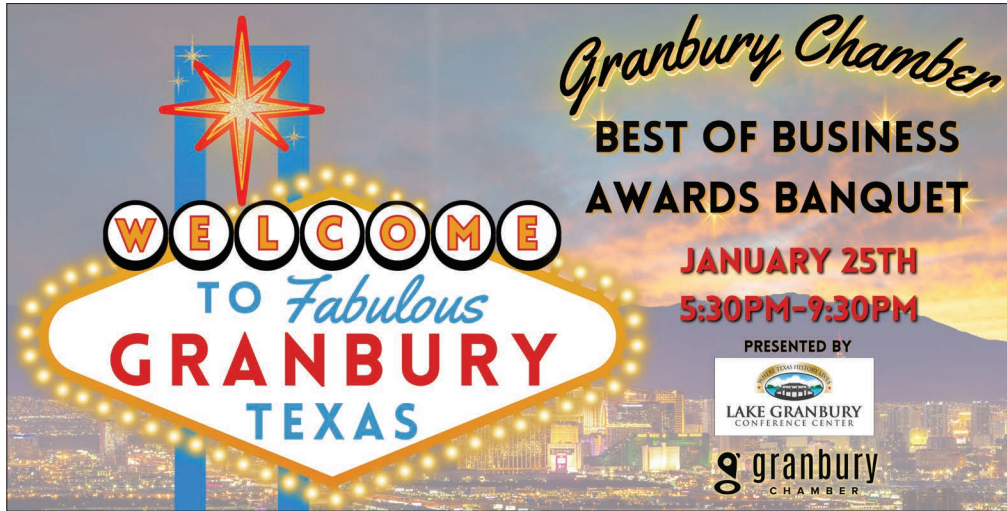
CHAMBER NEWS

Save the date for the annual Granbury Chamber Best of Business Awards Banquet - January 25, 2024

Chamber Message

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce the date for one of the most anticipated events of the year - the Annual Granbury Chamber Best of Business Awards Banquet on Thursday, Jan. 25, 2024, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. It promises to be a night filled with glitz, glamour, and celebration as we transport you to a world of luxury with the theme, "Welcome to Fabulous Granbury, Texas".

This year's event is all about embracing the elegance and extravagance of Las Vegas. So dust off your sequins, tuxedos and feather boas, or slip into your finest cocktail attire or Elvis or Cher costume, as this evening will be a fantastic blend of local entertainment and richly-deserving businesses.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Guests can look forward to an unforgettable night featuring a traditional Vegas buffet, a variety of drinks to suit your taste, and even a thrilling casino for those who wish to try their luck. There will be top-notch entertainment that will keep

you on the edge of your seats, making it a night to remember.

But the real stars of the evening will be the awards, as we honor the best in our local business community. Categories include:

- Small Business of the

Year (2022 Award Recipient - VYBE Marketing & Media)

• Large Business of the Year (2022 Award Recipient - H-E-B)

• Rising Star Award (2022 Award Recipient - Warren's Backyard)

• Granbury Young

Professional of the Year (2022 Award Recipient - Michelle Lucero, First National Bank)

• Women In Business of the Year (2022 Award Recipient - Dr. Paula McDonald, Beam & Branch Realty, N on the Square, The Nest)

• Howard Clemmons Person of the Year (2022 Award Recipient - Stan Wasielewski)

Do you know a member business that should be nominated and considered for one of these awards? If so, go to: <https://business.granburychamber.com/form/view/30724>, and submit your nominations now through Dec. 1. These prestigious awards celebrate the dedication, innovation and excellence of our local businesses and individuals who contribute to the success and vibrancy of Granbury. The Annual Granbury

Chamber Best of Business Awards Banquet is not only a celebration of our Chamber member business community, but also an opportunity for networking, forging new connections, and strengthening existing ones. It's a night that embodies the spirit of Granbury, where entrepreneurs, professionals and community leaders come together to celebrate and inspire each other.

For ticket and sponsorship information, contact Maegan Derryberry at 817-573-1622 or by email at: maegan@granburychamber.com. Help us make "Welcome to Fabulous Granbury, Texas" the talk of the town. Join us for a night of elegance, entertainment and celebration, where our local businesses shine bright like the Las Vegas strip.

RIBBON CUTTINGS



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bridge Street History Center: Ribbon Cutting to celebrate the 9th Annual Ramey-Macatee Speaker Series, located at 319 East Bridge Street.

MONARCH

FROM PAGE A1

during the meeting.

"This is a very important proclamation that the mayor has just made," said Deborah Rollins, chairman of the Romancing the Monarch Butterfly Festival. "This is actually in combination with the National Wildlife Federation, monarchwatch.org, and Lake Granbury Master Gardeners. We are on a nationwide project to try to keep the monarch butterfly from going extinct, and the only way we can do that is to plant milkweed and encourage the entire lifecycle."

Rollins explained that the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners "romance" the monarch butterfly year-round by making sure that Granbury's green spaces, gardens, and fields have nectar milkweed - something the butterflies need for their migration.

"They're migrating right now" she said. "You guys, look up. The sky is orange with monarchs as they're coming through Hood County. The great thing is that living here in Hood County, we're getting the third generation of monarch butterflies coming into our county right now. Those that have monarch milkweed already planted, the mamas are laying those eggs, those eggs become the butterflies that go down all the way to Mexico and hibernate in Mexico for four to six months. That is so cool that we not only celebrate the monarch butterfly migration, but we are also rolling out the welcome mat and hosting their families to be raised here and continue on with their life."

"That's why we're known as the Celebration Capital of Texas," Jarratt added.

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HACK

FROM PAGE A1

"Certain data, we don't have access to, and it has resulted in the filing of one lawsuit," SoRelle said, during the city council meeting. "I've handled that. It's gone. It's taken care of. Most of the lawyers that I've been able to deal with, I've been able to put off and they get it, but there are still some threats of litigation out there."

SoRelle explained that the city doesn't have access to many documents and videos, and it's unknown when the issue will be resolved.

According to SoRelle, declaring a catastrophe pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 552.2325 will allow the city to have a temporary suspension of

requirements, meaning once an open records request is submitted, the city will have an initial seven-day suspension period of the Open Records Act.

"We will try to comply as much as possible," SoRelle said. "I did reach out to the attorney general and explained our situation, and I advised them of our intended actions tonight. The attorney at the AG that I spoke with said, 'that's absolutely a great idea. That's what you should do. That's what Dallas did when they recently experienced the same type of cyber event or data breach that they had.' This is also an opportunity to say we're not trying to avoid complying with the law or the open records laws. We just don't have the ability to. There are

certain records we cannot get to, and until we get to a certain place and re-implement all of our systems, we won't be able to get to them."

SoRelle said the initial seven-day suspension period can be extended for another seven days, but if the effects from the data breach are still not fixed following that, the city will then have to reach out to the attorney general to figure out the next steps.

He recommended that the seven-day suspension period start at 12 a.m. on Oct. 18, and for City Manager Chris Coffman to report the notice of the suspension to the attorney general and to make any necessary additional requests for extensions.

Place 2 council member Eddie Rodriguez asked SoRelle if he meant that, af-

ter the seven days, the city should be back up and running again.

"No, we're requesting seven days because that's all the law allows us to request initially," he replied.

Rodriguez then asked if there was a way to declare a total suspension for a period of time until the city is back to normal.

SoRelle explained that the statute used to allow governmental entities to request for as many extensions as possible. However, during COVID, many municipalities were taking advantage of the system.

Rodriguez said, "Right now, we're just abiding by what the statute says, seven days and then after that..."

"We will take other actions then," SoRelle said.

"The goal here is to get all of the systems back up and to get into compliance, but we need to take this action to protect the city and stop any threats of litigation. It's a band-aid. It's a temporary fix, but hopefully, it'll last long enough to get back to where we need to be and get the systems reimplemented and move forward."

The city council then voted unanimously to declare a catastrophe pursuant to Texas Local Government Code 552.2325 and established an initial seven-day suspension period related to open records requests.

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MONDAY - THURSDAY DAILY SPECIALS!

<p>Mon.</p> <p>BONELESS & BONE-IN WINGS</p> <p>.79 <small>Plus Tax.</small></p>	<p>Tue.</p> <p>CHICKEN TENDERS</p> <p>.89 <small>Plus Tax.</small></p>	<p>Wed.</p> <p>JUMBO SHRIMP</p> <p>.79 <small>Plus Tax.</small></p>	<p>Thur.</p> <p>BONELESS WINGS</p> <p>.69 <small>Plus Tax.</small></p>
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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Anticipating the “firsts” and not knowing the “lasts”



BY SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter.

As we ease through life there are a vast number of “firsts” which we look forward to with keen anticipation. Right off the bat there is the first time Junior rolls over, crawls and then takes his first step. This is followed by the first time to use the “potty” and speaking his first words. These are all occasions which indicate growth and a landmark in a child’s development.

After infancy the “firsts” keep coming. There is the first haircut, the first day at

school, the first time spending the night with a friend, the first sporting event,

and sometimes, the first spanking.

We celebrate the first day of being able to drive, the first day to vote, the first day to drink, and the first day we live on our own.

Each one of these watershed moments takes us one step further on the ladder of life. It is an evolution; an indication of growth, maturing, and moving on to a better, fuller, well-rounded life.

Funny how we do not seem to think about the “lasts” until we are old and look back at our journey through life.

I do not specifically recall the last time my childhood friends and I played stickball, and I did not know that when we walked off the field

that day, we would never play another game together.

I have no recollection of the last day my sisters and I all shared the same roof with our mother and father, and how understanding that day changed my relationship with all of them.

After many late nights of shooting the bull, horsing around, fighting and partying, I never appreciated the night before graduation would be the last time my fraternity brothers and I would all be together.

I remember those times when my children were small and would get in bed with me on Sunday morning and we would scuffle and play under the covers. When was

the last time that happened?

The last time my grandfather and I were together we both knew it was the last time. He was 95 and failing quickly. It was a very special meeting because deep in both our hearts we both knew we would never see each other again in this life. We hugged and stared deep into each other’s eyes and said everything that could be said without the necessity of speaking. It was joyful to know it was the “last”, and we celebrated the event by accepting the reality of death and acknowledging what we meant to each other.

I do not know when my last day of work will be. Nor do I know when I will speak

to my wife, converse with my children and grandchildren, or simply enjoy a wonderful meal with good friends for the last time. I hope I can appreciate each event and value them for one day they will all be gone. I will never know when that day will happen. Be thankful for what we have and what is to come. Life is a certain mystery.

Thought for the day: We have time machines in our brain. Sometimes they take us back and they’re called memories. Some take us forward; they’re called dreams. Until next time...I will keep ridin’ the storm out.

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Folks around town



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Rick Gallegos

Say hello to our neighbor, Rick Gallegos!

Rick Gallegos moved to Hood County from Fort Worth 17 years ago to be close to his son, who grew up in Granbury. Gallegos had been in the pest control industry for over 30 years when he started his company, AKA Bugman, in Granbury nine years ago. “I enjoy the small town feel of Granbury, even though we are growing fast. We shop and eat locally. It gives us a great opportunity to get to know so many people in Granbury. It is nice to go places and see a friendly face that you know. Rick and Kisha, his wife of 17 years, love the positive things that come out of this community. The couple have served at Stonewater church in the marriage and recovery ministry for several years. “We love helping our community get healthy!” The Hood County News is the Gallego family’s choice to find local stories about fellow Hood County residents and all the weekend activities all around Granbury.

“Defending you against the flu” Lipan ISD hosts flu shot clinic for community

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Lipan ISD will host a flu shot clinic for the community from 8:30 a.m.-noon on the Lipan ISD Campus in the library located at 106 Osage St. in Lipan on Oct. 30. The clinic is presented by the Parker County Hospital District as part of its outreach program.

According to the PCHD, “The outreach program was established in 2008 to help meet the growing needs of Parker County residents. Making healthcare available and accessible is why this

program not only has office hours but is also mobile. Being able to come on location to schools, businesses and churches makes it easy and cost effective. The end result is less time missed from school and work, and higher productivity.”

The shots will cost \$20 for those age 19 and older who are uninsured or underinsured. For those 18 and younger who have no insurance or are underinsured there is no cost. Insurance companies will be billed for those 18 and younger who do have insurance.

“The flu clinic is some-



COURTESY PHOTO

Lipan ISD will host a flu shot clinic for the community.

thing we make available to our students and community every year,” Lipan ISD Superintendent Ralph Carter said.

Medicare and most com-

mmercial insurance will be accepted.

For more information on the clinic, call 817-458-3254 or visit pchdtx.org.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

The Drug Enforcement Administration holds National Take Back Day bi-annually to remove unused or expired prescriptions from residents around the United States. Oct. 28 will mark the 25th Take Back Day.

According to the DEA website, “The DEA is committed to making our communities safer and healthier, and we can do this by reducing overdoses and overdose deaths. While the

community does its part to turn in unneeded medications and remove them from potential harm, we are doing our part to further reduce drug-related violence.”

The last Take Back Day took place on April 22 when 663,725 pounds of prescription drugs were collected across the United States.

Texas collected more drugs than any other state with 47,695 pounds; the state also had the most collection sites with 225.

The Granbury Police Department is the drop off

point for Take Back Day in the city.

“By disposing of these drugs properly it will help to reduce the possibility of those drugs falling into the wrong hands, as well as preventing them from possibly contaminating the water supply if they were to be flushed down the toilet or washed down a sink. This is just a great way for citizens to dispose of medications they no longer need in a safe way,” Chief of Police Mitch Galvan said.

Medications may be

dropped off at the police department located at 2050 NE Loop 567 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information on Take Back Day or to learn more about how prescription drugs can affect someone visit dea.gov/takebackday.

To find a different location to dispose of medications, make use of the collection site locator via the DEA website at <https://www.dea.gov/takebackday#collection-locator>.

Got trash? Bulk trash pick-up day coming up

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

It’s time for residents of Granbury to gather up those big bulky items that you may want to throw out, as bulk trash pick-up day is coming up on Nov. 4 by Waste Connections.

“The purpose of the bulk pick-up is to give the residents an opportunity to dispose of bulk items that would not be

part of the normal weekly service,” according to Operations Supervisor of Waste Connections Lauren Mcnamara.

Granbury residents do always have the option to drop off certain bulky items at the Citizens Collection Station located on Bray Street, but there is a fee.

This bulk trash pick-up day allows for residents to place bulk items conveniently on their curbside at

no cost.

There is a six-item limit per address with acceptable items, including AC units with reclamation, freezers, household items, mattresses, and tree limbs put into bundles that are less than four feet long.

Nonacceptable items include construction/masonry materials, liquids, oil, paint, and tires.

The city asks that items be put on the curb at 7 a.m. the

morning of the pick-up day on Nov. 4.

The last bulk pick-up trash for residents was in April, where 26.15 tons of trash were picked up, according to Mcnamara.

For more information contact the City of Granbury by email at ub@granbury.org or call 682-205-1777, or contact waste connections at 940-328-1176 or email at customerservices5194@wcnx.org.

Hood County News

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

Hood County Sheriff's Office warns community of scam calls

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Hood County Sheriff's Office is warning residents to be wary when it comes to answering phone calls after they have received several call-ins from the community receiving scam calls.

According to Hood County Sheriff, Roger Deeds, scam calls are always happening, but recently he has seen an uprise in these suspicious calls.

The Federal Trade Commission received 2.4 million fraud reports from consumers in 2022.

Deeds said now that scammers have the ability and technology to show the receiver's own phone number appear as a phone call.

The sheriff's office has gotten reports of community members receiving calls from someone claiming they are a deputy with the office and telling them they have a warrant.

"Where (the scammer) messes up bad is when they say we are coming to arrest you unless you go to Wal-Mart and buy \$1,000 in gift cards and give the alleged deputy the gift cards and you will not be arrested. The gift card request is always a big giveaway that it's a scam: We do not and never have, or never will, take someone's gift cards. Moral of the story is always verify what they are telling you --call us. We want to help, but many people still get scammed," Deeds said. "If it sounds too good to



COURTESY PHOTO

According to Hood County Sheriff, Roger Deeds, scam calls are always happening, but recently he has seen an uprise in these suspicious calls.

be true, it probably is, so, again, call us to verify."

Deeds also warned of email scams where scammers will try and get money from the receiver by gathering personal information to access the receiver's bank account.

Deeds added that it is okay to answer the call but to be careful when it comes to answering questions asked by these scammers.

Data from the Federal Trade Commission shows that consumers reported

losing nearly \$8.8 billion dollars to fraud in 2022, an increase of more than 30 percent from 2021 where \$6.1 billion dollars were lost.

"Always take time to verify who someone is or why they are trying to give you false information," Deeds noted.

Another way scammers will try and get information from you or get money from you is when the scammer will call and say the receiver's family member is in

jail and needs the receiver to verify some information, Deeds explained.

Deeds added that, again, they will ask the receiver to buy gift cards, and that will allow the family member to be released from jail.

"Law Enforcement is here to help. Be careful of anything you don't understand or question if it is true. Unfortunately, there are so many people out there that prey on the elderly, especially, or anyone they think they can get away with

scamming," Deeds said.

For questions or concerns regarding scam calls, visit the Hood County Sheriff's Office located at 400 Deputy Larry Miller Dr, Granbury, TX 76048, call the office at 817-579-3316, or email Sheriff Deeds at rdeeds@co.hood.tx.us.

If you believe you received an illegal phone call or text, or lost money due to being scammed, you can report it at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

AMENDMENTS FROM PAGE A1

PROPOSITION 7 – TEXAS ENERGY FUND

Proposition 7 would create a Texas energy fund that would be used by the Public Utilities Commission that would provide \$5 billion dollars to finance the construction and maintenance of electric generation facilities.

PROPOSITION 8 – HIGH SPEED INTERNET

Proposition 8, if passed, will bring high-speed internet to all Texans. The legislature has already appropriated \$1.5 billion to the proposed fund, contingent on voter approval. The proposed amendment will take effect on Jan. 1, 2024, and expires on Sept. 1, 2035, unless it's extended for 10 years by a concurrent resolution approved by a record vote of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature.

PROPOSITION 9 – LIVING INCREASES FOR RETIRED TEACHERS

Proposition 9 would grant

retired teachers a raise in their cost of living. This constitutional amendment will authorize the 88th Legislature to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to certain annuitants of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas. Annuitants are persons who receive service retirement benefits, disability retirement benefits, or death benefits from the Teacher Retirement System of Texas.

The amendment also authorizes the legislature to allocate money from the general fund to pay for the adjustment. The legislature has appropriated \$3.355 billion to fund the cost-of-living adjustment contingent on voter approval of the proposed amendment.

PROPOSITION 10 – TAX EXEMPTION ON MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Proposition 10 will authorize the legislature to exempt taxes on medical or biomedical projects to protect the Texas healthcare network and strengthen the medical supply chain. The constitutional amendment will amend the Texas Constitution to authorize

the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation the tangible personal property held by a manufacturer of medical or biomedical products as a finished good or used in the manufacturing or processing of medical or biomedical products.

PROPOSITION 11 – BONDS FOR EL PASO COUNTY TO FUND DEVELOPMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Proposition 11 will authorize the legislature to permit conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County to issue bonds supported by ad valorem taxes to fund the development and maintenance of parks and recreational facilities. The constitutional amendment will amend Section 59 (c-1), Article XVI of the Texas Constitution to add El Paso County to the list of counties in which the legislature may authorize conservation and reclamation districts (special districts such as water control and improvement districts, municipal management districts, and special utility districts) to develop and finance parks

and other purely recreational facilities with taxes.

The amendment, without limiting any power to finance parks and recreational facilities in El Paso County that currently exists, provides for the issuance of bonds financed by taxes in districts located wholly or partly in El Paso County.

PROPOSITION 12 – ABOLISH COUNTY TREASURER POSITION IN GALVESTON COUNTY

Proposition 12, if elected, will abolish the office of the county treasurer in Galveston County. This constitutional amendment would also authorize the commissioners court of that county to employ or contract with a qualified person, or designate a county officer, to perform any of the functions that would have been performed by the county treasurer if the office had not been abolished.

The amendment also provides that the amendment takes effect only if, in addition to approval by voters across the state, a majority of the voters in Galveston County voting on the question also approve

the amendment.

PROPOSITION 13 – INCREASE AGE OF RETIREMENT FOR STATE JUSTICES AND JUDGES

Proposition 13 will increase the mandatory age of retirement for state justices and judges. The amendment would increase the mandatory age of retirement of state justices and judges from 75 to 79 years unless the legislature sets a lower mandatory retirement age. The proposed amendment also increases the lowest age the legislature may prescribe from 70 to 75 years of age.

PROPOSITION 14 – CREATION OF CENTENNIAL PARKS CONSERVATION FUND TO IMPROVE STATE PARKS

Proposition 14 will create the centennial parks conservation fund to be used for the creation and improvement of state parks.

Texans will make the choice on these 14 proposed amendments on Nov. 7.

For voting locations and information visit co.hood.tx.us.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, OCT. 28

BESTSELLING AUTHOR

Lori Wilde will speak to the Granbury Writers' Bloc from 10:15 a.m. to noon in the First Presbyterian Church's fellowship hall. She will present "Less Tell, More Show: Techniques for Making Your Writing Leap Off the Page." Ms. Wilde has published 97 books, selling more than five million copies. Her series, "Wedding Veil Wishes," inspired three movies from Hallmark. The fellowship hall is located at 300 West Bridge Street in Granbury. For more information, visit www.granburywritersbloc.com.

DCBE-ACTON VOLUNTEER

Fire Department Celebrates National First Responder Day with Truck or Treat at Firehouse Station 40, 6430 Smokey Hill Court, 2-4 p.m. Trucks, costumes, candy and fun.

THE WINE

Stroll featuring six wineries will be serving at this first-ever wine component to the Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts sponsored by the Granbury Wine Society Oct. 28-29. Information can be found on the GWS Facebook page along with online ticket sales, \$45 per person, MUST be 21. Ticket holders will receive a complimentary glass and two 2-ounce pours of wine at each winery. Tickets available at the event.

TUESDAY, OCT. 31

HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREATING

sponsored by the Historic Granbury Merchants Association on Granbury's Square from 3:30-6 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 3

LAKE GRANBURY Medical

Center will host a free colon health seminar at noon at 1321 Water's Edge Dr. #1001, Granbury. RSVP at 817-579-2979. More information can be found at lakegranburymedical.com/colonseminar

TUESDAY, NOV. 7

OPERA GUILD of Granbury

monthly meeting and luncheon at Decordova Country Club, 5301 Country Club Drive. Social/check-in at 10 a.m., entertainment/For Shane Brooks – Country & Old Time Rock & Roll at 11 a.m., short business meeting at 11:30 a.m. Optional lunch (\$18) at noon – pumpkin soup, pork medallions w/ chutney, roasted potatoes, green beans, rolls, peach cobbler, coffee/tea/water. Reservations required no later than Friday, Nov. 3, contact granburyog@gmail.com or 817-776-2898. General membership, single \$25, joint \$35, business membership \$35. The Opera Guild is an all-volunteer organization whose mission is to support

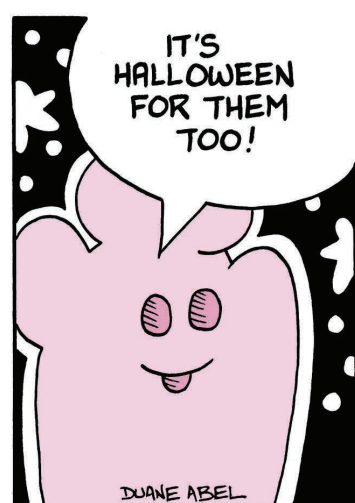
TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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.



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**LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO
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The City of Granbury has several advisory boards and commissions that make recommendations to the City Council on a variety of issues impacting City services, community development, parks and recreation facilities and more. All have members whose current terms of office expire in January 2024. The City is now accepting applications for those seats.

Applications must be submitted to the City Secretary's Office by Thursday, December 28, 2023

More Information and Applications:
www.granbury.org/boardscommissions

City Secretary's Office
116 West Bridge Street, Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-1114

Appointments will be made by City Council in January 2024.
Applicants will be notified of appointment by mail.

BUILDING STANDARDS, PLUMBING, ADJUSTMENTS, AND APPEALS BOARD

Hears and decides on appeals of decisions made by the building official or fire inspector. Hears and makes rulings on dangerous building and property maintenance cases. The Board consists of eight members including a general contractor, insurance agent, electrician, plumber, three members at-large from the building industry and the Hood County Fire Marshal.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Assists the City Council in adopting land use assumptions, monitors and evaluates the implementation of the capital improvements plan, and advises the City Council of the need to update or revise the land use assumptions, capital improvements plan, and impact fees. The committee consists of not less than five members who are representatives from the real estate, development, and building industries, as well as one representative in the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city.

ETHICS COMMISSION

Hears complaints of allegations of violation of the code of ethics against a Councilmember. The Commission pool of candidates consists of six residents of the City of Granbury.

GRANBURY CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

Works cooperatively with private citizens, foundations, corporations, institutions, and agencies committed to the preservation and development of programs and activities related to the arts and makes recommendations on art-related expenditures. The Commission consists of seven members at-large, and a majority of the members must reside within the City of Granbury.

GRANBURY PARKS BOARD

Researches and recommends policies regarding development, operation, and maintenance of the municipal parks. The Board consists of nine members at-large.

GRANBURY REGIONAL AIRPORT BOARD

Recommends policies regarding the operation and maintenance of the airport. The Board consists of eight members at-large.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Adopts criteria for the designation of landmarks, promotes historic preservation, and increases awareness of the value of historic, cultural, and architectural preservation. Hears and decides on applications for Certificates of Appropriateness for properties in historic districts. The Commission consists of seven members; one may be a member of the Hood County Historical Commission and a minimum of four members must be owners of a landmark or of property in a historic district. The remaining members may be residents or own property located within the City of Granbury.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Makes recommendations to City Council regarding requests for Specific Use Permits, zoning changes, ordinance amendments, and plats. Renders decisions regarding Tree Conservation Plans and gives recommendations regarding achievable goals, plans, programs, and policies for the total development of the City. The Board consists of eight members at-large, all of which must be current residents of the City of Granbury and have resided here for at least twelve months prior to appointment. All members must also be registered voters of the City of Granbury.

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Hears and decides appeals and variance requests and may modify decisions or determinations related to the zoning ordinance. The authority and responsibilities of this board are established in Texas Local Government Code. The Board consists of five regular members at-large and two alternate members. All members must be residents and qualified voters of the City of Granbury.

The City of Granbury appreciates all who are eager to donate their time and join the team of citizens serving the Granbury community.

ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Fred and Martha Smith
Happy 71st anniversary!
Dear Mom and Dad,
Here's wishing you both a very happy 71st Wedding Anniversary, Oct. 28, 2023.
With love from your son and daughter, three grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Republican Party of Hood County hosts Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller



COURTESY PHOTO

The Republican Party of Hood County was honored to host Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and his wife, Debra, at a packed-house event Saturday evening at the Whispering Creek Ranch and Chapel in southeast Hood County for "Supper with Sid".

Submitted item

The Republican Party of Hood County was honored to host Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller and his wife, Debra, at a packed-house event Saturday evening at the Whispering Creek Ranch and Chapel in southeast Hood County for "Supper with Sid".

Local Republican Party Chair Steve Biggers introduced Commissioner Miller as an eighth-generation Texas rancher and farmer, a Tarleton State University graduate, and former FFA sponsor who is serving his third term as agriculture commissioner.

In his introduction Biggers noted Commissioner Miller works tirelessly to promote Texas agriculture, rural communities and the great state of Texas. Biggers said the commissioner has brought common sense reform to the agriculture department during his tenure and especially for Texas students where he implemented a program called Farm Fresh Fridays and other farm-to-school initiatives to ensure student lunches include food from

local farmers.

FFA students from Granbury, Lipan and Tolar ISD's, along with their sponsors, were invited to attend. The FFA students assisted with the meal and were on hand for various other duties that made the evening such a success. One of the Lipan students, Dillon Hall, was a division champion in the 31st annual Red Steagall Youth Cowboy Poetry Contest at the Fort Worth Stockyards. He was asked to recite one of his poems to the delight of the guests.

Chairman Biggers recognized the event patrons and those who sponsored tables for the FFA students and advisors; Hood County Commissioner Precinct 1 Kevin Andrews, Stephen Reinke of Creations Child Care, Adam Stein of Rockin' S Construction, Brad Harrison with Clark Real Estate Group, G&G Electric Company, Mark Shackelford, and Judith Shaw, owner of Whispering Creek Ranch.

The FFA advisors who made it possible for their students to attend and meet the ag commissioner are: Trey and Kim Keys from

Granbury ISD, Brad Harrison from Lipan ISD, and Gina Rogers from Tolar ISD. It was stated that these FFA student leaders are truly future leaders for America!

A wooden bench and chair with embedded state seals which were beautifully-crafted by local resident Turner Miles were presented at the event. The items will be auctioned at the Hood County Lincoln-Reagan Day Dinner on Feb. 17, 2024, at the DeCordova Bend Estates Club. Commissioner Miller and the FAA president from Lipan cut ribbons on these special presentation items.

A set of longhorns, donated by Nate Criswell and signed by Commissioner Miller, were auctioned off as a fundraiser. The FFA students and Commissioner Miller posed for pictures with the horns.

The attendees and the Hood County GOP expressed their gratitude to Commissioner Sid Miller for his substantive remarks about the state of agriculture and commerce in Texas and his encouragement to invest in and support our local FFA students.

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AND ENOUGH SHADOWS TO BLIND
THOSE WHO DON'T**

**Have Questions or Doubts?
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PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

With over \$180,000 raised towards grants and scholarships for teachers and students of Granbury ISD, the 10th Annual Granbury ISD Education Foundation 50 Fellas Foodfest was one to remember! A special thanks went out from organizers to GEF and all who cooked and donated to support GISD. Learn more about GEF: granburyisd.org/gef

Best Appetizer went to Mills Real Estate - Chris Maunder and James Fulkerson, Acton Elementary School - Ryan Payne and Matt Butler, with Granbury Rehab & Nursing & GISD Admin - Kevin Willmeth and Jimmy Dawson.

Best Entree honors went to Camp El Tesoro - Brian Miller and Vestal Odom, Bob's Off the Square - Scott Wyss and Tim Thorne, and Henson's Lumber & GISD Superintendent - Todd Garner and Dr. Jeremy Glenn.

Best Dessert winners were GISD Human Resources - Wes Jones and Scott Whittington, All American Insurance Associates - Scott Mitchell and Zach Erwin, and Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 - Morris Duree and Clint Head

The Best of Show awards went to Henson's Lumber & GISD Superintendent - Todd Garner and Dr. Jeremy Glenn, Acton Elementary School - Ryan Payne and Matt Butler, and the Two Bearded Fellas - Matt Westlund and Jason Gore.



County presents resolution in support of Israel following Hamas attack

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

The Hood County Commissioners Court unanimously approved a resolution on Oct. 24 in support of the state of Israel and its citizens following the recent Hamas attack.

On Oct. 7, the Hamas terrorist organization launched a brutal, highly organized and unprecedented attack upon Israel and its citizens.

According to the proclamation read by Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson during a regular meeting of the court, Hamas was founded with the stated goal of destroying the state of Israel and has been designated by the United States as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.

During its attack, Hamas fired thousands of rockets against Israeli population centers in an attempt to kill untold numbers of innocent civilians, according to the proclamation.

The proclamation also



Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson reads a resolution in support of the state of Israel and its citizens during a regular Hood County Commissioners Court meeting on Oct. 24.

states that the level of logistical sophistication demonstrated in this Hamas terrorism operation indicates its receipt of support and funding from foreign state sponsors of terror, namely Iran.

Additionally, the timing of the Hamas terrorism operation to coincide with the observance of the Jewish Sabbath and celebration of the Sukkoth holiday demonstrates the intent to maximize civilian casualties, according to the proclamation.

Hamas also continues to brazenly locate elements of its terrorist infrastructure in civilian population centers using civilians as human shields, the proclamation states.

“On October 7, 2023, we woke up to the news of Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, being attacked by terrorists,” Samuelson said, who placed the resolution on the agenda. “As Israel stated, this was their 9/11. Hundreds of in-

nocent civilians have been killed and hundreds more taken hostage including American citizens. I was inspired by the Texas State Legislature passing a resolution in support of Israel and thought every county in Texas should do the same. It starts with Hood.”

1. With approval of the proclamation, the Hood County Commissioners Court does hereby:

2. Reaffirm its support and unwavering commitment

to the welfare, security, and survival of the state of Israel;

3. Recognize Israel’s right to act decisively and unilaterally in self-defense to protect its citizens;

4. Express its support for Israel’s right to pursue without interference or condemnation the elimination of Hamas until Hamas is permanently neutralized and public safety is assured;

5. Convey its most heartfelt condolences to all Israeli victims as well as their fami-

lies and communities;

6. Call upon Hood County law enforcement to remain vigilant in protecting Israeli Americans, Jewish Americans, and all supporters of Israel from acts of crime and unlawful discrimination that tend to manifest at such times;

7. Encourage all other Texas counties to likewise condemn Hamas as well as any official body that refuses to recognize Israel’s right to act decisively in self-defense to protect its citizens;

Call upon the United States to provide all assistance as may be required to support Israel in its defense against Hamas and all other terrorist organizations.

Following the presentation, the Hood County Commissioners Court voted unanimously to approve the resolution in support of the state of Israel and its citizens.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

Commissioners court modifies its rules of procedure, conduct and decorum

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

The Hood County Commissioners Court voted to modify its current rules of procedure, conduct and decorum during a regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 24.

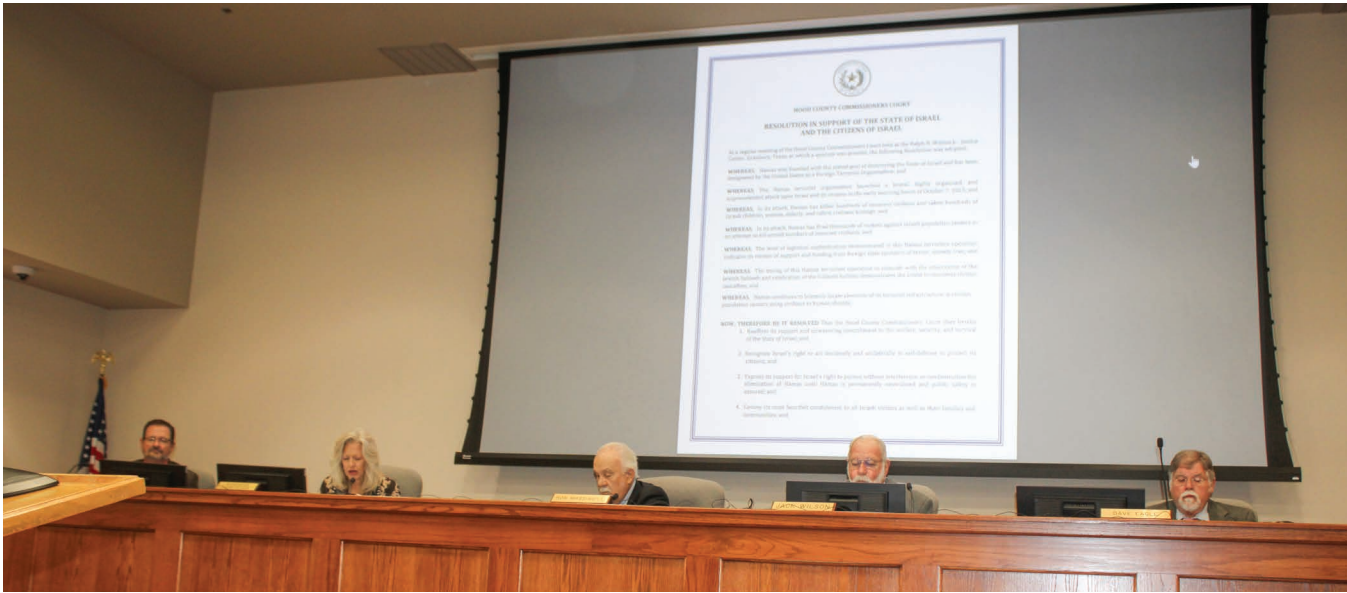
A discussion first took place on Sept. 26 about potentially adopting a new parliamentary procedure for future meetings of the Hood County Commissioners Court.

At the time, Robert’s Rules of Order was the main discussion item, however during the Oct. 10 meeting, Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson offered to update the rules of decorum following the guidance of the Texas Association of Counties.

“Those who spoke from the public said the commissioners court should conduct the business of the county, and that all people, court and public, should conduct themselves with decorum and respect, and refrain from insults and personal attacks,” Samuelson said, during the Oct. 24 meeting. “Honoring (Hood County Judge Ron Massingill’s) request to have more time to review, the agenda item was tabled.”

The three changes Samuelson suggested to add to the current rules of procedure, conduct and decorum are listed below:

“VI. All members of the court and public are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that demonstrates respect toward others and the court itself. Behavior that impedes or disrupts the business of the commissioners court while court is in session is prohibited and unlawful pursuant to Texas



The Hood County Commissioners Court in a 4:1 vote approved changes to the Rules of Procedure, Conduct, and Decorum during a regularly scheduled meeting on Oct. 24.

Penal Code § 42.05. It is the intention of Hood County Commissioners Court to attend to county business effectively and efficiently, without undue interruption. Cell phone usage during commissioners court is strictly prohibited. All cell phones, pagers, and other mobile communication devices should be in “silent” mode at all times while court is in session.”

“IX. Each member of the public who has completed a public participation form will be called on to speak by the presiding officer. When the speaker’s name is called, the member of the public shall speak at that time, or pass. Once the member of the public has chosen to speak or pass, this will fulfill the speaking opportunity on the particular agenda item or the public comments at large.”

“XIII. If at any time, a member of the commissioners court observes the rules herein documented not being followed, any member of

the court shall be authorized to call a point of order to request a ruling by the presiding officer. Any member of the court shall be authorized to move to overrule the presiding officer’s ruling. Upon receiving a second, the presiding officer will call for a vote. The presiding officer’s ruling can only be overruled with a majority vote.”

Samuelson stated she provided the same documents she provided on Oct. 10, but she yielded to Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle to discuss his proposed changes.

Eagle added a reference to the Texas Government Code §551.007(e) following item F, which states, “It is not the intention of the Hood County Commissioners Court to provide a public forum for the demeaning of any individual or group. Neither is it the intention of the court to allow a member (or members) of the public to insult the honesty and/or integrity of the court, as a body, or any member or members of

the court, individually or collectively. Accordingly, profane, insulting or threatening language directed toward the court and/or any person in the court’s presence and/or racial, ethnic or gender slurs or epithets will not be tolerated. These rules do not prohibit public criticism of the commissioners court, including criticism of any act, omission, policy, procedure, program or service.”

He also added a paragraph on item V, which states: “Should the presiding officer make a call to impose any sanction under these rules for any alleged violation of these rules by any member (or members) of the public, any commissioner may intervene by making an appeal on behalf of the member (or members) of the public to reconsider said sanction. If the presiding officer refuses to reconsider or continues to move forward with imposing any sanction, a motion to overrule the presiding officer may be made by any commissioner. Upon a sec-

ond and majority vote, the presiding officer’s call for a violation and related sanction shall be overruled and the member (or members) of the public at issue shall be allowed to continue.”

Eagle explained that the Texas Government Code was not referenced previously under item F, so he made the necessary change to reflect the code.

“Basically, number five is the 180-degree difference to the last one that Mrs. Samuelson put on the agenda, and it’s just basically saying that somebody comes up here, and then the presiding officer decides to go for a sanction that it’s subject to being questioned,” Eagle said. “That’s all it is, and it’s the flip side of the last one that Mrs. Samuelson put on the last page.”

Following the proposed changes to the rules, several residents came to the podium to express their opinions and concerns about the agenda item.

Resident Tina Brown said

the rule regarding cell phone usage was not clear. She recommended the same rule apply not only to the public but to every commissioner and the county clerk, as well.

“That way we know you are concentrating on us and not texting, emailing, or playing games on our time,” she said.

Brown also had a concern regarding residents being called on to speak in a public forum by the presiding officer in item IX.

“You have put language in there that says once your name is called you shall speak or pass, and you can’t speak again. But oftentimes you ask someone for more information, so is that going to be taken away from you?” she asked the court.

“If someone happens to step out of the court to take an important call or go to the restroom, they’re just out of luck and don’t get to speak on the agenda item. I just think we’re being too nit-picky on here. It just seems like this is all unnecessary.”

Brown then spoke about item V regarding overriding the presiding officer and said the commissioners court should “rethink the whole thing,” because this change will only “cause more division, more chaos and more issues.”

“This is a blatant act of control over this court,” she said. “If you wanted to be the judge, I suggest you run for the position. If the presiding officer, the judge, calls someone out of order, his speaking time should stop, and that person should listen to the judge. Oftentimes that does not happen. We have to have decorum and the judge is the presiding officer.”

She also stated that public meetings are not addressed

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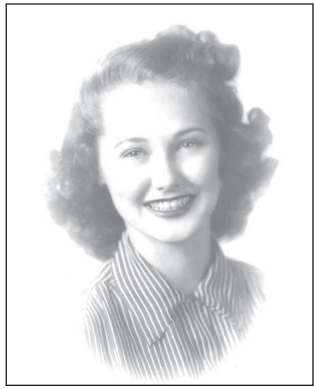
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OBITUARIES

Norma Jean Langdon

January 14, 1923 - October 19, 2023

Norma Jean Langdon passed away peacefully on October 19, 2023, having lived a full and productive life to the age of 100 years and nine months. She was born on January 14, 1923, in Houston, Texas and was soon thereafter adopted from the Faith Home in Houston as Norma Jean Kluever by Edgar and Daisy Belle Kluever. Norma grew up as an only child but was inseparable from her best and lifelong friend, Dorothy Robinson Simmons.



Preceding her in death were her husband of 38 years, John S. Langdon, her first husband French M. Russell, Norma's parents, Edgar and Daisy Belle Kluever and her stepfather, Milton P. Ivey. She is survived by her children: Richard S. Langdon (Kathy) and Lynda Lou Langdon.

Norma graduated from the San Marcos Academy in May 1939 and moved back to Houston where she worked as a secretary for several businesses before landing at Ellington Field. There she met an Army pilot, French M. Russell from Perkins, Oklahoma. They were married on August 4, 1944. "Russ" died in a training accident four months later. Norma kept in close touch with Russ' family for years after his passing, his mother, Marguerite Russell in particular.

Norma, known as "Nana" was adored and will be missed by her seven grandchildren: Daphne C. Langdon LaMontagne (Robb), John C. Langdon (Brooke), Garrett S. Langdon (Lara), Jaclyn C. Langdon Clanahan (Ryan), Kisch A. Ungaro Whalen (Scott), Wade A. Ungaro (Sarah), and Cameron L. Ungaro, along with her 14 great-grandchildren.

Norma later attended the University of Texas in Austin where she met her future husband, John S. Langdon. They were married on August 23, 1947, in Houston, Texas. After college, they moved to Denver, Colorado where their son, Richard was born.

Norma's family is grateful for the excellent care she received from Gabby and Darel Cook and the amazing staff at Brookdale Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing in Lakeway, Texas. We also thank Mary Hardie and the wonderful staff at Waterview Retirement Home in Granbury who cared for Norma prior to her stay in Austin.

Shortly thereafter they moved to McCamey, Texas and adopted their daughter Lynda Lou.

The experiences Norma gained throughout her life led her to be the kind, strong, Christian woman she was, a great example for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She loved them dearly and they are her legacy.

John joined General Motors and during his career, the family moved around the country six times. Norma and John settled into retirement in DeCordova Bend Estates, Granbury, Texas in 1982 to be closer to the extended Langdon family. John passed away in 1985 at the age of 61.

Norma's life will be celebrated in a graveside service at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 28 at Acton Cemetery in Granbury, Texas where she will be laid to rest next to her husband, John. A reception will follow the service at Fall Creek Ranch, 8220 Langdon Leake Ct., Granbury, Texas.

Norma was a member of Acton United Methodist Church where she sang in the choir and was active in her bible study group. She was known as a fiercely competitive card player, especially Bridge and Skipbo. Norma also loved animals. She was always adopting homeless cats and dogs.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to an animal shelter of your choice.

In 2020, Norma moved to Austin to be closer to her son and his wife.

Charlotte Ruth Phillips

March 20, 1939 - October 9, 2023

Charlotte Ruth Phillips passed away peacefully at home in Martindale, TX on October 9, 2023. She was 84. Charlotte is survived by her daughter and son-in-law Lori and Kevin Hurst, granddaughter Callie Saldana, grandson Aaron Hill and two great-grandchildren Olivia and Eli.



She is preceded in death by her parents Alfred Ray and Edna Ruth Mynard, husband Wayne Phillips, sister Helen Hill and stepson Mark Phillips.

She was a teacher, artist, animal lover, hula dancer/teacher and so much more. She leaves behind many

loved friends and family throughout Texas and Hawaii. Her celebration of life will be held March 9, 2024 in Waialua, Hawaii.

Henry Thomas Womack, Jr

December 5, 1941 - October 18, 2023

Passed away October 18, 2023. Tom was born December 5, 1941 in Mare Island, New York to Henry Thomas Womack, Sr. and Ava McQuiston Womack. He grew up in West Texas, completing his bachelor's in mathematics, and master's in School Counseling at Abilene Christian University. He taught school in New York, coaching golf and bowling in his early career. He moved to Granbury in 1985 where he taught math at Granbury High School until he retired.

Tom bowled three perfect 300 games, was an avid golfer, enjoyed playing poker, cooking, and could calculate square roots to four decimals in his head.

Tom was preceded in death by his parents, only brother Rick, and first wife Jan. Survived by his wife Kathy Bedford Womack, daughters Lauren Womack (Andrew Levengood), Katie Womack (Charles Walker) and Jill Womack Fields (Adam Fields) and grandson Colin Fields.

No services are planned at this time.

Gladys Kay Kennedy

April 10, 1959 - October 23, 2023

Gladys Kay Kennedy, 64, of Granbury, Texas, died at Lake Granbury Medical Center on October 23, 2023. She was born in Gulfport, Mississippi on April 10, 1959 to James Kennedy, Sr. and Irene Weaver Kennedy. Kay lived in Mississippi through childhood and attended Long Beach High School. Kay moved to Texas in her teen years. Kay had a cheerful heart, loved telling and listening to stories, and was always laughing and singing. She cherished her friends, family, and her pets.



Kay is preceded in death by her dad, James Kennedy, Sr.; her aunts, Hattie Rivers, Mae Cornish, and Faye West; and her uncles, Glen Weaver, Joe Weaver, Jimmy Weaver, Bill Weaver, John Weaver, Horace Kennedy, and Clarence Obrey "Toby" Kennedy.

Kay is survived by her mother, Irene Kennedy;

siblings, Beth Kennedy, James (Kathy) Kennedy Jr., and John (Susan) Kennedy; partner, Bill Buttacavoli; uncles Chuck (Sandra) Weaver, and Wilson (Martha) Weaver; aunts Barbara Payne, Callie Weaver, Laura Butters, and Henrietta Kennedy; many cousins, her nine nieces and nephews, and their children.

The family will hold a private memorial in the coming weeks to celebrate the precious life of our beloved Kay.

Marian Rea

December 24, 1949 - October 19, 2023

Marian Rea, 73, of Granbury, TX, died on October 19, 2023, in Allen, TX.

She was born on December 24, 1949, to Jean Mount and Max Bercovitz in Montreal, Canada.

Marian was raised in the Rio Grande Valley, and earned a degree in nursing from Pan American University, then later earned a B.A. in Geography from University of Texas at San Antonio. She retired as a nurse from Fort Worth ISD after working in Texas public schools from 1989 to 2014.

Marian was a devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, and an avid genealogist, researcher, and crocheter. She was determined, practical, humble, hilarious, witty, and a strong supporter of women's education, with a relentless "can-do" mentality.

Marian is survived by her husband, Roy "Sonny" M. Rea III; her children



William Copeland, Nick Copeland, Scott Copeland, Catherine Beattie, stepson Ryan Rea, and son-in-law, Chris Beattie; and her grandchildren Elias Brown, Ember Lee, Everett Beattie, Alicia Hernandez, Sarah Rea, Alex Rea, Catherine Rea, Christian Rea, and Christopher Rea.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Jean Hunter Mount, in 1996.

A memorial service for Marian will be held on a date yet to be determined in December at the LDS church in Granbury.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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

Holly Hills Memorial Park Perpetual Care Cemetery and Masoleum

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TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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ACROSS

- 1 "the ___ of my existence"
- 5 Texas has ___ on smoking in public buildings
- 6 Pampa hosts the "___" Texas Rodeo" each July
- 7 actor Martin of "Relative Strangers" with SMU-grad Kathy Bates
- 8 TXism: "mad as ___"
- 17 San Antonio hand-crafted shoe maker
- 18 Texas infilder, "Mr. Cub" (2 wds.)
- 21 Tom of "Concrete Cowboys" with TX Fairchild (init.)
- 22 fancy party
- 23 TX Janis Joplin album: "I ___ Ol' Kozmic Blues Again, Mama!"
- 24 watch out
- 29 Trump carried the 2020 ___ in Texas
- 30 former Cowboy quarterback, Aikman threw 7 ___-hitters
- 32 TXism: "risky ___ nest"
- 34 ___ moss
- 35 slang for "tattoo"
- 36 informal for "news conferences"
- 37 start of a football game: coin ___
- 38 pecan is the Texas state ___
- 39 home of Stephen F. Austin State University
- 41 TX Charles golfer who won 1971 Masters
- 42 this Howard directed 1995 film "Apollo 13" with TX Bill Paxton
- 43 TXism: "smoke '___' (find someone)"
- 44 TX Willie sang "On the ___ Side of the Street"
- 45 Jake Ferguson pos.
- 46 make a mistake
- 47 Canton's "First Monday" is on 400 ___
- 48 TXism: "green ___"
- 50 UT residence hall
- 51 TX Willie was a soloist on "We ___ the World" (1985)
- 52 "si" in Mexico
- 53 "___ up shop"
- 10 honorary Texas Ranger: ___ Stanley Gardner
- 11 ID evidence in court
- 12 "yes" in Mexico
- 13 across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass: Piedras ___
- 14 worn on a cowboy's foot (2 wds.)
- 15 city on the western edge of Houston
- 16 TXism: "the tail ___" (last)
- 19 "K" of JFK
- 20 TX "Mean Joe Greene" was in ___ and the Bandit II" (1980)
- 22 a response to "want some?" (2 wds.)
- 24 undergrad deg.
- 25 paranormal ability
- 26 alert someone
- 27 TXism: "got ___ as big as Texas"(kind)
- 28 in Nolan County on I-20
- 29 Val ___ County
- 30 actress Harper of Texas-based "Tender Mercies"
- 33 "no" (abbr.)
- 34 "___ Laureate of Texas"
- 35 brandin' ___
- 37 before Fridays
- 38 sound qualities
- 40 "Old ___": first courthouse of Comanche County
- 41 mongrels
- 44 dishonest scheme
- 47 take into custody
- 49 in Knox County on U.S. 277

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Avoid these investment mistakes

TY ANDREW
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



Ty Andrew

We all make mistakes in many areas of life. These mistakes are usually fairly harmless — we took a wrong turn while driving, used the wrong ingredients in a recipe and so on. But sometimes, our mistakes can be costly — especially those connected to investing.

Here are some of the most common investment mistakes:

TOO MUCH BUYING AND SELLING

Some people find it exciting to constantly buy and sell investments in the pursuit of big gains. Yet, frequent trad-

ing can work against you in a couple of ways. First, it can be expensive — if you're always buying and selling investments, you could rack up taxes, fees and commissions. Perhaps even more important, though, excessive purchases and sales can make it difficult to follow a unified, cohesive investment strategy. Such a strategy requires, among other things, careful construction and management of an investment portfolio that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. Heavy trading can disrupt this strategy.

FAILING TO DIVERSIFY

If you only owned one type of asset, such as growth-oriented stocks, your portfolio could take a hit when the financial markets go through a downturn. But not all investments will respond the same way to the same forces — for example, stocks and bonds can move in different directions at any given time. And that's why it's usually a good idea to own a mix of investments, which can include domestic and foreign stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and government securities. Keep in mind, though, that while diversification can help reduce the impact of market volatility, it can't guarantee profits, or protect against losses in a declining

market.

TRYING TO "TIME" THE MARKET

"Buy low and sell high" might be the original piece of investment advice, but it's pretty hard to follow — because no one can really predict when an investment will reach "low" or "high" points. Also, trying to "time" the market in this way can lead to bad decisions, such as selling investments whose price has dropped, even if these same investments still have good business fundamentals and strong prospects.

NOT UNDERSTANDING WHAT YOU'RE INVESTING IN

If you don't know the nature of investments when you buy

them, you could set yourself up for unpleasant surprises. For example, some companies, by the very nature of their business and the type of industry they're in, may consistently pay dividends to their investors even though their stock prices may only show relatively modest price gains over time. If you bought shares of this stock, thinking it had the potential to achieve quite substantial appreciation, you might end up disappointed.

MAKING THE WRONG COMPARISONS

You're no doubt familiar with some of the most well-known investment benchmarks — the S&P 500, Dow

Jones Industrial Average and the Nasdaq Composite. But it might be counterproductive to compare your results against these indexes. If you have a diversified portfolio, you'll own an array of investments that won't fit into any single index or benchmark, so you won't get an apples-to-apples comparison. You're better off comparing your portfolio's performance against the only benchmark that really matters — the progress you need to make to help achieve your goals.

Investing will always have its challenges — but you can help make it easier on yourself by staying away from as many mistakes as possible.

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- 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

- Real Estate for Rent**
- 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

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- 2020 Parts & Accessories
- 2030 Big Trucks & Trailers
- 2040 Classic Automobiles

- 2050 Four-Wheel Drive
- 2060 Motorcycles
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- 2080 Vans & Campers
- 2090 Trailers
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- 3050 Related Items

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- 4010 Business Opportunities
- 4020 Insurance
- 4030 Investments
- 4040 Mortgages & Notes

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- 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

- 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
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- 6520 Appliances
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- 6540 Building Materials
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- 6560 Electronics
- 6570 Firewood
- 6580 Furniture
- 6590 Health
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- 6610 Lawn Equipment
- 6620 Miscellaneous
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- 6670 Wanted

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- 8020 Livestock Lost & Found
- 8030 Pets
- 8040 Pets Lost & Found

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- 8520 Construction
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- 8550 Office Employment
- 8560 Professional
- 8570 Sales
- 8580 Salon Personnel
- 8590 Employment Wanted
- 8600 Employment Information
- 8610 Career Information

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- 9570 Auctions
- 9580 Flea Markets
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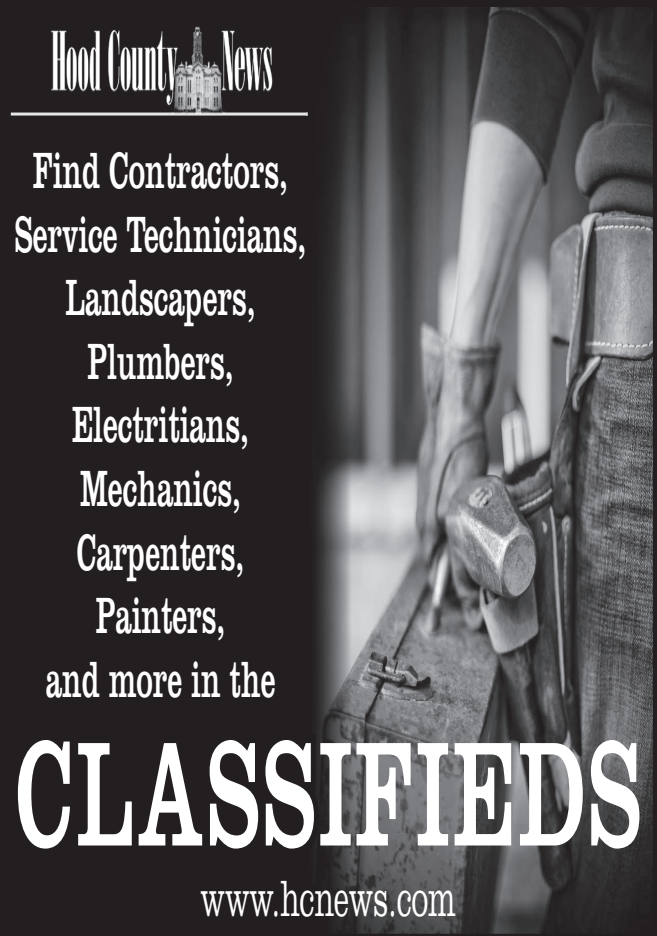
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8040

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

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NOTICES

9031

Public Notices

LEGAL AD
Hood County Commissioners' Court has received an application to consider a revision of the plat for:

SOUTHBEND ADDITION, Lots 1X, 21R & 22R

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS GRANBURY ISD'S STATE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING
Granbury ISD will hold a public meeting on November 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the GISD Administration Board Room, 217 N. Jones St., Granbury. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Granbury ISD's rating on the state's financial accountability system

PUBLIC NOTICE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Guardbox Storage in Granbury, which is located at 1400 Weatherford Hwy., Granbury, TX 76048, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at www.StorageTreasures.com. The auction will end on or around 11:00 A.M. on November 13, 2023. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. A \$100.00 cash deposit for removal and cleanup will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: Shonda Arramide- boxes, furniture

Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, ACI Shops & Storage, Ltd. located at 1650 South Meadow Drive Granbury, Texas 76048 will have a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be Tuesday November 7, 2023 at 10:30 am. Sign-in at the office. Property will be sold by the unit to the highest bidder for cash.

Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale.

Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with a brief description of contents in each space. COLTON VAN COWEN, Rods n reels, grill, golf clubs; MARY ANTONIA CUDD, Ceiling fan, toys, games, weed eater; JEREMIAH ANDREW HANEY, Floor tile, power washer, interior doors, table saw, painting equip., air tank; MISTY LADAWN SLATER, Twin beds, refrigerators, living rm furn.; LISA ANNE GLAZENER, Grandfather clock, gun safe, household furn.; LUCAS AARON NICKELSON, post hole diggers, spades, air tank; 5 CROWN MINISTRIES, stackable chairs; JODY WILLIAM SMITH, Texas flag, bats, tool chests, cabinet, varmint trap; HAROLD DEAN ROBERTS, Chain, wooden chest, table, gas can; JOSHUA KEITH SHEPERD, Tent, car speakers, dog kennel, motorcycle parts, work bench.

9031

Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION -TRC 109 & 114 CAUSE NO. C2023175

STATE OF TEXAS
IN THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS
PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION VS.
BRANDI LIN HUDSON AKA BRANDI LIN BISCAMP AKA BRANDI PATTERSON, BRANDON HUDSON, AND THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF SANDRA G. HUDSON

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF SANDRA G. HUDSON DEFENDANT, Greeting:

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 am on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexaslawHelp.org."

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written response to the PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of the issuance of this citation the same being Monday the 4TH day of OCTOBER 2023, before the Honorable BRYANT BUFKIN, 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas, at the Hood County Justice Center of said County in Granbury, Texas. Said PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION was filed in said court, on the 18th day of JULY, AD. 2023, in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit:

Plaintiff PNC Bank, National Association, by and through its attorney of record, Nicole M. Bartee of Codilis & Moody, P.C., 20405 State Highway 249, Suite 170, Houston, TX 77070, brought suit under Cause No. C2023175 in the 355th District Court of Hood County, Texas, for enforcement and foreclosure of Deed of Trust Lien on the following described real property of which Defendants, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF SANDRA G. HUDSON, are potential parties in interest:

BEING A 4.53 ACRE TRACT OF LAND IN THE JOHN T SMITH SURVEY, ABSTRACT NO. 497, HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS, SAID TRACT ALSO KNOWN AS TRACT 15 OF COMANCHE SHADOWS, AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION, AND BEING THE SAME TRACT DESCRIBED IN A DEED FROM BILL WARD, TRUSTEE, TO TRUMAN O. HUDSON, ET UX, DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 1976, RECORDED IN VOLUME 253, PAGE 365 OF THE HOOD COUNTY DEED RECORDS, AND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED BY THE ORIGINAL PETITION FILED IN THIS CASE.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 4TH day of OCTOBER 2023.

WITNESS: TONNA L. NEWMAN CLERK OF THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY TEXAS
BY Cameron Roybal, Deputy

Attorney for Defendant(s):
NICOLE M BARTEE
CODILIS & MOODY, P.C.
20405 State Highway 249, Suite 170
Houston, TX 77070
Telephone: (281) 925-5200
Email: nicole.bartee@tx.cslegal.com

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage retail Dealer's Off premises permit to be issued to: El Solar Dba Staffing to be located at 730 E Bluebonnet Dr Granbury, Hood County Tx 76048.

Daniela Orihuela - Sole Proprietor
Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for an original Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's Permit with Food and Beverage Certificate, by KM Resort Hospitality LLC, dba Blackstar Grille to be located at 551 Sweet Chex Dr, Granbury, Hood County, TX 76048. The Officers are Matthew Bays-Manager and Kimberly Bays-Manager.



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Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT TO BID CITY OF TOLAR, TEXAS

The City of Tolar will receive competitive sealed Bids for the Public Works Shop project until 3:00 PM local time on Monday, November 6, 2023, at the Tolar City Hall, located at 8712 HWY 377, Tolar, Hood County, Texas 76476. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time.

Bids shall be addressed to the City Administrator, Michelle Burdette. Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, may be examined at:

Tolar City Hall, located at 8712 HWY 377, Tolar, Hood County, Texas 76476.

Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are available from the City Administrator.

Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Cashier's Check or Bid Bond, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into a proper Contract and execute Bonds on the forms provided in the Contract Documents. Bid sureties will be returned to all but the three lowest acceptable bidders within ten days after the opening of Bids. The remaining bid sureties will be returned after the complete execution of the Contract.

The surety company providing the Bid Bond must conform to the same requirements for surety companies providing Performance and Maintenance Bonds, and Payment Bonds described below.

The successful proposer must furnish Performance and Maintenance Bond, and Payment Bond on the forms furnished with the Contract Documents in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total Contract price, from a surety company holding a permit from the State of Texas to act as surety. The surety company must have a minimum Best's Key Rating of "B" or better. The surety company, the agency, and the agent issuing the Performance and Maintenance Bond and Payment Bond must be authorized to issue such bonds in Texas in an amount equal to or greater than the total contract price.
City of Tolar, Texas

Granbury Independent School District is soliciting proposals 2023-20 for line item bid for 1,000 Chromebooks.

Bid proposals are available online on <https://granbury.ionwave.net>. The bids are open immediately and will close November 8th, 2023 at 1:00pm.

Please contact purchasing manager Houcine Chraïbi or Purchasing Assistant Bradee Watson with any questions at (817) 408-4029.

CITY OF CRESSON ORDINANCE NO. 2023-007
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CRESSON, TEXAS, AMENDING ARTICLE I, "IN GENERAL," OF CHAPTER 12, "ENVIRONMENT," OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CITY OF CRESSON, TEXAS, BY PROVIDING REGULATIONS FOR THE REPAIR OF A WATER OR SEWER LEAK; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECTION 1.

Article I, "In General," of Chapter 12, "Environment," of the Code of Ordinances, City of Cresson, Texas is hereby amended by adding Section 12-2, "Repair of Water and Sewer Leaks," to read as follows:

"Sec. 12-2. - Repair of water and sewer leaks.

(a) It shall be unlawful for the owner or occupant of any property, building, or residence or other place to allow a water or sewer leak to remain unrepaired once the City of Cresson has given notice of a leak. This includes, but is not limited to, a broken sprinkler head, a leaking valve, leaking or broken pipes, or a leaking faucet.

(b) All water leaks shall be repaired within 7 days of notice. If a leak has not been repaired within 7 days of notice, water service may be shut off immediately to prevent damage or ponding of water.

SECTION 5.
Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects, or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) or the maximum allowed by law for each offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

This ordinance, adopted by the Cresson City Council on October 24, 2023, is on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 8901 Hwy 377 E and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION of the City of Granbury on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearings will also be considered by the GRANBURY CITY COUNCIL on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. All Public Hearings will be held within the Council Chambers of Granbury City Hall, 116 W. Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

1. PL-2022-16 Replat Lot 4, Block 2 Luton Ranch Addition as Lot 4R, Block 2 Luton Ranch Addition; located east of the intersection of Meander Rd. and E. Hwy. 377.
2. PL-2022-29 Replat Lot 1 Block 1 Enterprise Addition as Lot 1R, Block 1 Enterprise Addition; located south of Old Granbury Road, approximately 135 feet east of Opal Ct.
3. PL-2023-20 Final Plat 6.128-acres of Marcus Smith Survey, Abs. #504 as Sundance on Lake Granbury Addition; located north Crawford Ave. and Harbor Lakes Dr.
4. PL-2023-17 Final Plat 7.468 acres of the Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. #351 as the Granbury Nissan Addition located at 4900 E. Hwy 377.
5. PL-2023-18, Final Plat 59.801 acres of Joshua Minnett Survey, Abs. #351 and B.W. Perkins Survey, Abs. #445 as Saratoga Phase 3 & 4 Addition; located approximately 3000 feet south of the intersection of Saratoga Blvd. and E. Hwy 377.
6. PL-2023-16 Final Plat 121.224 acres of Robert Alway Survey, Abstract # 4 and Martin County School Land Survey, Abstract # 348 as the Crucis Creek Addition; located west of Loop 567 and Camp Crucis Ct.
7. PL-2023-16 Minor Plat 58.687 acres of L.C. Randolph Survey, Abs. # 472 as Lot 1 Block 1 Butler Ranchito; located at 2507 Lomo Alto Court.
8. PL-2023-20 Minor Plat 1.913 acres of M. Oldham Survey, Abstract #431 as Lot 1, Block 1 of the Schade Point Addition; located at 2770 Andrews Cir.
9. SUP-2021-12 Specific Use Permit for "Dwelling, Single Family, Attached" use in Central Business zoning; located at 210 E. Ewell St.
10. PL-2021-10 Replat 0.549-acres of Milam County School Land Survey, Abs. #903 (part of Block 8 Barton Addn. as Lots 6R-11R, Block 8 of the Barton Addition; located at 210 E. Ewell St.
11. SUP-2023-27 Specific Use Permit for "Animal Grooming" use in Light Commercial zoning; located at 1407 N. Plaza Dr.
12. SUP-2023-28 Specific Use Permit for "Wine Tasting Facility (Winery)" use in Central Business zoning; located at 109 W. Pearl St.
13. O-2023-02 Amend select sections of the City of Granbury Zoning Ordinance; Amendments are to Article 1, General Provisions Section 1.7 Creation of Building Site; Section 2.3. Amendments; Article 4. Permitted Uses. Amend select sections of the City of Granbury Subdivision Regulations; Amendments are to Section 1 - General Provisions 1.12. Variances and 1.15 Right to Deny Hearing; 2.4. Procedures Procedure for Approval of a Preliminary Plat and Submission Requirements; 2.5. Procedure for Approval of Final Plat; 2.6 Amending Plat; 2.7 Minor Plat; 2.9 Development Plats; and 2.10 Replatting. The general purpose of the amendments are to ease the use limitations for certain uses; shorten review timeframes; and offer administrative actions.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Hood County, Texas will begin an online auction for the sale of a 2002 Hyundai Santa Fe, 2015 Kia Forte, 2001 Chevy Tahoe, 2008 Nissan Sentra, 2008 Ford Escape XLT, 2004 Toyota Corolla, 2000 Subaru Outback, 1995 Ford Mustang, 2004 GMC Envoy, 2005 Dodge Magnum, 2008 Nissan Sentra, 2018 Honda MSX125, 2004 Mercury Grand Marquis, 2006 Chevrolet HHR, 2004 Chevrolet Trail Blazer, 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee, 2011 Hyundai Tucson, 2004 Ford Expedition Eddie Bauer, 2002 Honda Odyssey, 2011 Kia Soul, 2005 Ford Expedition, 2009 Ford Fusion, 2011 Chevrolet Malibu, 1999 Suzuki TK100RX996C, 1996 Ford Explorer, 2011 Nissan Altima, 1997 Ford F150, 2005 Toyota 4-Runner, 2006 Kawasaki ZX636D, Scrap Metal, Lufkin Dump TD25, 2001 Maxey Utility Trailer, 3- MX6 John Deere Rotary Lift Cutter, BB69 Alamo 69" Buzz Bar, Porta-Mole Culvert Cleaner, Culvert Cleaning System Trailer 7,000 lbs, Earthquake 2-Man Auger, Bridgestone Super Singles, PC's, Printers, Chairs, Monitors, Scanners, Mitel Phones and Misc Items that have been declared surplus property of Hood County. Hood County online auction is with Rene Bates Auctioneer Inc. and will begin November 13, 2023, and run until November 28, 2023. Interested bidders can access the auction at www.renebates.com. Questions concerning this online auction should be directed to Hood County Purchasing Department 817-408-3440.

9031

Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS:

To all persons interested in the Estate of ABIGAIL JOY CANTRELL, Deceased, Docket No. P10194, County Court, Hood County, Texas. POLLY CANTRELL filed in the County Court of Hood County, Texas on the 26th day of September 2023, an APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP to declare who are the heirs, and only heirs, of ABIGAIL JOY CANTRELL, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in the Estate. Said Application can be heard and acted on by said Court at 10 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday following the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the Hood County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas. All persons interested in this Estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such Application should they desire to do so. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL of said Court at office in Granbury, Texas, this 3rd day of October 2023. Katie Lang Hood County Clerk By /s/ Christine Ledermann, Deputy Clerk

PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

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1204 Water's Edge Dr., (Across from the Movie Theatre) #heretohelp

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405 Kinson St- Big garage sale! Sat & Sun Oct 28 & 29, 8:30am - 4pm. Women's clothes (M-XXL), Dresser, 2 couches, 2 recliners, glider chair with ottoman all in good condition. Toddler boy & girl clothes (18mo-3T) and boy size 8. Adult & kid tennis shoes. Kitchen ware, dishes, pots & pans. Holiday decorations. Will cancel if it rains.



TexSCAN Week of Oct. 22-28, 2023

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Between September 1, 2022 and August 31, 2023, we provided services for 259 residential and non-residential clients. 139 were women, 109 were children and 11 were men.

We answered 944 hotline calls and housed 107 women and 58 children in the Ada Carey Shelter for Women and Children.

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Please consider making a donation to support any of the various programs available at Mission Granbury.

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COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CHAMBER SPOTLIGHT

Baylor Scott & White Surgicare Granbury, "At Baylor Scott & White Surgicare Granbury, we believe health and care are inseparable. We focus on offering a high quality, service-oriented environment for your surgical procedure. Our mission is to care for every patient and their family as if they were our own. Each patient, each family, each and every time."

COURTESY GRAPHIC

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

Taylor Hatfield. We are very thankful for our amazing Ambassador, Taylor Hatfield! Taylor has served as a Chamber Ambassador for three months! When asked what she loves about being an ambassador, she said, "I love living here. I love owning a business here. I love supporting folks that love living and business owning here. I appreciate our chamber for providing an avenue with which to support and learn about businesses, the community and its people. And I'm lucky I get to serve and be a part of it all!" Fun Fact about Taylor: "I have never seen a Harry Potter movie!" Thank you, Taylor, for being an Ambassador of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

COURTESY GRAPHIC

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Lake Granbury Mercantile, "We aim to provide a place where anyone can find whatever it is that they need. If we don't have it, we will find it or create it! Come shop for every occasion and even find necessities for your fur babies!" Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

COURTESY GRAPHIC

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The Groutsmith, "Our mission is to provide the highest quality of tile and grout cleaning, restoration and repair; to enable homeowners and business owners to enjoy and appreciate the beauty and functionality of their tile and grout surfaces; and to instruct proper maintenance techniques and provide the best products to keep their tile and grout beautiful." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

COURTESY GRAPHIC

Zev Martial Arts, "Zev Martial Arts is an American school where respect and character values are taught over eastern traditions and philosophy. Our school provides quality instruction and training for people of all ages! Train for self-defense, physical fitness, to build your self-esteem, compete at tournaments, or even just to join a tribe that motivates you to be better." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

COURTESY GRAPHIC

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Ty Andrew
Financial Advisor

716 E Hwy 377
Granbury, TX 76048
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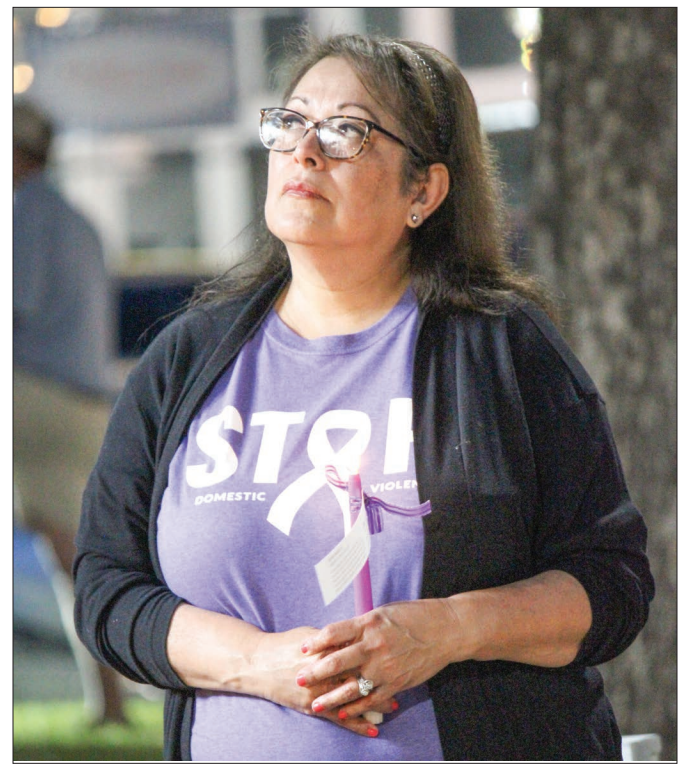
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Light the Night

Mission Granbury staff, volunteers and members of the community gathered Saturday night, Oct. 21, for the annual Light the Night ceremony honoring the 217 Texans who lost their lives to domestic violence in 2022. The ceremony is also a time to celebrate the survivors. Sadly, four of the 217 were from Hood County and included a 3-year-old and a 13-year-old.



COURTESY PHOTOS

ATTENTION: MEDICARE RECIPIENTS

My name is Roy Cooper. I was born and raised in Texas and have lived in Granbury for the past 30 years. I am a graduate of Texas Christian University. My wife and I have been married for 41 years and have 3 children and 9 grandchildren.

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If any of the above is true for you or a loved one, please give me a call. It will cost you nothing for my input. I make house calls or we can meet at:

Hood County Library Oct. 30, 10 a.m. to noon Nov. 3, 10 a.m. to noon	Spring Creek Barbeque Nov. 3, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 8, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 13 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
---	--

The time frame for Medicare Open Enrollment is from October 15, 2022 through December 7, 2022 to enroll or make a change for 2023.

I look forward to doing the right thing for you. I am here to assist you with your individual needs.



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ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Granbury High School Stowaways drill and dance team performed last year as toy soldiers in the Dallas Holiday Parade. The team was recently welcomed back for the third year in a row to participate in the 2023 parade.

GHS Stowaways receive third year invite to perform in Dallas Holiday Parade

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

The Granbury High School Stowaways will be dancing their way through the holiday season, as news regarding a third performance in the Dallas Holiday Parade was officially revealed to the drill and dance team on Oct. 19.

GHS Stowaways Director Shelby Sargent told the HCN that this is the third year in a row that the Stowaways have been invited to perform in the Dallas Holiday Parade. Sargent also said she believes this is only the third time ever that the team has been invited to preform in the Parade.

"As far as I know, they have not been to it in the past," Sargent said.

Presented by HTEDance, the Dallas Holiday Parade is the city's largest one-day, outdoor event, according to the event's website. Full of

larger-than-life floats and spirited marching bands, the festive parade travels through the streets of downtown Dallas with over 450,000 onlookers, making it one of the largest parades in the country, according to visitdallas.com.

"When I was in high school, my drill team was asked to be a part of it, and it was such a special thing," Sargent said. "When HTEDance reached out to me three years ago and asked if we would like to be a part of it, I was like, 'absolutely.' When I explained this special memory that it holds for me, my first team was like, 'Oh my gosh, yes, that sounds like so much fun.' After they experienced the parade and got to see the many families in North Texas that come out to the parade and feed off their energy, they are now so ecstatic every year when they ask us to come back."

Sargent explained that once a drill team is invited to perform in the parade, HTEDance sends out a choreographer to each school to teach the team specific dance moves for the parade. Each team is also assigned a holiday theme complete with costumes to accompany a float.

The first year, the Stowaways performed as candy cane girls, and last year, they were toy soldiers. Sargent said she doesn't know yet what the theme will be for this year, but that it can range anywhere from gingerbread men and elves to Christmas tree ornaments.

More than 350 television stations in 159 markets have syndicated the parade, according to the official website. It has become a holiday tradition for thousands of families throughout North Texas and coast to coast.

Sargent explained that since the parade is televised, her team will get the opportunity to learn how to dance through televised areas.

"It's very different than just walking in a parade," she explained. "The parade stops and starts because you have performances in the televised areas, and you have to know when you're coming up to the televised section, so my girls get to learn that experience, too — which I think is neat because not everybody gets to have that type of training to be in a televised event."

The proceeds from the parade will be donated to the Parkland Health Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing medical care to patients in need.

"It's for such a great

PLEASE SEE **STOWAWAY** | B4



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Granbury High School Stowaways drill and dance team performed last year as toy soldiers in the Dallas Holiday Parade.

Choirs in Granbury ISD receive national awards

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Three different choirs in Granbury ISD received national awards as part of the National Choral Honors Project including the Acton Middle School Varsity Treble Choir, the Granbury High School Varsity Mixed Choir, and the GHS Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir.

"The Mark of Excellence project seeks to recognize and award outstanding achievement in performance by high school and middle school bands, choirs and orchestras. The project gathers

entries from throughout the United States and provides valuable feedback for all entrants. A unique competitive environment is created which allows ensembles to compare their performance quality to other outstanding groups from across the country. The top 25% of entrants are recognized as National Winners, with the second 25% named as Commended Winners," according to the Foundation for Music Education.

The AMS Choir was one of only five choirs to receive this commended honor. The

GHS Mixed Choir was named a National Winner and was only one of five to receive the designation. The GHS Varsity Tenor-Bass Choir was named a Commended Winner and was one of six to receive this designation.

"I am extremely proud of our choir students and the level of artistry they bring to their performances," GHS choir director Kendra Fisher said.

The AMS Varsity Choir performed the National Anthem and was recognized during the Granbury ISD School Board meeting on Oct. 16.

"The fullness of your singing when you're together, wow. I don't think I've ever heard anything so beautiful "GISD School Board Trustee Barbara Townsend said during the meeting.

The AMS choir is under the direction of Randall Walters and Emily Ross.

In 2022, the GHS Varsity Mixed Choir was also named a National Winner and the GHS Varsity Treble Choir was named a Commended Winner.

In 2022, the AMS Varsity Choir was named a National Winner.



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Acton Middle School's Varsity Treble Choir was recognized during a regularly scheduled Granbury ISD School Board meeting on Oct. 16. The choir also sang the National Anthem.



COURTESY OF GARY HINDS

Dave Hubbard, Granbury resident and avid astronomer, sets up his big Dobsonian telescope at a previous Star Party. Event coordinator Gary Hinds said that when people look through this scope, they hear a lot of "wows" and "is that real?"

Acton Nature Center Star Party to take astronomers to another galaxy Nov. 11

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

Aspiring astronomers will get the chance to view the night sky like never before with the help of Acton Nature Center's 10th annual Star Party event set from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Nov. 11.

Located at 6900 Smoky Hill Court, the Behold the Stars

Star Party is a free event that will allow amateur astronomers to utilize high-powered telescopes to see stars, planets, and other gems that the night sky provides.

"The Fort Worth Astronomical Society will have their telescopes, so people can come freely and see neat sky objects, planets, and whatever is avail-

able that night," said Robert Slaughter, president of the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist Program. "It's been an annual event except we missed COVID and the year after, so we're starting back up again."

Gary Hinds, event coordi-

PLEASE SEE **STAR** | B3

Giving students a support system: Granbury High School students come together to create support club for students across Granbury ISD

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Two Granbury High School students came together to create a club known as “Bigs” that works to support students in Granbury ISD.

Freshmen Dallas Peck and Kelsey Ehardt are the co-founders of the club which was created in the summer and is now in action for the school year. Peck serves as the club’s president while Ehardt is vice president.

Freshmen Bren Molinari, treasurer and Brooke Wilson, secretary, round out the slate of officers for Bigs.

Ehardt, through a text message to Peck, shared the idea of creating the club and the two began to brainstorm

about what it should be.

Peck previously was a student in Midlothian ISD, where high school students would visit both middle and elementary schools to speak with younger students.

After some research, Peck and Ehardt decided to base their club on the Big Brother and Big Sister Foundation which offers youth mentoring from adults.

“A few of our goals are to stop teen suicide, give students a person to talk to when they need it and make the community more united,” Peck said.

Since the group was formed, there are now 33 members, and the group continues to grow.

So far, the group has

kept busy, hosting a suicide awareness day where club members wore teal and purple as they passed out bracelets in front of GHS. The group also participated in Unity Day where the members wore orange and handed out more bracelets.

Next week the group will hang a big poster inside GHS that will read, “Don’t hate! Appreciate and count your blessings for Thanksgiving.” Students can write their blessings on feathers during their lunch period to be hung on the poster.

When it comes to the future Peck and Ehardt are very excited and eager for what’s to come.

“We are very excited to see how much the community wants to help out and wants to be involved in the club. We are very optimistic about the future of this club and cannot wait to see where this goes, even after we graduate,” Peck said.

Club Sponsor Atyka Ditto, education and training teacher at GHS, shared that she has spoken with counselors from different schools, and the Bigs Club plans to partner with those schools.

The club is also making plans for a movie day, a game day and a day to clean up the park and paint trash cans. Members also hope to find a place in town to paint



During a regularly scheduled Granbury ISD School board meeting on Oct. 16, Freshman Dallas Peck and Kelsey Ehardt were recognized by the school board alongside Granbury High School Principal Jamie Robinson after creating “Bigs” club to support students around the district.



President of “Bigs” Club Dallas Peck speaks about the club during a regularly scheduled Granbury ISD School board meeting on Oct. 16.

a mural.

“We’re just really excited and we’re going to make sure people know who we are and that we are out to do good and to be upstanders rather than bystanders,” Ditto said.

The club was recognized during the regularly scheduled GSD School Board Meeting on Oct. 16.

GHS Principal Jamie Robinson shared during the school board meeting that

he received an email from Peck in the summer about his idea.

Peck and Ehardt made an appointment with Robinson where they made a presentation and pitched the club idea to Robinson.

“There was no way I could say no. It was such a beautiful, well-thought-out program that will make a difference in our lives and the campus, and it’s going to start trickling through our

community,” Robinson said during the meeting.

Applications are open to join the club and are available via Instagram at granbury_bigs_club. The club plans to close applications at the end of November.

For those interested in being part of the big brother/sister program, Ditto added that a parent should contact their student’s school counselor; they will be directed to a form to fill out.

Why Baseball is the greatest American sport: A love letter to the diamond

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

Ah, baseball! The crack of the bat, the roar of the crowd, and the smell of freshly cut grass. Hot dogs, nachos, and ice-cold beer! If you’re anything like me, these sensations evoke a sense of nostalgia and pure joy. If you’re even a casual baseball fan, the Texas Ranger’s run to this year’s World Series may have reignited a love affair with America’s pastime, or, as many call it, the greatest American sport.

But why is baseball considered the greatest American sport? Let’s dive into the reasons that make this game a national treasure.

A GAME OF TRADITION

Who can ever forget James Earl Jones’ immortal line from “Field of Dreams?” “America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It’s been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt, and erased

again. But baseball has marked the time.” Indeed, baseball is steeped in tradition. From Babe Ruth’s legendary home runs to Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier, the sport has a rich history that spans well over a century. It’s a game that has been passed down from generation to generation, and its traditions are as American as apple pie.

THE ULTIMATE TEAM SPORT

In baseball, teamwork is everything. Whether it’s a perfectly executed double play or a game-saving catch in the outfield, every player has a role to play. Unlike other sports where a single star can dominate, baseball requires a collective effort. On any given day, the number nine hitter in the lineup can hit the walk-off home run and be the hero! It’s a beautiful symphony of nine players working in complete harmony.

A GAME FOR EVERYONE

One of the most endear-

ing qualities of baseball is its inclusivity. You don’t have to be the tallest, the fastest or the strongest to excel. Baseball welcomes players of all shapes and sizes. Whether you’re a power hitter or a strategic pitcher, there’s a place for you on the diamond.

THE DRAMA AND STRATEGY

Baseball is a game of strategy and high-stakes drama. Every pitch, every swing and every play can change the outcome of the game. The tension builds with each inning, reaching a crescendo in the final moments. It’s like a thrilling novel with twists and turns, keeping fans on the edge of their seats. That’s why baseball is by far my favorite sport to watch live. When you watch a game on TV, you often miss all the strategic adjustments being made by the defense with every single batter.

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Baseball brings people



together. Whether it’s Little League games, high school championships, or Major League showdowns, the sport has a way of uniting communities. The ballpark is a gathering place where memories are made, friendships are formed and dreams are realized.

THE TIMELESS APPEAL

In a world that’s constantly changing, baseball remains a constant. The rules have largely remained the same, and the game contin-

ues to captivate audiences young and old. It’s a timeless sport that transcends eras, offering a slice of Americana that’s as relevant today as it was a hundred years ago.

Baseball is more than just a game; it’s a reflection of America’s soul. It encapsulates the values of teamwork, tradition and community, making it the undisputed king of American sports. Again, returning to a quote from “Field of Dreams,” “This

field, this game — it’s a part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that once was good, and it could be again.”

So the next time you hear the umpire shout, “Play ball!” remember that you’re not just watching a game — you’re witnessing a piece of American history.

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BOOK REVIEW

You were nowhere near prepared enough

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Oh, sure, you had all your important documents in one place. Your valuables were put away, the car was gassed up, extra water was onboard, and you were ready for whatever happened. Now, of course, you can never totally plan for the worst, though with "The Longest Minute" by Matthew J. Davenport, you can read



COURTESY PHOTO
Author Matthew J. Davenport

about it.

There was a reason why Yerba Buena was such a sleepy town: it contained "barely two hundred residents" in the summer of 1821. Indeed, it was small and still under Mexican rule then, until it was claimed by U.S. soldiers and renamed San Francisco in 1847.

Two years later, San Francisco's population had multiplied by 10, but big change was rolling over the Sierra Nevada mountains. Gold had been discovered in nearby foothills, and hopeful miners flocked to the area to stake their claims.

In 1849 alone, the city grew by more than 18,000 residents. By 1880, San Francisco was home to 233,959 people from around the world and many of them worked at the city's port, a bustling place of commerce partly constructed on land that had been created with sand, rotting wood, abandoned ships, and debris tacked onto the edge of the shore. The extra land was needed to house

newcomers and the people who lived and worked in San Francisco, proudly known as "The Queen City of the Pacific."

But the Queen's crown was slightly askew. Several times in its young history, San Francisco had burned nearly to the ground because, more than any other city in America, it was mostly "made of wood." Furthermore, says Davenport, "The threat of earthquakes hung constantly over San Francisco..." By 1906, with a population approaching 400,000, this was a concern for the city's mayor.

It would become so much more when, at 5:12 a.m. on April 16, 1906, the ground split San Francisco into many pieces. Nineteen minutes later, "more than fifty fires were burning and spreading and the fate of most of the city was already sealed."

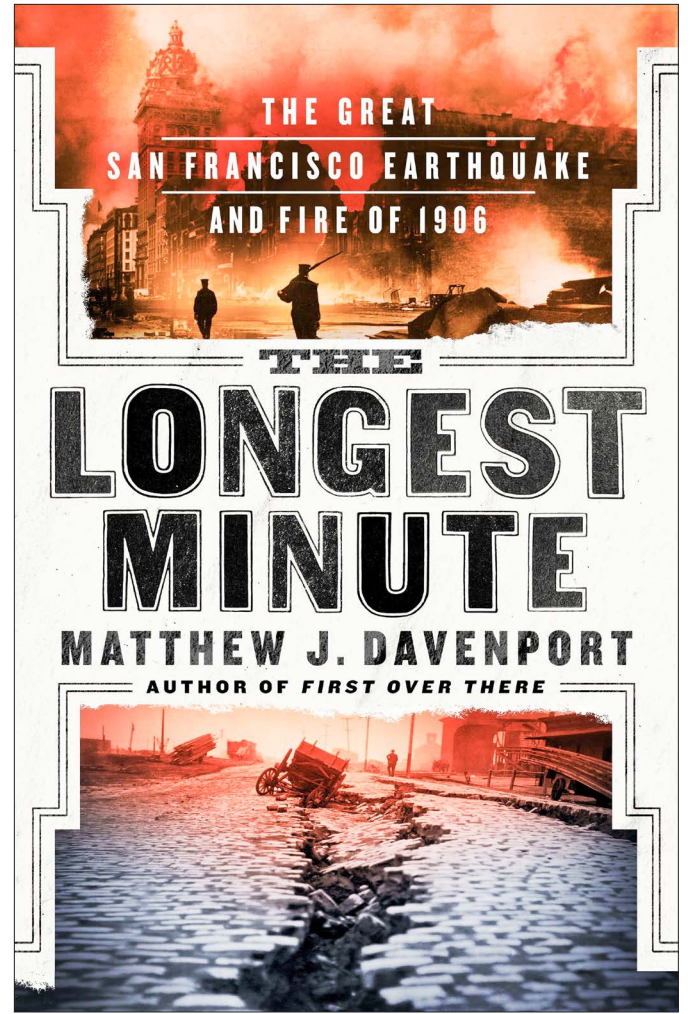
Chaos. Pure, unadulterated chaos. That's what a disaster seems to be made of, and author Matthew J.

Davenport does an exceptional job of bringing that out in this story. A survivor here, a victim there, a heroic story beneath, a jaw-dropper up top, and "The Longest Minute" makes you breathless with it all.

And yet, the book itself isn't chaotic.

Davenport also gives readers a good lay of the land through geography and light geology before turning his attention to the history of the settling of one small part of the West. This is widely accomplished as readers meet individuals here and learn a little about their lives and hopes as well as the discrimination that some of them endured. Learn their stories but beware, because you know what's coming. Cue the ominous music...

Readers who've been through a conflagration should take note: this book could be triggering because of its details. If you're okay with that, grab "The Longest Minute" and prepare yourself.



COURTESY PHOTO

"The Longest Minute: The Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906" by Matthew J. Davenport C.2023, ST. MARTIN'S PRESS, \$35.00, 448 PAGES

Tolar ISD receives big check from education foundation

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

The Tolar Independent School District was awarded \$57,359.67 in grants as part of the 2023 Innovative Grant Cycle of the Tolar Education Foundation.

Receipt of the grant money was announced during the regularly scheduled meet-

ing of the Tolar ISD Board of Trustees on Oct. 19.

"Each year our teachers apply for innovative educational grants through TEF. From the applications, TEF donates funds toward the grants," Tolar ISD Superintendent Secretary Christine Murphy said.

The goal was to raise \$60,000 in fall grants and

there were 26 grants submitted including seven from the elementary, 10 from the junior high, six from the high school and three that will benefit more than one campus according to Julie Tuel who is the vice president of marketing for the TEF.

"The teachers did an excellent job on the grants submitted and we are excited to

see the money donated active inside our classrooms," Tuel told the board. "We are very excited to partner with Tolar ISD as we create opportunities for our students. We are honored and will continue our mission to provide resources to enrich teaching, inspire learning and maximize innovative opportunities for all students in Tolar

ISD.

The grants will go toward several needs across the district benefiting both teachers and students.

"We are very thankful for the work and effort that is put forth by the members of our Tolar Education Foundation. Their efforts, along with the support of the Tolar community, provide

resources to help teachers in the classroom. We are blessed to have such strong community support that is exemplified by the Tolar Education Foundation," Tolar ISD Superintendent Travis Stilwell said.

STAR FROM PAGE B2

nator, said that the Star Party first began in 2012, with as many as 300 people attending the event at one time.

"We find that having them in November is the best time to have these events," he said.

The event will kick off with an astronomy program at 6 p.m. called "Where We Live," with retired colonel and astronomer Brad Riza serving as speaker and lecturer.

"(I will show) a PowerPoint presentation about our solar system and expand outward into space to show relative sizes of planets in the night sky," Riza told the HCN on Oct. 23.

"Brad is a great speaker," Hinds said. "He inspires a lot of kids to look into science, so we're fortunate to have him back."

The deep sky observations, featuring local amateur astronomers and telescopes,

will start at 7:30 p.m. Hinds, who is also a member of the Fort Worth Astronomical Society, said several of the outreach astronomers will be present at the event.

"We use this as a recruiting event to get people into our training program," he said. "The training session starts in January, and we usually have three or four people who sign up from the Star Party every year."

Hinds said the event will also include a raffle, which can sometimes contain as much as \$300 worth of astronomy gear.

"It's amazing because there's always several youngsters who have an interest in looking at the night sky," he said. "We usually give away a star map that can be used any night of the year, and it's calibrated so you put in the date and time, and then hold it up in the sky, and you can tell exactly what you're looking at. It's a great way to get people oriented to the sky."

Hinds also added that, on

the night of Nov. 11, there's a good chance attendees will be able to look at Saturn, Jupiter, and a sliver of the moon.

"That makes for the best visual image through a telescope, a moon that's got a dark center, so you can see the shadows and the craters," he said.

"What we're offering is to try to put astronomy out there in front of the public," Slaughter added. "We're trying to accomplish giving people a better knowledge of what they're looking at. We want to get people familiar with constellations, stars, and nebula that they might not be able to see without a telescope."

For more information, visit the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program online at txmn.org/rbc or contact the Acton Nature Center at 817-326-6005.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243



COURTESY OF GARY HINDS

David Bergman setting up his telescope at the Acton Nature Center



COURTESY OF GARY HINDS

Dave Moore, Rio Brazos member and president of the Friends of the Acton Nature Center, looks through his telescope at a previous Acton Nature Center Star Party. Because it is not yet dark, he may be looking at the moon or perhaps Venus which is sometimes visible at dusk.



COURTESY OF GARY HINDS

The observing field near the Education Center (Farmhouse) is filled with scopes set up and ready for calibration when it is dark enough to see the stars.

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HOME IN ON MORE BUYERS

STOWAWAY

FROM PAGE B1

cause," Sargent said. "With the Christmas joy, and everyone being so happy, it's just such a really cool experience."

She said when her team

learned that they were invited back for a third time, they were ecstatic.

"They were like, 'We were hoping they'd ask us again,' and our girls' picture was even on the promotional that they sent out to the teams asking you to be a participant," she said. "I

love that it's such a special memory for me, and that we kind of share that connection now, because I did it in high school, so seeing it from their eyes, I now know what my director felt. I see it from both perspectives, the performer and the teacher, and it's just a really

neat experience."

Sargent said she's most excited about the new Stowaways team members getting to share in a unique experience together.

"I have 11 new members this year on our team that have never experienced it, so I'm excited for them to

get to experience the parade for the first time, to really see what the hype is all about, and see the joy that my upperclassmen have, and get to experience that with them," she added. "It's just a really cool bonding experience for all of us." The Stowaways will per-

form in the Dallas Holiday Parade on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in downtown Dallas.

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Tolar Homecoming 2023

Rattlers 61 -VS- Dragons 6

Friday, October 20, 2023

Photos By Mary Vinson and Layth Taylor



The community of Tolar filled the gym Friday morning for the Homecoming Pep Rally, as the band played, cheerleaders cheered, and the Homecoming Court made an appearance.

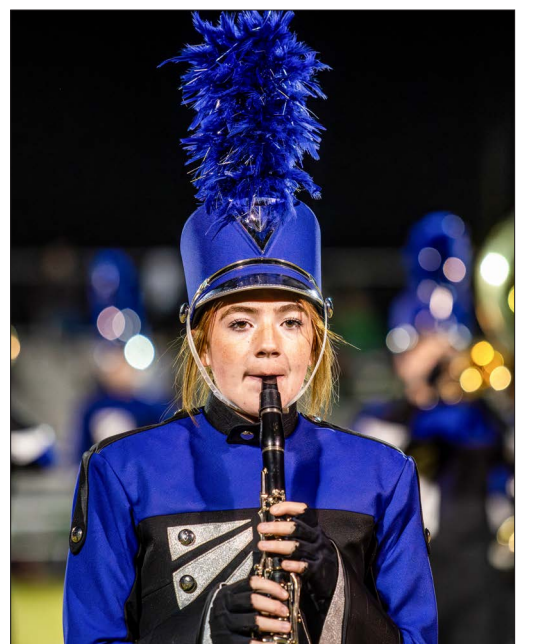


One of the newest traditions to the Homecoming festivities in Tolar, is the Annual Alumni Volleyball Game. Graduates from Tolar gather in the gym to play a fun game of volleyball





Friday night Tolar High school had their homecoming game against the Bangs Dragons.







Lady Pirates set for VB postseason; Lipan's Tarpley reaches state in CC

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

The Granbury Lady Pirates are back in the volleyball postseason after a year's hiatus. They will enter the playoffs as the third-place team from District 5-5A after winning a pair of road matches at Azle, 3-0 on Oct. 20, and Wichita Falls Rider, 3-2, on Oct. 24 to end the regular season.

The Lady Pirates (18-22 overall) finished league play with a 9-3 record, trailing district champion Aledo (31-8, 11-1) and runner-up Justin Northwest (29-9, 10-2). While Granbury and Northwest split their matches, each going five games, Northwest split with Aledo and the Ladycats swept the Lady Pirates.

Granbury will face District 6-5A runner-up Fort Worth Arlington Heights (25-12, 12-2 in district) in bidistrict Monday, Oct. 30 at Wilkerson-Greines Activities Center in Fort Worth at 5:30 p.m. The teams did not meet in the regular season.

Capitalizing on a challenging predistrict schedule to prepare them for league play, the Lady Pirates played their best volleyball when it counted most. Aledo is currently ranked 13th in the state and Northwest spent most of the season ranked in the top 25 and were ranked when they met Granbury both times.

This is the Lady Pirates' 13th appearance in 14 years, and they are seeking to advance to the second round for the first time since 2019.

Standouts against Azle were Sienna Watts (16 kills, 5 aces, 2 blocks, 10 digs, 12 serves received) and Rachel Poirer (9 kills). Leading the charge against Rider were Ally McCabe (49 assists, 19 digs, 3 aces), Kylie Moody (13 kills, 19 digs, 17 serves received) and Lily McCall (33 digs, 36 serves received).

LIPAN/TOLAR CROSS COUNTRY

Freshman Annslee Tarpley

will be competing at the Class 2A State Cross Country Meet at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock on Saturday, Nov. 4. She qualified with a 12th-place finish at the Region II Meet in Grand Prairie on Tuesday, Oct. 24.

Tarpley posted a career-best time of 12 minutes, 35.98 seconds over the 2-mile course at Lynn Creek Park.

The top four teams and the top 10 individuals not on those teams qualified for state. Tarpley was fourth among runners not on a qualifying team.

Lipan coach Misty Little praised Tarpley for giving her top performance in tough conditions that included inclement weather.

"She has been working extremely hard. It's exciting to have her qualify as a freshman against very tough regional competition," Little said.

Tarpley will run at 10:10 a.m. on Nov. 4.

The Lady Indians narrowly missed qualifying as a team, finishing fifth. Also running were sophomore Jacy Bolton, 50th, 13:41.55; freshman Kinsley Robinson, 52nd, 13:42.36; senior Taylor Branson, 53rd, 13:45.20; senior Ashlyn Clark, 87th, 14:24.62; and senior Harley Glover, 14:44.85.

Running for the Lipan boys on a 5-kilometer course were freshman Court Gaylor, 34th, 18:59.72; freshman Wyatt Yates, 70th, 20:24.45; freshman Tucker Tims, 110th, 22:25.13; freshman Michael Boling, 22:51.85; and junior Carter Patten, 129th, 24:05.03.

Tolar senior Hunter Keith placed 64th, clocking 20:06.55.

GRANBURY CROSS COUNTRY

The Pirates' successful season came to an end with a seventh-place team finish at the Class 5A Region I Meet at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock on Oct. 23. They were led by Bryan Hailey, who was 22nd individually, with a time of 16:36.10 over the 5K course.

Jaxon Glenn was 34th, clocking a time of 17:01.50. Rounding out the Granbury scoring were Alec Wilkinson, 54th, 17:15.00; Bryce Young, 55th, 17:15.60; and Aiden Lemens, 73rd, 17:30.60.

Also running for the Pirates were Jacob Wolfe, 135th, 18:26.20; and Aidan Turpin, 153rd, 19:01.40.

The only seniors on the squad are Wilkinson and Young. Glenn is a freshman, Hailey a sophomore, and Lemens, Wolfe and Turpin are juniors.

"I'm really proud of our team. Several guys took off huge chunks of time from district to regional," Granbury coach Jody Brown said. "We have a lot to celebrate, team champions in five of seven meets, district runner-up, seventh-place finish at regional."

"Our two seniors, Bryce and Alex, did a really nice job of leading us all year. We are a relatively young team. Hopefully, this will springboard us into a successful spring track season."

TOLAR VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Rattlers wrapped up the regular season with wins at Hico, 3-1, on Oct. 21 and at home against DeLeon, 3-0, on Senior Night, Oct. 24. They will enter the playoffs as the No. 2 seed from District 8-2A.

In the win over Hico, Kinzy McQuain and Abbie Soileau (8 aces) were named as standouts.

This is Tolar's sixth consecutive season to reach the playoffs. The Lady Rattlers will face Quannah in bidistrict on Tuesday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m. in Graham.

GRANBURY FOOTBALL

The Pirates (3-5, 1-5 in District 4-5A Division I) were hosting one of the state's top teams, the Red Oak Hawks (8-0, 6-0) at press time in their final game of the season at Pirate Stadium. The Hawks entered the game ranked No. 7 in the state in Class 5A Division I.

The Pirates were coming off a 34-18 upset loss at Killeen

Ellison on Oct. 20.

Tyler Rodgers had another strong game running the ball for the Pirates, picking up 79 yards on 17 carries. He also scored a touchdown on a 7-yard pass from quarterback Jonathan McCandless.

Jadon Rogers gained 78 yards on 14 carries with a touchdown.

Special teams featured kick returns of 43 (punt) and 29 yards (kickoff) by Halston Main, while Christian Paddock returned a kickoff 27 yards. Paddock also kicked a 29-yard field goal.

Main also led the defense with seven tackles, while Rylan Brenish had six and Chase Cantrell posted five. Augie Zapata had two sacks and two tackles for a loss.

Granbury leaders through first eight games:

Offense - Rogers (520 yards, 8 TD rushing) and Rodgers (458 yards, 5 TD rushing, 1 receiving TD). Rogers had only played in six games, missing two with an injury.

Defense - Brenish (61 tackles, 7 for loss, 1 fumble recovery), Cantrell (60 tackles, 4 for loss, 2 fumble recoveries), Main (43 tackles, 3 for loss, 1 fumble recovery), Zapata (6 sacks, 6 tackles for loss, 1 fumble recovery).

The season will come to an end for the Pirates at Killeen Shoemaker (5-3, 3-3), which is battling for the final playoff berth, Friday night at 7.

Shoemaker leaders:

Offense - Quarterback Malachi Jerome (1,182 yards, 7 TD, 2 interceptions passing; 330 yards, 3 TD rushing), running back Jerrod Hicks-Maddox (841 yards, 13 TD rushing; 180 yards, 3 TD receiving).

Defense - Travonne Woodley (13 tackles for loss), Jay Haynes (10 tackles for loss, 10 sacks).

TOLAR FOOTBALL

Coming off a 61-6 home victory against Bangs (2-6, 1-3 in District 5-2A Division I) on Oct. 20, the Rattlers (7-1, 4-0) were back on the road for a final time in the regular season



COURTESY PHOTO

Lipan freshman Annslee Tarpley qualified for the Class 2A State Cross Country Meet. She will run at 10:10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Old Settlers Park in Round Rock.

last night at Goldthwaite (5-3, 2-2). Tolar was seeking to finish undefeated on the road for a third straight season.

The last time the Rattlers lost a road game in the regular season was at Crawford in the middle of the 2020 season. Since then, they had won 17 consecutive entering last night.

Against Bangs, Rattlers quarterback Isaac Blessing was a near-perfect 9-of-11 throwing the ball for 170 yards and three touchdowns to Clayton Stembridge, Matthew Behrens and Drake Owens. He also ran for a touchdown.

Behrens also paced the defense with six tackles, with Stembridge, Owens, Hunter Michels and Cayden Abrego each posting five. Caden Pate and Cash Clark also had an interception each.

Tolar leaders through eight games:

Offense - Blessing (61% completion, 1,040 yards, 15 TD, 2 interceptions passing; 738 yards and 10 TD rushing), Behrens (18 catches, 407 yards, 4 TD receiving), Garrison Nation (448 yards, 8 TD rushing; 6 catches, 166 yards, 3 TD receiving).

Defense - Owens (67 tackles, 2 interceptions, 1 fumble

recovery), Jaxon Riddle (65 tackles, 6 for loss, 1 interception, 1 fumble recovery), Braylen Rice (32 tackles, 3 interceptions, 2 fumble recoveries).

The Rattlers are looking to win a third consecutive district championship and run their league winning streak to 16 straight with wins last night and at home against San Saba (3-6, 2-3) at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 3.

GRANBURY GIRLS GOLF

The Lady Pirates competed in the Argyle Girls Invitational at Wildhorse Golf Club in Denton on Oct. 20-21. They shot a total of 718 (369-349).

Halle Carr led Granbury with a 170 (88-82), followed by Akyah Ditto with a 176 (93-83). Claire Jordan shot 185 (92-93), Ariel Jimenez came in with a 194 (96-98) and Grace Jimenez posted a 195 (104-91).

The four lowest scores in each round comprise the team total.

The Lady Pirates were playing in the District 5-5A Fall Preview at Sugar Tree Golf Course at press time. They will compete in the 5A State Preview at Legacy Golf Course in Georgetown Nov. 3-4.

Seniors leading Lady Rattlers success

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

This past Tuesday night was both special and bittersweet for Maddie Rue and Trinity Rousseau.

It was Senior Night for the Tolar Lady Rattlers volleyball team. As the only two seniors on this season's team, they realize their time playing together is soon coming to an end - even if they win a state championship.

"I have mixed emotions about our final match, I will miss it, especially if I don't play in college. However, I have loved my team this year and I am so happy this is my team for senior year," Rue said. "I couldn't ask for a better bond between all of our teammates and a better coach. Our team is incredible when it comes to the skill and how we treat each other. I will cherish this team and our final matches together."

The two came into their senior season with the top goal of returning the Lady Rattlers to the success they knew be-

fore having only single digit victories in 2022 - though they did reach the playoffs. They have accomplished that as the Lady Rattlers are 20-14 entering the playoffs.

"My thoughts about our final match of the season and my volleyball career coming up are bittersweet. I'm blessed to have such an amazing team to play with, but I'm excited to see what the future holds," Rousseau said.

Rousseau has opted not to play in college, while Rue is undecided.

"Trinity and Maddie have been a huge asset to this program throughout their career at Tolar. Coming in as seniors in leadership roles they lead by example," Lady Rattlers coach Misty Rhodes said. "Both push themselves to get better, stronger, quicker in the court and in the weight room."

MOVING TO TOLAR

Rue played her freshman season at Glen Rose on the junior varsity. Then, her family moved to Tolar, where she was again on the JV as a sophomore until she was eligible

for varsity.

Her sister, Lillian, played on the Tolar varsity for three seasons while Maddie was at a private school.

"My sister did inspire me because she was excellent in high school. She inspired me to be a good student in school and taught me how to balance a sport along with schoolwork," Rue said. "She always gave her best when it came to either one and it inspired me to do the same."

STRONGER BOND

The bond became Rue and Rousseau has become even stronger as seniors, both said.

"We enjoy being around each other and are sad this is our last season playing. We are definitely friends on and off the court," Rue said. "We work really well on the court together, with her being a defensive player and me being a setter. We are constantly on the court, learned so much from each other, and have grown together."

Rousseau added, "Maddie and I have built an amazing bond surprisingly fast.

We have become very good friends, especially this season. We've used this time to build a friendship together."

TOUGH TO REPLACE

The impact of Rue and Rousseau will be hard to replace, Rhodes said. But she is phased with not only what they are accomplishing, but what they are helping teach the younger players.

"There has been an added drive in our program because the younger athletes want to hit like Maddie or dig like Trinity. They see their work ethic and it sets a standard and raises the bar for us," Rhodes said.

Rhodes praised their growth through the years, along with their understanding of the game.

"Maddie has developed an understanding of the game that enables her setter to run a very effective and quicker offense. She played outside hitter most of her career and we moved her over to the right side this year. She was not as confident on the right side early in the season but has



COURTESY OF MELESIA CARROLL AND KELLY MOODY

Trinity Rousseau (14) and Maddie Rue are the only seniors on the Tolar Lady Rattlers volleyball team and are also great friends. Together, they have led the team to 20 wins and a sixth straight playoff appearance.

developed into a powerhouse for us there," she said.

"Trinity has played every position but setter for us. She has fulfilled those roles very well every time we made a change, she is a true utility player. She accepted those roles selflessly as they are what our team needed at the time. Sacrificing her own personal preferences for the betterment of the team."

Rhodes said without question the two will be greatly missed after this season, but the legacy they are leaving is inspirational. She noted

they are also the epitome of the motto for the team this season.

"Our program is going to have huge shoes to fill next year with these two graduating, but the legacy they are leaving behind is, as our motto this year states, 'You can get stronger, you can get faster, you can work harder and when you do, and believe in yourselves and your teammates, there are no limits.'"

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texans dominate Eagles with shutout performance in front of record homecoming crowd

Tarleton State University
STEPHENVILLE — Homecoming week is always a little sweeter when Texan Football culminates it with a win. It's even sweeter when the win is in front of a Memorial Stadium record crowd.

Tarleton State (5-3, 1-2 UAC) dominated Morehead State (3-4, 2-2 PFL) in shutout fashion on Saturday, Oct. 21 in Stephenville 42-0. The Texans scored 21 points in the second quarter to lead 28-0 at halftime and never looked back, starting the year 5-3 for the second straight season. Tarleton improved to 3-1 at home this season, and earned its first shutout since March 27, 2021, vs. Northeastern State (38-0).

Under head coach Todd Whitten, the Texans are now 11-3 on their homecoming games.

For the third straight year, the Texans set a new attendance record at their homecoming game, this time seeing 23,042 fans through the turnstiles. They've hosted more than 20,000 fans in three of their four home games this year. And on Saturday, all 23,042 fans got a treat throughout the night, with an epic pregame, great play for four quarters, and a fun George Strait tickets giveaway that featured a

sing-off between contestants selected at random.

The night started with Sgt. Dana Bowman skydiving through the air after leaping from a helicopter, parachuting onto the field. Then, the Legend of the Texan Rider returned to lead the Texans onto the field. When game play started, Tarleton State immediately provided even more fireworks.

On its first drive of the game, Tarleton marched 75 yards in less than four minutes, with Kayvon Britten streaking ahead for a 22-yard score, his first of two rushing touchdowns on the night.

Leading 7-0, the Texans opened the second quarter with another touchdown, as Victor Gabalis floated a deep ball down the middle to Darius Cooper for a 50-yard score. The Texan defense then forced its fourth punt in four drives, and Patrick Jones set the offense up with great field position thanks to a 47-yard punt return. The Texans capitalized, handing it off to Derrel Kelley III for four straight times, his last carry a 23-yard touchdown to put Tarleton ahead 21-0. Later in the frame, the Texans forced a turnover on downs, then scored again, this time Britten rushing it in from three yards out, his 10th total touchdown on the year.

Tarleton led 28-0 at the break.

Yet again, Tarleton scored a touchdown on its first drive of the quarter, this time a 50-yard march capped off by a Gabalis 18-yard pass to Kelley. The Texans seemingly had a safety a short while later after kicker/punter Adrian Guzman pinned the Eagles at the 1-yard line, but officials disagreed and the third frame ended with Tarleton ahead 35-0.

For the fourth time in four quarters, the Texans opened the frame with a touchdown. Caleb Lewis powered his way into an 18-yard touchdown, the fifth by a Tarleton running back on the night.

It was a complete team performance by the Purple and White, who outgained Morehead State 515-113 in total yardage. The Texans had 302 rushing yards to -11 by the Eagles, making it back-to-back games for Tarleton with more than 300 rushing yards, their first such stretch since Nov.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Homecoming week is always a little sweeter when Texan Football culminates it with a win.

2-8, 2019. Their -11 rushing yards allowed are the fifth fewest rushing yards allowed in a game across all of NCAA Division I, FCS and FBS, this season.

The Texans had 26 first downs to Morehead State's 10, forcing the Eagles to punt 11 times, which is tied for the most punts the Eagles have had in a game in program history. There were no turnovers by either team on the night.

Gabalis completed 13-of-

24 for 210 yards and two touchdowns. Britten ran for 143 yards and two touchdowns on 14 carries, averaging 10.2 yards per rush. Kelley also had two touchdowns, rushing it nine times for 38 yards and a score, and adding an 18-yard touchdown reception. Lewis went 77 yards on nine carries (8.6 YPC), plus a touchdown. Cooper led the receiving group with four catches, 69 yards and a touchdown.

Three different Texans had

a sack, one each by Ahmir Crowder, Josh Griffis and O'tay Baker. Devin Sterling had two tackles for loss, and Brandon Tolvert had three quarterback hurries.

The Texans are back on the road next week for what will likely be a ranked matchup. Central Arkansas is currently No. 20 in the Stats Perform FCS Football Rankings. The Texans will battle the Bears at Estes Stadium in Conway, Arkansas, on Saturday, Oct. 28, at 4 p.m.

Tarleton State drops 4-set battle to UTRGV

Tarleton State University
STEPHENVILLE — Texan Volleyball dropped its Homecoming match on Saturday, Oct. 21 against the Vaqueros.

The Texans started off strong and claimed the first set, 25-23. UTRGV took the next set 25-16 and saw the final two sets end at 25-21. Tarleton State is now 11-12 overall and 2-7 in Western Athletic Conference play after falling to the Vaqueros. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley tallied 54 digs, 52 kills, 47 assists, 14 blocks, and 10 aces. UTRGV is 14-9 overall and 8-2 in conference.

In the match against the Vaqueros, the Texans compiled 51 kills, 45 digs, 44 assists, six blocks and four aces. Rajini Fitzmaurice led the team with 11 kills. Emma Burke contributed 10 kills of her own and Breanna McDonough tallied nine.

Burke led the Texan defense with four blocks. Madison Frank and McDonough each claimed two blocks as well. Megan Hodges also led the team in assists (34) and digs (13). Matti Theurer earned

12 digs for the match and Fitzmaurice tallied eight of her own.

A pair of kills from the Vaqueros put the visitors on the board first in the opening frame. A four-score run claimed the lead for Tarleton State, but the Vaqueros answered with two more to tie the set. Both teams went back and forth for the next two points but kills from Fitzmaurice and McDonough put UTRGV down by two. Three consecutive points from the visiting team closed in on Tarleton State but Allison Bryant sealed the set with a kill for a 25-23 final.

In set two, UTRGV came out strong taking a 5-0 lead. The Vaqueros led the entire second stanza. The Texans saw the closest score of the frame at 10-14 after a kill from Fitzmaurice and an error from the visitors. Tarleton saw kills from Melina Maldonado Ortiz and Fitzmaurice, and an ace from Schirpik for the home team's final points. A pair of errors from Tarleton State tallied the last two points for UTRGV to close the set at 25-16.

Set three began with a

kill from the Vaqueros but the next three points were claimed by the Purple and White. The Texans led the frame until a kill from Luisa Silva Dos Santos tied the set at point eight. A four-score run saw the home team up by four. A strong Vaquero offense took the next five points for a two-point lead at 18-16. From there, UTRGV led the remainder of the stanza. Burke laid down a pair of kills, followed by a kill from McDonough to see the 20th point for the Texans. An error from the visiting team added the last point for the Purple and White but a kill from Perris Key saw the set point for a 25-21 final.

In a very competitive fourth set, both teams took turns leading the stanza. Set four saw four lead changes and eight ties. The final tie of the frame came at the 19th point after a kill from Frank. Three consecutive points from the visitors saw UTRGV up, 22-19. A service error from the Vaqueros and a kill from Schirpik saw the Texans at 21-22. The visitors saw a three-score run to close out the set at 25-21.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

WACO -- Two main draw singles tickets and a doubles run highlighted the Texans' time on the Brazos at ITA Regionals on Sunday, Oct. 15 and Monday, Oct. 16..

Tarleton State Tennis sees success at 2023 ITA Regional Championship

Tarleton State University
WACO -- Two main draw singles tickets and a doubles run highlighted the Texans' time on the Brazos at ITA Regionals on Sunday, Oct. 15 and Monday, Oct. 16.

"It's another great competitive weekend in the books for us," said head coach Elianne Douglas-Miron. "Emma [Persson] had an impressive weekend, coming out of the qualifying and beating a player from Rice in the first round."

Persson once again saw success on the court for the Purple and White in singles action. Persson won two straight matches on opening day against Houston and Incarnate Word to punch her ticket to the main draw on Friday.

With a spot locked into the field of 64 on Friday, Persson got an early start

beating Chie Kezuka of Rice to send her to the round of 32. She was one of two Texans to face an opponent from Texas in the round of 32.

"Martha [Makantasi] beat a Power Five opponent in Houston and competed well," Douglas-Miron said. "Being able to compete at this level means we are moving in the right direction. Our program is growing, and I'm looking forward to our last event of the fall at the end of the month."

With an automatic bid to the singles main draw, Makantasi opened her time with a bang. With her spot locked into the round of 64, Makantasi earned her way to the round of 32 with a win over Laura Slisane of Power Five conference member, University of Houston. In the round of 32, Makantasi saw stiff compe-

dition in the University of Texas.

On the doubles side of things, Maretha Burger and Makantasi saw a deep run come to fruition. Following a hard-fought loss in the opening round of play, the pair made a deep run in the consolation bracket.

Burger and Makantasi earned a first-round bye before facing a pair from Texas State. The Texans dominated with an 8-1 win over the Bobcats. They then moved onto the quarterfinals and faced North Texas where they faced a bigger challenge, still coming away with the win 8-5. The Texans' run came to an end when they faced off against the Texas in the semi-finals.

The Texans will be back in action Oct. 27-29 when they head to Abilene for the Wildcat Invitational hosted by Abilene Christian.



COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Texan Volleyball dropped its Homecoming match on Saturday, Oct. 21 against the Vaqueros.

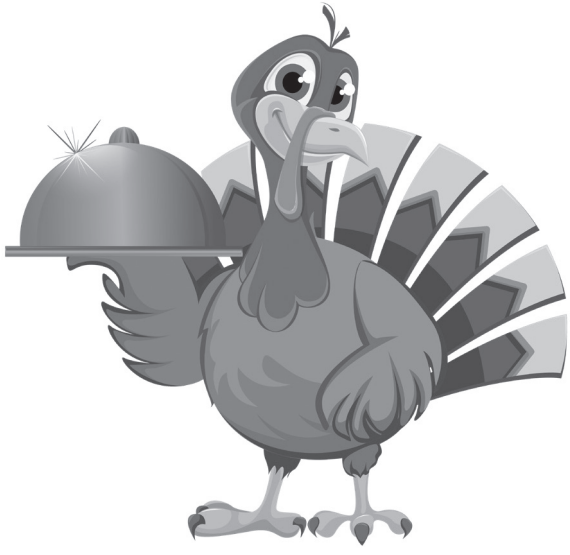
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9			3			2	4	6
				1		7		
1	7						9	
		9				3		
	6						5	4
		1		6				
8	2	4			7			5
7	9				8	4	2	

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

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Lady Pioneers Win State



The Lady Pioneers came home with the TAAO Division I State Championship this past weekend. They beat the San Antonio Saints in the semi final match on Friday, Oct. 20 then defeated Westlake Academy in three straight sets in the Championship match on Saturday, Oct. 21. Senior, Jana Cetkovic had 48 kills, with a .313 hitting average, served 100% with 3 aces on 40 attempts. Senior Anika Mijuskovic had 27 kills, 14 blocks while junior, Natacha Neza led the team in digs with 26. Five players were named to the All State Team. The players are Jana Cetkovic, Lea Lopicic, Anika Mijuskovic, Natacha Neza and Masa Simovic.

COURTESY PHOTOS



4-H fishing Tournament



Organizers appreciated all the support and participation that made the 1st Annual Hood County 4-H Fishing Tournament on Saturday, October 14 a success. Hood County 4-Hers were hard at work at Lake Granbury's Rough Creek Park first to greet the contestants and assist in the check-in process. Other 4-H Fishing Tourney duties included weighing the caught fish, followed by a gentle release, at the owner's request. The kids enjoyed posing for photos with contestants after a fun-filled day of fishing. The first-place team's contestants Cody Bird and Ronny Hesser (not pictured) donated back \$500 to Hood County 4-H.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

HCN Junior

National FIRST RESPONDER DAY October 28, 2023

Have you ever wondered who comes to help when there's an emergency? Well, it's our amazing first responders! They are like real-life superheroes.

First responders are the brave people

who rush to the rescue when something bad happens. They include firefighters, police officers, paramedics, and even some doctors and nurses. These special people are always ready to help, no matter the time or the weather.

Firefighters are like fearless dragonslayers. They put out fires and save people from burning buildings. They also help with other emergencies like rescuing animals and even helping in floods.

Police officers are like protectors of the peace. They keep our

neighborhoods safe, catch the bad guys, and make sure everyone follows the rules to keep us all safe.

Paramedics are like magical healers. When someone is hurt or sick, they come with their ambulances and take care of them, making sure they get to the hospital in time to get better.

Doctors and nurses are like guardian angels in the hospital. They work hard to make people feel better when they are sick.

First responders are incredibly important because they make our world a safer and happier place. They're always there when we need them, and we should always be thankful for their bravery and kindness. So, remember to say 'thank you' and 'please' to these heroes, and know that they are always looking out for us

You may have heard to call 9-1-1 in case of an emergency. Do you know what an emergency is?

There are three good reasons to call 9-1-1.

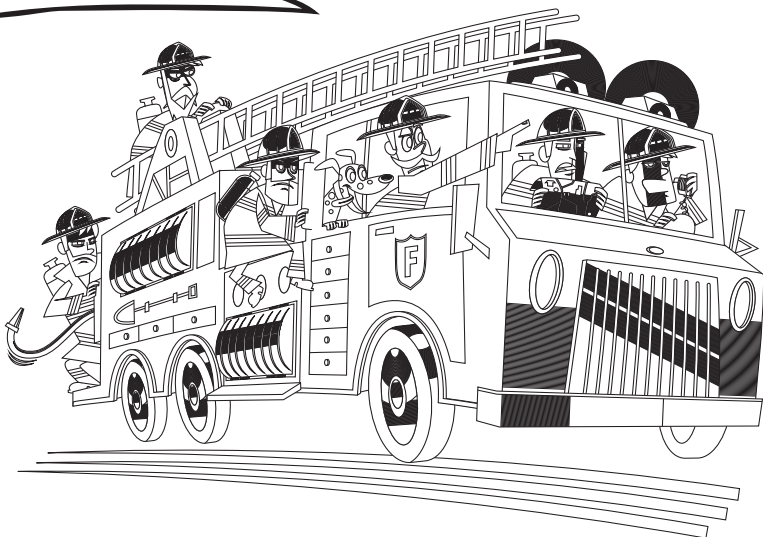
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BY MICHAEL ACOSTA

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

Probably the biggest and best lure in the tackle box is your confidence in your methods and your decisions on the water. This goes not only for fishing but for most anything you do in life. If you know what you are doing and you believe in your ability, you will come through. If you don't, you are in trouble before you leave the starting gate.

This time of year, with the summer conditions dragging into October, has not helped the situation. Relief is, how-

ever, on its way. Conditions are improving with lower lake temperatures. We could still use some rain to start filling up the lakes.

So how do you develop confidence? Practice, practice and practice! The only way to get confidence is to develop it on the water. You can get ideas from reading or on the internet, but you need to put them to the test on the water. It is a good idea to get as much information as you can from the internet, books or from fellow anglers. There

are many sites that have groups that discuss fishing on most every reservoir. Some of this information may be helpful, however some may be misleading.

Another option is to hire a guide. This is probably the quickest way to learn some techniques and locations to fish on the body of water you are looking at. The guide will impart his confidence to you in the presentations he uses.

Don't just look at presentations and lures. Understand the species you are seeking and learn their habits depending on water temperature and season. Understand the wind and the weather and how they may play into your fishing day. Also learn to read the wildlife and birds, as this can give you

key indications of what may be appropriate for the day.

Keep your fishing gear in good shape. If you do get a bite, you want to make sure you land that fish. Keep your line fresh and retie periodically. Making sure you have everything ready can help to boost your confidence.

Knowledge is power, and experience on the water will bring confidence. Keeping your head in the game goes along way in whatever you do. You may not catch fish every time you go out, but the more you work at it the better your results will be.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water level continues to be about two feet

low. Water temperatures are in the lower 70s and cooling and turnover are ongoing. Granbury sandbass continue to be fair to good from the Shores in town to Blue Water Shores on chartreuse slabs. Look for sandbass schooling activity early and late near main lake points. Catfish are good on cut-bait fished on flats adjacent to creek channels especially at mid-lake and upstream. Largemouth are good early on topwater and on crankbaits and soft plastics later in the day. Best largemouth action is on 10-foot humps near points and on feeding flats. Some good largemouth bass are being caught by Decordova subdivision and near Ports-O-Call. Striped bass are fair to good to 12 pounds on live bait and

trolled Alabama rigs fished from Decordova Subdivision to the dam on channel breaks.

Comanche Creek (formerly called Squaw Creek) channel catfish are excellent on prepared and cut bait. Limits of catfish are common. Largemouth bass are also good to excellent on crankbaits and soft plastics near submerged structures from the island to the upper ends of the lake near creek channels. Tilapia (invasive species) are abundant on this reservoir.

On other reservoirs: Whitney and Possum Kingdom continue to brag on limits of striped bass on live bait and trolling Alabama rigs.

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PHOTOS COURTESY MUDGIRL RUN

Ten older women from an all-female workout group in Hood County successfully completed the MUDGIRL race in Forney on Oct. 21.

Local females prove age is just a number in Dallas MUDGIRL race

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

An all-female workout group in Hood County has now successfully proven that you're never too old to finish a race — even if that race involves three miles of mud and challenging obstacles.

Nikki Vasquez, owner of Two Tribes Primal Fitness in Acton, works to train individuals in physical fitness. Although she welcomes both men and women as her clients, Vasquez said she mainly trains older women.

"As we get older as women, we know how women's bodies change a lot differently than a man can even begin to image," she said. "And we're all here for the same thing — to try and get functional and stay capable."

Vasquez said about 90% of her female client base is age 60 and above, with 76 being her oldest client.

"That's kind of my niche," she said. "Because it's training a whole different mindset. Some seniors need so much more socialization, and they don't need to be pushed; their bodies are very, very different."

Which is why when Granbury resident Rebecca Faiola asked to do an event together as a group with the other female clients, Vasquez jokingly recommended the MUDGIRL obstacle race in Forney that was set for Oct. 21.

"I joked and I was like, 'Hey, this MUDGIRL run, that sounds fun,' and Rebecca goes, 'Oh, I'm in,'" Vasquez said. "I was like 'Okay, let me check with every-

one else and see.' I thought 'No one's gonna bite,' but everyone was like, 'Oh, I'll bring you the money tomorrow.' 'Let's get us registered.' 'Let's get shirts.'"

Surprisingly to Vasquez, everyone was completely on board with the idea, spurring the 53-year-old trainer to get serious and whip her team into shape for the future event.

Due to the older ages of everyone on the team, the women came up with the name Women of Wisdom to showcase the team's knowledge and experience.

"That's what we call our morning classes, the Women of Wisdom, because we have so much wisdom there," Vasquez said. "I've learned so much from these women about life, love, relationships, eating and dancing."

For the next 10 months, Vasquez worked with every Women of Wisdom member, training them on how to exercise properly as well as how to climb and crawl.

"Every month, I would talk about how training is a skill," Vasquez said. "It's a 5K mud run, and there's 17 obstacles. It's three-plus miles and 17 obstacles."



The Hood County workout group, Women of Wisdom, had to complete a three-mile mud race, complete with 17 obstacles.

According to mudgirlrun.us, participants in MUDGIRL face mud, obstacles, and inflatables in an "amazing atmosphere surrounded by women of all ages and all fitness levels."

MUDGIRL also coined the hashtag #PinkArmy in support of cancer research. Since 2017, MUDGIRL has made a positive impact on the world, donating a total of \$300,000 to breast cancer charities across North America and Europe, according to mudgirlrun.us.

Due to MUDGIRL's strong support of cancer research, the

event is also more meaningful to many of the Women of Wisdom group members.

"I know some of them have had cancer themselves, but I don't think any of our ladies that were there had breast cancer... but, still, we were all there, and we were supportive of everybody," Vasquez said.

She explained that six out of 17 obstacles involved crawling in mud, while additional tasks like carrying a 30-pound sack and pulling a 90-pound

PLEASE SEE **WOW** | C4

Koby Vaughn:



EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Koby Vaughn, owner/operator of Koby J Trucking, and his dogs Lucy and Tipper.

Soldier of the Year, twice

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

One day an Army recruitment officer walked into the upholstery shop where Koby Vaughn was working and spoke to him about joining the Army.

"I said, 'Okay, sign me up,' and in a few months I was in basic training," shares Vaughn. He would never imagine where that decision would take him — the experiences and opportunities that a simple yes would provide. What would follow would be serving in two different branches of the military as both active and reserve, travel to Egypt, Hawaii multiple times, Japan and all around the United States.

Vaughn is native to Granbury, he grew up on a family farm in the Mitchell Bend area, he attended a small Christian School, Oak Trail Academy (no longer open) and then STARS Accelerated High School. Because of his athletic ability he had college coaches interested in him playing football for their teams, but the Army's offer was the first to come through.

His first stint would be in the Army where his athletic ability would get him noticed. He won the 12-mile road march and was encouraged to compete for "Soldier of the Year."

Soldier of the Year is a prestigious award given to each branch of the military. It has been presented for the last 22 years and honors one outstanding military member from each branch of the service. This soldier is one who has demonstrated exemplary military service. The process is a grueling one with multiple areas in which the soldier must show excellence.

The physical component is designed to demonstrate that the soldier is in top physical condition. There is a common skills component, for example navigation skills where you compete in the desert with a map, or how to properly react to a nuclear blast. There is a questionnaire part of the process as well where soldiers must answer questions that are chosen from 6,000 page book.

Vaughn would win Soldier of the Year for Fort Bliss and additionally win Soldier of the Year as a soldier of the 18th Airborne Corps.

"Back in those days, I didn't miss a lick. I scored perfectly on everything. Competition was with a bunch of Rangers. Those guys were as good as I was," said Vaughn and laughs, "I was just a smidge better." Vaughn said his fellow soldiers "always encouraged me calling me 'S.O.Y.' (soldier of the year), but it created a whole lot more work."

"After that the commanders wanted me to go to West Point," Vaughn offers, "I was already a Sergeant and an E5. They sent me to West Point to tour the campus. But they don't get active-duty time and I would be scaled back from an E5 to nothing." Vaughn would decide to further his education later.

His main work in the Army was his work with the Patriot Missiles. This part of his Army experience would take him to Egypt. He would set up the Patriot Missile system with the Airborne unit, "I drove my own truck that hauled a launching trailer."

"My sergeant, Sergeant First Class Tate said, 'Koby! When I get out of this (expletive) I am gonna start a trucking company and I am gonna call it Koby J Trucking!' I had no idea at that time that I would open my own trucking company one day and name it Koby J Trucking."

Vaughn speaks of how during his Army years they would train the Egyptians with how to use the missiles as the Egyptians received the older equipment.

"They were taking over the old outdated system as our allies. It's interesting to now see them use those same systems to defend themselves. It's crazy to see that system over there doing its job. I was trained to fire them but at the time I was there we never had to fire live missiles. But it's amazing to see it working and doing as it was intended. It must have been God's plan that I wasn't sent anywhere (in active conflict). When I was sent over, they had already been sent to Saudi. It was a god-send; I am pretty sure it was."

After serving four years in the Army, Vaughn would serve four years in the National Guard. During these years he would use the G.I. bill to fund a degree in diesel technology. Laying the groundwork for his future career. Vaughn credits his upbringing on the farm with giving him a firm foundation of mechanical knowledge years before he attended college.

Vaughn would finish his degree during a two-year break from military service when he decided to reenlist.

PLEASE SEE **VAUGHN** | C3

Hood County rallies together for crime victims

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Hood County community members came together to support one another and fight for those who have lost a loved one due to an unresolved crime, as well as talk about Domestic Violence Awareness month.

The event was attended by Granbury City Mayor Jim Jarratt and Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds, several police department members, some workers from the county attorney's office, as well as people from the Ada Carey Family Violence Shelter in Granbury.

The event was coordinated by Kelli Martin, who is a criminal justice professional, and Dolly Palmer Spinner, the sister of Holly Palmer, whose body was found dead in 1988, and the case has yet to be resolved.

Community members rallied together at the site of where Holly's body was found at 1512 W. Pearl St.

Martin named off victims who have lost their lives and whose crimes have not been solved to this day, including Lillian Hurt, Kathy Stembridge, and Sheila Vandygriff.

Stembridge's sister, Lisa, was in attendance and asked Martin to read a statement she wrote.



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds speaks at the Hood County Crime Victims Rally on Oct. 21.

"When this happens to your loved one, it affects your entire family, as well as your family members and friends. All of us hope and pray we have some kind of closure in our lives here on Earth. We're at a loss for words, and all we can ask is why. You live the rest of your

life waking up every morning, and you're trying to find peace. If anyone knows anything, we're asking for your help, and also continue praying for each and every one of us every single day. Each day is a chance to shine brightly through all of us." Lisa's statement read.

Sheriff Deeds shared with attendees of the event that Martin inspired him to look back into some of these past cases that have been unresolved.

"We're here to protect and serve, and we're going to do

PLEASE SEE **CRIME** | C5



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured from left are Savannah Robinson, Denise Robinson and Acton Methodist Church Senior Pastor, Rev. Barry Robinson.

Pastor Barry Robinson answers the call

Acton Methodist Church chooses Robinson

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH

Special to the Hood County News

Pastor Barry Robinson didn't grow up in church. "About the only time I heard God's name growing up, it was followed by a four-letter word."

Robinson is the new pastor of Acton Methodist Church. He moved to Granbury with his wife Denise and their youngest daughter Savannah. Robinson was selected as the result of a nationwide search for the ideal pastor after the church split from the United Methodist Church. The Robinsons were previously serving in Greenville, Kentucky.

The path to the pulpit for Robinson was an interesting road paved with earnest faith and God's intervention. As a young man, Robinson could not imagine any other path than the one he had dreamed of since childhood — he would be a meteorologist. He had planned this since age 10.

But something else was stirring in young Robinson besides the career goal he dreamed of. Around the age of 17 something began to stir in his heart, a restless wondering, a desire to know God. The young man who had not grown up in church wanted to know if God was real.

"At about the age of 17 I had this desire to know God; I didn't even know if he was real. I just prayed and said, 'If you are real, God, let me know.' The entire summer I kept praying and asking God to show himself."

One day late in the summer Robinson's dad sat his boys down and said, "You boys are going to church tomorrow." Robinson's grandad had invited them to a revival. Robinson said, "I was so excited! I thought, 'Yes!'" Robinson was surprised his dad was allowing them to attend because his dad had grown cold toward church due to his grandparents.

Immediately Robinson felt

something different when he entered the revival. "You felt the holiness, you felt the spirit right there," he explains, "There was a heavy-set man up at the front and he said, 'Someone here has been asking God to reveal himself to you.'"

Robinson cites that night as the night he was born again — "I said 'yes' that night. And everyone said they were so proud of me. But I didn't know what to do next." The new convert struggled as a new believer without someone disciplining him or teaching him how to follow God.

Robinson enlisted in the military, which would allow him to pursue his dreams of a career in meteorology. But something else was happening alongside his military service and education. Robinson became involved in a church on base and the chaplain there took him under his wing. "He really disciplined me and showed me how to be a Christian," Robinson says.

There was a little church right off base Robinson decided to attend one day. He remembered the time of service incorrectly and when he arrived service was well under way. As he walked into the church there was a young lady singing at the pulpit. "I thought, 'That woman is going to be my wife. I am going to marry her.'" Robinson and Denise were engaged within three months of meeting and married within six months. They have now marked 28 years of marriage, with three grown daughters — Clarissa, Carrie and Savannah — and two sons-in-law.

Life seemed to be going according to plan. "I wanted to chase storms. I had my whole life planned out, how all that was going to work, but things worked out differently than I thought. I was off the coast in Hawaii, and I heard — not audibly, but heard it all the same — I was being called to ministry. I said, 'No! I already planned this! I can't speak well, and I am not good at

PLEASE SEE PASTOR | C6

Lipan hosts annual Kickapoo Festival



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Lipan held their 15th annual Kickapoo Festival on Oct. 21. The event is always looked forward to among the community and features a car show, vendors, music, food, and a silent auction. All the money raised goes directly to the Lipan Volunteer Fire Department.

BY EMILY NAVA Staff Writer

The annual Kickapoo Festival in Lipan on Oct. 21 featured a car show, vendors, food and a silent auction. Proceeds generated from the event go directly to the Volunteer Lipan Fire Department.

This was the 15th year for the event and around \$23,000 was raised.

The festival boasted

40 vendors, 88 car show entries and around 600 lunches served to those in attendance.

The car show featured three different categories including Best of Show, Best of Show — Truck and Sponsor's Choice.

Hood County Commissioner Precinct 1 Kevin Andrews shared that the best part of this annual event is the people.

"The people are what

make that event so special. Getting out and getting to see the same people that come back to the event every year, it's just a good time," Andrews said. "The car shows entries that keep coming back and the vendors that keep coming back, and the public that comes and supports the event really make it a great event. We're so thankful for the support and (with this event) are better able

to prepare for dealing with emergencies."

The Best of Show award went to Gary Williams for his 1969 red Plymouth Road Runner. Best of Show - Truck award went to Daniel Scott for his 1964 red Chevy C-10 and the Sponsor's Choice award went to Ricky and Sherry Brown for their 1969 orange and silver Chevella.

H-E-B DONATED \$10,000 TO THE ACTON NATURE CENTER ON OCT. 4



COURTESY PHOTO

H-E-B donated \$10,000 to the Acton Nature Center on Oct. 4. Pictured are from left to right, Dave Moore, president of the Friends of Acton Nature Center, Caitlin Grant-Sauceda, HEB community coordinator, Pat Wilson, Granbury HEB store manager, and Lee Hoechstetter, Granbury HEB operations leader.

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EMBRACE THE ELEMENTS

COURTESY PHOTO

Don't let a little Texas rain or fog dampen your photography spirit.

iPhone photography in inclement weather

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

Now that we've broken out of the summer and hot-umn seasons and have started having a little more actual fall weather in North Central Texas, hopefully, we can expect more damp, rainy and foggy weather.

But don't let a little Texas rain or fog dampen your photography spirit! Granbury's unique landmarks and charming streets offer a plethora of opportunities for iPhone photographers, even in less-than-ideal weather. Here are nine tips to help you take captivating photos in Granbury's unpredictable weather conditions.

1. EMBRACE THE RAIN AT GRANBURY SQUARE

Rainy days in Granbury shouldn't keep you indoors. Grab your iPhone and head to the Historic Granbury Square. The vibrant umbrellas of visitors shopping at local boutiques can serve as colorful focal points in your photos.

2. GET CREATIVE AT GRANBURY CITY BEACH PARK

If you're looking to add a

creative flair to your rainy-day photos, try capturing images through raindrops on the windows at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. The raindrops will add an abstract quality to your photos, making them stand out.

3. PUDDLE REFLECTIONS AT LAMBERT BRANCH PARK

After the rain, Lambert Branch Park is a great place to capture reflections in puddles. The park's trees and walking paths can add exciting elements to your reflection shots.

4. SNOWY DAYS AT GRANBURY OPERA HOUSE

Snow transforms the Granbury Opera House into a winter wonderland. Frame your shots using the historic architecture and capture the expressions of theater-goers brav-

ing the cold for a night of entertainment.

5. FOGGY MORNINGS AT GRANBURY CITY CEMETERY

Fog adds a layer of mystery to any photo. The Granbury City Cemetery, with its historic gravestones, provides an eerie yet beautiful backdrop for foggy morning photography.

6. ADJUST EXPOSURE FOR LAKE GRANBURY SHOTS

Remember to adjust your iPhone's exposure settings when photographing snowy or foggy scenes around Lake Granbury. This will ensure that your photos capture the true beauty of the lake and its surroundings.

7. CAPTURE THE GRANBURY COURTHOUSE IN BLACK AND WHITE

The Hood County Courthouse is a classic subject for photography. Try capturing it in black and white to emphasize its historical architecture and add a timeless feel to your photos.

8. USE THE SHANLEY PARK WALKING TRAIL FOR LEADING LINES

The Shanley Park Walking Trail behind the Granbury City Hall is perfect for creating leading lines in your compositions. The walkway guides the viewer's eye, adding depth and interest to your photos.

9. EXPERIMENT WITH APPS

Remember to experiment with photo editing apps to enhance your Granbury street photos. Apps like Lightroom and Snapseed offer a range of filters and editing tools to help you achieve your desired look.

Don't let bad weather keep you from capturing the beauty of Granbury. With these tips, you'll be well-equipped to take stunning iPhone photos come rain, snow, or fog.



Get ready for a killer show



COURTESY GRAPHIC

The Granbury Theatre Company is back with another showstopper in its Broadway on the Brazos season. "And Then There Were None," set to run from Oct. 27 to Nov. 12.

'And Then There Were None'

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

Prepare to be on the edge of your seat! The Granbury Theatre Company (GTC) is back with another showstopper in its Broadway on the Brazos season. This time, it's Agatha Christie's spine-tingling classic, "And Then There Were None," set to run from Oct. 27 to Nov. 12. And where else could such a masterpiece unfold but at the iconic Granbury Opera House in the heart of Downtown Granbury?

And what better way to kick off your Halloween celebrations than with a spooky, eerie Agatha Christie murder mystery? Picture this: A mysterious invitation brings together 10 individuals, each from different walks of life, to a secluded island that promises an experience unlike any other. As they arrive, it becomes clear that this is no ordinary gathering. Each guest harbors a shadowy past veiled in secrecy and moral ambiguity. But what could possibly link these seemingly unrelated people?

The answer lies in a cryptic nursery rhyme that eerily begins to dictate the course of their stay. As the island becomes increasingly isolated due to unforeseen weather conditions, tensions rise, and trust dwindles. One by one, the guests face unsettling events that mirror the haunting verses of the rhyme. With no way to leave the island and no one to trust, the atmosphere turns electric with suspense. Who—or what—is behind these chilling occurrences? As the clock ticks, and the stakes escalate, the guests must unravel the island's enigma before it's too late. Intrigued yet?

MEET THE ALL-STAR CAST
The stage will come alive

with an ensemble cast featuring the talents of Opera House newcomers Davayun Chase, Jordan Herndon, and Mary-Kate Flannery, and beloved Opera House regulars Jonah Hardt, Whitney Shearon, Gavin Clark, Reagan Deming, Jeff Meador, Ben Rongey, and Wayne Trimble.

THE CREATIVE MINDS BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The production is helmed by the murder mystery master, Micky Shearon, with Darren Clark as the assistant director. The design team is nothing short of brilliant: Jonah Hardt steps out of his on-stage role to double as the show's scenic designer. "I've never had such a full mental scope of a production before," said Hardt. "Not only as a performer, but also as both the scenic designer for the show and the foreman of the scene shop at GTC. There's not an inch of this show, physical, and otherwise, that I don't know. It's been a blast!"

Also stepping out of their on-stage characters on the design team are Whitney Shearon as the lighting designer and Reagan Deming as the show's lead scenic artist. Rodney Hudson handles props, Colton Lively for hair and makeup, Eme Looney on costume design, and Joseph Pilgrim on sound. Kudos to Casey Covington, the stage manager, for orchestrating it all.

WHEN TO CATCH THE SHOW

Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. on Fridays, with matinee and evening shows at 2 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and a 2 p.m. matinee on Sundays. Don't miss out! Tickets are flying out the door! Reserve your seat by calling the GTC box office at 817-579-0952 or book online at Granbury Theatre Company.

VAUGHN

FROM PAGE C1

He considered the Air Force, but they don't prefer former military personnel. "I had an Army buddy that went Navy. Navy would keep your rank, so that's what I decided to do," said Vaughn, "the Navy took me in and sent me to machinist school." In the Navy Vaughn would be a machinist working on both ships and aircraft carriers.

"Oh, I preferred the aircraft carriers. They are like a big city. The first time I was on one I got lost. You are supposed to know your compartments, but overall, it's overwhelming," shares Vaughn.

Vaughn would save his money during his eight years in the Navy, money acquired through food allowances and per diem. He used this money to begin his own trucking

company halfway through his time in the Navy.

After the Navy Vaughn would return to Granbury to run his trucking company and look after his parents. Vaughn is grateful for the experiences that the armed services provided. "I think the military established me in my career. I think all kids should consider the military if they don't get a big scholarship for college. It provided me an education, travel and experience. It teaches you all kinds of things that many kids don't know, especially those that didn't grow up like me. Teaches you how to do things and fix things. You get to serve your country and learn teamwork. You have to have teamwork in the military."

Now the military provides Vaughn with health care which he says he is probably the most grateful for. "I don't



CLAUDIA PEREZ RIVAS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Photo memorabilia from Koby Vaughn's days in the military. In one photo Vaughn is shown with his parents Clarence and Kathy, they were able to put Vaughn's rank of Sergeant on his shoulder at the ceremony.

know if it was the anthrax or other shots, but I have a voice disorder now that I get Botox injections in the throat for. The VA (Veteran's Administration) pays for

that. I have had heart issues, have had to have a heart ablation. Have had broken bones. The VA takes care of all that."

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GAME ON



PHOTO COURTESY DRAW ME A PIXEL

There Is No Game references quite a lot of old-school gaming in its narrative, including Zelda.

There Is No Game: Wrong Dimension

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.

There is No Game: Wrong Dimension popped up in Steam on sale this week, so despite the fact I have 80 games in my Steam library, including several I haven't yet installed, I went for it. It's the game's third anniversary on Steam.

There is No Game: Wrong Dimension bills itself as "A point & click comedy adventure. You can go ahead and put your controller back up on the shelf." It's entirely

mouse driven. It's a deliberately chunky retro game with pixels rather than vectors.

It gets weird at the very beginning. You're asked to select the language you want to play the game in by selecting a flag, and the caption reads "If you can read this leave the program!" Then the title screen comes up with "Do not click to start."

Chapter 1 opens with a

PLEASE SEE **GAME** | C5

Thrills, puzzles, and padlocks

Narrow Escape serves as 'best kept secret in Granbury'

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer

On the surface, being trapped in a room for an hour doesn't exactly sound like a fun time, but for Narrow Escape Granbury, it's all the rage for their customers.

With thrilling puzzles, exciting challenges, and an engaging storyline, escape rooms are the new biggest craze of entertainment venues.

Granbury native Ryan Toth, co-owner and operator of Narrow Escape Granbury with his wife, Sarah, first realized the appeal of escape rooms when he experienced one firsthand on a job assignment in Oregon.

"We were on the road, so there was a lot of time to kill," he explained. "I ended up doing an escape room with some of the other workers."

At the time, Ryan thought escape rooms were completely lame — that is until he walked out of the one in Oregon high-fiving with his buddies.

"By the time I got home from that job, two days later, I was already planning, like, 'How am I going to do this?'" he said. "We had such a great time that I knew this was something we had to



COURTESY PHOTO

With thrilling puzzles, exciting challenges, and an engaging storyline, escape rooms are the new biggest craze of entertainment venues.

do." Ryan explained he had always had an "entrepreneurial spirit" and had always wanted to own a business, but he had no idea of the future he had in store.

In January 2017, Narrow Escape Granbury officially opened at 209 M and M Ranch Road, complete with two themed escape rooms.

Now, after almost seven years in business, Narrow

Escape has created a total of 11 rooms, with the building location only allowing four different rooms at a time.

"Our first room that we built — which was our Speakeasy story that kind of centered around some of the history here in Granbury — we just retired that, and it ran for four-and-a-half years," Ryan said.

Currently, the four rooms at Narrow Escape are

Murder Motel, Gold Rush Cabin, The Bunker, and Overdrive Arcade 1989.

Murder Motel is a 60-minute room designed for four to eight players, with a difficulty rating of a 5/5. The scenario involves a book club chasing down a serial killer in an old motel. The game is suitable for players of all ages and is wheelchair accessible.

PLEASE SEE **ESCAPE** | C6

WOW

FROM PAGE C1

sled added to the challenge of completing the three-mile course.

"I gave them the rundown of what to expect, how to go through if you didn't feel comfortable going over an obstacle," Vasquez explained. "A couple of them you couldn't avoid; you had to go through. There was one we walked a quarter mile in a river up to probably our mid-thighs. Half of my group kind of jogged/walked and the other half we just strictly walked because that was their capability level."

Although the course was difficult, Vasquez was proud to announce that all 10 members of Women of Wisdom completed the race.

"I had a couple who almost wanted to quit, but they didn't. They were like 'Oh man, this sucks,'" Vasquez explained. "It was probably

95 degrees. It was in a field in Forney, Texas in the country. There was no real shade. We were getting muddy, and some of them didn't even want to get muddy. That was the funny thing, because they were going to get dirty whether they liked it or not."

Vasquez said the event was well-attended, with thousands of women participating in the obstacle course. She pointed out that, while many of the participants varied in age, the Women of Wisdom were definitely in a niche of their own.

"It was not easy," she said. "I'm a competitive athlete. I'm a martial artist. I spent a lot of time fighting in the ring. I was a competitive power lifter. I've done CrossFit competitions, but these types of runs — even for me — were not easy."

She compared how hesitant and reserved everyone was the first day they showed up for training compared to the day of the run.

"Once they started to see the way I trained, they were more open to what we were doing," Vasquez said. "I wasn't there to hurt them, and I wasn't there to force them to do something that their body wasn't going to do."

She explained that the first day of training one woman in her 60s wasn't able to get up and down from the floor by herself and struggled to open a water bottle. Vasquez said, following the 10-month training, the individual's posture improved, and her osteoporosis turned into osteopenia — meaning she gained bone density.

Another individual came in, Vasquez said, who never enjoyed working out, but during the race she completed every obstacle.

She said Faiola also had bad knees, but she ended up losing body fat and gained strength and muscle from the vigorous training.

"Nikki is the best trainer

I have ever worked with," Faiola told the HCN. "I have never consistently trained for over a year with one person. Her encouragement is genuine, and she knows her stuff with a background in medicine and physical therapy. I'm very proud of her service in the Air Force to our country as well."

Vasquez said the transition that everyone made in the 10 months was astounding, emphasizing that they all "gained capability."

"They became able to do this," she said. "They weren't capable of doing it at first physically. There's no way one of them would have ever gotten up off the ground, but they became capable. Their muscles became stronger, their bones obviously gained some bone density, they were able to pull themselves up, they were able to pull themselves over, and they were able to endure walking in 95 degrees in a field with no shade for three-plus miles

that they would have never done before."

Vasquez said she has also never witnessed an entire group say they were going to sign up for a race and had everyone keep their word.

"Most people flake. I don't know why; they just do," she said. "But every single one who registered showed up for me. I'm just overwhelmed with gratitude, because they showed up and they completed it, and they marked it off their bucket list. Overwhelming joy is how I feel. I cannot even describe what it feels like, because there are no words that describe seeing women do bold things. All these women did something bold on Saturday."

Faiola said that completing the MUDGIRL course was an achievement that she never thought she would accomplish.

"Running the MUDGIRL (course) was an epic personal physical achievement for me that I never dreamed I could

attempt," Faiola said. "With (Vasquez's) coaching and guidance, I did, and we did it as a team. I am so proud of our age group of women at the event too. We were the boldest women there and did it proud!"

Vasquez reiterated how proud she is of all her Women of Wisdom team members.

"Some of them had emotional fears, some of them had mental fears, and some of them had physical limitations, but I'm so proud of them for accomplishing something," she added. "I am honored to be their coach, and I've learned so much from the Women of Wisdom. I'm sure I'm going to live a long life of extra knowledge that I did not have before this. They are amazing. These are amazing women."

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

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GRANBURY CULTURAL ARTS

Harvest Moon Festival is finally here

BY STACEY WATKINS-MARTIN AND CORA WERLEY

Stacey Watkins-Martin and Cora Werley are local artists and members with several others of the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission. Both work diligently with many other people and organizations to promote Granbury as the exciting arts destination it has become.

Remember last month's column about the Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts? Well, it's this weekend - Oct. 28 and 29... and you don't want to miss any part of it.

And here's a tip - come early both days.

On Saturday, you'll get to hear the Festival's first musical performance: the unique style and lyrics of... Race Ricketts! If you don't already know this talented young man, you'll want to get here early and make his acquaintance. And he'll be followed all day by fabulous performances on two stages on opposite corners of the Square.

And first thing Sunday morning is the Sunday Gospel Brunch. You can buy boxed meals from excellent restaurants that you might have never sampled... or that may be your favorites. Be sure to make arrangements in advance (see website below for details). Or, you can choose from the local restaurants and unique food trucks/booths here for this event. Either way, settle in with food and enjoy the special bluegrass Gospel-themed entertainment.

And bring the kids for everything! The Children's Creations area on the Plaza will delight your children and give them an outlet for their creative energies. You'll be pleased to see them having a good time, participating in painting, crafts, theater (including performances by the children in our local theatre company), face painting, costumes, and all kinds of fun!

But the main thing you'll want to do is shop. There truly is something for everyone at all price ranges. Multiple jewelry booths will let everyone take home something. There is fine art your home

has been awaiting plus painting and sculpture and mixed media; also, functional art by talented creators (practical items you'll want to use). Photography and wood creations will be available. If you don't think of yourself as an "art person," see what kind of art appeals to you and become one.

Two more special moments: At 5:15 p.m. on the main stage, the Texas Commission on the Arts will issue a proclamation designating the Granbury Cultural District - the culmination of years of work by the art community, many of whom will be present to witness this achievement. Then - at 5:30 p.m. - stay for the Heather Cleveland Moon Auction, at which four fabulous moons painted by accomplished local painters for four local celebrities will be auctioned off to benefit the Granbury Art Alliance. There is also a separate booth with multiple additional moons to buy or win in a silent auction.

Look for the Lake Granbury Art Association booth full of original art and, of course, the iconic sand sculpture.

And stick around Saturday night from 7 to 10 p.m. for the Dancing in the Moonlight Concert with Presley Haile & Nick Brumley, along with the band The Vintage Yell.

Finally, this year the Granbury Wine Society is offering tastings from six wineries. Limited tickets (1,500) are required; available on site and in advance (see website).

Look for the QR code on the website (granburysquare.com/harvestmoonfestivalofthearts) for detailed schedules, times, maps, and additional information. See you there.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Harvest Moon Festival of the Arts will take place this weekend, Oct. 28 - Oct. 29. In addition to art, there will be food and beverage vendors, and live acoustic music on 2 stages.



GAME

FROM PAGE C4

large metal plate with four screws on it. After knocking on the plate a few times, a grumpy voice tells you to hold on while he finds his speech. A large heavy-looking metal sign is lowered that reads "There Is No Game," as the game tells you that "Actually, there is no game." You should go ahead and quit and play something

that's actually a game. Go outside, read a book, but "just between you and me, avoid asking for a refund, okay?"

A few clicks around the sign, and you'll eventually knock it down enough that the exclamation point falls down and separates into a bar and a dot, and now you're playing Breakout. The game is not impressed by this and drops a much heavier sign with the letters bolted on. You, the

user, continue clicking on the sign, and eventually the game throws up its virtual hands and says fine, you want to play a game? We'll play Roshambo. "You know, it's the one with rock, paper, scissors." The solution to this puzzle is not at all what you would expect, and that's true of all the puzzles in this game. You're subverting the game to get the solution you want, even if you're using the mouse cursor to pick a lock. Or pausing the game to get

an object out of the Pause menu. I even had to learn how to play Sudoku to solve one puzzle. Fortunately there's a help system included. "Solve riddles that require you to think 'outside the box'. Hint system included because you can't think 'outside the box'..." "I ended up having to use the help button three times, and it was always for a solution I was overthinking."

This game is full of sly tongue-in-cheek references

to games. All the games, really, but especially early pixel games, like *Myst*, *Zelda*, *Breakout* and even *Pong*. This game was created by someone who really loves and appreciates games. It's also a subtle critique of games of all kinds.

The finale involves a highly entertaining segment that involves altering the creator's temperature settings and making him awful coffee, and eventually causing his smart vacuum to chase him

around the house. Puzzles at the very end include references to *Pac-Man*, *Mr. Game and Watch*, *Mine Sweeper* and *Tetris*.

Total hours of play time: 12.4 hours. This isn't a huge game and doesn't do well on replay because of the lack of alternate solutions to puzzles. It's highly enjoyable as something to play over a weekend. From *Draw Me a Pixel*, *There Is No Game* is available on SteamOS for PC and Macintosh, \$12.99.

CRIME

FROM PAGE C1

everything we can to help. We have to take the cases that we have that are coming in, but also focus on those cases from the past, too, and give everybody some closure to all of us. I guarantee that I am going to do everything that I can to help for the future," Deeds said.

Deeds shared that in the previous budget from last year, six deputies were hired, as well as a couple of dispatchers.

"That's the first time I have ever got extra people since I started as sheriff 15 years ago. Hopefully, it's going to get better, and we will continue to add more people and get more people to help prevent crime," Deeds said. "I'm always available for questions and comments."

Deeds said that the 1986 cold case murder of Dorothy Sanders is actively being worked at this time due to Martin's efforts of bringing the case to his attention.

Crime Victims Liaison for Hood County, Mary Flores, spoke and gave some resources for those who have lost a family member due to a crime or for those who have been victims of crime that lived. Some of those resources included financial assistance, counseling, medical treatment, funeral expenses, and address confidentiality.

Flores also shared a resource



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Community members of Granbury come together for the Hood County Crime Victims Rally on Oct. 21.

called Texas Victim Information Notification, noting that it was the state's most reliable and confidential source.

"In the state of Texas in 2022, we had 217 Texans that were killed by their intimate partners across the state. Sixty-four counties experi-

enced domestic violence and homicide cases, and Hood County was included," Flores said. "It only took me one month of working at the Sheriff's Office to realize we have to do more. Let's work together as a community to stand together to end this abuse."

Skip Ensley, who is a retired Drug Enforcement Administration agent and chief of police in North Dakota, spoke at the event after coming down from Rockwall.

Ensley currently works as a private investigator who works to solve cold cases. Ensley offered to

work with Hood County's sheriff department on these unresolved cases.

"We have movement on these cases finally after all of these years. This year is 35 years for Holly's case. Lisa's case is 43 years old. That case is being looked at as well. I am ecstatic about all of this happening," Dolly Palmer Spinner shared. "I'm a fighter, but I'm not here to fight with the sheriff's office or the police department. What we're going to do now is we're going to unite together. What we want is everyone here to be the voice for the people that can't speak any longer. That's what we need. Help each other. Call the sheriff's department, call anyone you can. If you're too scared to talk, find someone that will."

Spinner also spoke on domestic violence and how it is important for these who are victims to get out of this situation and find help.

"We don't need any murders. We have gone through so much mentally and physically; we have lost sleep over it. All of us want justice for Holly Palmer and all those other victims. Everybody, stay safe," Spinner said.

To get in contact with Sheriff Roger Deeds, reach out by email rdeeds@co.hood.tx.us or visit the Hood County Sheriff's Office located at 400 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. in Granbury.

Heather's Heroes

Granbury walk to defeat ALS

BY EDEN DUNCAN

GILBREATH
Special to the
Hood County News

Friends and fans of Heather Cleveland participated in Granbury's ALS fundraiser walk Saturday, Oct. 21, with Cleveland leading the way in her motorized wheelchair.

"A huge, heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone who joined us Saturday (whether in person or in spirit), and to everyone who donated to the cause. I'm truly grateful for the generosity of our community, my family and friends, and awed by the amount of love and support shown to those of us battling ALS," offered Cleveland, who was diagnosed with ALS in May 2021.

Cleveland opened "The Pan



Friends and fans of Heather Cleveland participated in Granbury's ALS fundraiser walk Saturday, Oct. 21, with Cleveland leading the way in her motorized wheelchair.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Handle" kitchen boutique on Granbury's square in 1993. She was the sole proprietor until she sold the store in 2016. Cleveland hosted many educational workshops on culinary subjects while running her store, and she

also started a vineyard. She has been very involved in Granbury tourism — particularly art tourism — serving on various boards over the years and being foundational in the formation of the Granbury Cultural Arts

Commission and the Cultural District Designation that followed.

Cleveland continued, "It was a beautiful day: perfect for the walk, fellowship, reunion, spreading ALS awareness and fundraising.

Speaking of fundraising... donations can still be made to our team — Heather's Heroes — through the end of the year." To support the fight against ALS, donate at web.alsa.org/goto/HeathersHeroes23.



ESCAPE

FROM PAGE C4

Gold Rush Cabin is a 60-minute room designed for two to six players, with a difficulty rating of 3/5. The scenario involves finding gold and the deed to a cabin. The game is suitable for players of all ages but is not wheelchair accessible.

The Bunker is a 60-minute room designed for two to six players, with a difficulty rating of 4/5. The scenario involves being trapped in a military bunker. In this game, guests will experience dimly lit areas as well as flickering lights, tight spaces, and climbing. Players younger than 18 must have a guardian present to play this adventure. The game is not wheelchair accessible and is recommended for children ages 13 and older.

Overdrive Arcade 1989 is a 60-minute room designed for four to 10 players, with a difficulty rating of 3/5. The scenario involves time-traveling back to the 1980s to play arcade games in an attempt to beat the world record holder.

"We go overboard with our theming so when you go into the rooms, it definitely immerses you and kind of takes you out of your element," Ryan said, adding that Gold Rush Cabin is his favorite room out of the



COURTESY PHOTO

The Bunker is a 60-minute room designed for two to six players, with a difficulty rating of 4/5. The scenario involves being trapped in a military bunker.

four.

He explained that room times can vary between 30 to 60 minutes as players are "locked" in a room.

"It's kind of a hypothetical lock. We don't actually lock the doors," Ryan explained. "But yeah, you're essentially trapped in a room, and you have to solve puzzles, find clues, and perform different tasks to get through the room, and do it in time."

He said Narrow Escape Granbury shoots for a 90% success rate within the final five minutes of the game.

"Not everybody makes it," he said. "The one unique thing about us is we will give

people the extra time to finish the game. A lot of places, they think that players will pay to return to experience that last few minutes of the game. We've already charged them, and we want them to have a good time. We like to let them finish. Some groups struggle, and you got to get in there and walk them through it, but at the end of it, even the most frustrated players come out of it laughing and having a good time."

Another aspect that makes Narrow Escape unique is the fact players will never be put in a room with strangers.

"That's the thing a lot of other rooms will do, and we were kind of playing with that idea, but when we got into COVID, we realized we can't be putting strangers and groups together," Ryan explained. "That's why we went with the room minimum, so now if you book four players, you've got the whole room to yourself. There won't be strangers in there that you don't know. We found most players (prefer that). It's a team game, so you don't want that kind of awkwardness between your team of not knowing or being able to communicate with them."

Although Narrow Escape Granbury has served as a popular entertainment venue for Hood County, Ryan said he still regularly meets people who have no idea an escape room in town even exists.

"I can't believe it, because we market so much, but there's still so many people that we just can't reach," he said. "But we're still doing great. The community seems to support us really well."

"We call ourselves the best kept secret in Granbury," Sarah chimed in. Ryan recommends players head online to escapegranbury.com to reserve a room, as walk-ins will not be guaranteed the spot they want.

Tickets for an escape room are \$30 per person. If guests book a room for a timeslot before 5 p.m. on a weekday, tickets are \$25 each.

Narrow Escape Granbury is open from 2-8 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 2-10 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and from 2-8 p.m. on Sundays. The entertainment venue is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.

For more information or to book a room at Narrow Escape Granbury, visit escapegranbury.com.

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243

PASTOR

FROM PAGE C2

that. 'I did my devotion that night and the devotion for that day was about how Moses couldn't speak well, but God called him.'

Robinson was already approved to attend the military school for meteorology; he had attended the basic school and was approved for B school. Robinson was approved as an E-5 even though most of the students were rated E-6. He and Denise planned to move out of base housing, and Denise went back to Mississippi. But at the last minute, the officer who was to replace him was arrested. Robinson had to stay in his post.

"I was furious. But that is when God got me alone and called me to the ministry," Robinson then went to the chaplain to confirm what God spoke to him as Robinson told God he would do. The chaplain and Robinson shared tears and the chaplain spoke to God saying, "God! You have called one of my kids (a young man that the chaplain had disciplined)!"

When Robinson called Denise to share the news, somehow, she wasn't surprised, and neither were her parents. Denise's father was a minister, as well, and Denise's mother said she knew he was called from the first time she met Robinson — she was just surprised by his keen interest in weather.

In fact, no one seemed very surprised by this new call on his life except for Robinson. "I had plans to reenlist, to go to school. So, my whole plan changed. I moved to Mississippi where my wife was. God got me connected to a Methodist church. They put me in there with no training, no idea how to put together a sermon and they mentored me. We were there for six years."

Robinson earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Southern Mississippi University and then a master's in divinity from Memphis Theological Seminary. Seminary was three-and-a-half to four hours away; Robinson stayed at school during the week and came home to his wife and three daughters on weekends.

Robinson and Denise felt it was "important that our daughters understood the relationship aspect of Christianity. That it's never about performance. Our girls got to experience a house full of grace, a house full of love. They are still excited about church and still involved in church."

Sometime over the years Robinson's father and grandparents reconciled. Robinson's parents began going to church. Pastor Robinson served in various churches with his last stop before Granbury a 25-year assignment in Greenville, Kentucky. The Robinsons were in Greenville when they felt called to Granbury.

In a statement, Acton Methodist Church said, "Pastor Barry was selected after a nationwide search for a senior pastor for Acton Methodist Church. His qualifications, experience, calm spirit, and love of God made him shine above all other candidates."

"My hope for the church is that we would love God and love others. That we would grow even closer to God and to one another. A family. I love to see God's people together having fun and celebrating life and where we also walk together and cry together. I pray we will exalt Christ together in a tangible way. There have been a lot of wounds (in the congregation), a lot of heartache and loss, but healing is taking place, and they have all grown closer to God. They are excited about the future of the church. I'm excited too," shared Robinson.

More information about Acton Methodist Church can be found on its website at actonmethodist.com.

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Spotlight on the swan at 70



BY DON NEWBURY

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

Even when life's storms rage, we Americans are privileged to seek "ports of peace" that are welcoming, even if only for a few hours. There, we re-charge to face another day, with hopes re-kindled.

We who admit to being senior adults found such joy recently on a beautiful fall afternoon in Duncanville, TX, where 500 or so folks whose average age teetered on ancient numbers gath-

ered for an elixir of music and humor.

It was three hours young people wouldn't sit still for, but the kind we seniors kindly give up our naps for, even yelling--okay, maybe more like gasping--for "more, more, more" before boarding conveyances "to try to get ahead of the traffic," but didn't.

Stealing the spotlight was a preacher-turned-comedian. Dr. Dennis Swanberg. He

freely cited his age being 70, ahead of wine by a mile on the matter of getting better with age. Weaving stories of marriage, grandkids, and everyday "doings," he's funny without trying to be.

He stares life down from all directions, sometimes even upside down. It's a probability that first-grade teachers, Baylor profs, and Southwestern Seminary scholars shared at least one thing in common: None knew what to do with Dennis, who mildly menaced traditional study.

So, they passed him on, thankfully to the world that so desperately needs a smile.

His "ministry of encouragement" tag describes him

well, this man who spent 23 years in pastoral ministry before transitioning to an always-in-demand personality for appearances in many venues. He's at home in churches, and in many other venues throughout the world.

Though his impersonation of "greats" like Dr. Billy Graham, John Wayne, Ronald Reagan, and Bill Clinton always are "right on," his body language is equally impressive. He often gears down on verbiage to allow his gyrations, facial twists and squirms do the talking.

If "body language" is an apt description, Swanberg's

PLEASE SEE **IDLE** | C9

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 27 October 2023 - Thursday, 02 November 2023

After Death - 120 min (PG13)
Fri: 2:00PM, 4:50PM, 7:40PM, 10:00PM.
Sat: 10:10AM, 1:00PM, 3:50PM, 6:40PM, 9:30PM.
Sun: 10:10AM, 1:00PM, 3:50PM, 6:40PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:50PM, 7:40PM

Five Nights at Freddy's - 110 min (PG13)
Fri: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 8:20PM, 10:00PM, 10:30PM.
Sat: 11:15AM, 1:55PM, 4:35PM, 7:15PM, 9:00PM, 9:55PM.
Sun: 11:15AM, 12:45PM, 1:55PM, 4:35PM, 7:15PM, 8:20PM.
Mon: 2:30PM, 3:40PM, 5:10PM, 7:50PM, 9:00PM.
Tues: 2:40PM, 5:20PM, 7:15PM, 8:00PM.
Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 8:00PM

Killers Of The Flower Moon - 207 min (R)
Fri: 2:00PM, 6:15PM.
Sat: 10:30AM, 2:45PM, 7:00PM.
Sun: 10:05AM, 2:20PM, 6:35PM.
Mon: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 6:15PM, 7:25PM.
Tues: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 6:15PM.
Wed: 2:00PM, 2:45PM, 6:15PM, 7:00PM.
Thurs: 2:25PM, 6:40PM

Miracle in East Texas - 130 min (PG)
Sun: 4:00PM, 7:00PM.
Mon: 7:00PM

Priscilla - 110 min (R)
Thurs: 4:00PM, 6:40PM

TAYLOR SWIFT THE ERAS TOUR - 165 min (PG13)
Fri: 2:15PM, 6:15PM.
Sat, Sun: 12:00PM, 4:00PM, 8:00PM.
Tues, Thurs: 6:30PM

The Blind - 118 min (PG13)
Fri: 2:45PM, 5:35PM.
Sat: 10:00AM, 12:45PM, 3:30PM, 6:15PM.
Sun: 10:00AM.
Mon: 2:00PM, 4:40PM.
Tues: 2:00PM, 4:50PM.
Wed, Thurs: 2:30PM, 5:15PM

The Exorcist: Believer - 111 min (R)
Fri: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 10:00PM.
Sat: 11:10AM, 1:50PM, 4:30PM, 7:10PM, 9:50PM.
Sun: 12:20PM, 3:00PM, 5:40PM.
Mon: 2:00PM.
Tues: 3:45PM, 7:35PM.
Wed: 2:30PM, 5:10PM, 7:50PM.
Thurs: 3:30PM

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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.

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MONDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes: 9 a.m. exercise (strength and balance); 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise (strength and balance); 5 p.m. yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

GRANBURY BRIDGE Club will hold an ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge game at noon each week at the Acton Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek HWY, Granbury, TX 76049. Entry \$8/person. All are welcome, come with a partner and compete for ACBL masterpoints! Info and reservations: 225-933-4074.

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. December program will feature songs of Christmas from around the world. www.granburycivicchorus.org

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, 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 email communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

WEDNESDAYS

HAND AND FOOT card game day, 10 a.m.; Dominoes (Mexican Train) 11 a.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We are building in the 4000 block of Sundown Trail. No experience or tools needed. Just come build with us.

THURSDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes. 9 a.m. exercise (strength and balance); 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise (strength and balance); 11:15 a.m. 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, 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.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We are building in the 4000 block of Sundown Trail. No experience or tools needed. Just come build with us.

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 fourth 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 THURSDAYS

HOOD COUNTY CERT meets on the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center located at 401 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. HoodCo-Cert@gmail.com

THIRD THURSDAYS

THE HOOD Somerville A&M Club meets the third Thursday (except June, July and August) at Spring Creek BBQ located at 317 W Hwy 376 Granbury at 6 p.m., dining/social, 6:30 p.m. meeting. Other activities, fundraisers and meeting changes can be found at hscaggies.org

SECOND SATURDAYS

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

THIRD MONDAYS

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

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

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

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

Psalms 94:18-19

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

Isaiah 41:10

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BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER

Taking history to the people



BY MAURICE WALTON

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

The Bridge Street History Center will present its ninth annual Ramay-Macatee Speakers Series event at Granbury Live on Thursday, Nov. 9, at 6:30 p.m.

Before I give you the details of this year's event, I think it might be interesting for you to find out how the Speakers Series started. It happened like this. About ten years ago, I can't remember the exact date, we invited Charles and Dominique Inge to come to one of our monthly board meetings at the Bridge Street History Center.

At this point in time, I can't remember the purpose of their visit, but an off-hand comment Dominique made during the course of the meeting helped provide direction to the history center. At some point during our discussion that evening, Dominique made the observation that we needed to understand that not everyone would come to our museum, and that we needed to "take history to the people." Well, initially, that observation hurt my feelings a little bit, because I thought everyone should want to visit our museum. After all, our mission is to collect, preserve, and interpret the life stories of the people of Granbury and Hood

County, and our community has a very interesting history people should want to hear about.

It wasn't long after Charles and Dominique's visit that I ran into Scott Young one afternoon at city hall, and he randomly asked me if the history center had ever considered doing something on General Hiram Granbury and General John Bell Hood. (By the way, Scott is now on the board of directors of the history center and is serving as president this year.) It was a reasonable inquiry. After all, our county and our town are named after them. I had to tell him that unfortunately we had not.

At our next board meeting, we discussed Dominique's observation and suggestion and Scott's question, but we didn't know how to deal with the issues they had raised. In another random conversation not long after our board meeting, I was telling my son, Austin, who is a history teacher, about our dilemma. He suggested that if we wanted to do something on General Granbury or General Hood we should contact Dr. Steven Woodworth, a professor of history at TCU. He had spoken to Austin's history class

at Ft. Worth Country Day, and was very impressive. I mentioned his suggestion to the board, they agreed that I should contact Dr. Woodworth, so I did. He graciously agreed to come speak for us.

He was our first speaker in the fall of 2014. He spoke twice that fall, once on General Granbury and once on General Hood. We filled the Opera House on both occasions. The net result was that we decided we would try it again, so we did. In the fall of 2015, Dr. Bruce Winders, who at the time was the curator and historian of the Alamo, spoke for us, again to a full house. The rest, as they say, is history.

With the passage of time, the program has evolved, and our focus has changed a little. We decided that one evening a year we would broaden the scope of our mission and bring in a speaker who would speak to the people of our community on the broader general subject of Texas history. We believe people have an interest in Texas history, and that we should help provide an outlet for that interest.

Over the years, we have been fortunate to have some really great speakers on Texas history. Examples include, Steve Harrigan in 2021 and S. C. Gwynne in 2016 and 2022. In our continuing quest to "take history to the people" we have as our speaker this year Justice Ken Wise. Justice Wise sits on the 14th Court of Appeals in Houston, and more importantly

for our purpose, he is a gifted Texas historian and the creator and host of the popular podcast, "Wise About Texas."

If you weren't aware, 2023 marks the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Texas Rangers. Justice Wise has been treating this subject in his podcast and will speak to us on the history of the Texas Rangers. So, if you are interested in Texas history, and specifically the Texas Rangers, you simply must come see and hear Justice Wise. We promise, you will not be disappointed.

In the meantime, if you haven't listened to the Wise About Texas podcast, you are doing yourself a disservice if you are Texas history enthusiast. Listening will help whet your appetite for hearing him in person on Thursday, November 9 at Granbury Live. You can get your tickets www.thenewgranburylive.com.

mauricewalton408@gmail.com



The Bridge Street HISTORY CENTER
Granbury, TX

IDLE

FROM PAGE C7

may be Pig Latin.

Centering on everyday experiences common to everyone, he makes us realize that we've been down similar roads, most marked by marriage, kids, grandkids, TV, and many other commonalities.

Who else could defend maintenance of a well-defined tummy to be vital in keeping his khaki pants spotless? He explained that with a protruding waistline, he catches food droppings landing there before they reach his pants. With an upward swoop of a Frito scoop, he not only keeps his khakis clean, but also gets one more bite.

And this: Years ago, when wife Lauree wanted to attend an Elvis concert, he suggested that she stay home to watch wiggling provided by his restless leg syndrome.

He appeared in the "shank of the day" usually avoided by most personalities.

In fact, a Southern Gospel vocal trio from Mississippi called "Paid in Full" and an expert Alabama pianist named Frank Jones were extremely well-received before Swanberg ambled to the stage.

As always, he quickly stifled whatever yawns that are predictable after a two-hour "sit." The audience was ready, eager to "chow down" on his wonderful humor nuggets, even though DFW traffic outside was already busy, heading toward the inevitable five o'clock madness of folks heading home. And what the hey, many figured as they crowded at merchandise tables before leaving. Earlier, The Swan had reminded that if folks don't have CD players anymore, the discs can be used as table coasters.

Dennis and Lauree now live in Granbury, much nearer the DFW Airport than their previous Louisiana home.

After all, he still has 150 or so engagements yearly. This author/speaker/encourager/minister/motivator addresses some 250,000 folks annually, always "about his Father's business."

I'm glad that he's still going "full throttle," this man who loves what he does. He absolutely loves people, and we know it.

Like contemporaries before him--Andy Griffith, Red Skelton, Jimmy Durante, Zig Ziglar, and George Burns, to name a few--Dr. Dennis Swanberg proves at each appearance that smut isn't needed to delight, encourage, and inspire. His cleanliness squeaks. The world needs what he brings.

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Treasures bought and sold: funds raised on garage sale weekend

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.

Balmy fall weather last weekend found a plethora of Pecan residents participating in the fall garage sale, and shoppers were out and about on Friday evening and all-day Saturday.

The Pickleball Association sold breakfast and lunch foods at the front circle and had a profitable day. Members send their thanks to patrons for their support.

The Wildlife Committee sold food items at Planeview Park, the proceeds from which help purchase trout for the Dr. Barna fishing tournament for youth in Pecan coming up in December. Much gratitude goes to these benefactors also.

AUXILIARY UPDATE

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary too participated in garage sale weekend with funds earned benefiting the community's emergency personnel; the final count for money garnered during the recent Fall Bazaar exceeded \$5,000. The Auxiliary thanks everyone who contributed to the wonderful success of the event.

The Auxiliary has also held a variety of events and activities during October honoring Pecan's firefighters, EMS responders, and security staff. The monthlong celebration culminates tonight, Saturday, Oct. 28, with an appreciation dinner hosted by the Auxiliary members.

The next regular meet-

ing of the Auxiliary comes Monday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. in the EMS meeting room at the emergency compound on Monticello Drive. Folks are invited to come for a 6 p.m. potluck meal and social time prior to the meeting. All Pecaners who desire to support this emergency personnel fundraising group are welcome.

HALLOWEEN HAPPENING

Trunk or Treat is happening at the PAC today, Saturday, Oct. 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Halloween festivities of the day will include a cupcake walk, games, crafts, and a pumpkin carving contest. The competition has a category for ages 13 and over and one for 12 and under, and prizes will be awarded for the top three places in each group. Carved pumpkins should be delivered to the PAC between 8 a.m. and noon today to be eligible for judging. Winners will be awarded at the afternoon party.

MARINA MUSIC TONIGHT

The fourth Saturday night of the month brings live music to Pecan's marina when Jim, Eric, and Bruce (also known as "JEB") play, and the entertainment will run from 4 to 7 p.m. Pecaners are invited to enjoy the music at the Pecan Pit Patio.

GOLF GAME

The Ladies Golf Association plays in the Suburban Championship on Monday, Oct. 30 at Diamond



Donna Bullis, Co-President of Pecan's Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary, organized the group's garage sale site last weekend. The event was a big success for fundraising groups as well as homeowners participating in sale day. Photo credit goes to Lana Robinson.

COURTESY PHOTO

Jordan Ray announces "buy one get one half off" pizza from 4 to 9 p.m. on Wednesdays for diners in the Brazos Room, and "Game Day Happy Hour" in the 19th Hole continues on Sundays, Mondays, and Thursdays during NFL play. Finally, a Thanksgiving menu is available for folks desiring to outsource holiday cooking. Pecaners received email last week with ordering information.

ROAD WORK

The resurfacing of several Pecan streets is approaching completion as putting asphalt on Monticello drive concludes the final paving portion of the project. Striping will next commence to finish the newly resurfaced roads. Pecaners may contact Operations Manager Daniel Van Patten with questions or for additional information: 817-573-2641.

ROAD TRIP

Pecan's Recreational Vehicle Club enjoyed a fall rally last week at Stonewall, with around 25 rigs attending. David Kroon is the group's contact for more details on this well-traveled bunch: dk1341@swbell.net.

dianelong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

Oaks Country Club, and since Halloween falls on a regularly scheduled LGA play day, Tuesday, Oct. 31, ladies will be watching to see who dresses up as well as looking for surprises on the course.

VETERANS DAY

Pecaners will salute military personnel at a Veterans Day celebration on Wednesday, Nov. 8 at the clubhouse. A very special program and breakfast will make up the day; reservations are necessary and due by Tuesday, Oct. 31 by calling 817-573-2641. Hearing from General Bruce Carlson, a flyover by the Texas V-Tails Bonanza Group, and a musical performance by Judge and Jury are features on the program. In addition, folks may honor veterans by submitting a photo to be included in a pictorial display. Digital pictures of good quality may be sent to bpalmer@

pppoaweb.com and must be received by Oct. 31.

BLOOD DRIVE

After several successful events in our community, the American Red Cross will be back in Pecan for a blood drive on Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the PAC. Folks may visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter "Pecanplantation" to schedule an appointment.

FLU SHOTS

Flu shots are currently available at the EMS building Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for \$20.

APP LAUNCH

The official launch of Pecan's mobile app was last week, and now members may enjoy paying assessments and making dining reservations from a smart phone. Pecaners may also easily access an online com-

munity roster and calendar, and other conveniences such as reserving pickleball and tennis courts, receiving emergency information, and gate access for guests are in the works. For folks desiring guidance on using the app, members of the communications committee will provide in-person assistance on Mondays in November from 8:30 to 12 noon in the clubhouse lobby.

GOOD TIME

Folks who attended the recent "Around the World" dining event pronounced it a "global success." Approximately 150 attendees danced, dined on delicious dishes, and enjoyed great entertainment. Another such event is in the works with new ports of call on the menu.

DINING NEWS

Pecan's Executive Chef

GRANBURY ROTARY CLUB

PINTS FOR POLIO

Beer & Brats

REVOLVER BREWING

NOV 2ND

TICKETS \$25

REVOLVER GATES OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.

INCLUDES BEVERAGES & FOOD

Scan QR Code to purchase tickets. Tickets will also be sold at the event.

Rotary Club of Granbury

HOOD COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

One Year Celebration

FOOD - LIVE MUSIC - PONY RIDES
VENDORS - GIVEAWAYS - BOOKMOBILE
BOUNCE HOUSES - AND MORE!

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1475 JAMES ROAD
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