

COLUMNS

December 2023 | VOL. 51 NO. 12



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Robert Taber, Jr.

2nd Year

Nathan Carriker
Chris Fair
Pam Kuhlman

3rd Year

Thomas Mead
Steve Perry
Tim Webster

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Thomas Mead, *Vice President*
Nathan Carriker, *Vice President*
Randy Larson, *Secretary*
Robert Taber, *Treasurer*
Tim Webster, *Assistant Treasurer*

**DECEMBER
BOD
WORKSHOP
IS CANCELED**

**BOD Meeting:
Dec. 11, 2023, 6 p.m.**

**BOD Committee Workshop:
Jan. 11, 2023, 9:30 a.m.**
Both meetings in Ballroom



COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

Committee	Frequency/Day	Time	Location
Airport	2nd Thursday	8 a.m.	Planeview Park Pavillion (weather permitting)
Appeals	2nd Tuesday	10 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
ACC	1st and 3rd Thursdays	2 p.m.	S&S Conference Room
Bylaws	2nd Monday	1 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Communications	2nd Monday	10 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Entertainment	1st Wednesday	2 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Finance	3rd Monday	1:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Golf	1st Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	CH Conference Room
Horse Owners	Jan. 9	4 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Infrastructure	1st Tuesday	9 a.m.	CH Conference Room
LRP	Wednesday prior to 4th Thursday	1:30 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Marina	2nd Wednesday	3 p.m.	CH Conference Room
Membership Orientation	1st Saturday & 3rd Tuesday	10 a.m.	Terrace Room or Ballroom
Safety & Security	3rd Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	S&S Conference Room
Sports & Rec (Grounds)	Dec. 5	1 p.m.	PAC
Wildlife	2nd Friday	8:30 a.m.	CH Conference Room

MEETINGS ARE OPEN. PLEASE CHECK WWW.PPOAWEB.COM FOR LATEST INFORMATION BEFORE ATTENDING A MEETING.

New Member Orientation

10 a.m. in the Terrace Room

To register for New Member Orientation, please contact Sarah Lord, Pecan Member Representative at sarahlord@ppoaweb.com or 817-573-2641 Ext. 335.

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 2
Tuesday, December 19

JANUARY

Saturday, January 6
Tuesday, January 16

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Business Office	Patty Trunk	pattyht@ppoaweb.com	331
Code Enforcement/ACC	Brent Hamilton	acc@ppoaweb.com	349
Communications Director	Jay Arrington	jay.arrington@ppoaweb.com	347
Controller	Kristi Nickel	kristi@ppoaweb.com	333
Event Coordinator	Brenda Palmer	bpalmer@ppoaweb.com	325
Executive Chef/Food & Beverage Director	Jordan Ray	jray@ppoaweb.com	319
Front Desk—Clubhouse		reception@ppoaweb.com	817-573-2641
Golf Course Superintendent	JD Ashwood	jd@ppoaweb.com	357
Golf Pro	Duff Cunningham	golfpro@ppoaweb.com	330
Guest Services Manager/Membership Services	Sarah Lord	sarahlord@ppoaweb.com	335
HR Manager	Nancy Smith	nancy@ppoaweb.com	332
IT Specialist	Brian Stange	itadmin@ppoaweb.com	324
Marina and Procurement Manager	Blake Sanders	blakes@ppoaweb.com	323
Operations Manager	Daniel Van Patten	daniel@ppoaweb.com	342
Security Director	Harold Aydelott	harold@ppoaweb.com	341
Sports & Recreation Manager	Joi Keahey	joi@ppoaweb.com	361
Tennis Pro	John H. Ingram III	johni@ppoaweb.com	817-579-9412

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Clubhouse	817-573-2641
Fire/EMS	817-573-1643
Code Enforcement/ACC	817-573-0594
Front Gate	682-498-6312
Back Gate	817-573-6561
Security Office	817-408-3511
Golf Pro Shop	817-573-2645
Tennis Shoppe	817-579-9412
19th Hole-2-Go	682-498-6319
PAC	817-573-7952
Marina	817-573-3201

GATE ACCESS

Please call the gate or use the ABDI app to put guests on the list before arrival - Security 817-408-3511.

Member tags and contractor decals issued at Security office Mon-Fri, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and first Sat. of each month, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Member tags require registration, title or bill of sale, driver license and proof of insurance. Contractor decals require registration, driver license, proof of insurance.



PECAN
PLANTATION
COUNTRY CLUB

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ABOUT US



P.O. Box 879
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The Hyde Media Group, LLC
The Hood County News · The Tri-County Reporter
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The Spur Magazine · The Gatesville Area Guide
The Azle Chamber of Commerce Directory
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CONTRIBUTORS



Darren Clark

Darren Clark can be found on the golf course (no, that guy is Darren Clarke—with an “e”), on the stage at the Granbury Opera House, or in his cubicle manipulating pixels into many of the Hyde Media Group’s publications. Darren is a designer, photographer and occasional writer.

Eden met Granbury 36 years ago and is grateful to have moved here in 2000. She and husband “Hug” raise/raised their two natives here. Eden loves her semi-bohemian lifestyle of hanging out with artists, writers and photographers both young and not as young. Her passions include coffee dates, succulents and making new friends.



Eden Duncan Gilbreath

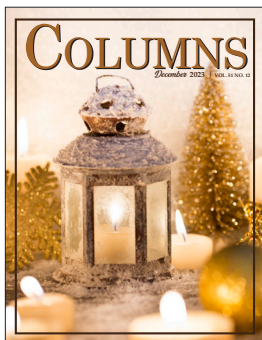


Want to Contribute to Your Neighborhood Magazine?

See something that makes you think “that ought to be in the magazine”? Send us ideas for stories or photos of friends, family, nature, wildlife, sports action, special moments, and you might see it in print!

A few tips: Photos should be high quality JPGs—at least 4x6 inches at 300 dpi. If you are sending them from a smart device, choose “Actual Size” or “Original Size” to send. Low resolution, out of focus, inappropriate or otherwise poor-quality photos, or those that have been heavily edited or filtered, will not be published. Contact us at columns@hcnews.com

ON THE COVER



WINTER IS COMING!

December holds the first day of winter, holidays, cooler weather, the end of football’s regular season, and family gatherings. It’s a month of celebration with friends, coworkers, and loved ones. Enjoy the pages of this edition of Columns magazine as we celebrate the last month of 2023.

COLUMNS MAGAZINE DEADLINES

If you have editorial or photography for Columns, please write to Columns@hcnews.com. The deadline for submissions is the first day of the month prior to publication date. EX: Jan. 1 for the February issue.

Advertising closes on the first of the month prior to publication date. Contact Karen@hcnews.com or call 817-573-7066 and ask for Karen Chandler.

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

By Jan Boeckel

As I write this it is hard to believe Christmas is just around the corner. It is my favorite time of year filled with love, laughter, and beauty. I hope your holiday season is filled with the same. The entertainment committee will host pictures with Santa in the lobby of the clubhouse on Sunday, Dec. 10 during the times for the Sunday Brunch. Santa will be there for you to visit, and you are welcome to take all the pictures you would like with him.

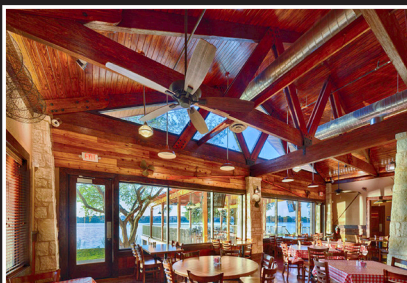
Our final event of the year will be the annual New Year's Eve Party. This year it will be not only dinner and dancing but also a casino party. The theme will be A Night at the Oscars. The band, back by popular demand, will be Who's Oscar. If you have missed these guys at their two previous appearances in Pecan, I strongly encourage you to make your reservations and not miss them this time. They are wonderful!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!



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GENERAL MANAGER

From the desk
of Rick Lantgen

I hope December finds everyone happy, healthy, and full from a wonderful Thanksgiving. As we move into the main stretch of the holiday season, I want to thank all our wonderful employees for a fantastic year.

Our employees are one of the greatest assets we have as an organization, and they have done a stellar job adapting to change while still providing service with a smile. They are the backbone of our club, and I truly want to thank them for all for the work they have done to make Pecan Plantation is one of the nicest places to live and visit.

One of our best traditions – the Employee Christmas Bonus Fund – gives you the opportunity to say thank you, too. Aside from being a wonderful gesture, it also helps us retain these fantastic folks, by giving them a little extra holiday “cheer.”

If you would like to donate to this fund, you should know all proceeds are distributed to those employees you frequently see (such as waitstaff, security, and the office staff) and those you seldom see, like maintenance, kitchen, and housekeeping staff. None of it goes to department heads or managers.

Donating is easy and can be done by filling out the form to the right and returning it to the clubhouse front desk by Dec. 15. You can pay by check, or have it billed to your account. Please take a moment to consider contributing to this fund. Each employee will be grateful.

On a personal note, I want to wish every one of you a blessed Christmas. This has been a great year, and I know 2024 will be even better!

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- Charge all to January
- Charge to January & February
- Charge to January, February & March

Signature

Member Number

Make checks payable to PPOA (No Cash Please)



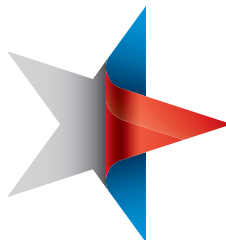
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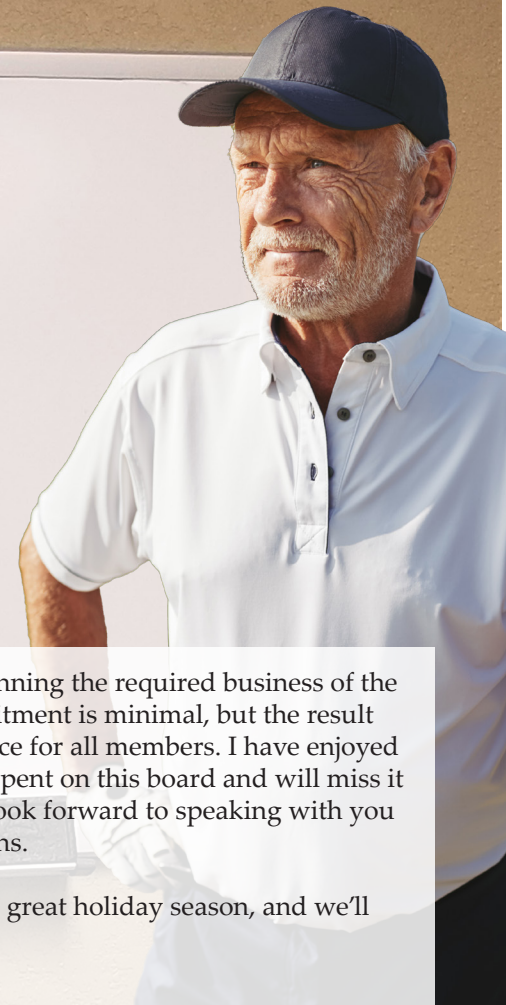
MGA TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

DECEMBER

12/2 ANNUAL TOYS FOR TOTS SCRAMBLE

12/14 SCRAMBLE PSST (PRO SHOP SETS TEAM)



We have had a very busy past couple of months with the club championship and the Men's Golf Association championship. I would like to congratulate all the winners in both tournaments.

As we end in our 2023 season, I am asking members who have an interest in serving on the MGA board for 2024 to please contact me or any other member of the current board so we can discuss which positions will be open. It is vital to have a full board of directors for pur-

poses of voting and running the required business of the MGA. The time commitment is minimal, but the result is a great golf experience for all members. I have enjoyed the three years I have spent on this board and will miss it once this year ends. I look forward to speaking with you about the open positions.

I hope you all have a great holiday season, and we'll see you on the course!

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LADIES GOLF ASSOCIATION



It has been an absolutely wonderful year at Pecan Plantation and it has been my privilege to serve as president of the Ladies Golf Association. What a bunch of wonderful ladies we have in this organization and I enjoyed getting to know so many of them. The incoming board is going to be awesome, bringing lots of expertise and experience, as well as ladies who will be serving for the first time.

Elected on Nov. 14 were president, Marilyn Neely, 1st vice president (playday chair) Suzy Stout, 2nd vice president (nine-hole playday chair), Janette Davis, secretary, DeeDee Urbano and treasurer, Lisa Perez. Pecan LGA is fortunate to have these ladies to serve in 2024. Remember there are many other shoes to fill so when you are asked to serve on a committee, or to chair a committee, I hope you will be a willing participant.

The Christmas party will be Dec. 5 beginning at 9 a.m. Remember, all paid and honorary members are invited. It is always good food and lots of fun. Also, the year-end awards will be announced and prizes distributed.

As a reminder, there will be a container for you to pay your dues for 2024 (\$45.00). You will also have an opportunity to contribute to my choice of charity, which will be Ruth's Place. It is, among other things, a shelter for homeless women.

Here's wishing all of you a Merry Christmas. May the next year be full of joy, good health and happiness and, of course, lots of good golf.

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COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

In the words of the immortal Dr. Seuss, "How did it get so late so soon?" December is here and along with it comes the hustle and bustle of the holidays and the final countdown to a new year!

We hope you have downloaded the new PPOA phone app and are using it as you would the PPOA website. You can easily access the event calendar and roster (directory), make dining reservations and pay your assessments. Additional features are coming soon to include reserving tee times and pickleball/tennis courts and hopefully access to the ABDI gate program. Stay tuned for updates!

For all you photography buffs out there, we are working out the details for a photo contest to run several times during the year with winners having their picture grace the cover of the Columns magazine. Specific details will be shared soon.

Looking back, there have been many improvements this year in the communications arena — a regular rhythm for the PECANews and Pecan Happenings emails, fun postings to the official Pecan Plantation Country Club Facebook page, timely updates to the front and back gate signage along with continuing enhancements to the Columns. We even added the crossword puzzle in November as requested by many of our members. Let us hear from you if you have additional ideas for sharing information.

The PPOA communications committee wishes each of you joy, peace and the happiest of holidays this season!



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ACC REPORT

Oct. 2023 was a good month for new constructions with the ACC approving seven new residence construction permits, 12 miscellaneous construction permits, and no construction revisions or permit extensions.

The ACC construction permit list currently contains 58 active permits for new homes under construction and 35 active miscellaneous permits for various other improvements.

The following new homes were approved to begin construction during Oct. 2023:

Address	Sq/Ft Living Area	Owner	Builder
1117 Tremont Ln.	2683	Donny Couto	Donny Couto
8405 W. Landings Rd	4468	Mary Irwin	Donny Couto
3020 Hazelwood Rd	3567	Ryan Couto	Ryan Couto
6621 Pinehurst Dr.	2691	Ryan Rodriguez	Ryan Rodriguez
2708 Village Rd.	2418	Walter Hardin	Ryan Rodriguez
3723 Tremont Ln.	2265	Walter Hardin	Ryan Rodriguez
6033 Bonanza Dr.	3217	John Reyes	Donny Couto

HOME SALE NOTE

Upon the sale or transfer of home ownership by any other means, Section-15 of PPOA Rules & Regulations requires residential property to be in compliance with all applicable elements of PPOA's governing documents. If ownership is transferred with an existing non-compliant issue, the new owner will be responsible for bringing the property into compliance. When it is requested by a title company, lending institution or prospective buyer, PPOA will perform a compliance inspection and return a report stating whether or not the property is in compliance and detail any deficiency if it is not. Since compliance certification requests are frequently received only a few days before the scheduled closing date, we remind members contemplating the sale of their home to help avoid any last minute surprises or delays by contacting membership services at the PPOA business office to arrange an early inspection of the property to identify any existing issue that may require corrective action.

COMPLIANCE CORNER

During Oct. 2023, the compliance office received 62 calls and 21 emails reporting possible compliance issues, 19 calls and eight emails regarding vacant property maintenance, plus 577 calls and 64 emails requesting ACC, plat/lot, rules, C&R or construction information.



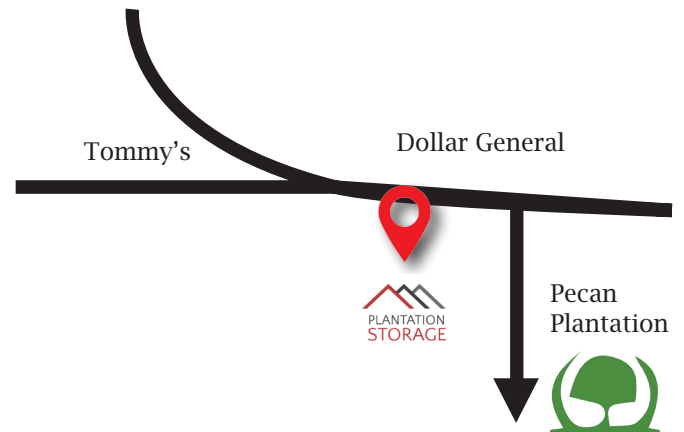
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EMS

By Brandl Stephenson BA, LP, NRP, FP-C, Chief, Pecan Plantation EMS

It has been an energetic few months here at the department and I would like to use this platform to explain some things and offer factual data regarding operations here.

Pecan EMS historically has been below average on the payscale, locally, regionally and nationally.

Paying around \$12-14/hr for a new medic, and not offering benefits, we were having a difficult time recruiting and retaining qualified and highly-skilled staff. When I took over as chief last year, one of the first things I did was go over our budget and consult with our PPVFD/EMS board regarding benefits. After comparing several provider offerings, I chose VFIS as the most cost-effective and stable health/vision/dental provider for our crews. To pay for their benefits, and to bring our payscale up to Texas state standards, I began to slowly implement pay raises. To give you some idea of the disparity between what they were making and what the standard is, a medic with over 30 years of critical care and flight experience was making roughly \$18/hour, without benefits, working a 24-hour on/48-hour off schedule. The payscale has since shifted here so that this medic is now making \$25/hr, with benefits. The EMT payscale was even lower, with a new EMT starting at \$8/hr for initial training, then increasing to \$10/hr after initial training, without benefits. So, the question becomes: how can we recruit good people to serve you when all we have to offer is near minimum wage, no benefits, and near-mandatory overtime due to staffing issues? Remember, we were working a 24-48 schedule and those two "off days" are precious, as that translates to family and personal time.

It's been said (on social media) we don't deserve competitive wages since Pecan EMS doesn't run that many calls. As of today (Oct. 31), we have run 955 charted calls. This does not include public assist calls, such as blood pressure checks, medication administration assistance, 12-lead EKG's, etc. For a community of our size, almost reaching 1000 calls in a year is impressive, and if we don't break 1000 this year, we almost certainly will next year. As our community grows, so too does the volume of emergency calls we receive.

We staff two ambulances on what is now a two-day on/four-day off cycle. This schedule has become more the norm lately, with many agencies adopting it. Staffing two trucks allows us to maintain our obligation to you: always keep Pecan covered. We enjoy a level of latitude most agencies outside the metroplex don't have: we can take you to whichever hospital is most appropriate for your current condition. We are not beholden to any hospital, nor tied by contracts or obligations to any hospital. For those moments when we have two calls running at the same time (something that happens more and more frequently lately), we make every attempt to get you to the most appropriate facility, whether by ground or air, to ensure you receive the care you need. Our first priority, as it has been since our inception, is you.

Please take a moment and remember those who serve, both at home and abroad. Your prayers and well-wishes really do carry weight and are greatly appreciated.

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DECEMBER 2023

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Sunday noon to 6 p.m.
Wednesdays 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holiday Paint Party (Ages 5 - 14)

Saturday, Dec. 9 (11 a.m. - noon)

Cost: \$25 per child

Instructor: Heidi Easley

Music, fun, hot cocoa, & step by step Instruction to paint this reindeer! Register at the PAC. Space is limited.

Gingerbread House Family Decorating Event

Sunday, Dec. 10 (Starts at 3 p.m.)

Cost: \$15 per house - limit one per family

Includes everything you will need for yourself or the whole family to come and decorate a gingerbread house. Lots of extras! The best part is we clean up the mess.

Only 12 houses available. Must pre-register. 817-573-7952

Brunch & Pictures with Santa at Clubhouse

Sunday, Dec. 10 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

Stop by the Clubhouse to eat brunch and visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Bring your camera to take photos. Be sure to make your brunch reservation. 817-573-2641.

Santa at the Stables

Sunday, Dec. 3 (1 p.m. - 4 p.m.)

Santa, horse rides, & crafts

\$20 per vehicle. (cash only)

Pecan Paint Along w/ Kathy Yoders

Sunday, Dec. 3 (1 p.m. - 4 p.m.)

Cost: \$75 - includes all supplies

Bring a beverage of your choice and get step by step instruction acrylic on canvas. Space is limited. Register at the PAC.

In 2024: new Workshop 2nd Sunday of every month

FRIDAY NIGHT MAGIC IS BACK AT THE PAC!

Friday, Dec. 8 (7 p.m. - 8 p.m.)

Cost: \$10/person ages 12 & over

Featuring professional magician Jim Chatham.

Jim will be performing his card set, straight from the Magic Castle in Hollywood, where he perfected it. Space is limited. Please register at the PAC.

DODGEBALL at the PAC!!

Friday, Jan. 5 (starts at 2 p.m.)

All ages welcome! Parents and kids invited to participate. Just show up. We use no-sting dodgeballs!

**PAC Holiday closings:
Dec. 24, 25, 31 & Jan. 1**

EXERCISE CLASSES

Yoga with DeDe

Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.)

Cost: \$10/class or \$35/month (4 classes) or \$65/month (8 classes) or \$95/month unlimited classes

Certified Instructor: DeDe Lamont

Chair Yoga with DeDe

Monday (10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)

Thursday (10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.)

Cost: \$10/class or \$35/month (4 classes) or \$65/month (8 classes)

Certified Instructor: DeDe Lamont

Pilates

Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Fri (8 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.)

Cost: \$3/class

Instructor: Shawn Farris (Please bring your own mat)

Low Impact Aerobics

Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs, & Fri (8 a.m. - 9 a.m.)

Saturday (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.)

Cost: \$3/class

*Bring hand weights & a mat if possible

Hula Hooping to the Oldies Class - Free

Thursdays (1 p.m. - 2 p.m.)

This is a free, fun class that will teach you how to have fun and burn some calories with the hula hoop.

Instructor: Sue Bagley (702-859-2017 for more information)

Line Dancing - Free

Fridays (10:30 a.m. - noon) No Instruction.

Intermediate dancers meeting for practice, exercise, fun.

Indoor Pickleball Open Play (in Gym)

Monday thru Friday

Dec. 1 - Dec. 15: 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Dec. 18 - Jan. 8: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Ladies Only Open Play (in Gym)

Tuesdays, Dec. 5 & Dec. 12 (1 p.m. - 3 p.m.)

Conversational Spanish & French Classes

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For more info contact James Mayles 512-965-8836

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PECAN PLANTATION VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Kim Skoog

What a year this has been!

As of this writing at the end of October, the fire department has been toned out to 265 calls. That's up from 234 calls during the same period last year. We've been busy with training, calls, checking trucks, public service, cleaning and working at the station, and everything else we need to do to keep the VFD running smoothly. Thank you to our volunteers, community members, and Auxiliary for making this year another successful and busy year! We look forward to next year. Stay safe during this holiday season.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from all of us at PPVFD/EMS, Auxiliary and family. Enjoy our Year in Review in pictures.



BE PREPARED

winterize your home

By Eden Duncan Gilbreath

Though I married a native Texan and my husband and I have parented two native Texans, I am the outsider among them. Born in Missouri, I moved from Colorado at the age of twelve. As the saying goes, I got here as fast as I could. My husband says I am a Texan by osmosis. And man, do I love Texas, but here's the rub, I was stunned by the Texas cold. When Texas gets cold it gets really cold. Mean cold. Wet, icy, and dangerous.

When my family moved to Texas in fall of 1981 I was not prepared for the weather that first winter. The junior high I attended insisted we go outside after eating lunch, regardless of temperature it seemed. I had a darling red puffed jacket with the batting sewn into small squares. Really puffy, that was one cute jacket, worthless in the Texas winter but cute.

Standing outside in the wet cold I felt every degree the temperature dropped. I came home from school complaining to my parents that they had moved us to Texas for us to freeze. Of course we had yet to meet Texas summer, but that at least we expected. We had watched on the evening news from Colorado the ice dropped in swimming pools in Texas during summer of 1980.

Nearly every year in Hood County there are at least a few ice days where many roads are unsafe to travel, school is canceled and most folks stay home from work. The storms of February of 2021 caused a severe drain on power sources causing shortages and outages. This seemed to make us more aware going forward of the soundness of our domiciles and making sure they are as efficient as possible.

For the purposes of informing the readership we sought the advice of experts in the field to help us literally weather the storm. Both DT Roofing and Daffan Cooling and Heating stressed preventative measures to best face inclement weather.

"Some tips we recommend include insulating your attic. Poor insulation can cause your heater to work harder than necessary all winter, spelling higher electricity bills. Poor insulation can also cause the formation of ice dams along the valleys. A properly insulated attic can help the inside and outside of your home," shared Morgan Farris, marketing with DT Roofing.



On the note of insulation and keeping the cold out, Stacie Howell, marketing with Daffan agreed, "Make sure your seals are good, or are replaced if needed. Often dogs will ruin seals at the back door as they scratch to come inside."

Clearing clogged gutters and downspouts to prevent water from backing up and impacting underlying materials on your roof was another tip offered.

"Another good idea is to have your trees trimmed before winter, ensuring that weak or old branches do not become overloaded with the weight of ice accumulation, falling on your roof, and causing damage. You can call DT Roofing anytime and we will be glad to provide a free inspection to make sure your home is ready for the inevitable," shared Farris.

Farris went on, "There are many good and familiar tips to prepare your home for winter; from wrapping your exterior faucets to tuning up your HVAC, all are helpful. But when a Texan thinks of preparing a home for winter, the roof is often the last thing we think about. The truth is your roof could have secrets you won't even notice until after the winter thaw. If ice or snow accumulates on an area of your roof, any weak spots will most certainly begin leaking the moment the ice begins to melt. A proper inspection before the weather

strikes is key to preventing surprises down the road."

A similar tune was heard when seeking advice from Daffan Cooling and Heating,

"The last thing you need is for your heating system to go out during sub-freezing temperatures when the snow is piling up outside. Take care of any issues before winter arrives. Daffan Cooling and Heating can help you with complete heating services in Granbury, Texas. Contact us today to schedule an in-home assessment."

DT Roofing, "At DT Roofing, every new roof we install comes with ice and water shield, an extra layer of protection against ice accumulation in your valleys. When you get a new roof from DT Roofing, we take every existing roof off down to the decking, making sure there are no weak spots or places where problems can develop. That way, when a Texas winter storm strikes, the last thing you're worried about is your roof. And that's what we like to call a roof as Tough as Texas."

DT Roofing offers a link website that goes into detail about winterizing your roof at every layer: dtroofing.net/can-you-winterize-your-roof/

Daffan Cooling and Heating offers articles on their website on preventative maintenance and the services they offer at daffanmechanical.com under news and services.



BREAKFAST CLUB

On Nov. 8, we celebrated Veterans Day. I want to thank all those who put together another magnificent program, especially John Jaeckle, Randy Alda, General Bruce Carlson, and our Bonanza flyers. Well done indeed!

Our next meeting will be on Dec 13. Special guests will be the North Central Texas Academy Choir. They will provide us with some grand Christmas music. Additionally, I hope to have a couple of other performers. I'm looking forward to a great morning of Christmas music to kick off the season. This program will be our last meeting for the year.

Let's peek at 2024 and see what we have in store for Breakfast Club. We will start in January with a visit from Dan Vanderburg. As a sixth-generation Texan, Vanderburg, an author of five published novels, a collection of short stories and poetry, and a contributor to an anthology of short stories and poetry, loves everything Texas. This is going to be good!

Lance Tahmahkera is the great-great grandson of Quanah and Cynthia Ann Parker. Lance will be sharing stories of his famous ancestors along with some unique memorabilia. Quanah was the last great chief of the Comanches who managed to successfully live in two worlds, while Cynthia Ann was captured by the Comanches as a youngster. Both of their stories are amazing.

We'll also host the candidates for our board of directors, giving them the opportunity to face the members of Breakfast Club. It's always fun and informative.

Did you ever wonder why Glen Rose has a moonshine festival? At one time in its history, Glen Rose was the moonshine capital of the country. Moonshine was being made by just about everybody until the great moonshine raid stopped that enterprise. We will have the author of "The Glen Rose Moonshine Raid", Martin Brown as our guest in 2024.

We have scheduled a representative from the Historic Granbury Merchant's Association to visit with us. Also scheduled is the Hood County Crime Victim Liaison, Mary



Quanah Parker

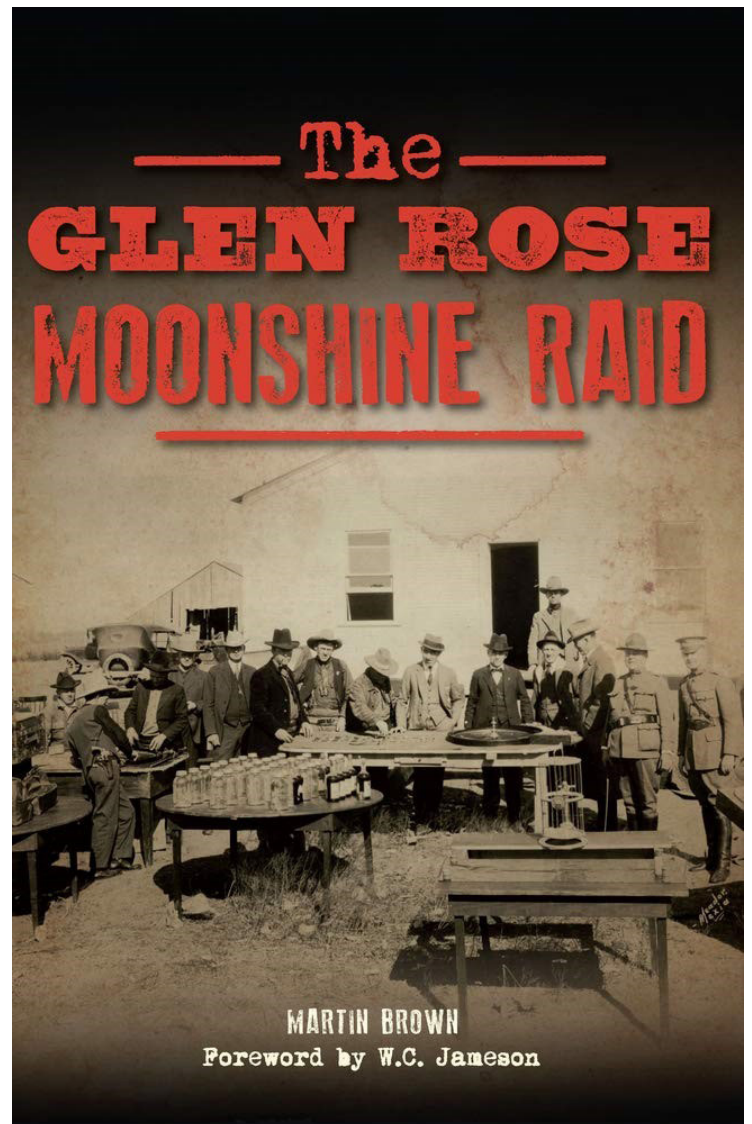
Flores — another opportunity to learn more about our community.

I've got a former chief NASA astronaut on our schedule for April. We must work out some details before I will release his name, but I am very excited about this opportunity.

I wish I understood bitcoin. How do you mine bitcoin? I've read about bitcoin, but I do not understand it. So, I've invited a bitcoin expert to come visit with us.

Stay tuned, there is more planned for 2024. Hope to see you at Breakfast Club. If you have an idea for a great speaker feel free to send it along to PecanBreakfast@gmail.com.

Merry Christmas!!



The GLEN ROSE MOONSHINE RAID

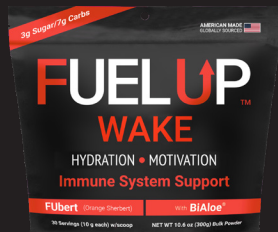
MARTIN BROWN
Foreword by W.C. Jameson

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RV CLUB NEWS

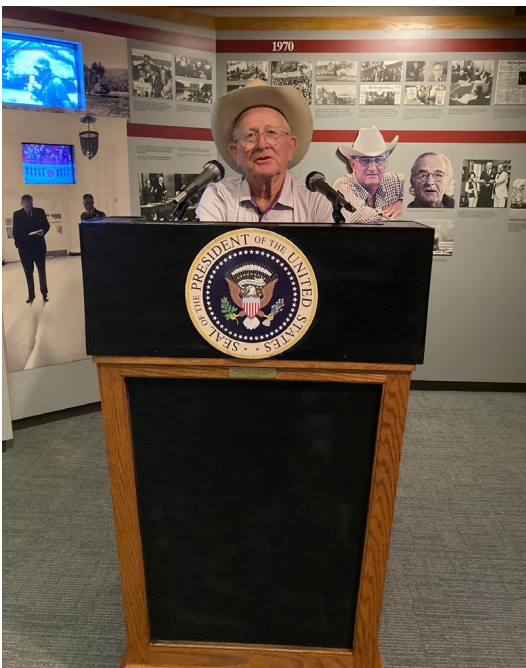
By David Kroon

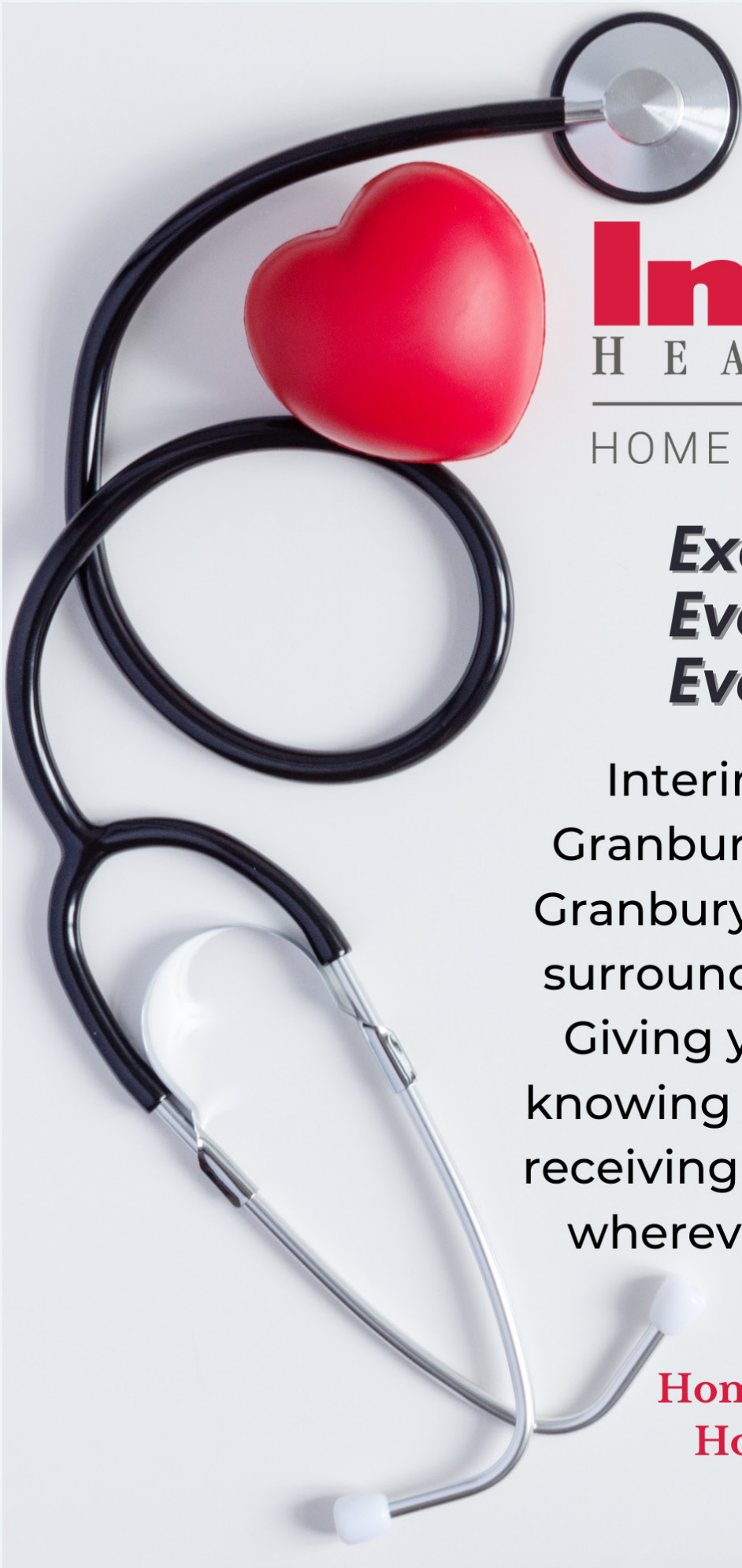
Our Nov. 14 meeting was held at the hanger home of Don and Kim McDonald. The festivities included a Cheeseburger in Paradise theme to honor the late Jimmy Buffet. Fresh burgers, brats and hot dogs right off the grill were enjoyed by all. The nominations committee provided the nominees for the 2024 board and also the next nominating committee. Rally plans for 2024 were provided.

Reflecting back on our Stonewall/Fredericksburg rally last October, I've included some pictures of the fun we had there.

As our members look forward to our annual Christmas party held at the club, we hope you and your families enjoy happy holidays.

For information on the Pecan Plantation RV Club, contact David Kroon at dk1341@swbell.net.





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PREPARE YOUR LAWN FOR WINTER

By Eden Duncan Gilbreath

By taking these proactive steps to prepare your lawn for winter, you're setting the stage for a thriving and vibrant landscape come spring.



Summers are harsh in Texas. It seems we need the rains of the fall and winter to make it part way into summer before the scorching heat begins. This summer was literally one for the record books with this summer being one of the hottest on record. Drought covered more than 80 percent of the state.

Fall rains have brought some relief but yards in Hood County suffered substantially. Dead trees, bushes and plants were removed from yards as the hottest days finally started to subside.

Winter in Texas can be as harsh as summer with ice typically a yearly visitor. As we prepare for colder temperatures we sought the advice of P.J.'s Lawn Care on how to best prepare our lawns for the next season.

P.J.'S LAWN CARE TIPS

As the temperatures begin to dip and the first signs of winter make their appearance, it's essential to give your lawn the attention it deserves. With the right preparations, you can ensure that your outdoor space stays healthy and vibrant throughout the colder months.

MOW AT THE RIGHT HEIGHT

One of the first steps in preparing your lawn for winter is to give it a proper trim. Set your mower to a slightly lower height than usual, but be cautious not to cut the grass too short. This helps prevent matting and disease during the winter months.

AERATE THE SOIL

Allow your lawn to breathe! Aerating the soil involves creating small holes to help air, water, and nutrients

reach the roots more effectively. This is crucial for maintaining a healthy lawn, especially during the winter season.

OVERSEED BARE PATCHES

Fill in the gaps! If you notice any thin or bare areas in your lawn, it's a good idea to overseed with cool-season grass. This will help your lawn maintain its lushness even in cooler temperatures.

CONTINUE WATERING (BUT ADJUST FREQUENCY)

While North Texas winters are generally mild, your lawn still needs hydration. Adjust your watering schedule to account for reduced evaporation. Deep, infrequent watering is key to keeping your grass healthy.

LIMIT FOOT TRAFFIC

During winter, the grass is more vulnerable to damage. Minimize walking on your lawn, especially if it's frost-covered. This will help prevent compaction and preserve the health of your grass.

By taking these proactive steps to prepare your lawn for winter, you're setting the stage for a thriving and vibrant landscape come spring. Remember, a well-prepared lawn in the fall ensures a beautiful and healthy outdoor space in the months ahead.

Explore pjslawn.com/pjsblog for even more detailed insights on winter lawn care.

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PECAN PLANTATION WOMAN'S CLUB IS SHINING BRIGHTLY THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY

Sandy Hoelting, President

As the Christmas holidays are racing toward us, it's obvious to all in the community that spectacular Christmas decorations are fully abloom and adorning every corner of Pecan Plantation. That's because the elves of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club have been hard at work since September preparing the decorations that now light up Pecan.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, Dec. 14, for a daylong series of Yuletide events that continue well into the evening. Starting at 8 a.m., Santa's Workshop and Bakery, located in the ballroom of the clubhouse, will be aglow throughout with decorations available for purchase that are sure to add Christmas merriment to your own home. But be sure to arrive early for the best selections. They're reasonably priced, too.

Also at Santa's Workshop and Bakery, you will find the most scrumptious baked goods available. You'll find delicious items that are perfect, whether to treat your own family or to give to others as gifts. While there, you can step next door to Santa's Brunch when your reservation time is near, to feast on one of the three delicious brunch items you have previously chosen. And get this: you'll also receive a complimentary Mimosa.

One of the highlights of the day, the Christmas Tour of Homes, opens at 10 a.m. When you make your reservation, you'll receive a map of the homes you can visit on a come-and-go-basis. With beautiful homes gaily adorned in stunning lights and featuring amazing trees and décor, you'll be delighted to step into each Christmas wonderland.

But wait, there's more! The Christmas Tour of Homes Dinner will round out the evening. The clubhouse ballroom will welcome guests at 6 p.m. for cocktails, followed by dinner at 7. There will be music and dancing from 8:30-11 p.m., a great way to cap off such a wonderfully fun day.

Brunch and dinner tickets must be purchased by 3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 7. Tour-only ticket sales close at noon, Dec. 14. We do it up big in Texas, so don't miss out on any of the fun. And remember, all proceeds from these events are earmarked for the purchase of more Christmas lights and decorations for Pecan Plantation. Need reservations? Go to www.myppecan.com and join in the fun. More information about the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club or the Dec. 14 festivities are available by contacting Sandy Hoelting at sandyh9911@gmail.com or by calling 501-922-7464.





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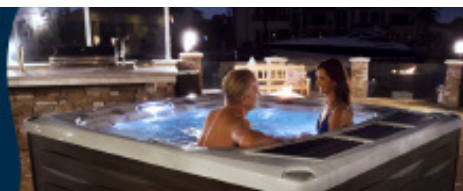


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Dancing & Cocktails 8:30 - 11:00 pm

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AUXILIARY NEWS

By Lana Robinson

The Auxiliary designated the month of October as a time to honor and show appreciation for the Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS and Security Staff. A number of activities and events were held throughout the month to recognize and demonstrate support for these community servants, many of them volunteers, along with dedicated personnel who go above and beyond in their efforts to keep us safe and secure.

Pecan residents were urged to write "thank you" notes and cards to our EMS, Fire and Security personnel. Kids participated in a Coloring Contest. Others donated gift cards that were presented to the honorees at a special First Responder Appreciation Dinner, held Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Planeview Park Hangar at the airstrip on Wedgefield Rd. Approximately 55 people were in attendance to enjoy a catered barbecue dinner, play games, and win door prizes. The activities were planned and organized by Patty Eatmon and Julie Logan, and executed with the help of other faithful Auxiliary volunteers. At the dinner, Auxiliary Co-President

Donna Bullis presented a plaque to the PPVFD/EMS for the dedication of the Memorial Patio that will be created around the flag pole at the EMS building at 9518 Monticello Dr. These 4 x 8 bricks, which can honor a person or an achievement, will be custom engraved by a local business in Granbury and then set in the patio to be viewed by the residents of Pecan for years to come. The current price for each brick is \$50. A logo may be added for an additional charge. Prices are scheduled to increase on January 1, 2024. Now is a great time to honor your loved ones as the holidays approach. Order forms are available at the Auxiliary meetings and the EMS building during regular business hours. For more information, call Patty Eatmon (951)970-5490 or Donna Bullis (817)454-0422.

The slate of 2024 officers was presented at the October 2 Auxiliary business meeting, and approved by the membership, as follows: Co-Presidents Donna Bullis and Jeanie Curry; Shelly O'Toole, vice president; Susan Thillen, treasurer; Julie Logan, secretary; and Bill Reilly, parliamentarian. Elected to fill the newly approved office of volunteer coordinator was Seleta Webster. Lana Robinson will continue as publicist and Emily

Kinney remains hospitality director.

Donna Bullis wishes to thank the Pecan community for their outpouring of support at the October Garage Sale. So many people generously donated furniture and other desirable items that were sold to raise money for the VFD/EMS. Many showed up to shop and also gave donations. It was quite successful.

The PPVFD/EMS Christmas Party will be held at the EMS building on Saturday, Dec. 16. The party begins at 5 p.m. Contact Deputy EMS Chief Rene' Garrett at 817-573-1643 to RSVP by Thursday Dec. 14 so she can get a headcount for food – barbecue with all the trimmings.

Saturday, April 20, 2024 is the date that has been set for the 2024 Auxiliary Golf Tournament. More details to come!

The next regular Auxiliary meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., Monday, December 4, at the EMS Meeting Room, 9518 Monticello Dr. Plan to come at 6 p.m. to join in a social time and potluck meal.



Auxiliary Co-President Donna Bullis

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~ Suzette Gentry



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COLUMNS

BRAZOS RIVER SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

By Cecil Caldwell

The Fall weather has had many of our members out in the field and on the water.

Several members with boats have been fishing for bass and catfish on the recently re-opened Comanche Creek Reservoir (formerly Squaw Creek Reservoir). Limits of catfish have been common, sometimes in a fairly short period of time. The trip I was on, we caught all we wanted and never had to move the boat. It was nonstop action. Remember if you do take a boat on this lake you will need a reservation and they are only open Thursday through Sunday. Since this lake is warmed by the power plant it usually is warm all winter. We also saw several boats targeting Tilapia, which are an invasive species. They were using nets and filling up their boats as there is no limit and you cannot release them back into the lake. One of the pictures is Bob Price with a bass that bit while he was fishing for catfish.

Guides continue to report good catches of Stripers on Lake Granbury and Lake Whitney, and we saw guides on Comanche Creek Reservoir targeting catfish. If you wanted to go with a guide, any of these lakes would be a good choice. Over the cold winter months Lake Texoma will be the hot spot for stripers, but the fishing can be miserable because of the weather.

Ken Powell recently made his regular fall trip to South Dakota to hunt for pheasant. He reported that there was a lot of cover making the hunting difficult, but they still managed to get some birds. A couple of the pictures are of Ken with some of the dogs they were hunting with.

Several of our members have been getting in some shooting on the range. Below are the shooting scores from a recent outing at Defender's Outdoors in Aledo. They shot at 50 targets, and I believe all the shooters used a 12 gauge. Members usually go out a couple of times a month, weather permitting.



Name	Score
Mack Gilbreath	40
Jim Berzina	37
Greg Pearson	36
Jerry Sprayberry	31
Dan Young	31
Rod Bradshaw	26
Walter Berry	14

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. If you would like any further information about the club, you can contact me at ccald67@gmail.com

ART MATTERS

By Linda Barron

What a wonderful year the Art Guild has had. We extend our gratefulness and appreciation to this year's board of directors and announce the new board for 2024.

Our Art Curator Betsy Ferguson shares exciting news from the Pecan Clubhouse:

With the anticipation of cooler weather and holidays on the way, our own Pecan artisans are delighted to roll out a new initiative at the Pecan Plantation Country Club. Our very own Pecan Plantation Art Guild will be curating original fine art on what are now blank walls in several important areas throughout the club. The guild will hang original fine art on special walls in the ballroom, terrace, river, magnolia, bluebonnet and possibly other locations within the club.

The seasonal artworks will rotate quarterly to give all members a chance to show and sell their work. If anyone would like to purchase a selected piece, the contact information of the artist, with price and size will be described below the work. Simply reach out to the artist directly to make your purchase. All pieces are framed or gallery wrapped canvas and contact information and pricing is stated.

Oversight will be provided by country club management, with direction and installation of the art by Betsy Ferguson who serves as art curator for the Pecan Art Guild (betsyferg@gmail.com or 254-722-7158).

Pictured are Three of the artists displaying at the clubhouse:
Robert Hollis, Jim Stewart, and Sue Bagwell.
Please stop by to see their work when you are at the club.



Robert Hollis



Jim Stewart



Sue Bagwell



This is our incoming board from left to right: President Pam Vanoy, First Vice President Barbara Brown, Second Vice President Beth Eschbach, Secretary Margaret Gulinson



The QR code provided gives you access to the PPAG newsletter and schedule of events. The most updated information and events are located here. Please scan the code and join us!

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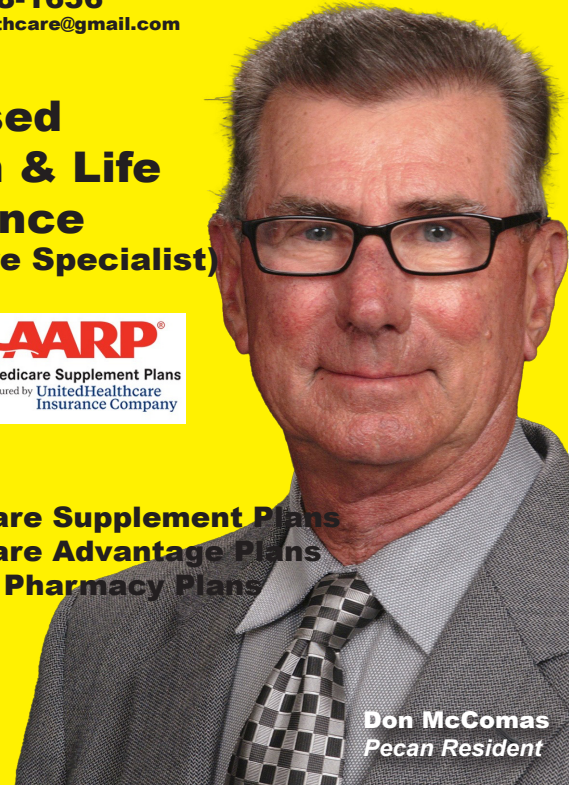
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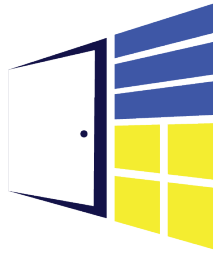
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PECAN PLANTATION COMMUNITY GARDENS

Steph Phalen

PEOPLE WHO HELP US GROW

Gae Goodrich Seal and her husband, the Rev. Canon W. Christopher H. Seal, are enjoying their third summer in Pecan Plantation. They love the numerous amenities offered in the community and said they only leave to attend church at Good Shepherd Anglican.

Gae belongs to two garden clubs in addition to the Community Gardens. She describes herself as a lifelong learner and recently has been focusing on propagating new plants from existing ones. She loves to share the bounty and hopes others will share new varieties with her.

This fall, Gae planted sunflowers, squash, lettuce, cucumbers, pumpkins, radishes and beans; she looks forward to the garden's first fall harvest.

PPCG welcomes new members whatever their gardening abilities. The gardens are located next to the PAC walking track. Applications are available at the PAC. Annual membership fees are \$25.



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TREES

By Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

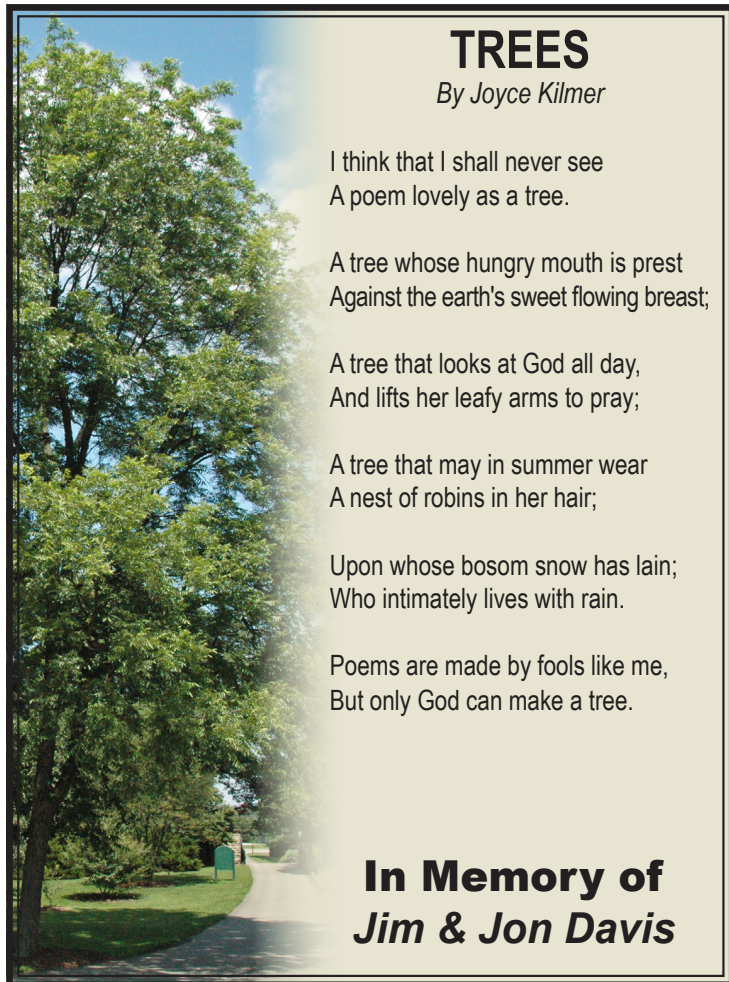
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

**In Memory of
Jim & Jon Davis**



PICKLEBALL NEWS

The Pecan Plantation Pickleball Association has wrapped up a busy fall season. During the third weekend in October, the association participated in the community garage sale by selling breakfast and lunch to Pecan members and visitors. We appreciate the continued support from those who stopped by for a tasty meal.

After five weeks of play, the Pecan Plantation Fall Pickleball League finished during the final week of October. The winners were announced during the fall social. Congratulations to the following players: in the recreational division, Sandi Gilllette placed first and Stacey Klein placed second. In the men's division, Jerry Lyon placed first and Sonny Garrett placed second. In the women's division, Marian Carlsen placed first and Roxana Adams placed second. In mixed doubles, the team of Tracy and Jodi Davis placed first and the team of Jeanie and John Tirch placed second. Thank you to all those who participated.

In December, open play at the PAC is from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. every weekday except Wednesday, when play concludes at 11:30.

Starting Dec. 18, the hours will change due to the school holiday and all play will start at 9:30 a.m. and end at 11:30 a.m. every weekday.

The outdoor courts are available from 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Reservation are required online. Please see the PAC with questions about the process.

The ladies-only pickleball group meets Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 p.m. All levels are welcome. The final meeting of the year will be Tuesday, Dec. 12. The group will resume after the school holiday.

There will also be no beginners clinics in the month of December. Stay tuned for information on the return of the clinics in 2024.



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PECAN PLANTATION TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Greetings, socialites of PPTA!

For those of you who missed the Friday the 13th Oktoberfest, you missed some good brats and brisket. Did I say free? Thanks to the Lundbergs again for the brisket! Thanks as always to board members Dee, Pat, Randy and Joe for their efforts as well as the ever-creative Sir John, the ambassador of tennis. Hopefully you are reading this just before attending the Dec.3 Christmas party — did you remember to RSVP? Don't forget to bring a Toy for Tots! Fish or steak ala Chef Jordan!

The next tentative event will be the Aussie open playday on Jan. 19 or 20 (watch the weather). Keep your emails updated. We are looking for someone to fill in for a few months as treasurer on the board; it will be a good way to test the waters for volunteering for the board of directors.

Joe Brewer is pulling up stakes and moving back to Mississippi. He will be sorely missed on the courts, course, and on the board of directors.

No news on league play for the winter. Courts are still being used in the mornings — late mornings that is. Still

no sightings or verification from our general manager on building more courts. I'll be happy to announce either a sighting or progress on the building when I have it!

Stay warm and stay active!

~Prez Ken



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MOUNTAIN LIONS

By Mary Lou Wood

The mountain lion (*Puma concolor*) is also known as the cougar, puma, panther and catamount, and is the largest wildcat in North America. Mountain lions have powerful limbs and can leap as high as 20 feet and as far as 40 feet.

DIET

Mountain lions eat mammals such as deer, and smaller mammals such as mice, squirrels, porcupines, raccoons, rabbits and beavers.

POPULATION

There are an estimated 30,000 mountain lions in the western United States. One mountain lion subspecies, the Florida panther, is critically endangered with a population of less than 100 individuals. In Florida, they have been found to prefer feral hogs and armadillos.

RANGE

Mountain lions are solitary animals. They are very territorial and actually avoid other cats except during courtship. They are found from Canada to California and Texas. Small populations can be found east of the Mississippi River. The Florida panther is found in isolated populations in Florida.

Their range can vary in size from 10 square miles to 370 square miles. Mountain lions are active hunters and may travel long distances in search of food. After killing their prey, they will bury it and leave it, coming back to feed on it when hungry.

REPRODUCTION

Mating season is commonly December to March. Gestation is 82 to 96 days. The average litter is two to four kittens, which the mother raises alone. The kittens nurse for two months, and then travel with their mother at which time she teaches them how to hunt. Kittens have it rough — only one in six survive. Females have one litter every two years.

THREATS TO MOUNTAIN LIONS

They have long been persecuted and hunted as a threat to livestock. Wildlife experts consider mountain lions an endangered species.

LIFE SPAN

Mountain lions live for eight to 10 years in the wild and can live in captivity up to 20 years.

WILDLIFE FOCUS

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

A mountain lion has a round head with erect ears, powerful jaws and retractable claws. Males weigh 180 pounds while females weigh 110 pounds. They are incredibly agile and slender creatures. Mountain lions do not "roar." They have minimal communicative noises, usually resorting to hisses, growls and purrs. They have a tawny coat, similar to that of a lion, hence the name. Their front limbs have large paws with long hind legs. This enables them to jump 20 feet. The long legs allow them to sprint up to 50 mph.

Article sourced from <https://defenders.org/mountain-lions>.



**Pecan Plantation Owners Association
Pecan Plantation Country Club
For the Eleven Months Ending September 2023**

CONSOLIDATED OPERATING STATEMENT

	Actual YTD	Budget	Variance
Operating Revenues	\$ 9,577,821	\$ 9,312,033	\$ 265,788
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>\$ (1,444,617)</u>	<u>\$ (1,338,280)</u>	<u>\$ (106,337)</u>
Gross Operating Profit	\$ 8,133,204	\$ 7,973,753	\$ 159,451
Labor, Taxes & Benefits	\$ (5,047,737)	\$ (5,162,247)	\$ 114,510
Other Operating Expenses	\$ (2,747,866)	\$ (2,727,227)	\$ (20,639)
Net Operating Income/(Loss) Before Depreciation	<u>\$ 337,601</u>	<u>\$ 84,279</u>	<u>\$ 253,322</u>

RESERVE & REPLACEMENT FUND

	Actual YTD	Year End Forecast
Beginning Balance	\$ 3,137,880	\$ 3,137,880
Fund Deposits	\$ 1,156,008	\$ 1,258,207
Fund Expenditures	<u>\$ (663,101)</u>	<u>\$ (2,021,871)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 3,630,787</u>	<u>\$ 2,374,216</u>

NEW CAPITAL FUND

	Actual YTD	Year End Forecast
Beginning Balance	\$ 207,162	\$ 207,162
Fund Deposits	\$ 881,330	\$ 961,610
Fund Expenditures	<u>\$ (57,473)</u>	<u>\$ (98,931)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 1,031,019</u>	<u>\$ 1,069,841</u>

ROAD & DRAINAGE FUND

	Actual YTD	Year End Forecast
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,347,968	\$ 1,347,968
Fund Deposits	\$ 1,615,272	\$ 1,761,446
Fund Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (2,295,583)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 2,963,240</u>	<u>\$ 813,831</u>

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

By New Member Orientation Committee

RHETT AND KRISTIN AMO, Ashland Court, relocated from Fort Worth. They have six adult children and one grandchild. Rhett owns Cowtown Roofs, CLC, and Kristin is a real estate agent. He enjoys hockey, basketball, fishing and hunting. Kristin loves the holidays and the magic of Christmas, giving to the community and serving her clients.

BRUCE AND BECKY BAIN, Riviera Lane, relocated from Sugar Land. They have two children. Bruce and Becky are both recently retired and looking forward to all Pecan has to offer. He retired from the software industry and she was a registered nurse. Bruce enjoys golf, fishing, car club, and travel — and is an avid Packers fan (“Go, Pack, Go”!). Becky loves spending time with family and friends, reading and traveling.

EMSLEY AND SUZANNE BAKER, Ravenswood Road, moved to Pecan from New Deal. Emsley retired from Allsup's Convenience Stores and enjoys carpentry/construction/home repair, golf, boating and fishing. Suzanne is employed with Sysco Foods and enjoys golf, swimming and kayaking. They have six children, 13 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

BRIAN AND NANCY CORK, Ravenswood Road, relocated to Pecan Plantation from Arizona. They are both retired. Brian and Nancy have six children and three grandchildren.

MARK DANIEL, Burn Court, relocated from Crystal Lake, Illinois. He is a self-employed accountant. He enjoys golf and football.

STEVE AND KIM EINSPAHR, Landings East, moved to Pecan from Overland Park, Kansas. They have one child. Steve is retired from Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. Kim is employed with the Office of Comptroller of Currency. Steve enjoys metal and woodworking, golf and travel. Kim also enjoys golf, travel and reading.

CHAD AND CANDICE GUNIER, Wedgefield Road, relocated from Bluff Dale. They have three children. Chad is employed with ATT Safety and Kim is with TCU. He enjoys golf, gardening, music and fishing. Candice enjoys cooking, hiking and traveling.

NANCY MARGARET, Bellechase Road, moved to Pecan Plantation from Amarillo. She has two children and two grandchildren. Nancy is retired from Fire and Salt Grass Finished Beef. She enjoys regenerative grazing, direct-to-consumer grass-finished beef and hiking.

MIKE AND VICKI MCCORMACK, Ravenswood, moved from Dallas. They have two children and four grandchildren. Mike is self-employed at PeopleRight and enjoys sports — especially the Aggies and Rangers — golf, fishing and hiking. Vicki is also retired and enjoys health and fitness, gardening and décor thrifting.

BRUCE AND GENEVA MCJUNKIN, Wedgefield Road, relocated from Aubrey (via Fresno, California). They have three children and four grandchildren. Bruce retired from AT&T and works part-time with Collaborative Synergy. Geneva also retired from AT&T and works part-time with the California High Speed Rail Authority. He enjoys flying and building airplanes, while she enjoys quilting, embroidery, cooking and aviation.

RICK AND ANGELA MORALES, Tezcuco, moved from Dallas. They have two children and six grandchildren. Rick is employed with Brookshires Grocery. He enjoys golf, landscaping and fishing. Angela is employed with Granbury ISD. She enjoys travel and DIY home projects.

TIM AND KATE O'NEAL, Monticello Circle, are from Dallas and most recently lived in DeCordova. They have four children, ages 14, 12, 10 and 7. Tim is self-employed with O'Neal Pools and enjoys flying, road trips and everything European. Kate is employed with 11:11 Systems and enjoys working out and going to the gym.

TAD AND JEANIE OLDENBURG, Village Road, relocated from Colorado Springs, Colorado. They have two children. Tad is employed with Ditch Witch and enjoys hiking, hunting, music and boating. Jeanie enjoys hiking, working out, horses, dogs and cooking.

GREG AND ELAINE RUPERT, Lot #XXX, will be moving to Pecan from Louisiana. They have one child and one grandchild. Greg retired from education as a performing arts director and volunteers as director of Chautauqua Resources, a private membership associate providing educational services. Elaine retired from banking in Winnfield, Louisiana. He enjoys playing performance trumpet, horn, voice and theatre (acting and directing). Elaine enjoys cooking, walking, nutrition and flowers.

PAUL AND PAMELA SCHNEIDER, Lot 3652, moved from Corinth. They have three children. Paul is employed with Health Equity and enjoys golf, pickleball, fishing and biking. Pamela is employed with Fidelity Investments and enjoys golf, pickleball, fishing, baking, gardening, biking, reading, quilting/sewing and cross-stitching. Both are former college athletes and are big fans of the Texas Rangers and Stars Hockey.

SAM AND KATHY SCHOEPPNER, Inverness Road, relocated from Odessa. They have two children and two grandchildren. Sam is employed with NTRACT I and E Ltd. He enjoys motorcycles, cars, fishing and hunting. Kathy is retired from Ector County where she was deputy district clerk. She enjoys reading, her dog Toby and listening to music.

Continued on page 50

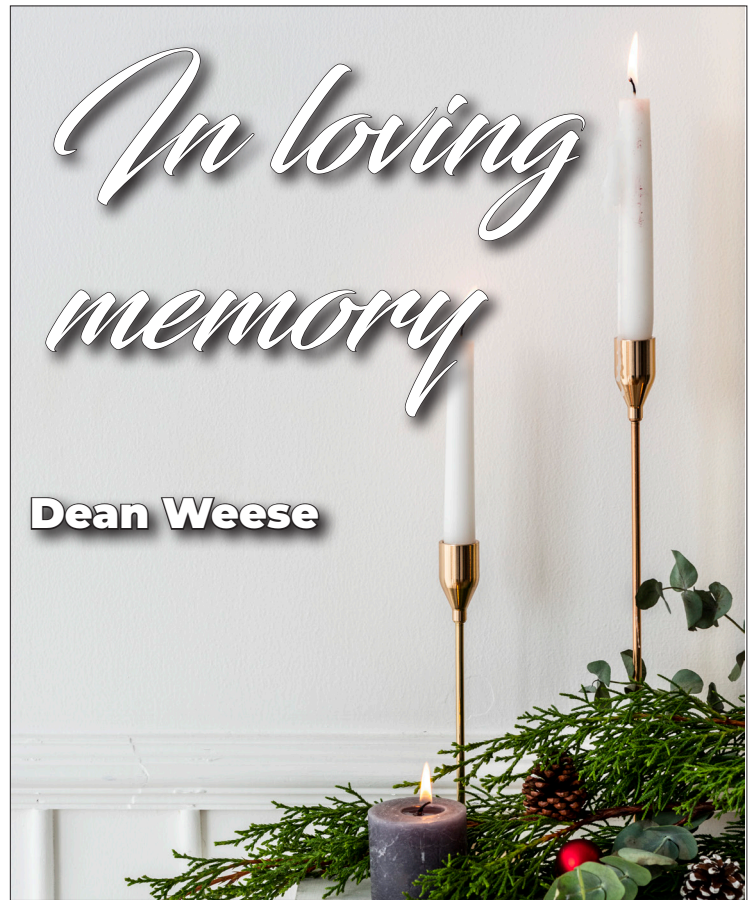
MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS (CONT.)

CURT AND DANA THOMSON, Long Drive, moved to Pecan Plantation from Falcon, Colorado. Curt works in IT and Dana in accounting. He enjoys taking walks, travel and golf. She also enjoys walking, travel, reading and country music.

THORNE AND ROSE TIBBITS, Hanging Moss Drive, relocated from Arizona. They have three daughters. They are both retired from the national government and are veterans of the U.S. Air Force. Thorne works for the Air National Guard and Rose with the National Weather Service. He enjoys fishing and golfing while she enjoys golf, crafting, being involved and meeting new people. Thorne and Rose are excited to be members of Pecan Plantation and look forward to meeting everyone.

JOHN AND MARLENE TRAWEEK, Pinehurst Drive, moved here from Stephenville. They have five children and three grandchildren. John is employed with Western Dairy Transport and enjoys golf, Jeeps, motorcycles and old cards. Marlene is a teacher at Granbury Middle School. She enjoys golf, gardening, Jeeps and their grandbabies.

WES AND LIZ WEAVER, Browning Court, relocated from Odessa. They have one child and four grandchildren. Wes is retired from Ector County ISD and enjoys archery, fitness, kayaking and jet skiing. Liz works for Frost Bank and enjoys hiking, martial arts, kayaking, singing and jet skiing.



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WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS



Happy New Year everyone! Widow & Widowers had a great 2023. We started our reorganization meeting in February with 22 members. Our meetings are now attended by 35 to 40 people each month. The group enjoys getting together and each other's company. Last year we had game



nights, picnic night, Halloween costume night, speakers with a wide variety of topics and wonderful food at each meeting. We welcome more Pecan Widow and Widower's to our club.

We are excited about the possibilities of the New Year, 2024. It's out with the old and in with the new.

Our January program will put emphasis on ourselves as we learn how we take care of our bodies. Tammy Smith, PT, owner of Freedom Physical

Therapy & Fitness Center, in Acton, will tell us how to keep our body in tune at any age and help us to learn how to reduce falls. As the saying goes, use it or lose it.

Chef Jordan will be providing two menu selections for the January meeting and promises again outstanding food for the meeting.

The January meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 23 (the 4th Tuesday of each month) at 5:30 p.m. in the Club Terrace Room. RSVPs must be made the week before, Jan. 16, by e-mailing caryl.mahaffey@charter.net. Come on out and enjoy our group.



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4 FUN FACTS ABOUT DECEMBER

December is arguably the most festive month of the year. The holiday season and all the gatherings with family and friends make the final month of the year a busy time. But a peek under the proverbial hood reveals that there's more to December than the holiday season.

1. Armchair linguists might know that the Latin word "decem" means "ten," which is a little curious given that December is the twelfth month of the year. So why isn't December the tenth month of the year? Like other months on the modern calendar, including October and November, December once occupied a different place on the calendar, namely the Julian calendar that was used prior to the adoption of the Gregorian calendar. Back then, December was the tenth month on the calendar. Though its position changed when the Gregorian calendar was adopted, its name remained the same.

2. It's easy to overlook in a month populated by holidays like Chanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa, but the winter solstice is a significant day on the calendar as well. According to the Farmer's Almanac, the 2023 winter solstice occurs on December 21 at 10:27 p.m. EST for the northern hemisphere. The winter solstice might not be sun worshippers' favorite

day of the year, as it's the day with the least amount of sunlight all year long. However, one positive to keep in mind is that, once the winter solstice occurs, each day thereafter experiences a gradual increase in daylight. That should give anyone yet another reason to celebrate in December.

3. December has historically been a month of firsts, particularly for women and politicians. On December 1, 1919, Lady Nancy Astor became the first woman to serve in the British House of Commons. Exactly 69 years later, Benazir Bhutto was nominated for the role of prime minister of Pakistan. Bhutto ultimately became the first woman to be elected as head of a democratic government in a Muslim-majority country. Political firsts in December are not limited to events involving women. A year after Bhutto was nominated, Russia's Mikhail Gorbachev became the first Soviet Russian leader to visit the Vatican and meet the Pope.

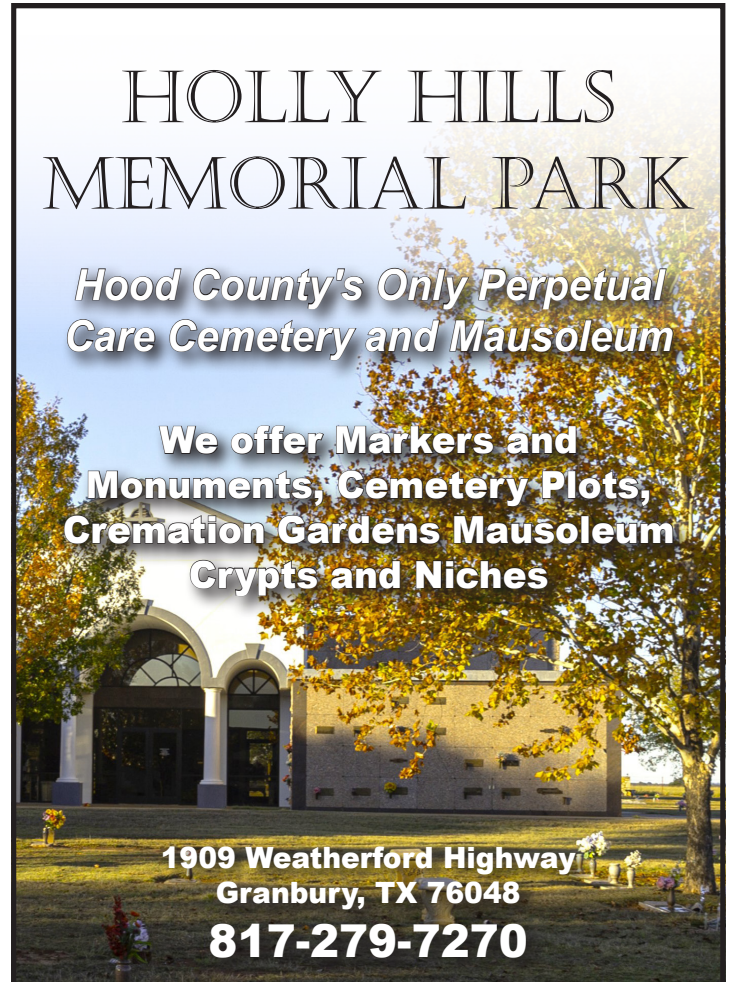
4. January might be the month people most associate with efforts to change their fortunes, but the birthstone of December also is considered a symbol of good fortune. The Farmer's Almanac notes that one of the birthstones of December is turquoise, which some believe is symbolic of good fortune and success.



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Security Activity Highlights

October 2023

Oct. 4

A security officer was in the midst of a traffic stop on Plantation Drive when a person driving a vehicle traveling the opposite direction yelled a profanity directed toward the security officer. The passing vehicle was identified and a flagrant violation was issued to the offender for violation of PPOA Rules and Regulations, Personal Conduct.

Oct. 5

A person driving a golf cart on Edgewood Court lost control of the golf cart, traveled off the road, and appeared to have struck a culvert. The driver was injured and transported by Air Evac Lifeteam.

Oct. 18

Security was dispatched to The 19th Hole concerning an unruly guest. Upon arrival, the security officer contacted the Hood County Sheriff's Office for assistance. The guest had left the area and no longer posed an issue. The guest was checked by HCSO deputies and later picked up by a family member. There were no further incidents.

Oct. 31

A security officer responded to a golf cart accident near Pinehurst. The driver attempted to turn off Pinehurst onto a golf cart path when the driver lost control and struck a culvert causing injury. Pecan EMS responded and transported the driver to a hospital.



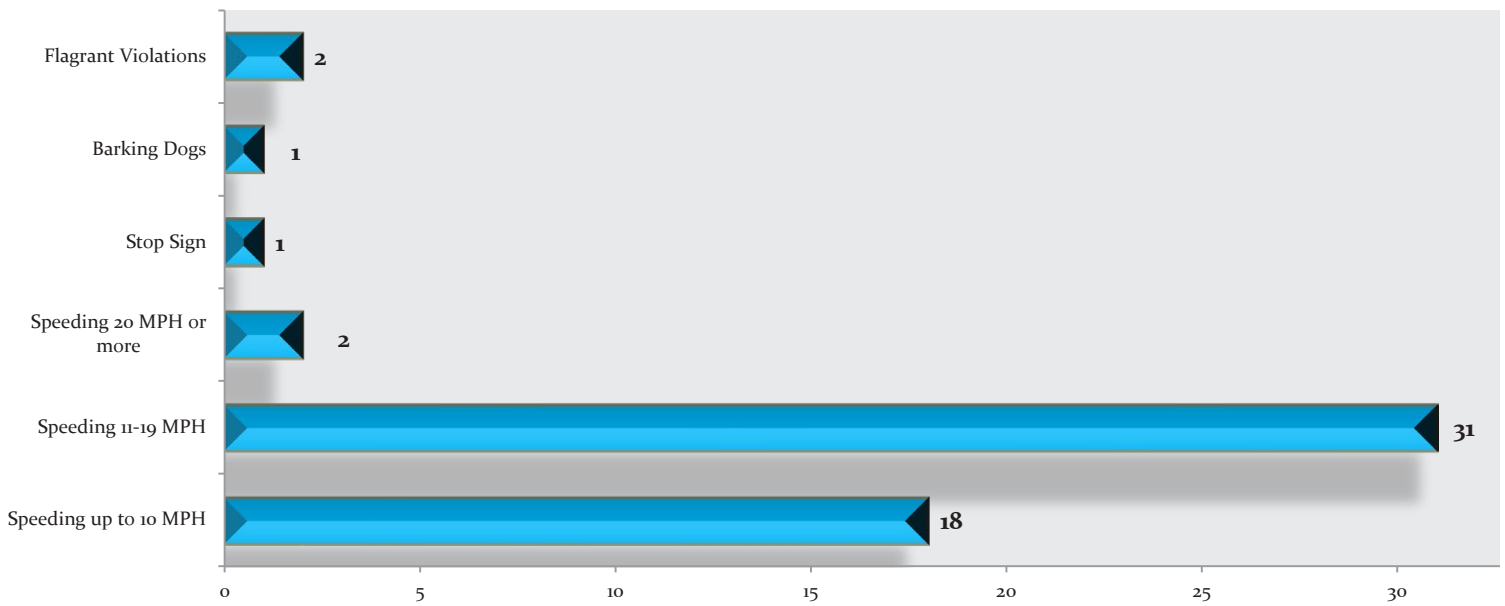
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Citations October 2023 Total: 55 Citations



Security Stats

Asset Type	Amount
Speeding up to 10 MPH	18
Speeding 11-19 MPH	31
Speeding 20 MPH or more	2
Stop Sign	1
Barking Dogs	1
Flagrant Violations	2
Total Warnings Among Citations	12

Areas of Citations Issued

- Cherokee - 1
- Claremont - 16
- Monticello - 1
- Nutcracker - 1
- Orchard - 6
- Plantation - 27
- Ravenswood - 2
- Westover - 1

Breakdown by Violator Type

- Member/ Guest - 42
- Contractor/ Vendor - 13

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TEXAS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

By Charley & Guy Orbison

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Solution is found on page 58

ACROSS

- 1 Pearsall is the seat of this county
- 5 monthly lodging expense
- 6 TXism: "chew ___ awhile" (think about)
- 7 TXism: "suits ___ a fare-thee-well"
- 8 Dallas-based chain: ___ Friday's
- 9 what TX Tommy Lee Jones does for a living
- 12 restores to health
- 17 TXism: "use your ___ something besides a hat rack" (think)
- 19 Lorrie Morgan tune: "___ for Monday" (1991)
- 21 "Laguna Madre," e.g.
- 22 actor Don of "The Buddy Holly Story"
- 23 TX Morgan Fairchild got start on "___ for Tomorrow"
- 28 Jackson County seat
- 29 rip apart
- 30 "the bull" in Mexico
- 31 this Gray was Sue Ellen on "Dallas"
- 35 device to vary the intensity of light
- 36 LBJ's Attorney General (2 wds.)
- 42 a type of native Texas wildflower
- 44 TX George Strait hit: "___ the Hole"
- 46 single shout of approval (2 wds.)

- 48 TXism: "plenty ___ (quick)"
- 49 Texas maker of handcrafted shoes
- 50 "for old times' ___"
- 51 TXism: "___ sheared like a spring lamb" (was swindled)
- 52 "si" south of the border
- 53 Eagle Pass AM station
- 54 hay bundle



DOWN

- 1 TXism: "got it ___ mouth" (it's true)
- 2 fails to honor a promise
- 3 begin an action
- 4 this Preminger directed TX Prentiss in "In Harm's Way"
- 9 Cowboy zealot (2 wds.)
- 10 this causes a very serious medical situation, and could be fatal (3 wds.)
- 11 TXism: "___ every trick in the book"

- 12 TXism: "___ lying through his teeth"
- 13 between L and XXL
- 14 lawless area in Fort Worth: "Hell's Half ___" (1873-1919)
- 15 De ___, Texas
- 16 tater
- 18 oil well failure
- 20 it's worth six points in football (abbr.)
- 23 dir. from Crockett to Orange
- 24 Santa's helper
- 25 what law enforcement might put on a telephone (2 wds.)
- 26 cowboy contests

- 27 this Richard starred with TX Peter Weller in 1989 film "Leviathan"
- 32 "that is" abbr.
- 33 home of Cowboy "Giants" foe (abbr.)
- 34 Washington, ___
- 36 "___ Speedwagon"
- 37 "___ 'n' Andy"

- 38 a Gulf eel, for one
- 39 TXism: "build ___ before you buy chickens" (prepare)
- 40 leases
- 41 TXism: "the whole ___ and caboodle"
- 43 this Henke was a Ranger closer (init.)
- 45 TXism: "close but ___ cigar"
- 47 TXism: "___ bricks shy of a load"
- 48 diving position
- 55 TX Phyllis Coats has portrayed this Superman girlfriend Lois



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Puzzle solution for Crossword
Puzzle on page 57.

Last Puzzle Solution

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Visit the Collection station at 6907 Cottage Court, off Ravenswood near the Stables.

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 - **WEDNESDAYS** from 4 to 6 p.m. Only branches and recyclables are accepted.
 - Never accepted at this location: refrigerators, TVs, tires, paints or other hazardous materials.
- Call the Operations office 817-408-3511 for more info.

Pecan Plantation's Tennis Shoppe recycles aluminum cans, with proceeds benefiting Pecan tennis. All cans should be rinsed and free from residue.

Hood County Citizens Collection Station is located at 244 Bray St. Call 817-579-3288 for hours and information. This location does accept glass, aluminum and metal cans, cardboard, paper and most plastics. Follow the QR code for a detailed list and instructions on what and how to recycle.



Acceptable Recycling Items			
ITEMS TO BE RECYCLED	YES	NO	HOW
	METAL	Aluminum, tin food & beverage cans, up to 1 gallon in size; 3 gallon #10 cans such as coffee containers	Any other metal containers including aerosol cans containing hazardous chemicals, paints, cleaning fluids, poisons, no scrap metal
Newspaper, catalogs, magazine, junk mail, shredded paper	Clean, dry newspaper & inserts, magazines & catalogs, junk mail, computer paper, stationary, bills, shredded paper, envelopes with windows, NOTE: must be less than 2 months old or goes in the trash	All other paper including soiled paper, telephone books, non-paper bags such as plastic or Tyvek, overnight delivery envelopes, bubble wrap, books of any kind, greeting cards, gift wrap & product samples.	Place in brown paper grocery bags or cardboard & place on top of other materials. NO PLASTIC BAGS.
Plastic	Small & wide mouth containers up to 1 gallon marked on the bottom with a "1" or "2".	Containers with other numbers or no numbers; containers larger than three gallon; plastic bags, motor oil & anti-freeze containers...even if marked with a "1" or "2".	Make sure containers have a "1" or "2" on the bottom; remove cap or lid; labels okay; rinse & place in cart.
Boxboard	Cereal, cracker, shoe boxes, shirt boxes, beverage cartons & six-pack cartons	Boxboard containing wax, plastic or foil; or contaminated with food	Remove plastic cereal bag, flatten boxes, place in polly cart
Corrugated Cardboard	Clean cardboard with wavy middle layer of brown paper	Pizza boxes, wax-coated cardboard	Remove packing materials, flatten boxes

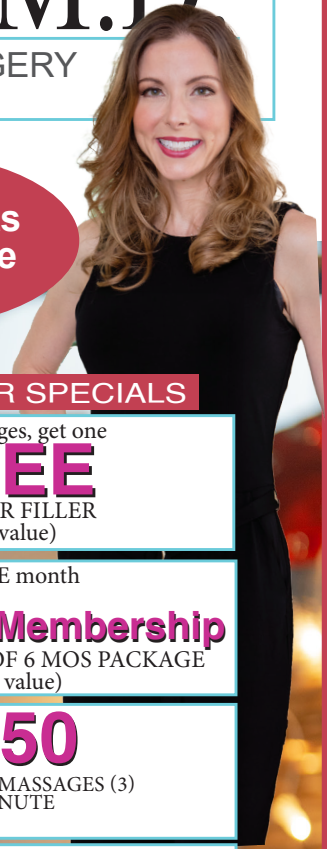
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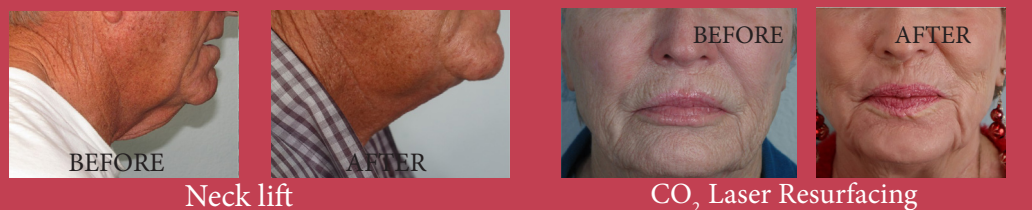
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