



GRANBURY ★ TEXAS

Hood County

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886



[SATURDAY, February 24, 2024]

Published Saturday

hcnews.com \$1.00

Granbury attorney, Oath Keeper Kellye SoRelle deemed competent to stand trial

Staff Report

Former Granbury attorney and Oath Keepers leader Kellye SoRelle was deemed "competent to stand trial" by the Bureau of Prisons earlier this month on charges stemming from the Jan. 6, 2021,

Capitol riot. SoRelle — who was also a former Republican candidate for the Texas House of Representatives — was one of approximately



SoRelle

two dozen people with links to the Oath Keepers militia charged as part of the government's largest Jan. 6 case to date, according to an article published by WUSA 9.com.

The Oath Keepers is an American far-right anti-

government militia, most well-known for the launch of the hours-long Capitol protest in which supporters of former President Donald Trump interrupted a meeting of Congress while it was certifying the results of the 2020 presidential election.

Although the certification of electoral votes was delayed, President Joe Biden was sworn in as president two weeks later.

Approximately 1,000 people were charged with crimes

PLEASE SEE **SORELLE** | A3



Family continues mother's legacy to support caregivers and the Alzheimer's Association®

Submitted Item

Shirley Anderson always made an impression with her stylish grace and dainty face. Her holiday dishes were legendary, including her Black Forest Cake topped with Merlot-marinated cherries. She called the dessert Sweet Red Raider in honor of her daughter's alma mater. In a dash, she could add major bling to any buffet table, but beneath her southern charm lay a fearless businesswoman dedicated to holistic medicine.

As a single mom in the 1980s, she self-funded her education and grabbed an advanced diploma in Myotherapy. She started her own practice called Total Concept located on Bridge Street in Granbury and committed her life to treating those in chronic pain. Ironically, a good amount of her patients were caregivers who had neglected their own bodies due to years of nursing and tending to others.

"Shirley was a pioneer in meditative treatment," said Bob Anderson, her husband of 31 years. "She was a true healer, both physically and spiritually."

Bob married Shirley in 1992. At that time, only a few specialists in Hood County practiced holistic pain treatment. She was one of the first therapists in town to help educate war veterans on the effects of PTSD on the body.

She broke the stigma that massage therapy was a luxury, or for women only. In fact, almost 40% of her clients



Stacy Thornton and Shirley Anderson show off a bottle of wine from Coeur Cause.

COURTESY PHOTO

were male, and many of them were also caregivers in one way or another.

Caregiving became a journey for Shirley's own family, especially for her dedicated husband who became her main caregiver when she was diagnosed with dementia almost a decade ago. It quickly developed into Alzheimer's Disease. She succumbed to it just a couple of weeks ago.

A Celebration of Life will be held in her honor at Lakeside Baptist Church at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27, but her legacy to support caregivers and the Alzheimer's Association® continues.

Her youngest daughter, Stacy Thornton, founded Coeur Cause® Wines over four years ago. The winery produces premium red and white wines. Ten percent of every bottle of Chardonnay and Cabernet Sauvignon sold goes to the Alzheimer's Association® as a direct donation to help advance Alzheimer's care, support and research. To date, the winery has raised almost \$100,000 for charitable missions. "Coeur" means "heart" in French.

"Mom always said if you're going to do something, do it from your heart," said Stacy. "According to the Alzheimer's Association®, one in three seniors will die of some form of dementia and about 30% of caregivers are age 65 or older. Those caregivers also have to cover about 70% of the costs either through out-of-pocket health and long-term care expenses, or from the value

of unpaid care. Mom inspired me to start a cause-driven business to shed light on these staggering statistics."

Throughout her life, Shirley was a force in inspiring women to launch their own businesses. Before she married Bob, she started a single mothers group empowering women to lift themselves out of limited means. Dance lessons were a part of the curriculum, and her impeccable two-step was as graceful as Swan Lake (but with boots instead of ballet pointes).

Those dance lessons led to one of her first encounters with her husband, Bob. For many years, friends would commission her creative flair for interior design and his talent for building new homes. Together, they were anchored by their community, church and friendships, enjoying many social activities.

In fact, all of Shirley's children were influenced by their mother's philanthropy. Her oldest daughter, Kim Carter Lewis, is actively involved in veterans' events and local charities. Along with their brother, Wade Thornton, the three siblings are organizing an appreciation event in honor of Bridgewater Memory Care, the facility that cared for their mother.

The family will soon announce a fundraiser for the Alzheimer's Association®. In the meantime, people can find the wine at CoeurCause.com. For resource and help information on Alzheimer's Disease, go to alz.org.

'A DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT' Community pays tribute to late district clerk Tonna Hitt Newman

BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

The Hood County community is mourning the loss of District Clerk Tonna Hitt Newman, who passed away Sunday, Feb. 18, at the age of 64.

Newman was a fixture in the 355th District Court for more than 30 years. Known as the longest-serving elected woman in Hood County government, she was first elected in 1990 and took office Jan. 1, 1991.

According to an article published in the Hood County News Sept. 2, 2020, Newman won the 1990 race for district clerk with 58% of the vote. In doing so, she became the first Republican ever elected to a county-wide office in Hood County with a Democratic opponent.

The election was noteworthy in another sense as well: According to Newman — Hitt at the time — she was elected during a time when the majority of Hood County was blue. She said it was during this election when Hood County swung from blue to red, where it remains today.

Granbury attorney Shelly Fowler said she has known Newman for well over 25 years, adding that Newman received "incredible accolades" during her time as district clerk.

"One thing that she did from a professional standpoint that I really find to be admirable is she discovered that in the government code, they allowed her to add a fee to every divorce petition that was filed, and it went into a fund," Fowler explained. "It's called an ADR Fund, which stands for alternative dispute resolution, but what it does is it allows those that can't afford mediations to go and get those settled through the fund that she had created. It didn't cost the county anything. It was just something she had found in the government code that by charging \$1 per petition, it went into this fund to help those less fortunate, and

they could get their cases resolved without spending a ton of money."

Newman was also active in state and national Republican politics, as well as local. Fowler explained that Newman's favorite picture was one she took with Former President George W. Bush shortly after he was declared the winner in the 2000 presidential election.

"She was a staunch Republican and so she had a great history," Fowler said. "She was like a delegate to the state convention repeatedly and she was really big in the Republican Party here in Hood County."

County Court-at-Law Judge Vincent Messina said he has known Newman for nearly 40 years — even before she became Hood County's district clerk.

"Tonna was a dedicated public servant, active in her statewide association of district clerks and very active in the local Republican Women's club," Messina told the HCN. "She was a tireless advocate in bringing the clerk's office into the 21st century regarding electronic record keeping and electronic paperless filing. She loved the Lord, her family and her job in that order and her dedication and enthusiasm will be sorely missed by everyone who knew her."

Former Hood County District Judge Ralph Walton said he had the pleasure of working with Newman when she was only an intern. He said she walked into his office in the 1980s and asked to work in his law office, as it was a requirement for a class she was taking at the University of Texas at Austin.

"I didn't know her," Walton said. "She just came to the law office and inquired as to whether or not she could do that, and I said, 'Well, Tonna, I really don't have any real need for additions to my staff right now, but if you want to be an intern and just work in this office and do whatever odd jobs are necessary without being paid, we can

PLEASE SEE **CLERK** | A3



Shirley Anderson

COURTESY PHOTO



6 89076 25634 6

138TH YEAR, NO. 8

Local, zone(s): 4 sections, 42 pages, plus supplements | State: 4 sections, 42 pages

INSIDE

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

Clint HEAD

LEADERSHIP ★ COMMITMENT

JUSTICE WITH PROVEN INTEGRITY & CHARACTER

COMPASSIONATE JUSTICE: "My compassion is more than just a trait; it's a guiding principle that ensures empathetic and fair consideration in every case, balancing the scales of justice with humanity."

For Hood County Justice of the Peace Precinct 1

POL. ADV. PD. DANNY SHANE FLIPPIN TREASURER FOR THE HEAD CAMPAIGN

A SERVANT'S HEART

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CHAMBER NEWS



Unlock Opportunities: Unwind, connect and collaborate at Wind Down Wednesday

Join us for Wind Down Wednesday, the Granbury Chamber of Commerce's newest monthly mixer designed to help you relax, connect and elevate your business game. As a chamber member, attending our after-hours mixer isn't just a perk — it's a strategic move for your business growth. Each month, we'll feature a new location, allowing you to explore different venues while enjoying good company, laughter, and a chance to discover new connections. Whether you're a longtime chamber member or new to the community, Wind Down Wednesday offers a welcoming environment for everyone. Plus, there's no cost to attend, cash bar and food menu are provided at every location.

Networking is key to success in any industry, and Wind Down Wednesday provides the perfect opportunity to forge valuable connections with fellow chamber members. Whether you're exchanging business cards, sharing ideas or simply getting to know other professionals in your community, every interaction at the mixer can open doors and create new opportunities for collaboration. Attending Wind Down Wednesday can directly impact your bottom line. By building relationships with other local businesses, you can tap into a network of resources, referrals and potential clients that can help fuel your business growth.

Plus, let's not forget the added perks of attending Wind Down Wednesday. With door prizes from the host venue and the chance to win cash in our Dollar Bucket game, these monthly mixers offer no shortage of fun and excitement. And who knows? A little luck could turn into a big win for your business.

So don't wait. Mark your calendar for the last Wednesday of each month and make Wind Down Wednesday a regular part of your business routine. Not only will you unwind and recharge after a busy day, but you'll also take meaningful steps toward growing your business and expanding your professional network while supporting local venues.

So grab your business cards, bring a dollar bill, and join us for the next Wind Down Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 5-6 p.m. at Brew Drinkery & Bistro. It will be an evening of relaxation, connection and business-building opportunities. We can't wait to see you there! For more information, please call the chamber at 817-573-1622 or check out the event calendar at www.granburychamber.com.

granbury CHAMBER

Member Spotlight

7- Eleven

"We make our customers' day a little more awesome by delivering fast, personalized convenience — when, where, and how they want it."

"As the world's largest convenience retailer, 7-Eleven also helped pioneer the franchise model and is now consistently ranked as top-10 Franchisor- a true testament to our entrepreneurial spirit. We make our customers' day a little more awesome by delivering fast, personalized convenience- when, where, and how they want it."

Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

We are so very thankful for our Board Member, David Orcutt, with Granbury Door and Window!! David has been on the Granbury Chamber Board for a total of 9 years!

When asked why he likes being a Board Member, he replied, "I love being on the board because the Granbury Chamber is a vital part of our community. The business leadership brings reason to the crazy politics in our country, and they support the charities, the schools, the churches, and have been a part of the success of the Granbury Square."

A fun fact about David is he was a Submariner, TCU Cheerleader, and a Hospital CEO for 17 years!

Thank you David for being a Granbury Chamber Board Member!

granbury CHAMBER

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

David Orcutt

Business:
Granbury Door and Window

Time as an Board Member:
9 years

granbury CHAMBER

Member Spotlight

CENTURY 21

Judge Fite Company

Century 21 Judge Fite Company

"With a dedication to heart-driven service and strong family culture, we serve many communities across Texas and Oklahoma."

"Founded on a simple premise of service, as expressed in the company mission statement: to serve the community, develop people, have fun and achieve profits, Judge B. Fite opened his first office in 1937. For more than 85 years, our company has grown from one office with eight associates to more than 23 brokerage offices and more than 1,100 associates and staff."

Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

New Chamber Members & Renewals

Welcome to our new chamber members who joined in January!

- Tru-Tex Painting & Construction
- Misty Tucker Life and Health Insurance
- Tell It Like It Is with J Loren Norris
- The Grape Lady
- Kathy Cheek Century 21 Judge Fite
- Positive Energy Cleaning Ect
- Mosquito Squad & Pest Control of Fort Worth
- CareRide Non-Emergency Transportation
- Cut, Paste, & Play Shop
- TotalCare Emergency Room

Thank you to the following members who renewed their chamber membership in January!

We appreciate your continued support!

- Kelly O'Carroll, MD
- Granbury Endodontics
- Dr. Michelle Stegenga
- Concho Hearts Hospice
- Brightworks Carwash
- Literacy Consulting Specialties
- Keller Williams - Autumn Anderson
- Small Steps Childcare
- Lakeside Granbury by Dolce Vita
- Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center

- The FIT Lounge
- FastSigns
- The Pannell's
- Firehouse Subs
- Hood County Livestock Raiser Association
- Exp Realty - Jerry Allen
- Paladin
- Advance Camp
- Peerless Realty - Beth Shearon
- Cleburne Railroaders
- Hood County Cancer Services
- Lakeside Physicians
- Lake Granbury Medical Center
- RE/MAX Lake Granbury - Kathy Vander Zee
- Lakewood Crossing

- Pinnacle Bank
- All-Tex Insurance
- Southside Bank
- Troy Vinson Jewelers
- Granbury Housing Authority
- Granbury Meadows Apartments
- First National Bank
- Acton Municipal Utility District
- Granbury Church of Christ
- Rockin S Construction Company, Inc.
- MDM Landscapes
- Granbury Independent School District
- North Central Texas Academy
- All About Sports & Awards
- Frontier Waste Solutions

DEDICATED TO SERVING YOU

TUESDAY, MARCH 5 2024

RE-ELECT
JACK WILSON
HOOD COUNTY COMMISSIONER

PRECINCT #3

CHARACTER MATTERS

IN GOD WE TRUST

Pd. Pol. Adv. by Jack Wilson, Treasurer Jack Wilson Campaign

GRANBURY LASER & Medical Aesthetics

REFRESH.
REVIVE.
REJUVENATE.

- Skincare
- Facials
- Injectables
- Lasers
- Peels



ENHANCING THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF ALL SKIN TYPES

(682) 936-2834 • 2441 E US Hwy 377

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Leadership is more than saying 'no'



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. sam@hcnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext. 260

The primary election date is just around the corner and the campaign process here in Hood County has so far been interesting, to say the least. It is difficult to describe the status of Hood County politics. It is often contentious, frequently confrontational, and sometimes downright alarming. Through all the name calling, false accusations and political spin, there comes a point where politicians must find solutions to relevant issues. This past week, the trustees of the Granbury ISD held their monthly school board meeting and one of the agenda items was the ques-

tion of calling for an election for a proposed school bond. While I could not attend the meeting in person, I was able to view the meeting in its entirety by watching the recorded video which the school district posts online. After watching the video, I must say I was disheartened. It is not necessary to delve into the pros or cons of the bond issue. There is plenty of time to do so before the election in May. What concerns me today is the thought process of some of the trustees concerning the bond issue. Being an elected official requires leadership skills and problem solving. It requires investigation, study, factual

determination and being informed about the subject matter at hand. After all, the GISD is the largest employer in Hood County and is a nearly \$100 million operation annually. It involves thousands of students and parents, hundreds of teachers, and decisions that must be made to provide for the needs of the district. Those decisions must be made in such a way to meet the goals of the district to provide a quality educational experience for its students. Such is the obligation of the trustees.

Upon taking office, each trustee agrees to follow the guidance outlined in the Texas School Board Code of Ethics. Each school board member is obligated to promote the best interests of their district. They agree to share their views while working for consensus. They agree to base their decisions on fact rather than supposition, opinion or public favor. Prior to Monday's meeting,

there was a study session, described as a strategic planning meeting, concerning whether there was a need for a bond and if necessary, how the money for a bond would be utilized. Two trustees failed to attend this meeting. One indicated they had illness within their family and the other indicated there was a scheduling conflict. Both excuses are understandable and reasonable.

When a motion was made to call for a bond election and a vote taken, five trustees voted in favor of calling the bond election; two voted in opposition. During discussion later in the meeting, one trustee asked the dissenting members why they did not support the motion. Trustee Courtney Gore respectfully addressed herself to trustees Melanie Graft and Karen Lowery, the two no votes, saying she wanted to understand why they were not in support of taking the issue to voters. Graft responded by saying she is regularly

approached by constituents who are tired of higher taxes and are afraid of being taxed out of their house. Gore countered by asking Graft if she did not want to support the calling of a bond issue, what her solution would be to the problems the school district faces. Graft responded she had said all she was going to say on the matter and offered no suggestions or solutions.

To be clear, it is important for a trustee or any elected official to vote their conscience. It was also completely reasonable for Gore to inquire for the reasoning behind the trustees who voted no.

What is disheartening is the reasoning behind the decisions of the "no" votes. At no time did any trustee produce evidence or argue that crowded classrooms, leaking roofs or broken-down equipment at GISD fails to exist. The problems are identified and undeniable. What the "vote no"

trustees fail to address is how to go about solving the existing problems in the absence of a bond proposal.

Each trustee has the right to vote no. Yet, all trustees are obligated to faithfully tend to the best interests of the school. How does voting no with the absence of an alternative plan fulfill that obligation? We even have candidates for county offices bragging about their roles in defeating the last bond issue at the polls, but once again, failing to offer reasonable alternatives to a bond.

Voters should be tired of hearing leaders say no without a plan or an idea of how to solve a problem. The schoolchildren of Granbury deserve better as do the taxpayers.

Thought for the day: Identify your problems but give your power and energy to solutions. Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out.

Folks around town

Barb Facer

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Say hello to our neighbor, Barb Facer!

Following a 29-year career teaching in Michigan, Barb Facer moved to Hood County in 2000 to live closer to her daughter. After finding a home in the Acton area, Barb's sister joined her in Texas and bought a home on the same street. Barb's sister was also a teacher in the classroom directly next to hers. Barb joined the staff at the Hood County senior center in 2004 where she thoroughly enjoys her job as the transportation director. "Ask anyone. It's fantastic working here. Like they say, working here isn't work because you're having fun. Lucky for me, they keep me here on staff." She especially enjoys their monthly field trips she oversees to points all around North Texas. The gorgeous landscaping surrounding the Senior Center is also Barb's doing. Barb has always been a gifted photographer; she uses her gorgeous images extensively in many ways to share her lifetime of globe-trotting experiences. Barb has a travel log way too long to list! Barb always welcomes the Hood County News with open arms joining together in support of the Senior Center and appreciates it greatly when the Hood County News helps spread the word on events and issues concerning the Senior Citizens of Hood County.

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

SORELLE

FROM PAGE A1

in connection with the Jan. 6 Capitol riot, according to a former HCN article. Some struck plea deals, agreeing to cooperate with investigators looking to net bigger fish. After being free for more than a year, SoRelle was arrested in September 2022 for her alleged role in the attack on the Capitol. The four-count indictment of SoRelle by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia included charges of tampering with evidence, obstruction of an official proceeding, conspiring to obstruct an official proceeding, and being inside the Capitol during the insurrection, according to the HCN article. According to WUSA9.com, SoRelle — who was also in a relationship with Oath Keepers leader Stewart Rhodes — had been scheduled to go to trial last year with two other defendants, Donovan Crowl and James Beeks, but her appearance was derailed after separate

evaluators hired by both her attorney and federal prosecutors determined she was not competent to stand trial. In June 2023, U.S. District Judge Amit P. Mehta ordered SoRelle, who had been on pretrial release until that point, into the custody of the Bureau of Prisons for competency restoration. SoRelle officially reported to the BOP Nov. 27, 2023, and was assigned to the Federal Medical Center, Carswell in Fort Worth. During a hearing Feb. 8, Mehta summarized the results of a recent report to the court from officials at Carswell, stating SoRelle is "now competent to stand trial," according to the WUSA9.com article. SoRelle's attorney Horatio Aldredge said he plans to contest the BOP's findings, arguing that his client is not yet competent, and asked for time to have an evaluator who previously examined SoRelle conduct a follow-up report, the article continues. Mehta agreed and said he expected the evaluation to be conducted promptly.

Mehta also said he would order that SoRelle be released from the Bureau of Prisons and returned to her previous conditions of supervision, WUSA9.com reports. They include, among other things, a prohibition against contact with members of the Oath Keepers who could be involved in the investigation, the article states. On Jan. 13, 2022, Rhodes, SoRelle's former boyfriend, was arrested by the FBI at a friend's house in Little Elm in Denton County, according to an HCN article. He and 10 other Oath Keepers were charged with seditious conspiracy and other charges in November 2022. Seditious conspiracy is a rarely charged crime that carries the possibility of 20 years in prison. Rhodes, a former paratrooper, had previously lived in Montana and Nevada, but the 32-page indictment listed a different place of residence for him: Granbury, Texas. When United States Magistrate Judge Kimberly

C. Priest Johnson issued an order Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022, for Rhodes to remain jailed pending trial, her order noted the defendant "reports that he is currently in a relationship with Kellye SoRelle" and that he had been living with SoRelle in Granbury, the HCN previously reported. Last year, Rhodes was sentenced to 18 years in prison. More than a dozen other members of the Oath Keepers group have also been convicted at trial of charges ranging from entering a restricted building to seditious conspiracy. The day after Rhodes was locked up in the Fannin County Jail, SoRelle announced that she would serve as acting president of the Oath Keepers until he was released. A follow-up hearing in SoRelle's case is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Friday, March 8, according to an article from NBC News. The HCN attempted to contact Aldredge, SoRelle's attorney, but was unsuccessful.

CLERK

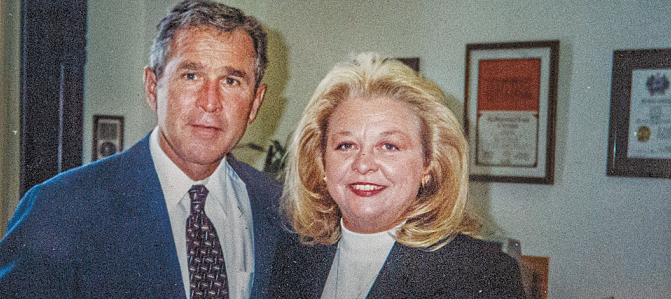
FROM PAGE A1

do that." Walton said he asked for her college transcript, and it became evident to him how smart she was. For the next spring semester, Newman worked as an intern for Walton's office and the pair formed a great relationship. "I've simply known her ever since," he said. "Tonna did a good job and was very confident. Of course, she didn't know a thing about the law, but I think she learned by being exposed to me and my office. She's a good friend of mine and was very supportive of me when I ran for district judge." As the district clerk, Walton said Newman was honorable, capable and did an "excellent job" working for the county. "The citizens were well

represented in the clerk's office because of her temperament and her capabilities," he said. "It's a real tragedy that my good friend has passed. I really feel sorry for the family. I just pray for them that they will be able to recover from the tragic loss of a family member. She really did a great job in this community for Hood County as a district clerk and she will be missed." On a personal level, Fowler said Newman was "a great person," and a "special woman." "She was just staunchly loyal to her friends and family, and she was giving and caring to all of us and to the community," she added. "She always wanted to help others. She's going to be missed. We're all going to miss her terribly."



COURTESY PHOTO
A member of several Republican women organizations, Tonna Hitt Newman supported state and federal senatorial candidates and attended swearing-in ceremonies. She was a delegate to more than 12 state GOP conventions and served once as a presidential elector, traveling to Austin to cast her vote.



COURTESY PHOTO
Tonna Hitt Newman was active in state and national Republican politics, as well as local. She is shown here with former Texas Gov. George W. Bush shortly after he was declared the winner in the 2000 presidential election.

Hood County News
A Hyde Media Group, LLC Company

Publisher
SAM HOUSTON
sam@hcnews.com

Vice President of Operations
DARREN CLARK
darren@hcnews.com

Staff Writer
EMILY NAVA
emily@hcnews.com

Staff Writer
EDEN GILBREATH
eden@hcnews.com

Staff Writer
ASHLEY TERRY
ashley@hcnews.com

Designer
HILARY McALLISTER
hilary@hcnews.com

Digital Technologies
WADE BLAKE
wade@hcnews.com

Photographer/Designer
LAYTH TAYLOR
layth@hcnews.com

hcnews.com

136 YEARS IN HOOD COUNTY
USPS 249-520
P.O. Box 879, Granbury, Texas 76048
Phone: (817) 573-7066
Fax: (817) 279-8371

THE HOOD COUNTY NEWS is published at 1501 S. Morgan St., Granbury, TX 76048 weekly on Saturdays. Periodicals postage paid at Granbury, TX 76048.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the HOOD COUNTY NEWS, P.O. Box 879, Granbury, TX 76048. Any erroneous reflection upon character, standing or reputation of any person, firm or corporation, which may occur in the HOOD COUNTY NEWS will be gladly corrected once brought to the attention of publisher or editor. The publisher is not responsible for copy omissions or typographical errors that may occur other than to correct them in the nearest issue after it is brought to his attention and in no case does the publisher hold himself liable for damages further than the amount received by him for actual space covering the error. The HOOD COUNTY NEWS is an award-winning member of the Texas Press Association, North & East Texas Press, West Texas Press and National Newspaper Association.

RETAIL ADVERTISING
P.O. Box 879
1501 South Morgan St., Granbury, Texas 76048

Marketing Consultant
HEIDI GEBHARDT
heidig@hcnews.com

Marketing Consultant
MADISON LAZARO
madison@hcnews.com

Marketing Consultant
BRITTANY BOWERS
brittany.bowers@hcnews.com

Classifieds
NANCY PRICER
classads@hcnews.com

For more information:
(817) 573-7066 or (817) 279-9718

CIRCULATION
For delivery or billing questions, subscriptions and vacation stops call, (817) 573-7066 or (817) 279-9718

Delivery in county: Granbury, Lipan, Tolar, Paluxy, Cresson, Bluff Dale, Glenn Rose, Rainbow and Nemo

1 Year	\$65	1 Year, digital	\$50
2 Years	\$125	1 month, digital	\$14.95

Delivery to remainder of Texas:

1 Year	\$85	1 Year, digital	\$50
2 Years	\$160	1 month, digital	\$14.95

Delivery to out of state:

1 Year	\$100	1 Year, digital	\$50
2 Years	\$190	1 month, digital	\$14.95

CLASSIFIED
Have a car to sell? Want to rent your house? Planning a garage sale?
Phone: (817) 573-7066
Metro: (817) 279-9718
Toll Free: (1-800) 588-7066
Fax: (817) 279-8371
email: classads@hcnews.com
Classified billing questions? Call 817-573-7066 and ask for classified billing.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

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

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

POLICE BLOTTER

Granbury Police Department Criminal Activity Report



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through the Granbury Police Department during the period of Feb. 13 - Feb. 19. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

- FEB. 13**
9:46 a.m.: report of fraud on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 7:06 p.m.: disturbance reported on Quiet Cove
- 9:06 p.m.: suspicious activity reported on Acton Highway
- 9:06 p.m.: hit-and-run accident reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 9:59 p.m.: criminal mischief reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 11:27 p.m.: suspicious person or circumstance reported on E. Pearl Street
- **Two major accidents and 36 traffic stops were reported on this day****

- FEB. 14**
2:23 a.m.: burglary reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 9:52 a.m.: suspicious activity reported on Abes Landing Drive
- 12:23 p.m.: burglary reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 3:31 p.m.: disturbance reported on Quiet Cove
- 4:17 p.m.: hit-and-run accident reported on S. Morgan Steet
- 6:38 p.m.: road rage reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- **Three major accidents, one minor accident, one warrant service, and 40 traffic stops were reported on this day****

- FEB. 15**
12:26 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance reported on S. Morgan Street

- 9:29 a.m.: lost property reported on S. Morgan Street
- 11:24 a.m.: harassment reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 5:47 p.m.: theft of property reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 10:44 p.m.: found property reported on E. Pearl Street
- 11:02 p.m.: intoxicated driver reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- **One minor accident, one warrant service and 40 traffic stops were reported on this day****

- FEB. 16**
3:37 a.m.: suspicious activity reported on Hayloft Lane
- 12:58 p.m.: burglary reported on River Bank Court
- 1:58 p.m.: suspicious activity reported on N. Meadows Drive

- 2:28 p.m.: threat reported on U.S. Highway 377
- 7:21 p.m.: disturbance reported on Second Street
- **Two minor accidents and 59 traffic stops were reported on this day****
- FEB. 17**
12:45 p.m.: theft reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 2:48 p.m.: assault reported on E. Barton Street
- 4:16 p.m.: theft reported on Shady Grove Court
- 9:14 p.m.: lost property reported on E. Pearl Street
- **One major accident, two minor accidents and 37 traffic stops were reported on this day****

- FEB. 18**
3:43 p.m.: property was found on N. Plaza Drive
- 4:05 p.m.: property found on Loop 567
- 5:05 p.m.: theft reported

- on N. Jones Street
- 6:24 p.m.: theft reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- **41 traffic stops were reported on this day****
- FEB. 19**
1:17 a.m.: suspicious activity reported on Overstreet Boulevard
- 10:15 a.m.: theft reported on Shady Grove Court
- 1:53 p.m.: suspicious activity reported on E. U.S. Highway 377
- 2:15 p.m.: assault reported on Crossland Road
- 5:00 p.m.: loose livestock reported on Bobbie Ann Drive
- 5:04 p.m.: theft reported on Joshua Way
- 10:46 p.m.: suspicious activity reported on S. Morgan Street
- **One minor accident and 34 traffic stops were reported on this day****

Moore's Custom Cabinets

Building craftsmanship, one generation at a time



BY ALEXA GUADIAN
Special to the Hood County News

Ryan Moore, owner of Moore's Custom Cabinets, took a leap toward creating a small business modeled after two generations of cabinetry. Now as the third generation, he's contributing his knowledge of self-employment and a family man.

"My grandfather built cabinets, my father built cabinets, and now I do," Moore said. "Starting my own company was definitely a challenge, but relying on a lot of those experiences that I've had with him (his father) was helpful. I think it made a big difference in the trajectory of our company now."

Since 2015, the business has created custom cabinetry for both newly built and

renovated homes across North and Central Texas. The company has become a staple provider of quality cabinetry for home builders and DIYers for its honest and design-focused approach toward customer experience and production.

As the trends of interior design constantly change, Moore and his team work with customers to create their dream cabinetry in ways that are cost efficient and keep the customer involved in every aspect of their project.

"With costs in mind on those projects, it's in our effort to help them achieve what they're desiring in their cabinets within a specific budget. That's where a lot of that creative side comes in because we're spending your money and we want to spend it well. We're open about pricing so everybody knows exactly

what they're going to pay for their cabinets before we ever start building them," Moore said.

Moore's Custom Cabinets prides itself on the innovative technology used in its showrooms located at 105 West Pearl St. in Granbury. "Cabinet Vision," a leading design software in the cabinet industry, is utilized in the company's design center to show customers a 3D rendering of what their cabinets will look like before they're even created in the warehouse.

After nearly a decade of business, Moore looks back at the challenges of self-employment that shaped his company into the professional, honest and compassionate business it is today.

"I would say early on in my business, one of the major challenges I had to overcome was the balance between work and home and

making sure that, you know, my livelihood, the way to make money, I need to work and being self-employed," Moore said.

Moore also experienced external challenges that made managing finances difficult throughout the early years of his company, such as the rising costs of hardwood in 2021.

"2022 was a very difficult year as far as keeping up with costs and making sure that our price of goods like what we're selling to the customer, is actually gonna make money," Moore said. "We've seen the pricing of materials in this industry stabilize. Some of them come down, pretty significantly, but then others (are) staying high, at least stable. So that's been super helpful."

Outside of the workplace, Moore values his time with family and giving back to

the community through outreach.

"What my wife and I look for is a need, and sometimes that need is a struggling family, where we can provide Christmas presents for their family or we can provide help with monthly rent or all the way to making sure that what we're giving to is benefiting the family in a way where they see Christ through us," Moore said.

Moore has come a long way since his early days learning with his father. Since then, production has tripled and he's learned how to balance time as a business owner. "That's exponential growth," he said.

For more information about Moore's Custom Cabinets, visit moorescc.com online or call 817-219-2096.

CALENDAR

ONGOING

FORWARD TRAINING
Center "Beginner Typing Skills" class. Call 817-573-6677 or email info@forwardtrainingcenter.org

SATURDAY, FEB. 17
BOOK SIGNING for the 200-page book Texas Art Connection will be celebrated from 2-5 p.m. at the Langdon House Art Gallery. The book includes color or photos of the work of 70 Texas artists, links to their websites and biographical information. Author/artist Gloria Hood and artists featured in the book will be available to sign the books. Books are also available to purchase on amazon.com.

TUESDAY, FEB. 20
FORWARD TRAINING
Center "Quickbooks Basic" class begins, meeting Feb. 20, 22, 27, 29 from 6-8 p.m. email info@forwardtrainingcenter or call 817-573-6677 to sign up.

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE
luncheon, noon at Southside Baptist Church, 910 Paluxy Highway. Speaker will be Don Smarto, senior pastor at Southside Baptist Church, speaking on "God can change a heart" with a special emphasis on gang influence. Smarto has shared the gospel with gang members for 44 years. RSVP by Friday, Feb. 16. at Luncheon/Banquet Registration Reply - Lake Granbury Ministerial Alliance (granburyministries.org).

HOOD COUNTY Republican Club hosts Pastor Rafael Cruz and celebrates the lifelong dedication of service of Don and Rene Poe. Location is Brazos Covenant Ministries, 1950 Acton Highway, Granbury. Social with light meal begins at 5:30 p.m. Program begins at 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21
THE HOOD County Republican Women will meet at 10 a.m. at the Wiley Center, 400 W. U.S. Highway 377. The program will be a candidate forum for Hood County candidates running in the 2024 Republican primary.

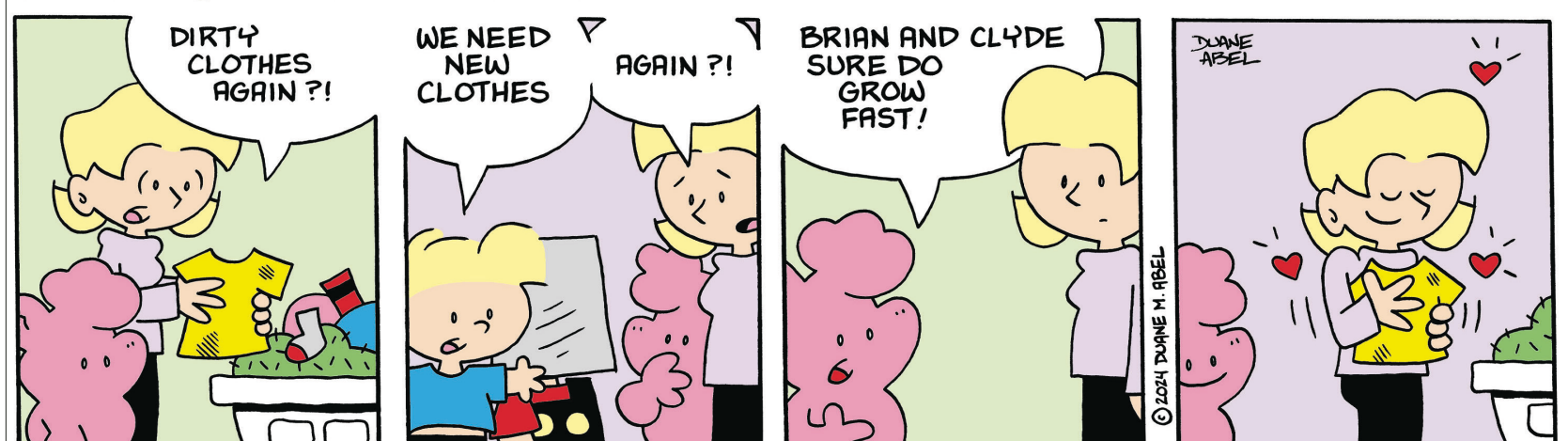
PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | A9

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



STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

Historic marker will recognize African American Schools

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

After three years in the works, a new historical marker is coming to Keith Street in Granbury to recognize two African American Schools.

In 2020, Randy Leach with Granbury ISD requested approval from the City of Granbury for a location of a historical marker. The city worked with GISD to find a location as close to one of the schools' original location as possible that is accessible to the public. The city approved the marker in October 2020.

The marker was never installed and has been stored at the Hood County Courthouse. A local citizen with ties to the school requested the Granbury City Council reconsider the location for the marker and move it to Keith Street, where the building is believed to have stood; it was later named Keith Street School.

The first African American School in the Granbury area was Mount Zion; it was located a few miles outside Granbury. The second school was named Mount Ebo and was located in the southwest part of town. This school is believed to have later been named the Keith Street School.

"According to school records, 26 students attended Mount Ebo in 1880," the historic marker reads. "The July 27, 1893, issue of The Granbury News reported on a petition by white citizens to move the school to the northeast side of town, and another petition



signed by black and white citizens opposing the relocation."

In 1922, a school reportedly listed 35 African American students attending Granbury Schools. A new one-room school building was completed in 1946, with Eva Mae Williams teaching. In 1964, the school was faced with losing funding from the federal government before GISD integrated the schools.

Former Granbury Mayor Nin Hulett spoke on the topic at a recent city council meeting, noting he has worked closely with the citizen who has ties to the school. Hulett shared that the marker is something of high sentimental value for the citizen and it is something he is really looking forward to.

The council voted 5-0 with Gary "Skip" Overdier absent to approve the relocation from Lambert Branch Park to Keith Street. Director of Internal Services Aaron McLain will work with the citizens on figuring out the exact placement of the marker.



PHOTO BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Some Brazos River Authority system reservoirs removed from drought status

Staff Reports

Continued rain events in the Brazos River basin have allowed the Brazos River Authority to remove the Stage 1 Drought Watch status from the BRA's system of reservoirs. The removal of drought designation allows most BRA customer cities, industries and agriculture to change or remove restrictions they currently have in place for water supply use.

The system-wide Stage 1 Drought Watch notice was issued Aug. 17, 2022, requesting that all water supply customers institute a voluntary reduction of 5% reduction in water use. The reduction was requested to raise awareness of the increasing drought situation.

Rain events in January raised the combined storage of the BRA system reservoirs above the Stage 1 Drought Watch trigger level. As of Feb. 12, the BRA system has risen to 85% full, storing approximately 1.63 million acre-feet of water. All the BRA system reservoirs located outside the Little River system are either full or near full, with several of the Corps of Engineers reservoirs temporarily storing water in their flood control pools.

Though the combined storage for the BRA system of reservoirs has risen above the Stage 1 Drought Watch trigger, several reservoirs remain under more stringent drought declarations. Lake Belton and the Lake Stillhouse Hollow-Lake Georgetown



subsystem remain under a Stage 2 Drought Warning, requiring a 10% reduction in use, and Lake Proctor remains under Stage 4 Pro-Rata Curtailment, which mandates a 30% reduction in use.

The state requires the BRA to plan and implement a Drought Contingency Plan. This plan outlines steps to extend the supply and availability of water during times of drought. The Drought Contingency Plan includes four stages. Each stage is marked by trigger points measured either by a lake level or by the water storage capacity. The Drought Contingency Plan also includes triggers associated with how wet or dry it is according to the Palmer Hydrologic Drought Index and pumping duration of the Williamson County Regional Raw Water Line that is specific to the Lake Georgetown-Stillhouse Hollow subsystem.

Though the System Stage 1 Drought Watch has been lifted, the Brazos River Authority encourages everyone to continue to use water wisely and to employ water conservation measures at all times.

Going on a **Cruise?**  Call our office to temporarily stop and start your paper **817-573-7066**

THE HYDE
LAW FIRM, PLLC


THE Best of Hood County
HCNews ★★★★★
7 STRAIGHT YEARS

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

WWW.HYDEFIRM.COM
se habla español

A full service law firm delivering the highest level of client service through our dedication to honesty, integrity, and results.

ELDER LAW • FAMILY LAW • INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
• PERSONAL INJURY • CRIMINAL DEFENSE • MUNICIPAL LAW
• BANKRUPTCY • IMMIGRATION LAW
WILLS & PROBATE • ESTATE PLANNING



NOISY GARAGE DOOR?
WE CAN FIX THAT!

THE Best of Hood County
HCNews ★★★★★
2-YEAR WINNER

PATRIOT
GARAGE DOOR & SERVICE

SALES | INSTALLATION | SERVICE | REPAIRS

Authorized Provider
LiftMaster

888-400-1110 **PATRIOTGARAGEDOOR.COM**

Free Estimates

Veteran-Owned

A DT COMPANY

Bridging the gap

Granbury PD now accepting applications for Citizens Police Academy

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Have you ever thought about what it takes to be a police officer? The strength, the determination — and not to mention the courage — it takes to defend the lives of not only a few people, but an entire town, is astounding.

That's where the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) comes in.

Provided by the Granbury Police Department, the CPA is a free 10-week course that gives Hood County residents a unique, behind-the-scenes look at what being a police officer is really like.

"The short of it is, it's a community program to bridge the gap," Lt. Cris Brichetto told the Hood County News. "Typically, when does law enforcement meet the community? When something bad happens. So, this is a way to bridge that gap, for us to learn from them, them to learn from us, and to ask questions and dispel some myths — because we all know what we're told."

Since 2003, GPD's Citizens Police Academy has educated residents from every age and background about everything from criminal investigations and SWAT to animal control and police K-9s.

According to granbury.org, emphasis is placed on the patrol division as that is the segment of the police department the public most often comes into contact with. Instructors for each course are real police officers, and they will take attendees on an accelerated overview during the 30-hour block of instruction designed to teach them the various operations of the Granbury Police Department.

"You name it. (We teach them) everything that we do," GPD Police Chief Mitch Galvan said.

Instruction in the topics will consist of lectures,

demonstrations, tours and hands-on experiences — the latter of which Galvan said has made the program even better.

"In the past, there wasn't a whole lot of hands-on stuff. It was just basically people coming in and teaching," Galvan said. "But Cris has expanded to where they do scenarios, fingerprinting, and they are actually involved in seeing what it's like."

Students will get first-hand exposure to the police department, its personnel and equipment, and can put themselves in the officers' shoes.

"You can talk about taking a fingerprint and show somebody how you take a fingerprint off of glass or something, but to put paper down and have them actually learn how to do it, (is pretty cool)," Galvan said. "You know, they leave and they're going, 'I know how to fingerprint someone now!' It's that kind of stuff that we like to see."

In addition, a virtual simulator will allow students to learn the fundamentals of firearm shooting, similarly to how it's depicted in an arcade.

"It's also scenario based, which means it'll start up and somebody will actually talk to you, and whoever is operating the scenario can push different buttons," Brichetto explained. "So, I can push X, which means if you say, 'Hey, drop the gun,' I can push X, and they drop the gun. But if you're being maybe too passive and not controlling the situation, I can push Y and it means they lift it up."

"It's pretty cool," Galvan said. "Especially when the scenario goes into a situation to where you have to use deadly force, and you can't tell on the screen when you pull the trigger where the rounds are going. But if the bad guy never falls, it means you're not hitting him, so

until the bad guy falls, you're still at risk. Then after it's all over and he hits the screen to show where all the shots go and you see all these holes all over the screen, it's like, 'You might need to work on that a little bit.'"

Galvan said the department prides itself on making the course fun and interesting and added they've never had a student leave saying the program wasn't worth their time.

"Everybody loves it, because they get to see a side of reality of what law enforcement really is, instead of what is depicted on TV," he explained.

Galvan added the hardest part about dealing with the public is having to explain that shows like "NCIS" are not always accurate when it comes to portraying law enforcement procedures.

"We don't have a super-computer that will pull up somebody's credit card uses and track their vehicles — and (they think) that we can solve a crime in 30 minutes because they have to do it on the show. There's no such thing," he said.

When Galvan was an investigator, he said there were a few experiences that made him realize just how much residents rely on television when it comes to law enforcement.

"I've had people when I was on the street say, 'We want you to come take DNA samples off all this.' 'No, ma'am, we don't take DNA samples for somebody stealing a water hose.' 'Well, why not? They do it on TV all the time.' I'm like, 'Well, no, actually, it costs a lot of money to send something off to get DNA (tested) and it takes about six to eight months before we'll ever see a result of that DNA, and we're not spending that kind of money on property,'" Galvan explained. "If it involves a person getting killed, or sexually assaulted or whatever, then that's



CPA Class of 2023

when we do DNA. We don't do it for property crimes, and they just don't get that because on TV, they do DNA for everything, and we have to explain to them that's not how it works."

He said another woman was burglarized and she demanded that Galvan test her entire house for prints, while he continued to explain to her that the process is dirty and results in black powder getting everywhere.

"The whole purpose is for them to have a better understanding of us, and what we do and how it really works, so they don't have these expectations that are way out there," Galvan said.

"But out of all of that, the biggest thing is they get to know us. They get to know the officers who are standing up in front of them giving them presentations. They get to see us as people, just like them. We're members of the community, just like them. We have families, just like them. And they get to see that side of us and who we are instead of just seeing the uniform. They walk away a part of us — and we tell them that."

Since the program began, Galvan said the response has been overwhelmingly positive, with students leaving the class and having a better understanding of how the criminal justice system works, along with having a better appreciation for what police officers do every day.

"They kind of experience some of it, so they leave here going, 'These guys are pretty friggin' awesome,' which is another thing, we like to show off and let them know how great we are," Galvan said, chuckling. "But to listen to the reactions, especially when they go through the scenario side, you just smile."

Former graduates also stated what they loved about the program on the gran-

bury.org website.

Angela Parker, Citizens Police Academy Class of 2008, said the experience was "riveting," and that she learned "so much about the police department and how we as citizens can help."

"I really liked the role-playing session!" James Ambrose, a 2022 graduate, said. "Until I did that, I had no idea how stressful it was for the officers on just about every call. It really made me appreciate the officers being able to get called out and remaining calm and aware of their surroundings."

The whole purpose is for them to have a better understanding of us, and what we do and how it really works,

MITCH GALVAN

Granbury Police Chief

Husband-and-wife duo Tom and Rhonda Diccico attended the program in 2013. Tom said the academy is a great opportunity to learn about the police department and its service to the community.

"It's a fun activity, and you get to meet some great folks," he said.

Galvan noted that many attendees graduate from the class and are overwhelmed by emotions, adding there's always a select few who shed some tears following the accomplishment.

"When they graduate, I get to have the pleasure of handing them their certificate," he explained. "Everybody comes in, and we line the wall. When the graduates' name is called, they go down the wall, and they're greeted by all of us until they get to the end to get their diploma, so it's a pretty big deal, and our guys love it."

Brichetto also explained how attendees in the program are getting a taste of what it's like to graduate from the police academy itself.

"They don't even realize that I'm putting them full circle," he said. "They're meeting the chief of police, you know, what do we do in our interviews? You meet the chief of police, so (Galvan) gets to meet them first, he gets to talk to them, and then they go through the academy, which is what our guys do. Then at the very end, they graduate, and then they get to come back and talk to the chief of police."

Following completion of the program, graduates of the Citizens Police Academy are offered the unique opportunity to join the Citizens Police Academy Alumnus (CPAA), the alumni organization of volunteers supporting (and supported by) the Granbury Police

Department and promoting an effective relationship with them.

"We tell them that you're now a part of us and that you're welcome here anytime," Galvan said. "You're now part of the family."

"The real thing that we give (our students) is the opportunity to come back and then that's where they really get to kind of be involved," Brichetto said.

CPAAs support the GPD by fundraising and providing equipment, events and benevolence not covered by the governmental budget, continuing education of law enforcement at monthly membership meetings, and supplementing police duties such as intersection control at parades, according to cpaalumni.org.

"When I first started here, we were the only ones to handle the (July 4th) parade, and we only had 15 officers total in the whole department," Galvan said. "How we did it back then, I'll never know. But now, when you think of how many intersections are up and down that road, we still can't cover all of it. We couldn't do that parade without the CPAA assistants. Truly, they're the reason that parade goes off without a hitch. They're just an amazing group, and they just keep coming back wanting more."

Additionally, if graduates decide they want to join the CPAA, they will also have the option of becoming a Citizen on Patrol, where they will provide non-confrontational support to Granbury police patrol officers.

The COP program is designed to reduce crime in the community with the obvious presence of an additional vehicle and with additional "eyes and ears" on the streets.

"They actually drive our systems patrol vehicle, and we train them to patrol the neighborhoods," Galvan explained. "We went from like 10 or so people to three, so we would love to see that expand even more."

The 2024 Granbury Citizens Police Academy will begin March 21 and will run through May 23. The class meets once a week at the Granbury Police Department Thursday nights from 6-9 p.m. over a 10-week period. There is zero cost to attend, and dinner will be provided for all attendees.

"Our slogan has always been 'Excellence Through Cooperative Education,' and I simplify that by just saying it's a bridge," Brichetto said. "Don't sit back and judge; come get to know us. We're here for the community, you live in this community, so come get to know your community."

"I always tell them to come meet us and learn the reality of what we do, and then have fun," Galvan added. "That's what it's all about."

For more information about the Granbury Citizens Police Academy, email Brichetto at cbrichetto@granbury.org.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRANBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Students will get first-hand exposure to the police department, its personnel and equipment, and will receive hands-on experiences — allowing them to be in the officers' shoes.



Attendees of the Granbury Citizens Police Academy will be partaking in a free, 10-week course where they will be given a behind-the-scenes look of what it's like to be a police officer.

To be eligible to participate in the program, applicants:

- must be at least 21 years of age.
- must be in good health.
- must have a valid driver's license.
- must have no convictions of a class B misdemeanor within the past 10 years, and no family violence, class A misdemeanor or felony convictions.
- must pass a background check.
- must be able to fluently speak, read, write and understand the English language.

To apply, visit the Granbury Police Department at 2050 NE Loop 567 or apply online at granbury.org. The deadline to apply is March 11.

KNIEPER REAL ESTATE

First impressions are huge, especially in real estate!



BY PAM KNIEPER

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

You've heard it a million times: "You only get one chance to make a first impression," and you know it's true. That's why I am always surprised at how often home sellers forget just how important a first impression is to a prospective buyer.

It's easy to get stuck in the quagmire of advice columns, checklists and HGTV recommendations when getting ready to sell. I am not suggesting that any of those resources are bad. I do, however, think the basics sometimes get buried under the piles of paint samples, decorator magazines, new rugs and throw pillows.

And the basics are so simple. First and foremost... clean, clean, clean. Remember things like air conditioner and return air vents, baseboards and blinds. Prospective buyers are going to open your cabinets and your closets; they are going to open the oven and look under the kitchen sink. No matter the size or the

price tag, a spotlessly clean, fresh smelling home will always make a positive first impression.

While you are cleaning, declutter as much as possible. If you can live without it, box it up and put it in storage. You are going to be moving once the house sells, so this will give you a head start on the packing, and it will open up the rooms in your home making them feel larger and less personalized.

Loose doorknobs, nail holes and light bulbs are easy fixes that are often overlooked. A light that doesn't work can signal a defect in the switch or the fixture, or it can indicate the seller is not taking care of the home, which suggests there may be other deferred maintenance issues. While these little things may not have a significant impact on your daily life in the home, they can ignite a strong negative reaction in a buyer.

Last, but absolutely not least, walk outside and look at your home from the street. Mowing the

grass, pulling the weeds, trimming the trees, fresh mulch in the flower beds, and cleaning the front porch are all inexpensive and remarkably effective ways to make a good first impression. If, like most people, you always enter your home through the garage, remember to check the front entry at least once a week. Just because you cleaned it before the sign went up doesn't mean it's going to stay clean. Bird droppings and spider webs are an instant turn off. Don't lose the buyer's interest before you ever get them through the front door.

Kitchen and bathroom makeovers are terrific, new floors are exciting and expensive and that money is sometimes hard to recoup when selling. For those of you not willing or able to give your home a "makeover," go back to the basics and relax in the knowledge that a clean, well-maintained home with a manicured yard always makes a good first impression.

If you have questions about this article or about real estate in general, please give us a call at 817-219-0456 or visit us online at www.WeSellGranbury.com. We love hearing from you, and we love talking about real estate.



COURTESY PHOTO

HELP ME REUNITE HOOD COUNTY
RE-ELECT
HOOD COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
PRECINCT CHAIR #313



EARL ERDMANN
STRONG • CONSERVATIVE
REPUBLICAN

CAST YOUR VOTE ON 3/05/24!

Hello precinct 313. As you know, I fought for your voices, fought against Steve Biggers' ways and we are taking back Hood County but there's still work to do. They have evidently put an opponent up against me from the "other side" to try to silence your voice and mine. We do not want outside influences or monies coming into Hood County trying to dictate your lives. As your precinct 313 chair it has been my honor to have fought for my constituents in 313. I serve our community on the planning and zoning commission. I am a Rotarian and I believe that our opportunity to finally UNITE the Reagan Republican party of Hood County is upon us. I am asking for your vote to complete the mission. Don't let these outside influencers dictate the way Hood County should live.

Earl Erdmann

ENDORSED BY:

FAYE LANDHAM	OPPONENT	
K. MICHAEL CONAWAY — FORMER US REP.		
STEVEN VALE — MAYOR PRO-TEM		
SKIP OVERDIER — CITY COUNCILMAN	EARL ERDMANN	
BRUCE WADLEY — CITY COUNCILMAN	REPUBLICAN	
GREG CORRIGAN — CITY COUNCILMAN		

pd. pol. adv. by Earl Erdmann Campaign

★ PLEASE JOIN US FOR ★

Under the Texas Stars

AN ELEGANT, INDOOR EVENING BENEFITTING

PALUXY RIVER
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 6 P.M.
LA BELLA LUNA • 7700 GLEN ROSE HWY


CELEBRATE
TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY
 WITH LIVE BAND
TREY & THE TRITONES
 COMEDIAN • LIVE AUCTION • DINNER/DANCING

Our mission is to promote the healing of child abuse victims — one child at a time.

Scan the QR code for more information or to purchase tickets

BENEFITTING

PALUXY RIVER
 CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER



Subscribe to the Hood County News Today

817-573-7066
hcnews.com

Hood County News

Granbury VFD Chief presents annual review



BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

Granbury area residents have lots of reasons to be encouraged by the performance of the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department, according to the annual review presented by Fire Chief Matt Hohon during

the Granbury City Council meeting Feb. 20.

For the 2023 year, the GVFD received 1,576 calls with a response time of two minutes, 39 second en route time and a five minute, 43 second average travel time. Hohon highlighted the en route time, noting the national standard for career fire departments is 90 seconds.

“Our time is exceptional for volunteers,” Hohon expressed during the meeting.

He said with the continual population increase there has been an increase in the number of calls received over previous years. 2023 was an exception, with 1,210 fire calls versus 1,250 in 2022. Prior to 2021, the department received fewer than 950 calls per year.

Hohon also pointed out that medical calls continue to increase and Texas EMS has been working diligently to keep up with the demand.

The department currently has 71 members who accumulated 9,675 individual responses for a total of 6,858 hours. The department averages 11 firefighters per commercial fire, 10 for residential fires, seven for vehicle accidents and five for fire alarms.

For the 2023 year, the department received \$37,000 dollars in citizen donations, with total reimbursement since 2020 totaling \$168,000 dollars.

Hohon wanted to highlight the efforts of Donnie Hurd, district

president, and Jessie Slaughter, assistant chief, who are working on reciprocity through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

“Through the State Firefighters’ and Fire Marshals’ Association certification, as firefighters (complete) all four stages of their training, they’ll actually be state recognized as commissioned firefighters,” Hohon said. “That’s a huge, monumental leap forward because we overemphasize using the program, making sure that we have a state standard that we follow. Granbury is probably going to be one of the few towns in Texas that, when the reciprocity comes through, we’ll have upwards of 50 to 60 commissioned firefighters on staff.”

Hohon also talked about the Insurance Services Office rating which scores fire departments on performance against the organization’s standards to determine property insurance costs. The lower the number, the lower the insurance premiums are. The department is currently a three but Hohon noted the department should easily be a two.

“We haven’t hit an ISO two but when we do, you’ll probably see me cartwheeling around city hall for a while,” Hohon shared. “That’s just a monumental achievement and is not just big for the department but huge for the city.”

He also pointed out there was some leftover money at the end of

the year that was put into repairing an old fire truck to extend its life of service.

When it comes to 2024, the department is looking at doing more recruiting and focusing on sustainability. It is also in talks about implementing a health and wellness program. The department continues to move closer to three fire and EMS stations in the county with one inside the city limits near Nettie Baccus Elementary School.

Hohon noted that switching 42 volunteers to part- or full-time paid employees would cost roughly \$5.3 million or a 22-cent property tax increase.

“The best part about us being a volunteer department is that theoretical \$5.3 million a year is ultimately going to other services and benefits that can extend to the citizens,” Hohon shared. “Sometimes it’s tourism, sometimes it’s for the city departments, or adding new infrastructure. The volunteer department gives us a little bit of flexibility on that as long as the organization is strong... How long do you want to run the city with a volunteer department? That is a decision that Granbury is going to have to make (in the future).”

Council members thanked Hohon and the department for all of their hard work and continued dedication to both the city and county.

A unique Ace Hardware slated to arrive in Granbury

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

A two-story Ace Hardware store is coming to Granbury and is expected to have a unique take on the inside. Troy Crosson went through the plan for the store during a regularly scheduled city council meeting Feb. 20.

Crosson moved to Granbury two years ago with his wife. His father pointed out there is no Ace Hardware in town and felt one is

needed. Before long, Crosson met the president of Ace Hardware, John Venhuizen; a year-and-a-half later, Crosson became the ambassador for Ace for the Granbury area.

Going into the project, Crosson had a vision in mind that would bring a unique piece of architecture to Granbury.

“Living on the lake, I said, ‘you know what would be cool is if we have an architectural design roof that looks like a wave since Granbury is known for the

lake,’” Crosson shared during the meeting.

Crosson found that the Idaho Central Credit Union basketball arena in Moscow, Idaho has the type of roof and design he was looking for and used it as inspiration.

He took the uniqueness even further with the concept of “building something that gives everyone in Granbury a shopping experience,” and told the council half the store will be an Ace Hardware with the other half selling high-end ladies

apparel, sports equipment and more.

He shared he was the first person to build a café inside a Barnes and Noble Booksellers and plans to build a café inside the Ace Hardware, as well.

“It will be a great shopping experience and place to relax and a great view for the city to have a great architectural design,” Crosson told the council.

He added he has spoken with Tammy Dooley from Visit Granbury, and they collaborated

to allow for small gatherings to take place in the store as well as an opportunity for Dooley to bring people from out-of-town into the unique building.

The future Ace Hardware will be located off Farm-to-Market Road 4 at 315 East Clifton Road behind Grace Bible Church. Crosson did not provide an estimated opening date.

Leadership ★ Experience ★ Values

Steve Smith
for
Hood County Constable Pct. 2

Lifelong resident of Hood County
28 years in Law Enforcement
25 years with Hood County Sheriff's Office
25 years as a Master Mason

Ambition for office corrupts, but the desire to serve purifies

CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN

Early Voting starts February 20
Last Day of Early Voting is March 1
Election Day is Tuesday March 5

Pol. Adv. Paid for by Steven Smith Campaign

STRONG, CHRISTIAN CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICAN
READY TO SERVE HOOD COUNTY

ELECT SISSY FREEMAN
for
HOOD COUNTY JUSTICE of the PEACE, PCT. 1

FAIR, HONEST & WILL UPHOLD THE LAW

Political Adv. Paid For By Sissy Freeman, Treasurer

Resources for Seniors to Maximize Quality of Life

Saturday, March 2 | 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
4530 Acton Hwy., Granbury, TX

Learn About:

- Free Help & Services
- Dealing with Loss & Change
- Medicare & Medicaid
- Caregiver Support
- Dementia Services
- Financial Fitness

Presented by
North Central Texas Area Agency on Aging
& Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd

For more info, call Linda at (830) 456-6305

OBITUARIES

Anita Rose Holtzinger

December 6, 1943 - February 5, 2024

Anita Rose Holtzinger, age 80, of Granbury, Texas, went to Heaven on Feb. 5, 2024.

She was born on Dec. 6, 1943, in Paducah, Texas, to Claudy (C.E.) and Rosa Lee Parks. Anita was preceded in death by her parents and her older brother, Bryan Parks. Anita is survived by her husband, Johnny, and their children: Calena Woods; DeWayne Marlow and spouse, Stella; Bryan Marlow and spouse Missy; Brandon Holtzinger. Anita was blessed with five grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. Siblings: Rita Bruton, Floyd Parks, and Geneva Wheelis.

Anita was a most loyal and dependable employee. She worked for Pecan Plantation and thereafter Ace Hardware for 10-12 years, at which time the store was closed. Anita worked for Farm Bureau at the Granbury location and then at the office in Acton, for a total of 21 years. She thought of her co-workers, Susie Pharr, Barbara Germany, and Todd Colston as her second family. Anita's kind and patient nature was truly an asset when working with customers to explain changes and increases in their insurance coverage. She retired in January of 2023.

Family was of utmost importance to Anita. She had a loving and accepting nature, treating everyone with unconditional love and acceptance. Anita's faith in Jesus Christ was an integral part of her life;



she wanted all her family to know Him personally. She enjoyed welcoming family and friends into her home to enjoy a meal, play table games or watch her favorite team, the Kansas City Chiefs, play football.

A memorial service in celebration of Anita's life will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. at Triple Cross Cowboy Church, located at 3470 Lipan Highway, Granbury, Texas.

For all who know Anita, there is a very big, empty space in our hearts. Tears come easily. But...we are so happy she has no more pain; we know where she is. Thank You, Jesus!

Shirley Ann Anderson

April 4, 1942 - February 6, 2024

Shirley Anderson, 81, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024, in Granbury, Texas, surrounded by loving family members. Born on April 4, 1942, in Brownwood, Texas, to Don Henwood and Margie Arlene O'Kelly, Shirley was a long-time resident of Hood County since 1979, and an active member of Lakeside Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Margie Arlene McLester, her stepfather, James McLester, and her brother, James McLester Jr.

Shirley is survived by her husband of 31 years, Bob Anderson; her children, Kimberly Carter Lewis and her husband Roger Lewis, Wade Thornton, Stacy Thornton and her husband David Standford.

Additionally, she is survived by her stepchildren Audrey Ebbink, Nancy Borrelli, and John Robert Anderson Jr. She leaves behind grandsons Austin Carter and Casch Thornton, four step-grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sister, Pam Utley, and husband Carl, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, extended family members, and her loving dog, Scooter.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024, at Lakeside Baptist Church, 500 W. Bluebonnet Drive in Granbury, with Dr. Mark Forrest officiating.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, please consider donations to Bridgewater Memory Care, where Shirley received care during her battle with



Alzheimer's Disease, at 900 Autumn Ridge Drive, Granbury, TX 76048.

Shirley was a successful local business owner with an advanced diploma in Myotherapy, a form of remedial massage using physical therapy methods. Her holistic therapy practice, Shirley's Total Concept, was located at 506 Bridge Street. She was a pioneer in meditative treatment, and was recognized as a true healer, both physically and spiritually.

In her later years, Shirley operated her business from her home. Friends would also commission her creative flair for interior design, transforming new homes built by her husband, Bob Anderson. Together, they were anchored by their community, church, and friendships, enjoying many social activities.

Shirley was also a culinary artist who loved feeding her family. Her holiday dishes are legendary. While many admired her stylish grace and allure, her true beauty lay in a profound capacity to love and restore people. She is deeply loved and missed.

Dorothy Lou Loftin

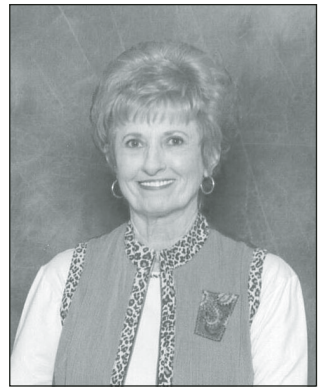
November 9, 1936 - February 16, 2024

Dorothy Lou Loftin, 87, passed away on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024, at her home in Granbury surrounded by her loving family. She was born Nov. 9, 1936, in Roaring Springs, Texas to William and Mary Lou Archer Carney.

Dorothy, in her earlier years was an avid square dancer and a clogger. She was in the jewelry business and was previously manager for a jewelry store in Granbury. She also worked at Stuff "N" Nonsense Boutique and Market on The Square in Granbury. Shopping was Dorothy's main hobby. She loved and adored her family dearly.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Robert Bryan Loftin and an aunt, Lou Ella Archer.

Dorothy is survived by her son, Keith Loftin, and wife Jennifer; grandson, Skylar Loftin, and wife Kadie; step-grandson, Max Peterson; brother-in-law,



James Loftin, and wife Joy; sister-in-law, Elaine Loftin; nieces, Renee Loftin and Karen Davis; nephews, Kevin Loftin and Scott Loftin as well as many other extended family members.

Visitation was from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024, at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury.

Funeral Services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, at Wiley Funeral Home Chapel in Granbury with burial following at Tolar Cemetery in Tolar.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

817-573-7066 | hcnews.com



Holly Hills Memorial Park

Perpetual Care Cemetery and Masoleum

WE OFFER MARKERS AND MONUMENTS, CEMETERY PLOTS, CREMATION GARDENS, MAUSOLEUM CRYPTS AND NICHES

Call us, or come by, and we'll help you plan ahead & save.

(817) 279 - 7270
1909 Weatherford Hwy
Granbury, TX

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.

CALENDAR | CONTINUED FROM A4

MASTER GARDENERS meeting at 1 p.m. at the Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Ct., Granbury. Mariah Mercer of Cherokee Lakes Farm presents sustainable farming practices to grow nutrient dense produce. For more information contact the Hood County Extensions Office 817-579-3280.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27 MID-CITIES STAMP Club Granbury branch meets at 7 p.m. at the Bentwater Activity Center, 1800 Emerald Bend Ct., Granbury. Graham Beck of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee will present with special videos: Singapore Settlement Stamps and Operation Cornflakes.

THURSDAY, FEB. 29 WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS hosts a job fair 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 1030 E. U.S. Highway 377, Suite 202, Granbury. For questions, to attend or if you are a business hiring call 817-

776-8033.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2 TEXAS INDEPENDENCE Celebration at the Historic Granbury Courthouse presented by the David Crockett Chapter of the Sons of The Republic of Texas. Doors open at 10 a.m. to see the exhibits, the celebration begins at 11 a.m. The event concludes at noon. Includes a presentation of the events leading to Texas Independence in 1836 as well as multiple exhibits about the Texas Revolutionary period. A great way to learn Texas history and share with the family.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5 FORWARD TRAINING Center class "MS Word" runs through April 25 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. email info@forwardtraining-center.com or call 817-573-6677 to sign up.

MONDAY, MARCH 11

TEXAS DEMOCRATIC Women of Hood County monthly meeting. Guest speaker: Rodger Isom, local political analyst and writer. 11 a.m., Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. U.S Highway 377, Granbury. Details: 254-716-5195.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

THE FRIENDSHIP Cemetery Association will be conducting cemetery maintenance 9 a.m. to noon, with lunch for participants to follow at the Tolar Church of Christ Fellowship Hall. We will be cleaning and leveling headstones and cleaning up limbs and brush as needed. Friendship Cemetery is a small family and/or community cemetery about halfway between Granbury and Tolar on Friendship Road just off U.S. Highway 377. Check our Facebook page "Friendship Cemetery of Hood County." Email if more info is needed friendship-cemeteryhoodcounty@gmail.com.

MARTIN'S

Funeral Home & Cremation Services

817-573-1154

WILEY FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATION SERVICES

"Family owned and operated"

GRANBURY 817-573-3000

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
Copyright 2024 by Orbison Bros.

ACROSS
1 TXism: "jumpy as ___ on ice"
5 Saturday is a cowboy's ___ day
6 TX Mildred ___ "Babe" Dirlikson
7 Austin band: "Asleep ___ the Wheel"
8 Texas fire ___
9 inner Fort Worth suburb: ___ City
15 director Preminger
16 TXism: "grabbin' at straws"
19 detests
21 "copying" company
22 "Wreck it Ralph" song: "When ___ You Again?"
27 party-giver
28 "___ on" (tell somebody else)
29 Austin's "TreeFolks" encourage people to ___ tree
30 TXism: "she could sell ice cubes to ___"
32 noted TCU coach: ___ "Dutch" Meyer
33 "let ___ bygones"
36 TXism: "ain't ___ lick of sense"
37 this agcy. administrators soc. security
38 TXism: "___ bill of goods" (lied)
39 biblical shouts of praise
41 golf peg
42 TXism: "short as ___ eyebrow"
45 clean and tidy
46 Texas legendary "no hitter" pitcher (init.)
47 TXism: "___-walking drunk"
48 maker of caulks and sealants
49 he is ___ to his state (a fine Texan)
52 Del Rio FM station
53 ___ Colony, Texas in Denton County
54 this Desmond played with the Texas Rangers in 2016 playoffs
55 TX Perot's 1st naval officer rank (abbr.)
DOWN
1 "Honest ___" Lincoln
2 this Farley founded Boys Ranch in Oldham County
3 city in Texas and Georgia
4 TXism: "you can take ___ (certain)"
8 foot digit (2 wds.)
9 TXism: "___ bark on a tree" (frugal)
10 TXism: "honest ___ the day is long"
11 3rd largest political party in U.S. (abbr.)
12 university before it was Texas A&M-Kingsville (4 wds.)
13 antimony ___ are processed at a smelter in El Paso
14 TX Tommy Lee Jones 1978 film: "Eyes of Laura ___"
15 Galveston has the "International ___ Festival"
16 office furniture
17 works hard to do something (2 wds.)
18 locals hired to be in a crowd in a film
20 TXism: "useless as panty ___ to a pig"
22 Texas singer of "Is Anybody Goin' to San Antone" (init.)
23 first Texan moon-walker, Bean (init.)
24 "no" votes
25 gold brick, e.g.
26 rustled cattle, e.g.
28 ___ and pans
31 cow sounds
34 "Hook '___ Horns!"
35 on the Gulf: "___ Rim State Park"
37 TXism: "He's still got some ___ in his garters" (able)
40 "___ as a pin"
43 on banks of the Rio Grande: "Santa ___ National Wildlife Refuge"
44 a bolo to a cowboy
50 this Tom pitched for the Astros in the 1993-94 season
51 soft drink created in Waco: ___ Pepper

Crossword solution on page A12

What should you do with your tax refund?

TAYLOR MOBLY
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



CONTRIBUTE TO YOUR IRA

It's almost that time of year when many people start receiving their tax refunds. If you get one, what will you do with it? Of course, the answer will depend somewhat on how big your refund is. Last year, the average refund amount was about \$2,750, according to the Internal Revenue Service's Filing Season Statistics report. Whatever the size of your refund, you'll want to maximize its benefit. Here are a few suggestions:

Mobly for the year — but any amount would help. You still have until April 15 to contribute to your IRA for the 2023 tax year, but if you've already "maxed out" on it, you could use your refund for 2024, when the annual contribution limit for a traditional and Roth IRA is \$7,000, or \$8,000 if you're 50 or older. And by getting an early start toward

building your IRA for the year, you can reduce the pressure of having to come up with large amounts later.

BUILD AN EMERGENCY FUND

Your tax refund could help you start or expand an emergency fund. It's a good idea to keep up to six months' worth of living expenses in such a fund, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account, separate from the funds you use for your daily expenses. You might need to draw on this fund for unexpected expenses, such as a major home or car repair or a medical bill that's not fully covered by

your insurance. Without such an emergency fund in place, you might be forced to dip into your IRA or other retirement accounts to pay for these types of costs, and such a move could be expensive, resulting in taxes, penalties and lost opportunities for growth.

CONTRIBUTE TO A 529 PLAN

If you have children or grandchildren and you'd like to help them further their education someday, you might consider investing in a 529 education savings plan. With a 529 plan, earnings and withdrawals are federally tax

free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses. Based on where you live, your 529 plan may provide state tax benefits, too. (It is possible, though, that 529 withdrawals could affect financial aid packages, depending on who owns the account.) A 529 plan can be used to help pay for college, accredited trade school programs, some K-12 expenses and even to help repay some student loans.

PAY DOWN DEBTS

Most of us probably wish we could reduce our debt loads. Your tax refund may

give you a chance to do just that. But which debts should you tackle first? You could follow the "snowball" method by paying off the smallest of your loans or debts as quickly as possible. Or you could choose the "avalanche" route by making minimum payments on all debts and using extra funds — such as your tax refund — to pay off the debts that carry the highest interest rates. Either method could help you save money in the long term.

Your tax refund can be a valuable asset — so use it wisely.

Classifieds

Deadline: Saturday issue, 10 a.m. Wednesday

(817) 573-7066

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

CLASSIFIEDS DIRECTORY

Real Estate for Sale	1010 Acreage for Sale 1020 Cemetery Lots 1030 Commercial for Sale 1040 Duplexes for Sale 1050 Homes for Sale 1060 Waterfront Homes 1070 Lots for Sale 1080 Mobiles for Sale 1090 Waterfront Mobiles 1100 Real Estate Notes 1110 Townhomes & Condos 1120 Property For Trade 1130 Want To Buy	2050 Four-Wheel Drive 2060 Motorcycles 2070 Pickups & SUVs 2080 Vans & Campers 2090 Trailers 2095 Heavy Equipment	Farm & Ranch	3010 Corrals & Fencing 3020 Farm Equipment 3030 Feed & Pasture 3040 Stock Trailers 3050 Related Items	Finance	4010 Business Opportunities 4020 Insurance 4030 Investments 4040 Mortgages & Notes	Home & Business Services	5010 Adult/Elderly Care 5020 A/C Heating Repair 5030 Appliance Repair 5040 Automotive Services 5050 Bulldozer Services 5060 Business Services 5065 Carports 5070 Cement/Concrete 5075 Chimney Sweeping 5080 Child Care 5090 Cleaning Services 5100 Computer Services	5110 Construction 5120 Clock Repair 5130 Dock repair/Rebuild 5140 Electrical 5150 Electronics Repair 5160 Exterminating 5170 Fencing 5180 Floor Coverings 5190 Health Care 5200 Home Improvement 5210 Home Services 5220 Landscaping/Tree Service 5230 Interior Design 5240 Masonry 5250 Mobile Home Service 5260 Moving/Hauling 5265 Plumbing 5270 Sand/Gravel/Soil 5280 Roofing 5290 Painting 5295 Pressure Washing 5300 Septic/Sewer 5310 Small Engine Repair 5320 Secretarial/Office 5330 Storage 5340 Tractor Service 5350 Welding	6070 RV's/Travel Trailers 6080 Sporting Goods	Merchandise	6510 Antiques 6520 Appliances 6530 Arts & Crafts 6540 Building Materials 6550 Computers 6560 Electronics 6570 Firewood 6580 Furniture 6590 Health 6600 Air Conditioners 6610 Lawn Equipment 6620 Miscellaneous 6630 Musical Instruments 6635 Pocket Stuffers 6640 Portable Buildings 6650 Tools 6660 Trees 6670 Wanted	Employment	8510 General 8520 Construction 8530 Food Services 8540 Medical/Dental 8550 Office Employment 8560 Professional 8570 Sales 8580 Salon Personnel 8590 Employment Wanted 8600 Employment Information 8610 Carpool Information	Notices	9010 Happy Notes 9020 Free 9030 Public Notices 9040 Notices 9050 Personal Lost & Found 9070 Card of Thanks	Public Sales	9570 Auctions 9580 Flea Markets 9590 Out of Town Sales 9600 Garage Sales 76035 9610 Garage Sales 76048 9620 Garage Sales 76049 9630 Garage Sales 76462 9640 Garage Sales 76476
-----------------------------	---	--	-------------------------	---	----------------	---	-------------------------------------	---	---	--	--------------------	---	-------------------	--	----------------	---	---------------------	---

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

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

1080 Mobiles for Sale
Nice doublewide on two quiet lots in OTS. 3-2. Great investment opp. Cash and carry. No owner finance. \$165,000 OBO. 682-202-5008. Chris.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1520 Commercial for Rent
Warehouse/Office/Retail space for lease. 1200 + sf. Hwy 377 W from \$650/mo. 817-349-2535

Homes for Rent

3-2-2 newer construction, granite, stainless steel appliances, central heat/air, community pool, boat ramp. No smoking, no pets, credit check. \$1600 per month, \$800 deposit. 817-781-2311.

Mobiles for Rent

Several mobiles for lease. \$950/mo to \$1100/mo Call 817-578-9906

FINANCE

Insurance

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH YOUR MEDICARE?
Are you diabetic or have heart issues? I have a special plan that may help you! If you have a supplement let me give you a price!
Roy Cooper 817-578-4744

HOME & BUSINESS SERVICES

Cement/Concrete

DOUG STULTS CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION
SINCE 1970
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Slabs, Driveways, Patios, Retainer Walls, Metal Buildings-RV Covers
Licensed & Bonded **817-279-8115**

HARVEY PATTERSON CONCRETE
Bonded-References (817) 219-7483



Concrete*Driveways *Patios *Sidewalks*Bob Cat Work*Top Soil *Sod Laying and installation
CALL JOSE - 817-538-6297

Cleaning Services

Keep it simple with Simply Clean! Call or text for a free quote for all your cleaning needs!
(817) 565-0241

Computer Services

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

Construction

General construction work-farm, ranch or home. (408)595-2146
JERRETT WELDING & CONSTRUCTION
Metal Homes, Carports, Shops, Fences (254) 434-7360

Clock Repair

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

Electrical

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

Fencing

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

Home Improvement

HANDYMAN OF GRANBURY
No job too small! Light fixtures, ceiling fans, faucets, new furniture assembly, blinds, repairs, odd jobs.
Barry Hazel 817-891-2779



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

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

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

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

Home Improvement



DEVIN'S HANDYMAN SERVICE
WINTER SPECIAL 15% OFF
*Remodeling *Painting *Tile *Granite *Kitchen & Bath *Decks *Cement *Brick *Rock *Power Washing *Sheet Rock Repair *Seamless Gutters
FREE ESTIMATE 817-629-9608

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



REMODELING
FREE ESTIMATES
Paint. Power washing, Siding. Window & door installation. Soffit. Framing. Pergolas. Porches. Cleanup. Junk removal. Storage building. Trim work. Dry wall. Fences. Concrete & rock work.
817-219-2666



RELIABLE AND PROMPT
Home remodeling and handyman services. Please check out our website Residential, Insured, Rumneyhomeimprovements.com
(817) 559-9802

Home Services

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

Landscaping/Tree Service



TRUJILLOS SPEEDY LAWN CARE
Lawn Mowing & Edging Tree Trimming & Removal
817-559-5152
also clean and level lots



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

Subscribe Online
www.hcnews.com/
subscribe

Landscaping/Tree Service



1st Choice LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING
Make Us Your 1st Choice
CALL FOR SPECIALS Tree work, gutters. Flower beds, shrubs. Brush hogging, tractor work.
Senior discounts. **817-793-2245**



JOSE LAWN CARE
mowing, tree removal limbs, weeding. Also, clean-up, painting concrete & trim carpenter. Free est. Jose (817) 538-6297

Masonry

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

Storage

For lease: 2-car garage, 24x24, no utilities, Brandi Ln, Granbury. \$250/mo, 1 month deposit. John 817-578-1045.

Tractor Services

Tractor work-Excavation, clearing, grubbing, shredding and mowing. Including driveways, roads and concrete work. (408)595-2146

MERCHANDISE

Health

Medical supplies available. Hospital bed, standard wheelchair, Patient transporter, Hoyer medical lift. Call for price. (817) 894-5016


Miscellaneous

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

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

6635
Pocket Stuffers
Hospital bed almost new, no mattress. (817) 219-0654

Subscribe or Advertise with us Today!
817-573-7066



Hood County News

EMPLOYMENT

General

8510 General
- NOW HIRING Granbury ISD is currently looking for a General Maintenance Lead to join our outstanding Maintenance team. Only responsible and qualified candidates need apply. Criminal background checks and fingerprinting will be required. Competitive wages and excellent benefits, including health insurance and retirement. Apply online at <https://www.granburyisd.org/jobs> Granbury ISD is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

NOW HIRING
AUTOMOTIVE SALES AND REPAIR SERVICES - QUICK SERVICE AND MAKE READY Now hiring for quick service. Duties would include changing oil, rotating tires checking fluids, filters and various other duties. Make Ready Wash and Vacuum cars for customers. Must apply in person (817) 573-0400 shelly.pool@gkmail.com

NOW HIRING! Precision Diesel and Automotive is hiring for pickup truck and class 8 diesel mechanics. Pay is 20-45 per hour depending on experience, and you must have your own hand tools, and toolbox. Hours are Monday through Friday 7:45am - 6:00 pm, major holidays off. All specialty tools are provided. (682) 217-5949 precisiondieselauto@outlook.com 9151 Colony Rd, Tolar, TX, 76476

Stables Master 3 or more yrs experience in horse care and boarding, excellent people skills, repairs, plumbing, electrical, heavy equipment, carpenter and welding. Contact daniel@ppoaweb.com for more information. Ext 342.

Associate Golf Professional Golf experience needed, in charge of tournaments, private or group lessons, retail operations, conduct oneself with professional manner and professional image. Must have knowledge of total golf operations. Complete the requirements for the PGA membership and active classification of PGA America. Contact duff@ppoaweb.com. Ext 330.

Job descriptions available at ppoaweb.com under about us, then careers.
Great Benefits, Fulltime (40 hour week, includes weekends.
(817) 573-2641

CLASS A CDL DRIVER FOR EXPERIENTIAL MARKETING AGENCY Responsibilities: Travel alongside our tour assistants to some of the most thrilling events across the country, including fairs, rodeos, sporting events, and car shows. Your primary role will be to promote a leading automobile manufacturer by showcasing their products and engaging with consumers. Qualifications: Valid Class A CDL license with a clean driving record. How to Apply: Please send your resume, cover letter, and any relevant driving certifications to [bethanyh@newscope.net]. Please include "CDL Driver - Experiential Marketing" in the subject line. (817) 326-4277 bethanyh@newscope.net

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


General

BRAND AMBASSADORS/ON-TOUR ASSISTANTS NewScope Marketing is on the lookout for enthusiastic individuals to join us as Brand Ambassadors/On-Tour Assistants for our nationwide branded tour. This entry-level position offers you the chance to immerse yourself in the world of marketing and event management. Your responsibilities will include: Day-to-day project management, Event coordination, Event recapping and Staff management. Please apply in person: 5845 Acton Circle, Granbury Phone: (817) 362-4277 or send your resume, to bethanyh@newscope.net. Include "Tour Assistant" in the subject line. (817) 326-4277 bethanyh@newscope.net

OTHER/NOT CLASSIFIED - WORKERS NEEDED Landscape company looking for general laborers. Pay dependent upon experience. DRIVER'S LICENSE REQUIRED. (817) 326-2321 or (817) 243-5455

Looking for couple to manage RV park. Accommodation provided. 682-936-9864

It only takes one.



Medical/Dental
4th Grade Teacher
Double Weekend
PRN LHW/CR
WE ARE GROWING & GOING
4th Grade Teacher
Principal/Assistant
Teacher/Secondary Science
We are growing & going
Brown
Home Sales
Specialist

When you have a job vacancy to fill, you have only one thing in mind - find the one perfect fit.

One call. One price. One great result.

Phone: **817-573-7066**
Email: **classads@hcnews.com**
Place your ad online: **placeanad.hcnews.com**

NOTICES

9031

Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
TRC 109 & 114
STATE OF TEXAS
CAUSE NO. C2023330

MARLON RAY LANKFORD, PLAINTIFF,
VS.

BOBBIE MCGOWAN, MARTIN DOUGLAS LANKFORD, JACQUELINE BROADWAY, JODI LEIGH LANKFORD, DAWN L. SWANN, DANIEL KENNEDY, JR., AND ANY UNKNOWN PERSONS, DEFENDENTS, IN THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS TO: THE ESTATE OF DANIEL KENNEDY, SR., THE ESTATE OF BURMA DEAN BURTON, DANIEL KENNEDY, JR., ANY UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF DANIEL KENNEDY, SR., DECEASED AND IN THE ESTATE OF BURMA DEAN BURTON, DECEASED, AND ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE PROPERTY.

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 at or before 10:00 o'clock A.M. on the Monday next after the expiration of 42 days after the date of the issuance of this citation the same being Monday the 4TH day of MARCH 2024, before the Honorable BRYAN T. BUFKIN, 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas, at the Hood County Justice Center of said County in Granbury, Texas. Said PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION was filed in said court, on the 27th day of SEPTEMBER, 2023, in the above entitled cause.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: Plaintiff MARLON RAY LANKFORD, by and through its attorney of record, TRACY BUSH OF LAW OFFICE OF TRACY S. BUSH, PLLC, 6108 WEST POLY WEBB RD, ARLINGTON, TX 76016, brought suit under Cause No. C2023330 in the 355th District Court of Hood County, Texas, for PETITION FOR PARTITION on the following described real property of which Defendants, THE ESTATE OF DANIEL KENNEDY, SR., THE ESTATE OF BURMA DEAN BURTON, DANIEL KENNEDY, JR., ANY UNKNOWN OR MISSING HEIRS IN THE ESTATE OF DANIEL KENNEDY, SR., DECEASED AND IN THE ESTATE OF BURMA DEAN BURTON, DECEASED, AND ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE PROPERTY, are potential parties in interest:

All that certain 10.001 acres, more or less in the ELL PHILLIPS SURVEY, Abstract No. 434, Hood County, Texas being a portion of the 15.01 acre tract shown on plat of COMANCHE PEAK NORTH, SECTION ONE, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, recorded in Volume 3, Page 55 of the Plat Records of Hood County, Texas and being described by metes and bounds as follows: BEING a tract of land out of the ELL PHILLIPS SURVEY, Abstract No. 434, Hood County, Texas, a portion of the tract of land described in the deed to Joe Evans Real Estate, Inc., recorded in Volume 233, Page 197 of the Deed Records of Hood County, Texas; and being described by metes and bounds as follows: BEGINNING at an iron rod in the east line of said Evans tract for the northeast corner of Tract 76 of COMANCHE PEAK NORTH, SECTION ONE, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas the plat thereof being recorded in Volume 3, Page 55 of the Plat Records of Hood County, Texas; THENCE S 60 degrees 02' W a distance of 586.02 feet to an iron rod for the northwest corner of said Tract 76, said iron rod being in the east line of Tract 75 of said subdivision; THENCE, with said east line, N 33 degrees 10' 30" W a distance of 124.00 feet to an iron rod for corner; THENCE N 35 degrees 23' W, passing at 95.75 feet an iron rod for the northeast corner of said Tract 75 and the southeast corner of a 10.04 acre tract of land out of said Evans tract, a Total distance of 187.75 feet to an iron rod for corner in said east line of said 10.04 acre tract; THENCE, with said east line of said 10.04; acre tract, N 31 degrees 13' W a distance of 397.37 feet to an iron rod for corner; THENCE N 58 degrees 47' E a distance of 624.12 feet to an iron rod for corner in said east line. Thence, with said east line of said Evans tract along a wire fence, S 29 degrees 36' E a distance of 721.63 feet to the point of beginning and containing 10.001 acres of land.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 16TH day of JANUARY 2024.

Attorney for Plaintiff(s): TRACY BUSH LAW OFFICE OF TRACY S. BUSH, PLLC. 6108 WEST POLY WEBB RD ARLINGTON, TX 76016 Telephone: 817-842-2312 Email: Tracy@bushattorney.com WITNESS: TONNA L. NEWMAN CLERK OF THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS BY Sarah A. Roach Deputy

9031

Public Notices

Application has been made for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's On Premise Permit Food and Beverage Certificate for: Maria Fatima Nares- Owner DBA: Los Nares Mexican Restaurant 2200 US Highway 377 E Granbury, Texas 76049 Hood County Said application has been made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Joseph Gaffney, Jr., Deceased, were issued on February 14, 2024, in Cause No. P10266, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to James Michael Gaffney, Sr.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Tracy S. Bush, attorney for James Michael Gaffney, Sr. 201 E. Bridge St. Granbury, Texas 76048

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN RE: Estate of HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING a/k/a HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING IV, Deceased

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary of the Estate of HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING a/k/a HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING IV, Deceased, were granted to the undersigned on February 14, 2024, by the Probate Court of Hood County, Texas.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby required to present the same to Lisa Diane Massey, Independent Executor of the Estate of HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING a/k/a HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING IV, Deceased, within the time prescribed by law.

Claims should be mailed to: Lisa Diane Massey, Independent Executor of the Estate of HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING a/k/a HARRY HERSCHEL ROWLING IV, Deceased, c/o NATHAN K. GRIFFIN, 13355 Noel Road, Suite 1100, Dallas, Texas 75240.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Nathan K. Griffin NATHAN K. GRIFFIN State Bar Number 08463500 LAW OFFICE OF NATHAN K. GRIFFIN 13355 Noel Road, Suite 1100 Dallas, Texas 75240 972.348.5529 Fax 214.276.1355 ngriffin@nkgriffinlaw.com ATTORNEY FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

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 March 12, 2024 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. TONY LAMONT WILLIAMS, JR., microwave, mirror, clothes; SUSAN A. BINGHAM, glass cabinet, wooden shelving, tv tray, decor; BRANDEN PRESTON MARUBT, mirror, chairs, love seat; JODY WILLIAM SMITH, truck and garage tool boxes, 55 gallon drum, fishing tackle, gun safe, tools, flags; STACY NICHOLE NEAL, trunk, shop vac, computer, toys, fum.; NORBERTO DEWAYNE WEBB, dolly, ladders, quickrete, oil lamps, piano, chiminea, antique typewriter.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF STEPHEN JAMES ARLINGTON, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of STEPHEN JAMES ARLINGTON, Deceased, were issued on February 14, 2024, in Cause No. P10264, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas.

The post office address is: Estate of Stephen James Arlington, Deceased c/o Jacob N. Pollack Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton, LLP 9201 N. Central Expressway, 4th Floor Dallas, Texas 75231

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 15th day of February 2024. SHACKELFORD, BOWEN, MCKINLEY & NORTON, LLP

By: /s/ Jacob N. Pollack Jacob N. Pollack, Esq. State Bar No. 00788211 Shackelford, Bowen, McKinley & Norton, LLP 9201 N. Central Expressway, 4th Floor Dallas, Texas 75231 Phone: (214) 780-1400 Fax: (214) 780-1401

9031

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY RUTH GIVLER, Deceased, were issued on February 14, 2024, in Cause No. P10273, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: PERRY LEE GEER and PAMELA RUTH GIVLER.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Steven G. Kuban Attorney at Law 107 E. Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 DATED the 14th day of February, 2024. Steven G. Kuban Attorney for Perry Lee Geer and Pamela Ruth Givler State Bar No.: 24078807 107 E. Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 Telephone: (817) 573-8872 Facsimile: (817) 579-1651 E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

Notice of Public Sale pursuant to Chapter 59 of Texas property code to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be held for Honeycrisp Self Storage - Tolar at 205 Tolar Cemetery Rd., Tolar, TX 76476 on storageauctions.com starting on February 24, 2024 at 9:00am CST and ending on, March 6, 2024 at 10am CST. Cleanup deposit is required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw the property at any time before the sale. Unit items sold to the highest bidder. Property includes the contents of spaces of the following tenant and is primarily household items and furniture. BRAD DIAL TINA WOOD

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of W. R. Cornett a/k/a William Robert Cornett, Deceased, were granted on February 14, 2024, in Cause No. P10284, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Sandra Sue Cornett.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED THE 14TH day of February 2024. The Reid Firm, P.C. Attorneys for Sandra Sue Cornett By:/s/ Steven J. Reid Steven J. Reid State Bar No.: 16747900 Samuel I. Reid State Bar No.: 24105702 1840 Acton Highway Granbury, TX 76049 Telephone: (817) 573-3718 Facsimile: (817) 573-9732 E-mail: steve@reidfirm.com

ORDINANCE NO. 24-12

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BY THE CITY OF GRANBURY IN FAVOR OF WASTE CONNECTIONS LONE STAR, INC. FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIAL COLLECTION AND PROCESSING WITHIN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS; PROVIDING A REPEALING CLAUSE; AND NAMING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-13

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY CODE OF ORDINANCES, ENACTING ARTICLE 13.03 WATER CONSERVATION AND DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN, FOR THE CITY OF GRANBURY; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY; AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECT DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-14

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 13.14 "WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPACT FEES" OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING AND UPDATING LAND USE ASSUMPTIONS, THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN AND ESTABLISHING AN IMPACT FEE SCHEDULE FOR IMPACT FEES, AND AMENDING SECTION 1.50.515 "FEE SCHEDULE" OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY CODE OF ORDINANCES, THEREOF, FOR WATER, WASTEWATER AND ROADWAY FACILITIES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 24-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, AMENDING THE GENERAL FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024.

These ordinances as adopted by the Granbury City Council on February 20, 2024, are on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 116 W Bridge St. and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.



SHOP LOCALLY ADVERTISE LOCALLY EVERYONE WINS!

We reach **EVERY** local address
in Hood & Somervell Counties.

Hood County News **HCDeals**

1501 South Morgan Street | Granbury, TX 76048 | 817-573-7066 | hcnews.com



Brazos Regional Public Utility Agency

Request for Proposals

February 7, 2024

RFP No. DL-01-2024

Dear Prospective Proposer:

Sealed Request for Proposals will be received in the office of Administrative Services, Brazos Regional Public Utility Agency (Agency), 5912 Matlock Road, Granbury Texas 76049 until **2:00 PM, Thursday, March 7, 2024 for the Brine Discharge Line Repair for the SWATS Facility, Granbury, Texas.**

Proposals must be submitted and received no later than the opening date and time specified above. Any Proposals received later than the specified time, whether delivered in person or mailed, shall not be considered. It is the standard practice of the Agency to collect mail once daily from the U S Post Office. Our daily mail pickup is at approximately 2:00 PM, Monday thru Friday, excluding holidays. The Agency is **NOT** responsible for ensuring the delivery of proposals to our offices. The Proposer is solely responsible for the timely delivery of their proposal.

Mail or Deliver Proposals to:

Administrative Services
Brazos Regional Public Utility Agency
5912 Matlock Road
Granbury, Texas 76049

Proposal envelopes must be plainly marked on the outside as follow:

SEALED PROPOSAL – DO NOT OPEN	
Proposal:	Brine Discharge Line Repair for the SWATS Facility, Granbury, Texas
Proposal No.	DL-01-2024
Proposal DUE DATE:	2:00 PM, Thursday, March 7, 2024

The Brazos Regional Public Utility Agency hereafter referred to as the "Agency" shall have the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, or any part thereof; to waive any technicalities in the interest of the Agency.

Sincerely,

Stefan Dollins, CPM
General Manager

5912 Matlock Road • Granbury, Texas 76049
817-326-3484 • Fax 817-326-3716

Find what you're
looking for in the **CLASSIFIEDS**

Public Notices

Public Notices

Public Notices

Public Notices

Public Notices

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

OWNER: Bluffdale Water Supply Corporation
P.O. Box 232
Bluff Dale, Texas 76433

Sealed bids for the construction of the BLUFFDALE STANDBY WELL, complete will be received by the Engineer's Office, 211 N. Ridgeway Drive, Cleburne, Texas 76033, until 2 o'clock P.M. CST, Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at which time and place said bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The information for bidders, bid forms, form of contract, plans, specifications, forms of bonds, and all other contract documents, if any, may be examined at the offices of:

CHILDRESS ENGINEERS, INC.
Engineers and Consultants
211 North Ridgeway Drive
Cleburne, Texas 76033
817-645-1118

Copies of the plans and specifications and other contract documents may be obtained at the above location upon payment of \$ 50.00 per set. No refund will be made.

The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities and to reject any or all bids.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the Information for Bidders. A 5% bid bond, payment, and performance bond will be required.

American Iron and Steel (AIS) - The TWDB and all DWSRF financial assistance recipients will comply with the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirement in applicable federal law, including federal appropriation acts. Federal law requires DWSRF assistance recipients to use iron and steel products that are produced in the United States for projects for the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of a public water system or treatment works.

This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, which includes EPA-approved fair share goals toward procurement of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) businesses.

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age (40 or older), disability, or genetic information.

The contract is contingent upon the release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board and that the contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive bidder (or other approved method).

BLUFFDALE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

February 19, 2024
Date

/s/ Dennis McNaughton
President

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION of the City of Granbury on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

- 1. CP-2024-01 Amend the Future Land Use Map in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan on approximately 0.46 acres from Low Density Residential to Retail/Office, located at 1610 W Pearl St.
2. Z-2024-01 Zoning change from R-10 Residential District to Business Commercial on 0.46 acres, located at 1610 W Pearl St.
3. Z-2024-02 Zoning change from IH - Interim Holding to PD-Planned Development District base BC-Business Commercial district; located at 2101 W US Hwy 377 (prior address 1400 Paluxy Rd).
4. Z-2024-03 Zoning change from PD-Planned Development base HC-Heavy Commercial district to PD-Planned Development District base HC-Heavy Commercial district; located at 1380 E US Hwy 377.

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION of the City of Granbury on Monday, March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

- 1. O-2024-03 Amend select sections of the City of Granbury: Zoning Ordinance Article 1 General Provisions, Article 2 Administration, Article 3 Non-conformities, Article 4 Permitted Uses, Article 5 Districts, Article 6 Special Districts, Article 7 Sign Requirements, Article 8 Landscape Requirements, Article 9 Wireless Antenna Facilities Regulations, Article 11 Supplementary District Regulations, Article 12, General Definitions, Article 13 Tree Preservation Requirements, Article 14 Drilling Regulations (Oil & Gas Production). The general purpose is for consolidation of requirements, ease of implementation, readability and useability of the regulatory document, related to landscaping.
2. SUP-2021-12 Specific Use Permit for Dwelling, Single Family, Attached use in Central Business zoning; located at 210 E. Ewell St.

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

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.

PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

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

New Beginnings Resale Shoppe & Boutique

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

ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSITIONS: GRANBURY 1719 Anaconda-2/22-2/24 Furniture: woven rattan, white wicker, Art Deco, MCM, modern; vintage barware; LP record albums; Atmos clock; Bose CD system; Western art/decor; copper weathervanes; rustic bar stools; books/CDs/DVDs, fishing rods/reels; two lift chairs; western chess set. Photos at estatesales.net. 12p-5p THR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT

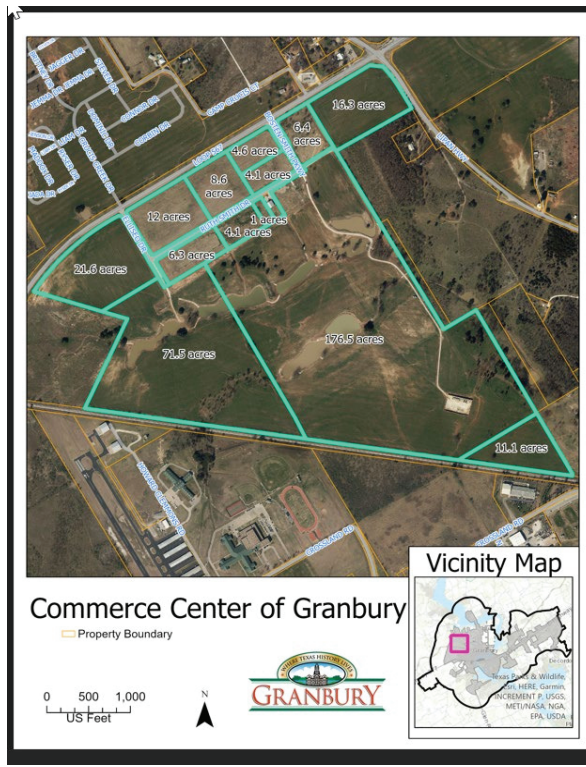
ESTATE SALE 208 Brazos Harbor Dr-Saturday, Feb 24, 8am-5pm Everything goes!!!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF TAX ABATEMENT REINVESTMENT ZONE IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY, HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Granbury, Texas, will hold a public hearing to consider a proposal to designate as a Tax Abatement Reinvestment Zone under Section 312.201 of the Property Redevelopment and Tax Abatement Act, Texas Property Tax Code Chapter 312, the real property located in the City of Granbury, Texas, known as the GRANBURY COMMERCE CENTRE (EXHIBIT A).

EXHIBIT A

341 Acres the Commerce Centre of Granbury



Last Puzzle Solution
ACAT BATH ELLA AT ANT HALTOM OTTO DESPERATE LOATHESES XEROX CANISEE HOST PASSIT PLANTA ESKIMOS LR BYGONESBE GOTASSA SOLDMEAG HOSANNAIS TEE ANANTS NEAT NR KNEE DAP ACREDIT KTDR THE IANS ENS
S-1678

Find us on Facebook. Hood County News Hood County Newspaper. Keep up with up-to-the-minute happenings in Hood County using one of today's greatest social media sites. facebook.com/hcnews

TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK TexSCAN

TexSCAN Week of Feb. 18-24, 2024
ACREAGE

AFFORDABLE OWNER FINANCED LAND. We have some of the best in Texas. Hill Country, South Texas, West Texas. 800-876-9720, texasranchland.com.

AUCTIONS

Farm, Ranch & Construction Equipment, 25+ Guns and 75+ Replacement Firearms Auction: Sat., Feb. 24 at 9 a.m., 1036 S. FM 331, Sealy, TX. Onsite and online bidding. Register to bid now. Also selling equipment for Austin Co. Precinct 4. 979-885-2400, www.switzerlanduction.net.

CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. For more information, call 855-493-3803

EMPLOYMENT

Now hiring a full time Handyman at the Strake Jesuit Retreat and Leadership Center in Leona, TX. Visit www.strakejesuit.org/employment for more information.

ENERGY

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

OIL & GAS RIGHTS

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

MEDICAL

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 866-747-9983

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 350 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 www.dental50plus.com/txpress #6258

WATER DAMAGE

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-3027.

WANTED

Need Extra Cash - I Buy RVs & Mobile Homes -Travel Trailers, 5th Wheels, Goosenecks, Bumper Pulls. In Any Area, Any Condition - Old/New, Dirty or Clean! I PAY CASH. No Title - No Problem, we can apply for one. We go anywhere in Texas. ANR Enterprises, 956-466-7001.

Texas Press Statewide Classified Network 221 Participating Texas Newspapers • Regional Ads Start At \$250 • Email ads@texaspress.com

NOTICE: While most advertisers are reputable, we cannot guarantee products or services advertised. We urge readers to use caution and when in doubt, contact the Texas Attorney General at 800-621-0508 or the Federal Trade Commission at 877-FTC-HELP. The FTC web site is www.ftc.gov/bizop.

Hood County News Find Contractors, Service Technicians, Landscapers, Plumbers, Electricians, Mechanics, Carpenters, Painters, and more in the CLASSIFIEDS www.hcnews.com

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

EVERY DAY

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

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

EVERY SATURDAY

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

EVERY SUNDAY

STARTING A New Life is a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one through death. This includes the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling or close friend. For the past 26 years, this group has helped people work through their grief process. If you, or someone you know, is suffering from the loss of a loved one, come or bring them to our next session that began March 19, 2023. We are Christian based, nondenominational, and welcome all who are suffering. We meet 3-5 p.m. on Sundays in the parish hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Ben Bradley at 575-706-5703 or Sherry Bingham at 817-657-0822.

EVERY MONDAY

PROMISES AL-ANON group meets every Monday at 6 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, fellowship hall, west entrance, 303 W. Bridge St.

EVERY TUESDAY

PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30-1:30 p.m. A noncontact boxing and fitness program de-

signed for people with Parkinson's Disease. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

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

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's hosted by the Hood County YMCA will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at 1475 James Road. The program is led by a certified group fitness instructor and consists of a pre- and post-fitness evaluation, and 45-minute spin/cycling session. Program will last 12 weeks. For more information call 817-624-9791 or e-mail communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

EVERY THURSDAY

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

GRIEFSHARE RECOVERY seminar and support recovery seminar and support group meets at 10 a.m. at Interim Hospice, 1314 Paluxy Drive, Suite 200. Childcare is not provided. Fee for Griefshare workbook is \$15. Details: 817-573-7474.

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

EVERY FRIDAY

PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30-1:30 p.m. A noncontact boxing and fitness program de-

signed for people with Parkinson's Disease. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

FIRST MONDAY

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

FIRST TUESDAY

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

SECOND SATURDAY

GRIEF SUPPORT group for anyone grieving a loss in their life. This is an informal gathering over breakfast. Please join us for conversation and community, location varies. Call for info: Amy Dwight 817-894-2449 or Danny Dwight 817-219-9833.

THIRD MONDAY

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

THIRD TUESDAY

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS support group, 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the 1894 Building at Acton Baptist Church, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. For

caregivers, family members, friends and anyone in the community. Details: 817-326-4693.

FOURTH TUESDAY

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

FOURTH SATURDAY

GRIEF SUPPORT group for anyone grieving a loss in their life. This is an informal gathering over breakfast. Please join us for conversation and community. Location varies. Call for info: Amy Dwight 817-894-2449, or Danny Dwight 817-219-9833



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

Edward Jones

edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

3-month **5.20** % APY*

6-month **5.15** % APY*

1-year **5.15** % APY*

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



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



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



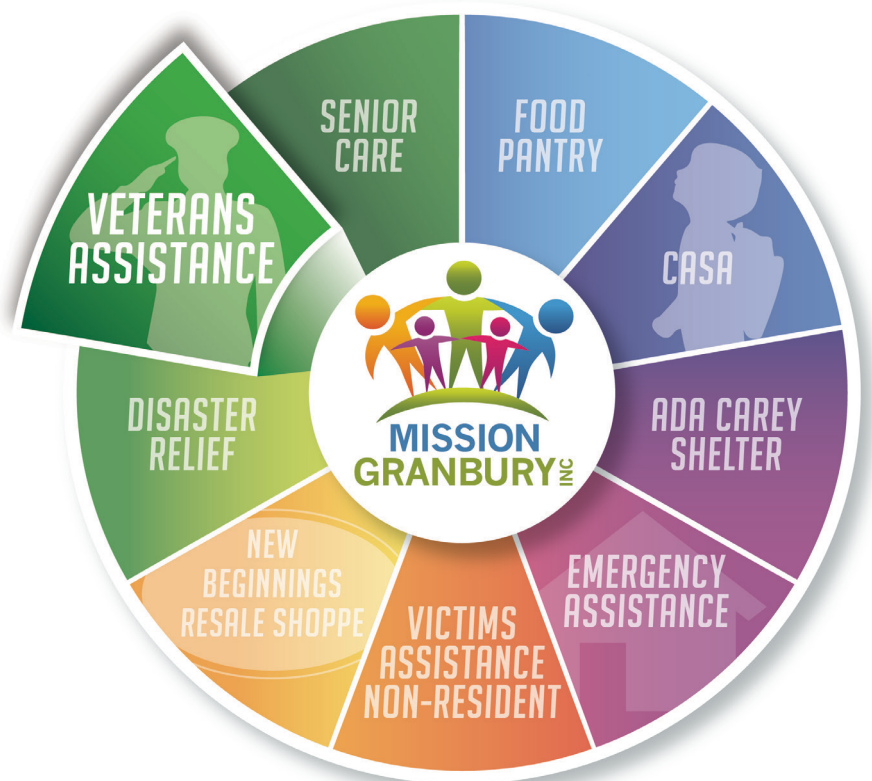
Ty Andrew
Financial Advisor
716 E Hwy 377
Granbury, TX 76048
817-573-0488



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

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 02/16/24 - CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

Mission Granbury is always #heretohelp



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

CHOOSE to see.
CHOOSE to help.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE

We can assist with utility bills, rent (not mortgage) with a lease agreement, home repair necessary for health and safety and auto repair for Veteran's personal auto.

For more information, please contact Ken Horton at 817-579-6866

BASIC ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- DD-214 with an Honorable Discharge
- Low Income (140% or lower)
- Photo ID
- Proof of total house income (pay stubs, child support, SSI, or VA award letters.)

24-hour Crisis Hotline 844-579-6848

STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM



IT'S COMING

Visit Granbury announces plans for once-in-a-lifetime total solar eclipse

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Unless you've been living in the "dark," you've probably heard about the total solar eclipse that will take place Monday, April 8.

But if you didn't know about this rare and unique opportunity, don't worry — Visit Granbury's got you covered.

To get you started, Visit Granbury has created an entire page dedicated to the solar eclipse, which can be found by going online to visitgranbury.com/eclipse.

Visit Granbury Director Tammy Dooley explained that the eclipse page will list shops and lodging partners that are offering special eclipse deals. She added that a section will also be included with links to buy eclipse merchandise.

"We also have a list of watch sites for those who prefer a more solitary experience, where there won't be an organized event, but a safe, quiet place to watch the eclipse," she said.

LUNCH IN BLACK

For those who prefer a more collective experience, Granbury's premier downtown event, called Lunch in Black, will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 8.

The total eclipse of the sun will begin at 12:21 p.m., while totality (the maximum phase of a total eclipse during which the moon's disk completely covers the sun) will take place at 1:39 p.m. Totality will last for a span of two minutes, seven seconds, ending at 1:41 p.m., while the eclipse itself will end at 3 p.m.

Presented by the Historic Granbury Merchant's Association, Lunch in Black will include lunch, a bottle of wine with a commemorative label along with a special wine glass, and solar viewing glasses. Live music in the form of the smooth sounds of Jet Black will be provided, as well.

Limited seating is available, and tickets are \$100 each.

Details for Lunch in Black can be found by going online to visitgranbury.com/event/lunch-in-black/19015.

ECLIPSE CRUISE

Another event of note takes place on the lake, with an eclipse cruise — a one-of-a-kind way to experience the rare event.

Visit Granbury is currently running special

pricing on this particular cruise of \$65 per person before taxes and fees.

Book the party cruise at 1 p.m. for the perfect time slot to watch the eclipse.

ANC LECTURE/WATCH PARTY

Acton Nature Center will host a lecture series Sunday, April 7, and a watch party for the eclipse Monday, April 8.

Currently, Visit Granbury is still waiting on the details about the watch party since they are coordinating a shuttle service to accommodate overflow parking. When more information is available, individuals can go online to visitgranbury.com/listing/acton-nature-center/6018 for details.

ECLIPSE IMPACT

According to Visit Granbury's eclipse presentation, the one-of-a-kind event will bring tens of thousands of visitors to the area and will provide residents and guests alike with a profoundly meaningful individual and community experience.

"For cities that are in the path of totality, we hit the jackpot," Dooley told the Hood County News. "It is a wonderful tourism opportunity."

SAFETY

To view the eclipse, viewers must wear eclipse glasses to look at the sun directly. These glasses can be ordered from a reliable company like Rainbow Symphony — the same company that NASA uses.

"If ordered early, the glasses can be customized with your logo and information," Dooley said. "They have lots of premade options too, and they are cheap. In 2017, many people waited too long and there was a backlog."

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE

According to VG's eclipse presentation, the NASA report on the 2017 Total Solar Eclipse found that 22 million adults traveled to a different location to view the eclipse.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience," Dooley added. "We are thrilled to put Granbury on the edge of totality."

The next total solar eclipse that will be visible in the U.S. will take place in 20 years — Aug. 23, 2044.

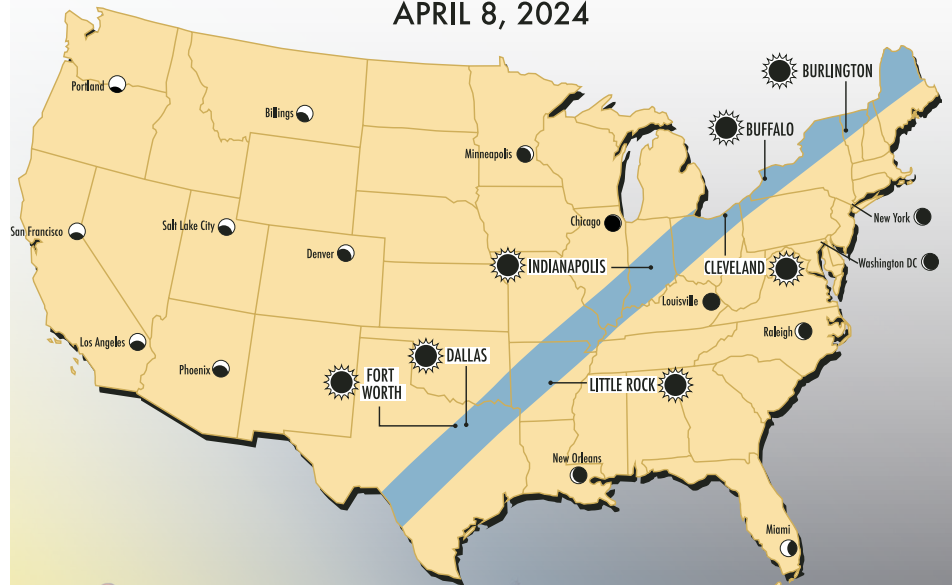
For more information on eclipse events, email Dooley at tdooley@granbury.org or Rhiannon Moline at rcrump@granbury.org.

S TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

April 8, 2024

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE PATH

APRIL 8, 2024



When You're Not Feeling Great, You Don't Want to Wait

Illness and injuries may not work on your schedule, so you need care that does. The team at Lakeside Physicians Express Care can diagnose and treat the unexpected, from flu to sprains, after hours and even on weekends. So if you're not feeling great, you don't have to wait for quality care.



Visit ExpressCareLakeside.com.

3801 E. Hwy. 377, Suite 100, Granbury, TX
Open 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., 7 days a week





A selfless act leads to a hero award for a Tolar Elementary student

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

A fifth grader at Tolar Elementary School was named a student hero by the Texas Education Agency for District 11. Cameron Taylor was one of 15 students across the state of Texas to receive the prestigious award and the first from Tolar ISD.

The Student Heroes program recognizes Texas public school students in prekindergarten through high school who perform an outstanding volunteer service that benefits their fellow students, schools or communities. To be nominated for the award, the volunteer service project performed by a public or charter school student must not be associated with any curriculum requirement, school service project or community program.

Cameron was nominated by his counselor, Lynda Foster, who chose him for his acts of kindness, charity and selfless service to others. She had been unaware of the award, but after receiving emails asking for nominations, she immediately thought of Cameron.

"I have known Cameron



COURTESY PHOTO

PLEASE SEE **HERO** | BX

Pictured is Cameron Taylor with the toys he bought for patients at Cook Children's medical center after raising money by running his own lemonade stand.



COURTESY PHOTO

Granbury swim team pictured at Region 2-5A Championship, where 11 athletes will move on to state

State swim advance

GHS matches record participants

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County News

The water's nice in Austin this time of year.

Braxton Heffernan and Mylie Erez would certainly know. They've made it an annual occurrence to compete at the University Interscholastic League Class 5A State Swimming and Diving Meet.

They're back at the University of Texas this weekend to do. So again, a third time for Heffernan and a second time for Erez. This time they brought a lot more teammates with them as newcomers to state. Granbury will have 11 participants (six boys, five

girls) in the elite meet being held Friday and Saturday at the Lee & Jo Jamail Texas Swimming Center.

This ties the record for the most competitors the GHS swim program has ever sent to state, having previously done so in 2019.

"Those were some really incredible swimmers. They really helped establish where Pirate swimming has gone," coach Charles Overton said. "So, it's awesome to be able to say that we are right there with them and helping do our part to continue on the tradition of excellence set before us. We are very proud of how hard this group of kids has worked to get here."

Heffernan qualified individually by winning the

50-yard freestyle at the Region II Meet in Mansfield. He clocked a school-record time of 21.60 seconds.

He also will compete on the regional champion 200 medley relay team with Luke Basil, Bodie Chastain and Colin Lindsey, and 200 free relay team with Cameron Ward, Basil and Hunter Jones.

Erez will compete in four events. Individually, she had runner-up finishes at regionals in the 50 free and 100 free. She was also on the second-place 200 free relay with Avery Young, Brenna Haynes and Bailey McDermott and 400 free relay with McDermott, her sister Madison Erez and

PLEASE SEE **SWIM** | B2

GHS DECA chapter makes a name for itself at state competition

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

The DECA chapter at Granbury High School competed in the state championship Feb. 15-17 with 16 students qualifying for the competition, the highest number GHS has taken. This was also the first year the chapter had both freshmen and sophomores compete.

Two GHS teams "made stage" at the Grand Awards session. They were among the 20 top-scoring teams or individuals called to the stage in each event category before the top 10 teams were announced. The top 10 teams will advance as finalists representing Texas at the International competition. The two GHS teams ranked in the top 20 competitors in the state, beating out teams at both the district and state levels. Both teams

will serve as alternates to the advancing finalists.

The first team, made up of The Anchor Store crew members, competed in the Project Management Sales Project event. The event is specific to how each DECA chapter raises funds for competition and chapter events. For the Granbury chapter, The Anchor Store is the only entity that sells snacks, drinks and apparel in the on-campus store. Team members competed using the business plan they created for the store in August. They reported on the profits, operations and project management skills necessary to run the store, and how those profits are budgeted for DECA. Competing on this team were seniors Braeden Hunt, Austin Pruett and Kylee Upchurch. This was the third year in a row GHS has "made stage" in this event.

The Franchise Business

Plan event revolves around a team researching a particular franchise business, collecting finance data, and then presenting an operations plan to open a location. Team members Maddie Cutler, Ryli Lewis and Anna Quinn researched the business "Drybar," pulling franchise investment data and applying it to their location of interest in Lubbock. In their research, they interviewed managers from the Fort Worth location to collect proprietary information, which helped them gain an edge in their presentation. This was the first time GHS had competed in the event.

Both teams had to write a 20-page paper about their business plan that had to be turned in for judging prior to competition. At the event, they presented to a different judge. Scores were combined from both judges for a final score.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Granbury High School DECA Chapter had 16 students who qualified to compete at the state competition held in Houston Feb. 15 through Feb. 17.

"In our first year of competition, I coined the term 'Pirate Swagger,' which has become our motto. We really didn't know what we were doing — I literally winged

it from registration, helping kids pick competition events, and even showing up that day to compete," chapter advisor Kylee Peterson said. "I told the students

that in the business world, most people do not have a clue of what's going on when they walk into situations

PLEASE SEE **DECA** | B9

Area baseball preview: Pirates set to bounce back, Rattlers look to reload

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

After a rare absence from the postseason in 2023, the Granbury Pirates are set to make a return with plenty of talent back from a 12-16 squad that was 5-7 in District 5-5A. The Pirates' playoff hopes came down to the final game before they narrowly missed.

"We have had some great locker room conversations about the difference from this year and last year," coach Brad Eppler said. "First and foremost is that at any given time there will be a guy on the bench that can flat out play baseball. If the guy starting at any position knows there is a guy who is capable of taking their spot, and is working to take their spot, the guy starting has to work hard, focus, improve and produce to keep his job."

Returning are:

Seniors (all lettermen): Braxton Heffernan, outfielder/pitcher; Gavin Current, infield/outfielder, .307 batting average, All-District 5-5A second baseman; Noah Maderis, pitcher, 24.1 innings; Cooper Brown, infielder/pitcher;

Hunter Jones, pitcher/infield, 31 innings, 3.35 ERA, 1.4 WHIP.

Juniors (all lettermen): Kyler Crites, infield, .319 average, All-5-5A shortstop; Levi Martinez, catcher/infielder; Blake Bramlett, pitcher, outfielder, .346 average, all-district outfielder; Hudson Hamilton, pitcher/outfielder, 12.1 innings, led JV with .426 average with a 0.29 ERA and WHIP of 0.5 before joining varsity.

Juniors: Pitchers Cole Bradley, Murphy Page and Caidon Carroll; infielder/pitcher Jakson Arnett; outfielder Eli Sisco; first base/pitcher Carter Riley; infielder/outfielder Derek Marquardt; and catcher/infielder Brazon Cornelison.

Freshman first baseman/pitcher Eastman Bleeker is the son of former Pirate Brandon Bleeker, who owns the single-season and career home run records as a Pirate.

"We invested a lot of time and effort into the incoming junior class. They all had good years on the JV. They learned a lot and improved remarkably," Eppler said. "We took some licks on the varsity record-wise as part of that investment. Basically, it was a 'long game' of sorts to prep

for this year and next."

Since Eppler took over the Granbury program in 2014 after serving as an assistant, the Pirates have reached the playoffs every season except 2017, 2020 (COVID) and last season. Three times he's led them to the second round and the team won 30 games in 2016.

"This bunch is fun to be around, and this team is full of personalities that complement each other," Eppler said of his current squad. "They are competitive with one another, but they take care of each other. They hold each other accountable, and they feel as if they must hold themselves accountable to the others. It is a great family feeling every day."

The Pirates were hosting their own tournament at press time to open the season. They will play in the Mike Thompson Southwest Tournament at Southwest and Arlington Heights High Schools Feb. 29-March 1.

TOLAR BASEBALL

On the heels of the best season in program history, coach Lance Alford finds himself replacing six senior starters from a team that finished

25-10-2 and reached the 2A Region II final. The Rattlers were also 8-0 in winning their district for a third straight season.

And while there are holes to fill, Alford has plenty of talent back as a nucleus for another strong season.

Returning are:

Merritt Imel, senior, first base, .239 batting average, 1 home run, 26 RBI, first-team All-District 13-2A.

Drake Owens, junior, third base/pitcher, 13-2A Newcomer of the Year.

Jesse Owen, senior, catcher/pitcher, .333 average, 3 home runs, 20 RBI, 13-2A Offensive Player of the Year.

Talan Brown, senior, shortstop, pitcher, .299 average, 22 RBI, 10-2, 1.25 ERA, .75 strikeouts, 13-2A Pitcher of the Year, Texas Sports Writers Association honorable mention all-state.

"The entire senior class is very special to me," Alford said. "I taught and coached them since their seventh-grade year when I first arrived here."

Since Alford's arrival as the head coach in 2021 the Rattlers are 68-22-2. They advanced to the third round of the playoffs in 2021 and 2022 before breaking through to



PHOTO BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Tolar player coming off the mound at the Scrimmage Friday Feb 16.

the regional finals last season, their deepest playoff run ever.

The Rattlers opened the season in the Bangs/Early Tournament this weekend.

They travel to Clyde Tuesday, Feb. 27 for a 5 p.m. game and play in the Glen Rose Tournament next weekend.

SWIM

FROM PAGE B1

Haynes.

PEAKING AT RIGHT TIME

Overton has been pleased with the steady upward trend of his swimmers all season. Now, he believes they have hit their groove at the right time.

"We really had a great sea-

son of growth that started against the Lubbock schools back in October and then saw a really steady progression with each meet. We never saw it all put together during that time, but we saw all the pieces were there," he said. "Then we were able to get some momentum and confidence going into our December big meet, the North Texas TISCA (Texas Interscholastic Swim

Coaches Association) Meet.

"We had three great weeks of training over Christmas, then came out swinging at the New Years Classic in Carrollton with two first-place team finishes, and then we never looked back."

COUNTING ON EXPERIENCE

While nine of the competitors will be first-timers, Overton believes the past

experience of Heffernan and Mylie Erezzo will help the newbies at state.

"It is always great to have that 'been there, done that' mentality. It's really tough to take a group of kids to state without any of the athletes knowing how it works," he said. "The Texas state championship in swimming is unlike any meet you can prepare for in a lot of ways. So having that group that

has been there will provide a lot of help for our first-time state competitors."

Overton also noted that in addition, this exposure to a whole new group of athletes helps to grow the long-term goals of the program.

"Now you have even more experience to help guide the next groups coming up in the future," he said.

Regardless of the outcomes at state, Overton said

it is a great wrap-up to an outstanding season.

"This group of kids has worked very hard and had goals set at the beginning of the year that we have worked hard to achieve. At the same time, this is great for our athletes coming back next year to help establish where we want the program to go in the years to come."

CASE RESOLUTION CAMPAIGN

HOOD COUNTY JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS 1, 2, 3, 4

Do you have an outstanding violation/unresolved citation?

Resolve your case immediately without further court action.

For more information and payment options on your citations, contact your local court or call 800-994-0676 | Se habla Español.

ENFORCEMENT WEEK BEGINS MARCH 2ND

Message from Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP in conjunction with Hood County.

RE-ELECT PROVEN TAX CUTTER

Kevin Andrews

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Republican Precinct 1

Public Advertising paid for by Kevin for Commissioner. NOTICE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF STATE LAWS (CHAPTERS 392 AND 393, TRANSPORTATION CODE) TO PLACE THIS SIGN IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A HIGHWAY.

GHS automotive training program

Prepping students for the drive through life

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County News

After having the drive to fulfill a military career of three decades in the Marines, Michael Beauchamp found a new focus. Now, he's driving students in the Granbury High School automotive training program to pursue their own calling in life.

Along the way, what they learn could make for a smoother ride for a lot of other folks — literally. After all, they are learning how to repair cars and get them running in top condition.

Beauchamp is in his fourth year of teaching the course, while his fellow instructor, Andrew Klein, is in his second year as instructor after being an independent owner in the automotive industry for more than 30 years.

"The main purpose of the automotive program is to give every student interested an opportunity to begin a well-paying career within the automotive industry," Beauchamp said. "Depending on the level

to which each student chooses to advance brings to them further knowledge and opportunity within the automotive industry."

Klein noted the auto tech students are hands-on in an actual working shop, doing services such as tire rotations, air-conditioning and heating, along with some general repair and diagnosis. The practicum students are at partnering dealerships shadowing with a dealer tech. The program also offers students the opportunity to learn how to obtain the correct vehicle information, which helps on the service writing end.

"As an independent shop owner, I would much rather hire a student who has graduated high school from a program like ours rather than a tech from another shop who may bring with them their bad habits and an unknown work ethic," Klein said.

FOUR PHASES

There are four phases of automotive training, Beauchamp said.

Automotive Basics will give entry-level students

the knowledge required to perform basic automotive preventative maintenance knowledge. Small Engine Technology builds upon those skills, providing students with the knowledge required to not only maintain their own vehicles, but small engine equipment (lawn mowers, weed eaters, tractors, rototillers, etc) to develop skills required to become self-sufficient in maintaining of their personal equipment.

Juniors and seniors acquire advanced skills to perform more arduous and technical tasks on their own equipment/vehicles, and it culminates with seniors working hand-in-hand with experts in the automotive industry.

"This opportunity provides them with advanced training opportunities, as well as employment opportunities within the automotive industry and our own community immediately upon graduation," Beauchamp said.

Beauchamp cited as examples Ethan Holmes, who works at Shottenkirk Hyundai and is seeking a Master Technician qualification;

Alejandro Perez, employed by Shottenkirk, who Beauchamp said "has advanced far faster than I had ever anticipated;" and Jonathan Garcia, who works at Jerry Durant Chevrolet and who Beauchamp said "has become an outstanding technician, far surpassing any expectations I ever had."

"It's been a world class experience having students from the Granbury High program come here," said Cody Hale, service manager and master Hyundai service technician at Shottenkirk. "Just the sheer determination some of these students have come with is great. They are a strong addition to the team."

"I'm looking forward to more coming. As many students as we can help and they, in turn, help us, it's a win-win."

Hale added that Holmes is on a fast track to qualify as a master technician through Hyundai Motor America's program and if things go according to Hoyle it could happen very soon.

Currently 425 students of all grade levels are enrolled in some portion of the automotive training program. Of these 425 students, 399 are male and 26 are female.

ADVANCED TRAINING

Beauchamp said the most exciting program the advanced automotive program has undertaken is the opportunity for all students to graduate with an industry recognized Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certification. In addition, the program has partnered with the Shottenkirk Automotive Group, who now offers specific training to all students for automotive manufacturers Ford and Hyundai.

"This training is normally reserved for individuals already hired by an automobile manufacturer," Beauchamp



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHAEL BEAUCHAMP

Josh Quintero, Andres Hernandez, and Angel Rosas work on the underside of a car during Granbury High's automotive training program.

said. "Andrew Klein and I have several of our students already employed full-time with dealerships in Granbury, and one of them is already close to becoming a master service technician after graduating Granbury High School last year, the highest rating an automotive technician can achieve."

"I would like to thank Mr. Beauchamp and Mr. Klein for how well they run the auto shop, personally. They have taught me how to work on any car, and they got me a job through this program that I now love," said a student identified as Jack D.

Another student, Matthew A., said "Practicum in Transportation has taught me a lot of things, and because of that I am able to do more things with cars and some day I would like to own a shop of my own."

RECENT CHANGES

Since Beauchamp's arrival, the largest changes to the program have been the implementation of ASE testing and industry partnerships. He said this is to "ensure our students have the best opportunity to succeed in the future."

Beauchamp said the addition of Klein has been invaluable with his knowledge in the advancement of automotive technology. After decades in the industry with his own business, Klein has

pretty much seen anything and everything related to caring for vehicles.

"The automotive industry is quickly evolving, and Andy's knowledge keeps our students far above the curve," Beauchamp said.

Another change coming could be students sharing their knowledge in a competitive atmosphere, Beauchamp said.

"Currently, our program doesn't compete in any competitions, but that will change very soon," he said.

NOT JUST FOR A PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Beauchamp said taking an automotive class, whether the long-term goal is in the industry or not, will provide students with basic knowledge to perform basic automotive repairs, saving them money in the future. At the very least, it will help them to get themselves out of a bad and often costly automobile repair situation should they find themselves in it.

"After serving 30 years in the Marine Corps, it is almost impossible to turn off a servant's heart and stand idly by while our young men and women try to find their way in the world," Beauchamp said. "It is incumbent upon all of us to help them reach, achieve and surpass every single one of their goals in life."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MICHAEL BEAUCHAMP

Instructor Michael Beauchamp works with students in Granbury High's automotive training program.

Granbury Middle School named "A Texas School to Watch"

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

On Feb. 17, Granbury Middle School was named a "School to Watch" in Texas. The distinction comes from the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals.

According to the TASSP, "A Texas School to Watch is a school that consistently has moved to meet fully the nationally endorsed criteria for high-performing middle schools; one that has made marked progress in meeting all these criteria, including measurable gains in the academic achievement of all students over time, and is committed to continuous improvement. These schools will serve as models and mentors for other schools seeking to improve."

A school seeking the distinction must fill out an application which includes a

self-study rating rubric, information regarding the school demographics and characteristics, suspension and programmatic data, sharing any special recognitions the school has received, discussing the collaboration at the school, plans for the future, and recent changes.

"We are humbled, honored and excited that GMS has been recognized. We have a great group of administrators, staff, students and parents," Tim Petty, seventh grade history teacher shared. "All of these groups work hard each day to make a difference in student learning and student lives. We are proud to represent the great qualities of GSD and GMS."

Annie Dueck, a GMS Technology in Action teacher shared why she thinks the school was distinguished as a school to watch.

"I think it was because we have overcome so many challenges and made significant

growth in multiple areas," Dueck said. "It was also due to the feedback and reflection from a diverse group of parents, students, staff and community members. I also believe that our campus administration is the main driving force that has brought all of these pieces together and made it possible."

Dueck also noted that the energy and dedication of the staff is special as well as the fire among the staff to improve and make GMS the best it can be.

"We love each other and are on the same team working toward the same goals — to love and help our students. We don't compete with each other; we learn from and encourage and support each other. This is an amazing achievement, but we are not done yet."



COURTESY PHOTO

Granbury Middle School was recently recognized as a "School to Watch" by the Texas Association of Secondary Schools.

HERO

FROM PAGE B1

since he was in pre-k and have been blessed to watch him grow and become this amazing young man," Foster shared. "He has such a caring heart for others and truly lives out our mission here at Tolar Elementary which is to serve others. He has wonderful parents who obviously have instilled these qualities in him. I could not think of a sweeter, kinder young man than Cameron to receive this award."

One notable act of charity from Cameron all started with a goal. According to his mom, Amanda, the two were riding in the car one day when Cameron told her he had a goal for this summer. She asked him what about it and he told her that he wanted to raise as much money possible

for kids in the hospital. She asked how he wanted to do that, and he had the idea of a lemonade stand.

Amanda shared that she was shocked by Cameron's goal and first thought he was going to say something like running faster, becoming a better baseball player or something along those lines.

"At first he wanted to raise money for the kids' medical bills," Amanda shared with the HCN. "I told him that was very noble but wasn't quite sure how that works... As soon as he said it, I knew we, as a family, were going to make it happen. We could not deny this opportunity for our son to grow as a person and reach his goals he created for himself at such a young age."

When Cameron and Amanda got home, they began researching ways to help the kids at Cook Children's Medical Center. That's when

he decided he would use the money to buy coloring books, small toys, etc., to bring a smile to the kids' faces.

Through Cameron's hard work and kind heart, he raised over \$600 dollars with his lemonade stand.

Amanda described Cameron as "kind, witty, genuine and a passionate young man. When he says he is going to do something he works hard to accomplish it."

Cameron even turned to his 4-year-old brother, Case, for help with the lemonade project, giving him the job of scooping ice into the cups.

"We loved that he was helping instill such acts of kindness in his brother," Amanda expressed.

Taylor was recognized Feb. 15 at Tolar Elementary, when he was presented a plaque and a medal.

"It fills Ty (Cameron's father) and I's heart with joy

and a deep level of pride. Cameron is very shy when speaking to people he does not know," Amanda said. "It was as if God spoke to his heart to create this opportunity for him to grow as a person and step out of his comfort zone."

Amanda and Ty also credited Tolar Elementary School for instilling "serving others," and "goal setting" into each of its students. They also thanked the Tolar and Bluff Dale communities who came to support his lemonade stand as well as friends and family.

According to Amanda, Cameron is unsure of why is getting this award and in his own words, "I don't know why I am getting an award, I just wanted to help kids."

"We pray Cameron's idea will spark others with ideas to continue to spread happiness and kindness," Amanda said.



COURTESY PHOTO

Granbury Middle School was recently recognized as a "School to Watch" by the Texas Association of Secondary Schools.



Indians in the playoffs



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Lipan Indians traveled to Stephenville where they competed against the Hamilton Bulldogs in the second playoff game of the 2023-2024 basketball season. The Indians secured a 59-39 victory and were named Bi-district Champions. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.



NCTA basketball



COURTESY PHOTO

The North Central Texas Academy boys basketball team took a win over TACA Storm Basketball, bringing home the TAIIO Division 1 North Regional Championship.

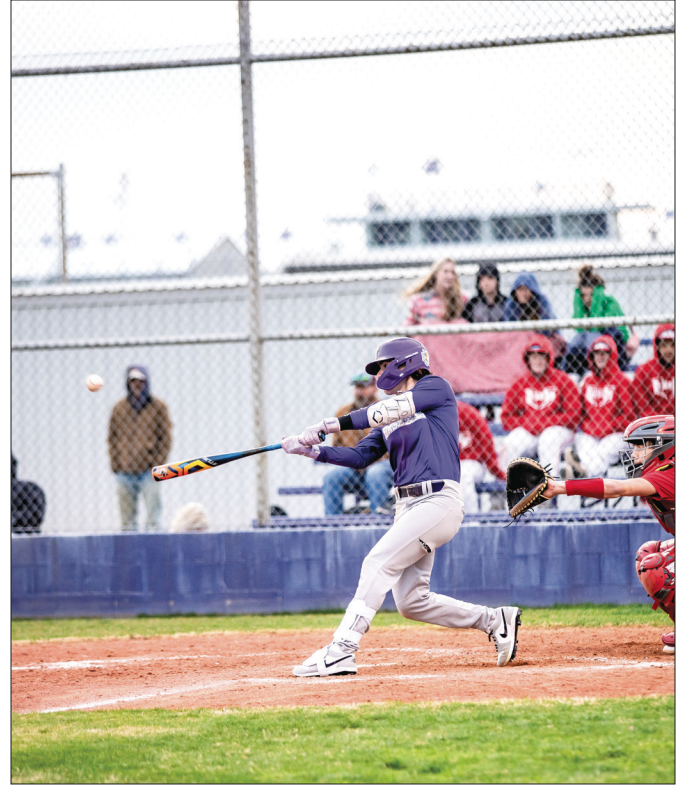


Rattlers get ready



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

On Feb. 16 the Tolar Rattlers varsity baseball team took on the Hico Tigers in a preseason scrimmage. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.

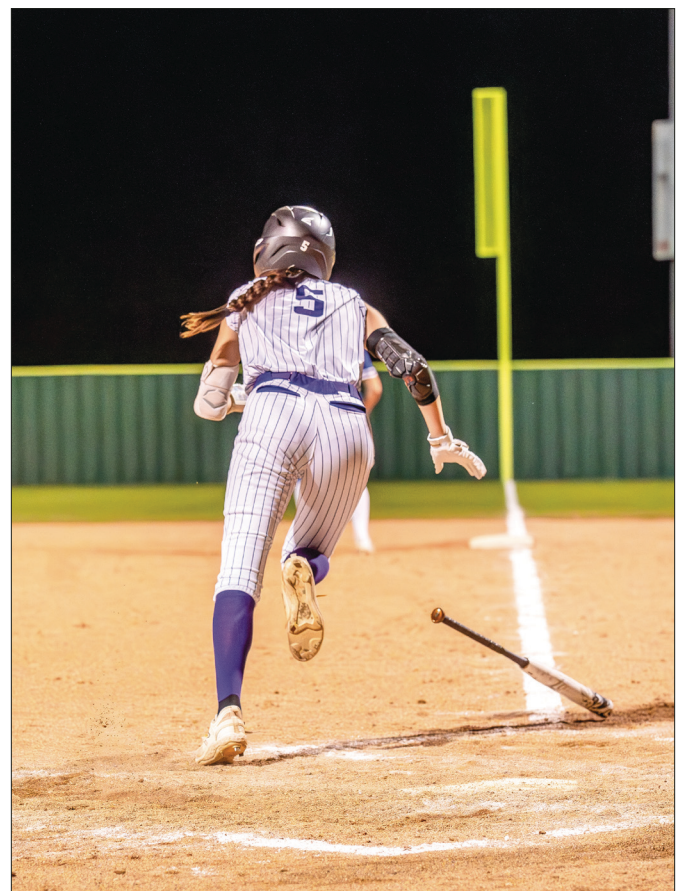
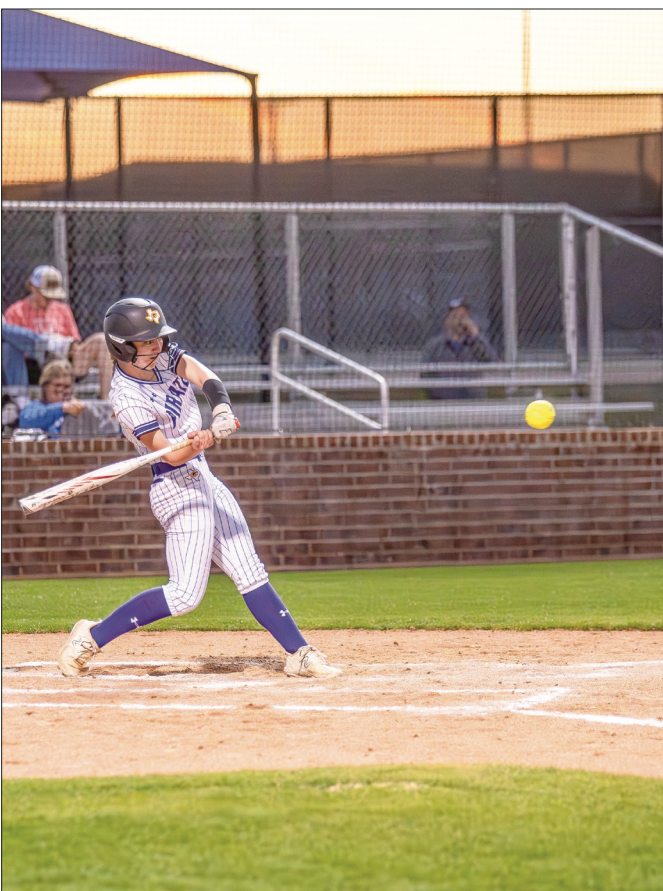


Lady Pirates Softball



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Lady Pirates took on Blooming Grove Tuesday, Feb. 20 and lost 6-5. For full gallery go to hcnews.com





Eight Rattlers all-state in football

Pirates Coach Breazeale retires

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County News

The Class 2A Division I state runner-up Tolar Rattlers are well-represented on the Texas Sports Writers Association Class 2A All-State Football Team. Named to the first-team defense was senior defensive back Clayton Stembbridge (98 tackles, 12 for loss, seven interceptions). Junior linebacker Drake Owens (136 tackles, four interceptions) was named to the second-team defense and senior Garrison Nation was named second-team kick returner (two punt return TD, one kickoff return TD).

Honorable mentions went to senior quarterback Isaac Blessing (30 TD, four interceptions passing; 1,281 yards, 21 TD rushing), junior wide receiver Matthew Behrens (33 catches, 740 yards, 10 TD), junior defensive lineman Cutter Cain (77 tackles, 12 for a loss, four sacks) and Cash Clark (103 tackles, 12 for a loss, seven sacks) and senior linebacker Jaxon Riddle (111 tackles, nine for a loss).

"We had a great group and a great year and with that comes some postseason recognition," former Tolar coach Jeremy Mullins said. "Each one of them is well-deserved, and I would argue they missed a few, as well."

GRANBURY BOYS BASKETBALL

The Pirates (21-11) ended their season with a 65-49 loss to Everman in their 5A bidistrict game at Cleburne High School Feb. 20. It was the final game of coach David Breazeale's career as he announced his retirement.

Breazeale came to Granbury in the 2010-11 season. He led the Pirates to their first playoff appearance in 13 seasons in 2012-13, followed by postseason

berths in 2015-16, 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Daylon Webb paced Granbury with 20 points, Kensington Colston scored 11 and Dylon Couto scored eight.

The Pirates defeated Aledo 58-56 in a game at Weatherford to finish third in District 5-5A. The teams finished the regular season tied for third place and split their league games.

Granbury was led by Colston with 29 points, while Webb scored 12 and Isaiah Trejo tallied nine.

GRANBURY GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Pirates' season came to an end with a 42-31 loss to Denton Ryan Feb. 16 at Chisholm Trail High School. It's the fourth straight season Granbury (21-13) has advanced to the second round of the Class 5A playoffs.

The Lady Pirates were led by Ella Garner with 12 points in her final game as a Lady Pirate, with Kate Hamlin adding 10.

"This team really came together and had a great season," coach Alan Thorpe said. "Most of the season was a learning experience for a very young team. Senior leadership was very important for their development."

TOLAR GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Lady Rattlers (22-11) concluded their season in the second round of the Class 2A playoffs with a 46-29 loss to Cisco at Weatherford High School Feb. 16.

Leading the Lady Rattlers were Senne Imel with 15 points and Jaycee Jones with 10.

"These girls have battled every time they step on the floor, and as a coach, what more can you ask for?" coach Ericka Halfmann said. "They embodied everything that we asked of them, to be relentless."

Halfmann noted her

team's record is deceiving because it includes losses to Lipan (No. 1 in state in 2A, twice), Cisco (No. 15 in 2A, twice), Comanche (No. 13 in 3A, twice), Lubbock Christian (No. 1 in TAPPS 3A) and Eula (No. 4 in 1A)

LIPAN GIRLS BASKETBALL

The top-ranked and defending state champion Lady Indians advanced to the third round of the Class 2A playoffs with a 58-29 victory against Haskell Feb. 15 in Clyde.

Lipan (32-3) got 16 points from both Hanna Gaylor and Ashlyn Clark, with Olivia Benitez adding nine.

That was followed with a 44-27 win against Hamilton as Gaylor scored 15, while Clark and Kynzi Callaway each scored eight.

The Lady Indians were playing Collinsville (13-10) in the Region II semifinal at McKinney North High School at press time. The winner faces the winner between Nocona (32-3) and Muenster (29-6) at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 for the right to advance to state in San Antonio next weekend.

TOLAR BOYS BASKETBALL

The Rattlers (17-16) moved on to the second round of the Class 2A playoffs by topping Itasca 52-51 in their bidistrict game in Glen Rose Feb. 19. Tolar's Merritt Imel made a pair of free throws with one second left in the game.

Matthew Behrens led Tolar with 21 points, while Imel scored 14.

The Rattlers, No. 23 in the state, were playing No. 9 Nocona at press time at Springtown High School in the second round.

LIPAN BOYS BASKETBALL

The Indians (29-4), No. 1 in the state and defending state champions, made short work of Hamilton in their Class 2A bidistrict game Feb. 19, winning 59-39. Darius Steed scored 18 points to pace

Lipan, while Court Gaylor added 16.

The Indians advanced to face Albany in the area round at press time in Graham.

GRANBURY BOYS SOCCER

The Pirates (8-8, 1-6 in 5-5A) fell 4-0 at Aledo Feb. 16 and 6-1 to Brewer at home Feb. 20.

Scoring against Brewer was Robby Castaneda on a penalty kick.

The Pirates and Lady Pirates were playing at Azle at press time and host Wichita Falls Rider March 1. The girls begin at 5:30 p.m. and the boys at 7:30 p.m.

GRANBURY GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Pirates (7-8, 2-5 in 5-5A) dropped a 5-3 contest against Aledo on the road Feb. 16, followed by a shootout win at home against Brewer Feb. 20 after the teams ended regulation tied at 1.

Two Lady Pirate goals against Aledo came from Emery Kirby, with Dominique Callahan also scoring, with assists from Tessa Rholeder and Addison Clark. Against Brewer, Braelynn Desormeaux had the regulation goal and Kirby had the assist. Presley Davila scored the game-winner in the shootout.

GRANBURY SOFTBALL

The Lady Pirates (3-4) played in the Forney Tournament this past weekend and capped their performance with a 14-0 no-hit pitching victory by Allison Dafoe against Longview. She struck out eight and walked one in four innings.

The Lady Pirates got a pair of doubles from Karmyn Williams with three RBIs, while Carli Carlton had a double, two walks, one RBI and two stolen bases. Rachel Venable also doubled and walked.

Granbury 3, New Diana 1: Hitting leader: Preslee Carnes, two triples, one RBI.

Pitching leader: Dafoe, six innings, five hits, one earned run, seven strikeouts, no walks.

Mount Pleasant 7, Granbury 1: Hitting leader: Carnes, two hits, triple.

Van 3, Granbury 2: Hitting leaders: Carnes, double, one RBI; Harley Price, double.

Plano John Paul II 4, Granbury 1: Hitting leader: Williams, three hits.

Granbury returned home Feb. 20 and lost 6-5 to Blooming Grove. Williams had two hits, including a double, with three RBIs, while Carnes doubled and walked. Dafoe pitched seven innings, gave up 10 hits, six earned runs, struck out 12 and walked two.

The Lady Pirates were playing in the Mansfield Tournament at press time and are in the Ellis County Tournament in Red Oak Feb. 29-March 2.

TOLAR SOFTBALL

The Lady Rattlers (4-1) won the Rio Vista Tournament this past weekend.

Tolar 7, Axtell 5: Hitting leaders: Jaylyn Miller, two hits, walk, RBI; Allyson Dobbs, double, three RBIs.

Tolar 6, Rio Vista 3: Hitting leaders: Kanyon Deaver, two hits; Jorgia Reed, home run, three RBIs. Pitching leader: Reese Tryon, four innings, three hits, no earned runs, nine strikeouts, one walk.

Tolar 7, Texas Wind 2: Hitting leaders: Miller, two hits, walk, RBI; Dobbs, two hits, double, walk, two RBIs; Tryon, one hit, two walks, three RBIs. Pitching leader: Lillie Useton, three innings, two hits, two earned runs, three strikeouts, two walks.

Tolar 11, Abbott 5: Hitting leaders: Tryon, two doubles, one triple, three RBIs; Miller, two hits; Deaver, two hits, double, two RBIs; Dobbs, two hits, home run, walk, two RBIs. Pitching leader: Useton, 3.2 innings, six hits, two earned runs, five strikeouts, three walks.

The Lady Rattlers were

playing in the Fort Worth Country Day Tournament at press time and will play in the Eula Tournament Feb. 29-March 2.

GRANBURY TRACK

The Pirates and Lady Pirates competed in the Weatherford Kangaroo Relays Feb. 15. Top performances were from:

Girls
100-meter hurdles: 4. Elyse Jernigan, 18.57.
300 hurdles: 5. Jernigan, 51.60.
High jump: 4. Blakely Bleeker, 5-02; 5. Remi Chastain, 5-0.
Long jump: 5. Kylie Moody, 15-0.
Shot put: 5. Rachael Venable, 27-07.5.
Discus: 3. Venable, 88-06.
Boys
800: 5. Alec Wilkinson, 2:05.71.
1600: 3. Jaxon Glenn, 4:41.60.
3200: 1. Glenn, 9:57.58; 5. Aidan Turpin, 10:31.72.
400 relay: 3. Caden Davis, Elijah Johnson, Jadon Rogers, Kaleb Johnson, 43.00.
High jump: 2. Johnston, 6-0.
Discus: 4. Chase Cantrell, 128-07.5.

Granbury was competing at Brock at press time and travels to Azle Feb. 29.

GRANBURY GIRLS POWERLIFTING

The Lady Pirates placed second at the district powerlifting meet Feb. 16. Estrella Diaz and Kathryn Goodner each placed first and have now won all four meets this season. Also placing were Deysi Villegas, second; Sharai Rosas, third; Taylor Dawley and Bella Garcia, third; Taylor Dawley and Bella Garcia, fourth; and Jessica Aguado and Harmon Burns, fifth.

The complete list of regional qualifiers is due out this week. The regional meet is March 2 in Elgin.



COURTESY PHOTO
Matthew Behrens # 20 - Senior



COURTESY PHOTO
Garrison Nation # 32 - Senior



COURTESY PHOTO
Isaac Blessing # 8 - Senior



COURTESY PHOTO
Jaxon Riddle # 11 - Junior



COURTESY PHOTO
Drake Owens # 33 - Junior



COURTESY PHOTO
Clayton Stembbridge # 10 - Senior

Tolar Rattlers all-state players





COURTESY PHOTO
Cash Clark # 70 - Junior



COURTESY PHOTO
Cutter Cain # 77 - Junior

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Daniel throws 11th no hitter in program history, Texans sweep games against Buffalo, MVSU



Kendall Daniel pitched a no hitter in the 9-0 win over Mississippi Valley State Feb. 18, the first freshman since 1997 to do so.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Can you talk about a better home debut than ending it with a no-hitter? Kendall Daniel did just that in the 9-0 win over Mississippi Valley State Feb. 18, the first freshman since 1997 to do so.

The feat marks just the second freshman to ever toss a no-hitter in program history. The first was Caryn Holbrook, who tossed a per-

fect game in Tarleton's second year as a program March 29, 1997, in Stephenville vs. Eastern New Mexico. It was a 14-0 (5) win.

"Kendall is getting back in the swing of things and is really doing a great job in the circle for us," said head coach Mark Cumpian. "I was glad to see her throw a no-hitter today. All her hard work is paying off."

Hannah Blincoe earned her second win of the season

moving to 2-0 on the season in the Texans' 3-2 win over Buffalo. She earned her first win in the Texans' 5-2 victory over Idaho State Friday night.

The Texans are now 14-1 in the past three Whataburger Invationals.

"Overall, I thought it was a good weekend for us," said Cumpian. "We are starting to get in the groove of things and that's all you can ask for this early in the season.

I thought our pitchers did a better job of pounding the zone with strikes this weekend which is big. Our hitters need to be a little more disciplined in the box, but we will adjust next week as we head to Commerce."

Tarleton State 3 Buffalo 2

The Texans opened up their first of two games Sunday vs. Buffalo going up 1-0 in the first inning. Brady Rowland hit a sacrifice fly to left field scoring Jordan Dickerson who reached base with a single to center.

Buffalo responded in the top of the second with two runs off a double from Alyssa Wasielewski.

The Texans tied things up at two in the bottom half of the third when Dickerson scored on a wild pitch.

Both offenses went cold until the bottom of the sixth when Tarleton State plated the go-ahead and eventual game-winning run. Hayden Fox pinch hit for fellow sophomore Hannah Reed, hitting a sacrifice fly to right field scoring Tristyn Trull and putting the Texans up 3-2. This marked Fox's first RBI of the season and the second of her young career with the Purple and White.

Blincoe went the distance this time, giving up two runs on five hits and striking out four. Her four strikeouts mark her new-season high in her first season as a Texan and matches her career-high that was set against Texas A&M March 1, 2023, during her time with Houston.

Tarleton State 9 MVSU 0

Daniel was the star of the show in the Texans' final game of the 2024 Whataburger Invitational, throwing her first collegiate no-hitter in her home debut at the Tarleton Softball Complex.

She faced just two batters over the minimum, walking two on the day. She also struck out two on the day. Her no-hitter comes just 22 months after near-fatal car accident in April of her senior year of high school.

The Texans gave Daniel plenty of run support on the day, but she didn't need any of it.

Tarleton State got the scoring started early when Rowland singled to left, scoring Kelci Hill and Kayla Wallace and putting the Purple and White up 2-0. This marked the first of three times Wallace crossed

the plate for the Texans.

In the bottom of the second the runs kept coming when Wallace blasted a sky-high three-run shot over the right field wall, putting the Texans up 5-0. Wallace collected her first three RBIs of the day driving in Dickerson and Ashlee LaRue.

Things were quiet for both teams in the third before the Texans put up a four spot in the bottom of the fourth, putting the game in run-rule territory.

Wallace once again hit a homer over the right field wall, this time a line drive out of the Tarleton Softball Complex. She drove in Dickerson and LaRue once again, collecting her fourth, fifth and sixth RBI of the day.

The final run for the Texans came from a sacrifice fly off the bat of Kalyn Hill, scoring her sister Kelci.

The Delta Devilettes' final hope to keep things going in the top of the fifth didn't go as planned as they were retired in order. The final out of the game was only fitting as it was a grounder back to Daniel in the circle who threw out the runner at first securing the no-hitter for the redshirt freshman.

Texans claim 1st win under Fuller Smith in season opener at Southeastern Louisiana

Tarleton State University

HAMMOND, La. – Tarleton State Baseball took its first season-opening win in the last five years with a 9-4 win Friday, Feb. 16 at Southeastern Louisiana.

Tarleton State (1-0, 0-0 WAC) tallied nine runs in the first game of the series against Southeastern Louisiana (0-1, 0-0 SLC), with seven runs coming in the fifth inning alone.

A breakout fifth inning from the Texans paired with a strong relief pitcher found in Grant Garza sealed the deal for game one of the series. Tarleton State managed to pull off a seven-run inning, six of those runs with two outs on the board.

Garza pitched 5.2 innings allowing only three hits and one run to take the first win of the season. The right-handed pitcher surpassed his career high in innings pitched (4.1) from the 2023 season April 7 against Stephen F. Austin.

A single from Cole Mears ignited an electric fifth inning for Tarleton State. With

Mears on second and Cris Enriquez on first, a wild pitch saw both runners advance with two outs on the board. Austin Russell doubled to left center to bring in another run for the Purple and White. The next four balls saw Kooper Shook take first base, loading the diamond for the Texans. Hits from Mason Crews, Jordan Andrade and Trace Morrison tallied the next four runs. Morrison crossed home after scoring on a wild pitch to see a 9-2 score in favor of Tarleton State. The fifth inning saw seven runs, five hits, one error and no Texans left on base.

Tarleton State tallied nine runs, 10 hits, seven RBI and no errors overall. SLU compiled four runs, nine hits, and four RBIs, as well as four errors. Four Texans claimed doubles including Enriquez, Russell, Shook and Crews. Ike Shirey earned the only stolen base of the evening.

Morrison opened the year at the plate for the Purple and White with a walk. With three runners on, Enriquez

plated Morrison with a sacrifice fly for the first RBI of the season for Tarleton State.

Piercen McElyea started the game for the Texans where he remained on the mound for 1.1 innings giving up four hits and one run but leading the Purple and White with two strikeouts.

In the top of the second, Shook doubled to right field and advanced to third after a grounded out from Crews. The second out of the inning came from Andrade at first base but saw Shook cross home plate to retake the lead for Tarleton State.

McElyea saw one final out for the Purple and White in the bottom of the second after the Lions' Jude Hall struck out swinging. Garza took the mound for the Texans seeing two back-to-back outs to close out the inning, leaving two Lions on base.

Gray Rowlett opened the fourth inning for SLU with a home run to left center to tie the score at 2-2, but three consecutive outs followed to see the end of the frame.



Tarleton State Baseball took its first season-opening win in the last five years with a 9-4 win Friday, Feb. 16 at Southeastern Louisiana.

The bottom of the eighth saw Zach Poe out of the bullpen to take over for Garza. The Lions tallied one run in the eighth to close the deficit to six runs.

Poe saw 1.0 innings with one hit, one run, and one hit by pitch to close out his time on the mound. With Tanner

Carter taking the reins from Poe, SLU's Jude Hall cranked a homer to right center to add the final run for the Lions. The green and gold had one runner on but a final fly out to center field closed out the game for a 9-4 final in favor of Tarleton State.

Crews went 3-4 on the eve-

ning with one double and an RBI.

Carter pitched 1.0 innings, giving up one hit and one run.

Aiden Vosburg took the loss for SLU, pitching 1.2 innings, giving up six runs on five hits, and two walks, with four strikeouts.

Tarleton State to construct new residence hall, expand Dick Smith Library

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — A new residence hall and expansion to the Dick Smith Library were each approved for Tarleton State University by the Texas A&M System board of regents.

Substantial growth in the student population over

recent years served as a catalyst for the two projects.

"As we strive to maintain Tarleton State as a first-choice destination, building up our residence hall capacity and providing additional academic resources for all to utilize is paramount," said Tarleton State President Dr.

James Hurley. "These two new spaces will help to further enhance the university experience for our Texans."

With today's approval by the regents, planning for the new \$120 million residence hall can now move into the design phase this spring, with a 2025 goal set for the

start of construction.

Multiple styles of rooms are expected to be included with approximately 1,000 beds. Upon project completion, 12 on-campus housing options will be available to students. Additionally, the university is updating its campus master plan to in-

clude up to 3,000 additional beds in the coming years.

Construction on the Dick Smith Library expansion is scheduled to begin later this spring. The additional space will total around 10,000 square feet.

The expansion will be a 24/7 space dedicated for

student use. Individual study rooms, collaborative study rooms, instructional space, meeting rooms and multi-purpose space are all slated to be included.

A prominent entrance to the library building from Texan Trace will also now be available from the west side.



WANT MORE?
FOR THE LATEST TARLETON SPORTS ACTION
OR TO BUY GAME TICKETS, VISIT
TARLETONSPORTS.COM



Granbury ISD sees noteworthy success across the district

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

During a regularly scheduled school board meeting Feb. 12, Assistant Superintendent Tammy Clark presented the district's academic performance report, which shows much success across the board.

This comes after the Texas Academic Progress Report (TAPR) for 2022-23 numbers were released. GISD was given a B rating on the A through F rating system by the Texas Education Agency. The rating focuses on three different areas of the district including student achievement, school progress and closing the gaps. Student achievement measures whether students met expectations on the STAAR test. It also measures graduation rates and how prepared students are for

success after high school. In this area, GISD scored an 83. School progress shows how students perform over time and compares the district's performance to others with similar student populations. GISD earned a score of 83 in school progress, as well. Closing the gaps shows how well a district is ensuring that all student groups are successful across the board; this was GISD's weakest area with a score of 78. There were no schools in the district that were rated a D or an F.

GISD ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

For the third, fourth and fifth-grade levels, GISD students are above both the Region 11 and state averages in "passing percentages" and "masters grade level" rates in reading, mathematics and science subjects. Sixth

grade students are above the region and state averages in both "passing percentages" and "masters grade level." In sixth grade mathematics, GISD is at 39%, below the regional average of 42%. Seventh grade reading fell slightly below the region averages in "meets grade level" by 2% and "masters grade level" by 3%. Seventh grade mathematics rose above both the district and state levels as did eighth grade reading but saw a lower percentage of "meets grade level" for 2022 in mathematics as well as "masters grade level" for both 2022 and 2023. Students scored at about the regional and state levels for eighth grade science and social studies.

High school students are required to take end of course tests, including English 1 and 2, algebra, biology and history. Both the English 1 and 2 subjects

were successful for GISD students as were algebra, biology and history.

"We absolutely are outperforming the state and region in elementary, middle and high school in passing percentages for most of our academic areas," Clark said during the meeting. "It's really nice to see that with the new testing format, we're still outperforming our counterparts."

Clark also highlighted the area of the emerging bilingual population, which is both growing and still seeing high improvements in passing rates. She added that GISD students are performing better on the SATs and ACTs; the average SAT score for the state is 1001, while GISD's is 1108. The state average for the ACT is 19.5; GISD's average is 22.5. GISD AP exam results were also higher than the counterparts at the state level.

Some areas of improvement include the graduation rate for career and military readiness (CCMR) as well as dual credit course completion.

"Every single one of the campuses really highlighted that they were working on individualized instruction, and really pushing every kid forward on those growth measures," Clark said.

ATTENDANCE/GRADUATION/DROPOUT RATES

According to Clark, attendance numbers are on the rise and getting closer to pre-COVID 19 numbers, but this is a continued area of focus for the district. The district also has higher graduation rates compared with both the region and state. Dropout numbers are lower compared to the region and state levels.

SAFETY IN SCHOOLS

Three incidents that violated the Safe Schools Act were noted: a felony controlled substance instance on campus, and two separate prohibited weapons on campus. Clark said the majority of disciplinary actions fell under the federal student code of conduct such as dress code-related issues.

"We are seeing rising levels of vaping and controlled substance use on campuses and that is part of our discipline that we are trying to tackle at this time, mostly at the secondary level," Clark said.

There has been an increase in safety and security since the district added a floating marshal as well as a second marshal at each of the middle schools.

To view the entire report in full or to look at each individual campus, visit the GISD website at granburyisd.org.

HOOD OUTDOORS

On-the-water myths and superstitions — true or not?



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.

Last Monday morning as I was heading out before sunup, you could see the red sun in the morning which always has me thinking of that old saying: "Red sky at night, sailor's delight. Red sky at morning, sailor take warning." Well luckily I was not heading out on the water that morning.

When thinking of what to write about this week, this sounded like a great subject namely on the water myths and superstitions. There are a lot of them, and I will try to cover a few herein. Some have some truth or history associated with them, but most have no basis. Many of these myths arise from sailors and fishermen in the past that had so many factors on the water that they could not control such as weather, fish migrations, illness, and whether they caught fish or not.

The first one to come to mind is "Winds out of the east, fish bite the least, winds out of the west, fish bite the best, winds from the north do not venture forth and wind from the south blows the bait into the fish's mouth". This saying has some merit, as north and easterly flows (high pressure) do not bring on preferred feeding conditions as does west or southerly flows

(lower pressure). However, I have had some great days with winds out of the east.

Don't bring bananas on the boat is another well-known myth. Since the 1700's, it has been widely believed that having bananas on board was an omen of disaster.

In the 1700's it was noted that nearly every ship that disappeared at sea was carrying a cargo of bananas. One explanation for the banana superstition is that bananas fermented and gave off methane gas which could have produced lethal atmospheres below deck. Slaves and hands could have perished in this methane atmosphere. Another fact is that a lethal species of spider is known to hide in bunches of bananas. Crewmen suddenly dying due to these spider bites would certainly bring on this fear.

Another well known myth is "Having a woman on board is bad luck". It was believed that having a woman on board the ship makes the seas angry and is an omen of bad luck for everyone aboard. This came about from the belief that women were not as physically or emotionally capable as men and they should not be at seas. Of course, men were prone to distraction or other vices that may take them

away from their duties.

On the other hand, having a "naked" woman on board would calm the sea. This is why many ships had a figure of a woman on the bow of the ship. This figure almost always was bare-breasted because it was believed that a woman's bare breasts would "shame" the stormy seas into calm.

Other myths involve when to start your journey at sea. It was well known that you should not start your journey on a Friday as your luck would be bad and you may be lost at sea. This religious myth comes from the assumption that Christ was crucified on Friday. While Friday may be the worst day to begin your journey, Sunday is suppose to be the best possible day to begin a voyage. This observation is due to Christ's resurrection on a Sunday. Another saying that is derived from this is, "Sunday sail, never fail".

Other myths that are part of our more recent fishing history include: "Don't throw back the first fish as that will ruin your fishing luck for the rest of the day". It is also known that "It is bad luck to catch a fish on the first cast of the day".

Many anglers have a special hat or clothes they must have for luck before they head out. Best not leave anything to chance. Other superstitions may be good practice such as washing your hands after using sunscreen. I like using a spray-on sunscreen so I don't get

the stuff on my hands (my superstition). This practice is not necessarily a superstition. Some scents can turn off the fish.

One of the best-known local superstitions is that if you see the cows in the pastures lying down, don't bother heading out. This comes from the belief that all wildlife tend to feed with the moon phases. If the cows are not feeding then no wildlife or fish are feeding.

These superstitions and myths may make for some interesting reading and some may make some fishing sense on some days. Regardless of the myth, most of us get on the water when we can and put our best foot forward.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

The recent cold snap lowered water temperatures into the low 50s on the main lake. Water temperatures are warmer in the river above Granbury. Water is relatively clear and some floating debris is still present. Striped bass fishing has been hit-and-miss, but some good fish are being caught mid-lake from Indian Harbor to DeCordova on 5-inch soft plastics/swimbait. Sand bass spawn is continuing from Hunter Park upstream. Some good reports coming from near Tin Top. Black bass numbers continue to get better on those warmer days especially on the upper ends or in the backs of major creeks. Soft plastics



COURTESY PHOTO
Ron Davidson, Joey Langdon and Steve Davidson. they enjoyed a day on the water catching striped bass in Granbury as Steve's son Ron was visiting. The Davidson's reside in Pecan Plantation.

on Texas/Carolina rigs may be your best choice. Crappie reports continue to be scattered; however the majority of the fish are still on deeper structure and can be taken on small minnows or jigs. Big blue and yellow cat reports have slowed some, but your best chance for a huge catfish is on the upper ends by Hunter Park using cut bait. Comanche Creek (former-

ly Squaw Creek) continues to draw in those black bass anglers due to the water temperatures in this power plant lake. The largemouth are good in numbers with a lot of fish in the 3- to 6-pound range. Eater-sized channel catfish continue to be excellent on prepared baits. Limits of these channel catfish are common.

Find us on Facebook.

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

facebook.com/hcnews

HCNEWS.COM

SUDOKU
Solution for the puzzle on Feb. 17 (Puzzle 70).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

WEST BLUFF DENTAL CARE

One Trusted Office For All Your Dental Needs

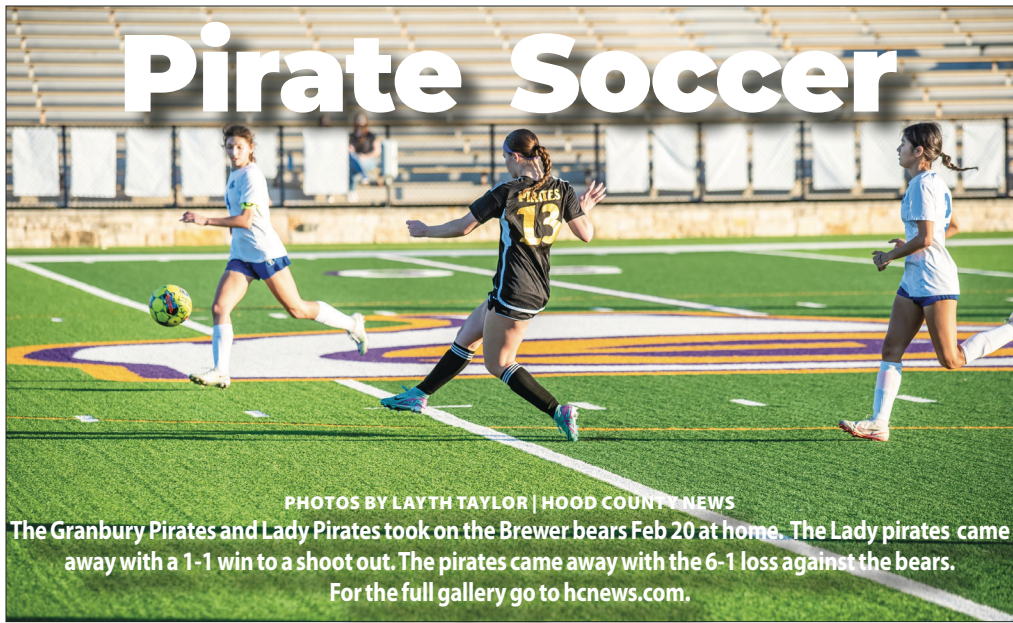
Dr. Smith & Dr. Fisher can now digitally fabricate your crowns and veneers in ONE VISIT! You can be in and out the door in about 2 hours with your new crown securely in place and worry free!

THE Best of Hood County HCNews 2023 RUNNER-UP

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

CONTACT US TODAY TO LEARN ABOUT OUR NEW PATIENT SPECIALS!

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



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
The Granbury Pirates and Lady Pirates took on the Brewer bears Feb 20 at home. The Lady pirates came away with a 1-1 win to a shoot out. The pirates came away with the 6-1 loss against the bears. For the full gallery go to hcnews.com.



DECA

FROM PAGE B1

and places. But if you walk in with a little swagger, they will never catch on that you don't know what you're doing. So we called it our 'Pirate Swagger' and it just stuck. Granbury walks with a confidence and sense of professionalism like no other chapter that just stands out and it's working so far."

In 2023, The Anchor Store at Granbury High School earned its gold-level certi-

fication as a School Based Enterprise (SBE) from the national DECA office, which is good for five years. The certification is earned by submitting a written 50-page paper covering topics like finance, human resources and promotion that are applied to a student-led enterprise. Students must also submit documentation detailing whether they are a food or retail-based enterprise — The Anchor Store is a food-based enterprise with over 80% of the products sold

being snacks and drinks. Each year, The Anchor must re-submit an updated, detailed financial report to keep its certification in good standing.

At the international competition, two crew members from the store will attend a special SBE networking session and then compete against other SBEs in the food operations category. They will present on operations and finance of the store to earn their spot as of the top SBEs in the nation.

DECA offers active chapter members seats at four various academies hosted during the competition. Students are invited to attend these three-day conferences to work on leadership, networking and personal branding skills. Chapters earn the seats by completing challenges set forth by the national office in areas such as growing membership, promoting the chapter in the community, and completing community service campaigns. Granbury earned six

potential seats and is awaiting invitations of acceptance to the academies.

GHS also earned its first-ever Century Chapter recognition, turning in a final roster count of more than 100 members. When the chapter first began, it had 16 members.

Peterson reflected on some of her favorite moments from competition and shared what she loves the most, "At state, I get the opportunity to walk some of the competitors to their

event and then wait for them to walk out of their presentations. When they turn that corner and I see that smile going ear-to-ear feeling confident about their performance, it's one of the most favorite things about my job. That confidence they exude is priceless. I also love seeing how the chapter comes together especially during state. You don't always know each other or have classes together, but the time spent together creates a small family," Peterson shared.

HGN Junior



February 24, 2024

The Floating Lantern Festival, set to enchant the night skies on February 24, 2024, is a mesmerizing celebration that combines tradition, wishes, and the magical glow of lanterns. Originating in different cultures around the world, this festival has become a symbol of hope, unity, and the beauty of dreams taking flight.

Imagine a night where the air is filled with the soft glow of countless lanterns floating peacefully above. The Floating Lantern Festival, also known as the Yi Peng Lantern

Festival in some regions, invites people to release lanterns into the night sky, each carrying their hopes and aspirations.

Kids can participate in this captivating event by crafting their lanterns, decorating them with vibrant colors and heartfelt messages. It's a chance to express dreams and send positive vibes into the universe. Families often come together to share this experience, creating a sense of connection and shared wishes.

The lanterns are typically made of lightweight materials like paper or fabric, and they are fueled by small flames, creating a serene and magical atmosphere as they ascend into the night. This visual spectacle is not just a feast for the eyes; it's a moment of reflection and shared optimism.

Floating Lantern Festivals are held in different parts of the world, each with its unique cultural touch. In some places, lanterns are released onto bodies of water, symbolizing the flow of life and the unity of people. In others, they take to the skies like a constellation of wishes, lighting up the darkness.

Teachers might incorporate the Floating Lantern Festival into their lesson plans, exploring the cultural significance of the event and encouraging kids to reflect on their dreams and aspirations. The festival's beauty lies not only in the illuminated night sky but in the collective spirit of hope and positivity that it fosters.

So, on February 24, 2024, kids and families can prepare their lanterns, gather under the open sky, and release their dreams into the night, contributing to a celestial display that transcends borders and connects hearts around the world. It's a celebration of light, love, and the limitless possibilities that float on the wings of dreams.

Did You Know?

Zhuge Liang made the first Sky Lantern out of an oiled based rice paper and bamboo frame. This carried a small candle. Khoom Fay or Sky Lanterns were used in battles to signal to others that one was in danger.



COLOR Time



As the flame heats the air inside of the lantern, its density is lowered causing the lantern to rise.



STUDENT OF THE MONTH
Student: Gavin Chernenko
Instrument: Percussion
How Long: 1.5 Years



2901 Glen Rose Hwy, Ste. 105 | 817-776-6459 | SparksMusicSchool.com | hello@sparksmusicschool.com

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Student: Landon Chernenko
Instrument: Voice
How Long: 1.5 Years



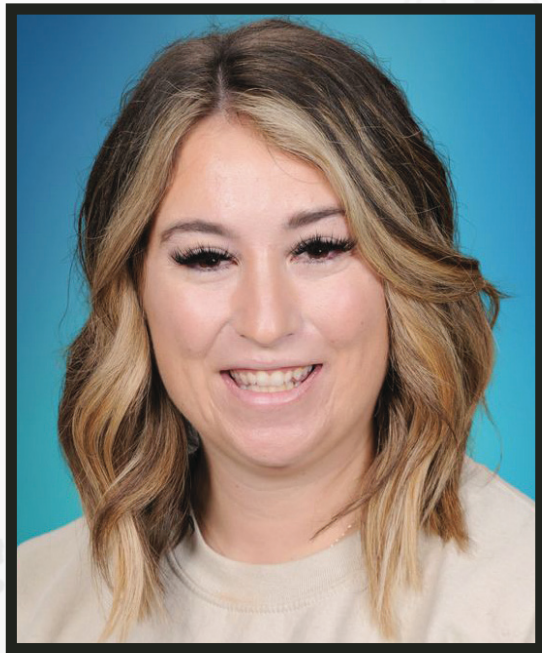


VAN GRIFFITH KIA

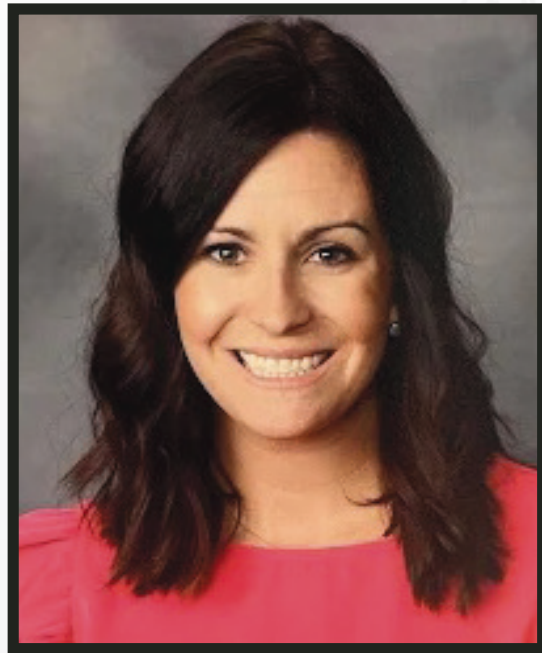


Teacher of the Month

January



Amber Procter
Lipan Middle School



Sadie Johnson
Lipan Elementary School

Thanks to our sponsors for supporting our teachers and our schools!





Handsome Hunks 'cut loose' for Ruth's Place fundraiser

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Handsome Hunks contestants kicked off their Sunday shoes during their group dance to "Footloose" Feb. 15, as they raised a total of \$98,657.15 — which included a \$10,000 donation — for Ruth's Place.

Featuring a stand-up comedy routine and lip sync and dance performances, each contestant took their turn onstage as they attempted to impress both the public and the judges for the official 2024 Handsome Hunks title.

Many Hunks got creative with their bribery, as they gifted the judges everything from roses to cowgirl hats.

But there was one Hunk who claimed the official title with his quick-change performance from a doctor to a rocker: Darren Rape.

Second place went to Chris Hammar and son, Finn, with their multiple-song dance routine, while third place was awarded to Josh Winters, who walked out into the crowd during his song to pour a small sampling of wine into attendees' glasses.

"What a night it was! We are so grateful for the support shown by our community," Ruth's Place Executive Director Kristin Billington told the Hood County News. "The Hunks worked hard learning the "Footloose" dance, their individual performances, and spreading the word about Ruth's Place. These men truly care about making a difference in Hood County."

Billington said the con-

testants not only supported Ruth's Place, but they supported each other during the competition.

"That was a really cool evolution I'm glad I got to see," she said. "They went from 10 strangers to working the crowd while their 'competition' was on stage, making sure the crowd stayed engaged and each Hunk felt supported."

While Rape was crowned the official Handsome Hunk by the judges, there was one special Hunk who took home the People's Choice Award, as he raised the most money individually for the fundraiser — and that Handsome Hunk is Gouda from Second Chance Farm.

Gouda is a 4-month-old Cane Corso puppy who allegedly had his nose bitten off by a larger dog. He was taken in by Sandi Walker, founder of Second Chance Farm, a nonprofit organization that serves as a special needs animal rescue and rehab.

"Second Chance Farm has been involved in the Handsome Hunks of Hood County previously," Billington said. "I reached out to Sandi to ask if she would like to bring one of their dogs to walk the stage and auction a tour of the farm. Sandi agreed and Gouda made the Handsome Hunks step up their game! Second Chance Farm has a large social media following and Gouda is just so precious, he took the lead in the People's Choice competition in no time. Sandi believes in the work we do at Ruth's Place and really got their followers engaged in helping



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hunks worked hard learning the "Footloose" dance, their individual performances, and spreading the word about Ruth's Place.

Gouda win for a great cause."

Following behind Gouda for the People's Choice Award in second place was Dr. Romeo Bachand with Hammar coming in third.

Handsome Hunks was created in 2010 to serve as a fundraiser for Ruth's Place, a nonprofit organization that provides high quality health care and social services to uninsured Hood County residents.

"All of the proceeds go to Ruth's Place," Billington said, in a previous interview with

the HCN. "Any Hood County resident that does not have health insurance can come to Ruth's Place. All you have to do is fill out an application, show proof of residency — which is any piece of mail with your name and address on it proving that you live in Hood County — and then we need a copy of your driver's license. That's it. We do ask for donations from our patients. If they can donate for the services they receive, great. We don't put a number on it. If you can donate,

please do. If not, we get it."

Billington said in 2023, the number of new patients seen at Ruth's Place increased by 128% from 2022. Additionally, there were 1,837 patient encounters in total — an 11% increase from 2022.

"In 2023 we spent an average of \$4,917 per month on lab tests, imaging, pathology, etc. needed to treat our patients," Billington said. "We have a lot going on, but this money is super important for us to continue what

we do."

The Ruth's Place Clinic is located at 1411 Crawford Ave., while the Ruth's Place Community Outreach Center is in Oak Trail Shores at 2723 Maplewood St.

"I want to thank every person involved in making this event happen," Billington added. "We could not have pulled this off without their expertise and experience!"

For more information about Ruth's Place, visit ruthsplace.wixsite.com/ruthsplace online.

Hop on over to D'Vine Wine's Leap Year Party Feb. 29

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Feb. 29 only comes once every four years, so why not spend that extra day this month partying with D'Vine Wine?

For the first time ever, D'Vine Wine is hosting a Sip and Support Leap Year Party from 5-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 29, with 20% of all proceeds benefiting Rancho Brazos Community Centers (RBCC).

"Once every four years? You can't beat that," Jamie Franco, RBCC marketing and events director, told the Hood County News. "We're closing down the street and it looks like we're going to have great

weather. It's going to be lots of fun."

The event will feature live music by the Mysterious Scoundrels, light appetizers and wine, along with a wide variety of door prizes.

For just \$5 a ticket — or five for \$20 — attendees could win everything from a golf outing and a bottle of bourbon whiskey to an insulated wine purse.

The drawing for the door prizes will start at 7 p.m. and winners do not have to be present to win.

RBCC board member Cheshe Langford explained the event will serve as an engaging way to bring people together and will foster a sense of community while contrib-

uting to the well-being and development of the children and families that Rancho Brazos serves.

"The primary goal of our Sip and Support for Rancho Brazos Community Center is to raise crucial funds for the nonprofit, ensuring continued support for kids in the community," Langford said.

While Franco said RBCC hasn't officially designated where the funds from this event will be used, she explained that many of the programs — like the after-school program, Parent Cafes, STEM and Chopped — are in desperate need of funding.

"I would love to raise \$6,000, but we'll see what

happens," she said. "I'd love to have tons of people there and that way, we can make a lot more money. It's a free event. There's no price. Just come and go as you want and help us support Rancho."

Pertaining to the "leap year" theme, Franco said attendees will be able to play frog-themed games, like tidlywinks and Hungry Hungry Hippos — but with frogs instead of hippos.

"We'll have that as something fun for people to do," she said. "We're actually going to have a popcorn vendor there, and I think we're also going to have some people selling items. Part of those proceeds will go to us too, so yeah, bring lawn chairs and

we can sit outside and have a good time. The more people who come, the more it's going to help."

While this event will help support many projects at RBCC, Franco said the center will also be hosting other fundraising opportunities throughout the year like Freddy's fundraiser March 13 and the RBCC gala Oct. 24.

"Our building, we're trying to build that, so that's in the works. Hopefully that will be going up soon," she said. "And then our pantry, we always could use stuff for our pantry, so if people want to do a food or a hygiene drive for us, that's always welcomed."

Langford said she is thrilled

about the Leap Year Party at D'Vine Wine because it is a "fantastic opportunity to support a worthy cause and make a positive impact on children."

"The unique concept of celebrating on a leap day adds an extra layer of fun to the event," Langford added.

For more information or to purchase door prize tickets in advance, call Franco at 817-219-8058 or email ranchobrazostickets@gmail.com.

"We hope the community will come out and really support (this event)," Franco added. "D'Vine Wine's really excited about doing this Leap Year Party. It's something different."



COURTESY PHOTO

For the first time ever D'Vine Wine is hosting a Sip & Support Leap Year Party from 5-8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 29, with 20% of all proceeds benefiting Rancho Brazos Community Centers (RBCC).

Second daycare comes to town of Tolar

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

Childcare options have expanded for the town of Tolar with the Feb. 5 opening of Tolar Tots.

After a continuous increase in the Tolar population, Courtney Boggs decided to create a daycare in the town to further serve the community. According to the World Population Review, Tolar has a 2024 population of 1,278 people. Tolar is currently growing at a rate of 7.85% annually and its population has increased by 34.48% since the most recent census, which recorded a population of 951 people in 2020.

Boggs saw an opportunity to purchase the property located at 9010 W. U.S. Highway 377 and decided to bring her vision to life.

Boggs owned and operated an autism treatment center in Fort Worth for 21 years. During the first eight years, the center was a licensed care center for children. She also served as an assistant director at two daycares in the DFW area and has various hours in the classroom.

Boggs earned an associate degree from Weatherford College in early childhood education with additional certification in the infant and toddler track. She is a graduate of Tolar High School and is proud to call herself a Tolar Rattler.

Brandice Hayes serves as assistant director at Tolar Tots and has spent over five

years in childcare along with two years in a special education setting. Hayes expects to obtain a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Western Governors University in about a year. Alongside Boggs and Hayes are staff members with experience ranging from two to 20 years in childcare.

The building is licensed for 77 students and serves students ages 6 weeks to 13 years old. The center has seven classrooms, an indoor playground, a cafeteria and an indoor activity area.

The infant room strives to provide a safe and loving environment with a day filled with stories, music, tummy time and many other learning opportunities.

The toddler room is designed to nurture an environment for growth and exploration with a day of hands-on activities, sensory exploration and beginning curriculum. This curriculum focuses on introducing shapes, colors, nursery rhymes and identifying body parts.

The preschool and pre-k classrooms are designed to prepare children for school. The students will learn skills to allow for easier transition into a more structured environment. The center provides age-appropriate activities to promote self-awareness, problem solving skills, social and emotional development, emergent literacy skills along with others aligning with the Texas Education Agency Guidelines.



The building is licensed for 77 students and serves students ages 6 weeks to 13 years old.

COURTESY PHOTO

"We plan to follow the standards of the Texas Rising Star, with a child to teacher ratio of four to one for infants, five to one for toddlers, six to one for 2-year-olds, eight to one for 3-year-olds, nine to one for preschoolers, and 11 to one for schoolers," Boggs said. "Not only have we begun the process of Texas Rising Star, but we also plan to be a National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) accredited center."

According to the NAEYC, this accreditation is the gold standard for early childhood programs across the country.

Tolar Tots provides a before and after school care program alongside a full summer school program. Children will participate in a variety of age-appropriate activities throughout the day such as art, cooking, outside play, group games and much more. With every student at the center, daily communication logs will be provided to parents.

"Tolar Tots will be able to provide care for the growing population. Our mission is to create a safe and fun learning environment that encourages children to explore their interests and empower critical thinking skills as well

as creativity," Boggs told the HCN. "We strive to create a strong foundation and foster the skills needed to be successful in all they desire in life."

The center offers part- and full-time rates. A child may attend a maximum of 11 hours per day Monday through Friday. Tuition is due weekly regardless of attendance and will be required until the family withdraws with two weeks' notice. A registration fee is billed once a year of \$80. Infant care is \$240 a week, 18- to 23-month-olds are \$225 a week, two-year-olds are \$215 a week, with pre-k costing

\$150 at time of enrollment as a supply fee, and \$195 a week for 3- and 4-year-olds. Before and after school care costs \$100 per week or \$85 a week for after school only, or \$45 for before school only. School break and summer care costs \$160 a week.

All students are accepted and will be required to fill out an enrollment form. For more information about Tolar Tots visit its website at tolartots.com, reach out by email to tolartots@gmail.com, or call 254-835-3050. The center is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.



The toddler room is designed to nurture an environment for growth and exploration with a day of hands-on activities.

COURTESY PHOTO



The preschool and pre-k classrooms are designed to prepare children for school. The students will learn skills to allow for easier transition into a more structured environment.

COURTESY PHOTO

My Fair Lady coming to the Granbury Opera House stage

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

The musical "My Fair Lady" is set to hit the Granbury Opera House stage Feb. 23 in continuation of the Broadway on the Brazos season under the direction of Jarrett Self, assisted by Garrett Hollowell. The story is based on the 1938 film adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's 1913 play and Gabriel Pascal's motion picture "Pygmalion."

The play was turned into a musical film in 1964, adapted from the Broadway musical that starred Rex Harrison and Audrey Hepburn; the film won eight Academy Awards.

The story follows Eliza Doolittle, a rough Cockney girl, with the role shared between Marisa Lynae Hampton and Audrey Randall. Eliza meets Professor Henry Higgins, played by Jake Hamilton, in a garden where she's selling flowers. Her accent keeps her in the lower rungs of Edwardian society. Higgins tells Eliza he can help her speak properly and raise her status to the offer. From this agreement an unlikely friendship begins to grow between Higgins and Eliza.

The rest of the cast features Darren Clark as Col. Pickering, Gavin Clark as Alfred P. Doolittle, Zachary Ketcham as Freddy Eynsford-Hill, Michele Mastick as Mrs. Pearce, John David Dvorak and Mackenna Clark as featured dancers, Hannah Horton as Harry, Jackson Scheer as Jamie, Carson Clay as Professor Zoltan Karpathy, Jennifer Nickell as Mrs. Higgins, Haley Twaddell as Mrs. Eynsford-Hill, Connie Ingram as the maid, and Elija Poole as the valet.

Ashely Green is the musical director working alongside Julia Huggins, choreographer. Tiffany Wynne is the costume designer, and Colton Lively will serve as hair and makeup designer. The scenic designer is Eme Looney and prop master is Benteigh Nesbit. Joseph Pilgrim is the sound designer, whereas Natalis Guess is the lighting designer. The stage manager is Rodney Hudson, assisted by Alvaro Aguilar. "Granbury Theatre Company is so excited to bring the classic musical 'My Fair Lady' to the Granbury Opera House. This production is a testament to the timeless charm and enduring wit of this beloved story, showcasing the incredible talent of our cast, crew and production team," Micky Shearon,

president and managing director of the GTC told the HCN. "'My Fair Lady' not only captures the transformative power of education and the subtle nuances of social class, but also enchants with its memorable music and lyrical brilliance. We invite the community to join us for a night of splendid theatre, as we bring the streets of London to the heart of Texas in what promises to be an unforgettable performance."

The performances will take place at 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays through March 24. Doors open 30 minutes prior to show time with no outside food or drink allowed in the theatre.

Tickets are available through the GTC box office at (817) 579-0952 or online at www.granburytheatrecompany.org. Tickets are \$35 for the floor and \$30 for the balcony. Discounts are available for seniors age 65 and older, active-duty military service members, veterans, children and students. Online and box office processing fees apply.

All sales are final with no refunds or cancellations. Late seating is only allowed at the discretion of the house manager. Camera, video recording and cell phone use is strictly prohibited.

Arts & Letters Bookstore to celebrate 'Dog Man' Day

Submitted Item

Arts & Letters Bookstore will once again celebrate the children's graphic novel series "Dog Man" at the release of its latest installment, "Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder." The release party will take place March 19 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Guests will enjoy activities, special discounts on middle grade books, and treats to take home. Hood County Animal Control will be on hand with some of their dogs available for adoption. If any dog is adopted at the event, Arts & Letters Bookstore will cover the adoption fee.

"Dog Man" is one of our most popular children's series," said store owner Roxanne Laney. "We are ex-

cited to get to celebrate this series once again and get the chance to help some rescue dogs at the same time!"

The event is free, but guests are encouraged to preorder their copy of "Dog Man: The Scarlet Shedder" to ensure one will be available for pick-up on release day. Guests can pre-order the book at www.artsandlettersbooks.com.

Arts & Letters Bookstore is located at 113 E. Bridge St. on the downtown Granbury square. For more information on the bookstore and its events, call the bookstore at 682-936-2824 or follow it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/artsandlettersbooks and Instagram at www.instagram.com/artsandlettersbooks.

I'VE BEEN THINKING

March marches in

CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER



Carol Goodman Heizer is an author who recently moved to Hood County from Louisville, Kentucky. She has had short stories published in eight editions of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. Her column for the Hood County News will appear every two weeks. cgheizer@gmail.com | 502-396-0972

Ask any calendar-minded person to name the third month of the year, and the response will be "March."

However, under the ancient Roman calendar, March (honoring Mars, the Roman god of war) was the first month. The revision came later under the edict of emperor Julius Caesar who decreed that each new year would begin with January.

Although no national holidays occur in March, it is a month filled with many notable occasions, including the following: Texas won independence from Mexico in 1836, inventor Alexander Graham Bell was born in 1847, American football

coach Knute Rockne was born in 1888.

Also in March, Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin in 1794, Julius Caesar was assassinated in 44 B.C., Patrick Henry declared, "Give me liberty, or give me death" in 1775, and German physicist Wilhelm Roentgen (who discovered X-rays) was born in 1845.

Perhaps the most common adage pertaining to March is that "it comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb," referring to the fact that weather at the first of March is usually blustery, windy and cold. But by the end of the month, weather patterns have generally become milder, calmer and

warmer.

Many farmers believe that if rain falls on the first three days of March, crops will be poor. Some farmers believe this so strongly, they will not plant during this time if such weather conditions exist.

Although the violet is the official flower for March, other bits of budding creatures begin to make their presence known. As you begin to watch closely for the first specks of color after a possibly drab winter, have you ever noticed that the first flower on your property somehow seems special, although others soon follow? It is as if that flower shouts, "Hey, I'm here! Let's get growing!"

As the hibernating animals emerge from their winter dens, let each of us take time to enjoy the emerging beauty the earth is producing. Take time to leisurely walk through the area and appreciate

the shades of color as they replace the boring browns and tans.

Take time to sit by quietly moving water and watch a fallen leaf make its way down its watery trail. Or view the stream from differing vantage points and become aware of the varying colors of the water as it makes its way over rocks from different angles.

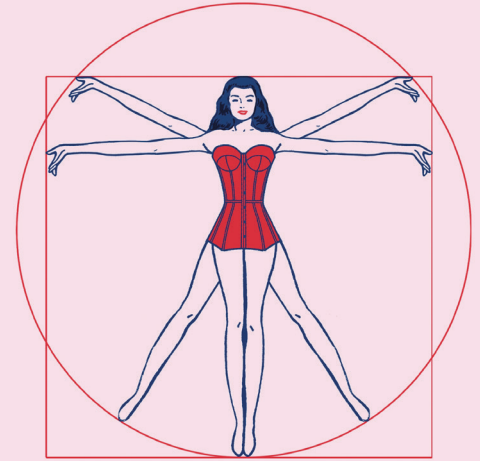
May each of us step back into our childhood and walk in the rain, remembering the thrill of raindrops hitting our face. Remember how much fun it was catching the drops on your tongue?

Many of today's children do not have such experiences, so why not take your child or grandchild out and have the experience together? Do it again and forget about the hair stringing in your face or the wet clothes sticking to your body.

Experience the joy and PLEASE SEE **MARCH** | C6

all in her head

THE TRUTH AND LIES EARLY MEDICINE TAUGHT US ABOUT WOMEN'S BODIES AND WHY IT MATTERS TODAY



elizabeth comen, M.D.

COURTESY PHOTO

"All in Her Head: The Truth and Lies Early Medicine Taught Us about Women's Bodies and Why It Matters Today" by Elizabeth Comen, M.D., C.2024, HARPER WAVE, \$32.00, 368 PAGES

BOOK REVIEW

Ugh, that hurts!

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

It hurts there and over here, the tops of your feet and the side of your knee, behind your eyes and between your shoulder blades. Your heart pounds, your hands shake, and your stomach's rolling like a dice cup. You can't complain, though. As in the new book, "All in Her Head" by Elizabeth Comen, M.D., who'd listen?

The small skeleton, no bigger than that of a five-year-old, dangles by a wire in a museum in Philadelphia, the skull of an infant in its bony hand. The skeleton was once a living person, a dwarf who lived in New Orleans; the skull is that of her infant who died at birth, along with its mother. The large skeleton of the man standing next to them has had a name all along. Only recently did anyone bother to learn the name of the woman.

It was this way for centuries in the U.S.: when medical care was needed, women were ignored, denied, minimized, scoffed at and physically injured. Most of the perpetrators were white men who willfully ignored their own observations, Comen says. They refused to heed what they saw or callously didn't care, in favor of personal gain.

Take, for instance, plastic surgery. Its origins were on the battlefields of the Civil War, to help soldiers disfigured by bullets and cannon balls. Not long after the war, early medical specialists turned their eyes toward women, breast enhancement and rhinoplasty.

Says Comen, "beauty... was in the eye of the beholder — but now, the beholder was holding a scalpel."

In the past, doctors weighed in about fashion, personal morality, what women ate, how they looked and what they did for fun. They believed exercise was bad, and they forced women (but never men) to prove their gender in competition. They treated women like men in cardiac issues; promoted cigarettes to women for weight loss; and one doctor, under the belief they didn't require it, did intimate surgery on enslaved women without anesthesia...

Imagine for a minute that you were able to brush away all the cringe-worthiness that's inside this book. Imagine

PLEASE SEE **BOOK** | C6

GAME ON

Games I'm really looking forward to

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.

South of Midnight, Mouse and World of Goo 2

Just like the movies, the gaming industry has its own trailers, and works to create a lot of buzz for anticipated games. There's more of an appetite for individual game designers who aren't part of a large corporation, especially with the inconsistent quality of large game studios.

South of Midnight Compulsion Games (We Happy Few, Contact) has this currently in development, but there's no planned release date.

From the SteamOS page: "South of Midnight is a new action-adventure from Compulsion Games. Explore the myths and confront mysterious creatures of the Deep South in this modern folktale while learning to weave an ancient power to surmount obstacles and

face the pain haunting your hometown." The protagonist, Hazel, sets off on a journey to repair a broken world by taking on mythical creatures based on real-life folklore.

The trailer for South of Midnight opens with an undead blues singer, performing "Death Don't Have No Mercy" (from the original recording by Greg Davies). His name is Shakin' Bones, and he's one of the mythical creatures of this realm. This is the South, but one that's full of magic, monsters and fantasy — what the creators describe as Southern Gothic. Shakin' Bones is an "Archon" modeled on the legend of Robert Johnson, who presumably made a deal with the devil at the crossroads. His job is to escort you from the real world into a more fabulous place.

David Sears, creative

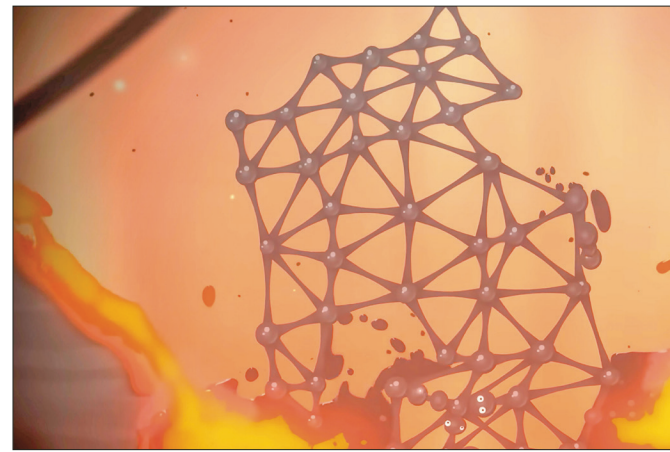
director for South of Midnight, explains "The game is loosely inspired by me tramping around forgotten farms and abandoned places in Mississippi. I found artefacts from the Civil War, through the Depression, and more modern weirdness. Like a tree with doll heads nailed all over it. Why was that there in the middle of nowhere? Someone went to a lot of trouble to cart all these doll heads out into the middle of the woods, and then nail them to this tree. That's the kind of stuff that you can expect from our world

in South of Midnight. It's based on the real world — but sometimes I think the real world is actually weirder than we'd like to think." (<https://news.xbox.com/en-us/2023/06/11/south-of-midnight-interview-details/>) South of Midnight will be available on Xbox Series X|S (with Xbox Game Pass), Windows PC (with PC Game Pass) and SteamOS.

MOUSE

MOUSE is from the Polish indie developer Fumi Games. I'm not generally a

PLEASE SEE **GAMES** | C6



COURTESY PHOTO

World of Goo 2

Crystal Clear Services
Ryan Peterson
Cell # 432-352-8862 Pool Service Insured
Window Cleaning

TURKEY SHOOT
Saturday, Feb. 24 @ 10 a.m.
American Legion Post 491
3409 Davis Rd.
\$5 PER SHOT
PRIZES YOUR CHOICE OF HAM, TURKEY, PORK LOIN, & MORE!
Legion Breakfast served from 8-10 a.m.
SHOTGUNS AND AMMO WILL BE PROVIDED

BUILT TO LAST
FUN FINE FOREVER FURNITURE
682-936-4500
1301 Weatherford Hwy
www.built-to-last.com
SalesTX@built-to-last.com
100% AMERICAN MADE
MADE FROM 100% RECYCLED PLASTIC

Buy One Drink Get One Drink FREE!
*Must present coupon. Cannot Combine with any other offer. Expires 2/29/24

Join Us... Order Online (Groundedcs.com)
Drive Thru & Curbside Service
Rewards Program / Frappe of the Month Club
Fresh Baked Goods
Meeting Rooms (by reservation)

1207 NE Big Bend Trail / Glen Rose, TX / 254.269.0344
Groundedcs.com • Mon-Fri 5am-6pm / Sat 7am-5pm

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

TEMPUR-PEDIC Sealy
STEARNS & FOSTER

www.mattressville.com

THE TRANSIT SYSTEM, INC.
Public Transportation
Serving Hood and Somervell Counties
Hours of Operation
Monday - Saturday
7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Specializing in all types of transportation

- Demand Response Program
- Flexible Routes
- Airport Service
- Senior Discount
- Mobility Accessible Vehicles
- Sedans
- Subsidized Fares
- WiFi Available

Glen Rose
254-897-2964
401 Commerce St.
Since 1983

Granbury
817-573-0575
1416 S. Morgan St.
Since 1995

MERCER TREE SERVICE
Insured Free Estimates
Tree Removal • Stump Grinding • Trimming
Brush Chipping Service • Gutter Cleaning
Shrub Trimming
Emergency Service • Storm Damage
Darrell Mercer
 Residential & Commercial
 mercertreeservice.net
817-247-5651

CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT
Friday, 23 February 2024 - Thursday, 29 February 2024
Argyle (PG13)
 Fri: 2:05PM, 6:15PM, 9:45PM.
 Sat: 10:30AM, 1:40PM, 9:55PM.
 Sun: 10:10AM, 1:20PM, 4:30PM, 7:40PM.
 Mon, Tues: 2:00PM, 7:45PM.
 Wed: 2:00PM, 5:05PM, 7:40PM.
 Thurs: 2:00PM, 9:30PM
Bob Marley: One Love (PG13)
 Fri: 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM, 9:50PM.
 Sat: 11:55AM, 2:40PM, 4:50PM, 7:20PM, 9:50PM.
 Sun: 11:20AM, 1:55PM, 4:30PM, 7:05PM.
 Mon: 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM.
 Tues: 2:20PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM.
 Wed: 2:10PM, 4:45PM, 7:20PM.
 Thurs: 2:40PM, 5:05PM, 7:40PM, 9:10PM, 10:15PM
Dune: Part Two (PG13)
 Thurs: 3:25PM, 7:00PM, 10:35PM
Land of Bad (R)
 Fri: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 10:00PM.
 Sat: 11:20AM, 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM, 10:00PM.
 Sun: 11:30AM, 2:10PM, 4:50PM, 7:30PM.
 Mon, Tues: 2:20PM, 5:05PM, 7:45PM.
 Wed: 2:15PM, 5:00PM, 8:10PM.
 Thurs: 6:45PM, 10:15PM
Madame Web (PG13)
 Fri, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 7:30PM, 10:15PM.
 Sat: 11:00AM, 1:45PM, 4:30PM, 7:15PM, 10:00PM.
 Sun: 11:05AM, 1:50PM, 4:35PM, 7:20PM.
 Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 7:30PM
Ordinary Angels (PG)
 Fri: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 7:30PM, 10:15PM.
 Sat: 10:35AM, 1:20PM, 4:05PM, 6:50PM, 9:35PM.
 Sun: 10:35AM, 1:20PM, 4:05PM, 6:50PM.
 Mon, Tues: 2:10PM, 5:00PM, 7:35PM.
 Wed, Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:45PM, 7:30PM
The Chosen: Season 4 Episodes 4-6 (NR)
 Fri: 2:00PM, 5:30PM, 9:30PM.
 Sat: 10:30AM, 3:00PM, 5:30PM, 7:40PM.
 Sun: 10:00AM, 2:25PM, 6:45PM.
 Mon, Tues: 2:20PM, 5:30PM.
 Wed: 2:00PM, 6:30PM
The Chosen: Season 4 Episodes 7-8 (NR)
 Thurs: 2:50PM, 5:30PM
 • Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice
 (682) 260-5920 | cinergy.com/locations/granbury/

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

inogen
PORTABLE OXYGEN FOR YOUR ON-THE-GO LIFESTYLE
 CLAIM YOUR **14-DAY RISK-FREE TRIAL!**
 Call us toll-free at **1-866-747-9983**
*14 day risk free trial. Return within 30 days of purchase. Price is refund of purchase price.
 PMA20469 EN, EX, USA | © 2023 Inogen, Inc.
 303 Comstar Drive, Corvallis, CA 95317
 Inogen® is a trademark of Inogen, Inc. The usage of any Inogen, Inc. trademark is strictly forbidden without the prior consent of Inogen, Inc. All other trademarks are trademarks of their respective owners or holders.

WE BUY OIL, GAS, & MINERAL RIGHTS
 Both non-producing and producing including Non-Participating Royalty Interest (NPRI)
 Provide us your desired price for an offer evaluation.
 CALL TODAY: **806.620.1422**
LOBO MINERALS, LLC
 PO Box 1800 • Lubbock, TX 79408-1800
 LoboMineralsLLC@gmail.com

HOME in on more buyers
 Place your ad to run in print and online at **classifieds.hcnews.com**

CINERGY UNLIMITED MOVIES

Cinergy offers unlimited movies, free popcorn Feb. 24

Staff Report

Those who have devoted countless hours to Netflix binging will enjoy Cinergy Entertainment's latest promotion — the Box Office Binge. On Saturday, Feb. 24, Cinergy will offer its Elite Rewards Members an \$18 movie ticket at their local Cinergy to enjoy a full day of unlimited movies in all formats, during all showtimes and unlimited free popcorn.

Guests will also receive unlimited free popcorn, all day. Becoming an Elite Rewards Member is free of charge. Simply go to cinergy.com/signup and enjoy instant perks, including the Box Office Binge.

Elite Members can purchase their Box Office Binge tickets at their local Cinergy or online at cinergy.com/film-info/unlimited-movie-day. Tickets are limited, so make sure to purchase in advance. For more information, visit the Box Office Binge FAQ page at cinergy.com/unlimited-movies-faq.



COURTESY PHOTO

On Saturday, Feb. 24, Cinergy will be offering its Elite Rewards Members an \$18 movie ticket at their local Cinergy to enjoy a full day of unlimited movies in all formats, during all showtimes and unlimited free popcorn.

HOOD COUNTY LIBRARY

Celebrating library lovers



COURTESY PHOTO

All the kiddos participate in story time.



BY JENNIFER LOGSDON

Hood County Library Director Jennifer Logsdon is a former public school educator of 23 years, earning a master's degree in Library Science during that time. She enjoys spending time with her blended family of five children, baking and of course reading. jlogsdon@co.hood.tx.us | 817-573-3569

February is Library Lovers Month! But here at the library, our staff celebrates library love every month, recognizing that libraries are no longer the hushed institution confined only to the perusal of books. These community spaces are dynamic hubs constantly evolving to meet the changing needs of their patrons. In a world increasingly digitized, libraries continue to stand as the cornerstone of learning, offering ample resources and experiences that enrich lives. In celebration of library love and to promote literacy, the Hood County Library will reintroduce the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program" March 1. This initiative aims to foster a love for reading in children from infancy to kindergarten age, setting them on a path to academic success and lifelong learning. The "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program is designed to encourage parents and caregivers to read aloud to their children from birth, recognizing the significant impact early exposure to books and language has on a child's development. Here at the library, we believe this program is not just about reaching a reading milestone, but is dedicated to fostering strong, positive relationships between caregivers and children through the joy of shared reading experienc-

es. Sharing stories together creates a safe space of commonality and also lays a strong foundation for literacy skills that will benefit children throughout their lives. Through this program, families will receive support and resources from Hood County Library, including access to a diverse collec-



COURTESY PHOTO

Cora takes a break and enjoys space under the table to read.

tion of age-appropriate books, a reading app to track progress, and milestone incentives to celebrate each achievement along the way. Additionally, Hood County Library already hosts engaging literacy events and story times, and will present workshops to

PLEASE SEE **LIBRARY** | C6

GO PLAY

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); 11 a.m. Tai Chi/Pilates; 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 Highway, Granbury, 76049. Entry \$8/person. All are welcome, come with a partner and compete for ACBL masterpoints. Information 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.

FORWARD TRAINING Center "Cisco" classes from 6-8:30 p.m. To sign up email info@forwardtrainingcenter.org. or call 817-573-6677.

TUESDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS classes: 8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers (join at weightwatchers.com); 9 a.m. yoga (private class, reservation only); 10:30 a.m. yoga (private class, reservation only); 1:30 p.m. line dancing; 5:15 p.m. Weight Watchers (join at weightwatchers.com); 6 p.m. Granbury clogger nights (watch or join). 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.

AMATEUR RADIO Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed amateur radio operators welcome. 7 p.m., on the 147.240 MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

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.

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS classes: 9 a.m. exercise class; 10 a.m. Mahjong; 10 a.m. cards; 11 a.m. dominoes. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County Wednesdays and Saturdays 9 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: 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise; 11 a.m. Tai Chi/Pilates; 5 p.m. yoga (private class, reservation only). 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.

MELODY BELLES SINGERS, women's choral group, weekly rehearsals for spring concert season. New members who sing first or second soprano welcome. 10 a.m.-noon at First Presbyterian Church Memorial Hall (the Annex), 301 W. Bridge Street. For details, please call 817-999-1364.

FRIDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS: 9 a.m. exercise. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

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

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS: 10:30 a.m. yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 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 needs 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 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 the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center located at 401 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. HoodCoCert@gmail.com.

THE GRANBURY EWMA, Chapter P motorcycle group meets at Spring Creek Barbeque 317 W. U.S. Highway 377. Dinner and fellowship is 6 p.m. informal meeting at 7 p.m. Group of pleasure riders who love to ride in Texas and beyond. Many Goldwing riders, also 2 and 3 wheel, any and all riders are welcome.

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. U.S. Hwy 377 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 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 needs 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.

WAMS (WESTERN Area Modeling Society) radio control club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ, 317 W. U.S. Highway 377. R/C aircraft, cars, boats, gliders, helicopters, etc. Details: 817-475-2194

LAST THURSDAYS

MEETING MONTHLY the last Thursday of each month at the American Legion Hall, 3409 Davis Rd. Granbury. Chow is at 6 p.m. meeting at 7 p.m.

CHECK IN and social at 10 - 11 a.m. Entertainment by Bobby Ray Adams. The short business meeting is at 11:30 a.m. The \$18 optional lunch will be pork medallions, roasted potatoes, broccoli, house salad, break, apple crisp and coffee/tea/water. General membership is \$25 for single and \$35 for joint, business membership is \$35. Reservations are required no later than Friday, Feb. 2. Contact granburyog@gmail.com or call 817-776-2898.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Grilling Groans...



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly. newbury@speakerdoc.com | 817-447-3872

Texas' prime grilling season is only weeks away. I await in the shadow of a conundrum, not knowing whether to mark off calendar days with giddy anticipation or be "gloomed" like Charlie Brown stumbling away from another setback.

There's a certain limpness accompanying the unknown. That's how I remember a sudden desire at age 30 to learn to play the organ, blowing off a warning to allot plenty of practice time. Right off, I bought a Wurlitzer transistorized model on a monthly pay-out plan. Months later, I sold it for pennies on the dollar.

The pattern started with my first and only childhood violin lesson. I didn't want to go, but parentally driven, I fumbled through it, knocking over a lamp, tracking mud into the teacher's home and finally dropping the fiddle. "If you don't shape up this minute," she said sternly, "I'm going to

tell your folks that you have definite promise."

This is a new day and a new challenge. This time, I'm "locked and loaded." First off, I have a 55-gallon, custom-built steel grill that takes three strong men to move and one strong man to lift the lid. No one lives here with such attributes, so I've decided to sell it. (It is embarrassing to ask neighbors repeatedly to lift and/or lower the grill lid.)

There is hope, however, with a state-of-the-art Camp Chef, charcoal pellet-burning, Wi-Fi-equipped grill I bought from a man who is good at grilling and desired a bigger one, perhaps to feed neighbors in all directions.

Curses! The purchase may have been ill-advised. It didn't dawn on me what "Wi-Fi-equipped" portends. I'm afraid it means there's a good chance it involves my smartphone, and at the moment, we are not "speak-

ing." The grill handbook says I can — with my phone — control grilling from my easy chair or from other time zones. Truth to tell, I just want to master the art in "present tense," smelling the aroma and seeing the flames that may need squirting.

Almost forgot. On one end, there's a small butane burner, suggesting that I can cook two things at once. Again, a challenge looms.

I headed for Lowe's, not noticing that I parked within a few feet of the Blue Rhino display that includes dozens — if not hundreds — of canisters of butane, or maybe it's propane, or maybe they're the same thing.

Inside the store, I asked a couple of "associates" about the location of those butane "thingamajigs," since "canister" was a term I'd hear later in the visit. One employee directed me to lawn and garden, and another suggested aisle eight. I decided to visit customer service for specific directions.

The gracious woman answered, "They're outside, since they can't legally be brought inside the store. Pay for it at the register,

PLEASE SEE **IDLE** | C6

VETERANS VOICE

Consider secondary conditions when filing claims

BY LINDA MALLON



Linda Mallon, a retired Army master sergeant, found her niche working with veterans and their families in Granbury. She is a former claims administrator for Blue Shield of New Jersey and later senior personnel sergeant, taking care of soldiers' careers for more than 20 years. linda.mallon@co.hood.tx.us | 817-579-3292.

Veterans who currently receive disability compensation for an illness or injury associated with military service or are in the process of filing a claim for a condition caused by service should consider secondary conditions caused by that primary condition.

For example, if a veteran injured their back in the military, was treated for that condition in service and carried that condition into civilian life still suffering from pain and limited motion, but have since developed numbness, pain and weakness in the legs and feet, this is considered a secondary condition. If the primary condition (back) was granted as service connected, and the doctor notes the symptoms in the legs and feet are caused by the back condition and diagnoses nerve damage resulting from the back, the VA will consider this condition secondary and rate it as a separate condition.

"In accordance with 38 CFR 3.310, current disability condition that is proximately due to or the result of a service-connected disease or injury shall also be service connected." When we do an initial consultation with a veteran we ask those questions so all conditions are appropriately reviewed by the VA. Primary conditions such as tinnitus — ringing in the ears from noise exposure — can cause secondary conditions such as insomnia, migraine, and vertigo. Depression can be a secondary condition associated with chronic pain, asthma secondary to obstructive sleep apnea, hypertension and/or GERD secondary to PTSD for example.

In order to be successful in developing a claim it is critical to have a diagnosis for the condition claimed, a relationship to military service, and a medical opinion and rationale for that opinion so the rater reviewing the claim has all the information necessary to render a favorable decision.

If a veteran has never filed

a claim before but passes away and the surviving spouse suspects the cause of death was related to military service (example: an Agent Orange-exposed veteran dies from a coronary event), if not noted on the death certificate, the spouse will need to provide information from the veteran's physicians and hospital when filing for survivor benefits and sign a release form allowing the VA to request those records directly from the medical provider.

Secondary conditions causing the veteran's death (example: kidney failure) will also be considered service-connected if the cause of that condition is considered presumptive (example: secondary to hypertension due to Agent Orange exposure). Medical records are critical in these cases if the primary condition was not noted but the veteran's primary care doctor considers the condition a contributing factor.

The VA has a duty to assist in gathering all evidence necessary to support the claim but ultimately it is the responsibility of the claimant to ensure all pertinent evidence is submitted. Reach out to our office and we will guide you through how these claims can be developed and what medical evidence we will need.

201 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(817) 573-5548
www.visitgranbury.com

Celebrate with us in Granbury

FEBRUARY	
24	2nd Annual Jazz Fest
MARCH	
2	Texas Independence Day Celebration
16 - 17	2nd Annual Pub McDonough Paddy Fest & Parade
15-17	Founders Day Celebrations
16	Bulls on the Beach
16	Hank FM Home and Garden Expo
23	Mudbug Madness
29	Natl. Vietnam Veterans Day
APRIL	
5-7	Oink! Oink! Fest - Authentic German-Style Pig Roast
8	On the Edge TOTAL ECLIPSE 2024 – see website for list of events
20	Lake Granbury Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale
25-27	Granbury Wine Walk

Information subject to change | Go to visitgranbury.com for more!

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.

BOOK
FROM PAGE C4

that you looked past the purposeful cruelty and the laissez-faire attitude toward women's health. If you could do all that — big "if" — then "All in Her Head" would still outrage you.

You can attribute that to the way author Elizabeth Comen, M.D. makes this book completely relatable. She begins with a story that puts a reader in the shoes of several women who were victimized by the times in which they lived and the patriarchal medical establishments that often willingly failed them. Comen does it with sympathy and indignation mixed with a little shock; she adds personal observations, too, which soften the insults enough to keep you reading.

Science lovers and readers of true medical tales will enjoy this book, and don't be surprised if it makes you keep a sharper eagle-eye on your medical care. "All in Her Head" won't cure what ails you, but it can't hurt.

LIBRARY
FROM PAGE C4

further support families in their reading journey.

Hood County Library invites families throughout the community to join us in this exciting literacy adventure. Together, let's inspire a love for reading and set our youngest learners on the path to success. For more information on how to participate in the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten" program, please stop by the library or contact Ms. Cookie. Information will also be posted on the library's Facebook page.

Participating in the "1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program" underscores Hood County Library's commitment to early literacy and empowering families to become their child's first and best teacher. The relaunch of this program supports and helps sustain the Hood County Library's special mission to "Encourage a love of reading, learning and intellectual curiosity for children, pre-teens and teens."



COURTESY PHOTO

Siblings Henry and Nora sharing some library love during story time.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Childrens Events
Mondays, 10:30 a.m. — Music and

Motion
Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. —
Storytime and Craft (Preschool)

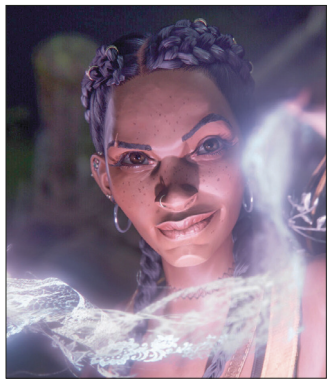
Thursdays, 4:30 p.m. — Code Club (8-12 yrs)

Events for All
LEGO SATURDAY ALL DAY EVERY SATURDAY!

March 1: Bookmark Contest begins (details at the Library and on Facebook)
March 5, 5-6 p.m.: NASA: Our Moon
March 19, 5-6 p.m.: NASA: What is a total eclipse?
March 27, 4:30-5:30 p.m.: Craftroom

Adult Events

March 6, 6-7 p.m.: The Other Book Club, The Divine Rivals by Rebecca Ross
March 12, 6-7 p.m.: Crafting with Tammy: craft TBD
March 22, 6:30-8 p.m.: Trivia Night at D'Vine Wine: They didn't teach us that in school...
March 26, 6-7 p.m.: Novel Idea Book Club, The Unmaking of June Farrow by Adrienne Young



GAMES
FROM PAGE C3

fan of first-person shooters because of their violent content, and this game is no exception. What makes this game distinctive is the film noir art style and the cartoon characters, which are drawn in the style of classic cartoons from the 1930s —

like Popeye or Steamboat Willie. The main character carries various weapons, including a machine gun and finger pistols, to fight his enemies. Explosions and clouds of smoke are in white with classic black outlines. Enemies crumble into dust when they've been killed.

From the Steam page for

Mouse: "MOUSE boasts a unique visual style inspired by the charm of 1930s rubber hose animation, transporting players to a nostalgic era of early cartoons. Assume the role of a private detective navigating a noir city teeming with gangs, mobs and characters from the dark side. Unravel a quest for justice in a noir city mired in chaos, corruption and vibrant energy, utilizing a diverse arsenal of weapons, power-ups and explosives to thwart the takeover by corrupt politicians. The game's playful weaponry and distinctive health display, coupled with enemies behaving like cartoon characters, add a light-hearted twist to traditional FPS gameplay."

The game is still in early development. Developers expect to have the game ready to release in 2025.

WORLD OF GOO 2

If you've never played World of Goo, I would probably ask if you've been living

under a rock. World of Goo is a physics-based puzzle game, involving blobs of goo that can be attached together to form complicated structures. Each Goo Ball has its own characteristics, and your goal is to get as many Goo Balls as possible into the pipe. Speed is important in this game, but also eye-hand coordination and accuracy.

Despite being wildly successful, World of Goo never had a sequel — until now. It's been 15 years and 2DBoy and the Tomorrow Corporation think they have something new to offer in the World of Goo.

There're the classic 'build a tall thing and get to the top' puzzles, but plenty of new ideas for puzzles, too. The game was never low-res, but you can tell it's 15 years old.

From the World of Goo 2 page: "We've been quietly revisiting World of Goo. How has it changed in 15 years? What new gameplay possibilities will we dis-

cover? What wonderful new creatures and characters and ancient monuments will we meet? We're still deep in development, but we're excited to finally share with you some of what we've been building..." World of Goo 2 is expected to be available in 2024, but no firm release date has been set.

Screenshot courtesy Compulsion Games

South of Midnight promises to be a visually compelling game, with elements of Southern Gothic and old Southern folk tales.

Screenshot courtesy Fumi Games

Mouse combines first-person action with rubber band physics and cartoon character explosions and sound effects.

SCREENSHOT COURTESY TOMORROW CORPORATION

World of Goo 2 promises to have the same playability as the original, but with new puzzles and graphics.



COURTESY PHOTOS

South of Midnight

IDLE

FROM PAGE C5

and someone will accompany you to the Blue Rhino display."

All went well. I paid, and a lady showed up with a key to unlock the bin containing stacks of cannisters, each splashed with big letters: "FLAMMABLE." (This made me ponder whether there's a difference between "flammable" and "inflammable," but such discourse is for another time.)

Before leaving, I noticed

that Lowe's offers free tire inflation adjacent to the Blue Rhino display. Hmmm, maybe there's a reason I've never seen anyone getting air there. Some may fear a malfunctioning air hose — or errant cars moving with in a few feet of the display — could cause an explosion. Who knows? My immediate concern was mastering safe use of butane at one end of my grill and electrically-ignited charcoal pellets at the other.

Later, I thought of the old joke about a parachutist

whose 'chute didn't open and the old couple who replaced their woodstove with a butane replacement they didn't know how to ignite.

They met in midair, him going downward as the couple soared upward. "Know anything about parachutes?" the former frantically asked.

"No," one oldster responded, "Do you know anything about butane stoves?"

MARCH

FROM PAGE C3

anticipation of new life as you concentrate on the mother bird, her body full of eggs whose shells nurture the young ones within her. Focus on her methodical and determined efforts in preparing her family's home.

And if Mother Nature would be so gracious, allow yourself the pleasure and education of watching those eggs hatch as baby birds emerge.

We observe small children playing, and we wish we could go back again to the carefree days of childhood innocence. We cannot turn back our biological clocks, but

we can reverse our train of thought if we so desire.

We have responsibilities to our world, and we cannot shirk those responsibilities. But we do have the right and the freedom to allow ourselves to be our own person and to enjoy our own selfhood! We must remember that if we do not take care of ourselves, we cannot take care of those around us.

So as "March marches in," may we have the curiosity and courage to alter our customary path of daily activity. Be willing to march to the beat of a different seasonal drummer and thoroughly enjoy the bounty of today.

It's a gift that is beyond price!



dolce vita

Lakeside Granbury

APPLY NOW!

STARTING AT

\$1,476

Live one month FREE & receive a \$1,000 gift card

1 & 2 bedrooms for Adults 55 Yrs +







1101 White Cliff Rd, Granbury • (817) 230-4414




PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Pecan Plantation Woman's Club convenes for February gathering

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.
dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club met collectively last week when ladies held their business meeting, enjoyed a musical program from "Joyful Noise," and partook of lunch prepared by Chef Jordan Ray and the Pecan staff. Many thanks go to the merchants who supplied door prizes as ticket sales topped \$600, every penny of which supports the ladies' chosen charities and annual scholarships. Members of the membership committee greeted ladies upon arrival, and information about

the annual "Boot Scootin'" event was shared. Director Kay Jones and the entire committee are working to make this year's event the most fabulous one ever. Tickets for the Saturday, March 23 gala that includes food, dancing and fundraising are selling quickly.

ART DAY

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild gathered last week, and the day featured a demonstration from Audrey Caylor. The PPAG meets collectively the second Tuesday of each

month at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC. Pecan artists (and residents interested in art) are welcome to join.

PICKLEBALL PLAY

Pecan's pickleball players are celebrating the new floor in the PAC gymnasium by holding a beginners' clinic Monday, Feb. 26, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sign up at the PAC: 817-573-7952.

Furthermore, ladies' pickleball play has returned Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m., and all skill level players are welcome. Finally, the pickleball ladies enjoyed a lovely outing at their recent Valentine's Day party at the PAC.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Pecan's election committee will have its members in the clubhouse lobby from 10 a.m. to noon weekdays through

Friday, March 1 to assist neighbors with the electronic voting process.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The month of February marks the one-year reorganization of Pecan's Widows' and Widowers' Club, and a celebration is planned for the group's upcoming meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 27. When the group reassembled last year, 23 people partook, and at the January gathering, the crowd boasted 50 attendees. The fete will include a special menu prepared by Chef Jordan as well as an anniversary cake. Special music from Ray Scott, Lois Akers and Stan McBroom will enhance the event.

As Caryl Mahaffey writes, "The group is getting to know everyone so well and enjoys visiting with their new friends." The evening will

begin at 5:30 p.m., and folks who have secured a spot will receive location information. Dues for 2024 will also be received at the gathering.

The Widows' and Widowers' Club looks forward to a full year of meetings as well as some field trips and outings. Pecan widows and widowers are invited to attend. For complete information on the group and its activities, send email to caryl.mahaffey@charter.net.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club will meet again Wednesday, Feb. 28 when author Martin Brown will address the crowd. Reservations are due by noon Tuesday, Feb. 27: 817-573-2641.

Martin is the author of "The Glen Rose Moonshine Raid," a fascinating story of open defiance to prohibition that

led to stalking Texas Rangers and eventually the arrest of some prominent citizens. The day will also feature a book signing and an important announcement following Martin's presentation. All Pecaners are invited to attend.

GOOD READ

The Hood County Bookmobile will visit the PAC Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Patrons may both check out and return materials at that time. For complete information on the bookmobile and its presence in Pecan, contact Robin Scanlon at the Hood County Library at 817-573-3569.

COMMITTEE SELECTION

Pecaners interested in serving on our community's by-

PLEASE SEE **PECAN** | C10



PHOTO COURTESY OF PPWC PUBLICITY

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club gathered recently where ladies enjoyed a musical program and lunch in addition to their business meeting. The PPWC's annual "Boot Scootin'" event is on the calendar for Saturday, March 23. Pictured at the meeting are (left to right): Karen Merrill, Barbara Melton, Jane Clark, Mary Scott, Carol Horton, and Vicki Winder.

GARDEN PATCH

Tackle Winter Pruning

BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER



Phyllis Webster earned a degree in journalism before embarking on a long career in public relations and marketing. A Granbury resident since 1998, she has been deeply involved in the community. She is an award-winning writer and photographer, as well as a Master Gardener. She has authored Garden Patch since 2001. 817-680-4849

Always prune with a purpose in mind. It is not good for any plant to be trimmed indiscriminately. Far too often, people cut away branches without knowing the best time of the year to prune, the plant's ideal form, how to make a proper cut and when not to trim at all. Your goal is to enhance the plant's overall health and appearance.

Incorrect pruning results in unnatural form, poor or late growth and inadequate fruit and flower production. Every year, crape myrtles are victims of misguided pruning. People hack away at these poor plants believing that crape myrtles perform better when severely topped. Not true! Topped plants will never regain their proper form when they are repeatedly forced to expend energy into growing new branches.

Purposeful pruning includes gently shaping plants, particularly shrubs, trees and vines. When done properly, young plants will need less trimming as they mature. Other solid reasons to prune include removing dead and damaged wood, removing crossing limbs or gradually raising a tree's canopy to allow better access or to let sunshine penetrate be-

neath. If you constantly trim a plant to keep it in bounds, consider replacing it with a right-sized plant.

Most deciduous and evergreen plants are best pruned in late winter, just before the emergence of new spring growth. A big exception is spring-flowering trees, shrubs and vines. If you prune these plants, you will remove flower buds before bloom. To ensure berry production, always wait until winter berries form on holly plants before pruning them. Roses are best pruned mid-to-late February. Fruiting trees and vines are managed for crops, not flowers, so it's best to know the proper care of each species.

Most plants tolerate minor trimming in spring and summer. Errant shoots or canes should be removed to maintain plant form. By mid-fall, it's best to stop. Anytime a plant is cut, it encourages growth. A new flush of growth could be damaged by an early frost or freeze, causing serious injury to affected plants.

Prune oak trees only as necessary on the hottest or coldest days of the year. This is the best step you can take to prevent oak wilt disease.

Immediately paint the cuts with commercial sealant or latex paint. It only takes minutes for the beetle that spreads oak wilt to find a tree wound; the paint will seal the cut and discourage beetle visits.

Most landscapes look best when maintained for a natural aesthetic. Remember, the purpose of placing shrubs adjacent to buildings is to soften the look and blend structures into their surroundings. Formal sheared boxed or rounded shrubs used as foundation plantings can make a home look dated. Keep evergreens in bounds by using pruning tools to selectively cut away unwanted growth while keeping a balanced, natural look. And always make proper pruning cuts with clean tools.

Older shrubs with multiple stems, such as nandinas, sometimes need rejuvenation. Cutting several older shoots back to the ground stimulates new, healthy growth. Do your homework prior to severe pruning to ensure your plants will tolerate this action.

Ask a Master Gardener your gardening questions at the group's Annual Plant Sale to be held 8 a.m., Saturday, April 20 at the LGMG Demonstration Garden.

For answers to your horticulture questions, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hood County at 817-579-3280 or go online to visit lakegranburymastergardeners.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Prune oak trees only as necessary on the hottest or coldest days of the year.

GRANBURY CARE CENTER **THE Best of Hood County**
 CARING, IT'S WHAT WE DO BEST! ♥
 • 174 BED FACILITY
 • PRIVATE REHAB SUITES
 • 22 BED SECURE HALL
 • SKILLED NURSING REHABILITATION SERVICES
 • LONG TERM CARE
 TO SCHEDULE A TOUR, CALL
(817) 573-3726



Michelle Berry, CFP®
 CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

Berry
 WEALTH SERVICES GROUP

www.berrywealthservicesgroup.com
817-573-9595

RAYMOND JAMES®


stay connected – hcnews.com

BRAZOS METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS
ROCKIN S CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.

817-573-2400
 5530 W HWY 377, TOLAR, TX 76476

817-573-4521

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

 Romans 15:13


Chicken EXPRESS **25 pc Tenders special \$3.00 off with this ad**

Chicken Express Supports Local Churches
 Call Us For Church Catering Needs
2200 E. Hwy. 377 Granbury 817-573-4800

Christian Brothers Automotive
 People-First Automotive Care

Granbury • cbac.com/granbury • 817-910-4247


May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

 Romans 15:13

G & G Electric, Inc.
 Residential • Commercial • Industrial
 Locally owned and operated since 1986

Special thanks to John and PJ Gibbs
817-279-7777
GG@ggelectricservice.com
 3805 Weatherford Hwy Granbury
 TECL#17531

"For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'"


 Isaiah 41:13

GLENN AIRE EST. 1975
 AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING
 "Exceeding Expectations in Comfort and Efficiency"

Serving Hood County Since 1975

310 LIBERTY ROAD, GRANBURY, TEXAS 76049 • 817-326-5311
WWW.GLENNAIREFORMATION.COM

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

 Proverbs 3:5-6



GRANBURY FLOORING COMPANY

SERVING HOOD AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES FOR 20 YEARS

- Wall & Floor Tile
- Wood Look Tile
- Wood Flooring
- Luxury Vinyl Plank
- Carpet


817-579-7440
 100 Corporate Drive • Granbury, TX 76049

Hobson Your Comfort Experts
AIR CONDITIONING INC.
 Serving North Texas Since 1962
 Granbury: 817-573-2463 • www.hobsonac.com
 It's Time to Tune-Up Your Heating System


GRANBURY NISSAN (817) 776-5877  

4601 E. Hwy 377 | Granbury
www.granburynissan.com

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

 Psalm 94:18-19

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

 Isaiah 41:10

DEVOTIONAL

A guide to Granbury-area churches.

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

- ANGLICAN**
 Good Shepherd Anglican
 3600 Fall Creek Hwy.,
 817-326-2035
- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
 Crossing Place
 1900 W. Hwy. 377
 817-573-1581
- Elm Grove Assembly Of God
 3630 Hill City Hwy., Tolar
 254-835-4755
- Faith Assembly Of God
 300 Granbury Court
 817-326-2270
- BAPTIST**
 Acton Baptist
 3500 Fall Creek Hwy.
 817-326-4693
- Allison Baptist
 9926 Allison Ct., Lipan
 254-646-9926
- Bible Baptist
 4804 E. Hwy. 377
 817-579-5424
- Brazos River Baptist
 2201 Mitchell Bend Hwy.
 817-663-5384
- Dennis First Baptist
 7600 Fm 1189, Lipan
 817-565-9027
- Exalted Redeemer Baptist
 1840 Acton Hwy.
 817-247-7209
- Fairview Baptist
 5041 Weatherford Hwy.
 817-573-8968
- Faith Baptist Of Hill City
 Hwy. 56
 254-965-3840
- First Baptist
 7600 Fm 1189, Lipan
 817-613-2322
- First Baptist
 214 Kickapoo Ct., Lipan
 254-646-2484
- First Baptist Thorp Springs
 2815 Lipan Hwy.
 817-573-3339
- Glen Rose First Baptist
 201 West Gibbs Blvd.,
 Glen Rose
 254-897-2351
- Granbury Baptist
 1200 Weatherford Hwy.
 817-573-4943
- Granbury First Baptist
 1851 Weatherford Hwy.
 817-573-7137
- Iglesia Bautista Cristo Roca
 Viva
 315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd.
 254-396-5773
- Iglesia Bautista La Hermosa
 3300 Oak Trail Dr.
 Lakeside Baptist
 500 W. Bluebonnet
 817-573-2094
- Mambrino Baptist
 1625 Mambrino Hwy.
 817-573-4901
- Mission Bautista El Buen
 315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd.
 817-573-4133
- Oak Trail Baptist
 4501 Peppertree Rd.
 817-279-6430
- Paluxy Baptist
 1844 Acton Hwy.
 817-579-5111
- Patillo Baptist
 4791 Fm 2803, Lipan
 940-769-2968
- Pecan Baptist
 7178 Fall Creek Hwy.
 682-205-1565
- Rainbow Baptist
 1571 North Fm 200, Rainbow
 254-897-2121
- Southside Baptist
 910 Paluxy Rd.
 817-573-1462
- Sovereign Grace Baptist
 820 Paluxy Rd.
 682-936-4988
- Tolar Baptist
 400 Tolar Hwy.
 254-835-4375
- Vineyard Baptist
 320 W. Pearl St.
 817-573-5318
- Waples Baptist
 1200 Temple Hall Hwy.
 817-579-0509
- Western Hills Baptist
 507 Western Hills Trail
 817-573-7588
- BIBLE**
 Grace Bible
 201 E. Clifton Rd.
 682-498-3014
- Granbury Chapel Bible Church
 5150 N. Gate Rd.
 817-736-9647
- CATHOLIC**
 St. Frances Cabrini Catholic
 2301 Acton Hwy.
 817-573-2131
- CHRISTIAN**
 Dayspring Christian
 3314 S. Clifton
 817-573-0107
- First Christian
 2109 W. U.S. Hwy. 377
 817-573-5431
- Iglesia Christiana Vino Nuevo
 4900 Sonterra Ct.
 817-578-0626
- Promise Point Church
 5904 Walnut Creek Circle
 817-910-8868
- The Evangelical Christian
 608 Shady Grove Dr.
 817-736-3041
- CHURCH OF CHRIST**
 Downtown Church Of Christ
 310 W. Pearl St.
 817-573-9862
- Granbury Church Of Christ
 1905 W. Pearl
 817-573-2613
- Lipin Church Of Christ
 112 N Caddo St., Lipan
 254-646-2297
- Old Granbury Church Of
 Christ
 4219 Old Granbury Rd.
 817-573-6878
- Thorp Spring Church Of Christ
 3006 Thorp St.
 817-776-1547
- Tolar Church Of Christ
 8604 W. Hwy. 377, Tolar
 254-835-4397
- CHURCH OF GOD**
 Church Of God
 1106 Weatherford Hwy.
 817-279-6753
- EPISCOPAL**
 Good Shepherd Episcopal
 4530 Acton Hwy.
 817-326-6074
- JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES**
 Granbury Jehovah's Witnesses
 3734 W. Hwy. 377
 817-573-4259
- LUTHERAN**
 Emmanuel Lutheran Elca
 2301 Fall Creek Hwy.,
 817-326-2201
- Our Savior Lutheran
 1400 N. Meadows Dr.
 817-573-5011
- METHODIST**
 Acton Methodist
 3433 Fall Creek Hwy.
 817-326-4242
- Cresson United Methodist
 110 South Crook St., Cresson
 469-730-6496
- Granbury First United
 Methodist
 301 Loop 567,
 817-573-5573
- Solid Rock Global
 Methodist Church
 3410 Glen Rose Hwy
 682-498-3838
- Temple Hall United Methodist
 5601 Temple Hall Hwy., 682-
 317-9385
- Tolar United Methodist
 8812 Hwy. 377, Tolar
 254-835-4005
- Waples United Methodist
 4323 Waples Rd.
 817-573-9076
- MORMON**
 The Church Of Jesus Christ Of
 Latter-Day Saints
 1226 Ross Lane
 817-573-6825
- NAZARENE**
 Granbury Church Of The
 Nazarene
 921 Lipan Dr.
 817-573-4041
- PENTECOSTAL**
 Hood Pentecostal
 3100 Beechwood St.,
 817-279-0363
- Calvary Church of Granbury
 4800 Glen Rose Hwy
 817-559-7372
- PRESBYTERIAN**
 First Presbyterian
 303 W. Bridge St.
 817-573-2337
- SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST**
 Granbury Seventh Day
 Adventist
 2016 Acton Hwy.
 817-326-3573
- OTHER**
 Anchor Fellowship
 1300 James Rd.
 682-990-8551
- Bear Creek Community
 1855 South Hwy. 377,
 817-396-3245
- Brazos Covenant Ministries
 1950 Acton Hwy.
 817-579-0968
- Calvary Family
 3306 Oak Trail Dr.
 314-606-1211
- Center Point
 4332 E. Hwy. 377,
 817-554-3432
- Christian Science Society
 528 N. Crockett
 817-573-0457
- Church On Thistle Ridge
 4900 Sonterra Ct.
 917-326-5501
- Crossroads
 200 S. Crook St., Cresson
 817-886-9577
- Fellowship Church Of Hood
 County
 2401 Cedar Crest Dr.,
 817-579-9332
- Generations Church Of
 Granbury
 5718 E. Hwy. 377,
 817-326-5378
- Hope Community
 3206 W. Hwy. 377
 254-243-0350
- Lipin Cowboy
 205 West Lipan Dr., Lipan
 254-396-3162
- New Season Global Ministries
 3755 Acton Hwy.
 817-910-8777
- Pure Praise
 2901 Glen Rose Hwy.
 817-279-3063
- Rock Church Chapel
 6101 Rock Church Hwy
 Tolar, Texas 76476
- St. John Victorian Mission Of
 Granbury
 5031 Bandy Rd.
 817-573-2669
- Stonewater
 911 E. U.S. Hwy. 377
 817-579-9175
- The Bridge
 1107 Weatherford Hwy
 254-522-5330
- The Heights
 1921 Acton Hwy
 817-558-2121
- The Sanctuary
 4400 Daugherty Ct.
 817-326-2709
- Triple Cross Cowboy
 3470 Lipan Hwy
 817-279-2470

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!
 GRANBURY • WEATHERFORD • CLEBURNE • STEPHENVILLE • GLEN ROSE

PROVIDING EXCELLENT CARE WHEREVER YOU CALL HOME FOR 15 YEARS!

Interim HEALTHCARE. **Best of Hood County**
 HOME CARE AND HOSPICE

1314 HALLUX ROAD, SUITE 200 • GRANBURY, TX 76048
 HOME CARE: 817-573-7474
 HOSPICE: 817-879-8092

5 STAR MEDICARE RATING
 ZERO DEFICIENCIES
 HOME HEALTH CARE AND HOSPICE CARE
 PHYSICAL, OCCUPATIONAL, SPEECH THERAPY
 EXCELLENT CARE. EVERY PATIENT. EVERY DAY.

www.vgkia.com
817-573-0400

VAN GRIFFITH KIA

AUTO • HOME • LIFE HEALTH • COMMERCIAL

JOHNNY T. HARRIS
 INSURANCE

2301 E. Hwy. 377
 P.O. Box 1650
 Granbury, TX 76049


817-573-2118
 817-573-7959 Fax
clint@allamerins.com

Granbury Family MedClinic
 P.A.

Robert L. Lee, M.D.
 J. Kelcie Moody FNP-C

805 Hill Blvd. Ste 103 | Granbury | 817-573-3447

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.

 Romans 8:28

Action COMPUTERS **Best of Hood County**
817.579.8450

400 S. Morgan - Granbury
www.actioncomputers.com

Computer Repair | Upgrades
 Networks | IT Services

Locally Owned & Operated

MARTIN'S
 Funeral Home

100 S. Morgan
 Granbury
817-573-1154

Lakeview Dental (817) 57FLOSS (817) 573-5677

1309 Paluxy Rd.
 Granbury, TX 76048

Jonathan Heizer, D.D.S.
 Wyatt O'Grady, D.D.S.

www.lakeview-dental.com
 Office Hours by Appointment

Bridgewater memory care

EMBRACE the Journey 


900 Autumn Ridge Dr | Granbury
817-573-7720
www.bridgewatermemorycare.com

SANTO PROPANE

Propane Sales System Installations • Tank Leases & Sales

1-800-448-7803

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

 Jeremiah 29:11

WOODS FURNITURE

736 Hwy. 377 E. Granbury 817-573-2604

TEXAS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

2200 Commercial Lane
 Granbury, Texas 76048

817.279.1408
www.MyTexasEms.org

Extraordinary Service!



Town Square Title

WAXAHACHIE • MIDLOTHIAN • RED OAK
 • BURLESON • GRANBURY • WEATHERFORD

972-935-0800 • TOWNSQUARETITLE.COM

Wagon Yard

Downtown Granbury
 817-573-5321
wagonyard.com

Eclectic Home & Office Outfitter

YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

817-573-7066

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE ON THE HOOD COUNTY NEWS CHURCH PAGE



This directory is made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

Upcoming Business Trip?  Call our office to temporarily stop and start your paper **817-573-7066**

DT ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

VOTED "BEST ROOFER" BY HOOD COUNTY SINCE 2013

817-579-7800

TRI-COUNTY ELECTRIC "Taking Care of our Member-Owners!"

817.444.3201 • trctexas.com

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

WILEY FUNERAL HOME
 "Home owned and operated"
 Granbury • 817-573-3000

Sweetheart Dance at the Hood County YMCA

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Sweethearts from the Hood County YMCA hit the dance floor to celebrate Valentine's Day early on Saturday, Feb. 10th.



PLACE YOUR AD TO RUN IN PRINT AND ONLINE AT CLASSIFIEDS.HCNEWS.COM

HOME IN ON MORE BUYERS

QUILT OF VALOR DONATION



COURTESY PHOTO

The Granbury Quilters Guild recently awarded a Quilt of Valor to Hood and Somervell County Veteran Service Officer Linda Mallon. A Quilt of Valor is a quality, handmade quilt that is machine or hand quilted. It is awarded to a service member or veteran who has been touched by war.

PECAN FROM PAGE C7

laws committee for the new club year may sign up in several ways: on the PPOA website, from an email link residents received last week, or in person at the clubhouse front desk. The deadline for application is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28.

ACTIVE AUXILIARY

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary is seeking raffle

prize donations for the 2024 Auxiliary Golf Tournament slated for Saturday, April 20 on Pecan's golf course.

Because of the earlier tournament date this year, Auxiliary members would like to have commitments from raffle prize donors by Wednesday, Feb. 28 so raffle ticket sales may commence Friday, March 1. A significant part of the funds raised in connection with the golf tournament each year comes from raffle ticket sales. Donors receive advance publicity and recognition for their contribution, as well as visibility on

tournament day.

For more information about the golf tournament or donating a prize, call or text Julie Logan at 727-252-3702 or Seleta Webster at 806-646-0656, and to volunteer for any auxiliary events, email Seleta at seleta.chere@gmail.com.

LEAP DAY GOLF

Pecan's Men's Golf Association will celebrate "Leap Day" Thursday, Feb. 29 by playing two-man shamble, pick your own partner. Full information is available in the

golf pro shop: 817-573-2645.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pecan is seeking volunteers to assist with balloting at our community's annual meeting Saturday, March 2. Folks who are interested in serving as an election clerk or judge may sign up via a link mailed to membership last week or by contacting Marilyn Amos: marilynamos@ppoaweb.com.

ELECTION DAY

Primary election day for Hood County will find Pecaners casting votes in the

PAC gymnasium Tuesday, March 5 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

NET NEWS

A new session of junior tennis begins Wednesday, March 6 at 4:30 p.m. for players ages 6 to 9 and at 5:30 p.m. for players ages 10 to 12. All skill levels are welcome and may sign up in the tennis shop: 817-579-9412.

PAINT PARTY

"Pecan Paint Alongs" at the PAC with instructor Kathy Yoders are continuing with a workshop the second Sunday

of each month, which puts the next gathering on the calendar for March 10. The session runs from 1 to 4 p.m. at which participants will receive step-by-step instruction on their work, and no painting experience is necessary. Register at the PAC (817-573-7952); email Kathy for more information: kathylyoders@gmail.com.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Gen. Robert Stevenson, who passed away Feb. 8.

GOOD FOR HOOD

Business Directory

DANNY'S PRESSURE WASHING

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PRESSURE WASHING SERVICES

- House & Roof Washing
- Window Cleaning
- Driveway & Gutter Cleaning
- Boat Dock Cleaning
- Fence Cleaning & Restoration
- Stone and Rock Cleaning & Restoration

Licensed and Insured
682-258-0718

Doug's Floors Plus

Shower Experts | Backsplashes | Porches | Floors | Tub Surrounds

CARPET | TILE | WOOD | VINYL PLANK | LAMINATE

Located in the Home Source Showroom Center

817-910-2213 | 5353 Acton Hwy, Suite B | Granbury

Building Creative pools in Granbury since 1996

Celebrity Pools

817-326-1468 • celebratypools.com

FATHER & SON TREE SERVICE

"We Go Out On A Limb For You"

- Trimming
- Removals
- 24 Hour Storm Response
- No Tree Too Small or Large
- Dead Wood Mistletoe Removal
- Sick Tree Treatment
- Tree Repair Cabling
- Stump Grinding
- Lot Clearing

Don't Let Tree Limbs Damage Your Property

SENIORS, FIRST RESPONDERS & HEALTHCARE WORKERS DISCOUNTS

PLEASE CALL US FOR

FREE ESTIMATE & INSPECTIONS

817-296-2880

PJ'S LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING

Free Estimates

Computer Design • Seasonal Planting • Mowing • Yard Maintenance • Tree Trimming • Stump Removal

817-714-4270 | www.pjslawn.com

MAMA'S PIZZA

Join Mama's mobile COUPON CLUB

Text mamas to 21333 for specials and information

817-964-3333

MORE JOY. MORE OFTEN.

RENEWED, REIMAGINED, AND READY FOR YOU.

Experience the inviting warmth of our newly renovated community designed for your comfort, security, and the freedom to live life fully. Schedule a private tour of our vibrant senior living community now.

Call (817) 776-4417

AvivaGranbury.com

INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | MEMORY CARE

Fast, Friendly & High Quality Service for more than 15 years.

EXPRESS WAY

Auto Repair & Lube Center

621 W. Pearl St., Granbury

(817) 573-0202

www.expresswaycarcare.com

MAVERICK DRIVING ACADEMY

Register for Classes

403 Temple Hall Hwy | Granbury

682-600-5734

Clear Choice Hearing Center

Dr. Bhaloo

682-936-4081

BRISCOE FLOORS AND MORE

LIMITED TIME 50% OFF IN STOCK MARBLED QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS

SHOWERS FLOORS

CALL FOR A FREE MEASURE

817-326-5172 | 4815 Fall Creek Hwy

CARTER LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE
- RANCH & ESTATE MASTER PLAN

682-936-4028

CARTERLANDSCAPE.TEXAS@GMAIL.COM

Brittany Bowers

817-573-7066 ext. 232 / brittany.bowers@hcnews.com

Heidi Gebhardt

817-573-7066 ext. 235 / heidi@hcnews.com

Madison Lazaro

817-573-7066 ext. 236 / madison@hcnews.com

DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES

3 Months: \$55/week | 6 Months: \$50/week | 12 Months: \$45/week



Lake Granbury

A SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

SATURDAY, Feb. 24, 2024

01-08
CHECK OUT THESE
PAGES FOR A LOOK AT
LAKE GRANBURY



Inside This Issue

**LAKE FRONT PROPERTY | ROLE OF BRA ON LAKE GRANBURY | BUSINESSES THAT SURVIVE
BECAUSE OF THE LAKE | LAKE ACTIVITIES | ECONOMIC IMPACT OF LAKE GRANBURY
LAKE GRANBURY WILDLIFE**

The history of Lake Granbury and the DeCordova Bend Dam

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

Lake Granbury is an iconic piece of the charming town of Granbury, attracting many in the community and those outside of town. The lake is located on the Brazos River off U.S. Highway 377 along with the DeCordova Bend Dam and is managed by the Brazos River Authority. But just how did this all come to be?

The reservoir that would become Lake Granbury first began as a six-dam master plan in 1935 by the founding members of the Brazos River Conservation and Reclamation District, known today as the Brazos River Authority. The plan was to have the middle of the Brazos River be turned into a 250-mile-long reservoir for flood control, water conservation for irrigation, soil conservation and reclamation as well as hydroelectric power production.

The DeCordova Bend Dam, named after land agent and entrepreneur Jacob DeCordova, was mapped and surveyed by the Corps of Engineers in 1937.

It wasn't until 1961 that plans for the dam were announced to the public. More than 300 people across Hood County and surrounding areas listened as Brazos River Authority board member Walter Humphrey discussed plans for the dam, according to a Mar. 2, 1961, edition of the Hood County News Tablet.

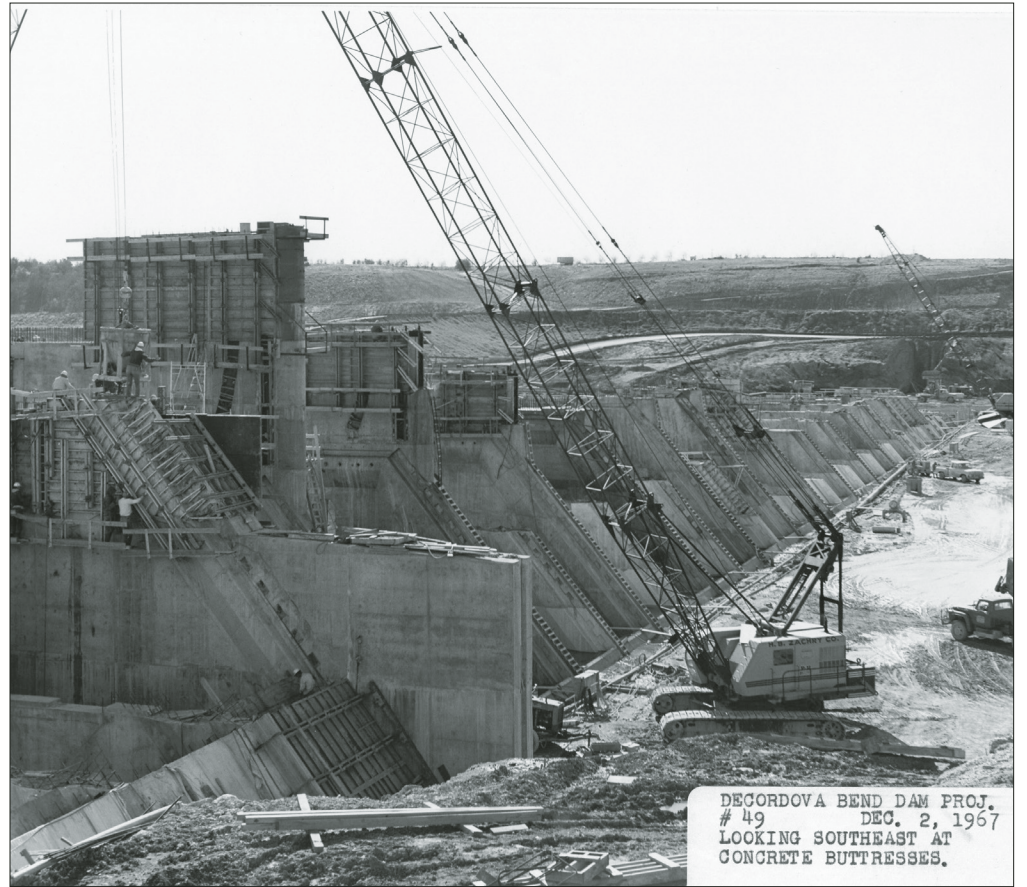
In 1966, the BRA broke ground on construction of Lake Granbury, which was completed in 1969 under a \$17 million contract. An official dedication ceremony in 1970 was attended by hundreds of people. The reservoir was built without using any tax dollars since it had been financed entirely from the sale of water by the BRA.

According to data from the BRA, Lake Granbury has a total capacity of 136,326 acre-feet and a surface area of 8,281.6 acres at the

conservation pool elevation. The lake is 35 miles long with a shoreline of 121 miles and a depth of 75 feet. The dam controls a drainage area of approximately 25,696 square miles. The dam is constructed with a combination of earth fill and Amrusen-type concrete and is 2,200 feet long, 84 feet high and has a 17-foot width at its top. The dam controls a drainage area of 25,679 miles.

The groundbreaking for Lake Granbury led to a flood of development across Hood County. In 1970, Hood County saw a boom in population.

Today, there are more than 3,300 residential boat docks and over 25 commercial boat docks along Lake Granbury. The reservoir has five public access areas for picnicking and fishing, including four parks offering primitive camping sites. The lake is a sought-after source of entertainment for both community members as well as tourists from all over.



DECORDOVA BEND DAM PROJ. # 49 DEC. 2, 1967 LOOKING SOUTHEAST AT CONCRETE BUTTRESSES.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

The Decordova Bend Dam under construction (above) and at completion (below) in 1969.




Hood County News

MARCH 23 - APRIL 20

WINNERS SELECTED WEEKLY

GRAND PRIZE WINNER*
receives

\$100 Cash Prize
Bluebonnet T-Shirt
Year long subscription to
Hood County News
Submitted photo on front page
of the newspaper!

ANNOUNCED ON APRIL 26

All submitted photos to be featured on the **hcnews website** with winners chosen **every Monday!** Weekly winners will receive a Bluebonnet T-Shirt, their photo featured on hcnews social media, and a **free subscription to the newspaper!**

FNB

Your Hometown Bank.

presents the
**SECOND ANNUAL
BLUEBONNET PHOTO CONTEST**
2024

Bonnets in Bloom



Scan the QR code to submit your photos today!

Study of Lake Granbury's wildlife and ecosystem



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

A mallard swims along the surface of Lake Granbury. The lake hosts many types of birds throughout the year.

Staff Reports

There are many different creatures both on land and in the water within Lake Granbury's plentiful ecosystem, in particular, within the area of the watershed located within the Osage Plains section of the Central Lowlands physiographic province.

The Brazos River Authority studied the ecology within the lake and found the watershed reflects a history of negative disturbances, including improper grazing procedures, soil erosion, lowered water tables in some areas, declining native grasslands and altered river ecosystems. The historic tall and mid-grass prairies have become a mesquite short grass savanna.

Animals native to the area include white-tailed deer, beaver, bobcat, coyote, fox, skunk, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, turkey and a diverse array of small mammals and birds. In addition, feral hog populations in the area are believed to be significant and on the rise.

All rivers and streams in the Lake Granbury watershed are typical prairie stream ecosystems characterized by extreme fluctuations in water level. The native fish fauna has adapted to the variable flow regimes and extremes.

Lake Granbury supports fish species not typical of streams, including common carp, gizzard shad, warmouth,

bluegill sunfish, longear sunfish, largemouth bass, white bass, spotted bass, striped bass, white crappie, flathead catfish and walleye.

The watershed, in addition to the remainder of the Cross Timbers, is important to migratory and winter waterfowl. During the migratory season, ducks and coots are distributed throughout the watershed wherever there are ponds or natural wetlands. Many species of migrating shorebirds, raptors, Neotropical songbirds and other birds stopover in the watershed to feed and rest.

At least 30 species of amphibians, reptiles and mammals are known to inhabit the watershed. Many of these species are aquatic or semi-aquatic. All toads require aquatic habitats to reproduce. A number of snakes known in the watershed are restricted to riparian habitats, including the copperhead, the western ribbon snake, the eastern coral snake and the Brazos water snake.

The golden-cheeked warbler is currently on the federal list of endangered species and its known range includes the Lake Granbury watershed. The most significant threat to the existence of the warbler is the loss and fragmentation of habitat due to clearing of oak-juniper woodlands and brood parasitism by brown-headed cowbirds. The golden-cheeked warbler breeds exclusively in

Texas, are present from early March to late August and winters from southern Mexico to Nicaragua.

The Brazos water snake is mostly aquatic, non-venomous and found only in north central Texas along the Brazos River system. Due to its limited range, it is considered to be a threatened species in the state of Texas. An adult snake can range from 16-32 inches in length. Its dorsal color ranges from brown to olive with two longitudinal rows of brown spots on each side of its body that create the look of stripes, while the ventral surface is pink to orange with one row of dark spots on each side of the belly.

The original vegetation was tallgrass prairie in the upland areas and elm, pecan and hackberry in riparian areas, where deeper soils have developed in floodplain deposits or where the underlying clays have been exposed by limestone erosion. The invasive species Ashe juniper and, to a lesser extent, honey mesquite have increased since settlement. Cross Timbers grasses include big bluestem, yellow indiagrass, little bluestem, hairy grama, Texas winter grass, sideoats grama and Texas cup grass. Present land uses include grazing on ridges with shallow soils and farming of corn, grain sorghum and wheat on the deeper soils on the flats.



A heron sits in a tree perched above the water of Lake Granbury.

Business booms in decades since dam built

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH

Special to the Hood County News
eden@hcnews.com

No one would argue that when DeCordova Bend Dam was built it changed more than the physical landscape of Hood County. The flooding of the land that would become Lake Granbury, which was previously a wide spot in the Brazos River, fundamentally changed the course of the county.

Residents whose families have lived in Hood County for generations can tell you the Granbury they always knew is barely recognizable today. What was once a sleepy little town with barely surviving commerce has become a booming town of industry and retail splendor, and a hub to all the surrounding towns.

Early residents bemoan the loss of what once was; a town where families knew each other for generations. Before the lake and the push to revitalize the downtown square, the businesses in Granbury relied on their friends and neighbors to stay afloat. The square once had empty spots as only a few businesses managed to keep their doors open.

Granbury has boomed for a variety of factors, the lake being key to that growth. But not the lake alone — the close proximity to the metroplex lured tourists to the historic downtown as it was restored to its former glory, and the history of the county in general was a support to this growth. All these things worked synergistically to make Granbury what it is today.

Some businesses were not able to weather the storms of change as the demographics in Granbury began to change. No longer was every business known as a neighbor, and small-town businesses struggled to keep their place among franchises and chains.

The lake did bring traffic to Granbury, and with the traffic came money. Sometimes that money came from people just passing through, but some money also came to stay as developments sprung up and businesses began to flourish.

Marinas, fishing stores, general purpose stores carrying bait and tackle, restaurants and multiple types of lake-side living became part of the business landscape.

Before long, Granbury boasted the sort of stores residents used to travel to Fort Worth to frequent. Stores like Ross, Marshall's, Michael's, Rack Room and James Avery were added to the ranks of big box giant Walmart, who has also carried sporting goods at a handy location. Home Goods and Ulta remain; Tuesday Morning, Famous Footwear and CiCi's Pizza did not fare as well.

The businesses around the square began changing as much as the landscape on U.S. Highway 377. When the square was revitalized decades ago, families bought the spots around the square that then held mostly tourist type items. Many of the visitors to Granbury were retirees who arrived on buses.

In recent years, some business owners who held those spots for decades retired and sold their property. The demographics of Granbury began to change as more young families moved to the area. Now many of the downtown spots cater to nightlife after receiving licenses to sell alcohol.

The downtown businesses now include art galleries, bars, upscale clothing boutiques, and specialty and niche stores. The evenings buzz with activity many nights each week on the square, which used to be quiet after 5 p.m.

Things have changed so much in the past several decades, and the growth shows no signs of slowing down.



PHOTO BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Businesses such as Mesquite Pit on E. Pearl St. provide slips for lake going customers to dock their boats while dining.



Brazos River Authority's role on Lake Granbury

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) is an integral part of Lake Granbury's sustainability, but what exactly does that mean? And what does the BRA do?

The mission of the BRA is to develop, manage and protect the water resources of the Brazos River basin, according to brazos.org. The BRA was created by the Texas Legislature in 1929 and was the first state agency in the United States created specifically for the purpose of developing and managing the water resources of an entire river basin.

DeCordova Bend Dam and Lake Granbury were constructed by the Brazos River Authority and are maintained and operated by the BRA as a source of water supply.

According to the BRA website, the project was authorized through a permit issued by the state of Texas in 1964. Construction began in December 1966 and was completed by September 1969. The project provides 136,326 acre-feet of storage capacity for conservation of flood and storm waters to meet requirements of municipalities, industries, agriculture and mining.

The BRA water supply system includes 11 reservoirs scattered across the 42,000-square-mile river basin. Three of the man-made lakes — Lake Granbury, Possum Kingdom and Lake Limestone — were built for water supply, meaning when full, the lake level is near the top of each dam.

While the three man-made lakes are owned and operated by the BRA, the other eight are owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, a fourth reservoir, Allens Creek, is a state-

permitted water storage reservoir planned for construction in the lower portion of the Brazos basin.

"The idea behind a water supply reservoir is to capture and store water during wet times for use during periods of drought when rainfall and river flows are down," Charlie Shugart, BRA assistant public information officer told the Hood County News. "Though many consider the reservoir located near their home as belonging to their city, county or region, the water stored in the 11 reservoirs permitted to the Brazos River Authority function as a 'system' or a series of linked storage facilities with the capability of supplying water both locally and to other areas within the system via release into a river, tributary or in some cases via pipeline. This includes Lake Granbury."

To ensure the dam's integrity, Shugart said, monthly and annual inspections, along with comprehensive five-year inspections are conducted regularly, as there are a variety of different requirements

BRA hydrologists, reservoir operations and emergency management, to prevent overtopping of Lake Granbury's and DeCordova Bend Dam's gates while minimizing downstream impacts where possible."

Although there are many requirements to maintaining the dam, there are also more tasks at hand than managing the water resource. Shugart said lake rangers are available daily to ensure everyone has a safe trip home after enjoying the water. She added the rangers also provide help to those in need and keep our lake and dam safe.

Today, the BRA's staff of more than 250 develop and distribute water supplies, provide water and wastewater treatment, monitor water quality, and pursue water conservation through public education programs, according to brazos.org.

"We protect the dam and the residents enjoying recreational opportunities on the water," Shugart said. "We manage inflows into the reservoir to keep our lake full during the rainy season, so water is available during the time of most need."

Shugart said while managing a water supply system as large and climatologically diverse as the BRA is quite a feat, the real test comes when there's a drought and water is scarce.

"Historically low lake levels throughout the basin during the recent drought make efficiently and resourcefully managing Lake Granbury and the other 10 reservoirs throughout the basin imperative," she said.

Shugart said the BRA is also actively working to develop new water sources throughout the Brazos River basin to meet the needs of the state's growing population, which will help all 11 of the lakes in the BRA water supply system — including Lake Granbury.

"Lake Granbury and the DeCordova Bend Dam are a treasure and vital resource to so many," Shugart added.

While many are familiar with the BRA as a whole, there are also a few misconceptions about the BRA among Granbury residents — like the idea that Lake Granbury was built with tax dollars. Shugart stressed that this is completely false.

"The reservoir was built entirely without the use of tax dollars," she said. "Instead, the BRA contracted with TXU Electric Company, now Reliant, for the purchase of cooling water for steam electric power plants. Later, in the 1980s, the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant near Glen Rose became a major user. And when it comes to operations — except for occasional governmental grants to aid in the cost of specific projects — the BRA is funded entirely through the sale of water and the management of water and wastewater services."

Another popular misconception is that Lake Granbury's primary purpose is recreation. In fact, the DeCordova Bend Dam and Lake Granbury were constructed and operated by the BRA as a source of water supply.

"As a water supply reservoir, Lake Granbury can store 129,011 acre-feet water (325,851 gallons = one acre-foot) for municipal, industrial, agricultural and mining use," Shugart said. "And who uses that water? The city of Granbury is the second largest user of the reservoir's water, behind the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant, and the lake is the water supply for many others. Recreational opportunities then, like fishing, boating and



swimming, are a secondary benefit to having the lake enjoyed by residents and visitors to the area."

Water plays an integral part of everyday life, like for drinking, brushing our teeth and showering. Shugart said the BRA — through Lake Granbury — provides that and more to Granbury residents.

"In 2023, city of Granbury residents used 4,209-acre feet of water from the reservoir. That is a lot of water," she said.

The BRA also provides recreational opportunities to the community — from fishing spots to watercraft. Four parks are also available for the public to use, and they feature boat ramps, fishing piers, camping and picnic areas.

Shugart said at the Lake Granbury office, they believe in actively engaging with the community and supporting local events.

"Our dedicated staff eagerly participates in various community gatherings, including school programs, health fairs and safety initiatives, working closely to promote drowning prevention education and water safety," she said.

"We also once a year host an event at the lake where we give away hundreds of life jackets to kids. Throughout the year, we speak when invited to local community groups as we take pride in being an accessible resource for the community."

The BRA provides a water resource for thousands of homes and businesses — and it will only continue to grow.

For more information about the BRA, visit brazos.org online.

"The idea behind a water supply reservoir is to capture and store water during wet times for use during periods of drought when rainfall and river flows are down."

CHARLIE SHUGART

BRA Assistant Public Information Officer

when it comes to managing and operating Lake Granbury.

"Our team of highly skilled hydrologists meticulously monitor the lake's water level, inflows, evaporation rates and water usage daily," she said. "Passing flood flows takes a very precise and delicate balance on the part of



THE HYDE
LAW FIRM, PLLC




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

WWW.HYDEFIRM.COM
se habla español

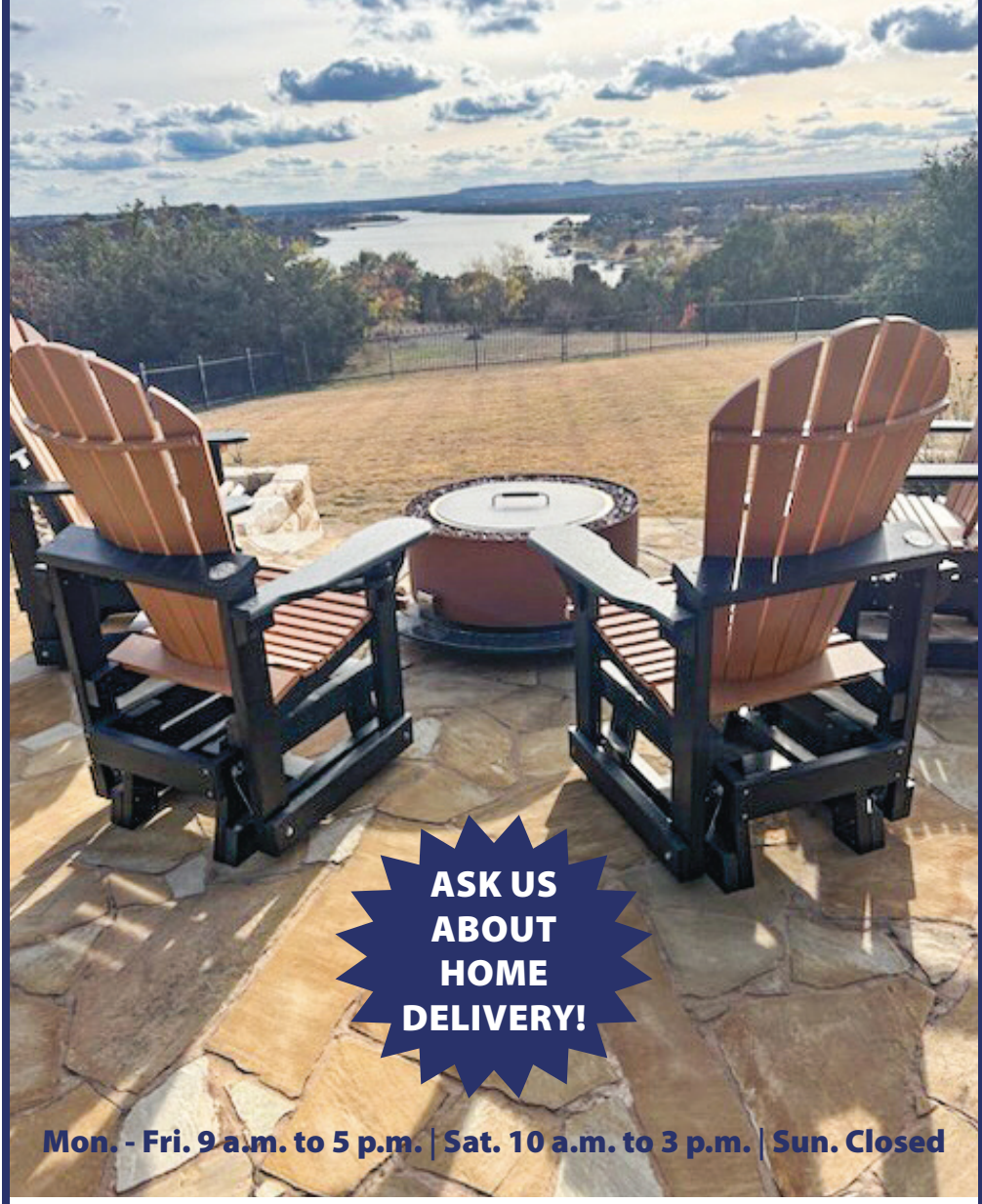
A full service law firm delivering the highest level of client service through our dedication to honesty, integrity, and results.

ELDER LAW • FAMILY LAW • INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
• PERSONAL INJURY • CRIMINAL DEFENSE • MUNICIPAL LAW
• BANKRUPTCY • IMMIGRATION LAW
WILLS & PROBATE • ESTATE PLANNING



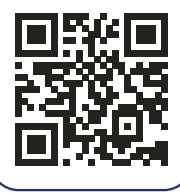


BUILT TO LAST
FUN FINE FOREVER FURNITURE




ASK US ABOUT HOME DELIVERY!

Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Sat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. | Sun. Closed



682-936-4500
1301 Weatherford Hwy
www.built-to-last.com
SalesTX@built-to-last.com



100% AMERICAN MADE
MADE FROM 100% RECYCLED PLASTIC

Economic impact of Lake Granbury

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

The quaint town of Granbury attracts many residents from all over the state for many reasons, but one of its crown jewels is Lake Granbury.

After Lake Granbury and the DeCordova Dam were finished in 1969, Granbury saw a boom in population. According to the Texas State Historical Association, between 1970 and 1980, Hood County ranked sixth among United States counties for the highest growth rate.

In 1970, Hood County had 192 retail establishments; by 1980, that number was 777. The population grew from 5,443 people in 1960 to 17,714 in 1980.

With the lake, the town was able to create a market for tourism and community involvement and capitalize on it. From boat, kayak, paddle boat and bicycle rentals, to lakeside apartments, houses and restaurants, the lake has become a hotspot for economic development and economic strides.

Properties built from 2000 to 2012 with the highest taxable values directly correlated to water adjacent homes, follow by lake related homes, and homes with a water view according to a study published by Iris Walker in 2013. The study also found that lake-related lodging facilities generate approximately 44.2% of taxable hotel receipts in

Hood County. The study also found that lake-related property values could increase between \$269.8 million and \$652.4 million over the next 30 years, meaning an additional property tax revenue between \$0.8 million and \$1.9 million dollars for Hood County.

The boom of the lake has led to boat docks being built, and boat repair shops soon followed. In 2020, more than 3,300 residential boat docks and 25 commercial docks were located on Lake Granbury, according to the Brazos River Authority.

In 2021, a 48-acre luxury development known as Lakeview Landing was approved by the Granbury City Council that will include residential, retail, office and restaurant space with waterfront dining. Single family homes are also being planned there with some being built on an island. This development is estimated to serve not only 1,000 residents but also to attract others from inside and outside the community to enjoy the planned trails, boardwalk and park.

From 2020 to 2022, the City of Granbury's population grew by 1,433 people, a rate of 13.1%. Hood County's population grew to 65,209 during that time and is expected to grow to 68,160 by 2026. With that kind of expected growth, development and expansion will follow, making Lake Granbury a continental hotspot for businesses.



The historic Granbury Courthouse as seen from the waters of Lake Granbury.

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Patten Properties



COURTESY PHOTO

The sweet life awaits you at Pecan Plantation. Surrounded by mature pecan orchards and the Brazos River. Here you can live everyday like you're on vacation. Land starts at just \$79,900 – build the home of your dreams – steps from golf, country club, pools, sports fields, a marina, access to Lake Granbury, riverside parks, equestrian center, dog park, tennis, pickleball, private runways, a shopping village. This amenity-rich community is gated and secure, with onsite EMS, fire department and helipad.

Choose from three different neighborhoods at Pecan Plantation, each neighborhood features a variety of highlights and all have access to the wide range of amenities available to residents.

Visit PecanLandSale.com

DeCordova Bend Dam



COURTESY OF BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

The Brazos River Authority began construction of the DeCordova Bend Dam at Lake Granbury in December 1966, completing the water supply reservoir by September 1969.

GET LAKE READY

SANDI BEACHES
HIGH-PERFORMANCE TANNING

Achieve the perfect sun-kissed glow for your lakeside adventures

(817) 573-2008
1460 E Highway 377
sandibeachestx@gmail.com

SAME PAPER AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

HCNEWS.COM

THE Best of Hood County
11 Time Winner!

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

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

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

Lake Granbury - a lake for all seasons

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH

Special to the Hood County News eden@hcnews.com

A significant reason many choose to settle in Granbury is the draw of the local lake. Some of these lake lovers became residents where they can both live and work. For other residents a commute to the metroplex for work allows them quick access to the lake and the ability to take advantage of the slower pace of a small town. And for those whose families trace their heritage in Hood County back generations they separate time by the phrases "before the lake" and "after the lake," meaning after the DeCordova dam made a lake out of a section of river.

Activities around Lake Granbury abound throughout the seasons. Though spring and summer bring the most activity, now with the advent of Granbury Convention and Visitors Bureau's Winter Guest program, added fun continues on the coldest of days. This is most clearly expressed in the Goosebump Jump in January when costume-clad attendants plunge into the icy lake to the cheers of the audience.

Lake sporting is a top priority to residents and visitors alike especially in the warmer months. The 33.5 miles of lake provide vast lengths for water sports. The lake boasts five boat ramps and two fishing piers. Those enjoying boating, kayaking, and watercraft find plenty of room to roam.

The 103 miles of shore-

line provide ample opportunity to find good coves for fishing, and multiple fishing guides in the area can provide guidance to even a rank beginner.

Four easily accessible campsites exist around Lake Granbury for anyone wanting to star-gaze and sleep in the night air - perfect stay-cation awaits

Lake Granbury's city beach provides a bastion of fun all in one spot. Covered picnic tables and a pergola dot the beach allowing a shaded place to enjoy a meal or seek respite from the summer sun.

The splash pad at the city beach delights beachgoers both young and young at heart. There is no fee to enter the beach and the splash pad is free as well. Bathrooms are handily located directly on the sand.

If you forgot your picnic lunch when visiting the city beach you can grab a bite at the Tiki hut right on site and it won't set you back much. Tubes, bikes, stand-up paddle boards and kayaks are available to rent.

Evenings are nice on the beach almost any time of year. A beach chair provides a relaxing spot from which to enjoy the breeze as the sun sets. The boardwalk is a lovely backdrop and a practical tool for traversing from the parking lot to the downtown area.

Several local restaurants provide lakeside dining with diverse fare. A quaint date or evening out with friends seems more magical with the lapping of water.

Fireworks over the lake for Granbury's Hometown fourth of July Celebration

bring families from all over the region. The Lake Granbury lighted boat parade is also a fun event that families attend yearly. The reflection of the lights in the water make the summer evenings especially memorable.

Lake conditions may be checked on the lake-cam found on the Lake Granbury Convention and Visitors Bureau site at visitgranbury.com/things-to-do/lake-cam. The Brazos River Authority has information on waterfowl hunting on Lake Granbury. The Hood County News is a good source for what fish are biting and where best to find them. Any further questions can be answered at Granbury's Convention and Visitors Bureau at 817-573-5548.



PHOTO BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Lake Granbury offers the opportunity to find good coves for fishing, and multiple fishing guides in the area can provide guidance to even a rank beginner.



COURTESY PHOTO

Lakegoers enjoy boating and kayaking, with plenty of room to roam.

BRISCOE
FLOORS AND MORE

**LIMITED TIME: 50% OFF
INSTALLED MARBLE QUARTZ
SELECT ENGINEERED WOOD
\$5/SQ. FT. INSTALLED
75% OFF SELECT CARPET**

COUNTERTOPS • SHOWERS • FLOORS
817•326•5172 | 4815 Fall Creek Hwy

Firehouse Cafe
Home Cooking

**FUEL UP
BEFORE
HEADING OUT**

1462 Hwy 377 East | Granbury, TX
Monday-Saturday, 6 am-2 pm | Sunday, 8 am-2 pm
817-279-1160

GranburyLive.com
1-800-340-9703

Scan QR Code

GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE

	February 24th, 2024 7:00pm Bart Crow
	February 29th, 2024 7:30pm Mike Ryan Country Singer & Songwriter
	March 1st, 2024 7:30pm Tommy Alverson
	March 2nd, 2024 7:00pm Texas Flood Tribute to Jimi Hendrix & ZZ Top
	March 3rd, 2024 7:00pm Jimmy Fortune performed with the legendary Statler Brothers
	March 8th, 2024 7:30pm William Lee Martin
	March 9th, 2024 7:00pm IN HALEN A Van Halen Tribute
	March 15th, 2024 Cody Canada
	March 16th, 2024 7:00pm Two Dudes: A Night of Rock and Soul Michael Hix + One

Livin' lakeside

The draw of Lake Granbury on homebuyers

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

For decades, Lake Granbury has served as a huge draw for potential homebuyers who desire to live on the lake.

But as Granbury continues to grow, the number of new lakeside properties has started to diminish due to the lack of available land.

"Granbury is exploding with people and the roads aren't big enough to handle them all now," Pam Knieper, broker/owner of Knieper Real Estate and waterfront expert told the HCN. "We're just about out of land for building waterfront properties. There's a few areas left, and we got one area working with a developer right now that's trying to put in some townhouses on the lake, but pretty much if you want to move to Granbury and live on the lake, you gotta buy something that's existing already."

Additionally, as lakefront living is such a huge draw to Granbury residents, Knieper explained how most people move here in their late 50s and choose to stay here until they pass away or are forced to move to another residence.

"A lot of people come out here to retire," she explained. "This is a retirement community. A lot of them come a little early and just commute back to Fort Worth and Dallas to work until they do retire, but one of their main reasons to come out here is to have a lake home; that's why we don't have a big turnover on lakefront properties either."

With the exception of the drought that took place in 2008, property values for lakefront homes have con-

tinued to soar within the last 10 years.

"The property values, of course, have gone way up, no doubt about that over the years," Knieper said. "We had the drought in 2008 and then there was also the recession at the same time, so it was a bad time on Lake Granbury. But at that time the prices on the main body waterfront had gotten up to almost \$300 a foot to have a nice house on the lake, and then after the drought, property value dropped way down, and we basically had to start back over building the prices back up."

According to Knieper, main body waterfront prices on Lake Granbury have risen from an average of less than \$150 per square foot to over \$350 per square foot.

"The main body of the lake is like the main shoreline that makes the riverbed," Knieper explained. "The main body is the place where the property values went up the highest. The prices are back up on the main body over \$400 a foot for some places, which is really good, but there's a shortage of inventory. There's also close to 500 re-altors in Granbury now and then with a big shortage on homes to sell, the competition in the real estate market is pretty tough."

In 2022, there were 176 lakefront homes sold in Hood County with an average sale price of \$711,804 and \$298 average per square foot.

In 2023, 198 lakefront homes were sold in Hood County with an average sale price of \$670,978 and \$309 average per square foot.

To date in 2024, Knieper said there have been 11 lakefront homes sold ranging in price from a low

of \$80,000 to a high of \$1,950,000.

There are currently 45 homes on Lake Granbury listed for sale in the North Texas Real Estate Information System. They range in price from \$199,900 to \$3,750,000 with square foot prices averaging \$356. There are an additional 13 homes currently under contract.

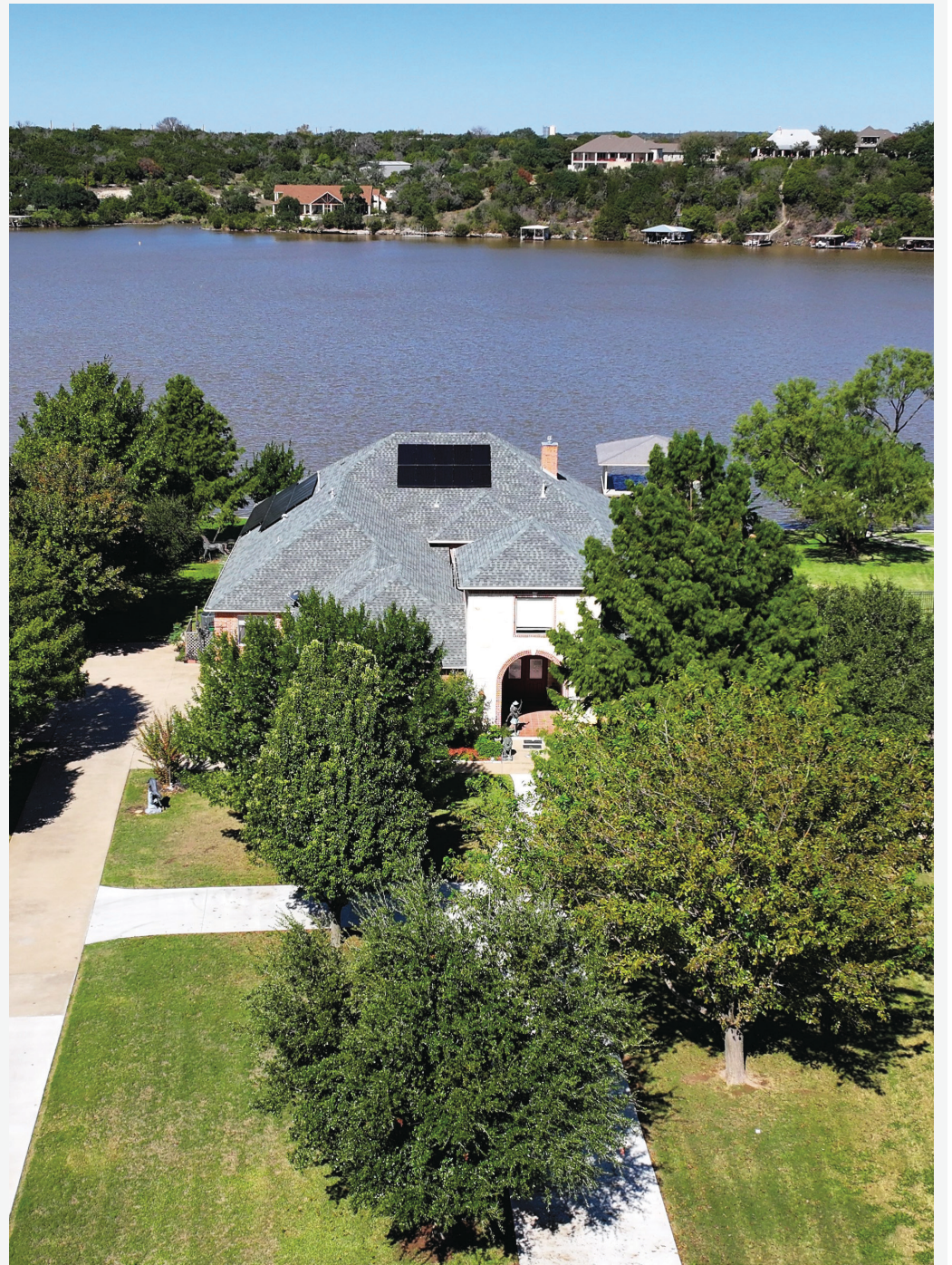
"A lot of times I end up taking people out in my boat to show them the (property) from the lake side, especially if they're interested in waterfront," Knieper said. "We have what's called 'walk out water,' and that actually means you don't have to walk down a big cliff to get to the water; it's just right outside your back door. But lots of people don't really care about walking down to the water. They like the views better."

As a waterfront expert for the past 26 years herself, Knieper said it was always a dream of hers to live on the lake. She said she and her husband fell in love with Granbury's small-town community, its dining, entertainment, and shopping — but the lake was where it hit home.

"We eventually got here, and Granbury is right on the edge of the hills, so it didn't look like Texas," she said. "I think there's a lot of people who do fall in love with the terrain here, because we get the rolling hills, the rivers and valleys, and all the other things that our town has to offer."

While there may not be as many new lakefront properties for sale in the coming years, one thing is for sure — Lake Granbury will always be a huge draw for current and future residents.

Knieper Realty Inc.



COURTESY PHOTO

1106 Baja Ct – 1,850,000

Magnificent, mainbody, waterfront home on walk-out water. 4197 SF – pool – 4 bedrooms 3 ½ baths – 2 slip boat dock. Amazing kitchen. Located in gated community – This one is a must see! Offered exclusively by The Waterfront Experts. Knieper Realty Inc – 817-219-0456 – www.WeSellGranbury.com

A Growing Family Business

Since 1998



KNIEPER
TEAM
REAL ESTATE

817-219-0456
www.WeSellGranbury.com

The Waterfront Experts and The Authority on Real Estate.

Lake Granbury welcomes you!



Stunning Natural Beauty & Unparalleled Amenities

THE SWEET LIFE AWAITS YOU



NEW HOMESITES STARTING AT \$79,900

Choose from The Orchards, The Landings, and The Ranches

Nestled within the picturesque landscape of Granbury, Pecan Plantation is an amenity-rich community offering residents an unparalleled lifestyle, with access to the pristine waters of Lake Granbury. Boasting an array of amenities including a marina, golf courses, clubhouse, swimming pools, sports fields, riverside parks, and private runways, as well as a shopping village, Pecan Plantation ensures there's always something for everyone. With land parcels **starting at \$79,900**, Pecan Plantation beckons those seeking a harmonious blend of luxury and outdoor adventure in the heart of Texas.

STOP BY THE INFO CENTER FOR DETAILS

Call or Text for More Info (833) 273-2159 | pecanlandsale.com

GR Property Group, LLC, Broker. Equal Housing Opportunity.



PECAN PLANTATION