



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[SATURDAY, March 16, 2024]

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BACK-TO-BACK STATE CHAMPS



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Tyson Tarpley biting a gold medal after the Lipan Indians were named Texas 2A State Champions for the second year in a row. Please see more championship coverage on B1.



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Tracy Miller pictured with his rescue animals at T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, located at 950 Williamson Road in Granbury.

Healing hooves

Pecan Valley takes reins on new equine therapy program

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Joshua Morrison may have just found some of the perfect therapists for veterans suffering from PTSD — and all they require is love. Well, that, and maybe a few butt scratches. Morrison, the veteran

program manager for Pecan Valley Centers for Behavioral and Developmental Healthcare, recently stumbled upon an article involving veterans, PTSD and equine therapy. In the article, it revealed that veterans who participate in equine therapy were reporting 87% better results in their PTSD symptoms.

“I was like, ‘Man, I could have 20 therapists working around the clock and I would never get close to those numbers,’” Morrison said. While ideas were forming, however, it wasn’t until he was approached last fall by Jim Sharp, board member for T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, that a plan started taking shape. “I had just spoken in front

of my church about my veteran services program and (Sharp) came to me, and he was like, ‘Hey, Josh, would you be interested in doing some veteran equine therapy?’ The skies parted and I was like, ‘As a matter of fact, I would be very interested,’” Morrison said.

PLEASE SEE **HOOVES** | A5



The history of the famous Saint Patrick’s Day

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

Saint Patrick’s Day brings to mind clover, pots of gold and the color green. Many celebrate this holiday without knowing the history and reasoning behind the day. Saint Patrick’s Day takes place March 17 each year and celebrates a patron saint of Ireland in the late fourth century. Patrick was kidnapped by pirates and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He was held captive by Milchu, a high priest in Druidism, which held major religious influence in Ireland at the time. Patrick was held for six years while his Christian ideals became stronger along with his belief that his captivity was a test of his faith. He escaped to France in 408 A.D. and became a cleric. He became a deacon around 418 A.D. and was ordained as a bishop by 432 A.D. According to Irish tradition, he was sent by Pope Celestine I to Ireland to spread the word of God by providing support to the small community of Christians in the area at the time. Many believe Saint Patrick introduced the Celtic cross that consisted of both Pagan and Christianity symbols. He is often credited with bringing Christianity to the Irish

PLEASE SEE **HISTORY** | A8



138TH YEAR, NO. 11

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 30 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 30 pages

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GRANBURY ISD JOB FAIR

Saturday, April 6, 2024 • 9 AM - 1 PM

GISD Administration Building - 217 N. Jones St.

Learn more at: granburyisd.org/jobfair

COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CHAMBER NEWS



Join us for our Women in Business and Rising Leaders of Granbury After-hours Co-ed Mixer!

Granbury Chamber of Commerce

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 26th, because Warren's Backyard is the place to be! Thanks to the generous support of Wellington State Bank, we're gearing up for a night that's going to be nothing short of epic. Picture this: a rustic and charming setting, pulsating with energy, as we come together to celebrate, connect, and inspire.

From 5:30-8 p.m., prepare to be swept off your feet by the electrifying atmosphere. This isn't your ordinary mixer; all are welcome! It's a convergence of powerhouse professionals, budding entrepreneurs, and even those retired or enjoying a slower pace of life, all united by a common goal: to uplift and empower. Dive into dynamic conversations, forge meaningful connections, and unleash your competitive spirit with backyard games that promise laughter and camaraderie.

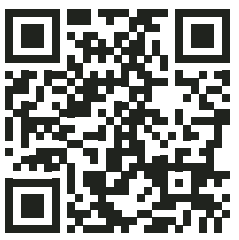
But that's just the beginning of the excitement. Picture yourself grooving to the infectious beats of Bailey Rhodes and Tyler Bond, two musical talents who will set the stage on fire with their performances. And did we mention the delectable delights that await? Indulge your taste buds with mouthwatering treats from food trucks Josefina's Tamales and LaCreperie, ensuring that every bite is a flavor-packed delight.

This isn't your typical stuffy networking affair. We're all about building a vibrant community where success is celebrated and fun is mandatory. So, whether you're a seasoned pro, a budding entrepreneur, or simply someone who values connection, this Women In Business and Rising Leaders Co-ed mixer is your ticket to an evening of empowerment and revelry.

Tickets for this exclusive extravaganza are selling fast, with prices set at \$30 for Members and \$40 for General Admission. Tickets cost includes two drink tickets, music & fun! Additionally, don't forget to bring your cash and participate in our "Lucky Draw Down" game. Numbers will be available for purchase for \$10 in cash. By joining in, you'll have the opportunity to win half of the total pot while the remaining half will be contributed to a local non-profit, Forward Training Center.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to be part of something extraordinary. Secure your spot today by visiting www.granburychamber.com, reaching out to Maegan Derryberry at maegan@granburychamber.com, or giving us a call at 817-573-1622. Hurry, because tickets are limited, and you won't want to miss out on the hottest event in town!

Scan the QR code to visit www.granburychamber.com and secure your spot today.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COURTESY GRAPHIC

COURTESY GRAPHIC

CHAMBER SUPERSTAR

COURTESY GRAPHIC

TOP LEFT: Member Spotlight: Misty Tucker, Licensed Insurance Broker

"I am licensed to help find affordable coverage for you and your family. I will work with you to find the best solutions for your budget and circumstances. I am contracted with over 30 A-rated carriers and I shop all health and life plans in order to find something that meets your needs."

Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

TOP RIGHT: Member Spotlight: The Grape Lady

"Each month, a specially curated six-pack of exquisite wines arrives to meet all your wine desires. We provide the wine so that you can live your best life, drinking the best wines...wines from family-owned wineries that never make it to the retailer shelves. From celebrating your daily victories to making Monday a bit more bearable, our selection is perfect for all occasions."

Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

LEFT: Chamber Superstar: Granbury Dental Center

"Welcome to Granbury Dental Center, where your health and happiness is our top priority. We love caring for our community, and we're proud to have some of the top dentists in the country using the most advanced technology to treat all your dental needs under one roof. We've been providing quality dental care in Granbury for over 30 years and would be honored with the opportunity to serve you."

POLICE BLOTTER

Granbury Police Department Criminal Activity Report

The following is a breakdown of activity reported through the Granbury Police Department during the period of March 5 - March 11. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

- MARCH 5**
 - 7:52 a.m.: There was a terroristic threat reported on Harbor Lakes Dr.
 - 8:15 a.m.: Driving while license invalid was reported on W. U.S. Hwy. 377.
 - 11:52 a.m.: Fraud was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
 - 1:40 p.m.: A runaway juvenile was reported on Sunflower Ln.
 - 1:40 p.m.: There was a fraud reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
 - 7:19 p.m.: There was a mental person reported on E. Bridge St.
 - 9:41 p.m.: There was an assault reported on E. Bridge St.
 - **There were also two major accidents, two minor accidents, and 29 traffic stops reported on this day**
- MARCH 6**
 - 8:02 p.m.: There was suspicious activity reported on Heather Dr.
 - 9:42 p.m.: There was an animal bite re-



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

- ported on Sapphire Ln.
- **There was also a major accident, three minor accidents, and 27 traffic stops reported on this day**
- MARCH 7**
 - 2:13 a.m.: There was suspicious activity reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
 - 10:44 a.m.: There was lost property reported on S. Morgan St.
 - 1:18 p.m.: There was a disturbance re-

- ported on Pirate Dr.
- 4:21 p.m.: There was lost property reported on S. Morgan St.
- 11:15 p.m.: Unlawful possession of a firearm was reported on Acton Hwy.
- **There were also two major accidents, one minor accident and a warrant service reported on this day**

PLEASE SEE REPORT | A4



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- ▶ Mosquitos
- ▶ Bed Bugs
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- ▶ Rodent and Animal Exclusion
- ▶ Termites

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FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The bluebonnets are coming!



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

Where has the time gone? Remarkably, we are halfway through the month of March while just the other day, it was New Year's Eve. A host of traditional markers seem to be upon us as most schools celebrate spring break this week, St. Patrick's Day is Sunday and Easter is just around the corner. Before we know it, full blown spring will be upon us.

The best thing about spring in Texas is the arrival of the bluebonnets. I am not sure of any annual ritual which puts a bigger spring in my step or smile on my face than does seeing bluebonnets dotting the Texas

landscape.

Texas is known for its bluebonnets and even though it's not the only place in the United States where they can be found, it is the only place you'll find both the *Lupinus Texensis*

and *Lupinus Subcarnosus* species. Bluebonnets are often seen as a symbol of renewal, hope and the Texas spirit. The flowers are very hardy and represent the beauty that can emerge from even the harshest and most challenging environments.

One of my favorite ways to observe bluebonnets is driving down the highway, enjoying the fresh air of spring while listening to my favorite music on the radio. I do not know how many people in Texas have the same spring ritual as I, but I feel certain it is most of them.

Did you know the bluebonnet was chosen as the official state flower in 1901? Or that Texas was the first state to plant wildflowers along its highways? Aren't we glad they did so?

FIRST NATIONAL BANK BONNETS IN BLOOM CONTEST

With the arrival of spring, it is time for the second annual First National Bank "Bonnetts in Bloom" contest! Last year hundreds of photos were submitted portraying our readers' favorite bluebonnet images. Some were silly, some artistic and all were simply amazing.

Starting March 18 and for a total of four weeks, a weekly winner will be selected from those photos which are submitted on our website. The winner each week will receive a one-year subscription to the Hood County News, a Bonnetts in Bloom T-shirt, and their photo will be included in the following week's edition of the newspaper as well as on the paper's website. At

the end of four weeks, a grand prize winner will be announced from the total entries received. The winner shall receive, in addition to the weekly prize, a \$100 cash prize, plus their photo will be featured on the front page of the newspaper! Importantly, all the entries will be featured in the gallery section of our website.

So, while you are out driving around, taking landscape shots of bluebonnets, images of your kids sitting in a field of "bonnies," or great images of the Texas countryside dotted with bluebonnets,

send the photo to the Hood County News website. Go to www.hoodcountynews.com and enter. Last year's grand prize winner was viewed online by nearly 500,000 people! This year we have a goal of a million views! Thought for the day: God created Texas so we could all know what heaven looks like. Until next time... I will keep ridin' the storm out.



Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

Kolton Krottinger

Say hello to our neighbor, Kolton Krottinger!

Pecan Valley MHMR recently announced that Kolton Krottinger, a decorated U.S. Navy veteran and best-selling author on mental health, is now a peer supporter for veterans. His role in helping local veterans access healthcare advocacy, claims appointments, employment benefits, education benefits, financial assistance and mental health support suits him well. Look for him at the Granbury VA, American Legion, VFW and other locations in Hood County. Krottinger has partnered with local organizations and collaborated with Hood County government to lead initiatives and implement strategies to support veterans in the community. Although Krottinger has been a Hood County resident for just a year, his family has owned land in the area for over five decades. He loves the rich history that permeates Hood County. For example, his family ranch, Blue Branch Historic Ranch, is the location of a cemetery where notable local figures such as "Pleasant Thorp" and the founders of Texas Christian University and Thorp Spring, are buried. Krottinger's family ranch is a mental health retreat for veterans and first responders offering comprehensive services such as therapy, counseling, medication management, financial assistance, and recreational activities like camping, fishing and hiking. Ongoing construction includes a 10,000-square-foot building that will serve as both a residence and an outpost office for Pecan Valley Veterans Services, providing a one-stop-shop for veterans' needs. Krottinger said, "My journey in Hood County has only just begun, and I'm excited to continue finding ways to contribute to the betterment of this vibrant community." Krottinger says he loves the Hood County News because it provides a wide range of information and always contains something interesting and entertaining for people of all ages.

Texas Workforce Commission awards \$200,000 to North Central Texas Teachers

Staff Report

The Texas Workforce Commission awarded a \$200,000 grant to the Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas to help more than 150 teachers prepare the next generation for the most needed occupations in the 14-country region.

During the summer, educators selected WSNCT's for Summer 2024 iWork: Teacher Externship will be

matched with employers for job shadowing and immersion. After the week-long program concludes, teachers will create lesson plans which will emphasize the competencies required in the in-demand industries and present the lessons to their classrooms in the 2024-2025 academic school year.

This is the fourth year WSNCT has offered the iWork externship to local school districts. Last year, 44 educators from three differ-

ent school districts and 39 businesses participated. The grant this year will exponentially increase opportunities for teachers, businesses and students in Collin, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell and Wise counties.

A teacher from Allen High School who was matched with the Allen Fairview Chamber of Commerce last year said, "Teaching can be its own little bubble.

Realistically most of my students will advance to professions outside of education. There's no substitute for the chance to learn and network with other professionals in a different industry."

Applications for host businesses located in the 14-county region are being accepted now at www.dfw-jobs.com For more information about the WSNCT's Summer 2024 iWork: Teacher Externship, email externship@dfwjobs.com.

Commissioners court declares March 29 Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Day



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Laura Fisher, Margaret Cook, and Faye Landham, members of the Friends of the Memorial Lane in Granbury, are pictured with the Hood County Commissioners Court as they accept the proclamation declaring March 29 as Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Day during a regularly scheduled meeting on March 12.

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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The Hood County Commissioners Court declared March 29 Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Day in the county during a regularly scheduled meeting March 12.

"We have one more proclamation," Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said during

the meeting. "This is a very important one, I think, and long overdue."

The proclamation began by stating our nation's Vietnam War commemoration gives us the opportunity for all Americans to "recognize, honor and thank" Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices during the Vietnam War from Nov. 1, 1955 through May 15, 1975.

More than 9,000 organizations across America have joined with the Department of Defense as a commemorative partner to honor our nation's Vietnam veterans, including all 197 chapters of the Texas Daughters of the American Revolution and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, the proclamation reads.

This commemoration also includes nine million

Americans, with approximately 7.2 million of them living today, and makes no distinction about who served "in-country, in-theater or were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years," as they all answered the call of duty.

In 2016, Veteran's Affairs Secretary Robert A. McDonald designated March

PLEASE SEE **VETERAN** | A8

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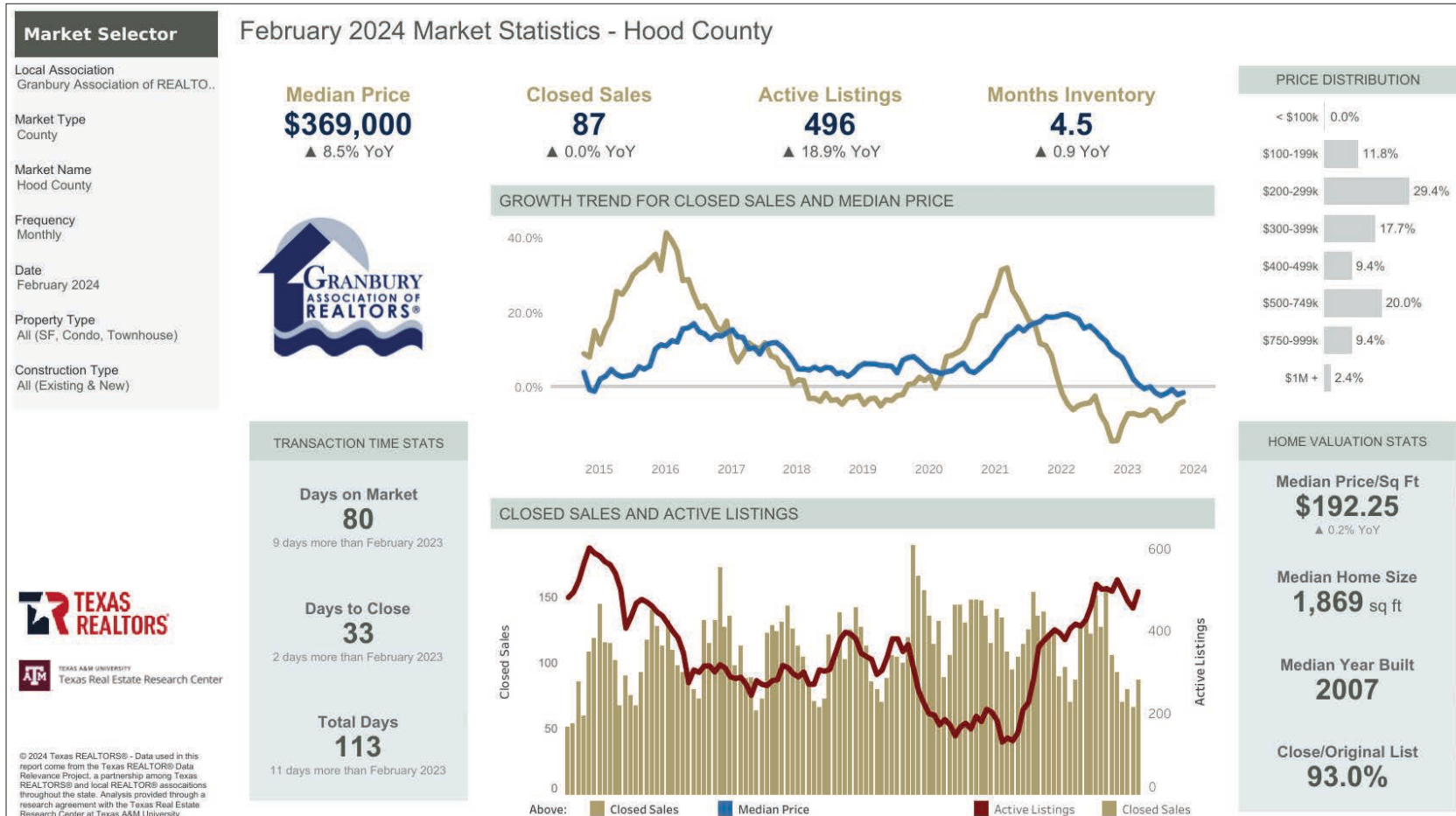
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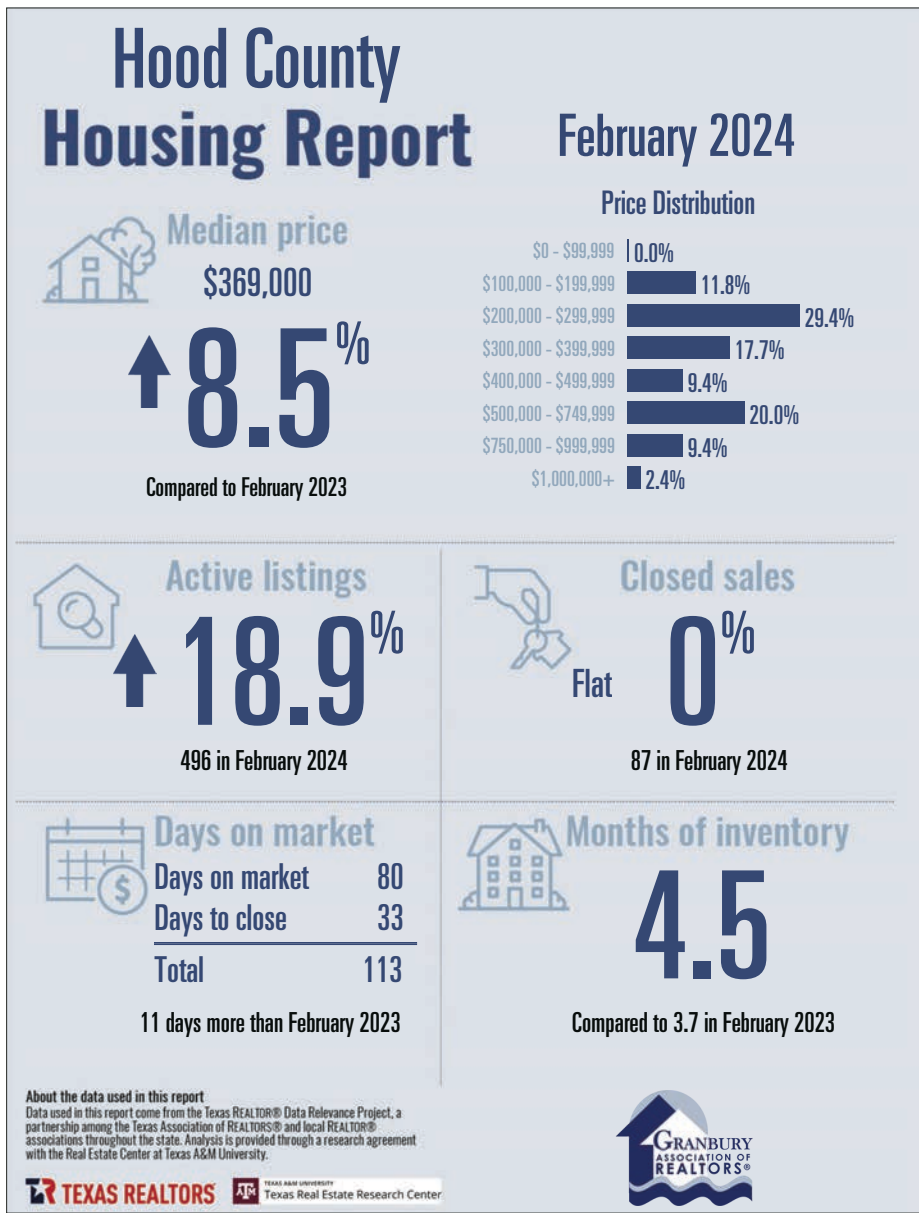
CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

COMMUNITY BUSINESS CONT'D

GRANBURY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS



The graphic shows the Hood County market statistics for February 2024.



The graphic shows the Hood County Housing Report for February 2024.

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

AMBASSADOR OF THE MONTH
John Avila

Business: Grindstone Investigations
Time as Ambassador: 1.5 years

GRINDSTONE INVESTIGATIONS

Ambassador of the Month: John Avila

We are thankful for our amazing Ambassador of the Month...John Avila with Grindstone Investigations!

When asked what he loves about being an Ambassador he said "I am truly an introvert, but I love talking business. Being an ambassador is a great way for me to meet new people without going outside my comfort zone."

Fun Fact about John: "I like to roller skate!"

Thank you, John, for being an Ambassador of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

REPORT

FROM PAGE A2

MARCH 8

2:46 a.m.: There was an assault reported on E. US Hwy. 377.
9:15 a.m.: Criminal trespassing was reported on E. US Hwy. 377.
9:55 a.m.: There was an assault reported on Shannan Cir.
10:37 a.m.: There was an assault reported on Parkwood Ln.
11:39 p.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
12:46 p.m.: There was an assault reported on W Pearl St.
5:02 p.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
5:07 p.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
6:26 p.m.: A theft was reported on

E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
7:16 p.m.: There was a hit and run reported on S. Brazos St.
7:59 p.m.: A reckless driver was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
8:35 p.m.: Possession of a controlled substance was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
There was also one minor accident and 30 traffic stops reported on this day

MARCH 9

1:13 a.m.: A public intoxication was reported on W. Moore St.
10:56 a.m.: Criminal trespassing was reported on W. U.S. Hwy 377.
11:53 a.m.: Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
1:03 p.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy 377.

2:28 p.m.: Criminal mischief was reported on N. Travis St.
2:40 p.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy 377.
5:46 p.m.: A terroristic threat was reported on E. U.S. Hwy 377.
6:13 p.m.: A public intoxication was reported on Weatherford Hwy.
There was also one major accident, a warrant service, and 11 traffic stops reported on this day

MARCH 10

1:52 a.m.: Loud music was reported on Old Granbury Rd.
10:21 a.m.: A theft was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
11:26 a.m.: Criminal mischief was reported on S. Morgan St.
7:36 p.m.: A juvenile problem was reported on E. Pearl St.
9:04 p.m.: A suspicious vehicle was

reported on Howard Clemmons Rd.
9:09 p.m.: There was a disturbance reported on W. Pearl St.
There were also two minor accidents, a warrant service, and 8 traffic stops reported on this day

MARCH 11

2:35 a.m.: Possession of drug paraphernalia was reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
3:19 a.m.: There was a disturbance reported on Spring Ridge Cir.
8:15 a.m.: The abandoned vehicle was reported on E. U.S. Hwy 377.
7:45 p.m.: There was a traffic hazard reported on E. U.S. Hwy. 377.
9:42 p.m.: There was a disturbance reported on Sapphire Ln.
**There was also a major accident, two minor accidents, a warrant service, and 50 traffic stops reported on

CALENDAR

ONGOING

FORWARD TRAINING

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

BLUEGRASS JAMMING

at 2 p.m. Show at 5 p.m. Oakdale Park, Glen Rose. 254-897-2321.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

luncheon at noon, Hope Community Church's new facility at 1342 E. U.S. Highway 377, Granbury. Speakers are former presidents, Pastor Mike McMahon, current President Pastor Lowell Ercanbrack, and Associate Pastor Diane Rasbury. They will speak about on the upcoming Bible Reading Marathon.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

HOOD COUNTY Master Gardeners meet at 1 p.m. at the Reunion Arena, 641 Reunion Court. Program: Taking the Mystery Out of Growing Orchids by Dotty Woodson, EdD. Explore the mystery around the orchid plant family and orchid growing. Discover where and how orchids grow in nature and how you can grow orchids on your windowsill, under lights, in your greenhouse or outdoors for the summer. The program will include info on orchid growing, potting material, watering, fertilizing, and collecting and growing flowering orchids. For more information, contact the office of the AgriLife Extension, Hood County at 817-579-3280.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

HOSPITAL DISTRICT board meeting to discuss the hospital tax. Meeting at noon, Hood County Annex 1 meeting room, 1410 W Pearl St, Granbury, TX 76048. 817-579-3200 for information.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

MID CITIES Stamp Club meeting at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 Emerald Bend Court at 7 p.m. Subject is "The Olympics then and now." For questions call 817-910-8174.

JOBS FOR Life classes at Forward Training Center begin. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and run through May 16, with graduation May 17. Email info@forwardtrainingcenter.org or call 817-573-6677.

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | A10

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.

ZED by Duane M. Abel

DO YOU HAVE HOMEWORK, BRIAN?
YUP, WE ARE LEARNING ABOUT MONEY... IT'S HARD!

I HAVE A FRIEND THAT MAY BE ABLE TO HELP,

© 2024 DUANE M. ABEL

www.corkeycomics.com

County designates April as awareness month for sexual assault, child abuse

BY **ASHLEY TERRY**
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

The Hood County Commissioners Court presented two proclamations declaring April both Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Hood County, during a regularly-scheduled meeting March 12.

Justin Rossner, representative for Mission Granbury and the Paluxy River Children's Advocacy Center, read both proclamations during the meeting.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

According to the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation, nearly 270,000 children in Texas were reported as abused or neglected last

year. The National Children's Alliance also reports that more than 600,000 children are abused in the U.S. each year.

The proclamation states child abuse prevention is a "community responsibility," and that finding solutions depends on "involvement among all people."

"Communities must make every effort to promote programs that benefit children and their families," Rossner said, reading from the proclamation.

He continued reading, "Effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships among agencies, schools, religious organizations, law enforcement agencies and the business community."

The proclamation concluded by stating "Everyone in the community should become

more aware of child abuse prevention and consider helping parents raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment."

The Hood County Commissioners Court then proclaimed the month of April 2024 Child Abuse Prevention Month, urging "all citizens to work together to help reduce child abuse and neglect significantly in years to come."

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Rossner then read the proclamation declaring April Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Hood County.

According to the proclamation, sexual assault is a "serious crime that touches all communities regardless of age, race, disability, gender identity or socioeconomic



PHOTOS BY **ASHLEY TERRY** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County Commissioners Court presented a proclamation declaring April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month during a regularly scheduled meeting March 12.

status."

Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an "excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual assault," according to the proclamation, and will allow individuals to "show support for the organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims."

On average, there are 463,634 victims ages 12 or older who suffer from rape and sexual assault each year in the United States. According to the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), every 68 seconds, an

American is sexually assaulted, and every nine minutes, that victim is a child.

According to RAINN, the National Sexual Assault Hotline helped more than 27,000 victims per month nationwide in 2023.

Additionally, the proclamation revealed that Mission Granbury's Victim Services Program served 161 sexual assault victims last fiscal year.

"Preventing sexual assault means changing the social norms that allow and condone violence and requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, in-

stitutions and systems, each wholeheartedly committed to transforming our community," Rossner said, reading from the proclamation.

The Hood County Commissioners Court then proclaimed April 2024 Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the county, in recognition of the important work done by "survivors, sexual assault programs, and victims' service providers."

The proclamation also urged residents to become involved in efforts to prevent and respond to sexual assault and recognize the impact it has in our community.



The Hood County Commissioners Court presented a proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month during a regularly scheduled meeting March 12.

HOOVES

FROM PAGE A1

T.E.X.A.S. (Texas Equine Xperience And Sanctuary) Rescue is a nonprofit organization that serves to rescue, rehab, and rehome donkeys, horses and mules.

At first, Morrison was concerned about the "expensive undertaking" associated with starting an equine therapy program, but Sharp assured him that T.E.X.A.S. Rescue could provide the animals — all he needed to do was provide the staff, and, of course, the veterans.

"A couple of days later, I came out here with my entire mental health staff," he explained. "We did a tour of the grounds, we met the animals, and we spent an hour-and-a-half out here longer than I'd planned because once you get out here, you never want to leave."

Once the two organizations agreed to a partnership, Morrison got to work planning the group therapeutic sessions and invited veterans out to T.E.X.A.S. Rescue to get them comfortable with the animals.

"In order to start having the group therapeutic sessions, it's first important to introduce the veterans to the animals one-on-one so that they become acquainted with, 'Don't walk behind a donkey,' 'Don't slap its butt,' 'Don't do any of that.'" Morrison said, chuckling. "We've been doing that for the last few months, just getting them out here one at a time to get familiar with the animals, get familiar with the grounds, and learn the rules."

During the new equine therapy program, Pecan Valley



PHOTOS BY **ASHLEY TERRY** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Co-founders of T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, Tracy Miller and Vicki Miller, are currently partnered with Joshua Morrison, veteran program manager for Pecan Valley Centers for Behavioral & Developmental Healthcare, to start an equine therapy program for veterans beginning in April.

veterans will come out to T.E.X.A.S. Rescue once a week starting next month and will be tasked with grooming and walking the animals.

"The beauty of equine therapy is the animals do all the work," Morrison said. "I don't have to be a good therapist if I've got the animals doing the work for me. The minute you set foot on these grounds, these animals know everything you're feeling. They know your emotions, and they're in tune to what's going on with you, so that makes our job really easy."

Through the equine therapy process, Morrison said the veterans will learn to cope

with their own baggage and in return, will build trust, credibility and rapport with the animals.

"Our male veterans with PTSD, the way they respond to everything is brute force, and I dare them to brute force one of those draft horses out there, because it's not going to happen," he said. "Through this process, the veteran will learn how to deal better with human beings as well, like 'Hey, I can't brute force everybody in my life. I need to learn how to work with people the same way I learned to work with these animals.'"

Tracy Miller, co-founder of T.E.X.A.S. Rescue with his wife

Vicki said it's hard for people to understand how to behave around equine animals because there's a lot to learn. For instance, many visitors who come to the rescue use high-pitched voices to talk to the animals, like they would a dog or a cat.

"(The secret is to use) a low and quiet voice," Tracy Miller said. "Everything that we do is second nature but for somebody coming in that's never been around them, there's a lot of training involved."

He said an interesting tidbit about the rescue animals is that they have likely gone through a similar experience as the veterans who visit the rescue.

"The majority of all of them out here have baggage," Tracy Miller said. "They've either been whipped on, beat on, starved or neglected. It's our job, when we get them, to transform them back into the animal they should be, so that's why our new mantra is, 'We rescue the animals; the animals rescue people.'"

Many veterans have now visited T.E.X.A.S. Rescue and have been blown away by the positive effects of equine therapy.

"We've had a couple of comments and one was, 'No other therapy has worked for me, but this did, first time out,'" Tracy Miller said. "Another

veteran said, 'I would have never expected anything like this, because nothing else has worked for me,' and that's big. I mean, to hear that first time that they've never experienced donkeys, and to have that kind of response from them, that was huge to us, and that's the part that makes your heart pitter-patter and the hair stand up on the back of your neck that, 'Wow, they did their job.'"

Vicki Miller said she believes equine therapy will help not only veterans, but others affected by PTSD, whether from a past relationship or another traumatic experience.

"It's just very rewarding to go out there and know that we can share that with other people, too," she said. "It's an expensive therapy, because it costs a lot to feed these guys, but you know, as time goes on, we'll hopefully get more sponsors or grants for them."

Many people, Morrison said, believe dogs are the biggest empathies, but said they don't even "come close when compared to the equine kingdom."

"They (equines) are miles beyond dogs," he said.

Tracy Miller agreed and explained that donkeys are not as stubborn as everyone thinks; they are just highly intelligent and use common

sense in certain situations.

"Donkeys naturally are compassionate," Tracy Miller said. "They're loving, they just want to give you that attention that you're looking for. Any of us that are out there, any veterans that have PTSD, or whatever they're going through, they can sense them, and they give as much back as we can give to them. All they want to do is be next to you. Donkeys are 500-pound puppy dogs; they just want to be in your lap. We aren't therapists, Vicki and I, but the donkeys do all the work — all you have to do is guide people through it."

"One of the things Tracy said was that the veterans are coming out here and saying, 'No therapy has ever worked for me before,'" Morrison said. "I'm sending most of my hard cases out here — the ones who just clam up in session, and then they come back to the next session and suddenly we're getting all of the stuff and all of the feelings. So, it's like, 'Good work, Mr. Donkey.' They're greasing the wheels for us."

Morrison said he attributes the breakthrough he's experienced with many veterans to the fact that they don't have to talk to anyone — just the animals.

"A lot of it is pride and ego, especially with our veterans," he said. "It's like, 'I don't want people to see that I have a weakness.' If I have an exposed weakness in combat, I'm dead, so therefore I'm going to carry that when I come into the civilian world, and I'm not going to expose any weakness. I can expose my weakness to the donkeys and then I feel more comfortable sharing with my therapist at our next session."

Tracy Miller said his goal is to spread the word about just how beneficial equine therapy really is — and hopefully encourage more and more individuals to join the program when it starts around April 1.

"We don't try to take credit for everything that happens out here," he said. "The animals do it. We're just their caregivers."

"Every day, they help us — in ways that people will never know."

For more information about T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, visit texasrescue.org. To learn more about the equine therapy program, visit pecanvalley.org/veteran-services.



T.E.X.A.S. (Texas Equine Xperience And Sanctuary) Rescue is a nonprofit organization that serves to rescue, rehab, and rehome donkeys, horses, and mules.

LETTERS

MARATHON DIGITAL

Marathon Digital operates a bitcoin mining operation on land leased from Constellation Energy at the Wolf Hollow gas plant. The residents of Mitchell Bend and their livestock and pets are reporting significant issues because of the constant noise volume which the plant generates. Residents complain of stress and significant health problems because of the 24-hour, non-stop noise. Many feel that living near the plant is like being near a jet engine. The noise permeates the walls of homes, wildlife is diminished and the peaceful enjoyment of property has disappeared.

Marathon Digital states it was not aware of the noise problems when it purchased the property in December 2023. There was a partial sound barrier wall that was installed by US Bitcoin in October 2023 due to noise complaints by Mitchell Bend and Pecan Plantation residents. Marathon suggests it has performed sound tests, and the results were within the sound limits set forth by the state. Constable John Shirley has made sound tests and issued citations for the noise being over the legal sound limit. The legal limit of 85 decibels was established in 1993 and does not take into account up-to-date knowledge about the harmful effects of continuous noise.

The state of Texas needs a new law whereby a county can fine companies that are harming residents and destroying the peaceful enjoyment of property ownership. Please reach out to State Sen. Brian Birdwell and State Rep. Shelby Slawson and urge them to co-author legislation which will eliminate the type of problem the residents of Mitchell Bend are experiencing.

In a previous HCN edition, there was an article about the bitcoin noise. There was a letter from the Marathon Digital president. The letter was positive. However, nowhere does the letter say the noise assault from its operation will be taken care of immediately. Big corporations should not be able to damage their neighbors. Write or call your state representatives and ask them to take action to stop this problem.

Cindy Highsmith

BITCOIN NOISE

I am writing in response to your March 2 article entitled "Marathon Digital addresses Bitcoin noise complaints, announces plans for mitigation" and the accompanying letter from Fred Thiel, Chairman and CEO of Marathon Digital Holdings. Although I welcome Mr. Thiel's representations that he is willing to collaborate with the community and work toward a solution, I also find the letter to be disingenuous. Mr. Thiel mistakenly describes the noise issues associated with the Marathon Bitcoin facility in the past tense. Mr. Thiel writes that while operated by others "...this data center has had unintended disturbances for nearby residents." And, "We acknowledge the past inconveniences..." As much as the citizens who live in close proximity to the Marathon Bitcoin facility would like to put this in the rear-view mirror, this is an ongoing issue with real-time quality of life and health consequences — all now under Marathon watch.

Mr. Thiel surfaces additional points in his letter that distract from the humanitarian issue at hand. We all turn our power down during peak demand and we all pay taxes. However, "good neighbors" do not detract from the property values of others. The noise levels from the Bitcoin facility will clearly disadvantage property owners for miles around. That equates to fewer tax dollars and services for all.

Finally, Marathon and the Wolf Hollow power plant are working on an "expansion project." Those impacted by the noise want a lot less and not more of what Marathon currently has to offer. We urgently need a noise reduction plan with established goals, timelines and deliverables.

Marathon, "good neighbors" would immediately turn it down, limit the number of hours, or turn the noise off.

Joe Webber
Cleburne, TX

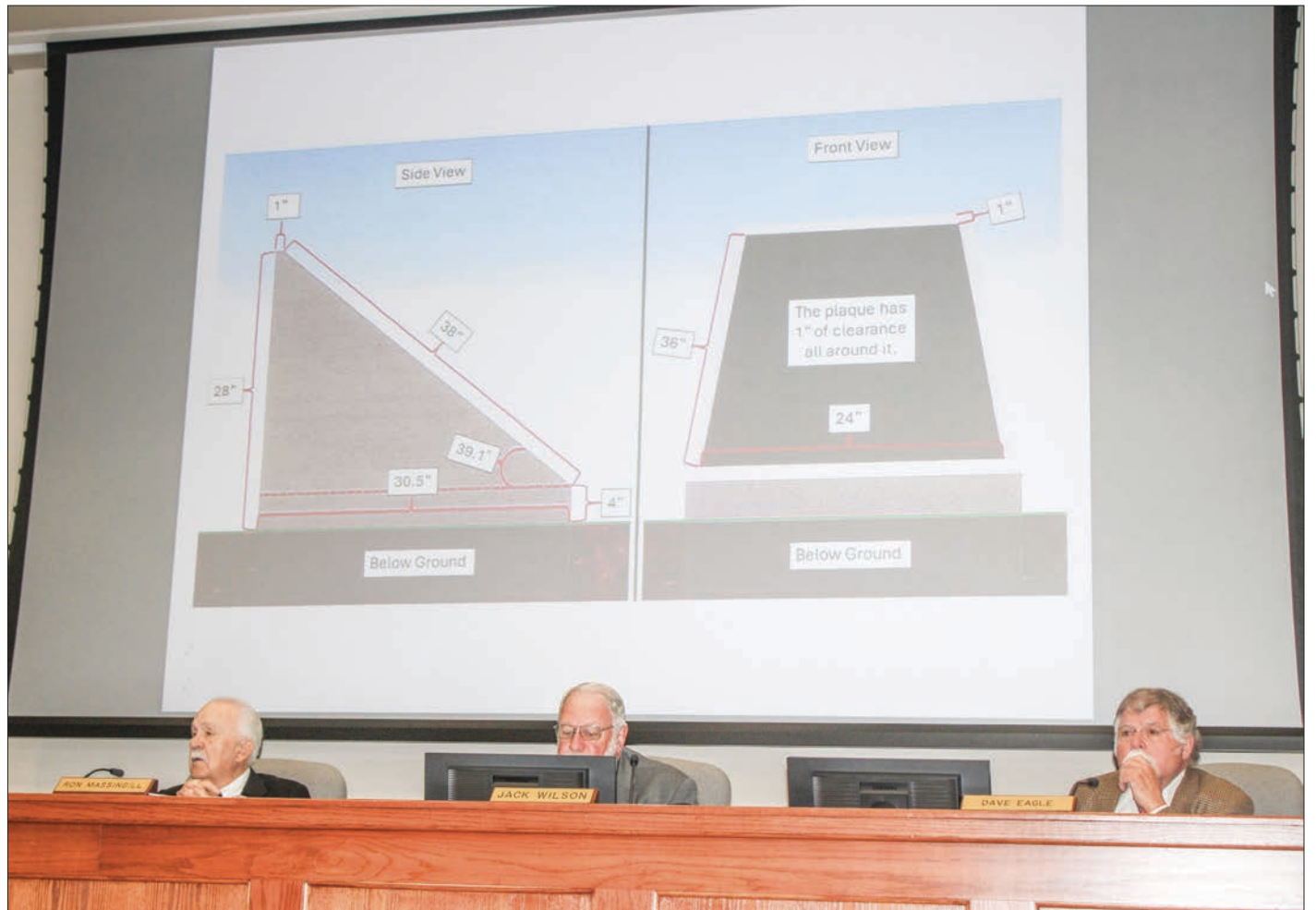
GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Submit letters to www.hcnews.com/forms/letters. Letters must include author's first and last name, and home address. Specific address will not be published.

Writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

Letters should be 500 words or less. All letters are subject to editing. All submissions to the Hood County News will become the property of the Hood County News. Letters to the Editor will appear in the Saturday edition of the Hood County News.

Questions: Call 817-573-7066 or contact Publisher Sam Houston.



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County Commissioners Court unanimously approved the placing of "The Alamo Letter" structure on the south side of the historical courthouse grounds during a regularly scheduled meeting on March 12. The structure is two feet wide, three feet long, and weighs 202 pounds.

County approves placement of Alamo Letter structure on courthouse grounds

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Hood County residents and visitors alike will soon be able to view a significant piece of Texas history right here in Granbury.

During a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court March 12, a motion was unanimously approved to place a structural representation of "The Alamo Letter" on the south side of the historic courthouse grounds.

"The Alamo Letter" is one of the most famous letters in American history. It was written by William B. Travis Feb. 24, 1836, when the Texan Army at the Alamo was outnumbered. The letter was addressed "To the People of Texas and All Americans in the World," and was a passionate plea for aid for the Alamo garrison, according to thealamo.org.

The letter — as taken word-for-word from thealamo.org — reads as follows:

"Fellow Citizens & compatriots-

"I am besieged, by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna — I have sustained a continual Bombardment & cannonade for 24 hours & have not lost a man The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise, the garrison

are to be put to the sword, if the fort is taken — I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, & our flag still waves proudly from the walls — I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism & everything dear to the American character, to come to our aid, with all dispatch — The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily & will no doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible & die like a soldier who never forgets what is due to his own honor & that of his country — Victory or Death."

"Everybody in this room that's a native Texan knows what 'The Alamo Letter' is — the 'Victory or Death letter,'" Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said during the meeting. "And our Sen. Brian Birdwell has purchased a bronze copy of that letter and has donated it to Hood County. The cost is \$4,000 and he paid for it out of his own pocket."

Ron Sutton, member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, explained that the bronze is two feet wide, three feet long, and weighs 202 pounds. The structure will be placed on the south side of the courthouse across from Eighteen Ninety Grill & Lounge.

"The way that the foundation will be built, is that the letter will be placed at like a 38-degree angle, so it's readable from a distance," Sutton said. "It's really a beautiful piece of art, and the whole project is steeped in history."

A few weeks ago, Massingill, Sutton and Birdwell, along with a few other individuals from Hood County, attended the bronze dedication ceremony for Ellis County in Waxahachie to "check out" the statue.

"Each bronze will be identical," Sutton explained. "This was the brainchild of a guy by the name of Bill McNutt and his daughter, Slone. Their dream — their vision — is to have these Alamo Victory or Death Letters written by Colonel James Travis placed in every county seat. They've got the full backing of the Texas Senate, and that's why our excellent state senator, Brian Birdwell, jumped on board."

Massingill commented that he has now gotten approval from the Texas State Historical Society, the Hood County Historical Society, and Birdwell to place the statue on the courthouse grounds. All that's left, he said, is to hold the dedication ceremony.

"We're taking bids right now to get the concrete construction, which is exactly what was used in Ellis County to display their Alamo let-

ter, and the reason for that is some of the counties are going to be able to put their letter inside their courthouse because they have seven days a week, 24-hour security," he said. "We don't. But there's so many people that come to Granbury that they'll be able to see this letter every time they come and visit the courthouse where it's really not obtrusive. Reading the letter almost brings tears to your eyes no matter how many times you read it."

Massingill added that in his opinion, Travis' Alamo letter is the "most significant document out of Texas history," next to the Texas Constitution.

"I think this is wonderful," Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson said. "It's going to be beautiful."

Massingill added that the court is not asking the county to pay for anything at this particular time; they are just approving the placement of the statue and will revisit bids at a later date.

"We can get a complete bid on placing it and then after we find out the final costs, we're hoping that we can generate private funds that will pay for it so that the county will not have to spend any money on this," he added.

The dedication ceremony for "The Alamo Letter" will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 20, at the Hood County Courthouse.



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Granbury Volunteer Fire Department Spaghetti Fundraiser

On Saturday, March 2, supporters of Granbury Volunteer Fire Department's Support Brigade organized a fundraising event at Station 1, located at 1701 West Pearl St. The event aimed to raise funds for the fire department and brought together friends, families, and supporters. The event featured a variety of activities, such as a delicious spaghetti dinner, fantastic entertainment provided by Larry's Garage Band, vintage car displays, and fun activities for kids.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Tonna Newman plaque to be displayed at Justice Center

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

The Hood County Commissioners Court unanimously approved the placement of a memorial plaque honoring Tonna Hitt Newman at the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, during a regularly scheduled meeting March 12.

Newman served as Hood County District Clerk for more than 30 years. She passed away at the age of 64 Sunday, Feb. 18.

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 that Hood County swung from blue to red, where it remains today.

“As all of y’all know, Tonna Newman passed away recently,” Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said during the meeting. “Her family came to me with the idea of just putting a bronze plaque out here in the hallway near the district clerk’s office to kind of memorialize her service of over 30 years to Hood County. I told them that I would be proud to sponsor that, and for them to give the Commissioners Court some options as to what they would like to say on that plaque.”

Massingill then read three inscription options for Newman’s plaque for the court to vote on:

Option one: “Tonna Lynn Newman, the longest-serving female political candidate in Hood County, served as district clerk for over 30 years from 1991 through 2024. Her historical career and commitment to the Republican Party blazed a trail for future female and Republican candidates alike.”

Option two: “Tonna Lynn Newman served as district clerk of Hood County for over 30 years from 1991 to 2024. Her historic election in 1991 made Tonna Hood County’s first Republican to win over a Democratic opponent and launched a career in which she became the longest-serving elected female in the county. Tonna’s commitment to her colleagues and constituents blazed a trail for future female and Republican candidates alike.”

Option three: “In honor and recognition of the first and longest-serving female in Hood County, Tonna Lynn Newman, and her outstanding service to Hood County as district clerk

PLEASE SEE **NEWMAN** | A13



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS ARCHIVE PHOTO

PaddyFest will take place at Pub McDonough at 529 N. Houston Street. Admission is \$5 for those 13 years and older, \$3 for those 6 to 12 years, and free for those age 5 and under. For more information visit visitgranbury.com.

HISTORY

FROM PAGE A1
people.

Patrick died 461 A.D and was buried in Saul, Ireland and is now remembered and celebrated all over the world. Records show the first St. Patrick’s Day celebration was held March 17, 1601, in a Spanish colony now known as St. Augustine, Florida. The first parade was held in 1737 in Boston in the United States.

Today, celebrations all over the world include

parades, drinking, wearing green and much more. Green represents the Catholic side of the Irish flag and can also be seen as symbolic in ode to other Ireland icons such as the shamrock and the Emerald Isle. The tale goes that if you wear green, you will be invisible to leprechauns. The belief in leprechauns comes from Celtic beliefs in fairies, tiny men and women who could use their powers to serve good or evil. They were often known for their trickery to protect their fabled treasure of gold. Those

who do not wear green risk being pinched by those around them. This pinch is a reminder that a leprechaun could sneak up and pinch one at any time.

The third annual PaddyFest Irish Festival will be hosted by Pub McDonough March 16-17. The event will feature a Saturday parade as well as live entertainment, Irish kabobs, Irish stew, drinks and much more.

The parade will kick off the event Saturday at 10 a.m. with festivities continuing throughout the day and

into the night. The parade begins at 600 W. Pearl St. at Hannaford Street and will make its way to the Historic Granbury Square, north on Houston Street, west on Bridge Street, before going back to Hannaford. Parade attendance is free of charge.

PaddyFest will take place at Pub McDonough at 529 N. Houston Street. Admission is \$5 for those 13 years and older, \$3 for those 6 to 12 years, and free for those age 5 and under. For more information visit visitgranbury.com.

VETERAN

FROM PAGE A3

29 — the last day U.S. troops were on the ground in Vietnam — as a day to honor those who have “borne the battle,” and to extend gratitude and appreciation to

them and their families. Massingill, along with the members of the court, unanimously proclaimed March 29 Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran’s Day in Hood County.

Faye Landham, Margaret Cook and Laura Fisher,

members of the Friends of Memorial Lane in Granbury, were also present to accept the proclamation during the meeting.

“These three ladies right here do so much for this community,” Massingill said. “The Friends of

Memorial Lane, I’m telling you, it’s just wonderful. If anybody hasn’t seen the Friends of Memorial Lane, please go down there and visit. It’s one-of-a-kind in the whole nation.”

“Maybe even the whole world,” Landham said.

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OBITUARIES

Stanley A. Wilson

January 30, 1943 - March 8, 2024

Stanley Wilson, 81, left this earthly world on March 8, 2024, to go home to the arms of his beloved Jesus. He leaves behind a rich legacy of giving and service in a ministry he was called to as a teenager.

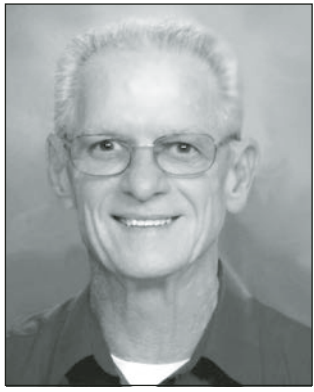
Born in Fort Worth to parents, Cecil and Alma Seale Wilson, he spent his life on a modest farm in Tolar, TX, where he learned the value of hard work and an abiding faith.

Overcoming intense shyness, Stan came to realize the power of words, and he loved preaching, teaching Bible study, and public speaking. He also loved fast cars, RV travel, and Baylor Women's basketball.

In a ministry of 60 years, Stan served as a Baptist and Presbyterian pastor and a hospital, prison and hospice chaplain. He was loved everywhere he went. He was particularly happy working with the Church Under the Bridge in Waco.

Stanley is survived by his wife and best friend, Betsy. They shared beloved children Cindy (Ernie) Koon, Cliff (Cozi) Wilson, JoAnna Conley, Jim Stone, Michael Stone, and Abbey (Jose) Esquivel.

He was blessed with grandchildren Brittany (Javi) Rodriguez, Amy



Vazquez, Chayse Wilson, Kyle Esquivel, Albrecht Stone, and Camden Esquivel, plus great grandchildren Hunter Rodriguez and Zayden Vazquez; brothers, Steve (Allene) Wilson, Duane Wilson, and many nephews and nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Wesley Wilson, grandson Colton Wilson and grandson-in-law Sergio Vazquez.

The family has entrusted Heartland Funeral & Cremations of Comanche with handling his services.

The family visited with friends at the funeral home from 1-2 p.m. Monday, March 11, 2024, followed by a service remembering and celebrating his life at 2 p.m. A committal service was held at 3:30 p.m. in the Flying W Cemetery at 716 CR 155, Comanche, TX 76442.

Lewis Ronald 'Andy' Anderson

May 25, 1952 - March 3, 2024

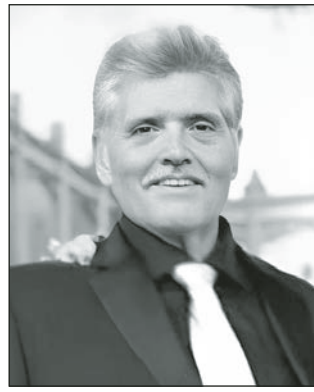
Lewis Ronald Anderson left this life and entered into his eternal home, in the presence of Jesus, on March 3, 2024 at the age of 71.

Lewis Ronald Anderson, born on May 25, 1952, in Salt Lake City, Utah to Loa Hales Anderson and Lewis David Andy Anderson. He was the oldest of three boys. Lewis is survived by his two brothers: Glenn Anderson (Dori), and Arthur Anderson (Tamara), his five children: Jodi Eastridge (Derrick), Lee Penny (Shellie), Sharlene Miller (Joshua), Lewis Anderson (Tanya), Andrea Blair, and nine grandchildren: Jordan Dunn, Tori Penny, Kailey Eastridge, Casey Dunn, Morgan Eastridge, Lewis Anderson, Elle Anderson, Leila Blair and Ivy Blair. He is additionally survived by many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Lewis loved his family deeply!

Lewis spent his formative years in Kearns, Utah, attending Kearns High School before embarking on a four-year journey in the Army, stationed at Dugway Proving Grounds. After his honorable discharge, Lewis pursued his passion for electrical work, earning a Master Electrician license. His expertise allowed him to work in multiple states including Utah, Washington, Colorado and Texas. He was also a business owner and entrepreneur.

Lewis met his life partner, Linda Farrar Anderson in Texas and shortly there-



after they found their home in Granbury, Texas where they lived for over 30 years. Together, they shared a passion for buying and restoring antiques, barbecues, poolside hangouts, and the company of family and friends.

There was nothing, it seemed, that Lewis couldn't build or repair with skills in mechanics and carpentry that he used to help others. Lewis was a man with a big heart, a strong will and was always ready to help those in need. His strong will and deep love for Jesus were evident in everything he did. Lewis enjoyed singing in the choir at his church and the friendships that he grew through his faith community.

Lewis leaves behind cherished memories and a legacy of passion, strong will, humor and love. Lewis Ronald Anderson's earthly journey may have ended, but his spirit lives on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him. May he find eternal peace and rest in the arms of his Savior.

Vernon Oechsle

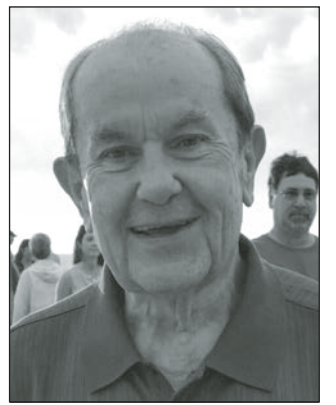
October 29, 1942 - March 5, 2024

Vernon Oechsle, 81, passed away peacefully March 5, 2024 at his home in Granbury, Texas.

A visitation was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Martin's Funeral Home. A service was held on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 11 a.m. at Granbury First United Methodist Church. Graveside followed at Holly Hills Memorial Park. A celebration lunch was held at Oasis Tranquilo at 1 p.m. The family invited everyone to join them and celebrate Vern.

Vern was born Oct. 29, 1942 in Van Wert, Ohio to Leonard Oechsle and Cecil Smith. Vern married his wife Phyllis, on July 13, 1973 in Wisconsin where they started their ever growing family. Vernon loved traveling the world, sailing, golfing and so many other adventures. He became a 'cowboy' late in life and spent a great deal of time with his horses and family dogs.

His church life was very important to him. Vern played accordion and sang in church choir as a child and continued singing in church choirs throughout life. Vern oversaw the building of the Granbury First United Methodist Church and served in many positions while



there. During his long business career, Vern served on numerous boards, ran companies, received awards and even held patents. Vern was the former mayor of Brazos Bend, Texas.

Vernon is preceded in death by his parents, wife, Phyllis Oechsle and daughter, Christina Kildow.

Vernon is survived by his children: Vickie Doerr, Steven Crall, Mathew Oechsle, Robin Oechsle, and Liana Oechsle; 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and two special caregivers, Danielle and Mandi.

In lieu of flowers please send donations to Hood County Animal Control, where some dogs he loved and were with him at the end, were adopted from, or Granbury First United Methodist Church, where Vern considered his other home.

Martin's
FUNERAL HOME &
CREMATION SERVICE

Betty Gail Green

April 19, 1936 - March 3, 2024

Betty Green, a resident of Pecan Plantation in Granbury, Texas passed peacefully on March 3, 2024 in the company of her loving husband, Wilton Green.

Betty was born in Floydada, Texas to James Gerald and Annie Laura Martin and spent her childhood there with many friends and family. She met her husband, Wilton, while in 7th grade, attended Hardin Simmons University and Texas Tech before marrying Wilton on May 24, 1956. Together they both had successful work careers and started their family. After spending time in various communities in Texas and Kansas, career opportunities took them to stays in Pocatello, Idaho, Kennewick, Washington and Columbus, Nebraska until they retired in Granbury, Texas in 2001. There they enjoyed the community of Pecan Plantation.

Betty was an active and involved member of the



Methodist church for much of her life. She was also involved for a time with the Order of the Eastern Star.

Betty is survived by her husband of 67 years, J. Wilton Green, their children, Mark (Susan) Green, Dee Ann (Tom) Yount, Cheryl (Mike) Johnson, and grandchildren Megan (Noah) Roberts, Lydian Green, Taylor (Noah) VonOlnhausen, Eleanor Green, Channing Green, Monte Johnson, Annie Johnson as well as her sister, June Martin Walker.

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.

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ACROSS

- Nicholas of film "Mom and Dad" with TX Anne Winters
- spoken, not written
- Lucy had title role in this 1974 film
- poetic "appearance"
- mustang or bronco (2 wds.)
- TX Laura Bush, ___ Welch
- boll weevil once caused this to Texas cotton (2 wds.)
- DL or SSN, e.g. 22
- "don't ___ your feet" (get it done)
- newspaper VIP
- horrified
- TX ZZ Top album: "___ Hombres"
- TX Lupe Ontiveros had a part in "As Good ___ Gets"
- Texas-based film: "Hell ___ High Water"
- most areas of Texas have a ___ library
- "___ fact" (by that very fact)
- 2012 film starring TX Amy Acker: "Much ___ About Nothing"
- where Jimmy and Jerry went to college
- largest continent
- boot smell?
- a tied game: "___ your sister"
- wrestling matches 'tween two schools
- Boston, TX
- the cowboy ___ against the hitchin' post
- TX flyer film: "The Sons of ___ Elder"
- biblical donkey
- TXism: "___ a spell" (stay and visit)
- apple drink
- resided in a certain place
- TXism: "fits like ugly ___ ape"
- Texas "Tarzan," Ely
- good treatment by nurses (abbr.)
- food for horses

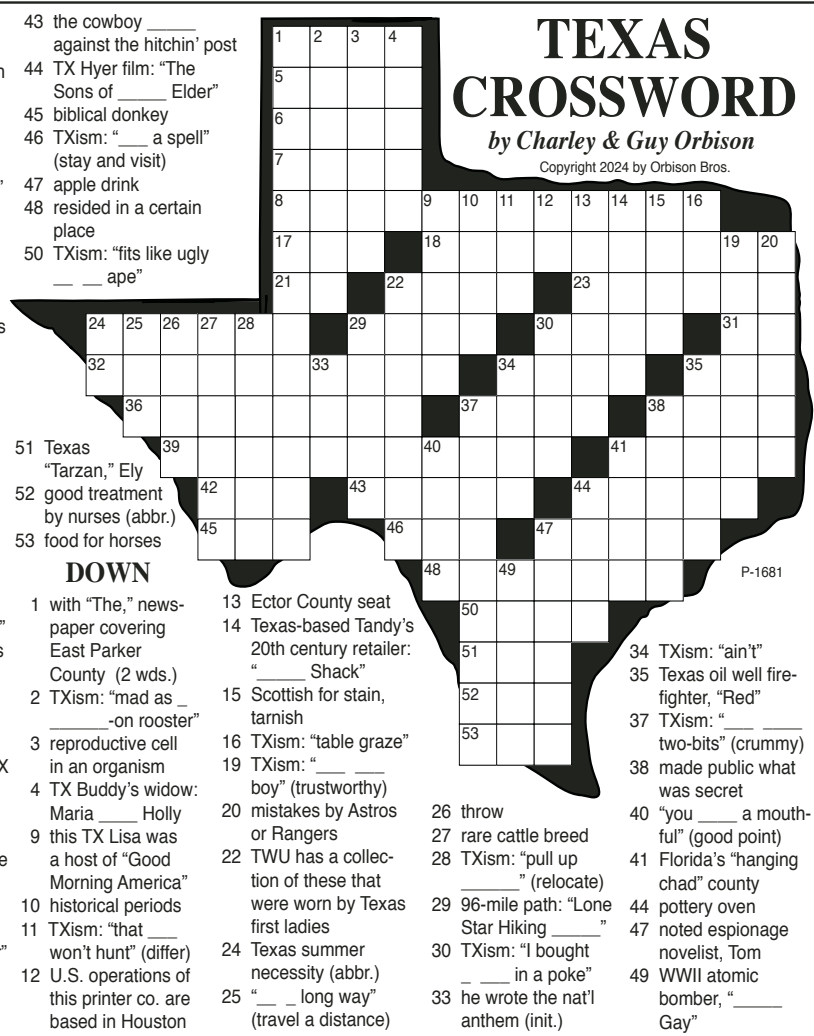
DOWN

- with "The," newspaper covering East Parker County (2 wds.)
- TXism: "mad as ___ on rooster"
- reproductive cell in an organism
- TX Buddy's widow: Maria ___ Holly
- this TX Lisa was a host of "Good Morning America"
- historical periods
- TXism: "that ___ won't hunt" (differ)
- U.S. operations of this printer co. are based in Houston
- Ector County seat
- Texas-based Tandy's 20th century retailer: "___ Shack"
- Scottish for stain, tarnish
- TXism: "table graze"
- TXism: "___ boy" (trustworthy)
- mistakes by Astros or Rangers
- TWU has a collection of these that were worn by Texas first ladies
- Texas summer necessity (abbr.)
- "___ long way" (travel a distance)
- throw
- rare cattle breed
- TXism: "pull up ___" (relocate)
- 96-mile path: "Lone Star Hiking ___"
- TXism: "I bought ___ in a poke"
- he wrote the nat'l anthem (init.)
- TXism: "ain't"
- Texas oil well firefighter, "Red"
- TXism: "___ two-bits" (crummy)
- made public what was secret
- "you ___ a mouthful" (good point)
- Florida's "hanging chad" county
- pottery oven
- noted espionage novelist, Tom
- WWII atomic bomber, "___ Gay"

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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Can you save too much for a rainy day?

TY ANDREW
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



Ty Andrew

"Save for a rainy day" is an old piece of advice — and a good one. But is it possible to save too much?

To begin with, what defines a "rainy day" in terms of financial needs? It could be any number of things: a temporary loss of employment, a major home or car repair, a large medical bill, and so on.

If you did not have the money readily available to pay for these types of expenses, you might be forced to dip into your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement accounts,

incurring taxes and possible penalties, as well as lowering the amount of money you'd have available for retirement.

And that's why it's a good idea to build an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of total expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account that's separate from the accounts you use for your daily spending needs.

An emergency fund is valuable, but many people may be overfunding it. And while this isn't the biggest finan-

cial mistake one can make, it could result in some missed opportunities.

For one thing, when you keep money in a low-risk account, you can generally count on your principal being protected, which means the money will be there for you when you need it —but the flip side is that this money likely won't grow very much, if at all. And if you're going to achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you need your investment portfolio to provide you with significant growth potential within the context of your individual risk tolerance. So, any excess

dollars kept in your rainy-day fund might be used to help fuel some growth-oriented investments.

You could also use these dollars to help diversify your investment portfolio. If you only owned one type of investment, your portfolio could take a big hit if a market downturn affected just that asset class. But by owning a mix of stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments, you can help reduce the impact of market volatility. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't protect against all losses.)

Still, before deciding on

what to do with extra money you might have in your emergency fund, how will you know if you indeed have too much? Up to six months' worth of total expenses may be adequate for most people — but everyone's life is different. For example, if you have reason to believe your employment — or that of your spouse — may be in jeopardy in the near future, or if you anticipate the need for some renovations to your home, but not for a year or so, you might want more than six months of expenses tucked away in your emergency fund. Also, once you're retired, you may well want

to keep a year's worth of expenses in the fund. If you need cash, you don't want to be forced to sell investments when their price may be down, especially since you have less time for them to recover.

Ultimately, when thinking about how much to keep in your emergency fund, review your situation carefully and weigh as many variables as you can. And if you do decide your rainy-day fund is abundant, use any "overflow" in a way that can help you keep moving toward your financial goals

PAID ADVERTORIAL

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 pro-

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

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

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.

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

RE ENGAGE 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 designed 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

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.

LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

Choose heart-healthy foods

Lake Granbury Medical Center

"I'm a believer in eating healthy for your heart," mentions Casey Dean, D.O., family medicine physician at Lakeside Physicians. "Focusing on healthy foods daily is key to maintaining good health, including your heart. Below is a great article from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute that provides some excellent advice on what to include in your diet for a healthier heart."

Heart-healthy eating involves choosing certain foods, such as fruits and vegetables, while limiting others, such as saturated fats and added sugars.

Your doctor may recommend the heart-healthy Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) eating plan because it has been proven to lower high blood pressure and "bad" LDL cholesterol in the blood. See Delicious Heart-Healthy Eating for recipes, cooking tips and more information.

FOODS TO EAT

These foods are the foundation of a heart-healthy eating plan.

- Vegetables such as leafy greens (spinach, collard greens, kale, cabbage), broccoli and carrots
- Fruits such as apples, bananas, oranges, pears, grapes and prunes
- Whole grains such as plain oatmeal, brown rice and whole-grain bread or tortillas
- Fat-free or low-fat dairy foods such as milk, cheese or yogurt

Protein-rich foods

- Fish high in omega-3 fatty acids (salmon, tuna and trout)
- Lean meats such as 95% lean ground beef or pork tenderloin or skinless chicken or turkey
- Eggs
- Nuts, seeds and soy products (tofu)
- Legumes such as kidney beans, lentils, chickpeas, black-eyed peas and lima beans
- Oils and foods high in monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats:
 - Canola, corn, olive, safflower, sesame, sunflower and soybean oils (not coconut or palm oil)
 - Nuts such as walnuts, almonds and pine nuts
 - Nut and seed butter
 - Salmon and trout
 - Seeds (sesame, sunflower, pumpkin or flax)
 - Avocados
 - Tofu

FOODS TO LIMIT

A heart-healthy eating plan limits sodium (salt), saturated fat, added sugars and alcohol. Understanding nutrition labels can help you choose healthier foods.

Limit sodium

Adults and children over age 14 should eat less than 2,300 milligrams of sodium a day. Children younger than age 14 may need to eat even less sodium each day based on their sex and age. If you have high blood pressure, you may need to limit sodium even more. Talk to your healthcare provider about the amount of sodium that is right for you or your child.

Try these shopping and cooking tips to help you choose and prepare foods that are lower in sodium:

- Read food labels and choose products that have less sodium for the same serving size.
- Choose low-sodium, reduced-sodium or no-salt-added products.
- Choose fresh, frozen, or no-salt-added foods instead of pre-seasoned, sauce-marinated, brined or processed meats, poultry and vegetables. Eat at home more often so you can cook food from scratch, which will allow you to control the amount of sodium in your meals.
- Flavor foods with herbs and spices instead of salt.
- When cooking, limit your use of premade sauces, mixes and instant products such as rice, noodles and ready-made pasta.

Limit saturated fats

Saturated or "bad" fats come from animal sources such as butter, cheese and fatty meats. They should make up less than 10% of your daily calories. Unsaturated fats are also known as "good" fats and are found in vegetable oils and nuts.

Read food labels and choose foods that are lower in saturated fats and higher in unsaturated fats.

- Eat leaner, lower-fat and skinless meats instead of fatty cuts of meat and chicken with skin.
- Consume lower-fat dairy products instead of whole milk.
- Use certain vegetable oils (such as olive and canola oil)



COURTESY PHOTO

Heart-healthy eating involves choosing certain foods, such as fruits and vegetables, while limiting others, such as saturated fats and added sugars.

instead of butter, lard and coconut and palm oils.

Limit added sugars

You should limit the amount of calories you get each day from added sugars. This will help you choose nutrient-rich foods and stay within your daily calorie limit.

Some foods, such as fruit, contain natural sugars. Added sugars do not occur naturally in foods but instead are used to sweeten foods and drinks. They include brown sugar, corn syrup, dextrose, fructose, glucose, high-fructose corn syrup, raw sugar and sucrose.

In the United States, sweetened drinks, snacks and sweets are the major sources of added sugars.

- Sweetened drinks include soft drinks or sodas, fruit drinks, sweetened coffee and tea, energy drinks, alcoholic drinks and flavored waters.

Sweetened drinks account for about half of all added sugars consumed.

- Snacks and sweets include grain-based desserts such as cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, doughnuts; dairy desserts such as ice cream, frozen desserts and pudding; candies; sugars; jams; syrups; and sweet toppings.
- Lower how much sugar you eat or drink.
- Choose drinks without added sugar such as water, low-fat or fat-free milk or 100% vegetable juice.
- Choose unsweetened foods for snacks or dessert.
- Eat sweetened drinks, snacks and desserts less often and in smaller amounts.

Limit alcohol
 Talk to your healthcare provider about how much alcohol you drink. They may recommend that you reduce the amount of alcohol you drink or that you stop drink-

ing alcohol.

The effects of Alcohol

- Adds calories to your daily diet and possibly causes you to gain weight
- Raises your blood pressure and levels of triglyceride fats in your blood
- Contributes to or worsens heart failure in some people, such as some people who have cardiomyopathy
- Raises your risk of other diseases such as cancer
- If you do not drink, you should not start. You should not drink if you are pregnant, are under the age of 21, taking certain medicines, or if you have certain medical conditions, including heart failure.
- To schedule an appointment with Dr. Dean or any Lakeside Physicians provider, please call (817) 573-3627 or visit <https://www.lakesidephysicians.com>.

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1681

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CALENDAR from A4

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27
WORKFORCE SOLUTION
 Job Fair 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Workforce Solutions, 1030 E. U.S. Highway 377, Ste. 202, Granbury. For questions call 817-776-8046.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30
OPEN HEARTS Holistic Fair 12-6 p.m. Psychic readings, reiki sessions, spiritual guidance and life coaching, psychic gift activation, energetic clearings. 817-559-3333. 616 Fall Creek Highway, Granbury. Questions call 817-559-3333.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6
THE FRIENDSHIP Cem-

etry 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 friendshipcemeteryhoodcounty@gmail.com.

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

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

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6620
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LIVESTOCK & PETS

8030
Pets



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

8040
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1550 Weatherford Hwy,
Granbury, Texas 76048.
817-573-4277

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EMPLOYMENT

8510
General



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Contact duff@ppoaweb.com. Ext 330.

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The Hood County News is hiring a responsible, committed Printing Press Operator in its fast-growing commercial printing department.

Experience preferred, but not required. Should be mechanically inclined.

Competitive pay and great work environment.

Person with responsible work ethic please apply in person at 1501 S. Morgan St. Mon-Thurs, 8am-5pm; Fri, 8am-1pm or email sam@hcnews.com.

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FLEXIBLE SCHEDULES.**

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Orvel Dean McClain, Deceased, were issued on February 28, 2024, in Cause No. P10309, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Kim Arnold Mack.
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: Kim Arnold Mack
3523 Gerry Dr.
Granbury, Texas 76049
DATED the 6 day of March, 2024.
/s/ E. Mark Piland
E. Mark Piland
Attorney for Kim Arnold Mack
State Bar No.: 16008870
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
Telephone: (817) 579-0207
Facsimile: (866) 406-4629
Email: markpiland@pilandlaw.com

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL
CITY OF TOLAR**

The City of Tolar (Owner) is accepting proposals for a Public Works Shop. Proposals shall be delivered to the Engineer in digital PDF format, by email at colden.rich@e-ht.com, no later than **5:00 P.M. on Tuesday March 19, 2024**. Proposer shall call to confirm receipt verbally at 325-698-5560.

SCOPE OF PROJECT: Metal building construction to include a new 50-ft x 100-ft building with a 25-ft x 50-ft covered area. Project includes a new concrete slab for the new metal building. The building shall contain a shop approximately 75-ft x 50-ft with three 12-ft x 14-ft roll-up doors and an office area approximately 25-ft x 50-ft with four windows and one 3-ft wide exterior door. Project shall include all labor, equipment, materials, electrical, and associated appurtenances.

PROPOSAL PROCESS:

1. A pre-proposal conference will not be held for this RFP.
2. Requests for Information (RFI's) shall be submitted to the Engineer, in writing, no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 1, 2024**. The Engineer's contact information is:

Colden Rich, P.E.
Enrotec/Hibbs & Todd, Inc.
colden.rich@e-ht.com
325-698-5560
402 Cedar, Abilene, TX 79601
3. Proposal packages shall be submitted to the Engineer at the email address listed at the top of this proposal. Proposer shall call to confirm receipt verbally.
4. Proposals will be opened after the closing hour of the due date. Proposal contents and cost tabulations will not be disclosed until the evaluation process is completed.
5. Proposals shall be subject to acceptance for a period of **90** days from the proposal closing date.

Proposal documents Drawings and Technical Specifications are available from the engineer via CivCast. Please visit www.civcastusa.com

Medical/Dental
HEALTHCARE SERVICES - MEDICAL ASSISTANT Busy family practice clinic seeking full time certified medical assistant. Must be friendly and self motivated. Experience preferred. 2200 James Rd. Granbury, TX 76049 (817) 326-2727 s_goodchild@yahoo.com

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

LAKEWOOD HILLS ESTATES, SECTION ONE, LOT 2-R, BLOCK 1

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ruby Barnbrook Walters, Deceased, were issued on February 28, 2024, in Cause No. P10290, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Anne Brown Eisele.
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: Anne Brown Eisele
5001 Conger Dr.
St. Louis, Missouri 63128 63128
DATED the 6 day of March, 2024.
/s/ E. Mark Piland
E. Mark Piland
Attorney for Anne Brown Eisele
State Bar No.: 16008870
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
Telephone: (817) 579-0207
Facsimile: (866) 406-4629
Email: markpiland@pilandlaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RONALD HAINES FREDERICK, SR., Deceased, were issued on February 28, 2024, in Cause No. P10275, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: RONALD HAINES FREDERICK, JR.
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 8th day of March, 2024.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Ronald Haines Frederick, Jr.
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

PUBLIC SALES
Granbury 76048
Garage Sales 76048

New Beginnings
Resale Shoppe & Boutique



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

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

Granbury 76049
Garage Sales 76049

ESTATE SALE: GRANBURY 4301 Mockingbird Dr- Granbury Tx Large Tool sale, Heavy duty truck and auto mechanic tool estate sale. Ford tractor, riding lawnmower, specialty tools, chains, lots of tools. Mar 14,15,16 8:00 am to 4:00pm


Lakewood Hills Community multi garage sale. Starts at 204 Vista Dr, Fri, Mar 22, 8am-4pm; Sat, Mar 23, 8am-2pm.

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 1512 N Fork Rd- tools, furniture, clothes, craft supplies, home decor, NordicTrack Bike, toddler clothes & toys; Sat & Sun March 16 & 17; 8am-5pm

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 3208 Walnut Creek Pkwy- CRAFT & Garage Sale: Mission Trip Fundraiser: Pecans, Jewelry, Wedding & household items March 22 & 23 8am-2pm

Professional
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Must have experience in boat repair/backing trailers good public relations (817)880-1883 macsmarinegranbury@gmail.com

Employment Information



PRESCHOOL TEACHER The Learning Ladder is hiring a Preschool teacher. Please come by and fill out an application at 603 Meander Rd. Granbury, TX 76049. We offer free or reduced childcare for teachers; dental, vision, and AFLAC are available. (817) 573-1237 thelearningladdergranbury@gmail.com

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GOT JUNK? Cleanups & hauloffs big small we haul it all. Residential and commercial. Family owned (817) 578-5510

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

BLUE BRANCH RANCH, LOT 59R

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

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

THE LANDINGS, LOT 3292R

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, March 26th, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

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

MILO'S CREEK ADDITION, LOTS 1R - 3R

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE UNDER EXECUTION
BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE issued out of the 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County on a judgement rendered in said county on the 6TH day of December 2023 in Cause No. C2022274.
GRANBURY ISD, ET AL
VS
RICAHRD W. TRUAX, ET AL

I did on the 13TH day of February 2024 at 3:53P.M. levy upon the following property of
RICHARD W. TRUAX
TEXAS VIZ:

TAX ACCOUNT # 11220.000.0057.0 (R000001712)

LOT 57, BLUE WATER SHORES, A SUB-DIVISION IN HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN SLIDE A-238-B, PLAT RECORDS OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS.

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4978 Blue Water, Granbury, Texas 76049

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Wesley R. Carson, Deceased, were issued on February 28, 2024, in Docket Number P10292, pending in County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Jackie L. Carson.
The mailing address of the Representative's attorney is
c/o Jeffrey N. Myers
BOURLAND, WALL & WENZEL, P.C.
301 Commerce Street, Suite 2500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4115
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. All claims should be addressed to the Representative's attorney as listed above.
DATED the 7th day of March, 2024
BOURLAND, WALL & WENZEL, P.C.
301 Commerce Street, Suite 2500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4115
Bourland, Wall & Wenzel, P.C.
301 Commerce Street, Suite 2500
Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4115
PHONE: (817) 877-1088
FAX: (817) 877-1636
EMAIL: JMyers@bwllaw.com
ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

Cello Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) is proposing to construct a 190-foot Lattice telecommunications tower facility in the vicinity of 3678 West US Highway 377, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76048 (32.25 25.85 N / 97.50 49.85 W). The tower is anticipated to have medium intensity dual red/white strobes. Interested persons may review the application for this project at www.fcc.gov/asr/applications and entering Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) Form 854 File Number "A277521" and may raise environmental concerns about the project by filing a Request for Environmental Review with the Federal Communications Commission. Requests for Environmental Review must be filed within 30 days of the date that notice of the project is published on the FCC's website. The FCC strongly encourages interested parties to file Requests for Environmental Review online at www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest. Parties wishing to submit the request by mail may do so by addressing the request to: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554. Public comments regarding potential effects on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: EBI Consulting, c/o Project 008716-PR- CR, EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at 978-877-3493.

THIS OUT!
HUGE MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE
Saturday, March 23rd
7am until around 2pm
409 N Baker St

Portable air conditioners, clothes (men, women-Sm-med), household appliances, chef figurines, deep freeze, loveseat (recliner on each end), lots more. 1225 N Meadows Dr, Apt 81. Thur-Fri, March 21-22.

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

Dated at Granbury, Texas this 13th day of February AD, 2024

Chad Jordan
Constable Pct. 4
Hood County, Texas

Hood County Hospital District Board of Directors will hold a regularly scheduled meeting to discuss HOSPITAL DISTRICT TAXES on Friday, March, 22, 2024 at noon. Hood County Annex 1 meeting room, Granbury, TX. For information, 817-579-3200.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that on February 28, 2024, letters testamentary were issued to SUE ELLEN RICH by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled in the Estate of Daniel Raymond Rich, Deceased, under Cause No. P10299, pending on the probate docket of the Court.
All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated: March 6, 2024
Sue Ellen Rich
Executer of the Estate of Daniel Raymond Rich
c/o Law Firm of William A. Walsh
922 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/s/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email:
marjoe.billwalshlaw@yahoo.com
922 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4090
Attorney for Sue Ellen Rich

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of William Burkeholder, Deceased, were issued on March 8, 2024, in Cause No. P10286, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Emily Akins. 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: Lukas A. Lawrence Attorney at Law
3016 E. Hwy 377
Granbury, Texas 76049
Lukas A. Lawrence
Attorney for Emily Akins
State Bar No.: 24078832
Facsimile: (817) 984-3954 (682) 231-1407
Attorneys@LFirmTX.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
CAUSE NO. P10312
Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Alan Wayne Myers, Deceased, were issued on March 8, 2024, in Cause No. P10312, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Judy Ann Myers, Independent Executor.
All persons having claims against the Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the Estate addressed as follows:
Dave Horgor, Jr., Attorney
Estate of Alan Wayne Myers, Deceased
9285 Huntington Square, Ste 109A
North Richland Hills, Tx 76182
Dated the 11th day of March, 2024.

Notice of Summons Brown VS Reid Trial Setting Conference set for 5/31/24 at 8:30 am in Dept S32 - SBJC. Case #CIVSB2315180

Public Notice

Q&A

What is a public notice?

It's information about important government activities. Notice in the newspaper is required for a good reason — to make sure it's NOTICED. It's crucial to government transparency...and government accountability.

Your local paper is the most visible, independent source for this crucial service. We not only print notices in the paper, but post them on our website and a statewide website at no extra charge. And they're archived forever, so there's a permanent and unalterable record.

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LEGAL AD
Hood County Commissioners' Court has received an application to consider a site development plan for:

6721 GLEN ROSE HWY SHOPS

Located at 6721 Glen Rose Highway. The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.



Governments are required to publish their decisions in the newspaper - including their intent to build a structure nearby that you might not want. But some officials want to bury public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites.

KEEP THE LIGHT ON PUBLIC NOTICES

A CELL TOWER'S GOING UP NEXT DOOR OR HADN'T YOU HEARD?

Hood County News

If it is not in the newspaper, how will you know?

FORWARD TRAINING

Embracing the spring

Forward Training Center is blossoming

BY MONICA HAYS



Monica Hays, the new executive director at Forward Training Center, brings five years of diverse experience, ranging from volunteering to operations director. Her passion for the organization's mission propels her with dedication, commitment, and a servant's heart.
monica@forwardtrainingcenter.org | 817-573-6677

As the clocks spring forward, heralding the arrival of longer days and sunnier skies, Forward Training Center gears up for a season of renewal and growth. With a steadfast commitment to embracing the spirit of spring, Forward Training Center is poised to greet the coming months with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

With the changing of the seasons comes a fresh wave of opportunities for individuals eager to embark on journeys of personal and professional development. At Forward Training Center, our mission is clear: to cater to the evolving needs of our community by providing a diverse range of programs aimed at empowering individuals to unlock their full potential and transform their lives.

In anticipation of the burgeoning springtime demand, Forward Training Center has unveiled an exciting lineup of courses designed to in-

spire and educate. Whether you're looking to sharpen your communication skills, delve into the latest technological advancements, or explore avenues for career advancement, our dynamic institution has something for everyone.

Our standout feature is our committed team of volunteers, who serve as instructors, mentors, tutors and beyond, providing steadfast guidance and support to participants in every capacity. Leveraging their extensive knowledge and expertise, they ensure tailored attention for each person, resulting in concrete and meaningful outcomes. The most invaluable contribution these generous individuals offer is their time and dedication, investing in individuals and aiding them in uncovering their worth. Emphasizing the importance of relationships and connections, they exemplify the community's profound care and concern for all involved.

At the heart of our offerings lies the Jobs for Life class, with the next session commencing March 26. This year, we have incorporated additional components to enrich the class, aiming to bolster employment prospects for participants and broaden our networking capabilities. This transformative program promises to introduce new community resources for those grappling with unemployment, underemployment, or a sense of professional dissatisfaction. In a landmark move, this session will conclude with an on-site hiring event, presenting attendees with a direct route to substantial employment prospects.

This season, our focus remains on expanding and enriching the services we offer, with a profound impact on entire families and the wider community. Together, let us spring forward into a future brimming with boundless possibilities and promise. Join us and discover how you can change your life or undeniably impact that of another.

We are located at 600 W. Pearl St. at the corner of W. Pearl and Morgan. All classes are open to the public and provided at no cost to the participant.

SPRING 2024 SCHEDULE

forward
TRAINING CENTER
OF HOOD COUNTY

JOBS FOR LIFE CLASSES

March 26 - May 16 T & Th 10am - 12pm
Graduation Date: May 17, 2024
Registration Deadline: March 9

BASIC & ADVANCED COMPUTER CLASSES

CLASS NAME	DATE
BEGINNER TYPING SKILLS	ONGOING
COMPUTER BASICS/INTRO TO INTERNET	FEBRUARY 13; 6-9PM
E-MAIL 101/INTRO TO WINDOWS 10/ MS OFFICE	FEBRUARY 15; 6-9 PM
QUICKBOOKS BASIC	FEB 20, 22, 27, 29; 6-8 PM
MS WORD	MARCH 5 - APRIL 25; 6-8 PM T, Th
MS EXCEL	APRIL 30 - MAY 23; 6-8 PM T, Th
CISCO	MONDAYS; 6-8:30 PM
CAD	TBD

ADDITIONAL COURSES

ESL, HSE (GED), Business Builder Workshop.
Powered for Life classes are offered as an elective class to Premier and GISD STARS students.

Take a step Forward! Email info@forwardtrainingcenter.org or call to sign up.
817-573-6677
ForwardTrainingCenter.org

Proud partner of

United Way of Hood County

NEWMAN

FROM PAGE A8
for over 30 years." Massingill then asked the court to vote for the inscription option they felt would best describe Newman's service to the county.

"My personal opinion is the first option," Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson said. "It pretty much says the whole volume of what she did as for the Republican to win in the county at that time, which was blue at that time, and also, the fact that (she served) 30 years-plus

in that one position, so that would be my vote for the option one." Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson disagreed and cast her vote for option 3, as it was "to the point" and "said it all in just a few words." "I really liked option three

because it starts 'with honor and recognition,' and that's what I think that the plaque is, is to honor and recognize," she said. "When I read all three of them, that one really hit me." Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle also agreed with Samuelson for option three,

stating that it was wrong to put a party affiliation on a "taxpayer-funded, paid-for edifice." "Given that, I concur," Wilson said, agreeing with Eagle's statement. Massingill then stated the motion made by Samuelson to use option three for

Newman's plaque: "In honor and recognition of the first and longest-serving female in Hood County, Tonna Lynn Newman, and her outstanding service to Hood County as district clerk for over 30 years." The motion carried unanimously.

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716 E Hwy 377
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Granbury, TX 76049
817-573-6115

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 03/11/24. 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).

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EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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Help prevent struggling families from becoming homeless. Your gift today provides:

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missiongranbury.org/Donate

Mission Granbury, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, provides community services in Hood County.

Mission Granbury Resource Center 817-579-6866 #HEREtoHELP

24-hour Crisis Hotline 844-579-6848

KNIEPER REALTY

Easy access is critical when selling your home



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.

If you're gearing up to sell your house this spring, one of the more important decisions you will need to make is how much access you want to give buyers. And you may not realize just how important it is to make your house easy to tour. It's understandable you want to keep the disruptions to your own schedule

to a minimum, and you may be stressed about having to keep it clean, but it's worth it. Spring is the peak home buying season, so opening up your house to as many showings as possible can really help you capitalize on all the extra buyer activity we see at this time of year. Buyers and agents alike

often procrastinate, waiting until the very last minute to schedule showings, and a 24-hour notice will eliminate all those last-minute planners. Buyers can also be impulsive. There have been countless times I've had buyers in my car when we pass by a home with a For Sale sign that wasn't on our list. It catches their eye and even though it does not meet the minimum criteria they outlined, they really want to see it. More than once, that has turned out to be the home they make an offer on, but in just as many instances we were unable to look at the property because

the seller needed a two- or three-hour notice and the buyer was unwilling or unable to wait that long. Those were lost opportunities for the seller. Allowing your agent to place a lock box on your door is the most efficient means of access when your home is for sale. But rest assured, having a lock box does not mean agents can come and go as they please. No one wants to be surprised stepping out of the shower or when sitting down to dinner, which is why we always recommend a 'confirmed appointment' so you know when to expect

buyers and their agents. To help protect your privacy, we further recommend you always insist on a Bluetooth enabled lock box. This type of box gives your agent the ability to obtain a list of everyone that has opened the box so in the event you have an unexpected showing your agent can find out who it was and why they failed to make an appointment. A combination box does not afford that added protection. For those rare instances when you just can't give the kind of access you would like there are alternatives like video tours, virtual showings,

and scheduled open house events that a seasoned agent can suggest and facilitate. Just remember that when it comes to selling your house, you want to be sure to get as much buyer activity as you can and that means making your home as easily accessible as possible. Let's connect to talk about what works best for you. Give us a call at 817-219-0456 or visit us online at www.WeSellGranbury.com. We would love to hear from you. Portions of this article were sourced, with permission, from www.KeepingCurrentMatters.com

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Dolan Chiropractic now offers red light therapy

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work? Imagine red light therapy as a gentle tap on your fat cells, encouraging them to shrink and release fatty acids. These released fats fuel your activities, giving you increased energy. This extra energy helps your cells to work better, especially the ones in charge of metabolism. Your initial visit will consist of a consultation, a 20-minute red light session followed by a 10-minute vibration plate session. Our team works one-on-one with every individual to create a customized treatment plan that is tailored to their body's needs. If you are ready to experience these transformative benefits, give our office a call at 817-579-9444.



COURTESY PHOTO
Red light therapy has gone through extensive clinical research, and test results show overwhelmingly positive results for skin health, collagen production, weight loss, physical performance, muscle recovery, sleep, joint pain, inflammation and much more.



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Champs again!

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Lipan Indians are named 2A basketball state champs for the second year in a row.

Indians complete improbable run to repeat title

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Tyson Tarpley said simply after the game, "I didn't want to go out a loser."

Much like a swear word, "loser" just isn't one that's used around Lipan very often. Because, well, they just don't do much of it, as evidenced by what is now the Indians' sixth state championship and 15th appearance at state.

Tarpley, the lone senior on the squad, got his wish and played a key role in making it come true as the Indians defeated the Shelbyville Dragons 47-36 to repeat as Class 2A state champions at the Alamodome in San Antonio Saturday, March 9.

Tarpley scored six points,

connecting on two of his three 3-point attempts. He also dished out half of Lipan's 12 assists.

The win capped an improbable run as Lipan graduated all five starters from its 2023 state champion squad. In fact, Tarpley and now sophomore Darius Steed were the lone returning players, both coming off the bench last season.

"It's still pretty surreal, honestly," Lipan coach Brent Gaylor said, adding that he asked himself, "We just did that?"

Indeed they did, sending Tarpley out as a back-to-back champion — only the second time in Lipan's illustrious history they've accomplished that feat. The other time was in 2017-2018.

Tarpley's 3-pointer mid-

way through the third quarter stopped a 13-2 run by the Dragons (29-8) and started Lipan (36-4) on a 3-point barrage in the second half that enabled the Indians to pull away. Lipan was 7-of-14 in the final two quarters from long distance, including 5-of-7 in the third quarter.

Overall, the Indians made almost twice as many shots from 3-point range (10-of-25) than they did from 2-point range (6-of-18). The majority of those treys were made by freshman and State Tournament MVP Court Gaylor, who went 5-of-11 shooting threes en route to a game-high 23 points.

TAKING THE LID OFF

After Lipan built a 15-5 lead early in the second quarter it appeared the

Indians might be on the verge of taking total control of the contest. However, the Dragons came storming back to close up 17-15 at the half and took an 18-17 lead at the 5:28 mark of the third quarter after Ja'Davian Mathis scored, and made the subsequent free throw.

The Indians had not scored in almost eight minutes when Tarpley nailed his second 3-pointer of the game to squelch the Dragons' momentum.

"We kind of uncharacteristically panicked for a few minutes," coach Gaylor said. "Credit to them (Shelbyville). They're a great team."

"When Tyson hit that corner three I thought, 'Maybe that takes the lid off.'" It did. From then on, Lipan

outscored Shelbyville 30-18.

BOUNCING BACK

After scoring only a handful of points in the first two-and-a-half minutes of the game, Court Gaylor was shut down for the better part of a couple of quarters by Shelbyville's Jonavian Mathis. Then, he caught fire again midway through the third period, hitting three 3-pointers in just over three minutes as Lipan went on a 9-4 run to lead 32-27 entering the fourth.

"You just keep going. Shots were starting to fall. You keep confidence in it," Court Gaylor said.

Then, midway through the final quarter, his 3-pointer opened up a 37-32 lead as Lipan ended the game with a 13-4 burst.

Dragons coach Colton

Wager said of his team's inability to stop Court Gaylor in the second half, "We didn't do our job. Credit to (Court) Gaylor. He's a really good player. He made shots and stepped up."

Not only did Court Gaylor shoot lights out from 3-point range, he also made a pair of clutch free throws with just over a minute to play that gave the Indians their second double-digit lead, 45-34 as fans in the stands began to chant "MVP."

Seconds later, Alberto Andreatta also hit two free throws to cap the Indians' scoring in the 2023-24 season.

SOMETHING TO PROVE

The Indians' theme this PLEASE SEE STATE | B2

Coach and son share excitement of title

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

It makes sense that the son of a basketball coach would be named Court.

Of course, he could have been named Gym, but it just doesn't have the same ring to it.

Either way, folks aren't likely to forget the name Court Gaylor, star guard for the Lipan Indians. Ditto for his dad, Indians head coach Brent Gaylor.

The son's actual name is Cameron Court Gaylor, named after Cameron Indoor Stadium, where the Duke Blue Devils play their home basketball games.

"I have been a Duke basketball fan since I was a little boy, which is why we named him that," Brent Gaylor said.

WINNING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Much like the now retired, legendary Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, Brent Gaylor is winning championships with consistency. The Indians are back-to-back Class 2A state champions

after defeating Shelbyville 47-36 this past Saturday, March 9 at the Alamodome in San Antonio.

Court Gaylor, a freshman, was named MVP of the tournament after scoring 50 points and hitting 10 of 22 shots from 3-point range in two games.

It's the second back-to-back championships for the Indians with the elder Gaylor as their head coach. They also did so back in 2017-18 when Court Gaylor was still in elementary school.

In all, Brent Gaylor has coached the Indians to six state tournament appearances in his 10 years at the school. Though this was Court Gaylor's first time to play in one, he was along for the ride in all of the previous ones, watching and learning — and waiting for his own chance.

"I've been coming here with the team since I was a little boy," the younger Gaylor said.

"He said, 'I finally get my name on a banner as a player and manager,'" Brent Gaylor said, noting that his

son was a team manager before he became old enough to play.

SPECIAL MOMENT

Brent Gaylor has been in his son's place. Playing for his father, Lonnie Gaylor, Brent Gaylor was, like his son, a guard. He and his dad led Graham to the 1996 Class 3A state final before falling to Sinton, 66-59.

The Indians coach recalled that heartbreaking — but still special — moment after the Indians' thrilling 40-39 semifinal victory against New Home Friday, March 8. The game featured a last-second shot by New Home that was waived off after officials determined the player did not get the shot off in time.

"I remember '96, me losing the state championship game. You look back in 10 years, they'll realize getting down here is so difficult," he said.

Lonnie Gaylor was inducted into the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame in

PLEASE SEE GAYLOR | B2



COURTESY PHOTO

Coach Brent Gaylor and son and player Court Gaylor after the state champion game Saturday, March 9.

Granbury ISD to host district job fair April 6

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Hood County residents will soon be able to apply for several different positions during Granbury Independent School District's yearly job fair from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, April 6, at the Granbury ISD Administration Building.

GISD is currently hiring for all positions: teachers, child nutrition, transportation, maintenance, paraprofessional, custodial and more.

"Currently there are about 13 positions available, but as we get closer to April that number will increase," GISD HR Director Wes Jones told the HCN.

Representatives from ev-

ery campus and department will be on hand to answer questions about available positions and to conduct on-site interviews. Walk-in interviews will also be available for any candidate.

"Unlike most regular job fairs, ours will be immediate feedback for the applicant because they will interview at the job fair and possibly be hired that day," Jones said.

He said he recommends candidates apply online before they visit the job fair April 6, although they may complete an application when they arrive and receive help from GISD staff.

"Be prepared to interview," Jones said. "Have a resume of previous work, with references and their contact (information)."

Those interested in teach-

ing positions can walk in or pre-schedule an on-site interview. Teachers can pre-schedule an interview by signing up online at one of the following links:

- Elementary Teacher Interviews <https://calendly.com/gisd-jobfair-elementary/interviews>
- Middle School Teacher Interviews <https://calendly.com/gisd-jobfair-middleschool/interviews>
- High School Teacher Interviews <https://calendly.com/gisd-jobfair-highschool/interviews>

For more information or to view current job listings, visit granburyisd.org/jobfair online.



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Court Gaylor and Coach Gaylor share a hug after the nail-biting semi-final game on Friday, March 8.

Godley ISD Child Nutrition receives state grant

Staff Report

Godley ISD Child Nutrition received a \$108,000 grant from the Texas Department of Agriculture to help with supply chain issues, according to an announcement from the school district Feb. 28.

The Supply Chain Assistance Grant helps school districts purchase unprocessed or minimally processed domestic food

products after experiencing unanticipated cancellation of food and supply contracts, reduced availability of certain foods, unexpected substitution of certain products, unpredictable increases in food and supply prices, or other obstacles related to pricing and/or availability.

The district previously received an \$85,000 grant through the Local Food for Schools (LFS) program to purchase farm fresh food

and produce.

The LFS program supports local and regional food systems through purchases of unprocessed or minimally processed foods. This grant can help participating entities establish or strengthen connections to Texas farmers, ranchers and small businesses and get more Texas food on students' trays. The grant focuses on fruits, vegetables, grains and meat raised or grown in the state.

GAYLOR

FROM PAGE B1

2016. Surely, Brent Gaylor will join him there one day.

ROOM FOR MORE

With Court Gaylor being just a freshman — JUST a

freshman, try convincing Lipan opponents — optimism is high for even more success similar to this season. In fact, the Indians graduate just one player, starting senior guard Tyson Tarpley.

"It's neat, a special moment. Nobody can take

this away from us," the Indians coach said of the championship.

When asked why not add three more, the coach smiled and said, "It would be incredible, but it's so hard to get down here."

Then, he added, "But that would be incredible."

STATE

FROM PAGE B1

season was "Something to prove."

The Indians' sixth state championship might very well be the least expected in program history. Following last season's title run, there was very little to indicate they might be back.

But Tarpley and Steed did what players at Lipan do — they got better so they can continue the tradition of success. Steed was coming off a season in which he was the District 11-2A Newcomer of the Year, while Tarpley was honorable mention all-district.

And Saturday, both played key roles in continuing that tradition. Along with Tarpley's performance, Steed scored five points, grabbed a game-high nine rebounds and blocked a shot.

"If you saw where we were back in the summer," coach Gaylor said with a smile. "But they kept putting in the work. We kept tinkering."

Court Gaylor added, "Expectations are to get down here every year," not-

ing that once the players began to believe in themselves everything else fell into place.

The result was a 21-game winning streak to end the season and another championship.

CLASS 2A BOYS STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Lipan 47, Shelbyville 36	
Shelbyville (29 - 8)	3
12 12 9 - 36	
Lipan (36 - 4)	10 7
15 15 - 47	

Lipan scoring: Court Gaylor 23, Payton Corneilus 7, Alberto Andreatta 6, Tyson Tarpley 6, Darius Steed 5

Lipan 3-pointers: Gaylor 5, Cornelius 2, Tarpley 2, Steed 1

Lipan rebound leaders: Steed 9, Andreatta 6

Lipan assist leaders: Tarpley 6, Cornelius 3

Lipan steals leader: Gaylor 3

Lipan blocks leader: Gaylor 3

TEAM STATISTICS

2-point field goals: Lipan 6-18, 33%; Shelbyville 13-28, 46%

3-point field goals: Lipan 10-25, 40%; Shelbyville 2-17, 12%

Free throws: Lipan 5-8, 63%; Shelbyville 4-6, 67%

Rebounds: Lipan 31 (9 offensive), Shelbyville 28 (9 offensive)

Assists: Lipan 12, Shelbyville 5

Steals: Lipan 4, Shelbyville 4

Blocks: Lipan 6, Shelbyville 6

Turnovers: Lipan 5, Shelbyville 7

Points from turnovers: Lipan 13, Shelbyville 5

Points in the paint: Lipan 12, Shelbyville 12

Second-chance points: Lipan 0, Shelbyville 8

Fast-break points: Lipan 11, Shelbyville 5

Bench points: Lipan 0, Shelbyville 5

Biggest lead: Lipan 13, Shelbyville 2

Biggest scoring run: Lipan 8, Shelbyville 8

Lead changes: 6

Times tied: 3

Time with lead: Lipan 28:08, Shelbyville 1:53



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Indians excited to receive the state champion trophy.

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HOOD COUNTY OUTDOORS

Spring winds do blow!



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.

As we all know, as the spring season approaches, the wind season approaches as well. The winds in our area can be bad one day and great the next. The winds here are nothing like the winds I grew up with in West Texas, but most everyone will have to experience some spring winds. It is a good idea to check the weather for wind advisories or potential thunderstorms before you head out on the water.

High winds can easily swamp a small boat. Larger boats can be swamped as well, if the operator is not careful. Water temperatures are still cold (in the upper 50s), which could cause hypothermia if you happen to get trapped out in open water.

If you do get caught in the wind on the water, it is probably the best idea to head into the wind or head with the wind depending on the direction you seek. If you can get toward a bank that is somewhat protected, veer there slowly at a slight angle. If the waves are really large, do not turn your boat sideways where a large wave can swamp your broad side.

Thunderstorms can bring dangerous lightning, high winds, and heavy downpours with short notice. Your best bet here is to get off the water before it hits if at all possible. Lightning kills.

Many little boats do not have bilge pumps, and many bigger boats may not have bilge pumps large enough for the boat. It is a good idea to have a second method of bailing water if you do get in that predicament. A simple bucket can bail a lot of water.

My boat has a self-bailing deck and a bilge pump. I have had experiences in extremely high winds where my boat was taking on water as the nose plowed into the waves (all three anglers on board were on the bow tossing lures into surface feeding fish). Before we knew it, we had over a foot of water

between the gunnels and the self-bailing openings could not keep up. I turned the boat with the wind and drove with the wind until the boat was drained. The point here is that even with a large boat that is designed to take on water on occasion; you still have to be careful.

The best advice is to not to get on the water with wind advisories, especially on an open body of water. There may be protected creeks and sloughs that can still be fished.

A little chop on the water can be good for the fishing. Big swells may be detrimental to the fishing, as it may be tough to keep your presentation where it needs to be. The boat bobbing up and down and trying to keep positioned can be tough. I usually try to anchor with the GPS-controlled trolling motor, and if that will not hold, the old-fashioned anchor is also a choice. It is easier for me to work several rods with the anchor in place. If the winds are too high, I may try to find a place that is partially blocked by the structure around the lake.

I have to say that fishing in high winds is my least favorite time to be on the water. It is possible to still catch fish, but you will have to work for them for sure. I try to avoid those days with advisories if at all possible. If fishing a tournament, you may not have a choice. Just be safe out there if you head out in the wind. Don't underestimate the wind as it can be deadly.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Lake Granbury is full with the recent rains. Watch for floating debris. Water temperatures are in the low 60s. The golden algae that was present seems to have disappeared. Black bass, crappie, and sand bass continue to be reported as fair to good on the upper ends of Granbury



COURTESY PHOTO

Black bass, crappie, and sand bass continue to be reported as fair to good on the upper ends of Granbury near the Farm-to-Market Road 51 bridge and near Tin Top. Many of the largemouth bass and crappies are moving toward the back of sloughs especially on those warmer afternoons.



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Lake Granbury is full with the recent rains. Watch for floating debris. Water temperatures are in the low 60s. The golden algae that was present seems to have disappeared.

near the Farm-to-Market Road 51 bridge and near Tin Top. Many of the largemouth bass and crappies are moving toward the back of

sloughs especially on those warmer afternoons. Striped bass have been slow with sporadic catches reported from Decordova to the dam

using slabs and live bait. Comanche Creek channel catfish limits continue to be caught using prepared and cut bait. Largemouth

bass are good to 6-7 pounds on spinner baits and soft plastics fished near stickups near creek channels. I do not have a Tilapia report.

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SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on March 9 (Puzzle 73).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

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2A STATE CHAMPIONS



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Lipan Indians did it again for the second year in a row. After a nail biter of a semifinals game Friday, March 8 against the New Home Panthers, the Indians took on the Shelbyville Dragons, Saturday, March 9 in the 2A State Championship Game. Final score was Lipan 47 Shelbyville 36. For Full gallery including photos from the semifinal game, go to hcn.Com.





SPORTS Roundup

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Court Gaylor making a huge layup in the state final Saturday, March 9. Gaylor was also named MVP.

Three Pirate lifters qualify for state

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Three members of the Granbury Pirates powerlifting team will compete in the Class 5A State Meet at the Expo Center in Abilene March 23, following the Region I Division I Meet, also in Abilene, this past weekend.

Medal winners were Davin Jones, second in the 198 weight class with 1,410 pounds lifted, and Moses Meis, third in the same division with 1,390 lifted. Jones had already qualified for state based on his season-long performance and Meis will be an alternate.

Two other lifters qualified for state based on their performances over the entire season, Rylan Brenish (181 division) and Enrique Sanchez (242 division).

ALL-STATE TOURNAMENT BASKETBALL

Two members of the back-to-back Class 2A state champion Lipan Indians (36-4) were named to the All-State Tournament following this season's championship. Freshman Court Gaylor was named the tournament MVP and sophomore forward Darius Steed was also honored.

Gaylor scored 50 points in the two games combined, including hitting 10 of 22 shots from 3-point range. He also had five steals and five blocks.

Steed scored 10 points with 16 rebounds and six blocks.

GRANBURY BASEBALL

The Pirates (13-2) won all three games they played in the Northwest Tournament this past weekend. After the opening day was rained out, results were:

Granbury 5, Denton Ryan 3: Braxton Heffernan three hits, double, home run, three RBIs; Gavin Current double. Pitching: H. Hamilton (win) five innings, four hits, no runs, one strikeout, two walks.

Granbury 4, Aubrey 0: Heffernan two hits, double; Hunter Jones two hits, double; Easton Bleeker triple, walk, RBI. Pitching: Noah Madearis (win) 5.1 innings, one hit, nine strikeouts, three walks; Bleeker 1.2 innings, four strikeouts, one walk.

Granbury 6, Richland 4: Cooper Brown three hits, hit

by pitch; Kyler Crites two hits, RBI; Bleeker triple, walk, two RBIs; Eli Sisco double, RBI. Pitching: Heffernan (win) 5.1 innings, one hit, one earned run, four strikeouts, two walks.

The Pirates then began District 5-5A play at Azle March 12 and won 9-6, scoring three runs in the top of the seventh inning. Current had three hits, was hit by a pitch and had an RBI; Blake Bramlett's three hits drove in two runs; and Jones had a pair of hits and a walk. Hudson Hamilton got the pitching victory, going three innings, surrendering four hits, two runs (both earned) with six strikeouts and three walks.

Granbury was hosting Azle at press time, plays at Cleburne at 1 p.m. March 16, hosts Wichita Falls Rider March 19 at 6:30 p.m. and travels to Rider March 22 at 7 p.m.

The Pirates are ranked 14th in Class 5A this week by the Texas High School Baseball Coaches Association.

TOLAR/LIPAN SOFTBALL

The Lady Rattlers (9-5 overall) began District 11-2A play with a 5-0 home victory against Lipan as Reese Tryon struck out 11 and had two hits at the plate. Tryon surrendered four hits and walked just one. Senne Imel had a double and walk for Tolar.

For Lipan (6-3 overall), Ashlyn Clark had two hits and Sarah Marcantonio doubled. Clark also struck out five, walked three, gave up five hits and five runs (three earned) on the mound.

Tolar hosts Santo March 19 and Lipan plays at DeLeon the same day. Both games begin at 5 p.m.

GRANBURY SOFTBALL

The Lady Pirates (7-13, 0-2 in District 5-5A) fell at home to Azle 17-4 March 8. Morgan Johnson tripled with three RBIs, Karmyn Williams doubled and walked and Rachel Venable doubled.

Granbury was playing at Wichita Falls Rider at press time, hosts Northwest March 19 at 6:30 p.m. and travels to Saginaw March 22 at 6:30 p.m.

TOLAR BASEBALL

Walker/Stallcup Tournament (rain shortened) Boyd 12, Tolar 4: Talan

Brown two hits, double; Hunter Michels double, two RBIs.

Tolar 5, North Dallas 4: Cutter Cain double, home run, two RBIs. Pitching: Drake Owens (win) 2.1 innings, one hit, one run (no earned runs), four strikeouts, two walks.

The Rattlers were playing at Krum at press time, host Cistercian Prep in a double-header at noon March 16, and begin District 11-2A play at home against Santo March 19 and at Santo on March 22. Both games begin at 6:30 p.m.

GRANBURY BOYS SOCCER

The Pirates (9-10-1, 2-8-1 in District 5-5A) dropped a 3-0 contest at home to Saginaw March 8.

Granbury ends its season at home against Aledo March 19. Girls begin at 5:30 p.m. and boys at 7:30.

GRANBURY GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Pirates (7-11-1, 2-8-1 in District 5-5A) defeated visiting Saginaw in a shoot-out March 8 after the teams ended regulation tied at four. Goalkeeper Sharai Rosas had three saves in the shoot-out and Elise Kiskulkis was named player of the game.

Emery Kirby scored the regulation goal with an assist from Tessa Rholeder.

GRANBURY TRACK

Bearcat relays Varsity boys Aledo Bearcat Relays Individual Results Varsity Boys Team score: 81.6, third place.

Top individual finishes Distances in meters, except field events in feet 3200: 1. Jaxon Glenn 9:55.04 (personal record); 3. Bryan Hailey, 10:22.80 800: 4. Alec Wilkinson, 2:03.22 (PR)

100: 2. Elijah Johnston, 11.01 (PR); 6. Jadon Rogers, 11.32

110 hurdles: 5. Hayden Mayer, 16.38 (PR) 300 hurdles: 3. Meyer 43.07 (PR)

4X100 relay: 2. Kaleb Johnston, Elijah Johnston, Caden Davis, Jadon Rogers, 42.76 (school record)

4X200 relay: 4. Kaleb Johnston, Elijah Johnston, Michael Grant, Jadon Rogers, 1:30.15 (SR)

High jump: 2. Miller Schenewark, 6-4; 4. Meyer, 5-8; 5. Johnston, 5-6 Triple jump: -4. Grant, 40-



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRANBURY ISD

Granbury Pirate power lifters Davin Jones, Rylan Brenish, Moses Meis (alternate) and Enrique Sanchez will be at the Abilene Expo Center Saturday, March 23 for the Boys State Powerlifting Meet.

10.75 (PR); 5. Johnston 40-0.75 (PR)

Pole vault: 5. Bryce Hager, 10-6

Discus: 6. Christian Santiago, 113-0

Varsity girls Team score: 39.5, fifth

Top individual finishes Shot put: 2. Ella Garner, 31-8

200: 2. Baylee Goodman, 26.25

High jump: 4. Blakely Bleeker, 5-0; 5. Aubrey Ward, 5-0

4x100 relay: 4. Tamea Busby, Julia Crum, Jayla Hayes, Baylee Goodman, 50.59

100 hurdles: 4. Kate Hamlin, 16.98

Pole vault: 5. Crum, 8-6 300 hurdles: 5. Ward, 50.48

Discus: 6. Sterling Dunagan, 93-4

JV boys Team score: 68, fourth

3200: 6. Sam Valadez, 11:12.45

800: 6. Luis Morales, 2:17.59

400: 1. Andy DeBello, 54.69 (PR)

110 hurdles: 5. Conner Vanquill, 18.43 (PR)

4x200 relay: 3. Hudson Burgoyne, Tony DeBello, Ryler Kersh, Abel Aguado, 1:36.41

High jump: 3. Halston Main, 5-10 (PR); 3. (tie) Cade Moody, 5-10 (PR)

Long jump: 1. DeBello 19-9.75 (PR)

Triple jump: 4. Devin Christiansen, 38-4.75 (PR); 5. Bodie Chastain, 37-3.25 (PR); 5. DeBello 37-3.75 (PR)

Pole vault: 6. John Webber, 9-6 (PR)

Shot put: 4. Cade Cummings, 37-2 (PR)

Discus: 1. Ryler Kersh, 128-6 (PR)

JV girls Team score: 40, fifth

Top individual finishes 3200: 2. Kambry Zschesche, 13:11

400: 2. Kennedy Laviolette, 1:05.6

100 hurdles: 3. Aniya Blackman, 18.73

300 hurdles: 3. Zaeda Sedgwick, 54.39

High jump: 4. Addi Cowling, 4-6; 5. Audrey Geinert, 4-6

Shot put: 4. Kat Goodner, 28-3

100: 5. Karolina Berry, 14.10; 6. Ava Garner, 14.22

Granbury travels to Joshua on March 21

TOLAR TRACK

Rattler Relays Varsity boys

110 hurdles: 3. Dacen Watkins, 18.21

300 hurdles: 2. Watkins, 45.05

4x100 relay: 5. 46.17 4x200 relay: 2. 1:38.89

4x400 relay: 6. 3:55.06 Shot put: 4. Cutter Cain, 37-1

Discus: 5. Zane Graham, 98-7

Triple jump: 2. Watkins, 38-4.25

Pole vault: 1. Brylen Feist, 11-6; 5. Daxton Higgins, 8-6

Varsity girls 200: 5. Bailey Gammons, 29.84

400: 4. Jaycee Jones, 1:08.23

4x100 relay: 3. 53.51 4x200 relay: 3. 1:54.41

Long jump: 5. Gammons, 14-5.25; 6. Jones, 14-4.50

Shot put: 2. Kamryn Kolb, 28-6.5; 4. Audrey Dobbs, 27-7

Discus: 6. Maci Griffith, 63-9

Triple jump: 2. Maddie Ballenger, 30-8.5

High jump: 5. Senne Imel, 4-4

Pole vault: 1. Gammons, 7-6

Tolar competes in the Hamilton Relays March 21

GRANBURY TENNIS

Alvarado JV Tournament Boys singles: 1. Reece Hunt, 2. Nolan Whitlock, 3. Hayden Garcia, 4. Troy Farmer

Boys doubles: 1. Levi Logsdon/Kallen Graves, 3. Camden Lynch/Aidan Hall; Consolation winners, Landon Areno/Jayden Shepard

Girls doubles: 1. Rayleigh Langdon/Daija Wedge, 2. Miranda Munoz/Karla Perez

Girls singles: Consolation winner, Ellie Weeks

Mixed doubles: 1. Joselin Briones/Sullivan Williamson, 2. Kenia Jimenez Zuniga/Max Hughes

Granbury travels to Joshua on March 21

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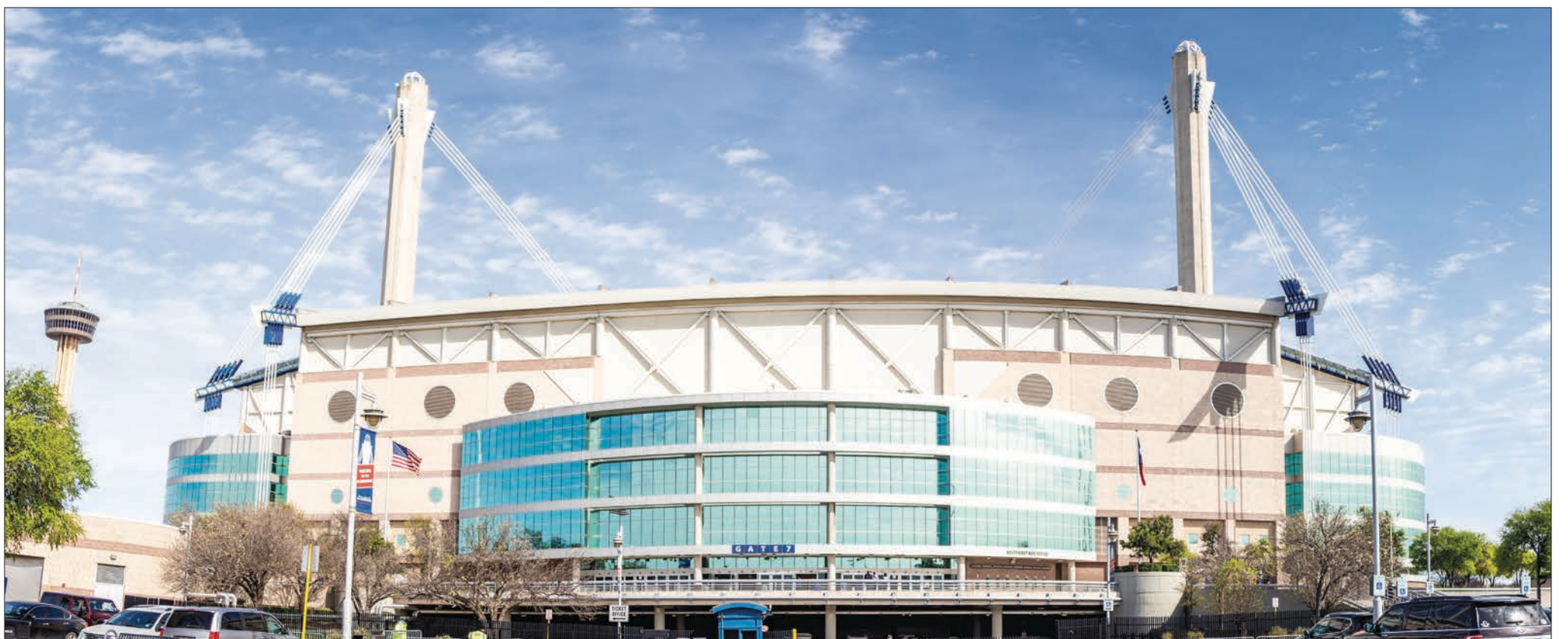
Granbury travels to Joshua on March 21

Granbury travels to Joshua on March 21

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Granbury travels to Joshua on March 21



The Alamodome in San Antonio was the location of the state basketball Tournament.

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Bengtsson takes 2nd again, Huidobro finishes tied-5th to lead Texans at Colin Montgomerie Invitational

Tarleton State University

SUGAR LAND — Max Bengtsson continued his tear on the course on March 4-5, taking silver for the second straight tournament, his third top-two finish over his last four events. Teammate Alvaro Huidobro finished tied-fifth for the Texans to lead Tarleton State at the Colin Montgomerie Invitational in Sugar Land.

Both Bengtsson and Huidobro turned in under-par efforts in all three rounds at Sweetwater Country Club, Bengtsson firing two -5 rounds and Huidobro shooting -4 to end the tournament. Bengtsson placed second in the 80-man field at -12 (67-70-67) and Huidobro finished tied-fifth at -8 (70-70-68).

The Texans took sixth out of 15 teams, as they were rounded out by Carson Gallaher at +4 (72-73-75, tied-47th), Bladen Samaniego at +7 (74-73-76, tied-54th) and Chandler Barch at +16 (77-79-76, tied-76th).

"It was another great week for Max and it's good to see him keep building on that

confidence," head coach Chance Cain said. "This week was a little different with his ball striking being a little off, but he scored really well. He has worked really hard on his short game this year and it showed by converting a lot of par saves when he needed to. So it's good for him to see when he doesn't have his best that he can still compete to the top of the leaderboard."

Bengtsson added to his terrific sophomore campaign with his third top-two finish in his last four tournaments, and his fourth top-20 result of the season. He tied atop the field in Par 5 scoring at -10, averaging a 4.17 gross score on Par 5's, scoring two eagles and 14 birdies throughout the 54-hole event.

Bengtsson had a great start to the tournament, posting an eagle on his second hole, then he holed three straight birdies after the turn to find himself -5 through 12. He finished the round at -5 (67). After a -2 effort in Round 2 with five birdies and three bogeys, Bengtsson again played a near spotless round Tuesday, posting another ea-

gle on the same hole (No. 2), plus adding birdies on holes 10-12 again.

In the three tournaments he's finished in the top-two recently, Bengtsson has shot -15, -5 and -12, respectively.

"I'm super happy for Alvaro, too, and it's good to see his hard work pay off by putting three solid rounds together to get his first top-five finish," Cain said. "He's had a new attitude going into the semester and he's putting in the work to be a more well-rounded player. It's always good to see when two guys finish in the top-five, and we will keep improving through our last part of the spring season."

Huidobro shot back-to-back rounds of 70 on Monday, opening his day with seven birdies in the first round and four birdies in Round 2. On Tuesday, Huidobro shot a career-best -4 (68), rebounding from a bogey on his first hole with a -4 stretch over his next nine.

Huidobro shot the most birdies across the entire tournament with 18. He was also tied-fifth in Par 4 scoring



COURTESY PHOTO

Max Bengtsson continued his tear on the course on March 4-5, taking silver for the second straight tournament, his third top-two finish over his last four events.

at -3, averaging a 3.9 gross score. His top-five finish was the best of his career, surpassing his tied-30th finish just a few weeks ago at the Bentwater Intercollegiate.

Gallaher had his best round in Round 1, going -2 over his nine holes to finish even through 18. He shot the tied-seventh most pars in the tour-

namment with 37. Samaniego had the tied-third most pars with 38.

Tarleton's team score was its second best of the season, only behind its third place -26 (838) efforts at the Monterrey International Invitational in October. NMJC won the tournament in Sugar Land at -17 (847). Houton's Jacob

Borrow was the medalist at -16 (66-65-69).

The Texans are now halfway through their six regular season spring tournaments before they head to the WAC Championship at the end of April. Next up for Tarleton State is The Big Texan in Kerrville at Riverhill Country Club March 25-26.

Tarleton State falls victim to Utah Valley late run

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Men's Basketball was unable to hold its halftime

lead and fell victim to a late Wolverine run to fall to Utah Valley, 63-60, Thursday, March 7 in Wisdom Gym. The Wolverines (15-15

overall, 10-9 WAC) snapped the Texans (22-8, 15-4) 10-game winning streak that was the second-longest active in the nation.

Devon Barnes led the team in scoring for the eighth time this season with 18, snapping the Texans' 13-game streak of consecutive 20-plus points by at least one Texan. Barnes also added two assists and two rebounds.

Jakorie Smith led the team with eight boards and added 16 points. KiAndre Gaddy posted seven points, seven boards and two blocks.

The Texans jumped out to an early lead taking a 40-30 lead at the break. Tarleton shot just below 50% from the floor, 48.6%. Smith led the squad with 12 of his 16 points in the first half. Utah Valley did not make a three-pointer, shooting seven.

Tarleton's largest lead of the game came with 13:09 remaining in the second half. TSU was up by 13, 51-38 with 13:09 remaining in the sec-

ond half. The Wolverines cut the lead to eight, with a 5-0 run with four coming from Drake Allen.

The Texans found themselves up 58-46 with 9:18 to go, but then the Wolverines defense kicked in. An 8-0 run started by four straight Allen points, brought the UVU deficit to four with 6:11 to play.

Emmanuel Innocenti made the Purple and White's final basket of the game to put TSU up 60-54 with 5:52 remaining. Three straight made free throws by the Wolverines tied the game at 60 with two minutes to go. After another pair of free throws, TSU trailed for the first time in the half with a minute remaining. A turnover and missed layup in the Texans' next two possessions set up two UVU free throws with 11.1 ticks to go. UVU missed the pair be-

fore Williams ran the length of the floor and missed a corner triple with just under three seconds left. The Wolverines' Allen missed his second free throw, giving the Texans hope with 1.8 remaining and the ball under the basket. After back-to-back timeouts, the ball found Williams at half court where his half court jumper was off-line, giving Utah Valley the 63-60 upset victory.

Tarleton shot 24-for-66 from the floor, a 36.4% rate. The Texans were just under 20% from deep, four-for-21. The Wolverines won the battle of the boards, 49-40, with UVU pulling down 20 offensive boards. The Texans lost the turnover battle for just the sixth time this season, 13-11.



EMMA VANBECELAERE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Devon Barnes looking to pass the ball to an open Texan while being blocked by Utah Valley.

Texans start out hot, go cold in loss at Utah Valley

Tarleton State University

OREM, Utah — Tarleton State couldn't miss in the first half but couldn't maintain that hot shooting all night in its loss at Utah Valley 73-66 March 7.

The Texans (9-19, 6-13 WAC) led 39-35 at halftime thanks to a 13-of-21 (.619) clip from the field, 3-of-5 (.600) from distance and 10-of-10 from the free throw line. That flipped in the second half, as they shot 7-of-22 (.318) from the field and 1-of-6 (.167) from distance. The Wolverines (10-18, 5-14 WAC) took advantage and won at UCCU Center in Orem Thursday night to keep their WAC Tournament hopes alive.

Tarleton State is still in great shape to make the WAC Tournament. The Texans are tied-seventh in the WAC standings as of the completion of Thursday night's games, and with the current head-to-head tiebreaker against Seattle U, the Redhawks hold the No. 7 seed and Tarleton the No. 8 seed. Those two teams square

off in the regular season finale Saturday in Seattle. The winner of that game will be the No. 7 seed in the WAC Tournament, and the loser may be the No. 8 seed or be done for the season.

Looking at the other teams in the mix, Southern Utah, UTRGV and Utah Valley are all tied for ninth in the standings at 5-14, a game back of Tarleton and Seattle U. Southern Utah and UTRGV play each other Saturday, and Utah Valley hosts Abilene Christian. There are eight scenarios that can play out on Saturday between the five teams fighting for two spots, and unless there are extreme swings in the WAC Resume Seeding System due to other results across the country, Tarleton clinches a spot in the WAC Tournament in seven of the eight scenarios. Scenario 1: Tarleton wins, Southern Utah wins and Utah Valley wins, Tarleton would be No. 7, Southern Utah would be No. 8. Scenario 2: Tarleton wins, Southern Utah wins, Utah Valley loses, Tarleton would be No. 7, Southern Utah would be No. 8. Scenario 3:

Tarleton wins, UTRGV wins, Utah Valley wins, Tarleton would be No. 7, Utah Valley would be No. 8. Scenario 4: Tarleton wins, UTRGV wins, Utah Valley loses, Tarleton would be No. 7, UTRGV would be No. 8. Scenario 5: Seattle U wins, Southern Utah wins, Utah Valley wins, Seattle U would be No. 7, Tarleton would be No. 8. Scenario 6: Seattle U wins, Southern Utah wins, Utah Valley loses, Seattle U would be No. 7, Tarleton would be No. 8. Scenario 7: Seattle U wins, UTRGV wins, Utah Valley wins, Seattle U would be No. 7, Utah Valley would be No. 8. Scenario 8: Seattle U wins, UTRGV wins, Utah Valley loses, UTRGV would be No. 7, Tarleton would be No. 8.

Essentially, the only scenario in which the Texans won't earn a spot in the WAC Tournament is if they lose on Saturday, UTRGV beats Southern Utah and Utah Valley beats Abilene Christian.

Now, back to Thursday's game. The Wolverines outshot the Texans overall 24-of-49 (.490)

to 20-of-43 (.465), and made six more threes, draining 10-of-15 (.667) from outside to 4-of-11 (.364) by Tarleton. The Texans made their first 20 free throws of the game, finishing 22-of-24 (.917) from the stripe to Utah Valley's 15-of-21 (.714) mark.

Overall, these two teams were fairly even across the board, with five lead changes and four ties throughout. The largest lead for each team was seven points; Utah Valley held a slim rebounding advantage 26-24 and had one fewer turnover, 18-17. The 18 turnovers by the Texans come after they had only 16 over their last two games combined.

Utah Valley started up 11-4 midway through the first quarter, and Tarleton responded with six straight. The Texans led 19-18 after the first quarter. In the second frame, the Texans took their largest lead of seven multiple times in the middle of the quarter, leading 39-35 at the break. The Wolverines opened the third quarter with a 9-2 run to lead 44-41, and they maintained a lead the re-



COURTESY PHOTO

Tarleton State couldn't miss in the first half but couldn't maintain that hot shooting all night in its loss at Utah Valley 73-66 March 7.

mainder of the frame, headed to the fourth up 53-50. Utah Valley actually maintained that lead the remainder of the game, with Tarleton down by just a couple of possessions most of the way.

Tarleton had four score in double figures, three with 12 and one with 11. Elise Turrubiates tallied 12 points (8-8 FT), five rebounds, three assists and a tied-career-high five steals. Jakoriah Long totaled 12 points on 4-of-8 shooting, five rebounds, four assists and two steals. Teresa Da Silva led the bench with

12 points on 5-of-8 shooting, including 2-of-3 from deep, adding two assists in 20 minutes. Miannah Little had 11 points on 3-of-6 shooting.

Utah Valley's Tahlia White had a game-high 25 points (8-16 FG, 5-8 3PT, 4-4 FT), adding four steals and two blocks. Ally Criddle finished with 11 points (4-6 FG), seven assists and three rebounds. Kylee Mabry had 11 points (4-7 FG), and Eleyana Tafisi just missed double-double, recording nine points and 10 assists, along with six turnovers.



Hood County Show down

Lipan Lady Indians and Tolar Lady Rattlers Face off.

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Tuesday, March 12, the Tolar Lady Rattlers softball team hosted the Lipan Lady Indians for the first district game of the season. The Rattlers took the win with 5-0 run game in Tolar. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.



HCN Junior

National PANDA DAY March 16, 2024

Did You Know?

pandas need to consume up to 15% of their body weight in 12 hours to survive and stay healthy.

SCIENCE FACT!

Bamboo is the fastest growing plant on this planet. It has been recorded growing at an amazing 47.6 inches in a 24 hour period.

Hooyay for National Panda Day on March 16th – a day dedicated to celebrating the furry, bamboo-munching marvels, pandas! These adorable black-and-white bears are not just cute; they're also essential members of our planet's diverse ecosystem. Pandas are native to China and are easily recognized by their distinctive markings. National Panda Day is the perfect time for kids to explore the fascinating world of pandas, from their bamboo-centric diet to their playful antics. Did you know

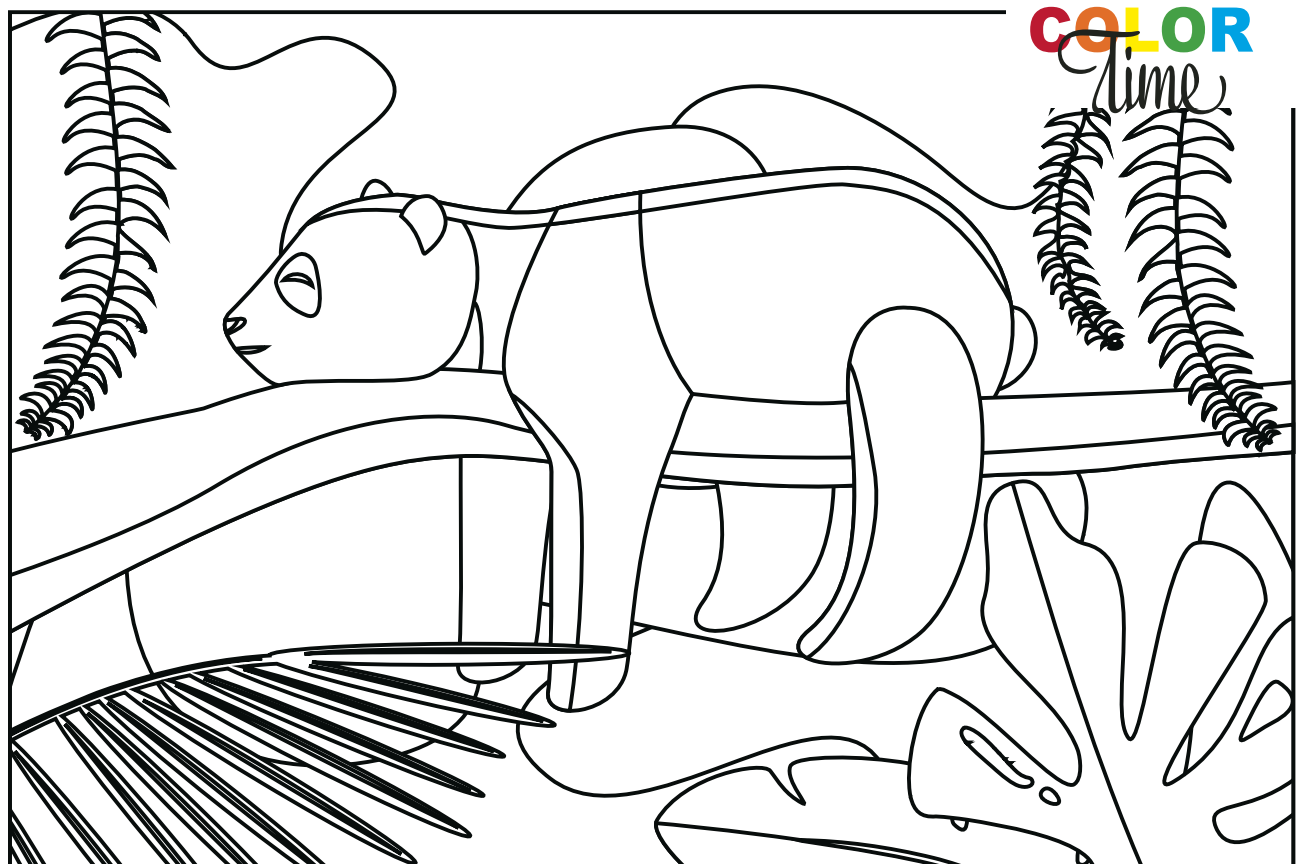
that pandas have a special "thumb" that helps them grip bamboo? It's like having their very own built-in bamboo-grabbing tool! Kids can join in the celebration by engaging in fun and educational activities. Whether it's drawing pandas, making panda crafts, or even learning panda-friendly dances, there are countless ways to celebrate the charm of these bamboo-loving bears. National Panda Day is also a reminder of the importance of conservation. Pandas are considered an endangered species, and efforts are un-

derway to protect their habitats and promote breeding programs. Kids can be panda ambassadors by learning about conservation initiatives and sharing their knowledge with friends and family. Zoos and wildlife organizations often have special events on National Panda Day, offering families a chance to see these lovable creatures up close and learn about their habits and habitats. It's an opportunity to connect with nature and understand the impact of conservation efforts. Teachers can incorporate National Panda Day into their lessons, sparking curiosity about wild-life conservation and the interconnected web of life. Classroom activities can include discussions about ecosystems, the importance of biodiversity, and ways to make a positive impact on the environment. So, on March 16th, let's roar with joy for National Panda Day! It's a day to appreciate these incredible creatures, learn more about their world, and join the global effort to ensure that pandas continue to thrive in their bamboo-filled homes.

ANIMAL FACT!

THIS ANIMAL LOVES TO MUNCH ON BAMBOO. BAMBOO IS A TYPE OF GRASS THAT IS VERY FAST-GROWING.

ANSWER: PANDA BEAR



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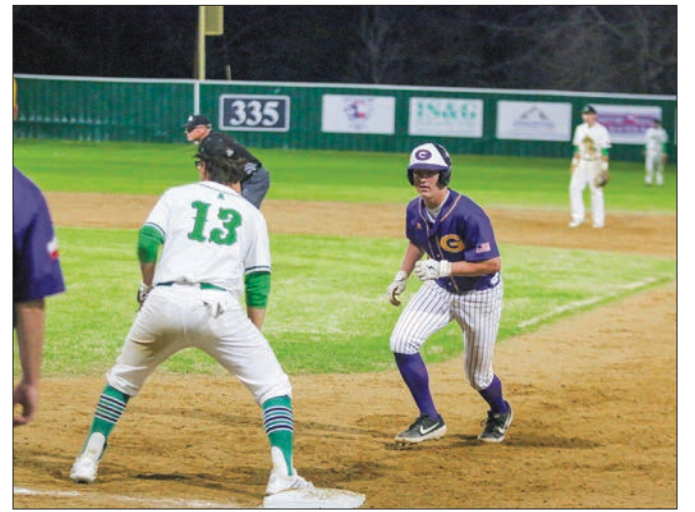
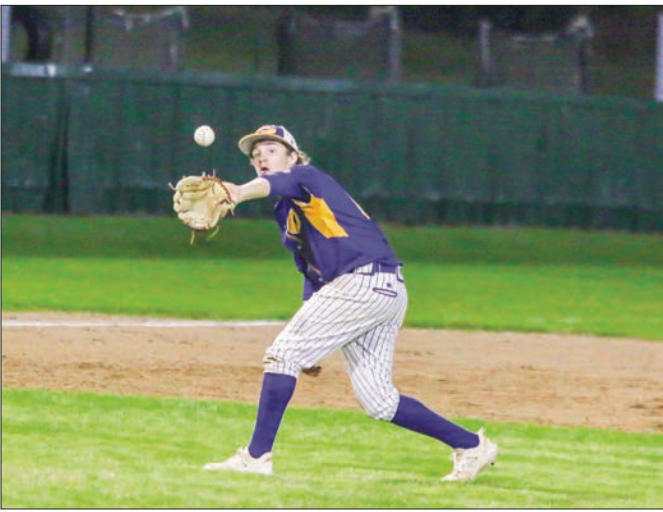
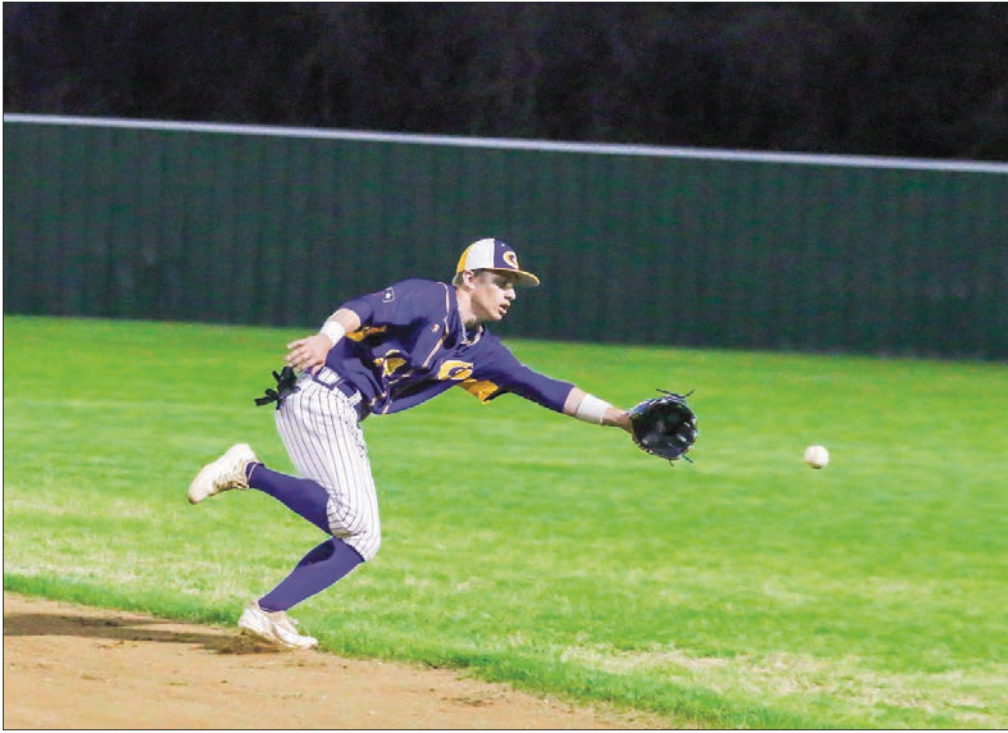
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Pirate Baseball



PHOTOS BY EMMA VANBECELAERE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
The Granbury Pirates baseball team faces off with the Azle Hornets for the first district game of the season.



GOOD FOR HOOD

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Rancho Brazos closes generational gap with new program

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Children have a vastly different upbringing now compared to when their parents were growing up, as the advance in technology has created an entirely new normal.

But how do we bridge this generational gap — especially when children are experiencing a completely different culture than their elders?

Rancho Brazos Community Centers (RBCC) aims to close that gap completely with a new program this semester called “We Have Questions,” where students interview a new guest each week to learn more about generational differences.

“I think all kids have lost a lot in technology,” RBCC’s Program Director Mia Ruiz said. “They’re not sitting on the porch with their grandma shelling peas anymore, and we’re losing that. It’s a lost art. We are moving toward teaching kids about animals, sustainability and growing your own food, and how better to learn than that from those who have already done it? It’s new to them, but it’s not new. It’s neat to watch them learn and be interested.”

Before the first “We Have Questions” interview, students were asked to write down individual questions to the prompt “If you could ask



Rancho Brazos Community Centers (RBCC) aims to close a generational gap between children and elders with a new program this semester called “We Have Questions,” where students interview a new guest each week to learn more about generational differences.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

one question to somebody who’s lived 100 years, what would you ask them?”

Ruiz and RBCC Executive Director Sharla Caro took the best questions and wrote them down on a whiteboard. Every Wednesday during “We Have Questions,” the students come up one at a time and ask the guest one of the questions from the board.

While the guest is an-

swering the questions, the students take the time to journal about what they’ve learned from the interview.

“Last year, (Granbury ISD Assistant Superintendent) Tammy Clark let us know that the kids needed to work on their writing, because their writing scores are lower, so we started journaling,” Ruiz explained. “And we’ve incorporated that into ‘We

Have Questions.’”

Ruiz said with journaling, the first step to writing is getting your thoughts onto paper. A few of the students are unable to write, but Ruiz said they doodle what they hear, which proves they’re listening.

“I read the responses after the first (interview), and Miss Joanne talked about rations during the war and only be-

ing able to have one pound of meat for two weeks, so one of the students wrote, ‘One thing I learned from Miss Joanne is to not take things for granted,’ and I thought, ‘She got it. That was the point,’ and that was neat,” Ruiz said. “I think they’re just learning some great life lessons from people in their community, and that’s beautiful.”

“We really believe that there are things that we can learn from people who have walked this earth longer than us,” Caro said. “And we feel like this is an awesome opportunity for them to learn about journaling, public speaking, listening, respect and penmanship.”

On Wednesday, March 6, the guest speaker for “We Have Questions” was Evelyn Guerin, who has been involved with Rancho Brazos since the beginning.

While questions like “Did you have pets,” “What is your favorite book” and “Did you go to prom,” were more lighthearted, other questions generated a more profound response from “Mrs. Evelyn.”

Guerin, who was born in 1932, told the students that she lives “by good intentions” and “being kind to people.”

“I try to be a good person so that God is really happy with me,” she said.

She went on to explain that her first job was at a “dime store” when she was 16. Although her family didn’t grow food, they did not go without since her mother worked at a grocery store.

“At that time, food was rationed,” Guerin said. “You had to have coupons to get some food like particularly meat. Fortunately, my mother wrapped meats in

PLEASE SEE BRAZOS | C4

Collyns Hutson: Against the odds

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

Most children at the age of 10 are focused on friendships, fitting in and keeping up with the trends among their peers, but one local girl is instead focusing on the fight of a lifetime.

Collyns Hutson’s life was forever changed last fall, when a minute problem turned into something unexpected.

The fifth-grade student in Godley ISD is allergic to fire ants, so it has been protocol since she was in first grade for her to visit the school nurse to be looked over and sometimes be treated with Benadryl cream.

On Sept. 5, 2023, Collyns visited nurse Amanda Ponce at Legacy Elementary after being bitten by a fire ant. Ponce took her vitals and noticed her oxygen level was 86; a normal oxygen reading ranges from 95 to 100. Ponce first thought the pulse oximeter was broken and called another nurse in the district to bring another reader over, but the reading again showed 86. Ponce called the girl’s mother to suggest Collyns go to the emergency room.

After that trip and two other visits to Cook Children’s Medical Center in Fort Worth, Collyns was diagnosed with asthma af-



Pictured is Collyns Hutson.

COURTESY PHOTOS

ter her oxygen continued to lower, dropping into the 60s by the third visit. At each visit, all tests results were normal.

Collyns’ mother and father, Amanda and Cody Hutson, decided to take Collyns to the Children’s Medical Center in Dallas for a second opinion; there the family was told their child needs a double lung transplant. After further testing, doctors discovered her liver is not functioning properly, she has portal hypertension and stage one

liver fibrosis. In February, Collyns was diagnosed with Hepatopulmonary Syndrome (HPS) caused by portal hypertension, believed by doctors to be caused by micro-arteriovenous malformations, or AVMs, on her liver. The treatment for this condition is a liver transplant.

Collyns was officially listed in need of a transplant Feb. 16 with a Pediatric End-Stage Liver Disease (PELD) score of 33/40. The higher the score, the more severe the case and illness is.

Collyns’ doctors are unsure if she has pulmonary micro-AVMs on her lungs, or if the blood vessels are dilated from the portal hypertension. Collyns’ mother shared that the doctors won’t know if that is the case until after a liver transplant. Amanda Hutson added that Collyns may still need a lung transplant if the liver transplant does not correct the shunting in her lungs and hypoxemia.

Doctors have told the Hutsons that with a lung transplant, they are confident Collyns’ portal hypertension will be corrected. But it could take six months

to a year for her lungs to heal and expand after the transplant, doctors told the family.

“We were told that this is the most severe case of HPS that they have seen at (Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston). Her case is very unique because again, she does not have severe liver disease,” Amanda shared. “We do have family members who have been genetically diagnosed with (Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia, also known as HHT or Osler-Weber-Rendu syndrome), so they are still unsure if Collyns genetically has HHT. She carries a gene that presents as a variant of uncertainty.”

Collyns is currently on six liters of continuous oxygen 24/7, must use a wheelchair, and must be careful to not overexert her body. She is currently receiving treatment at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston. Amanda and Collyns have since relocated there, allowing Collyns to receive physical therapy and be closely followed by the pulmonology team while waiting for her liver transplant. They are staying at Norma’s Home, where transplant patients can stay before, during and post-transplant. Cody remains in Godley with the couple’s other two children.

Though she is now in Houston, Godley ISD has worked with the Hutson family in support of Collyns, allowing for her to continue her education. On March 10, the Godley ISD school board applied to the Texas Education Agency for a waiver that could allow Collyns to continue to receive remote homebound services through a special robot that is an iPad on wheels. With the robot, Collyns is able to log in during class to participate in lessons and complete assignments. She can communicate with teachers and classmates, making

PLEASE SEE COLLYNS | C2



COURTESY PHOTO

Acton Nature Center invites families to celebrate spring at its sixth annual Feather Fest March 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Feather Fest returns to Acton Nature Center for its sixth year

BY ALEXA GUADIAN
Special to the
Hood County News

As the temperatures rise and plants begin to bloom, Acton Nature Center invites families to celebrate spring at its sixth annual Feather Fest March 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“We’ve expanded to be a little bit more about spring in the Nature Center with the focus on birds. There’s lots of activities for little kids and older kids, educational displays, information booths,” says David Moore, sponsor of the event and member of the Texas Master Naturalist Rio Brazos chapter.

David and his wife Wendy learned about the Acton Nature Center in 2009 through the Texas Master Naturalist program. Their appreciation toward the great outdoors has motivated them to actively volunteer for the organizations.

“I grew up around nature and camping and bird watching,” Wendy said. “I’ve always been a nature lover,

and birding since I was old enough to go with my father on his birding trips. So, I’ve been involved my whole life.”

Located at 6900 Smoky Hill Court in Granbury, the nature center will host free wildlife walks lead by biologist and wildlife ecology expert Dr. Billy Teels as well as live raptors, owls and hawks displayed by Rick Foley to the public.

This year’s event is organized by the Texas Master Naturalist Rio Brazos chapter for the Acton Nature Center along with assistance from The Prairie Rose chapter of The Native Plant Society of Texas, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and other featured organizations to educate the public on the wildlife surrounding the area.

“So many people are urban dwellers, rarely get outside, and don’t have much experience with nature or understand the challenges of just what goes on outside

PLEASE SEE FEATHER | C2



Collyns Hutson does some therapy at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston.

Flying Start Program returns to Pecan Plantation

BY EMMA VANBECELAERE
Staff Writer

The Flying Start Program, presented by Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 983 in Pecan Plantation, teaches those interested in becoming a pilot what to expect as they pursue their lofty ambitions. The second annual program takes place from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 20 at the north end of the Pecan Plantation Airpark at the north end of the hangar. Enrollees must be at least 18 years of age.

Designed to educate, motivate and excite fledgling pilots, the class will include written materials, a video presentation and pilot testimony related to flying fixed-wing aircraft,

gliders, helicopters, gyrocopters and light sport aircraft. Those who attend will learn what it takes to become a licensed pilot, including costs, time commitments, scholarship information and more.

A bonus: enrollees will have the opportunity to take a flight with an experienced pilot and even briefly take control of the airplane. Flight instructors will be able to answer questions about costs and equipment, as well.

"The beauty of this kind of program is that you do not need to have any prior knowledge or any kind of experience to sign up" Tom Woodward, EAA 983 Flying Start coordinator, said. "This is the beginning interest of aviation and if it's something you want to

do but don't know how to go about it, this is the program for you. We expect to get people that have maybe flown with a friend and found it interesting, but you do not need to have any prior experience with aviation."

If you would like to sign up for the Flying Start Program, go online to <https://www.flyingstart.org>. Look for the Pecan Plantation Flying Start tab. Space is limited and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. You may also contact Woodward at Buhwana@charter.net or text or call him at 817-279-3080.

The maximum number of participants is 25, so if you want to join this program, sign up while you can.

COLLYNS

FROM PAGE C1

for an engaging experience. The TEA approved an initial waiver for Collyns to use this technology while she remained in Godley; the question now is whether it will be approved for her to continue use while she is in Houston.

Amanda said Godley ISD raised money to help with Collyns' medical expenses through a "Heart of Gold" basketball game at the high school in December.

"It was a huge success," Amanda said. "We absolutely love our Godley family."

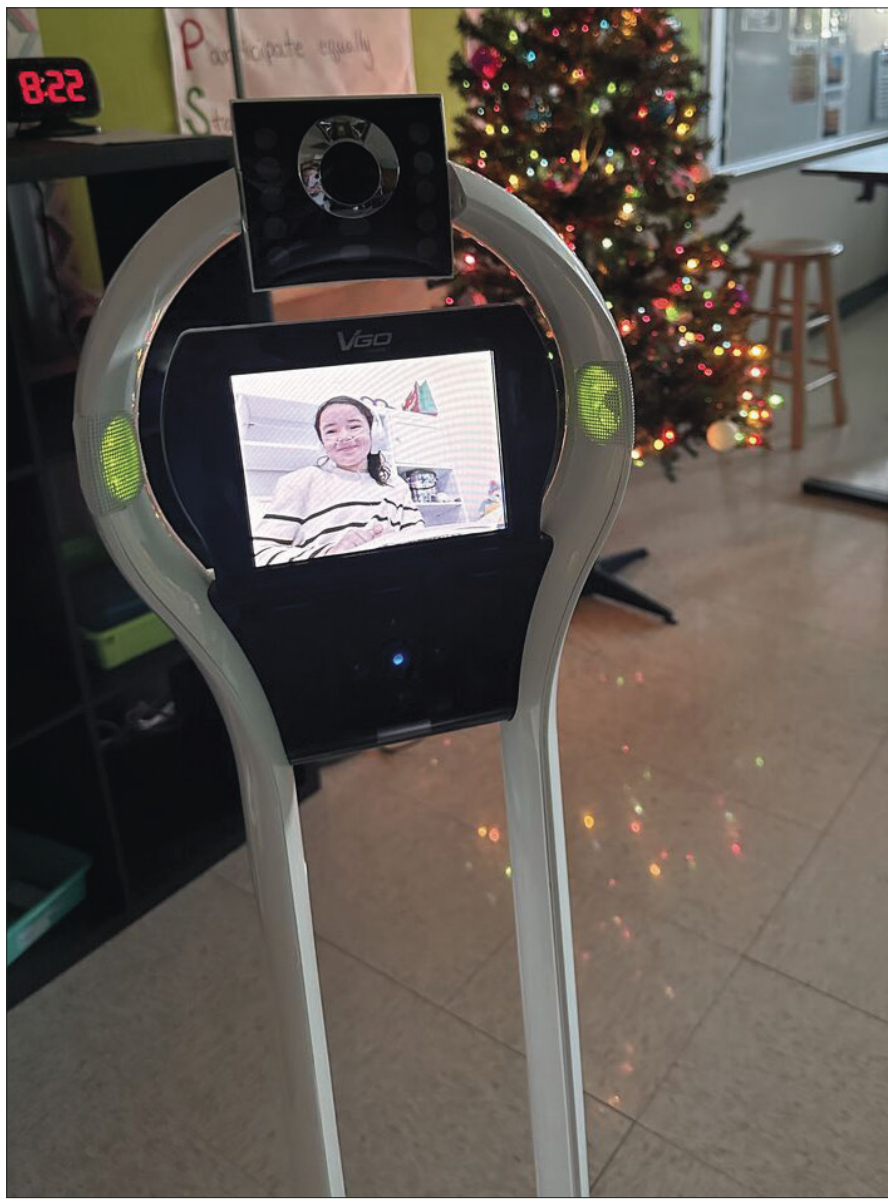
"Nurse Ponce has advocated for Collyns throughout all of this, and still does today," Amanda continued. "I wholeheartedly believed she saved my daughter's life. If she had not noticed her low oxygen, I don't think things would have played out the way they have. We thank God every day for putting nurse Ponce in Collyns' life. Legacy Elementary is more than just a school to us. Legacy is family."

"We do not want her to lose that sense of security and comfort that she has with Godley ISD. This has already been life-changing for her, she has missed pretty much her whole fifth grade school year. She would be devastated if she had to start over at a new district. She loves seeing her teachers and classmates and being able to participate in lessons."

Through these trying times, Collyns has continued to fight while remaining positive. She loves to read books and is a major Taylor Swift fan. Amanda shared that she has the biggest heart and is always willing to lend a helping hand.

"She has definitely been a trooper through all of this," Amanda noted. "She definitely has her days and moments when she feels down, wants to go home, back to school, do normal kid stuff, not have to be in a wheelchair, walk, jog, jump around, etc. For the most part, she has been very positive and will be the first to tell you that she is ready for her new liver."

Though the future is still unclear for the family, they continue to pray that a liver-only transplant will reverse the portal hypertension and allow for Collyns' oxygen levels to return to the normal range.



COURTESY PHOTO

Collyns Huston, a fifth grade Godley ISD student, participates in classroom instruction through a remote robot.

Collins' own liver will be donated post-transplant to the Cure HHT research department for further study. The family also recently partnered with Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) to help raise funds for Collins' medical expenses. Collins will be on anti-rejection medication for the rest of her life and the medical bills will continue to grow. Though the family does have insurance, they have had to pay out-of-pocket for deductibles, lodging, medication and everything in between.

"We pray that post-transplant she will fully heal and be able to live a healthy normal life, participate in

activities and ride a bike again," Amanda said. "We know this will take six months to a year post-transplant but are taking it one day at a time. It has been tough, but we are trying to stay positive and trust in our Lord. We are forever thankful for all the love and support everyone has shown and continues to show our sweet girl every single day. She is a fighter and we know that she will beat this. As she always says, 'God led me into it, He's going to lead me through it, and out of it.'"

To donate to the Hutson family, visit www.COTAforCollyns.com.

FEATHER

FROM PAGE C1

their cities. So this is an opportunity to try to bring a little bit of that to our urban environments," David said.

Since the nature center's first Feather Fest, the Moores have seen participation grow from just a few attendees to an expected 250-plus people this year.

"What I'd really want the

public to do is try to make an effort to understand nature a little better and become better neighbors with our natural environment, so there won't be so many challenges to wildlife and

climate and so on," David said. "That'd be the best payback."

To learn more about Acton Nature Center and Feather Fest visit actonnaturecenter.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Since the nature center's first Feather Fest, participation has grown from just a few attendees to an expected 250-plus people this year.

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CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 15 March 2024 - Thursday, 21 March 2024

Arthur The King (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:15AM, 1:50PM, 4:25PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM.
Sun: 11:15AM, 1:50PM, 4:25PM, 7:00PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM

Cabrini (PG13)
Fri: 11:00AM, 2:15PM, 5:30PM, 8:45PM.
Sat: 10:30AM, 1:45PM, 5:00PM, 8:15PM.
Sun: 11:30AM, 2:55PM, 6:20PM.
Mon, Tues: 2:00PM, 5:15PM, 6:45PM.
Wed: 2:40PM, 6:15PM.
Thurs: 2:45PM

Dune: Part Two (PG13)
Fri: 11:00AM, 2:35PM, 6:10PM, 9:45PM.
Sat: 10:35AM, 2:10PM, 5:45PM, 9:20PM.
Sun: 11:45AM, 3:25PM, 7:00PM.
Mon: 3:00PM, 6:45PM.
Tues: 2:45PM, 6:35PM.
Wed: 2:00PM, 4:35PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:30PM

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire (PG13)
Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:40PM, 7:20PM

Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire Elite Plus Event (PG13)
Thurs: 7:00PM

Imaginary (PG13)
Fri: 11:50AM, 2:20PM, 4:50PM, 7:20PM, 9:50PM.
Sat: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM.
Sun: 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 5:00PM, 7:30PM.
Mon, Tues: 2:15PM, 4:45PM, 7:15PM.
Wed: 2:00PM, 5:30PM, 8:00PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 5:45PM, 8:15PM

Kung Fu Panda 4 (PG)
Fri: 11:45AM, 1:20PM, 2:05PM, 3:40PM, 4:25PM, 6:00PM, 6:45PM, 8:20PM, 9:05PM.
Sat: 10:55AM, 11:45AM, 1:15PM, 2:05PM, 3:35PM, 4:25PM, 5:55PM, 6:45PM, 8:15PM, 9:05PM.
Sun: 11:00AM, 11:50AM, 1:20PM, 2:10PM, 3:40PM, 4:30PM, 6:00PM, 6:50PM.
Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 2:40PM, 4:20PM, 5:00PM, 7:20PM.
Thurs: 2:00PM, 4:25PM

Shrek - Kids' Spring Break Series (PG)
Fri: 11:00AM

The Ark and the Darkness (PG13)
Wed, Thurs: 7:00PM, 8:15PM

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Peanut butter drive will gather 'Jars of love'

BY ALEXA GUADIAN
Special to the Hood County News

Peanut butter is a savory ingredient used in some of our favorite snacks: peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, Nutty Buddy's and ants on a log; but for many Granbury residents, it's an opportunity to have food on the table.

Lakeside Physicians and Lake Granbury Medical Center are holding their second annual "Jars of Love" peanut butter drive from March 5-25 in preparation for National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day in April.

"We talked to a lot of the food banks and distribution areas, and they all said peanut butter is just the perfect thing to collect because it has a long shelf life, and it's very nutritious, very high in protein, and we can keep on the shelves,"

said Lake Granbury Medical's marketing coordinator, Tom Jensen. "It just benefits so many people, not just kids, but adults."

Mission Granbury, Papa's Food Pantry in Glen Rose, and Hope Inc. in Stephenville are the chosen collection locations because of their proximity to the clinics and food insecurity surrounding them.

"There really is a need. When we talk to (especially) Mission Granbury, being this is our main hub, you know, it's really a year-round need. It's not just at the holidays," Jensen said.

After last year's drive, Jensen and the clinics are looking from within their health system to find more ways to reach their communities.

Their "employee engagement groups" consist of members from different areas within the system who present the needs of their own com-

munities once a month and brainstorm possible charity solutions.

"Bringing this group into the peanut butter drive has made a huge difference for us, because it's more feet on the floor. It's more folks within this group who can go out and help solicit this, get the word out, and really bring the excitement to things like this," Jensen said.

As of their second week of the drive, the clinics and pantries have collected more than 176 jars and are hopeful to reach their goal of 500, if not more, by the end of the month.

Both Lakeside Physicians and Lake Granbury Medical Center participate in several community engagement and service activities with Mission Granbury throughout the year, from free exercise classes where attendees are encouraged to bring canned goods

and peanut butter for the pantry, to holiday drives and awareness events.

As the population of Central Texas grows, Jensen asks the current community and its organizations to spread awareness of the resources the clinics and Mission Granbury have to offer to those who could use a helping hand.

"Keep an eye out on our Facebook, YouTube and LinkedIn pages, as well as our Instagram page, because whatever we do in the community next is generally gonna appear on our social media pages," he said. "We're happy to help the community in general."

For more information about "Jars of Love" and its collection centers, contact Tom Jensen at tom_jensen@chs.net or visit Mission Granbury's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/missiongranbury.org/.

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.

SECOND MONDAYS

MEETING OF the Lake Granbury Art Association at 224 N. Travis St. at 6 p.m. Meeting includes business and a monthly demonstration from local and visiting artists. For questions call 361-510-6820 or email simanek1@charter.net.

FIRST TUESDAYS

GRANBURY DOLL Club meeting, 2 p.m. Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis St., Granbury. 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 Emer-

gency 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 granburyyog@gmail.com or call 817-776-2898.

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.

BRAZOS

FROM PAGE C1

the grocery store; that was her job, so when the meat got to where it had to be sold and they couldn't sell it, she would bring it home, so we didn't do without. You couldn't get sugar or things without coupons, but we did very well because mom worked in the grocery store."

Guerin also told the students she lived through World War II. She was living in California at the time, and she said she remembers military men walking across her front yard.

"What I remember most about being in the war was everybody pulled together," she said. "There was peace among everybody at that time. There were things that we gave up, like we couldn't have butter and I remember you couldn't have pantyhose for your legs, so my mother would put makeup on her legs to make it look like she had hose on. But everybody was in such peace at that time, and they pulled together. It was a bad time, but it was a good time because everybody really loved each other."

She said her favorite foods growing up were her "mama's cooking," and that her greatest accomplishment was raising five kids.

Guerin said she didn't do much traveling, but she got the opportunity to go on two mission trips: one to Pakistan and one to Russia.

When asked why she started Rancho, Guerin explained that it all began with a tent. Her church, Acton United Methodist Church, started holding Bible classes in a tent on a parking lot in the Rancho Brazos neighborhood about 20 years ago.

The tent was later replaced with a building, which Guerin said came to fruition thanks to a brick fundraiser.

"Our church decided that we needed to build it, so you had an opportunity to buy a brick for this building," she said. "You could buy a brick for \$25 and that's how the

building got built. We did not go into debt to do that."

Guerin said the building has come "a long way" since it began, and that it has "expanded so much."

"I just see the community getting better. I just think it's so good for the community and I am amazed at what Sharla has done and her vision," she said.

"It's a good challenge," Caro said. "One of the things that I was telling my kids is that each week we have 'We Have Questions,' and we feature different people from all walks of life. But what I explained to them is that they've been here, many of them since kindergarten, and it's always been here, and it's always been this building because of their age group. One of the things that I was most excited about with you coming was that the questions they asked me, they'll actually be able to ask someone who was here at the very beginning, because that's huge."

"It's important to Mia and I both that they understand that this space was sacred, but it took a vision of you all to really say 'We're gonna come set up a tent in a parking lot and bring Christ to a community.'"

For the future of "We Have Questions," Ruiz said she hopes the students will be able to interview several residents across all walks of life to learn about the endless possible career choices.

"Sharla always tells them there's life beyond the rocks, and this is what we're talking about," Ruiz said. "You can be a zookeeper, a police officer or a fireman — there's lots of possibilities out there."

"We Have Questions" takes place every Wednesday at 3:45 p.m. at the Rancho Brazos Community Centers, 3701 Sundown Trail.

For more information about the "We Have Questions" program — or any RBC program — visit ranchobrazoscommunitycenters.org online or call 817-910-8114.



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

During the "We Have Questions" program on Wednesday, March 6, students interviewed Evelyn Guerin, who has been involved with Rancho Brazos since the beginning. While questions like "Did you have pets," "What is your favorite book" and "Did you go to prom," were more lighthearted, other questions generated a more profound response from "Mrs. Evelyn."



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The crowning of the Bean Queen

A special gathering of Granbury Royalty took place at Farina's on Wednesday, March 6, for the 2nd annual Historic Granbury Merchants Association's Bean Queen Luncheon. The event honored former and current Bean Queens, all of whom have generously dedicated their time and effort to volunteer for the enrichment of downtown Granbury.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



During the annual HGMA Bean Queen luncheon, Bean Queens, present and past, have shared their hilarious, touching, and unique stories revolving around the duties and responsibilities of wearing the coveted crown. Pictured from left, Claudia Southern, Diane Hedges, Sylvia Hickey, Faye Landham, Viki Young, 2023 Bean Queen Tammy Dooley, 2024 Bean Queen Vicki Risinger, Jean Cate, Fern Bailey, Barbara Boozer, Cynthia James, Julia Pannell and Kim Fancher.



Former Bean Queens present 2024 Bean Queen Vicki Risinger with bling suited for a Bean Queen.



During the Founder's Day weekend opening ceremony on Saturday, March 16 at 10 am, Vicki Risinger, the 2024 Bean Queen, pictured standing behind her Rib King and husband, Carey Risinger (seated, far right), will be introduced at the Founder's Day Weekend opening ceremony on Saturday. Former Bean Queen Viki Young stands behind her Rib King Scott Young (seated from left), and 2023 Bean Queen Tammy Dooley has her Rib King Mike Dooley's back.



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Isaiah 41:13

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Proverbs 3:5-6

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When I thought, "My foot slips," Your steadfast love, O LORD, helped me up. When the cares of my heart are many, Your consolations cheer my soul.

Psalms 94:18-19

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

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A guide to Granbury-area churches.

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Romans 8:28

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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

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Forward Training Center brings opportunities to all

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer
emily@hcnews.com

The Forward Training Center in Granbury is ready to welcome more participants in its Jobs for Life program as enrollment is around the corner. The program began in 1996 after initiative was taken between Donald McCoy, who was a pastor of Pleasant Hill United Church of Christ, and Christopher Magnum, owner of CC Magnum Paving Company.

The Jobs for Life program

provides thorough training to equip individuals with the skills and mindset for sustainable employment. The program is open to anyone facing unemployment, underemployment or dissatisfaction in their job. The course will teach participants how to build a professional resume, gain interview skills and further develop communication skills.

Monica Hays, executive director of the Forward Training Center, shared that since the program started, thousands of individuals from more than 300 cities and nine countries have ben-

efited from the program. "Over 200 participants have completed the program since 2003, highlighting its widespread reach and enduring impact," Hays said. "Through collaborative efforts and unwavering dedication, the program continues to transform lives and build brighter futures for individuals and their communities."

The main objective of the program is to prepare participants for not just employment but also fulfilling careers aligned with each individual's skills and passions. This is achieved through the program's

eight-week session at zero cost to each participant. Participants are provided comprehensive training, mentorship and a focus on personal development by empowering individuals.

"Witnessing the positive impact of the program on participants and their families is immensely gratifying," Hays shared. "The transformational journey undertaken by individuals as they embrace newfound opportunities and unlock their potential serves as a testament to the program's efficacy and importance. Equally important is the undeniable impact

the outcomes have on the entire community."

Other curriculum at the center includes topics such as money, relationships, overcoming financial challenges, creating a spending plan and banking. Computer classes are also offered that include learning about Word, Excel, PowerPoint, QuickBooks and keyboarding. There is a further curriculum to improve reading, writing and language skills.

To join the Jobs for Life program or to learn more, individuals can contact Forward Training Center by phone at 817-573-6677, visit

the website at forwardtrainingcenter.org, or drop by the office located at 600 W. Pearl St. Prospective participants can complete an application and schedule an interview with the program director.

The upcoming Jobs for Life session begins March 26 and runs through May 16. Classes are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon; lunch is included. Operating hours of the center are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The center is closed Friday through Sunday.

BOOK REVIEW

To be continued...

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Argh, you just finished Part One and now you have to wait a week, a month, an entire season or even a year before you know what happens and the cliffhanger is solved. Part One had you on the edge of your seat. But as in "Life After Power" by Jared Cohen, just wait until you know the next half.

Americans are living longer, which is good news for retirees: it gives them a chance for a second career or a dream job after they've officially quit working. It's an idea that U.S. presidents had, starting centuries ago.

Take, for instance, Thomas Jefferson.

After eight years in office, he graciously stepped away to found a university and to finish other long-dreamed projects. Still, says Cohen, "Jefferson knew that America would have a reckoning over his legacy and over slavery."

John Quincy Adams, son of our second president, appreciatively traveled the world with his father during the elder's presidency but Adams' own term in office was an unhappy one. Fortunately, after Andrew Jackson took over, Adams' contemporaries worked to give the former president a seat in Congress and, with no aspirations and no higher office in mind, Adams dared to ignore convention and speak passionately about subjects important to him. Says Cohen, he "was more decisive than he had been as president."

Grover Cleveland had a second term four years after he left his first term — and he regretted it. Just as

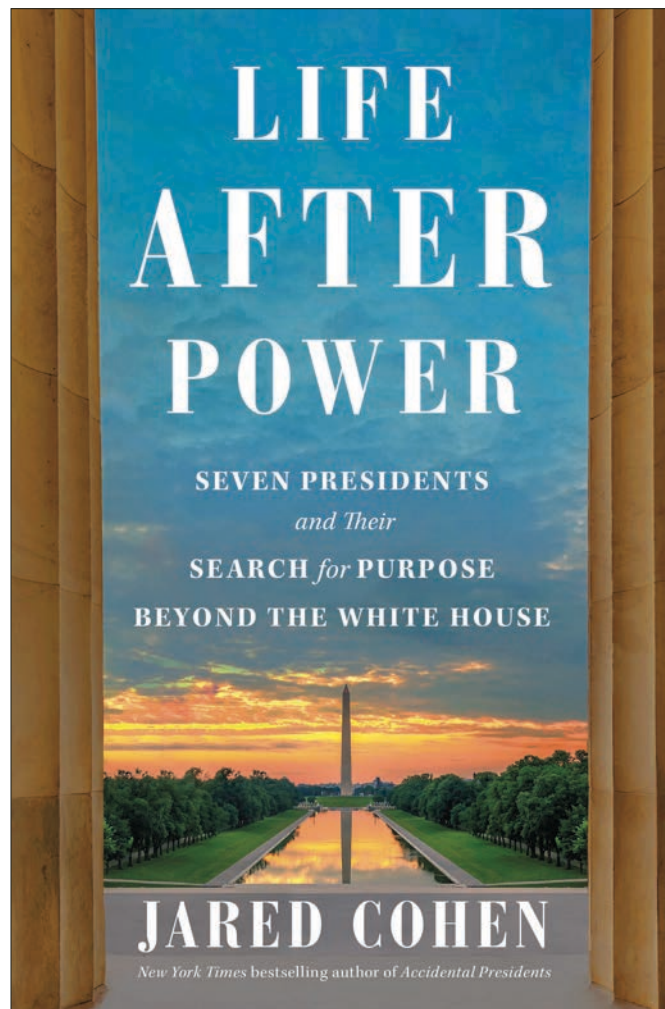
she always wanted, Nellie Taft landed in the White House but that wasn't the dream of her husband, William. What he really wanted was a seat on the Supreme Court and he was delighted when it was offered. Herbert Hoover was "a hero" when he entered the office, and one of the most reviled men in America when he left it. Jimmy Carter left office in "humiliation," but then made the world a better place. And George W. Bush literally brushed his term in the White House aside.

At this point, it seems like the next guy in the Oval Office will be there for a second term. So what about the candidate who doesn't make it? If he knows what's inside "Life After Power," he'll have some nice guidance.

And you'll have an interesting look at a part of the presidents' lives, in a way that's often ignored in historical accounts. Author Jared Cohen gives readers a detailed, backstage peek at the months after the election, and it's not always the smooth ride you might imagine. The life of a former president, with his pension and security, is not necessarily one of leisure; in fact, Cohen shows how troublesome it can be for someone with unfulfilled vision. Aspiring politicians, please note: you may want to take Cleveland's advice to young Franklin Roosevelt...

Certainly, "Life After Power" is for anyone who imagines what next spring will look like for the guy who doesn't get the votes. And if you love presidential history, you won't be able to part with it.

Author Jared Cohen.



"Life After Power: Seven Presidents and their Search for Purpose Beyond the White House" by Jared Cohen. c.2024, Simon & Schuster, \$32.50, 512 pages



COURTESY PHOTO

Van Minter, a lead pastor at Mesquite's Lake Ridge Bible Church.

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Life's ups and downs...



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly.

To most mortals — mere or otherwise — the thought of jumping rope 30,660,000 times causes hair to stand on end, eyes to cross and regimens to crumble.

Not so to a preacher man named Van Minter, whose morning routine is vital to each day.

He has kept this commitment for almost 12,800 days, having begun his 36th year on "leap year," Feb. 29. He made the pledge to himself upon completing his collegiate basketball career in 1989.

"I remember the time and place clearly," he said. "After my final game, I realized that I needed a plan to stay in shape without playing basketball."

Those who know him best have long regarded him to be "the man with a plan."

Thus his routine of jumping rope 2,400 times daily — mostly in his garage, but sometimes on hotel rooftops and in parking garages — began, and he hasn't missed a single day.

Claiming that he never feels quite right until after his 30-minute workout, Rev. Minter brushes his teeth, dons his size 14 training shoes and amps up his favorite '80s music for his "ups and downs."

His eyes are focused on 24 signs painted on his garage wall, numbered one through 24. Silently, he counts to 100 while staring at each sign, mentally counting jumps he makes at 150-170 spins per minute. Over the years, his wife, Leslie, and three daughters — Holli, Halee and Hattie — have "let him be" during his workout. Only emergency messages interrupt.

"When I began, I prayed to be able to jump rope daily for at least 40 years, and by God's grace, I'm getting close," said the pastor whose intent in college and seminary was to train to be a youth minister, a post he held for 22 years. Associated with Lake Ridge Bible Church in Mesquite for almost 21 years, he is a lead pastor there now, commonly

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PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Pecan's archery/air gun association enjoys a busy season

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.

The Pecan Plantation Archery/Air Gun Association has a "spring clean-up and target setup" gathering planned for today, Saturday, March 16, at 10 a.m. at the range on Ravenswood Road near the Shady Campground Pavilion. Volunteers are needed for tidying the range as well as covering old targets.

Furthermore, Saturday, May 4 will bring an open house at the range around noon where food and drinks will be provided, and Pecaners may enjoy a visit to the range while learning about its amenities.

In addition, Kids' Camps for shooters ages 8 to 13 are on the summer schedule for the first two weeks of June, and the association will soon have its own line of attire for members to enjoy. Annual membership dues are \$25 per family, and the association meets collectively the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the range. Brochures about the group may be found at the PAC,

and for more information on the association and its activity in Pecan, send email to pecanarcheryairgunclub@gmail.com.

EASTER ART

An Easter Paint Party hosted by Kate Little is happening at the PAC today, Saturday, March 16, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Artists of all ages are welcome at this family friendly event. In addition to painting on canvas, participants will enjoy games (with prizes!) and cupcakes. Spots are numbered and sign up is required: 817-573-7952.

AUXILIARY GATHERING

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary met collectively last Monday evening when Pecan's EMS Chief Brandt Stephenson addressed the crowd. The next meeting of the group comes Monday April 1. All Pecan ladies and gentlemen interested in joining this group that fund-

raises for our community's emergency services are invited to join. No membership dues are required, and new folks with fresh ideas are always welcome.

IRISH DELIGHT

Pecan Plantation will turn a lovely shade of green tomorrow, Sunday, March 17, when neighbors are invited to the clubhouse for a celebration of Irish heritage. Festivities for the day will include a golf cart/ATV parade, bounce house and Irish themed food and drinks, in addition to games and live music.

The celebration will run from 2 to 6 p.m. and is a family friendly event for members and guests of all ages. Folks desiring to participate in the parade should decorate their ride in festive attire and meet at the Nutcracker parking lot at 2:30 p.m. before the parade begins at 3 p.m.. Only golf carts and ATVs may hold spots in this parade.

CARD BUNCH

A group of euchre players is a new card offering on Pecan's calendar, and the inaugural gathering comes Tuesday, March 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the PAC. For more information on the evening, contact Mike Kruger at 817-523-9209.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club will meet collectively Thursday, March 21 at the clubhouse with social time beginning at 9:30 a.m. and President Sandy Hoelting calling the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Following the business meeting, ladies will enjoy a happy day of friendship while preparing for spring with Robin Blood and Jeff Blumen from B Blumen Flower Farm as they give advice on how to get a garden growing. The table-top charity for the day is Rancho Brazos Community Center. Reservations are due by noon Thursday, March 14 and may be made by sending email to ppwrces@gmail.com.

COLLECTION DATE

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary will hold its spring boot drive Saturday, March 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at both Pecan entrances. Every penny collected goes to support our community's emergency personnel.

WESTERN EVENT

In addition, the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club's annual "Boot Scootin'" Boots and Bluebonnets charitable

fundraiser is on the calendar for Saturday, March 23 with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. The night will hold dinner, dancing (with music from the Randy Tatarevich Band), a silent auction, a Big Tex auction and a cash saloon. The event is open to Pecan residents and guests, and tickets are on sale now at www.mypwpc.com. Attendees are encouraged to don western wear for the evening.

LIFE SAVING

CPR classes are available this spring at the PAC March 23, April 27 and May 18, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each day. Each class accommodates 20 students, and registration at the PAC is required. Pecan's EMS is partnering with the American Heart Association to offer both informational classes and certification classes on these dates.

GOOD READ

The Hood County Library's bookmobile will be at the PAC Wednesday, March 27 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Patrons may both check out and return library materials at the bookmobile.

POWER CHECK

Pecan's Volunteer Fire

Department reminds residents that daylight savings time signals the opportunity to change batteries in smoke detectors making sure the devices function properly. Residents who need assistance in this endeavor may contact Pecan's Fire Department: 817-573-1643.

EGG HUNT

Pecan's annual Easter egg hunt commences Saturday, March 30 at 10 a.m. sharp at the PAC. Participants ages 1 through 12 will be divided into groups and should bring a basket for collection. Door prizes and an appearance by the Easter Bunny will also be part of the day.

RENOVATION PROJECT

Both of Pecan's golf course restrooms are currently being renovated thanks to the LGA and the MGA and their generous donations. While the work happens, which should take a week or two, temporary restrooms are in place.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Bill Lonon, who passed away Feb. 28, and also to the Jeff Mastick family on the loss of Jeff's mother, Carolyn Mastick, March 6.

NEWBURY

FROM PAGE C8

preaching twice on Sundays.

His wife is likewise committed to fitness, has reached admirable heights with Optavia, a wellness program.

"Van has jumped rope through college, our honeymoon and helping guide three daughters through life, so why should he stop

jumping now? It has worked so far." Leslie laughed.

Point taken...

Van has heard all the jokes and bromides about his height. He towers to 6'8," weighing around 250 pounds since college.

From his youth in Saudi Arabia, during his Blinn Junior College/HPU days and since, he's dealt with all the "how's-the-weather-up-there" questions.

"I am reminded of a

'7-footer-plus' encountered at a vacation spot in Arizona. Dressed in western attire, he, too, was good-natured about constant height references. 'When folks ask me if I play basketball, I ask them if they play miniature golf,'" he joked.

Rev. Minter has "tips" for anyone with questions about Christianity and rope-jumping.

He identifies with country music artist Roy Clark's sen-

timents in his song "Thank God and Greyhound You're Gone." He, too, is thankful to God, but his sadness concerns Nike's decision to leave the custom jump rope market. Early on, Van's ordinary ropes were reduced to shreds in about three weeks. Thankfully, his "Nikes" — used for some three decades — have held up for about 18 months each.

"Luckily, I've got eight of

'em stashed away," he says.

His health is excellent, and most hospital visits are made to see members of his flock.

He has landed there as a patient three times, however, always for kidney stones that have troubled him 30 times to date. "My hospital stays have been over-nighters," he remarked, "So I have been able to get home in time to jump rope."

His resolve is remarkable,

and his integrity and commitment have been evident since I met him during my presidency at Howard Payne upon his arrival there in 1988. He was a "class act" student, always focused on Christian service. That he is beloved by his church and all who know him is no surprise. Surely his name should appear in the Guinness World Records.

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