



COURTESY PHOTO

From left: Jaci Lopez, national delegate from CD-25; Commissioner Nannette Samuelson, elector from CD-25; and Alejandra Munoz, alternate delegate.

Three Hood County women to play key roles at Republican National Convention and Electoral College

BY LAUREN DAVIS
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Three women from Hood County will represent their community and Congressional District 25 at the Republican National Convention in Milwaukee this July and at the Electoral College in December.

On May 23-25, three members of the Hood County Republican Women's Club attended the 2024 Texas GOP Convention in San Antonio and were elected to prestigious positions. Jaci Lopez secured a spot as a national delegate from CD-25, and Alejandra Munoz was elected as an alternate delegate. Hood County Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson successfully ran for the position of elector from CD-25 and will travel to Austin in December to cast the district's vote in the Electoral College.

"It was thrilling to see so many young Republicans with families at the convention in San Antonio," Samuelson says, "There were young adults observing how grassroots Texans voice their opinions, and concerns about the direction of Texas and how the Texas Republican Platform is created to reflect our values and beliefs." She adds, "As the saying goes: 'As goes Texas, so goes the United

States.'"

"I want the Conservative Republicans of Hood County to know that I'm your delegate," says Lopez, "I'm honored to be chosen to represent Hood County and our 25th Congressional District at the national convention. I look forward to communicating our kitchen-table concerns — like taxes and inflation — conservative values and our constitutional principles on your behalf. I endeavor to represent you well in my role, and I invite you to contact me in that pursuit."

Munoz, a first-time alternate delegate at the Texas GOP Convention over Memorial Weekend, described her experience as "amazing" and emphasized the importance of showing up to make her voice heard. She says, "I was able to cast my vote to people that share my same Republican values and know they will not compromise my freedom!" She highlighted the significance of speakers like

Ted Cruz, who shares her goal of keeping America "the land of the brave and the free!"

Munoz shared her journey of immigrating from Mexico almost 37 years ago and becoming a U.S. citizen in 2001. She expressed her commitment to the Republican Party's principles of preserving the American Dream and fighting for freedom, family and faith. She reflected on being nominated as an alternate delegate and elected, emphasizing, "Only in America."

"Our country is currently on the wrong path," Samuelson says. Newly elected as a presidential elector for CD-25, she adds, "With high inflation and interest rates, people are suffering and struggling to provide for their families. Owning a home has become an unattainable goal for many Americans. Under the current administration, the U.S. has been pulled into two wars and turned its back on our ally, Israel. We must get our country back on the right path and elect Donald Trump as the 47th president of the United States."

The election of Lopez, Munoz and Samuelson underscores Hood County Republicans' active participation and influence in shaping their party and the nation, highlighting their commitment to conservative principles and grassroots involvement.

City, county request forensic audit from HCAD

BY ASHLEY TERRY
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The Granbury City Council and the Hood County Commissioners Court recently requested that the Hood Central Appraisal District undergo a forensic audit, following concerns brought up by Mayor Jim Jarratt that excess funds were not being returned to the taxing entities.

During a regularly scheduled council meeting May 21, Jarratt explained why he had placed the forensic audit request on the agenda.

"I have no reason to believe that there's anyone that has taken a financial gain," he explained. "I have no reason to believe that at all. I do believe though, that there are processes and procedures that have probably been inherited, at least two and maybe more ... that raise concern."

Jarratt brought up the fact the HCAD board of directors previously used the same auditor for 24 years, but in 2022, decided to change auditors.

"The auditor that was there 24 years did not identify that excess funds were being withheld from being returned to the entities which is required," he said. "Again, no one is gaining from this, but the taxpayers are losing from this."

Jarratt said the reason the HCAD was holding the funds was due to a desire to construct a building — specifically, a home office for the appraisal district.

"When you start spending money, it's the approval of the entities, and there's a resolution process that you go through to request that of the entities — and it never occurred," he said.

According to Jarratt, a contract was written between HCAD and Cauble Hoskins Architects that involved a \$333,000 purchase for the home office, however even after the deal fell through, \$132,000 of taxpayer funds was never returned to the entities.

"I have documentation from the appraisal district, and it shows a selling point made to the appraisal district by Government Capital Corporation, and it was not made to the appraisal district; it was made to the HCAD Home Office Corporation, which if you go back and look at the minutes, there's a resolution that has been made by the HCAD to form a home office corporation, naming the directors of the HCAD as directors of the home office corporation, but not responsible to the HCAD," Jarratt said. "The information documents, the bylaws, they all seem to contradict the tax code."

Jarratt explained that for 17 months, the dissolution of the home office corporation was an agenda item, but no action was ever taken. On the 18th month, Jarratt said the action taken was "Don't put 'dissolution of the home office corporation' on the agenda anymore."

"Nothing happened," he said. "I don't know what's out there, but I do sense that these processes and procedures are in contradiction to our tax code, and possibly even some of our laws and regulations. I think there's quite a big reason to have a forensic audit, and it's about processes and procedures, not about personnel. No, I do not think that there's anyone that has benefited from this, but I do believe that the taxpayers have now been taken advantage of through some antiquated processes and procedures that need to be reviewed in depth."

In response to Jarratt, new HCAD Chief Appraiser Jeff Law said that due to the lack of documentation submitted to the Secretary of State, the home office corporation was never established.

"Of course, the board has taken action to rescind any and all decisions regarding establishing that," Law said. "Hopefully that is an issue that has been kind of put to rest."

Jarratt responded by saying out of the 170 pages of invoices, meeting minutes and notes from the HCAD, there was nothing in the documents that states that the home office was rescinded.

"We have some responsibility to our taxpayers to make sure that the directors are upholding and adhering to the processes and procedures that act in the best interest of the taxpayer, and I don't feel that that's happening," he said.

Place 2 Councilmember Eddie Rodriguez — who is also chairman of the HCAD board of directors — then asked Jarratt if he was "making an assumption" that the home office is still active.

"No, it was active for three years," Jarratt said. "I made an assumption that it has yet to be rescinded."

"So, you're saying that it's still active," Rodriguez said.

"Is it?" Jarratt asked.

"That's what I'm asking," Rodriguez said.

PLEASE SEE **HCAD** | A2

Lightning strike ignites fire in Pecan Plantation

BY LAUREN DAVIS
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On Friday, May 31, at approximately midnight, a residence in Pecan Plantation was engulfed in flames following a lightning strike as severe storms swept through the area. Hood County Emergency Services received multiple calls from concerned neighbors who saw the blaze as well as the homeowners.

Deputy Fire Chief Mike Stafford of Hood County's Emergency Operations Center reported that lightning struck the apex of the roof, creating a loud noise that alerted the two residents inside. The primarily volunteer firefighters arrived on the scene quickly and

battled the inferno for over three hours, with the diminishing rainstorm offering little help.

Firefighters used a ladder truck to combat the flames from above. The fire consumed the structure despite their efforts, leaving only the exterior walls standing. Tragically, the family pet died in the fire, but there were no human fatalities. This incident was one of five structure fires in the area that day, as storms wreaked havoc throughout Hood County.

In the aftermath, caring neighbors have shown great support and opened their homes to the displaced couple, providing them immediate shelter during this difficult time.



LAUREN DAVIS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

A lightning bolt struck a home in Pecan Plantation near midnight on Friday, May 31, causing significant damage.



COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CHAMBER NEWS

The cost of labor is going up

The chamber received word this week that the U.S. Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor recently published a final rule that increases the minimum salary required to be paid to employees classified as exempt executive, administrative, professional (including the salaried computer professional and highly compensated employees. Once again, the federal government is putting its hands in business owners' pockets and adding to the cost of doing business

Effective July 1, the minimum salary requirement increases almost 24% from \$684 in wages per week to \$844 (equivalent to \$43,888 per year for a full-year worker) for the administrative,



professional (including the salaried computer professional) and executive exemptions. The ruling increases the total annual compensation requirement for the “highly compensated employee” exemption from \$107,432 to \$132,964 including at least \$844 per week paid on a

salary or fee basis.

Looking ahead, on January 1, 2025, the salary requirement will increase to \$1,128 per week (equivalent to \$58,656 per year) for the administrative, professional and executive exemptions. This change also increases the total annual compensation

requirement for the “highly compensated employee” exemption to \$151,164 per year, including at least \$1,128 per week paid on a salary or fee basis. And, on top of all of these changes, beginning July 1, 2027 and every three years thereafter, these amounts will be determined by the Department of Labor using earnings data published by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

This means companies who pay salaries to their employees without paying overtime will now be subject to overtime rules unless the salaries cross the above-mentioned thresholds. As business owners and managers begin dealing with payroll issues, these new mandated rules

will potentially add costs to you and in some cases may cause businesses to take their employees off salary and put them on an hourly wage.

What can you do? Your best course of action will be to work with your CPA or accountant as well as your payroll provider to get the best advice and direction that’s right for your business. As was mentioned at the beginning of this article, the ruling means businesses will, most likely, be forced to either pay more for their salaried employees to avoid overtime pay rules, or they will be forced to convert their salaried staff to hourly workers and manage their time to avoid paying overtime.

AMBASSADOR SPOTLIGHT

AMBASSADOR OF THE MONTH

Esther Schreiber

Business:

Free2BU

Time as an Ambassador:

2 years

We are so thankful for our May Ambassador of the Month, Esther Schreiber with Free2BU! Esther’s has been an Ambassador for 2 years! When asked why she loves being an Ambassador she said, “I enjoy being an Ambassador for so many reasons! One of them being how wonderful the Ambassadors are towards each other and the community we live in is very loving.” Fun Fact about Esther: “I am a U.S. Army Veteran having served with the 7th Medical Battalion doing Med-Evac in Helicopters and chosen to work at Walter Reed Army Medical Hospital!!! Thank you, Esther, for being an Ambassador of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Member Spotlight

Texas Elite ATA Martial Arts

“With Licensed ATA Locations around the globe, there are over 950 independently owned and operated licensed facilities. Licensees of the ATA have trained over one million students since ATA’s inception in 1969”

Member Spotlight: ATA Martial Arts- Texas Elite Granbury, Glen Rose & Cleburne. “Since that first class was taught many years ago, the focus of ATA International has remained the same: To provide students with the highest quality martial arts curriculum available in a fun and positive learning environment that people of all ages can enjoy. With licensed ATA locations around the globe, there are over 950 independently owned and operated licensed facilities. Licensees of the ATA have trained over one million students since ATA’s inception in 1969.” Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Member Spotlight

Republic Homes of Granbury

“At Republic Homes, our legacy stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to craftsmanship and quality.”

COURTESY GRAPHICS

Member Spotlight: Republic Homes of Granbury. “At Republic Homes, our primary goal is to offer you an affordable housing solution that exceeds all expectations. Get ready to be astonished as we provide factory-built homes that boast breathtaking beauty and exemplify flawless craftsmanship. With Republic Homes by your side, the dream of homeownership becomes a reachable reality. At Republic Homes, our legacy stands as a testament to our unwavering commitment to craftsmanship and quality.” Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOUTUBE SCREENSHOT

Place 2 Councilmember Eddie Rodriguez — who is also chairman of the HCAD board of directors — speaks to the Hood County Commissioners Court about how a financial audit will cost the taxpayers more money.

HCAD

FROM PAGE A1

“You’re the president of the board. You tell me,” Jarratt responded. “Have you rescinded it?” “Yes,” Rodriguez stated. “When? This year?” Jarratt asked. “Yes,” Rodriguez said. “I don’t have the minutes exactly in front of me.”

Law then weighed in that it was his understanding that the board approved the articles of incorporation and the bylaws, but the chief appraiser at the time never sent the information back to the attorney to have the next process completed, which included registering it with the Secretary of State. He said the minutes might reflect that there was an intention to establish the office, but it never happened.

Rodriguez also explained what the current board of directors has done to improve transparency, like sending out a quarterly newsletter to the taxing entities, creating

a new websit, and forming a new budget.

“We as a board of directors for the Hood Central Appraisal District have been making those changes, and now you’re asking all the entities to fork out \$100,000 on a forensic audit, that the city is only going to contribute 6%, and then the county and the school district are going to have to front the majority of that,” he said. “The city is 6%, the county is around 28%, and then the school districts around 65%, so you’re saying that you want to save taxpayers money, but you want to spend \$100,000 of taxpayer money for a forensic audit.”

“The appraisal district has already spent a documented \$387,000 on design and construction fees for a building that they have not been authorized to build,” Jarratt said. “We need a forensic audit to determine what was done where and when, and then to set up a process and procedure, so it doesn’t happen again.”

Mayor Pro Tem Steven Vale asked Law if the forensic audit was something he would be amenable to.

Law responded that the idea of this audit relates to actions that took place in the past, as he only joined the HCAD as the appraiser in September 2023.

“Everything that I know about what’s happened in the past has come to me via hearsay,” Law said. “I’ve just heard stories. I’ve heard what people have said, but I don’t think that any wrongdoing has happened, and I don’t think that there was anybody who received money that they shouldn’t have. I think it would be a pretty expensive venture to go into to try to do this type of audit, not knowing really, what would turn up or what would be discovered.”

City Attorney Jeremy SoRelle then addressed Law and explained that they had previous conversations regarding crediting the taxing entities, as well as a lack of agenda items involving actions that were

taken by the previous board of directors — essentially not complying with the Open Meetings Act.

“Number one, I say, thank you for all of the changes that we’ve discussed. The things that you’re doing, I think, are fantastic,” SoRelle said. “But at the end of the day, what that truly is for me is an indication that there was some real trouble in the past that we have a list of changes that goes on and on and on ... What the request for the forensic audit is, is to go back and look at all of these issues that you guys are addressing and be able to show all of the taxing units, ‘Here’s where the money went in. Here’s where it was used. Here are processes that maybe were avoided, or maybe weren’t,’ but get to the bottom line of all of this, and then use that to go forward with everything that you’re implementing now, for a better HCAD.”

“As our city attorney just mentioned, I think there’s some things that may come up (from the audit)

that may not be anything eye opening, or that will help with some policies and procedures,” Vale said. “I think we owe the audit to our community; I think we owe it to our taxpayers.”

Law said he appreciated the comments and that he will do whatever the HCAD board of directors tells him to do.

“I think going through an audit will reveal things that maybe need to be changed and will also maybe clear up some things that are not an issue,” Law said. “I think audits can work both ways. They can reveal things that need to be fixed and rebuild perception correctly.”

Place 4 Councilmember Gary “Skip” Overdier then asked Rodriguez if the HCAD board will still take action regarding the audit if the council adopted the resolution.

Rodriguez said he would go through legal counsel about the decision and explained that the board

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Expectations of summer have changed



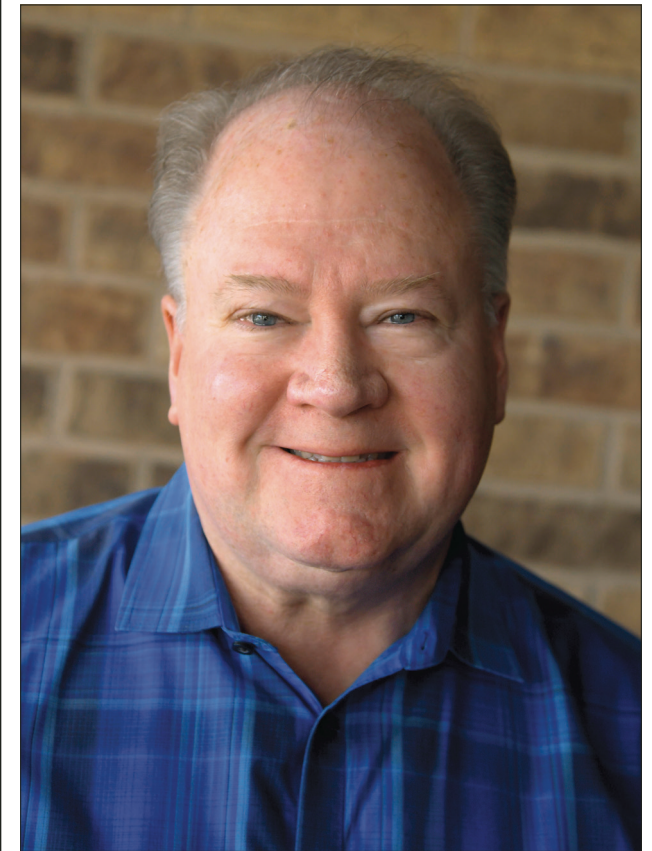
BY SAM HOUSTON
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Something has changed in me. An essential, fundamental belief I held for years has morphed into something new. The change was slow yet seemingly relentless. I would have never thought my feelings about such a fundamental and important part of my life could be modified. Yet here I am experiencing the first week of June and there can be no question that my basic view of the world has changed. Surprisingly, my love of summer has diminished.

Don't get me wrong, I do not hate summer. It is not my intent to move to Alaska or Alberta, where I can experience mild days and cool nights during summer and

then live through the dark cold of winter. I have never been a snow/cold weather person. My confusion is about why my attitude toward summer has changed.

Folks *around town*



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

David Hall

Say hello to our neighbor, David Hall!

David Hall and his wife, Sherry, have been together for 30 years. David grew up in Abilene but moved to Dallas early on, where he worked for 39 years at UPS and Greyhound. "Sherry is also from a smaller-sized town, and we both wanted to get back to our roots. We looked for several months around North Texas and decided Granbury was the perfect fit." David and Sherry have lived in Granbury for two years and are very happy with how it all worked out.

Now retired from transportation, David wanted to find a part-time job in a different field and was thrilled when HEB hired him to work in the pharmacy. David says, "It is a great place to work, and I've enjoyed getting to know the employees and customers." Most of the Halls' friends in Granbury so far have an HEB connection.

They love Granbury because of the friendly people, the patriotism, and the almost year-round weekly activities. Whether live music at one of several venues, a festival on the square, or something involving the lake, there seems to be always lots to do. For years David and Sherry have been involved with an exchange student program and enjoy working with the families and students. One student they hosted is coming to visit for three weeks this summer. David enjoys watching sports, music, margaritas, their Australian Terrier, and riding his bicycle. The Halls are subscribers to the Hood County News; they love how it keeps them updated on all the fun stuff going on around town.

As an elementary school student, I could not wait until the last day of school. My buddies and I would take our shirts off and with a few exceptions, not put them back on until school started again in the fall. We would swim, play baseball, invent kids' games like soccey — a combination of soccer and hockey where you could kick, throw or strike the ball into the goal using your hands, feet or a hockey stick. If the game sounds chaotic, it was, and that is what made playing soccey in the heat of summer so much fun.

During the summer my friends and I might start the day off with a game of catch, while dissecting the results of the MLB game the night before. Eventually, we would wander to the pool where we would swim, dive, dunk each other and chance a quick glance at one of the young female lifeguards. After the pool, we might grab a Coke and sit on the stone fence outside the drug store, sipping our drinks and talking about the many things in life we did not understand, or had not yet experienced.

Usually about an hour before dinner time, we would head home and check in with

our moms. The matriarchs of our families had not missed us during the day. They knew where we were and basically what we were doing. Our only obligation was to be home for dinner.

After eating our evening meal, it was back outside for the continuation of the nightly kickball game. This sporting event had been going on for weeks. It started right after dinner and continued until it was too dark to see. The game never ended, it simply went on and on. The joy was to play, not to worry about a final score.

Through all these days' events the sun would beat down on us without mercy. We never thought about staying inside because it was "too hot" to play. There were no video games for us to play or movie channels for us to watch because the technology had not yet been invented. Even if electronic games had been invented, I am not sure they would have interfered with our love of being outside in the sun, basking in the heat.

With each day of summer our tans got darker. We were not troubled with regular applications of sunscreen. Science had yet to explain to

mothers that skin exposed to large doses of sun could create skin cancer. In fact, the girls of the neighborhood would coat themselves in baby oil so their skin could get even darker and leathery. The sun was a way of life.

Growing older never changed my love for summer. I would haul hay, work in the oilfield or work livestock and it seemed like the sun was always shining brightly. Well into my 50s I would work outside for 10 to 12 hours and while I would certainly feel warm, I was never deterred by the heat of summer.

If not at work, I might be at the lake skiing, on the golf course or working outside in the yard. The sun was like an old friend. It comforted my soul and let me feel as warm on the inside as I did on the outside.

At this point in my life something has changed. I no longer work outside doing manual labor in the heat. I cannot tell you the last time I had the time or made the effort to spend a day at the lake. I stopped playing golf years ago after an injury to my back, and playing soccey with the neighborhood kids is simply a memory which

will not be relived.

Now I realize for the next 100 days we will be sentenced to the Purgatory of summer heat. Of course, the number of days could be longer, but it is hard to imagine any time before mid-September when the temperature will be down into the 70s and 80s. We will experience a relentless daily grind of excessive heat, no rain, no cool breeze and no relief from the drudgery of summer. The conversations in offices, cafes and on the sidewalk will be of a community ready for cooler weather.

I never thought it would happen. But my friend the summer sun and I have grown apart. We have fond memories of each other, and still have moments of casual connection where we smile at each other and pass a wink or a smile, but we will never have the same intimate relationship we once had. Time changes all things.

Thought for the day: *"Keep your face to the sunshine and you will never see the shadows."* —Helen Keller

Until next time...I will keep ridin' the storm out!

County addresses complaints regarding excessive weather alerts

BY ASHLEY TERRY
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Several storms have battered Hood County throughout the past few weeks featuring heavy rainfall and strong winds.

But while the severe thunderstorms have been of huge concern in the county, recent social media posts show that residents are more bothered by the high number of weather alerts sent out by the Hood County Emergency Management Office.

Alternating between alerts regarding the severe thunderstorm and a potential for flash flooding, residents received many text messages and phone calls during the afternoon of May 24 — leading to several social media complaints.

While some residents said they would rather have too many weather alerts than not enough, others complained of receiving as many as seven phone calls in one day.

As a result of the complaints, the Hood County Emergency Management Office released a statement on social media May 24, stating the office is aware of the frustration but wants to let the public know how weather alerts get issued.

According to the post, weather alerts — particularly ones that are severe such as flood, thunderstorm, and tornado — are automatically disseminated through the Everbridge system.

Everbridge is a trusted leader in mass notification and allows officials to provide critical information directly to the public as emergencies happen.

"As you know from our previous social media post, when the National Weather Service issues an alert, Everbridge automatically sends it to those in the affected area," Emergency Management Coordinator Margaret Campbell told the Hood County News. "Anytime a new alert is issued even if it's for the same storm, you will get a new notification. This is primarily due to an upgraded alert (larger hail size, greater wind speeds, etc.). However, if the alert is updated (duration, counties included, etc.) it should not send you a new notification."

Campbell explained that a new alert comes when new information is issued that can affect the way individuals prepare for weather. She said an increased timeframe will likely not change how you prepare for the weather, so a new alert is not issued. However, a hail size increasing in size from a half-inch to two inches will likely warrant different actions to be taken; therefore, a new weather alert will be sent out to the public.

Due to the increased number of alerts May 24, the office began working with Everbridge and the National Weather Service to determine the reason why so many

alerts went out.

"We understand it's frustrating when you're being notified so frequently about the same storm," the post read. "However, please understand that when a storm is evolving, new alerts are often issued, and our priority is to keep you as informed as possible."

Campbell said after looking into the event May 24, it was determined that the number of alerts received directly correlated with the rapid development and changes occurring with the storm.

"Also, something to keep in mind is that this has been an unusually busy year for severe weather," she said. "Texas has seen over 100 tornadoes just in 2024 (2023 only had about 50) and the majority of the days this year have had some sort of severe weather threat or hazard occurring across the state. All of this, of course, means more weather alerts, and while it's frustrating sometimes to get so many, our priority is to keep the community informed and allow them to have all the information they need to make the best decisions for the safety of their families."

Those who have already signed up for Everbridge alerts can go into their account and adjust which alerts they would like to receive.

Campbell said while residents are able to adjust the settings on their account,

it's not as simple as only allowing one alert per day per storm.

"We don't know how storms will develop, and we can't predict the number of alerts that will go out with each storm," she said. "However, we can certainly adjust your settings so that you only receive one form of communication (texts instead of text and phone call). Additionally, we have done some extra work on our end to try to limit the number of alerts that go out."

Those who did not sign up, but are receiving alerts and do not want them, can reach out to the Emergency Management office via email at emergency.management@co.hood.tx.us.

To sign up for Everbridge weather alerts, visit co.hood.tx.us/942/Everbridge online and click the link that says "SIGN UP FOR EVERBRIDGE ALERTS HERE", or scan the QR code below:



CORRECTION

In the May 25 edition of the Hood County News, Dwight Butler was incorrectly identified in a photo on page B1. We regret the error.

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138 YEARS
IN HOOD COUNTY

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Phone: (817) 573-7066
Fax: (817) 279-8371

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

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

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Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

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Residents warn of phone scam impersonating HCSO

BY ASHLEY TERRY
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Hood County residents are once again being targeted by a phone scam in which the caller claims to be a deputy from the Hood County Sheriff's Office.

In the recent scam that has surfaced over the past few weeks, residents report scammers inform them they have an outstanding warrant for failure to attend a jury duty summons. The residents are asked to pay the fine to avoid going to jail.

Granbury resident James Maher said he received a phone call May 15, from the phone number: 817-532-6869. He was told it was a courtesy call from the HCSO advising him there were two warrants for his arrest.

"Normally, I'm suspicious of anything," Maher told the Hood County News. "I said, 'Well, there's got to be some mistake. I've never been in trouble, and I haven't done anything wrong. It must be somebody else,' but then he said, 'Don't you live here?'" and he gave me my correct address."

Mahe said he asked the caller what the charges were for and was told one charge was for failure to appear for jury duty and the second charge was for contempt of court because he didn't appear for the summons.

"I asked them what I needed to do to get things cleared up, because obviously it wasn't me, and they told me that I would have to pay a fine. The fine was \$2,500 on each charge," he explained.

Mahe said he told the caller he couldn't pay \$5,000, but the gentleman told him he could talk to the lieutenant to sort the issue out.

"They put me on hold, and then they say, 'Well, the lieutenant's busy. Can he call you back?' Five minutes later, I get a call back from the same number," he said. "Right away, I'm suspicious, but at the same time, I'm nervous."

According to Maher, the lieutenant told him the same spiel — that he needed to pay \$5,000 to clear the fines. Again, Maher said he couldn't pay the total amount.

"He said, 'Well, how much do you

have?" I said, 'I think I could borrow \$3,000,' and he said, 'Well, hold on,' Maher recounted. "I could hear a computer, you know, clicking, and he came back and said, 'OK, I was able to get the fee on each warrant reduced to \$1,500,' and now I'm really getting suspicious."

The so-called lieutenant told Maher he needed to go to his bank, and he would tell him where to deposit the money. Maher was told he would get a receipt and he could bring it to the "lieutenant" at the sheriff's office.

"I said, 'Okay, I'll call you. Do I call you back on this same number you called me on when I get to the bank?'" He says, 'No, you don't understand. You've got to stay on the phone with me the whole time 'til you get to the bank,'" Maher said.

At the time, Maher was in Weatherford and told the caller it would take him 45 minutes to get to his bank, as it was in Granbury.

"He said, 'Well, you're going to have to stay on the phone, keep the line open, and I'll be able to tell if it disconnects. If it disconnects, I'll call you back in one minute. I'll only call you three times. If you don't pick up, I'm going have to put out an all-points bulletin on you,'" Maher said. "Well, now I know this is a scam, and I'm thinking, 'How do I get the police involved?'"

With the caller still on the line, Maher started his drive to Granbury — but what the scammer didn't know was that Maher was actually driving to the Granbury Police Department instead of his bank.

However, right as Maher crossed the bridge on Highway 51, coming into Granbury, he saw a police car with its lights on and assumed the officer had recently pulled someone over.

He drove up behind the police car, left his phone in the car, and told the officer about his situation.

"He told me, 'It's a scam. Don't worry about it. The sheriff's department would never call you if they had a warrant for your arrest. They'd just come out and serve it,'" Maher said. "But I told him, 'Don't you want to follow me and find out where I'm supposed to bring this money?'" And he said, 'No, it's just a scam. Don't worry about it.'

He acted like it was, you know, too much trouble or he wasn't going to get anywhere, and he didn't do anything."

The next morning, Maher went down to the Hood County Sheriff's Office and told the same story. He said he was surprised to find out that the sheriff's office had received "hundreds" of similar calls.

"I'm 78 years old," he said. "I know some people younger than me who would fall for this. It's hard to fathom that this woman said, 'We're getting hundreds of phone calls with this same scam.' So, I said, 'Well, it seems like you all would let somebody know about it.' I mean, there's a lot of elderly people in this community, and I know a lot of them that would have fallen for it."

A similar story also happened to Granbury resident Blair Degler Krehn Davis. Her husband received a phone call from an individual claiming to be Capt. Mark Hall with the Hood County Sheriff's Office. They were also told a warrant was out for his arrest for not attending jury duty regarding a federal case.

"The call was on our landline, which we pretty much ignore, and they left a voice message saying it was the sheriff's department and it was urgent for my husband to call," Davis told the HCN. "We probably should have ignored it then, but I guess curiosity got the better of us."

She said "Hall" then texted a copy of the warrant to her husband's cell phone.

"Since we've never seen a warrant before, it looked legit to us — correct name and address, etc. for non-appearance for jury duty," Davis said.

However, she said certain things that "Hall" said did not add up. She said her husband was told to go to the sheriff's office and turn himself in, but to avoid sitting in jail for 30 days, he needed to go to a kiosk in Kroger or H-E-B to pay for a release document.

"While he was still on the phone, I got on my computer and searched the Hood County Sheriff website to search for this guy's name. Nothing," she said. "So, just to be sure, I called the non-emergency number and was told immediately it was a scam. I relayed that to my hus-

band and as soon as Hall heard me say that, he hung up. We feel kind of stupid because we're both computer savvy and can usually recognize a scam."

According to Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds, the sheriff's office has been called by several residents to verify if different deputies were employed as they had also received similar phone calls.

"Most of these calls are for allegations of missing federal jury duty and the federal courts would not be telling us about their warrants," Deeds told the HCN. "Actually, I have not heard of that anyway in a county that doesn't have a federal court."

Another part of the scam, Deeds said, is when the caller tells an individual to go to Walmart to purchase gift cards worth thousands of dollars.

"No municipal, county, state or federal judge would ever do that," he said. "People need to verify these calls with us. Unfortunately, they don't and lose a bunch of money in these scams."

Deeds said the HCSO did help an individual a couple of weeks ago after the resident received a scam call and was told that someone would be picking the money up — allowing deputies to be present at the resident's home when the suspect arrived.

"We caught them," Deeds said. "But it was an Uber driver that was taking the money/cards to another city, so the investigation is ongoing."

He recommends that if anyone receives a phone call claiming to be from the sheriff's office, to immediately hang up and call the HCSO to verify and make a report.

"Please let us help you, to protect you, and get you the true information on any questions you might have," Deeds added.

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

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

POLICE BLOTTER

Granbury Police Department Criminal Activity Report

The following is a breakdown of activity occurred through the Granbury Police Department during the period of May 21-27. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

- MAY 28**
12:48 p.m.: assault on W. Bridge Street
2:37 p.m.: assault on Reunion Court
3:53 p.m.: criminal trespass on S. Morgan Street
4:21 p.m.: criminal trespass on E. U.S. Highway 377
5:35 p.m.: noise disturbance on E. Pearl Street
8:46 p.m.: loose livestock on Loop 567
10:36p.m.: noise disturbance on Summerhill Court
Two major accidents, two minor accidents, a warrant service and 31 traffic stops occurred on this day
- MAY 29**
10:06 a.m.: property damage/not vandalism on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:09 a.m.: criminal trespass on W. Bluff Street
5:32 p.m.: disturbance on W. U.S. Highway 377
7:56 p.m.: property damage on E. U.S. Highway 377
7:59 p.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on Bird Court
9:01 p.m.: harassment on Rob Drive
9:18 p.m.: suspicious activity on W. Pearl Street
**One major accident, two minor

- accidents, and 26 traffic stops occurred on this day**
- MAY 30**
12:05 a.m.: suspicious activity on Reunion Court
12:11 a.m.: burglary on S. Morgan Street
1:23 a.m.: possession of marijuana on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:13 a.m.: loose livestock on Lipan Highway
10:41 a.m.: indecent exposure on E. U.S. Highway 377
6:32 p.m.: false report to peace officer on S. Morgan Street
One major accident, a minor accident and 19 traffic stops occurred on this day
- MAY 31**
5:49 p.m.: intoxicated driver on Davis Road
5:55 p.m.: criminal mischief on E. U.S. Highway 377
6:49 p.m.: loose livestock on Loop 567
10:27 p.m.: suspicious activity on Quarry Court
10:58 p.m.: minor in possession of alcohol on S. Morgan Street
Two minor accidents and 16 traffic stops occurred on this day
- JUNE 1**
12:04 a.m.: animal bite on W. Pearl Street
2:04 a.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street
12:47 p.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway



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- 377
2:00 p.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
5:02 p.m.: loose livestock on Lipan Highway
One major accident and 19 traffic stops occurred on this day
- JUNE 2**
12:24 a.m.: public intoxication on E. U.S. Highway 377
8:01 a.m.: loose livestock on Loop 567
10:43 a.m.: criminal mischief on E. Barton Street
2:51 p.m.: suspicious activity on N. Park Drive
6:28 p.m.: reckless driver on E. U.S. Highway 377
7:53 p.m.: intoxicated person on Reed Court
9:56 p.m.: reckless driver on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:53 p.m.: suspicious activity on Elizabeth Boulevard
**One major accident, two minor accidents, two warrant services and

- 40 traffic stops occurred on this day**
- JUNE 3**
1:57 a.m.: disturbance on Lauren Lane
8:38 a.m.: burglary on E. Moore Street
9:40 a.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on Loop 567
11:16 a.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
12:28 p.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
12:35 p.m.: fraud on W. Pearl Street
1:11 p.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
4:57 p.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
8:10 p.m.: vicious animal on Hayloft Lane
10:01 p.m.: suspicious activity on Acton Highway
One major accident, two minor accidents and 24 traffic stops occurred on this day

CALENDAR

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

CLAY SHOOT Sign-up benefiting Forward Training Center. Participants may register until the date of the event June 7. Call 817-5730-6677 with questions.

MONDAY, JUNE 10
TEXAS DEMOCRATIC
Women of Hood County monthly meeting, 11 a.m. at Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377. Guest speaker: Rayna Glasser, Democratic candidate for State Board of Education, District 11, and teacher at Dunbar High School. For information: 254-716-5195.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13
FREE SEMINAR on "Planning for the Future" and beyond in the Pecan Plantation Clubhouse at 10:30 a.m. Topics include conversations your family should have to create a plan, renting or selling property as part of your plan, and creating a legacy with your real estate. Seminar sponsored by Jane Johnson Realtor. RSVP by June 6 at 682-701-6559.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14
FATHER'S DAY Car Show at Watermark Senior Living, 100 Watermark Blvd. from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. 'Camp Meeting Boys' will provide the entertainment, great food abounds, contest judged by chiefs of police and fire and the mayor. Questions? Call 817-573-3434.

MEETING OF the Hood County Hospital District Board at noon in the Annex I meeting room, 200 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. Questions call 817-579-3200.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19
LAKE GRANBURY/
HOOD County Master Gardeners monthly meeting at Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Court, Granbury. Program from 1-2 p.m.: Pat Kriener, Herbolgoy and Environmental Science Teacher at TEACH of Cleburne, will present a program about ladybugs and how they help with pest control in your garden. Questions? 817-579-3280.

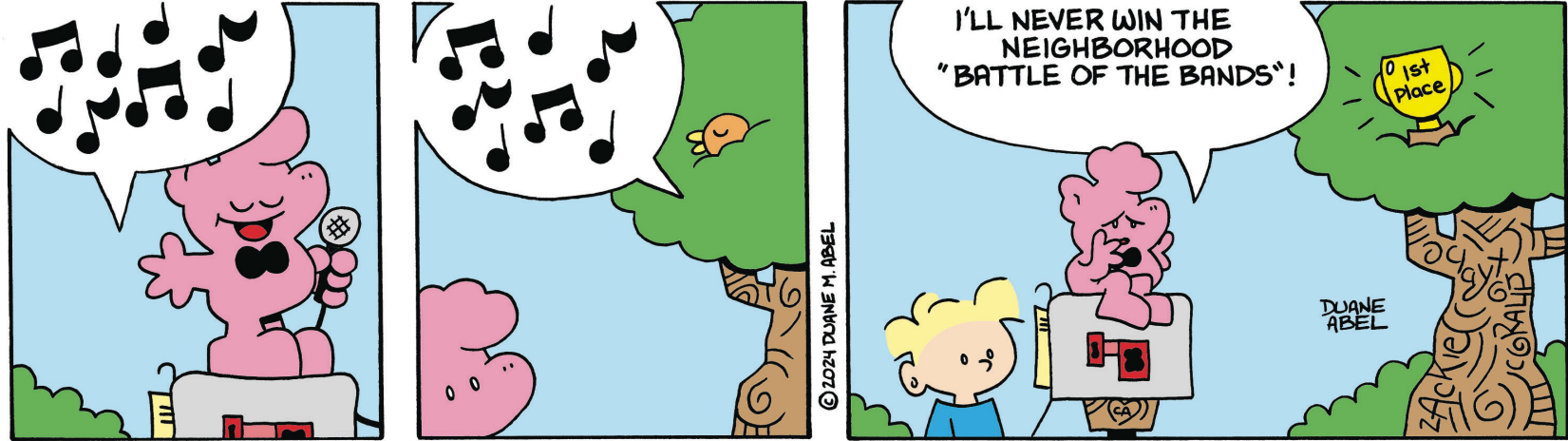
PLEASE SEE
CALENDAR | A14

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.



HCNEWS.COM

ZED by Duane M. Abel



Dinner in White at Langdon Center



Attendees dressed to impress in all-white attire on the grounds of the Dora Lee Langdon Center experienced a breathtaking outdoor dinner on Saturday, June 1, at the annual Dinner in White event hosted by Granbury Arts Alliance. Adding to the elegant ambiance was live music by the Stonerock-Pitts quartet and the Jason Cartmel Band.



Scan the QR code above to view the Hood County News Dinner in White photo gallery.

TOP PHOTO
Dinner in White ticket holders provided their outdoor dining setup. Many chose to pre-order a delicious meal from one of our local restaurants. Some, like Cooper Begis pictured above, provided their food and drinks. Begis is the new owner of the Inn on Lake Granbury.



BOTTOM LEFT
Visit Granbury's Assistant Director & Sales Manager Kristen Gibson lines of a group of beautifully clad ladies in white for an excellent photo op.

BOTTOM RIGHT
Tickets included a one-year membership with the Granbury Arts Alliance and a souvenir wine glass. A highlight of the evening came when prizes were awarded to the best-dressed individuals and the most beautifully decorated table.

PHOTOS BY
MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Gym-Kat Sports Center celebrates 45 years

Happy 45th anniversary Gym Kat Sports Center! The celebration took place on Saturday, June 1 at Gym Kat Sports Center, located at 545 Holly Hills Cemetery Road. The massive sports center opened its doors to the public for a free event in celebration of the multiple generations who have been part of the Gym Kat family, and newcomers were also welcomed. Attendees also enjoyed the offerings from vendors and food trucks.

TOP PHOTO: In the image above, Aubrey Owens (13 years old, level 8) is seen on the trampoline. Reese Montgomery (10 years old, level 9), Rylee Sparks (14 years old, level 9), Addison Adams (12 years old, level 8), and Vivian Powell (11 years old, level 8) are all advancing to the national championships in Minneapolis, Minnesota, which will take place from June 19 to 24."

BOTTOM LEFT: All three gyms were open for free to kids of all ages. The Warp Wall in the Ninja Gym was a major attraction for youngsters like Gabriel Medina.

MIDDLE RIGHT: Addison Adams and Aubrey Owens perform a bouncing synchro trampoline routine with skill and grace.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The photo represents four generations of hard work and sacrifice in the Gym Kat legacy. From left to right are Kathie Walley, Kyndell Hooser, Mary Lankford (Grannie), and Kassie Hooser. In 1979, Mary's late husband and founder, Wyndell Lankford, named his new business after his daughter, Kathie. "Gym" is short for "Gymnastics" and "Kat" is short for "Kathie." Kathie, along with her daughter, Kassie, and granddaughter, Kyndell, are continuing the legacy of the Gym Kat Sports Center.

PHOTOS BY
MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Fuel up on fun at Granbury Airport's Pancake Breakfast Fly-In event

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

Granbury Regional Airport, located at 400 Howard Clemmons Road, has served the community since its founding as Granbury Municipal Airport Aug. 1, 1963. Initially, the airport had minimal infrastructure and services, but over the decades, it has grown into a regional airport with a full suite of general aviation services. Today, the airport boasts a newly constructed 5,201-foot runway and associated taxiway system capable of supporting business jet operations. Under the leadership of Cody Mathis, Granbury Regional Airport continues to soar to new heights and strengthen the local community in many ways.

In addition to its vital aviation services, Granbury Regional Airport fosters community engagement through events like the Pancake Breakfast Fly-In, held during the summer on the fourth Saturday of each month. "The next breakfast will be on June 22 at 8 a.m. at the terminal building, sponsored by the local squadron of the Civil Air Patrol," Mathis says. "All are welcome to come and enjoy these breakfasts out on the apron amongst the airplanes, and you don't need to fly in to participate; just drive on in!"

FAMOUS FLYERS

Mathis, who has logged 60 hours in fixed-wing aircraft, loves the people he encounters in his role. He appreciates the unique position of experiencing the grassroots general aviation community and the high-profile business jet community that drives the city's economy. Reflecting on the airport's recent visitors, Mathis said, "During my time here, we've received Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's jet, Mike Lindell's jet, and rumor has it that Taylor Sheridan makes very low-key visits from time to time."

SERVICES, OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES

The airport's primary functions include fostering the traditions of the general aviation community and providing personalized, friendly service to pilots and passengers. This includes aircraft fueling and ground support. The airport handles an impressive number of aircraft operations, and Mathis projects it will surpass 60,000 annual operations by 2025.

Managing the airport is no small feat. Mathis finds the most challenging aspect of his job to be the simultaneous management of multiple development projects to foster the airport's continued growth. Despite the challenges, Mathis considers this the most rewarding experience of his career in airport management.

The airport, operational for 61 years, offers several FAA-licensed services. These include full aircraft maintenance and overhaul at Granbury Aviation Services and avionics instal-

lation and support at Avionics Technologies. It is also home to the regional maintenance facility for Air Evac Lifeteam helicopters and hosts a CareFlite air ambulance base. Additionally, the flight school "In The Pattern," recognized by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) as a Distinguished Flight School in the Central Southern region of the United States, operates a secondary base at Granbury Regional Airport.

The airport operates out of a fixed-base operator (FBO) terminal building and offers Jet-A and 100 low-lead fuel to accommodate all aircraft types. There are upwards of 75 hangars housing various piston and jet general aviation aircraft. Excitingly, several development projects are underway, including new hangars, a utility expansion project, and a new 4,000-square-foot FBO complete with a fuel farm expansion and fuel truck storage depot. These facilities will support the airport's exponential growth in business jet operations.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

"The airport significantly contributes to the local economy, with TxDOT's Aviation division estimating its annual economic impact on the community at \$17 million in 2013," Mathis says, "This figure is expected to triple by 2025 and beyond."

The airport plays a crucial role in supporting local businesses and tourism. Many visitors fly in to spend a day or two in Granbury, visiting various companies and festivals. Mathis says, "We have several regularly returning tourists, and all these people head straight to the Square where they spend their hard-earned money at Granbury's many eateries, shops and hotels, as well as patron the several festivals for which Granbury claims to fame." Without considering the city businesses that employ people as a direct result of the airport's contribution to tourism and the local economy, the airport also provides numerous jobs. "At any given time, there can be upwards of 100 to 120 people employed by various companies that are based at the airport," says Mathis.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

When asked about plane accidents, Mathis says, "Like all airports, we experience the oc-

casional flat tire upon landing. The only significant incident that has occurred during my tenure was an aircraft experiencing a failed landing gear. There were no injuries resulting from that incident."

Environmental and safety considerations are paramount at Granbury Regional Airport. The runway approach and departure corridors are designed to minimize noise pollution. "... the current generation of jet aircraft employs newer engine technologies that produce much lower decibel output than the jets of old," Mathis says, adding, "The airport staff perform daily runway and taxiway inspections for the presence of foreign object debris (FOD)." Additionally, the airport's traffic pattern avoids flying over local schools.



People gathering at the Granbury Airport's new runway ribbon cutting.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



Cody Mathis stands before the new FBO building scheduled for completion in July.

exponential growth of business jet operations."

AVIATION AND STUDENTS

Granbury Regional Airport engages with the local community through events and educational initiatives. Granbury High School's aerospace engineering course, which includes building an airplane, holds its maiden flights at the airport. The airport also hosts local school field trips, providing students with a hands-on aviation experience. After Granbury Middle School's staff voiced its appreciation of the tours they experienced, Mathis said, "... it has only reinforced my personal belief that reaching young people is the basis for securing the future of general aviation."

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HCAD

FROM PAGE A2

of directors is a separate government entity like the city council. “Whether this gets passed or not passed, it’s still up to the Hood Central Appraisal District board of directors to determine what they want to do,” Rodriguez said. “It’s just like somebody’s telling us what to do on city council or telling us how to vote or telling us what we need to do. I can’t tell you what the board of directors are going to do.” Place 3 Councilman Bruce Wadley also spoke up and said he’s not suggesting any money went into the wrong hands, but he is curious about where the money went.

“In some of the discussion to-night, all that hasn’t really been answered. It’s not clear in my mind at all,” he said. “An audit of this nature, it seemed like it would get you back to just a new baseline where you know exactly what happened in the past, and for you (Law), I think that would be really beneficial to know going forward that everything’s been squared away, and now let’s go forward the way you want to do it.”

Rodriguez then argued how he didn’t believe it was fair to pass a resolution requesting a forensic audit when the other taxing entities have to pay for it — especially if the entities don’t agree that one is needed.

Jarratt said the school district has been active in the establishment of the home office and added he hopes that the district will want to ensure that the taxpayer’s funds are being spent appropriately.

Wadley then made a motion requesting the Hood Central Appraisal District conduct a forensic audit and provide the results to the taxing entities. The motion passed 5:1, with Rodriguez voting against the item.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ECHO CONCERNS

The Hood County Commissioners Court also approved a resolution May 28, calling on the HCAD to conduct a forensic audit of the prior five fiscal years, due to a concern that there may be funds that were inappropriately allocated. Jarratt and Rodriguez were also present during the meeting.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson explained that last summer, there were a lot of questions surrounding the appraisal district and the funds that were being held in non-compliance with Texas Tax Code 6.0 — which ultimately resulted in a refund back to the taxing entities of more than \$2 million.

“It has since been discovered that the prior board of the appraisal district also misappropriated an additional \$387,000,” Samuelson said. “This additional

expense occurred as the result of the Central Appraisal District forming the Hood Central Appraisal District Home Office Corporation, appointing themselves as directors and seeking to borrow \$6.2 million from Government Capital Corporation to build a new building. The \$387,000 was then spent on architectural design and construction fees, including fees to appraise and survey the GISD-owned property that was being pursued as a swap for the existing HCAD office building. The HCAD Home Office Corporation formation documents and the bylaws are in direct conflict and contradict the requirements of the Texas Tax code 6.0.”

Following an explanation by Jarratt regarding the situation, Rodriguez told the court the reason why the board hired a new auditor is for “better pricing,” and to save the taxpayers money. He also said all the budgets, except for last year, were approved by all of the taxing entities.

“Last year, it was a circumstance where we had \$2 million that was in our excess, what you call a fund balance, but they were all obligated ... That’s kind of like your savings account,” Rodriguez said.

He also reiterated how the prior board established the Home Office Corporation, but that the documents were never filed, so the entity does not exist.

“What the board of directors did is rescinded all those documents and all those minutes that took place under the Home Office Corporation because it never existed,” Rodriguez said. “I’m not sitting here as a lawyer, and I’m not sitting here as an auditor. I’m just here as the chairman of board trying to give you some explanation of what the board has been trying to do, and I just want to give you some steps that we’ve been taking, as good faith and within the law.” Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle then asked Rodriguez if he had a problem with having a forensic audit conducted. Rodriguez explained that the city had allocated \$100,000 for a forensic audit, but that it was the HCAD board of directors’ decision if they wanted to take action or not.

“Yes, the board of directors of the Hood Central Appraisal District is a separate entity. But it’s funded by all of the taxing entities — one that’s already passed a resolution to request that a forensic audit be done,” Samuelson said. “We may vote to or not to. But those are two of the taxing entities that fund the appraisal district. We’re responsible for the actions that are taken on our behalf, so I do want to say that, you know, if I were a member of the appraisal board, and the people that are funding me asked me to take some action to ensure that policies and procedures and accounting principles and controls were in place, I might want to listen

to them.”

Rodriguez then explained how he’s not opposed to doing the forensic audit, but that his goal is to save the taxpayers money.

“I’ve read a lot of documents, a lot of emails, a lot of stuff going back and forth where I’m questioning whether there’s criminal intent involved,” Eagle said. “I really am ... We can find out who said what, when, and determine whether there was an attempt by, not your board, but a prior board, to go around tax code 6.01, and I’m trying to understand why you’re resistant to the idea of ‘OK, we did nothing wrong. Come do what you’ve got to do.’ Why don’t you come at us like that?”

“Mr. Eagle, I already told you why I’m coming at you like that,” Rodriguez responded. “I mean, y’all have hammered the appraisal district for not saving taxpayers money, and now you’re sitting here telling us to spend money, so we’re getting some mixed signals from the commissioners court. Do you want us to spend money, or do you want us to save taxpayers’ money? Are you willing to spend that type of money for the type of return that you’re going to get?”

“We don’t know what the return is,” Samuelson said. “We don’t know what the results of the forensic audit (will be). It’s not just about the \$387,000. We need to be assured as stewards of the taxpayers’ money, that the policies, procedures and controls that were lacking back then have been corrected, and that there were no other misdeeds or misappropriations that happened during that time. The way to do that is with the forensic audit.”

Samuelson also pointed out how the HCAD is not allowed by the Texas Tax Code to maintain a fund balance.

“You do not have a rainy day fund. Any funds are to be returned to the taxing entities, and that was the whole point of what we went through last summer,” she said. “There is no fund balance maintained by the appraisal district, so the purpose for doing this foren-



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Mayor Jim Jarratt discusses the financial audit request for the Hood Central Appraisal District during a regularly scheduled meeting May 21.

Appraisal District has those processes and procedures in place and is not misallocating or misappropriating funds that they’re being taxed for.”

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill then said he doesn’t have any problems with the new board or the chief appraiser, but that he does have some questions about what happened in the past.

“Some of the things that I looked at, it does bother me, and I think we need to look at it,” he said. “I really do. That’s saying nothing against you (Rodriguez) or the new board, and nothing against the new chief appraiser. But there were things that were done that I have a problem with. And I don’t really agree with you that the taxing entities that make up the (appraisal district) that we all vote to do something on a thing, I don’t think that the board of directors can countermand what we want to do. If (they) do, we have a real problem.”

Eagle said he agreed with Massingill and that there have been enough questionable emails and letters from the HCAD to justify a forensic audit.

Rodriguez then reiterated what the current HCAD board of directors has done to better the processes and procedures to try to prevent a similar situation from happening

again.

“I want to commend the steps that the board has taken to tighten this stuff up,” Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews said. “I think that you guys are absolutely moving in the right direction. I don’t want to make any disparaging notion whatsoever towards the good direction, so thank you for that.”

Samuelson then made a motion to approve the resolution to have the HCAD amend the current year’s budget for the purpose of retaining a third-party forensic audit of the prior five fiscal years and deliver said audit to each taxing entity no later than the last day of the calendar year 2024.

Alternatively, the Hood County Commissioners Court calls on the Hood Central Appraisal District to include a line item for a forensic audit in the 2025 budget and complete and deliver said forensic audit to each taxing entity no later than June 1, 2025, and prior to the submission for review of the 2026 Hood Central Appraisal District Budget to each taxing entity.

Following a second from Eagle, the motion passed unanimously.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HOSPITAL DISTRICT TAX

I talked to some folks recently who misunderstood the proposed tax for Hood County Hospital District. They thought the money was for the “hospital.” I explained to them (like I’m trying to explain to you — all the Hood County residents!) that the tax money will not go to the hospital — Lake Granbury Medical Center. It will go to the Hood County Hospital District.

The proposed money (2 cents per \$100 in property value, that is \$20 per \$100,000 appraised value) will pay for the medical care of Hood County legal residents who qualify as indigent, and it will pay for all the health care, medications, nurses and physicians for the Hood County Jail inmates.

The next meeting of the Hood County Hospital District Board is June 14, at the Hood County Annex I meeting room, 200 Deputy Larry Miller Drive, at noon.

Christy Massey, President, Hood County Hospital District Granbury

BRILLE BOOKS FOR BLIND CHILDREN AND ADULTS

I am writing on behalf of any blind or deaf/blind person who may need help in getting an education and is not aware of free help they could use.

Both my grandparents were deaf, but not blind, and it was difficult getting an education in the 1800s but here it is in 2024 and it is sometimes difficult for blind or deaf children to get help (or adults).

If you know a blind or deaf person, child or adult, who needs help at no cost to them tell them to call 410-659-9315 or write to American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults, 1800 Johnson St., Baltimore, MD 21230. Good luck and God bless.

Bunn Butler Granbury

TO THE CITIZENS OF HOOD COUNTY,

I am writing this letter in response to Ms. Herrington’s recent letter to the editor. First, it is unfortunate a former GISD trustee felt the need to be divisive by continuing to attack me as she did when we worked alongside one another. But perhaps now this community can better understand the challenge I have had as a GISD trustee. I truly hope we can get to a point where we can work together on the board for the good of the children.

Secondly, she called me a liar at least four times regarding my library visit. President Herrington never informed me who was conducting the investigation into my visit. Her first email to all trustees following my visit to the library was to proclaim my guilt. She further notified me they had notified their attorney. At that point I sought legal advice.

Here are the facts: Phone records prove that I called the principal’s office at 9:12:14 Aug. 2, 2023, the day of my visit. I advised them I would be visiting the library. I have a recording of Superintendent Glenn telling me to go to the library and do so while it is still summer, and school is out of session. I followed GISD policy BBE (Local). I had my GISD trustee badge on and the parent with me checked in through the Raptor system. We informed the receptionist we were going to the library. The receptionist may have misunderstood me or simply made a mistake labeling the badge.

I have not nor have I ever called the receptionist a liar. This visit by me was made into a big deal and an expensive witch hunt.

The investigation was unfair and incomplete. Citizens of Hood County; do you expect your board of trustees to be able to visit the taxpayer-owned buildings without harassment by the superintendent and other trustees? Please also remember a caring parent of a GISD student visited the library with me on this day. She also followed required GISD procedures. Within three hours of the visit, her entire Raptor ID and surveillance video was leaked onto social media, which put her at risk for harassment and retaliation. This is a direct violation of GISD policy GKC (Legal). This violation of policy is the most unfortunate and dangerous issue that occurred on that day and the GISD board of trustees voted not to investigate this leak.

Ms. Herrington, we have disagreed on issues during my time of service as a trustee. I have been told by many parents and citizens that I ask informed questions. I also conduct an appropriate amount of research to better understand the issues and to inform the community of what GISD is doing with their taxes. I will continue to serve the children and citizens as best I can under very difficult circumstances that have been created, in part, by Ms. Herrington.

I am grateful to Trustee Graft for her courage and support.

Karen Lowery Granbury

Hospital clears air about proposed Hospital District tax

BY RICK MAUCH

Special to the Hood County News

Sometimes it’s all in the language.

Sometimes that language requires some clarity. Such is the case with Lake Granbury Medical Center (LGMC) as it tries to clarify that a tax proposed by the Hood County Hospital District (HCHD) is NOT coming from the medical center.

“Most important, the Hood County Hospital District and Lake Granbury Medical Center are entirely different entities,” said Tom Jensen, director of marketing and business development for LGMC. “The Hood County Hospital District is a taxing entity under Hood County that is legally obligated to support indigent care in our county. The Hood County Hospital District has proposed the tax to support its legal obligation and EMS (emergency medical services) functions.”

RESIDENTS HAVE NOT PAID THIS TAX IN DECADES

The tax will be on the ballot in November for Hood County voters. It is the first time since 1996 that Hood County residents are being asked to pay a hospital district tax due to a long-standing lease agreement with Hospital Corporations of America. Now, however, Community Health

Systems Inc. owns the lease agreement.

When residents last paid a hospital district tax, the amount was 15 cents per \$100 property valuation, per the Hood County Appraisal District.

The HCHD board had proposed three tax options, 1 cent, 1 1/2 cents or 2 cents. A 1 cent tax could bring in \$1 million to the district, with 2 cents bringing in \$2 million.

On Friday, May 24 the HCHD board voted to present the voters with the option of a 2 cent tax per \$100 of valuation in order to support indigent and inmate care.

RUNNING OUT OF MONEY

Per state law, the HCHD is required to pay for indigent care. The Hood County Commissioners Court added care for inmates to the HCHD’s responsibilities in 1996 and that can only be changed through a revocation by the commissioners, in which case the inmate care would likely come from county funds.

Examples of services include immunizations, medical screening services, annual physicals, inpatient and outpatient hospital visits, and laboratory and radiology, among others.

Either way, the HCHD is set to run out of funds by the middle of next year. Thus, additional funding must come from somewhere,

hence the proposed tax, which has raised the ire of many citizens.

NOT HOSPITAL’S IDEA

Be that as it may, Jensen said it is important folks understand it is not the hospital recommending the tax.

“The HCHD’s ‘hospital district tax’ is often misnamed ‘hospital tax.’ Our hospital is neither the sponsor for the tax nor the beneficiary,” Jensen said, noting LGMC will receive no funding from the tax. “Funds raised through the Hood County Hospital District tax will be used to fund non-hospital medical care for the less fortunate in Hood County and to provide support for vital EMS ambulance services.”

SERVING NO MATTER WHAT

Jensen said it is also crucial for people to understand LGMC will continue to provide hospital services for the community regardless of whether the hospital district tax is approved by the voters.

“Parker County and other Texas counties have successfully sustained EMS services under a supplemental hospital district funding model,” he said. “We support this effort for our local EMS as they are an essential community resource for pre-hospital care in Hood County.”



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5150 Electronics Repair
5160 Exterminating
5170 Fencing
5180 Floor Coverings
5190 Health Care
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5250 Mobile Home Service
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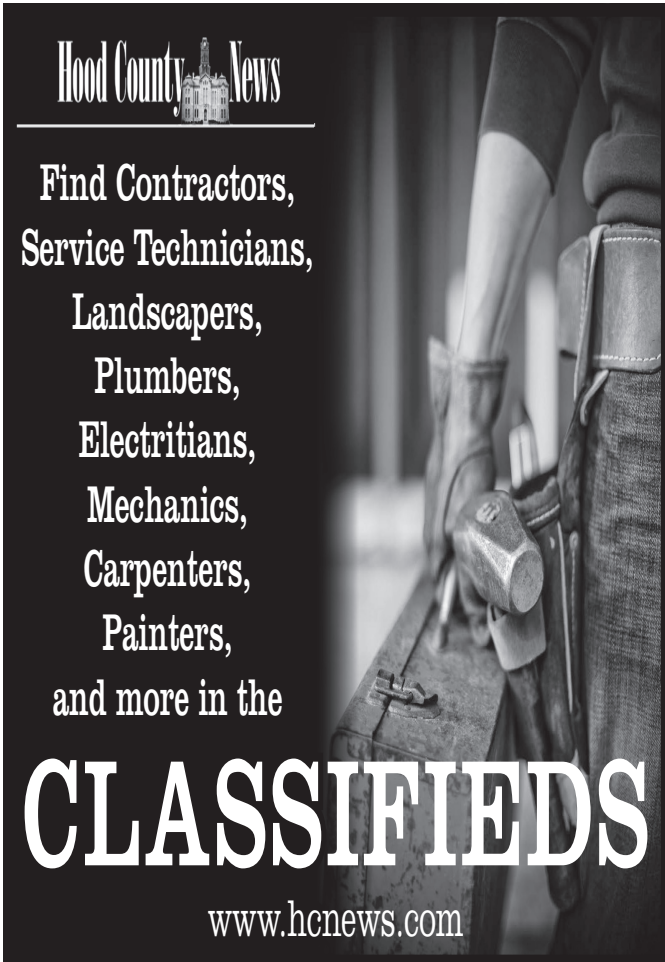
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9050

NOTICES

Personal Lost & Found

Found item Saturday, June 1 between Granbury and Tolar on 377: Must produce receipt or proof of ownership. Contact 817-733-6799.

9031

Public Notices

Notice of Adoption of District Rules
On May 15, 2024 the Board of Directors of the Acton Municipal Utility District (District) adopted an amendment to the District's Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan (Plan). The Plan describes how the District will manage water use during times of drought or shortage of supply and includes civil penalties of not to exceed \$500 per day of violation and for the disconnection of water service for repeat violations, along with certain revised enforcement provisions. The purpose of the Plan is to promote water conservation in the District and to manage water supplies during shortages. The Plan, including the enforcement and penalty provisions, is posted on the District's website (AMUD.com) and the full text of the Plan, and all of the District's policies, are on file at the District office where they may be read and copied by any person. The District office is located at 6420 Lusk Branch Court, Granbury, Texas 76049-2035.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage License by Christina's LLC dba Christina's American Table, to be located at 119 E. Bridge Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas. The owners of said corporation are co-managing members Gary Folger and Katie Folger.

9031

Public Notices

CITATION BY PUBLICATION (DEBT CLAIM CASE)
CAUSE NO. DC32400002
JK FIRE & SECURITY, LLC, Plaintiff, v. EUGENIA WASHINGTON, Defendant
In the Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3, Hood County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO: EUGENIA WASHINGTON, DEFENDANT in the above case:

This citation is issued pursuant to a petition filed by Plaintiff on November 17, 2023. Plaintiff's attorney's name and address, or Plaintiff's address, if they have no attorney, are:
JEREMY F. SORELLE
HYDE LAW FIRM
827 W PEARL ST
GRANBURY TX 76048

Your answer must be filed with this court located at 5417 ACTON HWY. STE 104 GRANBURY TX 76049.

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. YOU MAY EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY TO HELP YOU IN DEFENDING AGAINST THIS LAWSUIT. BUT YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO EMPLOY AN ATTORNEY. YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE AN ANSWER WITH THE COURT. YOUR ANSWER IS DUE BY THE END OF THE 14TH DAY AFTER THE DAY YOU WERE SERVED WITH THESE PAPERS. IF THE 14TH DAY IS A SATURDAY, SUNDAY, OR LEGAL HOLIDAY, YOUR ANSWER IS DUE BY THE END OF THE FIRST DAY FOLLOWING THE 14TH DAY THAT IS NOT A SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR LEGAL HOLIDAY. DO NOT IGNORE THESE PAPERS. IF YOU DO NOT FILE AN ANSWER BY THE DUE DATE, A DEFAULT JUDGMENT MAY BE TAKEN AGAINST YOU. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONSULT PART V OF THE TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE, WHICH IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND ALSO AT THE COURT LISTED ON THIS CITATION.


ISSUED AND SIGNED on January 1, 2024
STEPHEN BARNETT
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, PCT. 3
HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

Hood County Hospital District board of directors will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, June 14, noon, at Hood County Annex I meeting room, 200 Deputy Larry Miller Dr., Granbury. For more information, 817-579-3200.

Granbury Independent School District is soliciting proposals for CSP 2024-5 for doors and locks.
Bid proposals are available online on <https://granbury.ionwave.net>.
The bids are open immediately and will close 6/10/24.
Please contact purchasing office at 817-408-4087.

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Professional



North Central Texas Academy is seeking:

High school History teacher
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All applicants must be state certified teachers.

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For questions please contact Amanda Schwausch at a.schwausch@nctapioneers.org

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Public Notices

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a P-Package Store Permit by GURKHA LEGACY LLC dba J. C.'S LIQUOR, to be located at 3130 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76049-7920. The officers of said corporation are Binod Kadel, a manager, and Arun Khatri, a manager.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to MICHAEL SHAWN REYNOLDS by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of Michael T. Dudley, Deceased, under Cause No. P10376 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: May 30, 2024
Michael Shawn Reynolds
Executor of the Estate of Michael T. Dudley
c/o Bruchez & Goss, P.C.
3740 Copperfield Dr., Ste. 200
Bryan, TX 77802
/S/ Bill Thornton
State Bar No. 19992800
Email: bthornton@bruchez.com
3740 Copperfield Dr., Ste. 200
Bryan, TX 77802
(979) 268-4343
Attorney for Michael Shawn Reynolds



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Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of FLOYD MARCELL DeBURGER, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, under Docket No. P10374, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas to Judy Ann DeBurger.
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
Representative,
Estate of Floyd Marcell DeBurger
c/o Robin C. Crow
CROW-HENLEY LAW PLLC
P.O. Box 6654
Granbury TX 76049
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.
Dated May 31, 2024.
By Robin Crow
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to CINDY CAVENER-SUMNER by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of James Thomas Cavener, Deceased, under Cause No. P10402 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: May 30, 2024
Cindy Cavener-Sumner
Executor of the Estate of James Thomas Cavener
c/o Christian & Christian PLLC
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/S/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email: marjoe@christianandchristianlaw.com
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4003
Attorney for Cindy Cavener-Sumner

Notice to Bidders

Sealed bids addressed to LGI Homes - Texas, LLC for Cresson MUD No. 1 of Hood County will be received electronically via CivCast (www.civcastusa.com) or physically at the office of the Engineer, Pape-Dawson Engineers, 6105 Tennyson Parkway, Suite 210, Plano, Texas 75024, Phone 214-420-8494 until 2:00 PM, local time, Thursday, July 18, 2024, and then publicly opened and read at the office of the Engineer and also via Microsoft Teams (210.926.0892, Conference ID 670 337 50#) for the construction of the following project:

Construction of Brookside Phase 1 - Cresson MUD No. 1 Wastewater Treatment Facility
Project No. 70193-04

Scope of Work of the Contract includes:

- Coordinate with plant manufacturer, AUC Group, LLC, for installation of treatment plant equipment, and provide all requirements to construct a fully operational wastewater treatment plant. Treatment plant equipment will be supplied under a lease agreement directly with the Owner. The contractor will coordinate delivery and installation and will be responsible for sitework, buried utilities, and other work that is not part of AUC Group, LLC's supply contract.
- Provide the civil, architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, instrumentation, and all other work required for a complete and operable treatment plant project.
- Test and place the completed project into operation.

A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at 2:00 PM, local time, Thursday, June 13, 2024, physically at the office of the Engineer, 6105 Tennyson Parkway, Suite 210, Plano, Texas 75024, or via Microsoft Teams (210-926-0892, Conference ID 152 003 590#). Please contact Ted Nelson via email at tnelson@pape-dawson.com for more information.

Bidding documents will be available for review at the office of the Engineer and will be provided electronically, through CivCast, to prospective bidders.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or minor defects. In case of the lack of clarity or ambiguity in prices, the Owner reserves the right to accept the most advantageous or reject the bid, all without any obligation or liability whatsoever to any bidder. All bids received after the closing time designated above will be returned unopened.

The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this Bid and/or Contract and the Contractor agrees that the Contract can be terminated if the Contractor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Judy Mae Mitchell, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, in Cause No. PI 0381, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to Brian Edward Mitchell.
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
c/o: Tracy S. Bush, attorney for Brian Edward Mitchell
201 E. Bridge St.
Granbury, Texas 76048

9031

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of FLOYD MARCELL DeBURGER, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, under Docket No. P10374, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas to Judy Ann DeBurger.
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
Representative,
Estate of Floyd Marcell DeBurger
c/o Robin C. Crow
CROW-HENLEY LAW PLLC
P.O. Box 6654
Granbury TX 76049
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.
Dated May 31, 2024.
By Robin Crow
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to CINDY CAVENER-SUMNER by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of James Thomas Cavener, Deceased, under Cause No. P10402 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: May 30, 2024
Cindy Cavener-Sumner
Executor of the Estate of James Thomas Cavener
c/o Christian & Christian PLLC
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/S/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email: marjoe@christianandchristianlaw.com
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4003
Attorney for Cindy Cavener-Sumner

The City of Granbury will receive competitive sealed Bids for the **Old Acton Hwy Sealcoat Project** until **2:00 p.m.** local time on **Thursday, June 27, 2024**, at the City Service Center, located at 401 North Park Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76048. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time, at the City Service Center conference room.

CITY OF GRANBURY
SERVICE CENTER
401 N. PARK STREET
GRANBURY, TEXAS 76048

Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are available from the engineer via CivCast.

Please visit www.civcastusa.com.

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

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

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

Date Issued: **June 8, 2024**
By: Mr. Rick Crownover, Assistant City Manager
City of Granbury, Texas

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of KAREN ILEAN HENLINE, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, in Cause No. P10383, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: SHERRI L. BROWN and LESHA HAMPTON.
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 30th day of May, 2024.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Sherrie L. Brown and Lesha Hampton
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirrn.com

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DORRACE M. HUBBARD, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters of Administration were issued to DEBORAH COLLINS by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In The Estate of DORRACE M. HUBBARD, under Cause No. P10261, pending on the Docket of the Court.
All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and manner prescribed by law in C/O Teresa M. McGonagill, Attorney at Law, 1530 P.B. Lane, Wichita Falls, Texas 76302.

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9031

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of FLOYD MARCELL DeBURGER, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, under Docket No. P10374, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas to Judy Ann DeBurger.
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:
Representative,
Estate of Floyd Marcell DeBurger
c/o Robin C. Crow
CROW-HENLEY LAW PLLC
P.O. Box 6654
Granbury TX 76049
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.
Dated May 31, 2024.
By Robin Crow
Attorney for Applicant

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to DENNIS R. SMITH by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of Henry Keith Smith, Deceased, under Cause No. P10400 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: May 30, 2024
Dennis R. Smith
Executor of the Estate of Henry Keith Smith
c/o Christian & Christian PLLC
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/S/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email: marjoe@christianandchristianlaw.com
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4003
Attorney for Dennis R. Smith

The City of Granbury will receive competitive sealed Bids for the **Old Acton Hwy Sealcoat Project** until **2:00 p.m.** local time on **Thursday, June 27, 2024**, at the City Service Center, located at 401 North Park Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76048. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time, at the City Service Center conference room.

CITY OF GRANBURY
SERVICE CENTER
401 N. PARK STREET
GRANBURY, TEXAS 76048

Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are available from the engineer via CivCast.

Please visit www.civcastusa.com.

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

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

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

Date Issued: **June 8, 2024**
By: Mr. Rick Crownover, Assistant City Manager
City of Granbury, Texas

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to DENNIS R. SMITH by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of Henry Keith Smith, Deceased, under Cause No. P10400 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: May 30, 2024
Dennis R. Smith
Executor of the Estate of Henry Keith Smith
c/o Christian & Christian PLLC
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/S/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email: marjoe@christianandchristianlaw.com
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4003
Attorney for Dennis R. Smith

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that on May 29, 2024, Letters Testamentary were issued to BOB EDD TAYLOR by the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in the case styled In the Estate of Patricia Ann Taylor, Deceased, under Cause No. P10401 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: May 30, 2024
Bob Edd Taylor
Executor of the Estate of Patricia Ann Taylor
c/o Christian & Christian PLLC
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
/S/ MarJoe D. Barnhart
State Bar No. 24045498
Email: marjoe@christianandchristianlaw.com
1405 W. Pearl St.
Granbury, TX 76048
(682) 936-4003
Attorney for Bob Edd Taylor

Notice!

The 2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) is now available for:

Comanche Peak North/Comanche Shadows Scenic Ridge Shady Grove

You can obtain a copy of this report by calling:

Gary Aardal
254-965-5924
Or by
PO Box 16 – 1215 US Hwy 67
Stephenville, TX 76401

Aviso!

El informe anual de la calidad del agua potable (reporte de confianza de consumidor) esta’ disponible ahora para:

Comanche Peak North/Comanche Shadows Scenic Ridge Shady Grove

Usted puede obtener una copia de este informe llamando nombre:

Gary Aardal
254-965-5924
Or by
PO Box 16 – 1215 US Hwy 67
Stephenville, TX 76401

**ADVERTISEMENT TO BID
CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS**

The City of Granbury will receive competitive sealed Bids for the **Old Acton Hwy Sealcoat Project** until **2:00 p.m.** local time on **Thursday, June 27, 2024**, at the City Service Center, located at 401 North Park Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76048. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at this time, at the City Service Center conference room.

Bids shall be addressed to the Assistant City Manager, Rick Crownover. Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, may be examined at:

**CITY OF GRANBURY
SERVICE CENTER
401 N. PARK STREET
GRANBURY, TEXAS 76048**

**ENPROTEC / HIBBS & TODD, INC.
402 CEDAR STREET
ABILENE, TEXAS 79601**

Bidding Documents and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Technical Specifications, are available from the engineer via CivCast.

Please visit www.civcastusa.com.

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

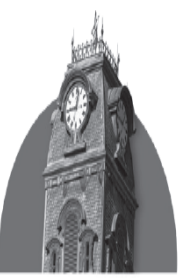
The surety company providing the Bid Bond must conform to the same requirements for surety companies providing Performance and Maintenance Bonds, and Payment Bonds described below.

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

Date Issued: **June 8, 2024**
By: Mr. Rick Crownover, Assistant City Manager
City of Granbury, Texas


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Hood County News

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality



NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION
FOR TPDES PERMIT FOR MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER

RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0013025001

APPLICATION AND PRELIMINARY DECISION. Aqua Texas, Inc., 1106 Clayton Lane, Suite 400W, Austin, Texas 78723, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a renewal of Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0013025001, which authorizes the discharge of treated domestic wastewater at a daily average flow not to exceed 60,000 gallons per day. TCEQ received this application on November 27, 2023.

The facility is located at 4027 Mabery Court, in Hood County, Texas 76048. The treated effluent is discharged via pipe directly to Lake Granbury in Segment No. 1205 of the Brazos River Basin. The designated uses for Segment No. 1205 are primary contact recreation, public water supply, and high aquatic life use. All determinations are preliminary and subject to additional review and/or revisions. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and is not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.
<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.714444,32.387222&level=18>

The TCEQ Executive Director has completed the technical review of the application and prepared a draft permit. The draft permit, if approved, would establish the conditions under which the facility must operate. The Executive Director has made a preliminary decision that this permit, if issued, meets all statutory and regulatory requirements. The permit application, Executive Director's preliminary decision, and draft permit are available for viewing and copying at Hood County Public Library, 222 North Travis Street, Granbury, Texas.

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting about this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ holds a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting a contested case hearing or reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in a state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period; and the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.** TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ACTION. The Executive Director may issue final approval of the application unless a timely contested case hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed. If a timely hearing request or request for reconsideration is filed, the Executive Director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and request to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

All written public comments and public meeting requests must be submitted to the Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087 or electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment within 30 days from the date of newspaper publication of this notice.


INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/comment, or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC 105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Any personal information you submit to the TCEQ will become part of the agency's record; this includes email addresses. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Aqua Texas, Inc. at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Scot Foltz, Environmental Compliance Manager, at 512-990-4400 Extension: 56101.

Issuance Date: May 30, 2024

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND
INTENT TO OBTAIN WATER QUALITY PERMIT RENEWAL

PERMIT NO. WQ0001481000

APPLICATION. Luminant Generation Company LLC, 6555 Sierra Drive, Irving, Texas 75039, which owns an electricity generation plant, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0001481000 (EPA I.D. No. TX0046400) to authorize the discharg of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 1,041,480,000 gallons per day. The facility is located at 4950 Power Plant Court, near the city of Granbury, in Hood County, Texas 76048. The discharge route is from the plant site via the discharge canal directly to Lake Granbury. TCEQ received this application on March 22, 2024. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Hood County Clerk's Office, 1200 West, Pearl Street, Granbury, in Hood County, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.
<https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.698611,32.403333&level=18>

ALTERNATIVE LANGUAGE NOTICE. Alternative language notice in Spanish is available at <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>. El aviso de idioma alternativo en español está disponible en <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/permitting/wastewater/plain-language-summaries-and-public-notices>.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE. TCEQ's Executive Director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application. After technical review of the application is complete, the Executive Director may prepare a draft permit and will issue a preliminary decision on the application. **Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the county-wide mailing list and to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the deadline for submitting public comments.**

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC MEETING. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting on this application. The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or to ask questions about the application. TCEQ will hold a public meeting if the Executive Director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING. After the deadline for submitting public comments, the Executive Director will consider all timely comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. **Unless the application is directly referred for a contested case hearing, the response to comments, and the Executive Director's decision on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments and to those persons who are on the mailing list for this application. If comments are received, the mailing will also provide instructions for requesting reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision and for requesting a contested case hearing.** A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court.

TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING, YOU MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN YOUR REQUEST: your name, address, phone number; applicant's name and proposed permit number; the location and distance of your property/activities relative to the proposed facility; a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the facility in a way not common to the general public; a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period and, the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing." If the request for contested case hearing is filed on behalf of a group or association, the request must designate the group's representative for receiving future correspondence; identify by name and physical address an individual member of the group who would be adversely affected by the proposed facility or activity; provide the information discussed above regarding the affected member's location and distance from the facility or activity; explain how and why the member would be affected; and explain how the interests the group seeks to protect are relevant to the group's purpose.

Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the Executive Director will forward the application and any requests for reconsideration or for a contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting.

The Commission may only grant a request for a contested case hearing on issues the requestor submitted in their timely comments that were not subsequently withdrawn. **If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact or mixed questions of fact and law relating to relevant and material water quality concerns submitted during the comment period.**

TCEQ may act on an application to renew a permit for discharge of wastewater without providing an opportunity for a contested case hearing if certain criteria are met.

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Search the database using the permit number for this application, which is provided at the top of this notice.

AGENCY CONTACTS AND INFORMATION. All public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at [https://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/](http://www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/), or in writing to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087. Please be aware that any contact information you provide, including your name, phone number, email address and physical address will become part of the agency's public record. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the TCEQ Public Education Program, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040 or visit their website at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/pep. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Luminant Generation Company LLC at the address stated above or by calling Mr. Ryan Bayle, P.G., Environmental Manager, at 214-875-8294.

Issuance Date: May 10, 2024

Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

9590

Out of Town Sales

YARD SALE: GLEN ROSE 2008 FM 56 North- Indoor yard sale at Grace Community Church. Sports equip., baby and children's, home goods, holiday, crafts, books, etc. Fri-Sat, June 7-8, 8am-2pm

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June 6, 7 & 8. 3819 Buena Vista Circle in Laguna Vista Subdivision. 2 family garage sale. Misc tools, household & collectible items. 2 baby travel beds.

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ESTATE SALE BY CARING TRANSITIONS: DECORDOVA BEND 4007 N Angelina Ct.- White leather furniture, endless holiday decor, ladies clothes/shoes, SW Bell memorabilia, albums, DVDs, electronics. JUNE 6-8 THIS WEEKEND! 12p-5p THUR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT

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1315 Prestwick Ct- Moving Sale: FR clothing, home goods, antiques and collectibles. Thur-Sat, June 6-8, 8am-5pm.

712 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd- Yard sale Starting June 7th-June 31st, starting at 9am. No early birds. Power tools, handmade decor, jewelry, etc.

Granbury 76049

Garage Sales 76049

Garage SALE/ESTATE SALE
3129 Weave Ct, 76049. Turn north on Meander Rd. Follow signs. Open 7am-4pm, June 13, 14, 15. Multiple families. Too much to list! Everything must go!

Granbury 76049

Garage Sales 76049

Tolar 76476

Garage Sales 76476

ESTATE SALE: TOLAR
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Hood County News

Laguna Tres Estates residents voice concerns over future development

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Many Laguna Tres Estates residents spoke up during a Hood County Commissioners Court meeting May 28, to express concerns about a replat of their subdivision. A replat is the process of modifying or re-drawing the boundaries of a recorded subdivision plan. During the public hearing to discuss the replat of lots one and two of Laguna Tres Estates, resident Eric Korth said he had some concerns related to another potential commercial development being constructed on Farm-to-Market Road 51 — especially due to the current traffic situation.

"We have over 200 homes in that development, and yes, we've seen various developments going down (FM) 51, but none of them have been sitting right in front of the main road like our development," he said. "The traffic on (FM) 51 has increased substantially. Just trying to get out of our development is a real chore. We've had major accidents already over there. Someone's going to die."

Korth explained that with the recent construction of Tommy's convenience store, the roadway has become a safety hazard since a turning lane has yet to be installed.

"The real key is, we don't want any more commercial structures in this development," he said. "Tommy's got in there, and it doesn't make any sense that we have any more. We've got 200 homes trying to get in and out of there and the problem is the traffic. If this is leading to some form of other commercial development, it's just going to exceed this problem substantially."

Following Korth's comments, Development Director Clint Head responded to his concerns, explaining that what Korth was referring to are zoning issues.

"We do not apply restrictions to the property whether it can be commercial or residential," Head said. "The traffic is obviously TxDOT. Where the driveway is for the Tommy's right now, if you look on the plat, it's got a shared access. They plan on utilizing the same one and not adding another one. We do not know what the end game is; they may just be wanting to sell it. I believe the original landowner was intending on buying it back, so until they decide what they want to do with it, it's not something we regulate."

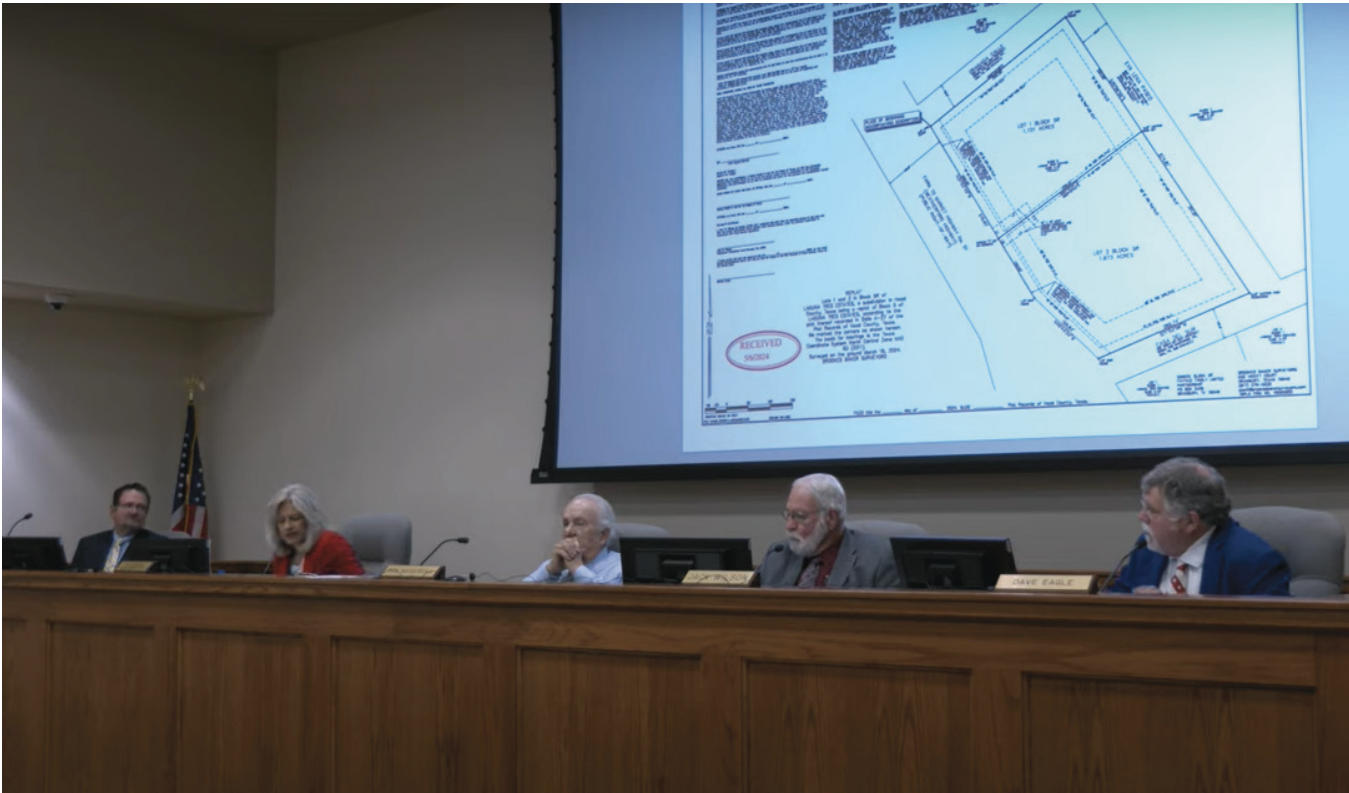
Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle then asked Head if there is anything located on lot two since Tommy's was located on lot one. Head answered that there is an old building on lot two that used to be a sales office.

Resident Teresa Loving also brought up concerns regarding safety of the Laguna Tres Estate residents, like with solicitors walking around the neighborhood.

"Tommy's said that they would want to install a fence to separate the commercial from the residential, and that fence has been partially eroded, but not all the way," Loving said. "We have had problems at Tommy's when cars parked at the business at 3 o'clock in the morning, or people stand beside the business and it's kind of a safety concern for us, so we just want y'all to consider that as far as more commercial buildings coming."

Mike Sweatt, president of the Laguna Tres Estates Homeowner's Association, said his main concern is not about the replat, but the possibility of more commercial developments being constructed in the area.

"When you want to get out, you need to leave the house at five in the morning and not come back until about 10 that night because of it, so if the commissioners can help us in any way to speed up the turning lane situation, we'd appreciate it," he said.



The Hood County Commissioners Court listen to comments during a public hearing about the replat of Laguna Tres Estates during a regularly scheduled meeting May 28.

Sweatt said TxDOT Area Engineer Sarah Horner had notified him by email that TxDOT will pay for construction of the new turning lane, but that it could take anywhere between 18 to 24 months to get built.

Resident Dorcia Meador said she has worked with the owner of Tommy's to try to prevent some of the problems they are currently experiencing, but there are still a few issues that haven't been resolved.

"We're just a little concerned with this division that looks like it's going to be sold off to more commercial," she said. "I know that the commissioner's court is not able to stop this process, but I would encourage the commissioner's court to do what you can to get some teeth into some of your restrictions ... I challenge you all, let's do something. Let's protect the county."

Eagle said no one from Tommy's has said anything to him about the lot, but they

are not required to disclose that information.

"Their only requirement is to go to development, and development makes sure that all of the requirements like sewer, water and roads are taken care of," Eagle said. "We can only speculate as to what he plans to do with it."

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson asked Eagle if Horner had conducted a traffic study on FM 51. Eagle said one was conducted a couple of years ago and since Tommy's convenience store has now been built, another traffic study can be ordered.

Massingill said he feels for Laguna Tres Estates residents as the traffic has gotten horrendous, but he said the county is limited in what it can do.

"We can't create any laws; we can only enforce the laws that the state allows us to do," he said. "That's why we're subject to the water and sewer. We can't tell anybody what they can do or

pass an ordinance like the city can."

"My question is," Eagle said, "Do we have any legal authority to deny this replat?"

"Not according to our regulations," Head said.

Another speaker said she is worried about the elderly neighbors trying to pull out into traffic on the busy highway, as their reflexes are slower. She said she is worried she will lose some of her neighbors if something is not done.

"So, the traffic study needs to be done," Samuelson said. "We meet with our TxDOT rep regularly and prioritize things that need to be looked at and it sounds like this is a priority."

Vice President of Laguna Tres Inc. Ike Thomas, the original landowner of the lots, confirmed to the court that he is buying lot two back from Tommy's and that there are no plans to do anything with the lot except to tear down the building that's

there. "So, no plans to do any other commercial building on it?" Massingill asked. "Certainly not at this time," Thomas said. "Not anytime in the near future." "That gives you some solace on implying that there's not going to be anything built there in the near future, for sure, but I don't see what we can do. We can't do anything to prevent this," Massingill said.

"This is in my precinct, so at the risk of being burned in effigy, I am going to make the motion to approve this replat of Laguna Tres Estates lots one and two, block 5R, especially based on Mr. Thomas' representation," Eagle said.

Following a second by Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews, the motion passed 4:1 with Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson voting against the motion.

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LGMC’s new freestanding ER undergoes construction delay

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Lake Granbury Medical Center is experiencing construction delays on its much-anticipated new freestanding emergency room facility, which was expected to be completed this summer.

According to the Granbury City Council’s agenda report from Tuesday evening, the delay is caused by weather and various building components, like delivery supply shortages.

Once the completion date became delayed, the hospital contacted City Manager Chris Coffman about the situation. He advised the hospital to move forward and provide an amendment to the agreement regarding an updated completion date.

City Communications Manager Jeff Newpher told the Hood County News the estimated completion date has now been extended to

Oct. 31.

During a regularly scheduled Granbury City Council meeting Tuesday evening, the council unanimously authorized Coffman to execute an amendment to the Chapter 380 Development Agreement with the Granbury Hospital Corporation. The agenda report states that both the hospital and Coffman are comfortable with the new proposed dates and proposed amendment.

Lake Granbury Medical Center officially broke ground last October for the freestanding ER facility, which is being built at the corner of U.S. Highway 377 and Fall Creek Highway.

Situated on 13 acres, the \$15 million, 10,000 square-foot freestanding emergency facility will house an emergency department staffed 24/7 by emergency medical physicians.

“Our goal is to increase access to emergency care

on the northeastern side of Granbury as it grows,” LGMC CEO Curt Jenkins told the HCN Oct. 16. “That’s probably the number one reason behind it. It’s no secret Granbury’s growing and that side of town is going to grow faster.”

The building will feature eight exam rooms, including a negative airflow room to contain the spread of airborne infections. There will be a major treatment room, a decontamination room, triage, laboratory, and diagnostic imaging services.

Jenkins previously explained the facility is a freestanding ER geographically, as it is not attached to LGMC, but for all intents and purposes, the facility will be a “virtual hallway” between that location and LGMC.

“That’s noteworthy because there are other freestanding ERs that are independent or unaffiliated with hospitals and their services are limited because of that,

so our goal is to create that option there,” he previously told the HCN. “Freestanding ERs typically don’t keep patients overnight in a bed unless there’s a need to be admitted somewhere down to the main hospitals. Most of the time, what (we will) do is, if you walk in and you’re having a stroke, for example, or another acute illness, you (will be transferred) from that facility back (to LGMC) where we can treat that patient for more than 24 hours.”

As a department of Lake Granbury Medical Center, the freestanding emergency department will also accept the same insurance plans, including commercial, Medicare and Medicaid, for the convenience of patients.

Jenkins previously explained to the HCN that many residents have expressed concern regarding the future of the current emergency room department at LGMC, but he explained

LGMC will continue to provide the same services it does today. The freestanding emergency facility, he said, will simply serve as another option for emergency care in the community.

“Our goal is to increase access to emergency care on the northeastern side of Granbury as it grows”

CURT JENKINS
CEO, Lake Granbury Medical Center

“The intent is that we are adding to the ER capacities,” he previously said. “We have 10 beds here, there’ll be eight beds up there. Our intent is to cover the entire support as needed for ER but given the growth in the market, we expect that it’ll prob-

ably outgrow that.”

According to information provided about the new facility, patients with emergent and potentially life-threatening conditions, including heart attacks, strokes, head injuries, fractures, abdominal pain and respiratory issues will benefit from the freestanding ER’s convenient location and the access it provides to LGMC’s critical care services.

“The point is that the rest of Hood County has grown, too,” Jenkins previously stated. “You’ve got growth in Tolar, growth in Pecan, you’ve got growth all over the place. But that northern side, when it grows to that larger capacity, and especially as the county starts pushing 70,000 (residents), you’re going to see more and more need — and that’s why we want to be first.”

Hood County Builders Association showcase ends June 9

The 31st Annual Hood County Builders Association Showcase of New Homes ends the weekend of June 8 and 9. Homes on the tour range in price from \$400k to over \$2 million. The showcase features 37 homes from 23 builders in 21 different subdivisions. The homes are in various stages of construction. For more information about the Showcase of New Homes, visit the Hood County Builders Association website at www.hoodcountybuilders.org.

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OBITUARIES

Carol Presley

September 9, 1951 - June 3, 2024

Carol Ann Cross Presley was born in Fort Worth, Texas on Sept. 9, 1951, to Robert Albert "Bob" Cross of Temple, Texas and Wanda Lois Gambrell Cross of Palestine, Texas. Carol traveled home on June 3, 2024, in Granbury, Texas after battling several illnesses.

Growing up, Carol lived in Benbrook, Texas and graduated from Arlington Heights High School in 1969. After graduation, she attended Tarleton State College where she studied home economics but majored in cowboys. Along the way, she met a long-haired guy from Alabama named Paul Michael Blackmon. They married in 1975 and shared a son, Brent Blackmon.

Carol went to work at General Dynamics (Lockheed Martin) in October of 1978 and remained there until her retirement in 2007. While at GD, she stumbled across a guy named Larry Presley. Carol and Larry married on May 22, 1987, and she gained two bonus sons, Shawn and Walter. They recently celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary.

Carol loved her family and wasn't afraid to brag about her grandkids. She loved to dance but also enjoyed camping, NASCAR, sewing, quilting, crocheting, and planting flowers. She also loved cruising the backroads with the windows down. Carol was quite the social butterfly and never met a stranger. However, she would let you know pretty quick if you got on her bad side.



Carol absolutely adored her friends and was always the life of the party, especially with her good friend Jack Daniels.

Carol was preceded in death by her mother and father. She is survived by her husband, Lorimer "Larry" Presley of Tolar; brother, James Cross of Tolar; son, Brent Blackmon and wife Sarah of Granbury, Texas; stepson Shawn Presley and wife Shannon of Roanoke, Texas; stepson Walter Presley of Joshua, Texas; nine grandchildren: Nick, Caylin, Brynlee, David, Cayson, Deacon, Caleb, Wyatt, and Brystal; one great-grandchild, Levi; two nieces, numerous cousins, and many beloved friends.

Visitation was held at Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury on Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 6-8 p.m. Services were held at the First Christian Church of Granbury on Friday, June 7, 2024, at 2 p.m. Carol will be laid to rest in Palestine, Texas with a small graveside service on Saturday, June 8, 2024, at 1 p.m. Services under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home, Granbury.

Bernard Kerin Bradley

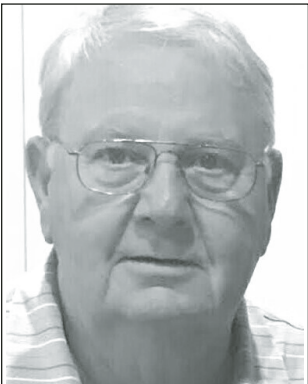
September 16, 1944 - May 29, 2024

Bernard (Ben) Kerin Bradley of Granbury, Texas was born in Lawrence, MA to Joseph and Marguerite Bradley. He was married to Anita Wickstrom of Carlsbad in 1967. He passed away May 29th in Fort Worth, Texas.

Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m., Saturday, July 6 at the Pecan Plantation Clubhouse ballroom.

Ben was born in Lawrence in 1944, but at a young age, he and his family moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico where he attended Eisenhower Junior High and graduated from Carlsbad High in 1962. He attended New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell and Texas Tech University earning his Bachelor of Science degree. After graduating from college, Ben served in the Vietnam War. After the war, he continued to serve in the army as an officer until 1976. Then, Ben moved his family back to New Mexico where he managed his stepfather's mining supply business for over 20 years. Ben then felt led to teach and worked at Loving High School until his retirement.

Ben loved playing golf and spending time traveling with his family. When his children were younger, he would take them camping and skiing in northern New Mexico and Colorado. After he retired, he and his wife spent their remaining



years together traveling all over the world. Not only was Ben a good husband and father, he was a good friend. Over the last several years, he helped lead the grief group at his local church.

Ben is survived by his two sisters, Mary Ellen Archibeck and her husband Bill of Albuquerque, New Mexico and Anne Bonney of Carlsbad, New Mexico; his brother, Joseph Bradley and his wife Ann of Glendale, Arizona; his four children: Katie Bridges and her husband Kary of Ocean Springs, Mississippi, Joe Bradley of Granbury, Chip Bradley and his wife Christi of Granbury, and Joe Brown and his wife Cassie of Canyon, Texas; his six grandchildren: Heath, Ellie, Meg, Quinn, Caden, and Dylan; and numerous family members.

Ben was preceded in death by his wife, Anita and his parents.

Service: July 6, 2024, 2-6 p.m. Pecan Plantation Club House Ballroom, 8650 Westover Ct., Granbury, Texas.

Anna Kylene Madison

October 2, 1934 - June 3, 2024

Anna Kylene Madison passed away peacefully on June 3, 2024, at the age of 89, in Bedford, Texas.

Services were held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2024, at the First Baptist Church in Granbury. Burial was at Holly Hills Memorial Park.

She was born on Oct. 2, 1934 in her family farmhouse in Coryell County. Kylene attended college at Hardin Simmons University where she earned a teaching degree. Soon after, she moved to Odessa, Texas to begin a 35-year teaching career. She was a favorite of her students, their parents and her peers.

It was in Odessa that she met the love of her life, Gordon "Moe" Madison, while teaching at the same elementary school. They were married on Aug. 7, 1956. They retired and moved to Granbury, Texas in 1991 where they enjoyed playing golf, traveling and were faithful members of First Baptist Church.

Kylene was preceded in death by her husband,



siblings. She is survived by her children, Mindi Wilson and her husband, Don, of Dallas, Texas, Mike Madison and wife Jean of Hurst, Texas, Kim Lamphere and her husband, Scott of Woodstock, Georgia and Mitch Madison of Dallas, Texas, her grandchildren, Brevig Madison, Lindsay Williams, Hayden Madison, Katie Grant, Waide Wilson, Madison Harrison, Jordan Marshall, Kelsey Cangelosi, and Taylor Wilson. She is also survived by 12 great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to First Baptist Church, Granbury or a charity of your choice

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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

1 "___ Texas" by Jimmie Rogers

5 ___smith drummer Joey Kramer has lived in Texas

6 ABC affiliate in San Antonio

7 tall Italian volcano

8 TXism: "never ___ in the glow of a neon light"

17 Greenville road in Dallas, e.g. (abbr.)

18 actor/comedian in Texas-based 1992 "Sidekicks" (2 wds.)

21 TX Buddy Holly's "That'll ___ the Day"

22 Astros & Rangers get three an inning

23 TXism: "too lazy to ___ flies"

24 "___ Lake in Martin County

29 in Jasper County on U.S. 96

30 Texas-based insur. co. for the military

31 TX-born actress, Robin (init.)

32 a type of Texas tycoon (2 wds.)

34 TX Jordan Spieth won 2015 U.S. ___

35 dir. from Elgin to Yoakum

36 some RVs

37 "It's ___!"

38 "gotta ___ with the punches"

39 fix a mistake? (3 wds.)

41 defamation

42 OJ's judge, Lance

43 TXism: "wipe the ___ clean" (erase)

44 this TX-born Alvin was a noted dancer

45 Mavericks rival, the Pelicans (abbr.)

46 TXism: "windy"

47 stomach issue caused by stress

48 TXism: "she him like a hot horseshoe"

50 window shelves

51 TXism: "fits like scales ___ fish"

52 TXism: "___ it be"

53 TXism: "red ___" (liquor)

DOWN

1 TXism: "___ to rope him" (large man)

2 cheerful and jolly

3 easternmost city

4 in Fisher County on highway 70

9 TXism: "dainty as ___ bride"

10 TXism: "___ lick" (none)

11 TXism: "does a wet dog stink?"

12 this Tom was a Traveling Wilbury with TX Roy (init.)

13 TXism: "she threw a ___ fit"

14 TXism for "I declare" (2 wds.)

15 UT was 2015 ___ football champ

16 TXism: "___ half a mind to" (inclined)

19 "___, sage, rosemary & thyme"

20 TX "___ Twins"

22 TX Larry McMurtry was able to ___ many other authors

24 init. of Houston's Olajuwon before he was Hakeem

25 TXism: "___ out" (left quickly)

26 Austin PBS station upcoming series for TX William Jackson Harper: "___ Full" (Netflix)

28 "___ rest" (buried)

29 big farm buildings

30 "put ___ shut up"

33 teacher labor union instrument in the Dallas Symphony

35 TXism: "___ as a judge in court"

37 branch of an artery

38 TXism: "___ up" (very angry)

40 early Texas attacks: Indian ___

41 TXism: "walking dandruff"

44 Europe mountains

47 "night owl" (2 wds.)

49 in Young County on highway 79

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison

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P-1693

Financial tips for widows and widowers

TY ANDREW

Edward Jones

Financial Adviser

Losing a spouse is one of the most painful experiences anyone can have. Unfortunately, widows and widowers have to deal with more than just the emotional trauma — they also must consider a range of financial issues. If you've recently been widowed, what financial moves should you consider?

For starters, don't rush into any major decisions. If you're still in the grieving process, you are unlikely to be in the best shape to make significant choices affecting your finances and your life.

But once you feel ready to

look at your situation objectively and make appropriate choices, consider the following steps:

REVIEW YOUR FINANCES

Look at your entire financial picture — your assets, investments, debts and income. If you and your spouse had communicated well about your finances, and you shared decisions, you hopefully won't encounter any big surprises. But if your spouse was the partner who mostly handled financial matters, you may need to get up to speed quickly on

what you have and what you owe. And if your spouse had provided a large amount of your household income, you will also need to determine what changes you may need to make to your lifestyle.

ADDRESS INSURANCE ISSUES

If you will receive a death benefit from your spouse's insurance policy, what will you do with the money? It may prove helpful in funding your own retirement or meeting other financial goals. But you'll also want to be clear about what other beneficiaries, such as your children, might receive. And while you're looking at insurance, you also might want to look at your own policies

— do you need to change beneficiaries?

REVIEW YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY OPTIONS

If you are at least 60 and you were married at least nine months, you may be entitled to Social Security survivor benefits. (If you remarry before age 60, you typically cannot receive survivor benefits, but you can reinstate them if this subsequent marriage ends.) The amount of your survivor's benefits depends on your age and the age of your deceased spouse. You can't claim your deceased spouse's benefits along with your own retirement benefits, so if you qualify

for survivor and retirement benefits, you'll receive the larger amount. Depending on your situation, you might come out ahead by delaying your retirement benefits, giving them the chance to grow, while you accept survivor benefits. For more details on receiving Social Security benefits, visit the Social Security Administration's website at www.ssa.gov.

REVIEW YOUR ESTATE PLANS

The death of a spouse can certainly affect your family's estate plans. So, it's a good idea to review these plans to see what changes, if any, need to be made. When conducting this review, you'll benefit from working with an

estate-planning professional. Finally, keep in mind that you don't have to go it alone during this difficult time. If you're already working with a financial professional, they can help. If you aren't currently working with one, now might be the time to start. By looking at your finances and your family situation holistically, a financial professional can provide guidance that can help ease the stress you are naturally feeling.

Few events are as sad as losing a spouse. But when you feel ready, start taking the steps necessary to continue forward on your life's journey.

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Finding support and assurance at Brazos Pregnancy Center

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

When Sarah Smith (a pseudonym) first suspected she was pregnant, she felt a mixture of uncertainty and apprehension. She had taken a pregnancy test that came back positive, but without any insurance, she couldn't go to a doctor's office to confirm it. That's when her mother discovered the Brazos Pregnancy Center online. Located at 1812 Acton Highway in Granbury, the nonprofit center offered to confirm her pregnancy and even provide an ultrasound — all for free.

From the moment Smith walked through the doors of the Brazos Pregnancy Center, she says, "There was never a time when I went into that office that I felt uncomfortable or judged. They are a very kind, welcoming and supportive team." Each visit reinforced that feeling of comfort and reassurance. They confirmed her pregnancy and ensured that it was viable, providing her with a sense of certainty and calm amidst her worry and concerns.

Having just moved to the area, Smith was unfamiliar with the local resources available. The Brazos Pregnancy Center turned out to be an invaluable source of support. She utilized its pregnancy test and ultrasound services, but the educational pregnancy course stood out to her the most. It covered many topics, including pregnancy, infant care, safety tips, breastfeeding and even budgeting. Since her youngest child was 14, this course was a much-needed refresher that helped prepare her for this new journey.

"They (The Brazos Pregnancy Center's staff) listened to my concerns and responded with educated advice and videos. Each visit I received diapers, wipes, an outfit and other free items for my baby," says Smith, adding, "They offered not just practical support but also emotional encouragement." Each visit ended with her receiving such essen-

tial baby items which were a significant help to the single mother, easing the financial burden and helping her feel more prepared.

Emotionally, the center played a pivotal role in Smith's pregnancy journey. The weekly visits, during which she could learn, talk about her concerns, and receive support, were invaluable. They helped her navigate the emotional challenges and slowly brought excitement into her pregnancy.

The support Smith received from Brazos Pregnancy Center was not just about the physical necessities but also the emotional and educational backing that prepared her for parenthood. It was this holistic approach that truly made a difference in her life. To any young women who might be considering reaching out to Brazos Pregnancy Center, Smith wholeheartedly encourages them to do so. "The support and love they'll find there are unparalleled," says Smith. In a world that can often feel overwhelming, the center offers a breath of fresh air. Finding Brazos Pregnancy Center was nothing short of a divine intervention for her, Smith says. "I asked God to open doors for me and this baby during this pregnancy and I don't find it a coincidence that I found Brazos Pregnancy Center! They were God sent even if they don't know it!"

Before discovering the center, Smith's days were filled with worry and unanswered questions. Now, she feels more at ease and capable of handling her situation. Her advice to anyone, regardless of age, is to reach out to community resources. "You never know what blessings can come from the amazing people who serve your community with love, support and welcoming arms and a vast amount of free knowledge."

ABOUT THE BRAZOS PREGNANCY CENTER
The Brazos Pregnancy Center, located at 1812 Acton Highway, Granbury, TX,

is a nonprofit organization supporting individuals facing unplanned pregnancies. Under the leadership of Executive Director Kim Irwin, the center offers a range of services to help individuals make informed decisions and provide support during pregnancy and beyond.

- SERVICES OFFERED**
- Pregnancy testing and counseling: Free pregnancy tests and confidential counseling to discuss options and provide emotional support.
 - Ultrasounds: Limited obstetric ultrasounds to confirm pregnancy and gestational age.
 - Educational resources: Classes and resources on prenatal care, parenting and life skills.
 - Material assistance: Provision of baby clothes, diapers, formula and other necessities.
 - Referrals: Connections to medical care, housing assistance, adoption services and other community resources.
 - Post-abortion support: Counseling and support groups for individuals dealing with post-abortion emotional issues.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS
This year, Brazos Pregnancy Center is celebrating its 30th anniversary, marking three decades of service to the community. The center continues to be a vital resource for those needing support during pregnancy.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Executive Director: Kim Irwin
Phone: 817-579-1233
Address: 1812 Acton Highway, Granbury, TX

For more detailed information or to seek assistance, individuals are encouraged to contact the center directly or visit their official website.



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Hood County News

LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

Men, take charge of your health this Men’s Health Week

By Lake Granbury Medical Center

Research backs up the long-standing stereotype that men avoid going to the doctor. In fact, recent surveys show that approximately 44% of men don’t get an annual physical, and 60% of men won’t see a doctor if they suspect something is wrong.

“Don’t wait until the ‘check engine’ light flashes to take care of your health. Just like cars, our bodies need routine and preventive maintenance, too,” said Bruce Harrell, M.D., board certified urologist at Lakeside Physicians. “As fathers, as husbands, as coworkers, as friends, we owe it to the people who care about us that we take care of ourselves — not just when we’re sick.”

Harrell encourages the men in our communities to be proactive about their health this Men’s Health Week, June 10-16, and to be on the lookout for common health issues he sees among male patients:

PROSTATE CANCER

One in eight men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. It’s the most common cancer among American men, according to the American Cancer Society.

URINARY INCONTINENCE

Leaking isn’t a female-only problem. According to the Urology Care Foundation, approximately 25% of men have incontinence problems, too.

“While you may not feel comfortable discussing health concerns or below-the-belt issues with buddies, it should not be embarrassing to go to the doctor,” added Harrell. “Intimate and serious health issues can often be addressed and are easier to treat when found early. While my practice focuses on urological health, men also need to pay attention to their heart health as well. Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men in the U.S., and more than half of men don’t show symptoms before heart disease becomes fatal, according to the CDC.”

“Primary care physicians use screenings that check for conditions before many people experience signs and symptoms of a health problem depending on age and family medical history,” said Casey Dean, D.O., family medicine physician at Lakeside Physicians. “Annual physicals are a great way to stay on top of your health.”

These may include:

- BMI calculation
 - Blood pressure, heart and respiration rates
 - Questions around alcohol and tobacco intake
 - Questions around diet and exercise habits
 - Cholesterol and other blood tests
 - Vaccinations
 - Mental health screening
 - Testicular, hernia and/or prostate (lab work) exams
- Men’s Health Week serves as a reminder to schedule your annual wellness exam or address symptoms that may be concerning you with a physician.
- For more information about urological conditions or to schedule an appointment with Harrell, please call 817-573-5983 or visit <https://lakegranburymedical.com/BruceHarrell>
- For more information about Dean, family medicine physician, or to schedule an appointment, please call 817-326-3900 or visit <https://lakegranburymedical.com/CaseyDean>



Men’s Health Week serves as a reminder to schedule your annual wellness exam.



Recent surveys show that approximately 44% of men don’t get an annual physical, and 60% of men won’t see a doctor if they suspect something is wrong

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Summer fun and community spirit at Hood County YMCA

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

BY LAUREN DAVIS

Staff Writer
lauren@hcnews.com

Karissa Sorrells, Hood County YMCA's director of wellness and sports, recently shared insights about upcoming celebrations. "We have two exciting events coming up. 'Father of the

Year' on Saturday, June 13, the weekend before Father's Day, is especially exciting because Father's Day originated within the YMCA," says Sorrells. "We are grateful to be able to celebrate dads that truly go above and beyond for not only their family but their community as well," she said, "Our second event

is July 26 at the Cleburne Railroaders stadium where The Y is the spotlight for the night, and one of your very own Hood County YMCA leaders will be throwing the first pitch! We have been given a special link to use when ordering tickets that will benefit our local branch to put back into our

community!"

Located at 1475 James Road, Granbury, the YMCA continues to be a pillar of support and engagement for residents of all ages. The YMCA's longstanding mission "... pours out of our walls and into the community every day, from staff volunteering for community

events and service clubs to our members sharing the stories of their experience at The Y with others to advocate for all we do to serve," says Sorrells.

"Nothing is ever going to be the same as it was before COVID-19 for any establishment," Sorrells says, "However, we continue to

be conscious of sanitization of equipment and our facility, and we continue to see membership and program participation grow towards the pre-covid numbers."

The Hood County YMCA offers various regular pro-

PLEASE SEE **SUMMER** | B5

GISD to opt out of free lunch program due to revenue loss

BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Starting this fall, Granbury Independent School District students will no longer receive free breakfast and lunch through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision program, due to a district revenue loss of \$427,000.

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. CEP allows the nation's highest poverty schools and districts to serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students without collecting household applications, ac-

cording to the United States Department of Agriculture website.

Last May, the GISD board of trustees approved the CEP program for the 2023-24 academic year.

"CEP, it is a special program that school districts can do if they're already operating under the National School and School Breakfast Program," GISD's Director of Child Nutrition Amy Whiteley said during the board meeting last year. "There's a formula that goes with it that allows us to be able to feed our students breakfast and lunch for free for the entire year. It's one of those programs that was created several years ago, and districts that qualify for it, they have to be within a

certain percentage of economically disadvantaged to be able to operate under that program — and we do qualify for that."

The program operates on a four-year qualification cycle, meaning once a district qualifies, it will qualify for the program for the next four years.

Whiteley previously added though, that GISD can still opt out of the program at the end of any year if desired.

During a regularly scheduled school board meeting May 20, Whiteley explained that although the CEP program offered many positives, it is not sustainable for the district to continue the program next year.

"This is a special nutrition program that allows



SCREENSHOT VIA YOUTUBE

GISD Director of Child Nutrition Amy Whiteley speaks to the board of trustees about the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Community Eligibility Provision program during a regularly scheduled school board meeting May 20.

a district to opt in to, and it provides free breakfast and lunch for all students,"

Whiteley explained to the public during the May 20 meeting. "For this year, that

is something that we did opt in to, and we tried it to see if

PLEASE SEE **LUNCH** | B8

Adventure awaits: GISD promotes community/athletic summer camps

BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

As schools everywhere close their doors for summer break, students are now in desperate need of something to do to occupy their time.

Luckily, the Granbury Independent School District has created a page specifically dedicated to summer camps. From community camps to sports and activities, Hood County and the surrounding areas have something fun for everyone.

COMMUNITY CAMPS

Nature Day Camp at Camp Fire El Tesoro

In celebration of 90 years, Camp Fire El Tesoro is hosting a Nature Day Camp for students in kindergarten

through fifth grade from now until July 26, located at 7710 Fall Creek Highway.

Come for one week or the whole summer. Camp Fire El Tesoro provides art projects and nature hikes, while afternoon activities focus on adventure-filled experiences with a weekly rotation including canoeing, kayaking, archery and horseback riding. A cooling daily trip to the pool for swimming is also a bonus!

Campers who add the Wednesday overnight experience will experience cooking dinner over a campfire, exploring camp after dark with a night hike and star watching, plus sleeping in a cabin. This is a wonderful way for young campers to build confidence and independence in the safe but "wild" camping world.

To register for Nature Day Camp, visit CampFireFW.org/

ETDayCamp or call 817-831-2111, ext. 155.

Cub Scout Day Camp at Camp Holland

Camp Holland offers a Cub Scout Day Camp from June 10-14 from 2-8 p.m.

Located in Weatherford at 1301 Holland Lake Drive, Cub Scout Day Camp offers sports and games, STEM and science, nature explorations, crafts and creativity, marksmanship, skits and songs. The camp is open to all boys and girls entering grades one through five.

Register online at scoutingevent.com/662-BVDCubCamp2024.

Fourth Grade Public Land Pass

The fourth grade public lands pass provides fourth graders with free access to national parks and federal recreational lands. The pass covers entrance or day use

fees at federal recreation sites. Some fees, like camping and special tours, are not covered.

Fourth graders can use their pass at national parks, national forests, wildlife refuges, reclamation areas, conservation areas, recreation areas and marine areas.

To obtain the voucher online, visit everykidoutdoors.gov, complete an online activity, and download and print a personalized paper voucher. Students may use the pass from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 of their fourth-grade year.

Junior Bowling Clinic at PINS Bowling Alley

Granbury PINS will soon present a Junior Bowling Clinic Saturdays from 10 a.m.-noon July 13, July 20 and July 27.

Students will learn bowling basics, plus etiquette, scoring

and sportsmanship.

The clinic is open for children ages 8 to 18 and costs \$10 per session.

Call Violet Preszler at 909-742-8227 for more information.

Pickleball Camp at TX HOP Club

TX HOP Club will host a pickleball camp in two sessions: June 17-20 and June 24-27. For ages 8-10, the camp will take place from 9-10:30 a.m. For ages 11-13, the camp will be from 10:30 a.m. to noon. For ages 14-16, campers will participate in pickleball from 1-2:30 p.m.

All participants are asked to wear athletic clothing and court shoes — no running shoes. Loaner paddles and balls will be provided. Participants will also receive a free T-shirt.

Registration is already open and costs \$125.

For more information, visit txhopclub.com online.

Rifle Camp at Granbury High School

The Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps offers 2024 summer air rifle camp and tryout scheduled for June 24-27 at the Granbury High School Air Rifle range, located at 2000 W. Pearl St.

The camp is open to all students entering seventh through 10th grade. It is also an opportunity for ninth and 10th grade students enrolled in JROTC interested in trying out for the rifle team for the school year 2024-25. The camp will serve as try-outs for the said students. Additionally this year, JROTC has added an advanced camp for those individuals already

PLEASE SEE **CAMPS** | B8

Failing forward: how mistakes drive progress

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News
micky@hcnews.com

Have you ever had a desire to try something new in your life, but the fear of failure held you back from stepping out and taking action toward achieving that desire? Well, if you answered “yes” to that question, you’re not alone. According to research done by the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, approximately 34%, or 87 million adults in the United States, cite a fear of failure as a reason for not attempting something new.

EMBRACING FAILURE: THE KEY TO PERSONAL GROWTH

In the pursuit of any goal, failure is an inevitable companion. This might seem disheartening at first, but embracing failure can be a powerful catalyst for growth, learning and, ultimately, success. The quote, “If you’re

not failing, you’re not learning. If you’re not learning, you’re not growing. If you’re not growing, you’re not living. Living without failing is failing to live,” encapsulates the profound relationship between failure and living a fulfilled life.

THE LEARNING CURVE OF FAILURE

Failure is often perceived as the antithesis of success, but in reality, it is an integral part of the journey toward achieving any worthwhile goal. When we fail, we are presented with a unique opportunity to learn. Each misstep teaches us what doesn’t work, providing invaluable insights that refine our approach and sharpen our strategies. This process of trial and error is essential for innovation and progress.

When I first became involved in theater during my high school years, I loved being in the shows with my friends, but I literally had a

crippling fear of auditioning. I felt like if I didn’t get the part I was auditioning for, that meant I was a failure. That fear of failure was so strong that I would become physically ill before an audition.

Finally, one day, my theater teacher pulled me aside and gave me some words of advice that have stuck with me ever since. He told me to quit focusing on the results of each audition. He told me that my goal should be to get a little better every time I auditioned and that if I did that, eventually, I would begin seeing success. He told me never to let a fear of failure hold me back from attempting anything in life. He called it “failing forward.”

GROWTH THROUGH FAILURE

The learning gained from failure directly contributes to personal growth. When we face challenges and setbacks, we develop resilience, adaptability and problem-solving skills. These experi-

ences build character and fortitude, qualities that are essential for navigating life’s complexities. Without failure, there would be no impetus to stretch our limits and expand our capabilities.

THE VITALITY OF FAILURE IN LIVING FULLY

Living a life devoid of failure is akin to living in a comfort zone. While the comfort zone is safe and predictable, it is also stagnant and uninspiring. True fulfillment comes from pushing boundaries, taking risks and embracing the possibility of failure. This dynamic approach to life infuses it with excitement, passion and a sense of purpose.

Moreover, failure teaches humility and empathy. When we fail, we recognize our limitations and become more understanding of others’ struggles. This empathy builds deeper connections and a more supportive community. In essence, failure

enriches our human experience, making us more compassionate and relatable.

TRANSFORMING FAILURE INTO SUCCESS

To harness the power of failure, it is crucial to adopt a positive attitude toward it. Here are a few strategies to turn failure into a valuable asset:

Reframe failure: View failure as a learning experience rather than a defeat. Ask yourself, “What can I learn from this?” and “How can I improve?”

Embrace a growth mindset: Cultivate the belief that your abilities can be developed through effort and perseverance. Embrace challenges as opportunities to grow.

Reflect and adjust: After a setback, take time to reflect on what went wrong and why. Use this reflection to adjust your strategies and approach.

Seek feedback: Engage with mentors, peers or

coaches to gain different perspectives on your failures. Constructive feedback can provide valuable insights that you might have overlooked.

Persevere: Remember that failure is not the end but a part of the journey. Keep pushing forward with the lessons learned, and don’t give up on your goals.

In conclusion, embracing failure is not only about achieving success but also about living a rich, meaningful life. Each failure is a lesson that propels us forward, fostering growth and resilience. By reframing our perspective on failure and seeing it as a vital component of the learning process, we unlock our potential and enrich our lives. As the quote beautifully articulates, “Living without failing is failing to live.” So, let us welcome failure with open arms, knowing that “failing forward” is the key to living fully and achieving our dreams.

Stay and play: top staycations and day trips near Hood County

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News
micky@hcnews.com

Believe it or not, it’s June! School is out, and summer is here! Are you yearning for a getaway but don’t want the hassle of long-distance travel? Look no further!

Hood County and the surrounding North Central Texas area offer an array of exciting and relaxing staycation and daycation options that are perfect for a quick escape. From charming local attractions to scenic outdoor adventures just a short drive away, discover the hidden gems that make our region the ideal destination for your next mini vacation.

Hood County offers a delightful array of staycation options for residents looking to unwind without leaving the comfort of their local community. Whether you seek relaxation, adventure or cultural enrichment, there’s something for everyone right here in Granbury.

1. Explore Historic Granbury Square

Granbury’s historic square is the heart of the community, offering a mix of quaint shops, delightful restaurants and cultural attractions. Spend a day browsing unique boutiques, sampling local cuisine and visiting the Granbury Opera House for an evening of live entertainment.

2. Granbury City Beach Park

For a day of sun and fun, head to Granbury City Beach Park. This sandy beach along the shores of Lake Granbury is perfect for swimming, picnicking and enjoying water sports. Pack a picnic and relish a leisurely day by the water.



Couple of kids enjoying the Granbury City Beach.

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

3. Granbury’s Fourth of July Celebration

Granbury’s Fourth of July Celebration is one of the biggest and best in Texas, and it draws people from all over the world. The festival includes vendors on Historic Granbury Square, a Hometown Parade and one of the biggest fireworks shows in Texas.

4. Granbury Ghost Tours

Delve into Granbury’s mysterious past with a ghost tour. These guided tours offer intriguing stories of the town’s history and hauntings. It’s a unique way to explore the local lore and enjoy an evening of spooky fun.

5. Explore the Granbury Hike & Bike Trail

Nature lovers can take advantage of the scenic

Granbury Hike & Bike Trail. This trail winds through beautiful landscapes and offers opportunities for walking, jogging and biking. It’s a great way to stay active while soaking in the natural beauty of the area.

6. Hood County Jail Museum

The museum is housed in an authentic old western jail built in 1885 and located just off the northeast corner of the town square. The museum preserved the upstairs jail cells and hanging gallows just as they were when the county used them as a jail. The main floor houses extensive exhibits about Hood County history covering David Crockett’s descendants, Gen. Granbury’s tombstone, the Colony, Jesse James, John Wilkes Booth,

Bell Starr, Comanche Peak, Barnard’s Trading Post, the Brown family piano and much more. It is recommended to call the museum in advance.

DAYCATIONS: DISCOVER NEARBY GEMS

For those looking to venture a bit further from home, there are plenty of fantastic daycation spots within a day’s drive of Hood County. Here are some top picks for memorable day trips:

1. Dinosaur Valley State Park (Glen Rose)

Just a short drive from Granbury, Dinosaur Valley State Park offers a unique experience with its preserved dinosaur tracks. Enjoy hiking, picnicking and even wading in the Paluxy River. It’s a perfect family-friendly adventure.

2. Fossil Rim Wildlife Center (Glen Rose)

Also in Glen Rose, the Fossil Rim Wildlife Center provides an up-close encounter with exotic animals. Take a guided tour or drive through the park to see giraffes, zebras and more in a natural habitat.

3. Fort Worth Botanic Garden (Fort Worth)

For a peaceful retreat, visit the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. With 120 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, including the Japanese Garden and the Rose Garden, it’s a serene escape perfect for nature lovers and photographers.

4. Waco Mammoth National Monument (Waco)

Discover the fascinating history of mammoths at the Waco Mammoth National Monument. The site features well-preserved mammoth fossils and offers guided tours that provide insights into these ancient giants.

5. Stephenville

Known as the “Cowboy Capital of the World,” Stephenville offers a charming downtown area with shops, restaurants and cultural attractions. Visit the Cowboy Capital Walk of Fame or catch a rodeo for an authentic Texas experience.

6. Meridian State Park (Meridian)

For a tranquil day in nature, head to Meridian State Park. This park features a

serene lake, hiking trails and picnic areas. It’s an ideal spot for birdwatching, fishing and enjoying the great outdoors.

7. Dr Pepper Museum (Waco)

The Dr Pepper Museum opened to the public in May 1991 and has hosted over 2.5 million visitors. It is located in Waco, and is the home of the nation’s oldest major soft drink. The Dr Pepper Museum holds one of the finest collections of soft drink memorabilia in the world. The items are not just Dr Pepper-related. All soft drink brands are welcome at the Dr Pepper Museum! From Pepsi-Cola to Kickapoo Joy Juice, the collections are a resource for information about the entire soft drink industry.

8. Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant (Glen Rose)

Take an educational tour of the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant. The visitor center offers exhibits and information about nuclear energy and the plant’s operations, making for an informative and interesting day trip.

9. Tarleton State University Planetarium (Stephenville)

Explore the wonders of the universe at the Tarleton State University Planetarium. Enjoy fascinating shows about stars, planets and galaxies in a state-of-the-art facility.

10. The Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum (Cleburne)

Step back in time at the Chisholm Trail Outdoor Museum. This open-air museum features historic buildings, artifacts and exhibits that tell the story of the famous cattle drive trail.

Whether you prefer to stay close to home or explore the surrounding areas, Hood County and the surrounding North Central Texas area offer a wealth of exciting and relaxing options for both staycations and daycations. Embrace the local charm and discover the hidden gems that make our community and its neighboring regions such special places to live and visit.



COURTESY PHOTO BY JERZY, ADOBESTOCK.COM

For a peaceful retreat, visit the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. With 120 acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, including the Japanese Garden and the Rose Garden, it’s a serene escape perfect for nature lovers and photographers.

HOOD COUNTY OUTDOORS

Summer has arrived – be aware of heat related illness!



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.

Summer has arrived. We actually had a spring season this year, but we knew that the summer was sure to come. Whether you are fishing or anywhere outside, the Texas heat can cause overheating of your body. Too much heat stress can lead to a heat illness that is the body’s way of saying it can’t take the heat. Here is some information on three types of heat stress. Each type may require a different action. You should seek medical attention if there is any doubt of the seriousness of the stress.

There are three kinds of heat illness — heatstroke, heat exhaustion and heat cramps. They can occur separately or in combination.

Loss of body salt can lead to heat cramps. Heat cramps are painful muscle spasms. The arms, legs and abdomen are usually affected first, but any muscles used when working are susceptible. Heat cramps strike those who sweat profusely and drink a lot of water but fail to replace body salt lost through sweating. Low salt content in the muscles can cause painful cramps during or after work hours.

To treat a victim of heat cramps, press firmly with your hands on the cramped muscle or gently massage them to relieve the spasm. If the victim has no other medical condition, you can give the victim half a glass of salt water (one teaspoon of salt per glass of water) every 15 minutes for about

an hour. Victims with other medical conditions should see a doctor.

When body fluids get low, heat exhaustion can set in. Heat exhaustion develops when the body loses more fluid through sweating than it is taking in. A victim of heat exhaustion sweats profusely but becomes extremely weak or giddy. In more serious cases, the victim may vomit or faint. The skin becomes clammy and the complexion pale, but body temperature stays fairly normal.

To treat a victim of heat exhaustion, have the person sip water for about an hour while lying down. Loosen any clothing and raise the victim’s feet 8-12 inches. Then apply cool, wet cloths and fan the victim. If vomiting occurs, discontinue fluids and take the person to a hospital where an IV can be started and intravenous fluids can be administered.

Heatstroke occurs when the



Beat the heat. Keep cool and drink plenty of fluids. Use your sunscreen and reapply often.

body’s heat-regulating system breaks down under stress and sweating stops. There may be little warning, and unless the victim receives quick treatment, death can occur. A heatstroke victim usually has red or spotted skin and the body temperature can reach 105 F or higher. The victim may also suffer from confusion, convulsions or delirium before losing consciousness. Unless the victim receives treatment, death can occur.

If you think someone is having heatstroke, call for professional help immediately and move the person to a cool place. Then thoroughly soak the person’s clothing with cool water. If you are at home and this occurs, place the victim in a tub of cold water (do not add ice). When the victim’s temperature has dropped, dry him or her

off. If body temperature rises again, repeat the process.

Beat the heat. Keep cool and drink plenty of fluids. Use your sunscreen and reapply often. If someone you’re with starts experiencing any of these heat related symptoms discussed above take action immediately. Take the time to take precautions and have a great time in the sun.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures are in the upper 70s to the low 80s. The spring to summer transitions are in place. Top water action for striped, largemouth and white bass species has been occurring early and late. Striped bass to 12 pounds are possible on the lower ends on large live shad

and trolled Alabama rigs. White bass are also good on Alabama rigs, rattle traps and slabs. Best white bass (sand bass) action has been reported from Indian Harbor to DeCordova on shallow flats. Largemouth bass continue to be fair to good to 7 pounds near laydown structure and near main lake points or creek entrances. Blue and yellow catfish to 30 pounds are possible on cut bait fished on the upper ends. Catfishing has been reported to be better in the evenings. Channel catfish are good on midlake humps and in the backs of creeks on many areas of the lake. Crappie action is fair to good on small jigs or minnows fished around structure (trees and bridge pilings) mid lake from Ports-O-Call to the City Beach.

BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

You can help save Lake Granbury!



BY JUDI PIERCE

Judi Pierce has been the public information officer for the Brazos River Authority for 20 years. Her office is in Waco.

Chances are you’ve heard the slogan — Clean, Drain, Dry. But what does it mean?

For Lake Granbury, those living on the lake, those putting their boats into the lake, and those receiving drinking water from the lake, keeping zebra mussels out means saving yourselves hundreds, thousands or more dollars in boat, dock and water intake upkeep.

What?

Yes! These microscopic terrorists are found in 32 lakes across the Lone Star State and in the rivers downstream of infested lakes, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

So what’s the big deal?

Zebra mussels are highly invasive, which means there

are no predators to keep them in check. They multiply very quickly, attaching themselves to every hard surface available, including docks, boats, motors, sea walls, walkways and even rocks on the bottom of the lake.

They litter shorelines with sharp shells, impacting recreation. A small mussel with a maximum shell size of 3.5 to 4 centimeters, they are known to have caused alarming declines in populations of fish, birds and native mussel species.

They attach themselves to boat docks, harm the hulls of boats and clog motors.

Zebra mussels have not been found in Lake Granbury — yet.

But we had a very close call recently when a work barge arrived at Rough Creek Park covered in these mollusks. Luckily, a quick-thinking park maintenance employee saw the heavily encrusted barge, notified officials, and with quick work by Hood County, the City of Granbury and the Brazos River Authority, the barge was quarantined before it was launched into the water. A clean-up of the parking lot

helped avoid catastrophe for hundreds of thousands within the Brazos River Basin.

Among the costliest impacts zebra mussels could have on Lake Granbury are the water intake pumps that supply our drinking water and the cooling water intakes at the nuclear power plant.

The cost to refurbish pump intakes will most certainly be passed on to the consumer.

On top of the physical harm zebra mussels can do to property, the transport of aquatic invasive species can result in legal trouble for boaters. Transporting prohibited invasive species in Texas is illegal and punishable with a fine of up to \$500 per violation, according to TPWD.

There are many infected lakes throughout the Brazos River Basin.

All it takes is one trip between an infested lake and a noninfested lake with an uncleaned PWC to do irreversible damage to Lake Granbury, Comanche Creek Reservoir, Lake Whitney, the Whitney hydroelectric plant and the Brazos River all the



Pictured is a zebra mussel.

way to the Gulf Coast.

SO, HOW DO YOU HELP STOP THE SPREAD? CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY.

- **Clean:** Inspect your boat, trailer and gear and remove all plant material, mud and foreign objects. Clean the anchor, anchor line, motor, any fishing gear, everything.
- **Drain:** Remove all water from the boat, including the motor, bladders, bilge, live wells and bait buckets. And drain your boat before leaving the ramp. Remove the drain plug before towing

to allow the boat to drain completely.

- **Dry:** Dry your boat, trailer and everything that’s in it for at least a week. Open all compartments and allow the boat and trailer to dry. If the boat and trailer cannot be dried for at least a week, wash them with high-pressure, hot, soapy water. Adult zebra mussels are able to close their shell and survive out of water for several days.

And don’t forget to dispose of unwanted bait, fish parts, worms and packing materials in the trash and

not dump them in the water or on land, according to the BoatUS Foundation.

Stay vigilant throughout the process. Invasive species can get stuck on trailers or trapped between the boat and bunks. Zebra mussels can attach to wet-slipped boats that are moved to another lake.

Transport of zebra mussels may occur in all sizes of watercraft, including kayaks, canoes and inflatable rafts.

For more information, go to TexasInvasives.org.



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SUDOKU
Solution for the puzzle on June 1.

Puzzle by websudoku.com

				3			4	
		9		2	7		8	5
2			8			3	1	
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PHOTOS BY JESSE RAMIREZ | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Music and movement ruled the atmosphere at Warren’s Backyard on Tuesday, May 28. All to raise money for Hood County Senior Center.



Kevin and Vickie dance in the window light to raise money for Hood County Senior Center.



Jaime and Abigail, the youngest “stars,” performed a lively, upbeat dance at Warren’s Backyard on Tuesday.



Denny and Donna, the night’s first dancers, dazzled the crowd with twirls and spins.



These cowboy-hat-wearing dancers enjoyed the live music at Warren’s Backyard.

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GRANBURY, TX



f t y p

Celebrate with us in Granbury

JUNE	
8-9	Lone Star Street Rod Association 49th State Run
8	Pickin’ in the Pasture Feat. Kevin Fowler
JULY	
4	Irish Tacos & Brews Fest
4-5	Granbury TX 4th of July Rodeo
4-7	4th of July Weekend Celebrations and Parade
7	Texas Fallen Officers Day Ceremony at Memorial Lane
AUGUST	
3	Blazin’ Saddle 75 Bike Rally
SEPTEMBER	
Aug. 30-Sept. 2	Labor Day Weekend Celebrations
11	Patriot Day Ceremony at Memorial Lane
21-22	The Spooky Spectacle Convention 2024

Information subject to change | Go to [visitgranbury.com](https://www.visitgranbury.com) for more!



Granbury SEAL practicing at the YMCA Wednesday, May 29.

PHOTOS BY **LAYTH TAYLOR** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Area athletes among smartest in state

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Smart athletes and success often go hand-in-hand. After all, it's not many coaches who would play an athlete who only knows 60% of the playbook.

Several area senior athletes who helped their teams to successful spring seasons were recently named academic all-state by the Texas High School Coaches Association.

To be nominated for THSCA Academic All-State, a student must be:

- An athlete, student trainer or manager in good standing with the team
- Of good moral character
- A senior
- Have an overall grade point average of 92 or above (including courses from grades 9-11 and courses completed from grade 12).

Weighted GPAs accepted

The highest honor an athlete can receive is being

placed on the Elite Team.

Granbury softball player Abigail Stone was the lone area athlete to achieve this status.

Honored locally in their respective sports were:

Baseball

Granbury — Second team: Hunter Jones, Gavin Current, Braxton Heffernan; honorable mention: Cooper Brown.

Boys golf

Lipan — First team: Tyson Tarpley.

Boys track

Granbury — First team: Bodie Chastain; second team: Reid Wyss, Alec Wilkinson; honorable mention: Bryce Young.

Girls golf

Granbury — Second team: Reagan Neal; honorable mention: Ryli Lewis, Akyah Ditto, Emily McGuire.

Girls tennis

Granbury — Honorable mention: Katie Childs.

Lipan — First team: Taylor Branson, Ashlyn Clark; second team: Sarah Marcantonio; honorable mention: Olivia Benitez.

Girls track

Lipan — First team: Branson; second team: Benitez.

Softball

Granbury — Elite team: Abigail Stone; first team: Brenna Haynes; second team: Allison DaFoe.

Lipan — First team: Clark; second team: Marcantonio; honorable mention: Dixon Sinclair, Rylei Cudd.

GOLF

Northern Texas PGA Junior Tour, local results

Medalist Tour

Rockwood Golf Course, Fort Worth

Girls 13-14: 3. Alyssa Lester, Tolar, 91

Boys 13-14: 7. (tie) Lincoln Sherrill, Granbury, 89

Boys 15-18: 8. Braxton Pugh, Granbury, 84; 15. (tie) Grady Molder, Granbury, 89

SEALS

The Granbury SEALS swim team will open the season today, June 8, in Weatherford. The team will compete

against Weatherford, Stephenville, Mineral Wells and Bedford.

It is the first of three regular-season meets the SEALS will compete in as part of Region 4 in the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation.

On Saturday, June 15, the SEALS will host their own meet at the Granbury YMCA. It will include Mineral Wells, The Colony, the RPA Rockets from the Ridglea Pool Association and Walsh.

They will end the regular season in Grapevine June 22 against the hosts, along with Denton and long-time rival Trophy Club.

The TAAF Region 4 Meet is July 13-14 in Southlake. From there, qualifiers will advance to the TAAF Games of Texas in Brownsville July 25-28.

RODEO

The Texas High School Rodeo Association began its State Finals Rodeo June 6 and it runs through June 15. The top four finishers

in each event will qualify to compete in the National High School Finals Rodeo July 14-20 in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Several local athletes are competing for the chance to win a state title and move on to nationals. They include Lipan's Kynzi Callaway, who finished the regular season ranked fourth in Region 3 in both senior pole bending and senior goat tying. She is also fourth in the Girls All-Around standings.

Also competing from the area are:

Team roping: Hunter Hutton, Tolar; Tripp Pittman, Lipan; Kayla Garcia, Lipan.

Barrel racing: Kilyn Osburn, Lipan.

SUMMER CAMPS

Granbury ISD summer sports camps, all at Granbury High School, include:

Girls soccer — June 10-13, grades 6-9, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Cost \$75

Boys soccer — June 10-13,

grades 7-9, 6-8:30 p.m. Cost \$75

Co-ed soccer — June 10-13, grades K-5, 8-10 a.m. Cost \$75

Tennis — June 17-20, grades 2-9, 8-10 a.m. Cost \$70

Boys basketball — June 24-27, grades 1-5, 8-10 a.m.; grades 6-9, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cost \$80

Football — July 29-31, grades 7-9, 8-11 a.m.. Cost \$75

Volleyball — July 29-31, grades 7-9, 8-10 a.m. Cost \$75

Tolar summer sports camps, all at Tolar High School, include:

Football — June 17-21, grades 7-9, playmaker camp, 10 a.m.-noon; grades 3-6, passing camp, 6-8 p.m. Cost \$40

Football — June 24-28, grades 7-9, linemen camp, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost \$40.

Football — July 29-Aug. 1, grades K-9, 6-8 p.m. Cost \$40

Volleyball — July 29-31, grades 7-9, 8-10 a.m.; grades 4-6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost \$50

YMCA

FROM PAGE B2

grams and services, including personal training, swim lessons, youth sports, disease management, nutrition and childcare. These programs cater to individuals of all ages, promoting physical health and overall well-being. As a nonprofit organization, the YMCA recognizes how important it is to collaborate and support other nonprofits in our community to assist those in need. Partners like United Way and Mission Granbury are just a couple of organizations the YMCA works with in this effort.

"During the summer, the YMCA runs the popular Summer Day Camp. Available as full-day (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) and half-day options, each week features fun themes such as 'Culinary Kids,' 'Artful Antics' and 'Animal Explorers,' to name a few," Sorrells says. Full-day campers enjoy snacks, lunch and swimming in the outdoor pool daily. "We are always trying new and exciting programs to serve the needs of our community," Sorrells says, adding, "Currently, we are trying to build our youth pickleball program with upcoming clinics and leagues!"

Beyond fitness and recreational activities, the YMCA aims to build bridges in the community through initiatives like support groups for mothers, which discuss and work through real-life challenges that come with parenthood. Potlucks for seniors aim to foster social connections, battle social isolation, and encourage a healthy lifestyle, both mentally and physically.

Numerous members have benefited from the YMCA's programs. Sorrells explains how L. Beekman praised the power personal training has had on her physical and mental health. Countless other members have benefited from the aqua aerobic sessions and other

group classes as well. Beyond physical health, these opportunities give participants a sense of belonging and community regardless of age. Sorrells says, " ... even our youth sports have grown by leaps and bounds. Group exercise classes and youth sports also provide a sense of community and enhance social skills. Sorrells acknowledges that by the end of an eight-week sports season, even the social skills of the youth have grown by leaps and bounds.

The YMCA is dedicated to making its programs accessible to all. The Open Doors program offers significant discounts on memberships and programs to community members who receive benefits like SNAP or food stamps. Eligible applicants can receive 50% off memberships and 25-50% off programs such as camp, sports and swim lessons. People who are interested in joining but find themselves in financial difficulties may also receive assistance based on their income.

Collaboration with other nonprofits is a cornerstone of the YMCA's strategy. For example, partnering with the United Way and Mission Granbury supports community well-being. Programs are generally open to individuals of all ages. Their mission is a big task and volunteers are sought and appreciated.

Sorrells says, "We are always looking for volunteers to help at events and on our advisory board for those who want to make an even bigger impact. Volunteers can contact any one of our directors about specific opportunities." The membership services team is comprised of dedicated individuals eager to share information on the programs and special events offered. Anyone interested can stop by anytime for a tour of the facility, register in person, or visit the website at ymcafw.org and social media pages for all program information.

For more information, visit: Hood County YMCA - YMCA of Fort Worth (ymcafw.org)



PHOTOS BY **MARY VINSON** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Hood County YMCA's Director of Wellness and Sports, Karissa Sorrells enjoys an event.



Adults team-up for pickleball matches at Hood County's YMCA.



TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Texan Football slotted 19th in 2024 FCS Preseason Top 25 Rankings

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE – Tarleton State will become a fully-fledged NCAA Division I program next season after successfully completing its four-year reclassification period, and Texan Football is projected to be a championship contender right away in its first opportunity at the playoffs.

The Texans were ranked in the top-20 in a prominent FCS preseason poll, slotted No. 19 in Craig Haley’s 2024 FCS Football Preseason Top 25 Rankings on Opta Analyst.

Haley coordinates the Stats Perform national media poll that is used as one of two official rankings during the season. Projected to coordinate with 55 national voters next year, Haley will push this preseason poll for a basis in Stats Perform’s official preseason rankings poll before the 2024 season.

In February, Haley pegged Tarleton State as having “the best chance (to make the playoffs) among the schools that are seeking their first FCS playoff bid in 2024.”

Tarleton State has shined at the NCAA Division I level, posting four straight winning seasons and finishing with the third highest win-



COURTESY PHOTO

Tarleton State will become a fully-fledged NCAA Division I program next season after successfully completing its four-year reclassification period, and Texan Football is projected to be a championship contender right away in its first opportunity at the playoffs.

ning percentage in a reclassification period since 2004 at .610 (25-16). Among all Texas D1 and D2 programs since 2018, the Texans own the best winning percentage in the state at .727 (48-18).

Last season, the Texans went 8-3 overall, 4-2 in conference play, finishing tied-second in the United

Athletic Conference. They likely would have received an FCS playoff at-large bid, if eligible. Head coach Todd Whitten was named the UAC Coach of the Year after Tarleton had it going across all three phases in 2023. Offensively, the Texans were ranked first in the conference in yards per play (6.4,

11th most nationally), first in rush yards per game (201.7, 12th nationally), first in rush touchdowns (25, 16th nationally), second in points per game (33.3, 13th nationally), second in yards per game (430.5, 14th nationally) and second in yards per rush (5.2, 17th nationally). Defensively, the Texans had

the most defensive touchdowns in the conference (four, tied-fourth nationally), were first in fumbles recovered (11, tied-ninth nationally), first in yards per play (4.8, 17th nationally), first in sacks (26, tied-28th nationally), tied-third in takeaways (18, tied-36th nationally), tied-third in tackles for loss

(65, tied-39th nationally), and fourth in scoring defense (24.5 points per game, tied-46th nationally). On special teams, Tarleton was first in kickoff return (24.3 yards per return, eighth nationally) and second in punt return (18.2 yards per return, fourth nationally).

Haley’s full 2024 FCS Football Preseason Top 25 rankings:

1. North Dakota State
2. South Dakota State
3. Montana
4. South Dakota
5. Montana State
6. Villanova
7. Sacramento State
8. Idaho
9. William & Mary
10. Central Arkansas
11. Chattanooga
12. Southern Illinois
13. UIW
14. Illinois State
15. Weber State
16. Furman
17. Lafayette
18. Elon
19. Tarleton State
20. Richmond
21. UAlbany
22. Nicholls
23. Western Carolina
24. Eastern Illinois
- 25(t). UT Martin
- 25(t). Youngstown State

Tarleton State graduate student to present clinical research in Japan



COURTESY PHOTO

Vladyslav Logos will present his clinical research at the eighth annual International Conference on Education and Psychology (ICEAP) July 18-20 in Fukuoka, Japan. Logos, originally from Kyiv, Ukraine, is in his second year of master’s studies in clinical mental health counseling at Tarleton State’s Fort Worth campus.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University graduate student Vladyslav Logos will present his clinical research at the eighth annual International Conference on Education and Psychology (ICEAP) July 18-20 in Fukuoka, Japan.

This year’s conference theme is “Innovations in Education and Psychological Well-being: Bridging Theory and Practice,” and Logos and his collaborator, Dr. Nikki Hurless, will speak about the unique insights they gained from their research and clinical practice while in Japan.

Logos, originally from Kyiv, Ukraine, is in his second year of master’s studies in clinical mental health counseling at Tarleton State’s Fort Worth campus.

“It’s a great honor and pleasure to represent Tarleton State at the international level,” said Logos.

“The Texan family has been very supportive of me, and I’m proud to spread the word about our exceptional university.”

A former musician, Logos said he changed his career course to medicine and science “to be as useful as possible to humanity,” graduating from Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv and working as a clinical psychologist/therapist in Ukraine before moving to the U.S.

“I steadily gained more appreciation of medical research and its power to positively impact many people rather than just one patient,” Logos said.

His research focuses on identifying and addressing the most prevalent mental health concerns among refugees and looks at how to approach and effectively work with these vulnerable populations.

“We are developing a short-term asynchronous psychoeducational intervention that will enable individuals to maintain their mental health and well-being during challenging times of forced migration from a war-torn country,” Logos said.

This year alone he has spoken at eight scientific conferences and produced five peer-reviewed articles and two textbook chapters. Logos plans to further his practically applicable clinical research and scholarly output by attaining a doctorate in clinical psychology and pursuing a professorial career in academia. He hopes to advance his other research lines on innovative methods of treating depression, the effectiveness of evidence-based psychotherapies, the methods of remedying hopelessness and apathy, and psychedelic-assisted therapy.

Tarleton Promise Program to Serve New Freshmen in Fort Worth

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Aiming to increase access to higher education, Tarleton State University has announced the expansion of its Tarleton Promise Program to the institution’s Fort Worth campus, giving eligible first-year students the opportunity to attend free of tuition and fees.

Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley launched the Tarleton Promise Program in 2019 upon his arrival, with the goal to provide additional institutional aid to eligible, incoming freshmen if federal and state aid do not cover their direct college expenses. As the institution welcomes its inaugural first-year cohort to its Fort Worth campus this fall,

Tarleton State is growing the program to meet the specific needs of this new population attending the university.

“We believe that a student’s financial situation should never prevent them from earning a college degree,” said Dr. Hurley. “Our university was founded as an institution of opportunity, and the Tarleton Promise Program is one way that we continue to live out that legacy.”

Eligible students must complete both the FAFSA and general scholarship applications and meet the following criteria:

- Texas resident
- Pell Grant eligible
- Family adjusted gross income of \$85,000 or less
- Graduated in the top

50% of their high school graduating class

The financial aid office will notify recipients of their award, which is renewable for up to four years if the student remains enrolled full time and meets satisfactory progress requirements toward their degree completion.

“Our goal is to remove barriers for high-performing students who have the most financial need,” said Dr. Rachael Capua, dean of Tarleton State Fort Worth and vice president for external operations. “This is an important step to increasing access and opportunity as we prepare to welcome our inaugural first-year class later this year.”

Prospective students can

begin their journey toward attending Tarleton State Fort Worth by visiting the university website to view a full list of available programs and to apply. Class registration for fall 2024 is also now available.

A founding member of The Texas A&M System, Tarleton State is breaking records — in enrollment, research, scholarship, athletics, philanthropy and engagement — while transforming the lives of nearly 17,000 students in Stephenville, Fort Worth, Waco, Bryan and online. True to Tarleton’s values of excellence, integrity and respect, academic programs emphasize real world learning and address regional, state and national needs.



COURTESY PHOTO

Tarleton State’s Fort Worth campus on the Chisholm Trail Parkway.

WANT MORE?

VISIT

TARLETON.EDU

GCCA takes 2nd at state, actors receive awards

From Staff Reports

Grace Classical Christian Academy was named second runner up at the Texas Christian Athlete Fellowship State One-Act Play Contest in Clifton in May. In addition to faring so well overall, the play won for Best Costuming

and several actors took home awards for their individual performances.

- Jacob Hoshauer: 1st All-Star Cast
- Wyatt Keith: 1st All-Star Cast; People's Choice Award
- Landon Martin: 2nd All-Star Cast
- Dylan Humphries: 2nd

All-Star Cast

- Ty Bowden: 2nd All-Star Cast
- Eden Cain: Honorable Mention All-Star Cast
- Peyton Humphries: Honorable Mention All-Star Cast
- Jillian Hutchings: Tech Award



The actors of GCCA perform their one-act play version of "Much Ado About Nothing."

COURTESY PHOTO



Eden Cain and Audrey Monroe, actors in Grace Classical Christian Academy's performance of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing."

COURTESY PHOTO

Children's art workshop returns

From Staff Reports

The Lake Granbury Art Association will offer its annual Children's Summer Workshop for ages 7-12 the week of June 17-20. The art camps are taught by professional local artists; some are retired art teachers, and all are experienced in teaching. Located at Lake Granbury Art Association's Shanley House Gallery and Studio

each day from 9:30- 11:30 a.m., the art classes are a beloved local tradition. Every year there are parents dropping their children for class who took the classes themselves as children. Students must choose to take either drawing or painting. Each day registration begins at 9 a.m. The workshop is a fundraiser for the nonprofit LGAA. The professional art-

ists volunteer their time, the proceeds cover the expense of the workshop, and whatever remains after expenses are covered is used to fund the LGAA. The Shanley House, 222 N. Travis St., shares a parking lot with the library. For more information call Linda Christiansen at 214-532-4743.



COURTESY PHOTO BY PRESSMASTER ENVATO.COM

Located at Lake Granbury Art Association's Shanley House Gallery and Studio each day from 9:30- 11:30 a.m., the art classes are a beloved local tradition.

HCN Junior

WORLD OCEANS DAY

June 8, 2024

THIS IS THE LARGEST AND DEEPEST OF THE WORLD'S OCEANS.

ANSWER: PACIFIC OCEAN

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

- **1861:** TENNESSEE BECOMES THE 11TH AND FINAL STATE TO SECEDE FROM THE UNION.
- **1949:** "NINETEEN EIGHTY-FOUR" BY GEORGE ORWELL IS PUBLISHED.
- **1992:** THE FIRST WORLD OCEANS DAY IS CELEBRATED.

World Oceans Day, observed on June 8th, invites kids to dive into the wonders of our oceans and discover the importance of protecting marine life. It's a day to celebrate the beauty and diversity of our seas while raising awareness about the environmental challenges they face. Kids can participate in beach cleanups, create ocean-themed art projects, and learn about the impact of human activities on ocean health. World Oceans Day encourages children to become advocates for marine conservation, fostering a sense of responsibility for the well-being of our seas. On this special day, let's inspire young minds to appreciate and protect the incredible oceans that play a vital role in sustaining life on Earth.

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LUNCH

FROM PAGE B1

it was going to work. We did have a couple of challenges.” Whiteley said there was a 38% total increase in the breakfast meals served for 2023-24 at GISD and a 27% total increase in the lunch meals served.

While the increase in meals served was a positive for the district, it also meant that both food and paper costs increased. In total, GISD food costs went up about \$434,000 and paper costs went up about \$8,000 for this past school year.

Since households did not complete the free and reduced-price meal appli-

cations this year, the child nutrition department did not receive the reduced and paid meal payments — result- ing in a revenue loss totaling \$427,104.

“The child nutrition pro- gram carries an excessively large fund balance that’s required to be spent over a three-year period, so we were looking for ways to spend that money,” GISD Superintendent Jeremy Glenn said during the meeting. “It’s not something that’s sustain- able at this level whenever parents don’t complete the free and reduced applica- tions, so that was one nega- tive of the program. But the other big negative of the pro- gram is there are effects that go across the district.”

Glenn explained that when families don’t fill out the free and reduced lunch ap- plications, it affects the state comp ed and title funding. It also affects how students are coded when they take stan- dardized tests.

“Kids are categorized not only by ethnicity, but they’re categorized by economic sta- tus as well,” Glenn said. “So, now you have kids that their parents didn’t fill out the form so we’re not getting into the credit category for STAAR testing, we’re not receiving the title funding, we’re not receiving the state comp ed funding, and we’re not receiv- ing the child nutrition fund- ing on top of it.

“There were a lot of really positive things to come out

of this program. Certainly, everyone loved the fact that we were able to provide free lunches after COVID ... It was a great program to opt into to help kids, but at this point, it’s just not sustainable. I think Amy did a great job of putting this into numbers, but I also think it’s important that everyone understands how important it is, not only to child nutrition but across the district that those free and reduced applications are filled out.”

Board President Barbara Townsend asked Whiteley if families are going to have to continue filling out applica- tions again next year if they want to receive the free and reduced lunch.

Whiteley said all other cam-

puses — except for Emma Roberson Early Learning Academy — will complete the application once it comes out in July.

“We’re proposing that Emma Roberson be the only campus that continues CEP because they don’t have pre- K across the district. They’re at their own campus,” she explained.

Students can continue hav- ing free breakfast and lunch during the 30-day grace pe- riod or until the application is processed, whichever comes first. The grace period ends Sept. 26.

The Texas Department of Agriculture also announced school breakfast changes for the 2024-25 academic year. Students who qualify for

reduced-price meals through this program will not be charged \$.30 for breakfast starting September 2024. Breakfast will be at no cost to qualifying students from September 2024 through May 2025. Whiteley said the child nutrition department is cur- rently gathering more infor- mation to hopefully imple- ment this program soon.

“I appreciate all your hard work into this program and tracking these numbers and having this information for us,” Vice President Courtney Gore said. “I see all those posts on Facebook and social media, and what y’all do with the kids is pretty amazing.”

CAMPS

FROM PAGE B1

involved in the sport.

The sessions are from 8-10 a.m., 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. or 1-4 p.m. (advanced camp for current shooters).

Appropriate clothing for the training includes jeans, sweatpants, T-shirts, sweat- shirts and gym shoes that do not rise above the ankle.

The registration fee of \$125 includes a T-shirt and the use of air rifles and pellets.

For more informa- tion, contact Lt. Col. Scott

Casey at 817-408-4667 or 1st Sgt. Johnny Rositas at 817-408-4666.

Middle School Robotics Camp for Grades 6-8

A middle school robotics camp for students in grades six through eight will take place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. June 24-27 in the Granbury High School Career & Technology Education Center off Howard Clemmons Road facing the airport.

During the camp, students will learn how to build, pro- gram and drive different robots to complete set tasks as well as find other like-

minded students to learn how to cooperate to compete in competitions.

The cost for the camp is \$150 per student.

For more information, email robotics@granburyisd.org.

ATHLETIC CAMPS

The following athletic camps are organized by date:

by June 9. Registration is \$75.

Soccer Camp for seventh through ninth grade boys at Granbury High School from 6-8:30 p.m. Sign up by June 9. Registration is \$75.

GHS Coed Soccer Camp for kindergarten through fifth grade girls at Granbury High School from 8-10 a.m. Sign up by June 11. Registration is \$75.

June 17-20

Pirate Tennis Camp for incoming second through ninth grade students at Granbury High School from 8-10 a.m. Sign up by June 16.

Registration is \$70.

June 24-27

Basketball for incoming sixth through ninth grade boys at Granbury High School from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sign up by June 23. Registration is \$80.

Basketball for incoming first through fifth grade boys at Granbury High School from 8-10 a.m. Sign up by June 26. Registration is \$80.

July 29-31

Football Camp for seventh through ninth grade boys at Granbury High School from

8-11 a.m. Sign up by July 28. Registration is \$75.

Volleyball Camp for sev- enth through ninth grade girls at Granbury High School from 8-10 a.m. Sign up by July 28. Registration is \$75.

For more information about summer camps, visit the Granbury ISD website, click on the ‘Parents & Students’ tab and scroll down and click ‘Summer Camps.’

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Butterflies of Granbury offers statues for residents



Rachel Brister, founder of Butterflies of Granbury, created the project last year to instill a sense of unity in Hood County.

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Hood County is slowly transforming into a colorful, vibrant community — one butterfly statue at a time.

For the past year, business owners all over the county have been purchasing butterfly statues for their businesses as a symbol of unity in the community for the purpose-driven project: Butterflies of Granbury.

But now, for the first time ever, Hood County residents can purchase a smaller statue for their own home.

The Butterflies of Granbury project was started last year by Granbury native Rachel Brister after she drove through the town of Hutto — known for its hip-

po mascot and statues.

“I know it sounds so simple, but when you go to Hutto, Texas, everybody has a hippo and when you see how united they are, it is just beautiful,” Brister previously told the Hood County News.

According to hutto.tx.gov, Hutto residents and businesses proudly tout their hippo spirit with concrete hippos in many different sizes and styles displayed throughout the community. While estimates vary, it can reasonably be estimated there are between 5,000 and 10,000 concrete hippos throughout Hutto.

Utilizing the same concept, Brister approached Visit Granbury last year with her best friend, Amber Pilgrim, to pitch their idea for a community mascot.

“We originally designed the (idea with) pirates thinking that Granbury would be known as the pirates (to coincide with the school), but then the Cultural Arts Commission suggested we change the pirate design to a monarch butterfly,” she explained.

According to Brister’s brochure on the project, butterflies represent many things, from unification to transformation to education.

“Granbury is also fortunate enough to be part of the annual route that the monarch butterflies take from Mexico to Canada,” the brochure states. “These butterfly statues are just a small glimpse of the amazing beauty this migration encapsulates.”

With help from Pilgrim, the founder of Kingdom

Reign Marketing; Deborah Rollins, event chairman of Romancing the Monarch: A Butterfly Festival; Cora Werley, board chair of the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission; and Greg Ray, owner of Set in Stone Statuary — and the same artist who sculpted the hippos in Hutto — the Butterflies of Granbury project was born.

“No matter your economic status, no matter your political point of view, the statue was made to kind of bridge everyone together,” Brister told the Hood County News. “If everyone has the same statue painted differently, at least it would be one common thing that everybody could have within the community, so that’s kind of why I created this project.”

Operating under her

self-founded organization, UNITY Protecting Our Protectors LLC, Brister has now sold 10 residential butterfly statues and about seven statues for businesses.

The business butterfly statues cost \$2,000 each and measure 3 1/2-feet tall and 4-feet wide. The statues will arrive already primed and weigh approximately 900 pounds.

The residential butterfly statues are \$350 each, measuring 2-feet tall and 2-feet wide. These statues will also arrive primed and weigh approximately 270 pounds.

Both business owners and residents are free to paint the statue any color they like, however, there are restrictions for business statues.

“For businesses, we do have to be in compliance

with the Granbury code enforcement,” Brister said. “There can’t be any words on the butterfly itself for businesses and there can’t be symbols to reflect their business if they’re in the city limits because that classifies the butterfly as a sign.”

Any statue owner can also paint their own statue if they choose, or they can hire a local artist from the Butterflies of Granbury website:

- Reagan Deming 817-992-6444
- Andrea Taylor, owner of Against the Grain Studio 806-543-9077
- Cindy Crawford Shipley 817-946-2579
- Sheri Jones 817-475-4303

PLEASE SEE
BUTTERFLIES | C2

Curtis Allen: A heartfelt tribute to Granbury’s dedicated educator, coach, and songwriter

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

The evening of May 31 was marked by a poignant moment at Granbury Live as musician Darren Brown performed the song “Let Me Be Your Last,” written by the late Curtis Allen. This heartfelt tribute took place during the Moe Bandy concert and served as a touching reminder of a man who dedicated his life to education, coaching, and songwriting.

Allen, who tragically passed away Feb. 11, 2022, due to COVID-19, had been undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkin lymphoma and prostate cancer, and showed promising progress. His sudden death came as a shock to the community, but events like this tribute allow us to come together and honor his memory.

Allen and his wife, Glenda, a retired typing, shorthand and computer teacher at Granbury High School, met during their teenage years at Clifton and Meridian schools. Allen was a senior, and his future wife was a junior. Their journey together began in those neighboring Texas towns and flourished in Granbury. The couple married and had two children: Brad Allen, of Haltom City, and Corey Allen, a teacher



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

PLEASE SEE **ALLEN** | C4 Moe Bandy performs at Granbury Live.

Paws for a Cause: Help the Shelters event June 15

From Staff Reports

The Granbury community is gearing up for the “Help the Shelters” event Saturday, June 15, at 1830 N. Plaza Drive, located behind PNC Bank at the intersection of

U.S. Highway 377 and Acton Highway. Local sponsors Chuck Licata and Tony Mobly invite residents to donate to support local animal shelters. The shelters urgently need specific items, including

Pedigree dog food, Pedigree puppy food, Purina dog food (rice, lamb, chicken), towels and blankets, collars and leashes, stainless steel bowls, kitty litter, Purina cat food, aluminum cans for recycling, Clorox brand origi-

nal bleach and paper towels. The event promises more than just a collection drive. Attendees can enjoy free cookies, popcorn, treats, coffee, water and more. The event also offers a chance to meet and greet shelter pets

and representatives, providing a perfect opportunity for animal lovers to connect with their local shelters. “Help the Shelters” aims to replenish the supplies of local shelters and improve the lives of animals waiting for

adoption. Community participation is essential for Help the Shelters to be successful, and everyone is encouraged to donate and attend. For more information, call 682-500-4561.

Paws for a Cause



Keira

Meet Keira: This sweet, 4-month-old female Australian Shepherd mix loves people and is working on her leash and crate skills. Currently weighing about 20 lbs, she is expected to be around 40 lbs when fully grown. Keira is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots. She has a medium energy level.



Josie

Meet Josie: This 2-year-old mixed breed female weighs 33 lbs and is full-grown. Josie is energetic yet very sweet, and she walks nicely on a leash. She is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots.



Kevin

Meet Kevin: This handsome 3.5-month-old male Shepherd mix is a sweet puppy with normal puppy energy. Expected to grow to 80 lbs or more, Kevin is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots. He is currently working on leash and crate training.



Raisin

Meet Raisin: This 10-11 week old female large breed Terrier mix has a shaggy face but a less shaggy body compared to her brother, Bran. Raisin currently weighs about 10 lbs and is expected to grow to around 60 lbs. She is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots.



Bran

Meet Bran: This young male terrier mix with a shaggy coat is 10-11 weeks old. He currently weighs about 12 lbs and is expected to reach around 60 lbs when fully grown. Bran is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots.



Wiley

Meet Wiley: This well-mannered 3-4 year old male Shepherd mix is full-grown at 30 lbs. Wiley walks nicely on a leash and is a fantastic dog. He is adoptable, spayed/neutered, and up-to-date with routine shots.

COURTESY PHOTOS

BUTTERFLIES

FROM PAGE C1

■ Sadie Sheppard, owner of Sadie’s Paintings 817-219-7572 “It’s just a fun thing to kind of unite the town and also create jobs for our local artists, because we are now a cultural arts district,” she said. Businesses that purchase a butterfly will be added to a map of Granbury that will be used to give locals and tourists an opportunity to locate and view all the butterflies around town — like a scavenger hunt. Businesses that currently have statues on their property include: ■ Open Hearts Yoga Sanctuary & Crystal Boutique — 616 Fall Creek Highway ■ Bella Rosa Consignment Gallery — 1452 E. U.S. Highway 377 ■ Acton Nature Center — 6900 Smoky Hill Court ■ Paul Hyde Law Firm — 827 W. Pearl St. ■ Granbury Cultural Arts Commission/Lake Granbury Conference Center — 621 E. Pearl St.

Proceeds from each statue sale — business or residential — will benefit the Granbury Lion’s Club. As the project grows, Brister said she hopes to have a yearly competition for the best painted butterfly in Hood County. “We’ll probably do some kind of Facebook competition, or some kind of judging competition like that, to where we’ll have first, second and third place prizes annually for that,” she said. “We’ll also create a plaque to honor them. Same with businesses as well, so it’s something that businesses can also participate in.” Soon, Butterflies of Granbury will also offer plaques for each business butterfly statue as a separate purchase that will include the name of the business and the artist’s name. “My heart is to see these all over town and to see local nonprofits benefiting; that’s my main goal,” Brister said. The Butterflies of Granbury project is approved by Visit Granbury, Lake Granbury Master Gardeners, Texas Master



COURTESY PHOTO

Acton Nature Center located at 6900 Smoky Hill Court proudly displays a Butterflies of Granbury statue near its sign to draw people into the center.

Gardeners, Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, Romancing the Monarch: A Butterfly Festival, and the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission.

To purchase a statue, go online to butterfliesofgranbury.com, call Brister at 817-559-1465 or send her an email at butterfliesofgranbury@gmail.com



COURTESY PHOTO

Open Hearts Yoga Sanctuary & Crystal Boutique located at 616 Fall Creek Highway purchased a business butterfly from the project: Butterflies of Granbury. Open Hearts is now displayed on a map on the Butterflies of Granbury website depicting all the Hood County businesses that have purchased a butterfly statue.

“I feel like this is going to be something very beneficial for the city of Granbury,” she previously told the HCN. “In my heart, I want to be an example of

God’s love and give back to the community. It’s all for UNITY, and that’s what UNITY is — creating unity in the community. It’s all set in stone.”

Friday, 07 June 2024 - Thursday, 13 June 2024

Bad Boys: Ride Or Die (R)
Fri, Sat, Sun: 10:45AM, 1:30PM, 4:15PM, 7:00PM, 9:45PM.
Mon, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:45PM, 4:30PM, 7:15PM, 10:00PM.
Tues: 1:20PM, 4:05PM, 6:50PM, 9:35PM.
Thurs: 11:10AM, 12:25PM, 3:10PM, 5:55PM, 8:40PM

Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga (R)
Daily except Tues: 6:45PM, 10:00PM.
Tues: 6:20PM, 9:35PM

If (PG)
Daily except Tues, Thurs: 11:30AM, 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM, 9:50PM.
Tues: 11:05AM, 1:40PM, 4:15PM, 6:50PM, 9:25PM.
Thurs: 11:45AM, 2:20PM, 4:50PM, 7:20PM

Inside Out 2 (PG)
Thurs: 3:00PM, 5:25PM, 7:50PM, 10:15PM

Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes (PG13)
Daily except Tues, Thurs: 12:15PM, 3:30PM, 6:45PM, 10:00PM.
Tues: 11:50AM, 3:05PM, 6:20PM, 9:35PM.
Thurs: 1:10PM, 6:55PM, 10:10PM

PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie - Kids’ Summer Series (PG)
Tues, Thurs: 10:00AM

Summer Camp (PG13)
Daily except Tues, Thurs: 11:30AM, 1:55PM, 4:20PM.
Tues: 11:05AM, 1:30PM, 3:55PM.
Thurs: 10:45AM, 1:55PM, 4:20PM

The Garfield Movie (PG)
Daily except Tues, Thurs: 11:00AM, 1:30PM, 4:00PM, 6:30PM, 9:00PM.
Tues: 10:35AM, 1:05PM, 3:35PM, 6:05PM, 8:35PM.
Thurs: 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 9:30PM

The Watchers (PG13)
Daily except Tues, Thurs: 11:40AM, 2:15PM, 4:50PM, 7:25PM, 10:00PM.
Tues: 11:15AM, 1:50PM, 4:25PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM.
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:30PM, 4:25PM, 9:50PM

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Golden Ham Casserole

It’s absolutely delicious

BY NANCY PRICER
Special to the Hood County News

A local grocery store had Hormel Cure 81 spiral sliced ham on sale for only 79 cents a pound before Easter. Being from the hometown of Hormel, Austin, Minnesota, and growing up on Cure 81 ham, I bought two 10-pound hams. I cooked one on Easter and, needless to say, diners for the rest of the week included ham and eggs, ham and spinach omelets, ham and baked potato, etc.

My son and his family came over for a Sunday dinner the week after Easter and I still had some ham to use up. I was looking through a 1982 Southern Living cookbook for a ham casserole and found a recipe I had noted I made on Easter 2014 and gave it a 10 out of 10 rating. I had all the ingredients on hand.

I tweaked the recipe a little bit. I doubled the recipe because I always like to send

food home with my kids. I omitted the bell pepper because my husband’s stomach doesn’t like them. I also omitted the onion since my daughter-in-law doesn’t like them, but she will let me substitute dried minced onion and onion powder, which I added to the sauce mixture with the salt and pepper. Also, instead of using soft breadcrumbs I mixed some panko with some melted butter.

It was a hit with everyone, except for my 3-year-old grandson, Brady. He was happy eating his pretzels. However, my 10-year-old grandson, Hudson, said, “Lolli, this is absolutely delicious!”

I hope you think so too.

GOLDEN HAM CASSEROLE

2 cups cubed potatoes
1 cup sliced carrots
1 cup chopped celery
2 cups cubed cooked ham
2 tablespoons chopped green pepper
2 teaspoons chopped onion
1/4 cup plus 3 tablespoons butter or margarine, divided
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 1/2 milk
1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup soft breadcrumbs

Cook potatoes, carrots and celery in a small amount of unsalted boiling water until crisp-tender; drain and set

aside.

Saute ham, green pepper and onion in 3 tablespoons butter in a medium skillet until ham is golden brown. Place ham mixture and cooked vegetables in a deep 2-quart casserole.

Melt 1/4 cup butter in a heavy saucepan over low heat; add flour, stirring until smooth. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly, until thickened and bubbly. Stir in cheese, salt, and pepper; cook over low heat until cheese melts and mixture is slightly thickened. Pour cheese sauce over ham and vegetables; sprinkle with breadcrumbs. Bake at 375 for 25 to 30 minutes. Makes 4-6 servings.

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, Mondays 7-9 p.m. at Acton Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Concerts in May and December. See www.granbury-civicchorus.org for schedule and activities. Questions: granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com. Come join us!

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.

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, 6-9 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.

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 7-8 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 Loving Hands 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.

MONTHLY MEETING of the Granbury branch of the Mid-Cities Stamp Club at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 Emerald Bend Court at 7 p.m. Questions? 817-910-8174.

FIRST THURSDAYS

BRAZOS RIVER Corvette Club meets the first Thursday each month for fellowship, planning events and other business. Dinner, if desired, at 6 p.m., meeting from 7-8 p.m. at Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377. Details: bskaggs8@aol.com.

SECOND THURSDAYS

HOOD COUNTY CERT meets the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center located at 401 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. HoodCo-Cert@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 Somervell 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.

THE HOOD County Democratic Club meets each month at 1410 Pearl St., Annex #1 at 7 p.m. Questions? Call 817-233-5453.

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 Loving Hands 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

MARINE CORPS League Detachment 1297 meeting at the American Legion Hall, 3409 Davis Road, Granbury. Chow is at 6 p.m., meeting at 7 p.m.

GO PLAY calendar will feature recurring activities that are open to the public. These items will run each week along with other activities across the area. Submit Go Play listings to calendar@hcnews.com and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

BOOK REVIEW

You're already familiar with the argument

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Chances are, in this contentious climate we live in, you know what it's like to have a fractured family, or to have to defend your beliefs. So this summer, read about a years-long period in history when war rent the country, pitted brother against brother, and left scars on the land and on families ...

Sometimes, history is in the details and in "Voices from Gettysburg" by Allen C. Guelzo (Kensington, \$29.00), you'll read a day-by-day, person-by-person account of what is arguably the most influential battle of the Civil War.

Using real letters written by prisoners, soldiers and others who were at Gettysburg on those three days in July 1863, you'll get an intimate sense of what it was like to be on the battlefield or near it. Filled with authentic voices, maps and other documents, this is a puts-you-in-the-action kind of book, and it's one you'll be thrilled to read.

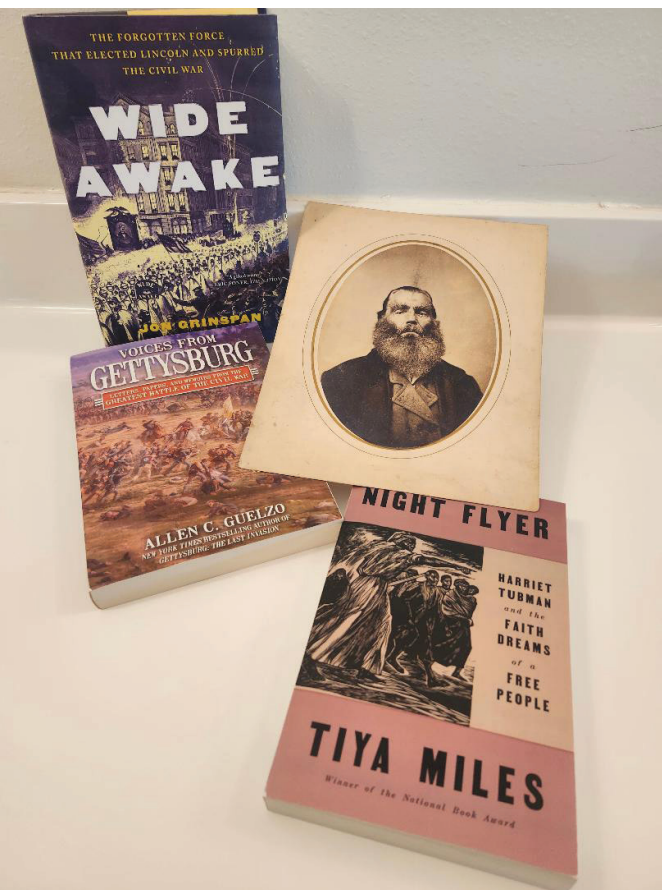
At some point in your lifetime, you've undoubtedly read or learned something about Harriet Tubman. In your mind, she may seem invincible, like some sort of being with superpowers because of her bravery during the Civil War and the lives she helped ferry to freedom. In "Night Flyer: Harriet Tubman and the Faith

Dreams of a Free People" by Tiya Miles (Penguin Press, \$30), you'll learn that some of what you think you know is myth, and that there's actually so much more to Tubman's life and actions.

It's true that Tubman helped free hundreds of people, but this book explores more, including the environment that nurtured her and the relationships she had with the women she helped and those who surrounded her. We get a fresher, deeper look at the person Tubman was, allowing readers to learn from the spiritual life that soothed her in times of trouble, one that can offer inspiration for today's sojourners.

And finally, if you'd like a little bit of surprise with your summertime reading, reach for "Wide Awake: The Forgotten Force that Elected Lincoln and Spurred the Civil War" by Jon Grinspan (Bloomsbury, \$32).

Despite what you may think, the elections we've seen lately in this country aren't the most contentious: at the beginning of the 1860 political season, a bunch of young Northerners, both men and women, Black and white, began organizing on behalf of antislavery speakers and others with abolitionist beliefs. They called themselves the Wide Awakes and during the election, they became a political force to be reckoned with. It's possible,



Books about the Civil War by various authors
c.2024, various publishers, \$29.00 - \$32.00, various page counts

says Grinspan, that the Wide Awakes were one of the major catalysts for the war. This book packs the action in, and it'll show you that history can be full of surprises.

If these books merely whet your appetite for more, you're in luck: there are liter-

ally thousands and thousands of books about the Civil War available. All you have to do is ask your favorite bookstore or librarian for help, and they can put the book you want directly in your hands, without a single argument.

ALLEN
FROM PAGE C1

at Granbury Middle School. They are also grandparents to five grandchildren and great-grandparents to three.

Allen always planned to coach when he attended Tarleton State University and the University of North Texas for his college degrees. He played football at Clifton High School and later for Tarleton, when it was a two-year school with the Plowboys as mascot for the athletic teams.

In 1967, Allen moved to Granbury to become the head basketball coach, later coaching football and golf. He primarily taught world history in the classroom and was a beloved driver's education instructor from 1967 until 2015, impacting thousands of students. His tenure at Granbury High School spanned 35 years in the classroom and over 47 years in driver education.

Former students and colleagues fondly remember Allen for his infectious enthusiasm and his positive impact on their lives. His coaching career was marked by memorable achievements, including an undefeated JV football season and mul-

iple state championship appearances with the girls golf team. Thrilling basketball games and working with standout athletes like Johnny Perkins highlighted his early coaching years.

Allen's creative talents extended far beyond the classroom and sports fields. After retiring in 1999, he pursued his passion for songwriting, creating over 200 songs despite not playing any instruments. His song "Let Me Be Your Last" won a songwriter contest in Bosque County and was performed by Brown at Granbury Live May 31. Brown and Allen had collaborated for many years, with Brown bringing Allen's musical ideas to life.

The Allen family has deep roots in the Granbury community and its members have been active in the First United Methodist Church and the Friendship Sunday School class, which has provided unwavering support over the years. About their years in Granbury, Mrs. Allen said, "It's like a great big family. We were here before the lake, before lake developments, before Pecan Plantation, before red lights, before (the U.S. Highway) 377 bypass ..."

The Granbury community, including members of



Darren Brown sings "Let Me Be The Last," written by Curtis Allen of Granbury.

the First United Methodist Church and the Friendship Sunday School class, continues to celebrate Allen's life and contributions. His former colleagues, students and friends regularly gather to remember his impact on

their lives. Brown's recent performance of "Let Me Be Your Last" at Granbury Live stands as a testament to Allen's legacy and the love the community has for him.

Call to action: celebrate your dad!

Do you have an incredible father you'd like to honor? Here's your chance to give him the recognition he deserves in our upcoming special Father's Day feature. We invite you to submit a tribute to your dad, sharing why he's exceptional and what makes him stand out.

CATEGORIES
Most Inspiring Dad
Best Advice from Dad
Hardest Working Dad
Most Fun Dad

TO PARTICIPATE PLEASE PROVIDE:
■ Full name of your dad
■ Your relation to him
■ Reason for praise (what makes him special)
■ Category (choose one from the list above)
■ Maximum of 150 words

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, JUNE 11 AT NOON
You can submit your tribute in person at our office or online through our website.

Don't miss this opportunity to publicly celebrate the father figure who has made a significant impact in your life.

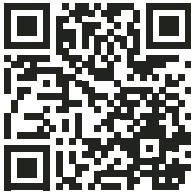
Let's make this Father's Day unforgettable by sharing the love and admiration we have for our dads. Submit your tribute today!

For online submissions, visit the Hood County News at www.hcnews.com or go directly to the submission form at <https://www.hcnews.com/submission-form/>.

form/. Or scan the QR code below.

For in-person submissions, visit us at: 1501 S. Morgan St., Granbury, TX 76048.

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WAMS Swap Meet

The Western Area Modeling Society held its 34th annual Swap Meet and Auction at the Acton Middle School May 31-June 1. Radio controlled airplane, boat and car enthusiasts from the area gathered to sell and auction different RC vehicles.

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS





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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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CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

Civil War round table hears general grant



BY BILL DYESS
Bill Dyess, a retired attorney, has lived in Granbury since 2007, and has had an interest in the American Civil War since childhood. He is a member of the steering committee of the North Central Texas Civil War Round Table.

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table recessed for the summer with an outstanding meeting May 13. The program was presented by Dr. Curt Fields, the nation's preeminent Ulysses S. Grant living historian. Fields, who appears in the persona and uniform of the general, spoke on the conditions he found in Chattanooga, Tennessee, when he assumed command of that area in the fall of 1863, and the actions he took upon assuming command. We were also hon-

ored to have as our guest Fields' lovely wife, Lina. The round table does not meet during the months of June, July and August. Our next meeting will be in September. Follow this column for more information about that program.

JUNE IN THE CIVIL WAR
On May 31, 1862, Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, commanding the Confederate forces defending Richmond against over 100,000 Union troops, led by Gen. George B. McClellan, was seriously



COURTESY PHOTO
A picture of Confederate General Robert E. Lee, commanding general of the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia.

wounded at the Battle of Fair Oaks (also referred to as Seven Pines) and was forced to give up command. As new command-

PLEASE SEE **GRANT** | C8



COURTESY PHOTO
Dr. Curt Fields, in uniform as General Ulysses S. Grant. Dr. Fields presented our May program dressed in a similar manner.

PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Summer begins in Pecan Plantation with Memorial Day celebration



BY DIANE LONG
A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 29 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother, and former English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 16 years cumulatively. She spends her time both gathering neighborhood news and collecting new books to read. dianedlong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

School has recessed, the swimming pool is open, camps have begun, and Pecan Plantation has welcomed the summer season! Last Monday's clubhouse event brought music by the pool, carnival games, snow cones, popcorn, clubhouse fare, live music and dancing. Thank you to the Pecan staff and entertainment committee for facilitating a great party to celebrate the advent of summer.

SUMMER JAM
Tonight, Saturday, June 8, Pecaners will continue to enjoy Summer Jam on the clubhouse front steps when musical artists The Lost Shaker of Salt Band and The Windbreakers will be featured. All neighbors are invited to enjoy this free event.

DAD'S DAY
A Father's Day craft event happens Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m. at the PAC. Spots are limited, and registration is required: 817-573-7952.

GO FISH
Pecan's annual kids' fishing tournament comes Monday, June 10 at 8 a.m. on the golf course hole #10 pond. All ages are welcome. Bring a fishing pole; bait provided.

CAMP TIME
The next session of Golf,

Tennis and Swim Camp begins Tuesday, June 11 for folks ages 6 through 12, and Tennis and More Sports Camp session two comes June 18. Signup for both events in the tennis shop: 817-579-9412.

ART GUILD
The Pecan Plantation Art Guild will hold its next monthly meeting Tuesday, June 11 at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC. Potential new members and guests are invited. Sue Jackson will speak to the group about her pottery work.

GOOD READ
The Hood County Library's bookmobile will be at the PAC Wednesday, June 12 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Patrons may both check out and return materials to the bookmobile.

TEA TIME
A most favorite summer event in Pecan comes Friday, June 14 when the princess tea party happens at 2 p.m. at the clubhouse ballroom. All ages are welcome, and signup is required as seating is limited: 817-573-7952. Princesses are encouraged to don their finest royal accoutrement and enjoy tea, hors d'oeuvres, crafts and music.

PICKLEBALL TIME
A pickleball camp for

young players (ages 8 through 12) runs June 17-21 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the PAC. The days will include an hour of indoor pickleball instruction followed by an hour of supervised swimming. Tennis shoes are needed for pickleball and swimwear and sunscreen for outside. Spots are limited; register at the PAC.

GENEALOGY GROUP
Pecan's Genealogy Group will gather again Tuesday, June 18 at 10 a.m. in the EMS training room at the emergency services compound on Monticello Drive. Everyone is welcome as being a Pecan resident is not required for attendance. Attendees will hear from Kay Holly when she presents "DNA: Exploring Genetic Genealogy." For more information on the group and its activities, contact Kay at 682-459-5718.

YOUTH GOLF
Signups for Pecan's Junior PGA League are happening now at the golf pro shop: 817-573-2645. Summer 1 League runs June 26-28 and Summer 2 July 24-26 with hours being 9 to 10 a.m.

POOL HOURS
Both of Pecan's pools are open for swimming, with the clubhouse pool keeping hours of 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily except for Mondays, and the PAC pool being open daily from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. except for Wednesdays.

DIVE IN
Swim lessons continue with session two coming Monday, June 17. Three levels of classes are available

with certified swim instructors. Sign up at the PAC: 817-573-7952.

ART TIME
An "Expedition: Art" event for Pecaners ages 7 to 12 is on the calendar for June 25-28 with participants being led by Pecan Plantation Art Guild members. The days will include four different projects with all supplies (and snacks!) included. Spots are limited; sign up at the PAC.

SWEET TUNES
Piano students from the PAC recently held their end of the year recital, and many congratulations go to them for a job well done. Beginner lessons will begin again in the fall, and a few spots are open with instructor Carolyn Barnes. Lessons happen Thursday evenings during the school year.

BREAKFAST CLUB
Pecan's Breakfast Club will continue to meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month during the summer with food service beginning at 9 a.m. and the program at 10 a.m. Folks gather and enjoy breakfast prepared by the clubhouse staff, entertainment and good fellowship.

WOMAN'S CLUB
The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club finished its club year in style with ladies dressed in blue paying homage to the group's sapphire anniversary. Their final collective gathering of the spring included a business meeting, presentation of funds to the ladies' chosen philanthropies, presentation of scholarships, instal-



COURTESY PHOTO BY DIANE LONG
Pecan Plantation ushered in the summer season in style with a Memorial Day party at the clubhouse that included food, games, live music, dancing, and much good fellowship. Representing the Pecan Plantation Tennis Association at its snow cone booth were Randy and Gina Leach.

lation of new officers, and of course lunch prepared by the clubhouse staff. Congratulations to these ladies on a successful club year. While the PPWC recesses for the summer, "Chit Chat" luncheons are on the agenda for the third Thursday of June, July and August. Watch for more details about these gatherings coming soon.

GOOD MOVES
Finally, Pecan Plantation is filled with more opportuni-

ties and activities than we residents may count, and a new one to me is Pilates class led by instructor Shawn Farris. These ladies meet Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 8 a.m. at the PAC, and they are kind and welcoming to "newbies," helping me collect my exercise equipment and secure a spot for the class. The workout was terrific and the fellowship even better. Thank you, ladies, for the warm welcome to your group.

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Old folks at home? Reminiscing on a bygone era



BY DON NEWBURY
Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly.
newbury@speakerdoc.com
| 817-447-3872

Family reunions are dwindling, going the way of the wild goose. Some, however, will hold annual gatherings soon. Littering nearby, though, are limbs of family trees that are no more.

Most of us who have seen the snow of many winters remember reunion trivia from years long since gone from the calendar. Many recollections make us smile.

Our bunch still remembers Aunt Gertie whose final trimming of the wick occurred in the 20th century. Everyone loved her almost as deeply as they detested her cooking. (Flies in her kitchen looked

for holes in the window screen to get out.) We kids noticed where she placed her “covered dish,” praying that it would remain covered. I don’t think she ever noticed that during the final years of her life, she was asked to bring paper towels to the next reunion ...

Has there ever been a stranger week in the world of professional golf? Separated by a single week and about 900 miles were the bungled arrest of the world’s number one golfer and a promising upcoming links star who took his own life. Scottie Scheffler was in Louisville,

Kentucky, at the PGA Tournament when he was arrested for a traffic violation. A week later in Fort Worth, Grayson Murray withdrew from his second round at Colonial, complaining of feeling poorly. He took his life hours later.

Scheffler’s story became laughable about what may have been the most overblown “teapot tempest” in sports history. Scheffler, age 27 and considered affable by everyone, took everything in stride when arrested, handcuffed and jailed over what was later described as a “big misunderstanding.” One wag said Scheffler might have hoped for a hole-in-one. Instead, he was “one in a hole.” (It should be noted that all charges were dropped, and both the officer and golfer issued a

joint positive statement. It remains to be seen, however, whether Scheffler will seek an alternate route when future travels otherwise might call for driving through Louisville.)

Murray, age 30, won his only major tournament earlier this year in Honolulu and was engaged to be married. Who knows the potholes he dealt with on life’s highway? How heartbreaking this must be for his family. His decision, not to be understood, underscores the problem of suicides in America ...

On a lighter note, my friend Nancy Esters continues to be an incurable optimist, though her view of life’s goings-on sometimes resembles a gyroscope that’s a bit off its “wobble.”

She’s handy with a pen, often offering “one-liners”

worthy of remembering and repeating.

Nancy recently claimed to be celebrating her 1,001st birthday. I kidded her about exaggerating, suggesting that her calculations suggest that she has already outlived Methuselah by 32 years and is still “vertical and ventilating.” She quickly responded to a response she anticipated. “Oh, him, he observed his birthdays annually, and I choose to light my birthday candles monthly.” ...

While expounding about birthdays, I figure a recent visit with my Uncle Mort is worth recounting.

He told about a precocious 10-year-old girl who lives in the thicket who posed an expansive question to her mother after blowing out birthday candles. “Mom, I’d like to know what it feels like

to be the mother of the most beautiful, most talented, most mature and most lovable little girl in the world.”

Pausing, she lowered her daughter’s self-evaluation by a few notches. “I wouldn’t know, dear. You’ll have to ask your grandmother.”

Mort closed out by sharing an account of his bus ride during his only visit to Chicago several decades ago.

He said that a college-age guy, packed into the standing-room-only bus, noticed a beautiful young lady nearby. He boldly asked for her phone number. “It’s in the phone book,” she answered. “Okay, what’s your name?” he requested. “Oh, my name is in there, too,” was her put-down.

A serious note to end this piece: I sorely miss phone books. I really, really do.

GRANT

FROM PAGE C7

er, Confederate President Jefferson Davis named his senior military adviser, a relatively unknown general whose previous command service to the Confederacy, in western Virginia and South Carolina, had been somewhat less than spectacular. Thus, on June 1, 1862, Gen. Robert E. Lee assumed command of what was designated on that date as the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. Realizing that Richmond could not withstand a siege by the Union forces, Lee, although badly outnumbered, determined to take the offen-

sive. On June 25, by a small engagement at Oak Creek, he began what is called the Seven Days Campaign, or simply “The Seven Days.” During the next week, by constant attacks and assaults on the Union forces, Lee drove McClellan from within five miles of Richmond, approximately 25 miles south to Harrison’s Landing, on the James River, where they no longer posed a threat to the Confederate capitol. While there were numerous mistakes and poor command decisions within the Confederate army, only the last battle of the campaign, the ill-advised and unsuccessful attack on Malvern Hill, which cost the

Confederates thousands of dead and wounded and accomplished nothing, tarnished Lee’s performance in his first major Army command.

DID YOU KNOW

Prior to the Seven Days Campaign, Confederate Col. J.E.B. Stuart led 1,200 cavalrymen on a three day, 100-mile reconnaissance mission in which the force completely circled McClellan’s army. The Confederates destroyed military property, captured supplies and horses, and took a number of prisoners, all at the cost of one southern cavalryman.

The North Central Texas

Civil War Round Table meets on the second Monday of each month, except June, July and August, at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury. Guests are always welcome. There is no charge for first time attendees. For more information, please refer to our website: WWW.ncent-excwrt.com, or call David Well, at 817-579-5769 or Bill Dyess at 817-326-8216.

Civil War Round Tables exist in cities and communities worldwide. All are independent and share a common objective in promoting and expanding interest in the study of the American Civil War.



Union General George B. McClellan, commander of the Union Army of the Potomac.



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