



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

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GRANBURY ★ TEXAS

Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

[SATURDAY, June 15, 2024]

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See more about the 49th Annual Lone Star Street Rod Association State Run on page, A6.

COURTESY PHOTO

Suspect apprehended following police standoff, highway closure



COURTESY PHOTO

Fort Worth resident, 63-year-old Barry Harrell, was charged with possession of cocaine, evading arrest in a motor vehicle, tampering with evidence and accident involving damage following a police standoff on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 5.

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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A police standoff near Wiley Funeral Home Wednesday, June 5 resulted in an almost two-hour closure of U.S. Highway 377 between state Highway 144 and Hill Blvd.

According to a news release from Chief Mitch Galvan, a Granbury Police Department traffic unit observed a white Chevrolet pickup traveling westbound on U.S. 377 around 2:43 p.m. Wednesday, June 5. The driver was traveling above the posted speed limit and was also swerving between lanes. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle, but it continued traveling westbound.

Galvan reported that as the vehicle approached the intersection of U.S. 377 and Hill Blvd., the truck struck the rear end of another pickup truck. The officer exited his unit and began walking toward the driver's side of the white Chevrolet when it took off and fled westbound on U.S. 377. In the process of fleeing, the white Chevrolet struck additional vehicles as it continued westbound. Then it left the roadway and began traveling in the barrow ditch, where it eventually struck two parked vehicles and a house.

Jane Gilbreath, the owner of the damaged home on Tahiti Drive, said she and her husband were watching TV when they heard a loud crash that "almost sounded like an explosion."

"We thought, 'Of course, another wreck on (U.S.) 377,'"

PLEASE SEE SUSPECT | A2

HGMA board appoints Cheshe Langford as new president

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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The Historic Granbury Merchants Association board of directors has officially appointed Cheshe Langford to serve as its president following the board's recent decision to remove Ken Hackett from the position.

While an explanation regarding Hackett's removal was not disclosed to the Hood County News, HGMA sent out an email to all members Tuesday, June 4, regarding these significant changes.

"After careful consideration and review, the Board of Directors has made the decision to remove Ken Hackett from the position of President of HGMA, the Board of HGMA, and all HGMA financials," the email states. "In light of these developments, the Board of Directors has appointed Cheshe Langford to serve as the new President of HGMA. We believe that Cheshe possesses the qualities and vision necessary to lead our organization effectively and with integrity."

The email continued by stating the changes may raise questions and concerns, but the organization is committed to addressing them "openly and promptly."

An open discussion about the leader-

ship changes also took place during the General Members Meeting Tuesday, June 11, at the Gordon House.

Serving as president, Langford addressed the members and explained that the last two weeks have been "a lot." "There's lots of rumors out there. We know it. We hear them," she said. "We get texts all day, I get texts all night, I get phone calls and emails. Some of the things are true, and some of the things are just not true. I'll address what I can, and other things I cannot. I will — before we go into this — tell you under legal advisement, some things I just cannot talk about, and you're just going to have to — for right now — accept that and when we know more, we will share."

Langford confirmed that Hackett is no longer on the board of directors. She stated, however, that Hackett can still be a member of HGMA, "just like anybody else."

With Langford now president, Angie Courville will serve as vice president, Sylvia Hickey will continue to serve as secretary and Nathan Wright will continue as treasurer. Other board members include Diane Hedges, — who replaces Sarah Harvey-Toth who recently resigned — Kristen Gibson, Taylor Hatfield, Madison McVay and Scott Young.

One position is still open due to



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Cheshe Langford, the new appointed president of the Historic Granbury Merchants Association, speaks to the members during the General Members Meeting Tuesday, June 11, at the Gordon House.

Hackett's absence, with Langford explaining that an election for that position will not be held until HGMA's election in

PLEASE SEE HGMA | A10



138TH YEAR, NO. 24

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 32 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 32 pages

INSIDE

From My Front Porch — A3 | Zed — A4 | Obituaries — A9-A10 | Crossword Puzzle — A9-A10 | Classifieds — A11-A12

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COMMUNITY BUSINESS

CHAMBER NEWS

Granbury's Hometown 4th of July Festival celebrates 50 Golden Years of Stars and Stripes

Granbury Chamber of Commerce

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the return of Granbury's Hometown 4th of July Festival, commemorating 50 Golden Years of Stars and Stripes. Presented in partnership with H-E-B, Visit Granbury and the City of Granbury, this year's festival promises to be a historic celebration of patriotism, community and freedom.

From July 4 to 7, the Historic Granbury Square will transform into a hub of activity, featuring artisan vendors, live entertainment and family-friendly attractions. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the charm of downtown Granbury while browsing a diverse selection of unique treasures and delights offered by local artisans and vendors.

The highlight of the festival will be the iconic 4th of July parade, stretching over two miles from Granbury High School to the downtown square. This year's parade will feature a dazzling display of

floats, marching bands and community groups, all coming together to celebrate the rich history and heritage of our nation.

As the sun sets July 4th, festival-goers can gather along the shores of Lake Granbury to witness the breathtaking fireworks display. Shot off over the lake behind the Pearl Street Bridge, the fireworks will illuminate the night sky with bursts of golden light, symbolizing 50 years of American pride and unity.

Vendor applications and parade entries are now open, providing businesses and organizations with the opportunity to showcase their pride and patriotism to thousands of attendees. For more information on how to participate, visit <https://granburychamber.com/hometown-4th-of-july/>.

Don't miss Granbury's Hometown 4th of July Festival — a celebration 50 years in the making!

PHOTO COURTESY OF VISIT GRANBURY.COM

The 4th of July parade will kick off the celebrations.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Member Spotlight

McKnight Title

"McKnight Title, a premier Fort Worth-based title company, specializes in providing comprehensive and efficient title and escrow services."

Member Spotlight: McKnight Title. "We specialize in commercial and residential real estate transactions and strive to set the standard for the title insurance industry by providing quality service that exceeds customer expectations." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

R.L.G. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

RISING LEADERS OF GRANBURY (RLG) COMMITTEE MEMBER

HANNAH RUFFIN

Business: Mattressville Granbury

Time as a RLG Committee Member: 2 Years

Rising Leaders Granbury (RLG) Committee Member Spotlight: We are so thankful for our amazing Rising Leaders Granbury committee member, Hannah Ruffin with Mattressville Granbury! Hannah has been a part of the Rising Leaders of Granbury program for two years. When asked why she loves being on the RLG committee, she said "My favorite part of RLG is building relationships with my peers and helping others excel in their passions and careers. Meeting new people is also a big plus!" Fun Fact about Hannah: "I am a total nerd, I love legos, comics and model kits!" Thank you, Hannah, for being an RLG committee member of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

New Member Spotlight

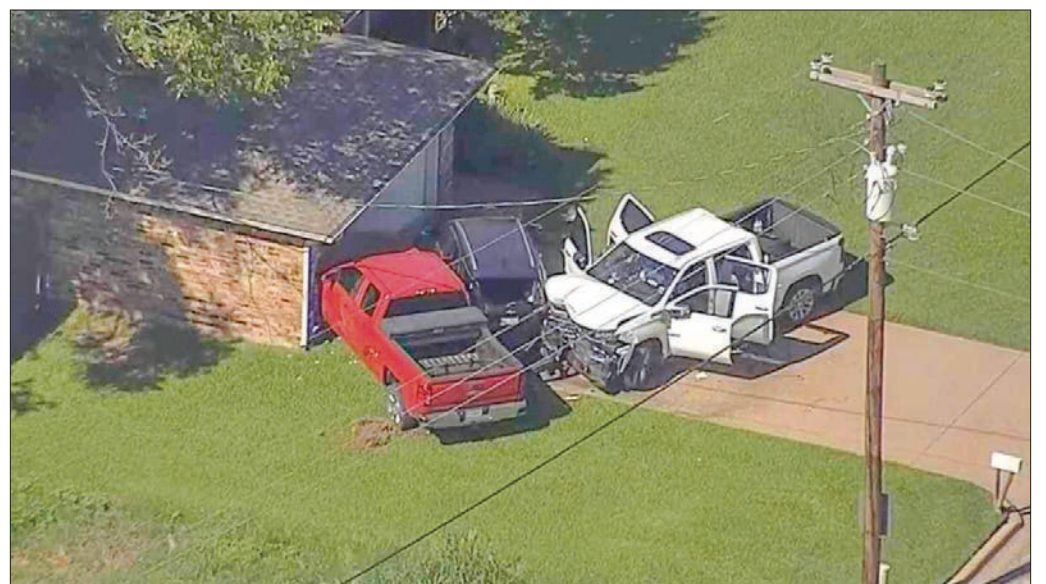
Carter BloodCare

"We save lives by making transfusion possible. Donate blood or host a drive to support fellow Texans!"

New Member Spotlight: Carter BloodCare. "For more than 70 years, Carter BloodCare has been saving lives across North, Central and East Texas. Each year, Carter BloodCare provides more than 440,000 units of blood products to meet the patients' treatment requirements. Carter BloodCare's services include collection, processing, specialized laboratory testing, storage, and distribution of blood and blood components." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!



Granbury resident Jane Gilbreath experienced damage to her garage on Tahiti Drive after a white Chevrolet pickup crashed into her two vehicles and her house June 5.



Granbury resident Jane Gilbreath heard a terrifying crash while watching TV with her husband June 5. She came outside to find a white Chevrolet pickup had crashed into two of their vehicles and their home following a police chase.

SUSPECT

FROM PAGE A1

but (it sounded like) a really bad one, so we thought we should step out to see if we needed to call 911," she said. "We were heading out the door, but the cops were already there with their guns drawn and were motioning us to go back in the house. We could see there was a white pickup truck halfway in our driveway and halfway in our yard. We assumed there was going to be a lot of damage to our cars, but we didn't know the extent at the time."

Gilbreath said she understood police had been in

pursuit of the driver due to erratic driving.

"I don't know the speed he was going, other than he ran off the highway and stopped when he hit our cars," she said. "There were no signs of him braking so he hit it full force."

According to the release, officers conducted a felony stop on the vehicle and attempted to have the driver exit the vehicle. Area residences were evacuated and traffic on U.S. 377 was redirected.

Gilbreath, however, was unable to evacuate her residence due to health concerns.

"The police came to our

backdoor to make sure we were OK," she said. "They wanted to extract us from the house, but I have heart failure, so I can't walk very far. We told (the officer) that wasn't going to be possible, so he told us to hunker down somewhere. I got as far away from the front of the house as I could and stayed sequestered in my back bathroom area."

While the standoff was in progress, Gilbreath said she had her tablet with her in the bathroom and made sure to keep all of Hood County updated on the situation via social media.

PLEASE SEE SUSPECT | A3

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

We have lost our shame, and that is a shame



BY SAM HOUSTON

Sam Houston is the publisher of the Hood County News. He is also an actor, author, playwright, performer and entertainment producer/promoter. sam@hcnews.com | 817-573-7066, ext. 260

The dictionary defines shame as a painful feeling of humiliation caused by the consciousness of wrong or foolish behavior. While shame is commonly thought of as a negative emotion, its existence plays a big part in our survival as a species. In the absence of shame, there would not be a need to adhere to cultural norms nor follow the law in such a way that allows us to exist as a society.

All humans wish to be accepted and shame is one of the tools that keeps us in line.

When we feel shame it's often because we perceive ourselves as flawed or unworthy in the eyes of others. Shame

can serve as a powerful motivator for self-improvement and adherence to societal standards. The critic inside your head tells you that you are a bad person, wrong, worthless or of little value. Most human beings wish to

avoid those feelings and thus the threat of shame causes them to behave within societal norms.

Shame can teach us boundaries. Without shame we would have no way to understand how our behavior affects others and how to manage it. At its very core, shame is about wanting to belong to a group and to be accepted as a good person inside the community.

As small children in school, we were all taught the norm was to not pick your nose. It is how our teachers and parents instructed us to act. But a part of the reason why we participated in the norm was the shame to be experienced if your fellow classmates learned you had broken the rule; to be judged, set apart for our actions, and to be excluded from the group. Those are all part of the reasons why we did not pick our nose.

Unfortunately, in our contemporary society, the concept of shame seems to have been thrown out the window. The usual standards of conduct, the social norms which have guided our existence

for generations have seemingly been discarded. In the new order, behavioral standards are very vague and constantly evolving and the evolution is not toward right or wrong, but rather how an action serves to benefit the doer; how actions affect others seems rather immaterial.

Shame comes from perceived future consequences. Unfortunately, in our American politics, we have apparently evolved to a point where there seems to be no consequence for lying or intentionally misleading the voting public. Because there are no consequences for the misdeed, the behavior continues. In the absence of shame, bad behavior often fosters even more and greater misdeeds.

Today's politicians do not fear reproach by the masses, and in fact, they are finding if they go outside the norms of civility the more likely their behavior will be rewarded with additional contributions and votes. Running for office is no longer about having a platform of ideas that will benefit society or a recipe for positive change, but rather it is about how

to appeal and feed into the fears and doubts of a troubled world. This is why our politicians rudely interrupt the State of the Union address, can make blatant misrepresentation of the truth, or make allegations without facts or supporting evidence. On the rare occasions where they are challenged, they merely dismiss the inquiry as being "politically motivated," "fake news" or simply not worthy of a response. There is no consequence from society. Our world was not always this way. There once was a time when a politician who breached the norm in their conduct lost all consideration from the public. We have changed, and I fear it's not for the good.

The only way politicians are going to start telling the truth and to meaningfully address issues that are facing our society is for there to be consequences when they fail to do so. We must make it clear we will not accept when they fail to work with others to solve problems, when they lie and change rules for a selfish purpose, and when control and power mean more than right and

wrong. If terms like truth, evidence and right and wrong no longer matter, we will no longer have a society.

My grandfather would say "something might not be illegal, but if it's just flat out wrong, that makes it worse".

It is up to the electorate to determine which type of person they want to vote for. This problem is not a party issue. It is not a candidate issue. The problem is a societal issue in that we have allowed standards of conduct, ethics and the "right thing" to be set aside for immediate gratification or short-term political goals. So many voters are in "tribes" and they have placed all their faith in the party rather than what is truth, what is justice, and what was once the American way.

Shame on all of us because without a sense of shame, we are destined for a world with no standards at all.

Thought for the day: "Whatever begins in anger, ends in shame." — Benjamin Franklin

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

Folks around town



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Don Anderson

Say hello to our neighbor, Don Anderson!

When it comes to one-liners and limericks, Don's got a million of them! Little quips that suit the moment perfectly. Conversations with Don are both delightful and enlightening. We first met him at the Shanley Center for the Arts, where he volunteers as a docent during the week. In the '90s, Don purchased three lots in Pecan Plantation and finally moved there with his late wife, Jeanette, in 1999. Don also served on the Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department where he spent a lot of time with his buddy and business partner, Dave Raffa. In his early days, Don was instrumental in organizing the Civil Air Patrol for our area. After the passing of his late wife, Jeanette, Don found love again and settled in the Houston area with his new wife, Patsy. Sadly, he was widowed for the second time and has made the move back to Granbury in March to be closer to his two sons. Don's older son, Stephen Patrick, is an investment banker based in Fort Worth, while his younger son, Michael Anderson, is a historian and a New York Times best-selling author of the 'The Destroyermen' and 'The Artillerymen' series. Don says "I like the absolutely wonderful friendships and new acquaintances along with the diversity of the culture of Hood County." A proud Eagle Scout, Don applied the lessons learned to his long and impressive career as a consulting engineer and commercial pilot. He was involved in cutting-edge research and technology, including microwave technology, long before it became commonplace. Even in "retirement," Don constantly utilizes his skills for enjoyable activities and work, keeping him on top of his mental game. Don will celebrate his 90th birthday on Oct. 25! He has also been a broadcaster at Granbury's own KPAR radio station and teaches post-production for digital voice and data for future television producers at Tarleton State University. Both Don and Michael, who is also a history professor, have taught at Tarleton at the same time. Don also loves delving into Hood County history. The Hood County News is proud to have been part of Hood County's rich history since 1866.

County to launch new website

BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer
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Hood County will have a new website in the coming months.

During a special meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court June 11, the court reviewed the county's proposed website to make necessary changes before its launch date later this summer.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson stressed the importance of the website by calling it the "face of the community."

"This is what everyone sees when they go to the website of Hood County, so I thought we should take a look at it and make sure that it looks good," she said.

The commissioners "walked through" the pages of the site together as a resident would do if trying to find information about the county. The court discussed

the pros and cons of the current site while viewing each page in order to address where improvements need to be made. Owen Curnutt, the county's assistant chief of information technology, directed the discussion.

Curnutt explained that the home page is important and will allow residents to navigate to each county department easily.

"One that is very near and dear to you, Nannette, is going to be the agenda center," Curnutt said, adding that the new search feature will allow residents to find certain agenda topics much faster and easier than before.

"With the old one, the searching wasn't really good, so when you searched, it really only brought up the title of the document into consideration; it never really worked well," he said. "But with this one here, we can see (a search result) that's come up often was Wolf Hollow, so now if we search for Wolf Hollow, we're

getting 109 results. That's definitely going to be a lot nicer for anybody trying to do their homework. (They will be able to) go back and look at what was said and what was done at last court and what was on the agenda minutes. This will make it easier for them to do that."

Consistency across the pages and departments was discussed, as well as transparency with the budget information.

"Transparency needs to be there; that's what I mean. That's really important that our taxpayers are able to see the budget information," Samuelson said.

Once launched, the old website will redirect traffic to the new site, so even if residents are not aware of the change, they will still be able to have access.

"We can modify everything we do. Nothing is set in stone," Curnutt said.

However, he did mention that the old site will eventu-

ally expire.

"I would say generally for about two months, we have to keep that redirect traffic going," he said.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews wondered about the benefit of delaying the launch of the new website as certain elements still need to be tweaked. Curnutt said if the court wished to delay the release by another week, it would allow him time to address the issues that were discovered.

The court did not take any action but decided to push the launch date back to allow Curnutt to continue modifying the website. Once the issues have been resolved, Curnutt will request the approval of the Hood County Commissioners Court to "go live" on the website.

At this time, the website "go-live" approval will be tentatively placed on the agenda for the Tuesday, July 9 court.

SUSPECT

FROM PAGE A2

"I wanted to give the officers credit because they handled the situation very calmly," she said. "They were speaking to the man calmly trying to get him out."

Galvan said the driver would not cooperate with officers' commands and was seen reaching under his seat on several occasions, but officers could not determine if he had something in his hands during that time.

"After several minutes, the Region 8 Special Operations Group was called to the scene," Galvan said. "After attempting to talk the suspect out of the vehicle for over an hour, gas was de-

ployed into the vehicle, and the suspect later exited the truck and was taken into custody."

Gilbreath said she watched as the SWAT team deployed drones to break the back window of the truck.

"When they broke the window, they shot tear gas in. He didn't give himself up. He only exited the truck because they shot tear gas through the truck window, and then they were able to apprehend him from that," she said.

One of the drones, Gilbreath said, was also equipped with cameras and was told by the GPD officers that the driver was "high."

"Even when he was sitting in his truck, the drone with the camera could see him and he was smoking a crack

pipe," she said.

The suspect was identified as 63-year-old Barry Harrell out of Fort Worth, the news release reports. Harrell is charged with possession of cocaine, evading arrest in a motor vehicle, tampering with evidence, and accident involving damage.

Gilbreath said she was informed Harrell did not own the white Chevrolet pickup; he had only borrowed it.

She added that both her car, a Chevy Equinox, and her husband's truck, a Chevrolet Silverado, were totaled from the damage.

"The police cleared out as much as they could," she said. "I haven't had insurance out here yet, but both vehicles are totaled. The garage door collapsed and

knocked a brick off the corner of our home and did some structural damage to the garage. That's the extent of what I know, but it was scary. I really appreciate the good job that the officers did, keeping everything calm and not letting things get out of hand."

Galvan said since Harrell appeared to run into other vehicles intentionally, additional charges could be filed against him once the other victims are located and identified.

"The other drivers that had been struck had left the scene by the time the incident had concluded, and we are hoping to be contacted by them soon," he added. "The investigation is still ongoing at this time."

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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
Saturday issue:
10 a.m. Wednesday

County votes to place jail renovation, expansion on November ballot

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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The Hood County Commissioners Court unanimously voted to place a jail bond — which will include facility renovations and an expansion — on the November ballot during a regularly scheduled meeting June 11.

For years, Hood County has entertained the discussion about whether to add to the existing jail or construct a completely new building to combat the population growth.

During a meeting April 25, the court revived the discussion of possibly expanding the current jail by tacking on an additional 209 beds — creating a total of 401 beds in the jail.

The proposal, created by DRG Architects, would include general housing up to 150 inmates, flex cell housing for either males or females up to 28 inmates, and special housing up to 31 inmates.

The 30,606 square foot jail addition would also feature a new laundry facility space, an administrative segregation exercise area, general population exercise area, and multipurpose rooms at a total cost of \$24,484,800.

Phase one of the 6,200 square foot sheriff's office addition would also be included in the master planning budget, with a total cost of \$2,480,000.

An additional contingency allowance at 10% of the construction costs would add \$2,696,480 onto the total cost — meaning the 209-bed addition would cost a grand total of \$32,357,760.

Once the county selected DRG Architects for the project, President Wayne Gondeck also outlined a fee proposal for the county Tuesday, totaling an additional \$2,522,000.

The proposal is based on an assumed start date for Phase I services (pre-funding) of July 1, with a November bond election to be called in August.

Upon the passage of a successful bond election, Phase II services (design and

construction administration) would commence in January 2025 with design completion set for June/July 2025 and construction commencement in late 2025. Construction completion could be expected in early 2027.

During the meeting June 11, the court started the discussion about accepting the DRG fee proposal and authorizing County Attorney Matt Mills to negotiate a final contract that will be brought back to court for signature.

Precinct 3 Commissioner

of the inmates in the county ... We do have the mindset of flexibility to address that program in multiple ways to come up with better solutions as to how you're going to operate the existing facility."

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews asked for clarification about how, if the bond fails in November, Phase II of the fee services would not take place. Gondeck confirmed that is correct, but said eventually the county will have to find another solution to handle the growth.

mature to accept the fee proposal from DRG before voting on the funding for the jail — whether to announce a bond election or to issue a certificate of obligation.

"That \$32 million is what y'all gave us for a 209-bed facility, so we got that number," Eagle said. "But I've got documentation from a year-and-a-half ago that y'all did a special programming on renovating the old jail at \$23 million. It seems to me like this conversation — if we're going to decide to go with a bond — we need to look at

Wilson then made a motion to table the discussion until the court voted on whether to go through a bond election or a certificate of obligation. The motion passed unanimously.

The court then went on to the next agenda item, which involved choosing a funding method for the jail addition.

County Financial Advisor Jim Sabonis started out by saying that Hood County is currently in excellent financial condition. He said the county's credit rating is double A-plus, and there are only a couple of years left on its outstanding debt.

"We probably can fund this at a 20-year amortization, without impacting our current very low (interest and sinking fund) tax rate at a 2.4 success," he said. "It would cost slightly under 4% in today's market. Our expectation is that this sale can be done relatively at a very cost-efficient basis."

Sabonis explained that as a county, there are three main ways of funding: vote for general obligation bonds, go through a public notice process, or issue a certificate of obligation. He said in his experience, he's used both a GO bond and a CO.

Local GO bonds must be approved by two-thirds of the voters, while COs essentially allow local governments to fund public works without voter approval — unless 5% of registered voters sign a petition to create an election.

"Five percent of the people that voted in the last general election could force the item to an actual bond election which would be May," Sabonis said. "In my entire career, being involved in 2,500 bond programs, I only received two petitions for very controversial projects. At the same time, most of the debt that's issued by entities in the state of Texas are certificates of obligations."

He encouraged the court to consider two things when making its decision regarding funding: the benefit to the county and the tax rate

PLEASE SEE JAIL | A7

"Five percent of the people that voted in the last general election could force the item to an actual bond election which would be May. In my entire career, being involved in 2,500 bond programs, I only received two petitions for very controversial projects. At the same time, most of the debt that's issued by entities in the state of Texas are certificates of obligations."

JIM SABONIS
County Financial Advisor

Jack Wilson said he was concerned since building the 209-bed addition could take as long as 30 months.

"Even though we're adding 209 beds with 53 out-of-county today, the issue is once the new facility is built, then we move all of the current inmates into that one and then start the refurb on there," Wilson said. "So, basically, we (won't) see any real increase in bed capacity in about four to five years."

"The renovation portion of the project can be handled in multiple ways," Gondeck said. "You could do it in phases where you could reduce or eliminate the number of inmates to house out-of-county. If you wanted to do it all at once and move all your inmates in there and vacate everything in the existing jail, then that would require you to continue to house out-of-county. If you want to do it in a portion, it may take longer, but you can keep more

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson also asked Gondeck if they had enough material currently to go forward with the bond process without spending an additional \$280,000 on the pre-funding. He responded that there is nothing keeping the court from calling an election, but told the court he has seen more success through DRG providing adequate information to the public.

"Right now, we have a real quick floor plan that we included for you before and this is a concept drawing. We want to develop that for a better presentation to do some more developments," Gondeck said. "We want to participate in public meetings to be able to take all that information ... and present that to the public ... so that is where our services are really adding to this going forward."

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle said it was pre-

the whole package. Instead of piecemealing this out, we need to look at the addition, as well as the move out and the renovation, the cost of that, and now we're going to be talking \$60 million, and that absolutely, in my opinion, should be a bond consideration."

Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson said the last needs analysis for Hood County was created May 24, which recommends constructing a facility of no less than 432 beds.

"Now, if memory serves me correct, 432 was what we looked at a little over a year ago, as a proposed process then," he said. "We've got to look not only at the 209 that we're looking at now, but you know, the renovation of the 192 that we've got, and we're still below the 432. We've got to look at part of the picture, the fact of what you're proposing now, but we also need to look at the big picture as a total."

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 June 4-10. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

JUNE 4

8:11 a.m.: animal bite on E. Pearl Street
10:07 a.m.: theft on E. U.S. Highway 377
3:43 p.m.: theft over \$2,500 and under \$30,000 on E. U.S. Highway 377
6:41 p.m.: suspicious activity on Olson Court
Two minor accidents, a warrant service and 18 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 5

12:26 a.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street

3:27 a.m.: stolen vehicle recovered on E. U.S. Highway 377

10:18 a.m.: theft of property on E. U.S. Highway 377
5:12 p.m.: financial abuse of elderly on Hayloft Lane
5:13 p.m.: hit-and-run accident on Lipan Highway
6:06 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377
7:25 p.m.: SWAT dispatched to Mary Jo Lane
7:32 p.m.: assault on E. Pearl Street
11:00 p.m.: assault on N. Lambert Street
11:48 p.m.: intoxicated person on E. U.S. Highway 377
11:58 p.m.: assault on Paluxy Road
Seven minor accidents, two warrant services and 16 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 6

7:01 a.m.: reckless driver on S. Morgan Street
7:04 p.m.: theft over \$2,500 and under \$30,000 on Chanel Drive
A major accident and 10 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 7

12:43 a.m.: suspicious vehicle on Waters Edge Drive
6:33 p.m.: theft on Honor Code Place
7:34 p.m.: suspicious activity on S. Morgan Street
10:29 p.m.: noise disturbance on N. Plaza Drive
Two minor accidents, a warrant service and 14 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 8

12:25 a.m.: terror threat on Holly Hills Cemetery Road
9:30 a.m.: credit card abuse on E. U.S. Highway 377
8:45 p.m.: driver with invalid license on E. U.S. Highway 377
Two major accidents, one minor accident and 32 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 9

4:35 a.m.: noise disturbance on Reunion Court
4:17 p.m.: theft on Holly Hills Cemetery Road
9:20 p.m.: driver with invalid license on E. U.S. Highway 377
Three major accidents, a warrant service and 23 traffic stops occurred on this day

JUNE 10

1:46 a.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street
8:17 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on Weatherford Highway
3:44 p.m.: public lewdness on N. Plaza Drive
8:18 p.m.: public lewdness on E. U.S. Highway 377
8:31 p.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street
10:13 p.m.: arrest evaded on S. Morgan Street
10:17 p.m.: reckless driver on E. U.S. Highway 377
11:31 p.m.: threat on W. Torrey Street
Two warrant services and 31 traffic stops occurred this day

CALENDAR

ONGOING

FORWARD TRAINING

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

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, Herbolology 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.

BLOOD DRIVE

Calvary Church of Granbury at 4800 Glen Rose Highway. Donation time from noon to 6 p.m. Hosted by the Benevolence group. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: calvarychurchgranbury to schedule an appointment.

HOOD COUNTY

Republican Women's Club meets at 10 a.m. at The Wylie Center in Granbury, 400 East U.S. Highway 377. Guest speaker is Tammy Dooley, director of the Granbury Visitors Center. She and the assistant manager and sales director, Kristen Gibson, will speak about how the local revenue generated by visitors is a boon to the economy.

FIRST BAPTIST Church

Vacation Bible School. Free program, theme is "Ready, Set, Move." Drop off begins at 9 a.m., program begins at 9:30 a.m., parents return at 11:30 a.m., all welcome to stay for lunch which is provided. Questions? Debra DeSario 817-573-7137 or 830-446-0454.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

MID CITIES Stamp

Granbury Branch meets at 7 p.m., Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 Emerald Bend Court. Presentation by Skip Ely on collectable varieties of the 37 cent stamp. Questions call 817-910-8174.

FREE HEALTH and Wellness Expo

at the Hood County Senior Center at 501 East Moore Street from 1-4 p.m. Local health and wellness experts offer information, resources and education on living as or caring for older adults. For more information call Trish at 817-573-5533.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

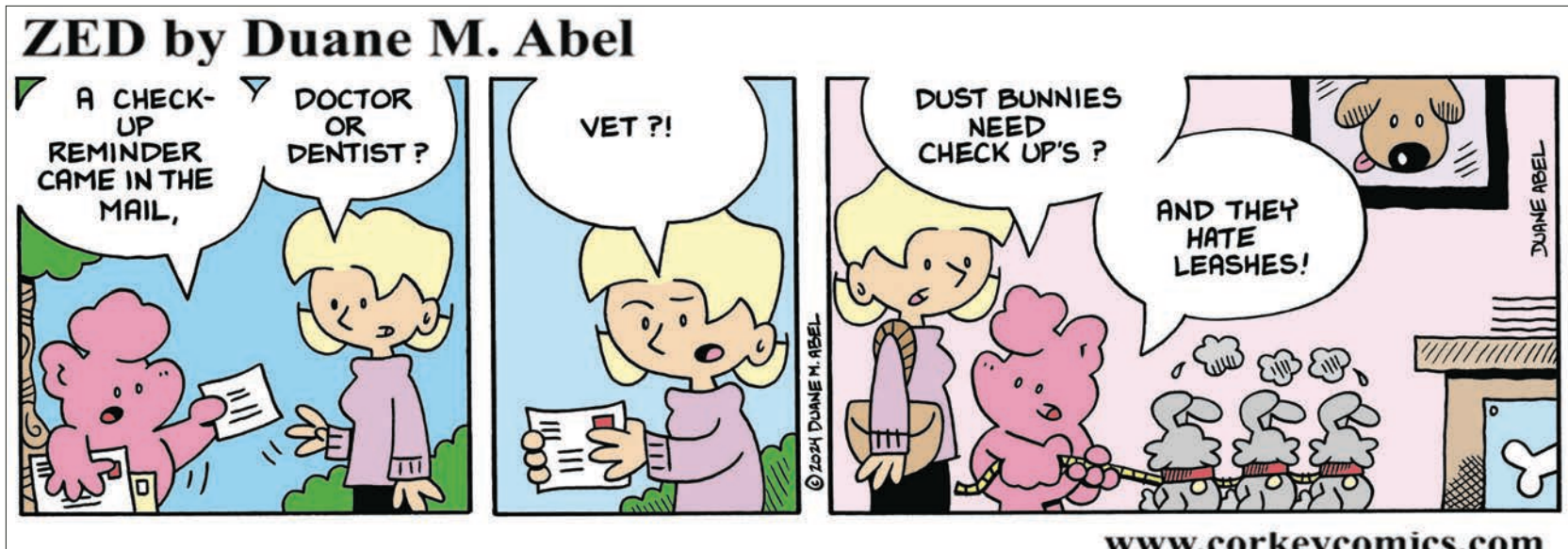
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TO SUBMIT

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.



The meaning and celebration of Juneteenth

BY ROSE SIMPSON

Special to the Hood County News

June 19 has special meaning to Black Texans. The day is called Juneteenth, an event that has been celebrated in the Black community for more than 150 years.

As a young girl growing up in Fort Worth, I wondered why older Black people celebrated that day. I had been taught in my history classes at school that July 4, 1776 was the day American colonies declared their freedom from the British. I wondered why the older people were so cantankerous and insisted that June 19 — not July 4 — was the freedom day for them. Why was there nothing in our history books at school about Juneteenth?

However, there was a great deal in our history books about slavery. On July 4, 1776, the British colonies declared themselves independent of Great Britain and formed a new nation, the United States of America. But it took a deadly Civil War and the deaths of approximately 620,000 soldiers from both the Union and the Confederate Armies, as well as the passage of the 13th Amendment in 1865, for slavery to become illegal in the United States of America.

On Jan. 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which proclaimed “all persons held as slaves within the rebellious states are, and, henceforward shall be free.” However, the slaves were not freed in Texas until Gen. Gordon Granger ar-

rived at Galveston Island with 2,000 federal troops and read the Emancipation Proclamation to the slaves who had gathered that day. Until then, the slaves in Texas did not realize they were free.

By the 1950s and 1960s, younger Black people no longer regularly celebrated Juneteenth. The emphasis of the Black leaders had begun to focus upon achieving equality under the law. The younger generation had forgotten the pains and struggles of slavery and were interested in improving the struggles they faced dealing with discrimination and equality in a segregated society.

Thanks to the persistence and dedication of a retired teacher from Fort Worth, Ms. Opal Lee, Juneteenth is now a national holiday. On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the bill declaring Juneteenth a federal holiday throughout all of the United States of America.

Although slavery did not officially end until the 13th Amendment was adopted in 1865, Juneteenth symbolizes the end of slavery in the United States of America. Therefore, those of us who had enslaved ancestors in the United States have a special place in our hearts for the meaning and celebration of Juneteenth. However, all American citizens can be proud that the entire country now recognizes the significance of Juneteenth as the day when the United States symbolically threw off the shackles of its slavery past, becoming a beacon of freedom throughout the world.



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



WESLEY LEMENS

My dad is a man who may seem intimidating or scary, but once a person gets to know him they will soon realize his easygoing personality, his quirky sense of humor (and love for poop jokes), a passion for growing vegetables, fruits and trees in the backyard, and his caring demeanor for his family.

HARD WORKING: From a daughter's perspective, my dad has always been a man who enjoys being productive. His driven and energetic mindset is what has put a roof over my head, food on the table, and given me the financial and emotional relief of not having to take my car to the shop for an oil change. My dad worked on a rig in the oil field for years and sacrificed his own happiness for the well-being of his family. Working long shifts out of town, he was unable to be a part of principal moments in mine and my siblings' childhoods. This is not something I am upset about, however, because my dad worked the job he did so that my family could thrive.

My dad is a man made of steel, a man who will put his family above everything else. Despite his untiring demeanor and need to work hard, my dad is always sure to make time for the sweet moments with family and cherish the time we have together. He values the family and loves us all endlessly. My dad's hardworking mindset is an aspect I look up to and will take with me as I enter the workforce as well as adulthood. He is a man I am proud to call my dad.

Emily Lemens
Granbury

JAMES FRENCH HYDE JR.

Step-son: Virg Thomas
Reason for praise: He accepted the role of dad to

me, a 13-year-old boy, and my sister, who was 14, even though he already had three sons and a daughter of his own. He treated us all fairly and equally. Unfortunately, he did not realize the calamity I was going to cause him early on. But he stuck to his principles, although I did not have any at that age, and saw it through. He supported all his kids', and now grandkids', activities and aspirations. He uses logic when problem-solving and has a sharp wit, both of which I didn't appreciate early on. After almost 38 years I appreciate him more every day. Thank you, Jim.

Virg Thomas
Arlington

JAMES F. HYDE JR.

Son: John Hyde
Reason for praise: He achieved his goal of becoming an airline pilot with no financial help from anyone else. He has a successful aviation career with more than 50 years of accident/incident free operation. He is always innovative and a forward thinker because he planted one of the first peach orchards in Hood County and opened one of the first liquor stores here, as well. He always has a never quit and no excuse attitude. No matter what life deals him he always gets up and goes at it.

John Hyde
Fort Worth

JAMES F. HYDE JR.

He was born into humble beginnings, the son of a lifetime military man, with a boyhood dream to fly airplanes. He worked hard and sacrificed to achieve that dream, demonstrating to us that no dream is too big if one works hard enough. He worked tirelessly, paying his way through college, obtaining all his flight certifications

and achieving his dream of becoming an airline pilot.

Growing up, he instilled in us the value of hard work. He showed us, through his own actions, that true success is built on a foundation of diligence and perseverance. Our dad taught us to “Always be early, because if you are right on time, you are almost late.” He also taught us that although we “might not always be the smartest person in the room, there is no excuse for getting out-worked.”

Education was always a priority for our dad. He encouraged us to strive for excellence, to reach for our dreams, and to never settle for less than our best. We were taught from a very early age the importance of education. We were taught to appreciate science and facts.

In all my various careers and business ventures, he has always been supportive. When I was a musician, he would go to many of my shows, and pretend to be from a record label, scouting talent.

He cosigned my first business loan, making my risky business venture his own risky business venture.

He is a wonderful grandfather who has always encouraged and supported all his grandchildren. He began teaching my own son, Lucas, about science almost from birth. Dad instilled a lifetime love of science in Lucas that has opened, and will continue to open, many educational and career opportunities for him.

Paul Hyde
Granbury

JOSHUA MORRISON

My dad, Joshua Morrison, is the most inspiring person I know. Most know him from his community service, whether it be any of the various food pantries across town or the multitudes of veterans' outreach services

he runs or participates in. He wasn't always this proactive; during his time in the Army, he struggled behind closed doors — nobody would've known had he not reached out. After he retired, he pursued a career in mental health counseling and is currently the director of veteran services at Pecan Valley Centers.

As I enter this new season of my life, I would like to give credit where it's due: to my dad. Because of him, I aspire to be a mental health counselor myself — I've always looked up to him and so have so many other people, which is why I believe he deserves the title of Most Inspiring Dad.

Katie Morrison
Granbury

PAUL DAMIEN HYDE

My relation to him: Daughter

My dad is the most hard-working person I've ever met. His strong work ethic and determination are not only impressive, but inspiring. I've had the privilege to observe him my entire life. I've seen him do all kinds of labor, from fixing dents, sitting at a desk and talking in VERY smart business terms, and driving me to and from every dance class in the very late hours of the night (thanks, Dad!). Although his resume is very impressive, he's worked the hardest at raising me and my siblings correctly. I thank him eternally for putting up with our shenanigans.

Brylea Hyde
Granbury

PAUL HYDE

My dad, Paul Hyde, is many things. A businessman, a killer guitarist, an entrepreneur, a husband and many more. Most people couldn't handle two of these jobs, but Paul Hyde is not most

people. Despite this hectic lifestyle, he always finds time for his most important task: fatherhood. My dad deserves recognition because he continuously goes above and beyond when it comes to his family. Despite having a very busy work and personal life, he always finds time to support me and my sister in all of our endeavors. Even with a very busy schedule, he always finds a way to make everyone in my family feel loved and appreciated. His relentless efforts and selfless nature truly embody the Hardest Working Dad award.

Lucas Hyde
Granbury

J. RENE LAFLAMME: A FUN DAD

My dad is a gregarious, loving, project-oriented farmer, engineer and funny man. Dad is a deep thinker who enjoys spirited conversations with his five children. I have many fond memories from childhood because of his kindness and patience. One that stands out is “cookie mush.” Oh, how we loved grocery shopping with Dad when he was hungry! Bags of Oreo cookies and gallons of milk would go from shopping cart to our kitchen table to large plastic tumblers for each of us kids. With the milk cascading over the craggy Oreo cookie mountain in our glasses, he said, “Ok, now mash 'em up.” We would stab the mess with our spoons until it resembled ice cream and then delight in its fun and sweetness while cracking jokes. Happy Father's Day to my dear, sweet dad. Relax, please.

I love you,

Lauren
Granbury

RAY DUNCAN

Daughter: Eden Duncan
Gilbreath

My Daddy, Ray Duncan, is warm and charismatic, charming and funny. Flirty and handsome, he has been devoted to my beautiful Mama for well over 60 years, celebrating 60 years of marriage this August.

The epitome of a tough guy, Daddy is a Navy corpsman, a trick rider, a motorcycle rider, an engineer and a craftsman. He can build or fix anything. He bought us a pony as children, and each a dirt bike. He built us the most beautiful wooden go-cart and a playhouse in our basement. He spent his days off taking us to the mountains, to the park, riding bikes, or spending time on the boat.

Daddy has always encouraged my brother and I and now our families. He tells us we were capable of anything, that we are wonderful, brilliant, funny, beautiful and loved. He came to faith in Jesus as an adult and he has a steady faith. His big warm hugs are unmatched. I love you, Daddy!

Always your girl,
Eden

LEO (HUG) GILBREATH

Daughter: Winter Gilbreath
What can I say except that I'm the GOAT and my dad Leo (Hug) Gilbreath is the best! I am so grateful that he has truly cared about me and my interests all my life. He's always supported our family and is our strong protector.

Love you, Dad,
Winter

LEO (HUG) GILBREATH

Son: Wilder Gilbreath
What can I say except that I'm the GOAT and my dad Leo (Hug) Gilbreath is lucky to have me as his son ... wait, that's not right. The truth is MY DAD is the GOAT and he never ceases to amaze me with his incredible lore!

I love you Dad,
Wilder



49TH ANNUAL LONE STAR STREET ROD ASSOCIATION STATE RUN

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
 The Lone Star Street Rod Association held its 49th Annual State Run at Granbury's Hewlett Park, featuring 246 rods for attendees to enjoy. Activities took place all day Saturday and Sunday, and the event concluded with raffle drawings and an awards ceremony at noon Sunday. The event was free of charge for spectators.



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United Republicans of Hood County host state Rep. Glenn Rogers



PHOTOS BY LAUREN DAVIS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Attendees of The United Republicans of Hood County meeting Tuesday, June 11.

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

The United Republicans of Hood County gathered Tuesday evening, June 11, with Dr. Glenn Rogers, state representative for House District 60, as the keynote speaker. The meeting opened with an invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge, setting a patriotic tone for the evening.

Rogers, a sixth-generation Texan with roots in Palo Pinto County since the 1890s, graduated from Texas A&M University and returned home to run the family ranch and establish a veterinary practice. Known for his strong support of rural, conservative values and Second Amendment rights, Rogers emphasized his dedication to his constituents.

"I'm a Christian, I'm a husband, I'm a father, I'm a veterinarian, I'm a rancher, I'm a conservative Republican," Rogers declared. "I consider my district my first responsibility, and I'm a state representative."

Rogers highlighted the achieve-

ments of the last two legislative sessions, describing them as the most conservative in Texas history. "We passed constitutional carry, enacted the largest property tax decrease in Texas history, and passed the strongest border legislation ever," he stated. "We banned drag show performances in front of children, prohibited child gender modification, and removed sexually explicit materials from public school libraries. We also required athletes to compete according to their birth sex, and ended COVID-19 vaccine mandates and DEI offices at universities."

Addressing the difficulties of running for office, Rogers spoke about facing opposition from well-funded adversaries like Tim Dunn and Farris Wilks. "These men hide behind their money and religion, causing more damage to Texas than anyone I know. They spread lies in the name of God," Rogers asserted.

Rogers refuted several accusations from his opponents, including claims that he voted for Sharia law and granted himself a pen-

sion. "I voted with the majority of Republicans 99% of the time. Claims that I supported Sharia law or voted for a pension are absolute lies," he explained. "You don't even get a pension until you've served for eight years."

The representative criticized the influence of wealthy donors in politics. "Tim Dunn and Farris Wilks want you to get all your information from their sources. They want to eliminate public education and enforce a hardline theocracy and oligarchy," Rogers warned. He referred to their influence network as a cartel, highlighting its complexity and constant rebranding.

Rogers mentioned Cary Cheshire and Tony McDonald, referencing a 2020 runoff incident involving a leaked audio recording that mocked Gov. Abbott for being in a wheelchair. The crude language in the recording led to the rebranding of the political action committee "Empower Texans" to "Defend Texas Liberty," and even a third rebranding to "Texans for a Conservative Majority." The latest change came after the Texas

Tribune revealed a meeting that took place between Empower Texans leader Jonathan Strickland and well-known neo-Nazi sympathizer and Holocaust denier Nick Fuentes. They met for over six hours at the PAC's office in Fort Worth. Rogers noted that the individuals involved remain active. "These guys never get rid of their cult leaders," he said.

"I worry about the voting public losing critical thinking skills," Rogers said, "but I know everybody in this room is a critical thinker. That's why we're here." He elaborated on Tim Dunn's intentions: "Dunn is a multi-billionaire with significant influence in various sectors, including religion and education. He aims to destroy public education entirely. He stated a few months ago that he wasn't really concerned about vouchers because they are just

PLEASE SEE **ROGERS** | A10

Rep. Glenn Rogers highlighted the achievements of the last two legislative sessions.



JAIL

FROM PAGE A4

impact on the citizens. Eagle reiterated his comment from the previous agenda item regarding the cost estimate provided to the court a year-and-a-half ago about the jail renovations.

"If I remember correctly, it was around \$23 million, somewhere in that neighborhood. This was back in January of 2023," he said. "If you're looking at the \$32-and-a-half million that you've looked at that was proposed on the 209 bed new addition, when you add the \$23 million to that we got a year-and-a-half ago, and then we add a factor in there to cover just in case, even if it's 10%, or 15%, we should have a pretty good idea of a bond number to get the whole project done. Otherwise, we build a new space and move all the pris-

oners over there, and then we got to come back to the taxpayers and hit them for another bond (for renovations) ... Looking at the big picture, we (need to) have the funds together to do the whole project. Is that unreasonable?"

"Sure, I haven't modeled it out, but it makes sense to me," Sabonis said. "I think it's important to understand not just what this year's need is, but over the course of the next couple of years."

Wilson said that in the study last year planning for 432 beds, the number came out to \$66 million. He argued that with the renovations and new addition costing about \$60 million, it would only be about \$6 million more to build a new facility.

Andrews pointed out that the renovation quote included work that will likely not be needed, as the \$23 million was "way overinflated." He said he believes the renova-

tions would cost between \$10-\$15 million.

"I agree with both Commissioner Eagle and Commissioner Wilson that going to the voters — if that's what we intend to do with the entire package — is better than piecemeal," Samuelson said. "We need to give them all the information, not come back in four or five years and say, 'Oh, well, now we need to renovate the existing jail,' so I think we do need a better estimate for the existing jail renovations so that we can put the total package together and put it in front of the voters. We need to have town halls or sessions at night where people that work can come and listen to what the need is and educate the public on what the need is before we even go out to bond."

Wilson asked Sabonis what his professional opinion is on doing a certificate of obligation or bond package for

the jail. Sabonis said he can give financial advice, but that he would defer to Judge Ron Massingill and the commissioners as "you know your community better than I do."

"On the certificate of obligation, it only requires 5% of the registered voters (to petition for an election); that's 2,500 people," Samuelson said. "I think anybody can look at some recent elections and realize that there's a high probability of getting 2,500 people that will ask us to do an election. This is a lot of money; I think the voters need to weigh in on it."

"A bond lets the taxpayers opt in, and a CO forces them to opt out, and that's why you've only seen a couple of elections where that's happened in all your years of experience because it's really almost a done deal," Eagle said, addressing Sabonis. "That's one of the criticisms currently of the certificates of obligation by local govern-

ments is that if they issue them, they're not going to get challenged. In my opinion, let them opt in, and if they go with it, then we're doing the will of the people."

Wilson added that this fiscal year, the county budgeted \$800,000 for out-of-county housing. He said Hood County has already spent over \$600,000 of that amount, with a third of the fiscal year remaining.

"We will have to be moving money probably the first quarter in July to cover out-of-county housing bills; that's how serious this issue is," Wilson said. "We budgeted \$800,000, and we're probably going to be about \$1.2, maybe even \$1.3 by the end of this fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, so everybody needs to be aware of where we're at and how much money is being expended. We could be making bond payments or certificate of obligations payments."

Wilson made a motion to authorize County Auditor Stephanie Matlock to pursue funding for a certificate of obligation bond for the 209-bed jail facility and the renovation with a cap of \$56 million. With a second from Massingill, the board took a vote, with Samuelson, Andrews and Eagle voting against the motion.

After Wilson's motion failed, Eagle made a motion to have Matlock and Sabonis formalize a plan for a general obligation bond to include the jail renovations and the expansion not to exceed \$50 million. Andrews seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Sabonis added he will work with county staff and his counsel to come up with a presentation in the coming weeks regarding different pricing options and the proposed agenda language for the election.



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5TH ANNUAL 'PICKIN' IN THE PASTURE' BENEFIT CONCERT



Hood County Children's Charity Fund's 5th Annual "Pickin' in the Pasture" concert Saturday, June 8 at Warren's Backyard was a rousing success. Texas Country legend Kevin Fowler headlined the fun-filled event. Support from the concert has a lasting impact as Hood County students return to school in August 2024. Hood County Children's Charity Fund provides clothing and shoes so children can enter the classroom feeling confident. Funds raised will also help restock clothing closets located on every Hood County school campus that students can utilize when an extreme need is identified during the school day by counselors and teachers. Last year, HCCCF clothed over 1,000 students heading into the school year at the cost of \$65,000 and also provided over \$20,000 to graduating seniors attending trade schools and who exhibited significant financial need.

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

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Virginia Nell Douglass

June 21, 1936 - June 7, 2024

Virginia Nell Douglass, 87, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully in her Granbury home on June 7, 2024. She was surrounded by a room-full of family who loved and cherished her as much as she did them.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., on Friday, June 21, 2024, at Wiley Funeral Home, 400 Highway 377 E., in Granbury, Texas. Burial will follow Friday afternoon at Shannon Rose Hill Cemetery in Fort Worth at 1 p.m.

Virginia (Ginny) was born on June 21, 1936, in Sweetwater, Texas to the late Lester and Nora Crutcher. The family later moved to Hooks, Texas, where Ginny grew up. Of her school days, she writes: "I have many wonderful memories of school activities, the most memorable being a member of the Hooks High School band. This band was my primary love, interest, and hobby for seven years. My love of music and performing was developed during these years as I played the flute and was a twirler. During these years I also developed a love of teaching young twirlers and piano students. In high school, I was elected Future Farmers of America sweetheart and later won the title of Miss Hooks."

She was fortunate enough to be able to turn her love of teaching into a 30 plus year career as a special education teacher - a job she was devoted to and truly enjoyed. In 1986, she had the honor of being selected as Teacher of the Year for Bellaire Elementary school in Bedford, Texas.

By this time, Ginny was already a mom, a soon-to-be Memaw, and happily living her life to the fullest. While her primary passions always revolved around family, she was also an active member of the community. She was involved in many civic service organizations, clubs, and prior to moving to Granbury, was active in the Hurst Amateur Radio Club.

She developed a love of the outdoors early in life and fully embraced all of the perks that lake life had to offer. She even went so far as to keeping a bar of soap on the dock and taking the occasional bath in the canal! Early morning boat rides, cruising around a glassy Lake Granbury became a morning ritual and she was still slalom skiing with the best of 'em at age 76. In her later years, she hung up her slalom ski for a jet ski she named "Big Red". From then on, her mornings consisted of, (in her words) "circling all over, taking in the beauty and peacefulness of our beautiful lake" and riding across the lake to visit her son, David. Not even the coldest of winter days could keep her from her morning jet ski adventures. Riding her jet ski in snow goggles, snow boots and curlers quickly made her the talk of the neighborhood. She was truly a sight to behold. She con-



tinued her morning rides on "Big Red" well into her 80s.

Our Memaw was an avid lover of plants and was proud to earn the title of Master Gardener. Traveling and scuba diving also brought great joy to her life. She found peace in the serenity of the ocean and logged more dives in two years than most people do in a lifetime. While at home, outside of being on the lake with family or working in the garden, she would play bridge multiple times a week and never turn down a chance to get dressed up to see a show on the square. She was an entertainer at heart, the life of the party and enjoyed every second of it!

The depth of love she felt for her two children, David and Cathy, was unlike any other. They were, and will always be, the center of her universe, her reason for existing, her everything.

Luckily, the capacity of her heart knew no bounds because another great love came into her life in the form of a baby boy named Carson Westbrook. Her great-grandson was able to bring light back into her eyes and a smile to her face when nothing and no one else could. He was her joy, her angel. His last gift to her in their final moments together was a simple kiss on the hand that will forever remain a cherished memory to her family.

Memaw was blessed to be able to live out her final earthly months in her own home, being cared for by her granddaughter Stefanie and husband Chaney who loved her with all their heart and soul and helped to ensure her last stages of life were filled with love, laughter, dancing, comfort and peace.

The spirit of this one-of-a-kind, sassy, firecracker of a woman will live on in the hearts and lives of her family and friends for many years to come.

Virginia is survived by her children: David Douglass and wife Sandra, and Cathy (Douglass) White and husband John; grandchildren; Stefanie (Douglass) Schmidt and husband Chaney, Chad Douglass and wife Keally, Abby and Allie White; and great-grandson, Carson Westbrook Douglass. She was also blessed with a bonus family from her late husband Will Rollins consisting of five daughters, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

In addition to her parents, Virginia was preceded in death by her husbands, Clifford Douglass and Willard Rollins.

OBITUARIES

Donald Lee Richt

June 21, 1950 - June 3, 2024

My beloved husband, TSGT Donald Lee Richt, was called home to be with his Lord on Monday, June 3, 2024. He was born in Elwood City, Pennsylvania on June 21, 1950, to Marjorie Seibka and Howard Volz who preceded him in death. Don and I married in Abilene, Texas. When he proposed, he asked me to marry him every 10 years, so we have been married five times. He was an extremely loving husband and father to our son, Joe Richt, who is engaged to Revah Rice.

Don retired from the United States Air Force with his service years 1968-1989. He was a patriot and loved America. He would gladly defend America at any time. He was a lifetime member of our local VFW post 7835. He showed his love for me and our family every single day.

Don fulfilled all my wishes and childhood dreams of going to England and Scotland. He was the most amazing, awesome husband, and my soulmate for eternity.

Don was easy going and liked by everyone. He also retired from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Then he worked at the Hilton Garden Inn for eight years.



We have four grandchildren, Joseph Richt, Jr., Kailee Heinger who has two daughters, Paisley and Lilianna, Nathan Richt, and Breanna and Owen who have a son, Desmond; nine great-grandchildren.

Don is preceded in death by sister, Cindy Resse, survived by sister, Judy Campbell married to Bill Campbell with a daughter, Ali.

All my love sweetheart till I hold you in my arms again. Love and miss you, Mary Richt.

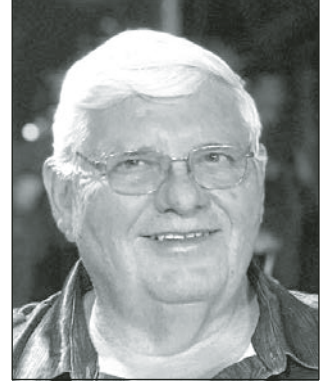
Visitation: 6-8 p.m., Friday, June 14, 2024, at Wiley Funeral Home. Service 11 a.m., Saturday, June 15, 2024, at Wiley Funeral Home. Burial at Holly Hills Memorial Park in Granbury, Texas.

Celebration of Life following burial at 2 p.m. VFW post #7835.

Gerry Dwayne Heathington

June 11, 1954 - June 5, 2024

Gerry Dwayne Heathington, 69, of Granbury, died June 5, 2024 at his home. He was born on June 11, 1954, to L.O. Heathington and Grace Kincannon. He married Glenda Taylor on Nov. 24, 1976, and they had three sons: Jonathan, Aaron, and Kyle. He worked as a plumbing contractor and retired from L.O.'s Dirt Work. He was an avid Dallas sports team fan, fisherman, and boater.



Gerry is survived by his wife, Glenda; sons and their families, Jonathan and Jackie, Aaron and Christy, Kyle and Nicole; seven grandchildren; and brothers, Leonard, Jerry, and Sam. He was preceded in death by his parents, L.O. and Grace, and his sister, Rachel.

A celebration-of-life event was held on June 11 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Celebration Hall on the Granbury Square. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the American Liver Foundation.

PLEASE SEE OBITS | A10

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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

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ACROSS

- 1 TX Tommy Lee film: "Eyes of Laura _____"
- 5 TXism: "chew _____ awhile" (ponder)
- 6 San Antonio "Road-runners" univ.
- 7 classic western: "High _____" (1952)
- 8 basic cable net.
- 9 "it don't _____ up" (makes no sense)
- 12 seat of Callahan County on I-20
- 17 position of Texas legend Nolan Ryan
- 19 TXism: "got as much chance as _____ in a packing plant"
- 21 TXism: "_____ a goose"
- 22 apprehended
- 23 popular TV dog
- 28 Monahans _____ hills State Park
- 29 TX Joe Don Baker film: "Cape _____"
- 30 one name for the earliest country in Texas
- 31 Cowboys won _____ Bowl five times
- 35 TX-born Keyes book "Scarlett O' _____ Younger Sister"
- 36 TXism: "three _____ wind" (drunk)
- 42 large hairy spider
- 44 Karmann _____ (old Volkswagens)
- 46 melons grown in the Rio Grande Valley
- 48 Cowboys hated foe
- 49 Assoc. Press TV News (APTN) bought this internet agcy. in 1999
- 50 large tub
- 51 poker stakes
- 52 dir. from Andrews to Cross Plains
- 53 Dallas and Houston have _____ transit
- 54 Rio Grande in Mexico: "Rio Bravo del _____"
- 56 "neither's" sidekick
- 57 TXism: "a boldface _____"
- 58 gotta gain these to get TDs

DOWN

- 1 seat of Titus County (2 wds.)
- 2 San _____, TX
- 3 Italian rice dishes
- 4 Marsh, creator of the "Cadillac Ranch," for short
- 9 TXism: "active as a fox in _____ house"
- 10 TXism: "he was around when the _____ sick" (old)
- 11 physicians (abbr.)
- 12 legally prohibit
- 13 TXism: "nervous _____ frying pan"
- 14 TXism: "let _____ (leave it alone)"
- 15 singer McEntire from Texas
- 16 _____ Park, Texas
- 18 southern states gov. in Civil War
- 20 ave. or st., e.g.
- 23 Chris _____ Doux is in the "Texas Trail Hall of Fame"
- 24 Texas cosmetics founder Mary Kay
- 25 expectorated
- 26 _____ T. Hughes swore in LBJ on Air Force One in 1963
- 27 TXism: "get your ducks _____"
- 32 Austin univ.
- 33 Xbox competitor (abbr.)
- 34 marlian? (abbr.)
- 36 pigpen
- 37 Paul Newman 1963 film about Texas
- 38 7- _____ (Texas convenience store)
- 39 TXism: "_____ the unvarnished truth"
- 40 Texas Southern sprinter Jim who won 1968 Gold
- 41 TXism: "_____ high on the hog" (rich)
- 43 Rangers drafted this Robb in 1987
- 45 Jeremy Pena pos. with the Astros
- 47 this promotes the growth of muscles
- 48 TXism: "boring as a fishing trip with a _____ warden"
- 55 TX ZZ Top breakthrough album: "_____ Hombres"

Avoid these estate planning mistakes

TAYLOR MOBLY
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



Taylor Mobly

PROCRASTINATING

Estate planning, and its implications about our mortality, may not be a pleasant topic to think about. Yet, putting off your estate plans can be risky. If you were to pass away or become incapacitated without doing any estate planning, the results could be costly for your loved ones. One possible consequence: If you haven't at least created a basic, simple will, the courts could decide how to divide and distribute your assets, and

they may do so in a way you wouldn't want.

NOT UPDATING WILLS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS

Drafting a will and other legal documents, such as a living trust, is an important step in your estate planning. But you shouldn't just create these arrangements and forget about them. Changes in your life and among your loved ones — deaths, divorce, remarriage, new children and more — may result in the need for you to update your estate plans, so it's a good idea to review them periodically.

NOT UPDATING BENEFICIARIES

Similar to updating your

will to reflect changes in your life and family situation, you may also need to update the beneficiaries listed on your financial accounts and insurance policies. These designations carry a lot of weight and can even supersede instructions in your will, so you'll need to make sure they are current and accurate.

NOT PROPERLY TITLING ASSETS IN A TRUST

Depending on your situation, you may benefit from establishing a living trust, which may allow your estate to avoid the time-consuming and expensive process of probate. A living trust also helps give you control over how, and when, you want your assets distributed.

However, you need to retitle your assets in the name of the trust for the trust to be effective.

NOT CHOOSING THE RIGHT EXECUTOR

An executor carries out your wishes based on the instructions you've given in your will or trust documents. But fulfilling an executor's duties is not as simple as, say, following a recipe for a basic meal. Consequently, while you might just want to pick a close family member as executor, you need to be sure this person is competent, good with details and won't be overwhelmed by the financial and legal issues involved in settling an estate. If your initial choice doesn't have these skills, you may

need to find a responsible person outside the family.

Finally, here's one more mistake: going it alone. Estate planning is not a do-it-yourself activity. To help ensure your estate plan addresses all the issues involved, you'll need to work with a legal advisor, and possibly your tax and financial professionals, too.

Devoting the necessary time and effort can help you avoid many of the mistakes that threaten the effectiveness of estate plans — and the fewer mistakes you make, the better off your beneficiaries can be.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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

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

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

EVERY SUNDAY
STARTING A New Life is a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one through death. This includes the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling or close friend. For the past 26 years, this group has helped people work through their grief process. If you, or someone you know, is suffering from the loss of a loved one, come or bring them to our next session that began March 19, 2023. We are Christian based, nondenominational, and wel-

come all who are suffering. We meet 3-5 p.m. on Sundays in the parish hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Ben Bradley at 575-706-5703 or Sherry Bingham at 817-657-0822.

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

EVERY TUESDAY
PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30-1:30 p.m. A noncontact boxing and fitness program designed for people with Parkinson's Disease. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

GRIEF SHARE 14-WEEK seminar. Next session begins Sept. 10, 6:30-8 p.m. Presented by StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: GriefShare.StoneWaterChurch.com or call 817-579-9175. May call anytime for help.

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, Christ-centered recovery program. Free dinner 6-6:45 p.m., large group meetings 7-8 p.m., small group meetings 8-9 p.m. Lakeside Baptist Church, 500 W. Bluebonnet Drive. 817-573-2094. Questions: Tim White 817-223-0973 or Becky Pierce 254-396-5918.

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

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

tails: 817-573-7474.
RE|ENGAGE MARRIAGE Enrichment meets every Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at StoneWater Church in Granbury. For more information email to paige.kitchens@stonewaterchurch.com.

EVERY FRIDAY
PUNCHIN' PARKINSON'S in Granbury. 12:30-1:30 p.m. A noncontact boxing and fitness program designed for people with Parkinson's Disease. First Christian Church, 2109 W. U.S. Highway 377 (next door to Tractor Supply).

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, Christ-centered recovery program. 12 step groups 7-8 p.m., "Friday Night Live! Church" 8:15-9 p.m. Lakeside Baptist Church, 500 W. Bluebonnet Drive. 817-573-2094. Questions: Tim White 817-223-0973 or Becky Pierce 254-396-5918.

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

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

SECOND MONDAY
THE LOCAL Chapter (238) of the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) meets at 3601 Fall Creek Highway, (Good Shepherd Anglican Church) on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. The meeting purpose is to have camaraderie with other veterans but to learn how the VA keeps its promise to take care of disabled veterans, men and women.

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

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

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

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

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

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

HGMA FROM PAGE A1

November.
 "We will have elections at that time and the person that is elected will move in in January," she said. "There will also be some other people that will roll off as well, so it's not just that one position; it will be for whatever is open. At this time, I will appoint somebody, and we will make a decision about who to appoint within this next (election). We have some great people that would be good that have already shown interest, so that's what we're going to do, and then we'll hold the elections in November. We're trying to be as transparent and open as we can about everything that's going on."
 Langford also stressed that this is a new beginning for HGMA and that she is optimistic about going forward with the organization and all the positive and great things that they can do as a team. Another big change to

the organization, Langford said, is that future HGMA meetings will not be held at Farina's Winery & Cafe, as the organization is trying to be more financially responsible with its funds.
 "Frankly, we don't have the money to spend for y'all to eat dinner anymore, so that is why the board brought you food and drinks tonight," she said. "Going forward, we're going to ask you all to bring food, too, and maybe have sponsors that come in and bring food that can talk to you all about different things that may be of interest to our group. But our number one goal is to be financially responsible with the job that you voted us into doing, so going forward, this (the Gordon House) will be the place we meet unless we grow out of it."
 Members also did not receive financial information for the month, but Langford assured everyone that she will be "open with where we stand," next month.
 "Everybody says that we

are flat broke. I know it. I hear it," she said. "We are not broke, but we do need money. We need to have the festivals and work hard to make them great, so think about some ways to maybe have a fundraiser."
 Due to the financial setback, several members have also been forced to resign as their positions would no longer be funded.
 "We will sort it all out," Langford said. "We're a strong team, and we can do this."
 As far as HGMA's office at 201 E. Pearl St., C-201, the organization will continue to operate there, but Langford said there is currently a transition with the building.
 "It's going to belong to somebody else next week, so we don't know exactly what that entails really, but we have a lease through the end of December 2025, so we're kind of stuck in that right now," she said. "But we're going to try to maintain that office."
 A member of the HGMA also asked Langford if the building is now owned by the city. She said, "Not yet, but soon."

She added that the current plan is to have somebody from HGMA in the office during the week from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. to address needs and concerns.
 In the next couple of weeks, Langford said she will also send out a membership satisfaction and suggestion survey for members to be "painfully honest" about any ideas or changes going forward.
 "When you fill the forms out, remember that the things that went on prior to us, we are handling," Langford said. "We are doing a dive on what we need to do to make the organization healthy, to get everything straight that needs to be straightened out and to make sure that we are being fiscally responsible with the money that we receive."
 After the surveys are returned, Langford said HGMA will have another meeting to address any concerns to make members "feel better about the organization."
 She concluded, "We are being vigilant in figuring this out and making this a healthy organization."

OBITS CONTINUED FROM | A9

Linda Ice West

March 14, 1945 - June 10, 2024



Linda Ice West, 79, passed away peacefully at her home in Granbury on June 10, 2024, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.
 Linda was born March 14, 1945, to Lillian Louise Norman and Claudine Ice in Glen Rose, Texas. She attended Glen Rose schools and will be best remembered for her outstanding basketball career where she helped lead the lady Tigerettes to three regional championships and to their first ever State tournament in 1963. She still holds school records to date. Linda obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tarleton University, graduating with honors. On April 11, 1964, Linda married Lynwood West and they had two sons, Landon and Lorne. In 1974, they moved to Granbury where they both started their teaching and coaching careers at Granbury Middle School. Linda taught English and drama for 30 years and served as a UIL instructor and cheerleading sponsor. Her teaching philosophy was simple, "give guidance and let them learn by doing."
 Linda later married Donnie Johnson on July 11, 1997, and they have lived a full, beautiful life together over the past 27 years. They loved spending time with their grandchildren and numerous friends, being active in their church and community, and spending time at the farm.
 Linda was an active member of Granbury First United Methodist Church where she served on numerous committees, led the charge in burning the church note in 2018, and brought the sport of pickleball to the church. She was a lifelong athlete playing basketball, tennis, and pickleball and always enjoyed a little friendly competition. Linda spent

countless hours at her breakfast nook watching birds in the backyard, especially the owl she came to consider her pet. Her faith was the foundation upon which she built and lived her life; she was a beautiful example of a Christian wife, mother, grandmother, and friend.
 Linda was preceded in death by her first husband, Lynnwood West; her son, Lorne West; and her parents, Lewis and Louise Reynolds.
 Linda is survived by her husband Donnie Johnson of Granbury; son Landon West and wife Carly of Glen Rose; grandchildren Landry, Lindsey, and Lane West; stepsons and their wives Cullen and Melissa Johnson and Bert and Julie Johnson; step-grandchildren Kennady Johnson, Kate Johnson, Ava Johnson, Jillian Kirkley, and Madeleine Kirkley.
 Services will be held Wednesday, June 19, 2024, at 11 a.m. at Granbury First United Methodist Church. Family will visit with friends immediately following the service. A private family burial will follow the service.
 Services are under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home.
 In lieu of flowers, memorials in Linda's name may be directed to the Building Fund for Glen Rose First Methodist Church, PO Box 426, Glen Rose, Texas 76043.

To All Interested Persons And Parties:
 Croell, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 175613, which would authorize construction of a permanent concrete batch plant located at 101 Electric Road, Tolar, Hood County, Texas 76048. Additional information concerning this application is contained in the public notice section of this newspaper.

Last Puzzle Solution

S-1694

ROGERS FROM PAGE A7

one step towards completely dismantling public schools."
 Rogers also addressed the broader state of the Republican Party, questioning whether it is growing or dividing. "Extremists on the left are trying to destroy America, and extremists on the right are destroying the Republican Party," he said. "Common sense Republicans turned Texas red. Extremist Republicans will turn Texas blue."
 During the meeting, Rogers presented highlights from the 2024 Texas GOP Convention, including the new chair, Abraham George, hand-picked by former Texas state representative and outgoing Texas GOP chair Matt Rinaldi; the keynote speaker was U.S. Congressman Matt Gaetz. Rogers stressed the importance of integrity in political funding, stating, "Never take money from people you can't say no to."

Rogers outlined his perspective on contentious topics such as vouchers, taxpayer-funded lobbying, Democrat chairs and closed primaries. He expressed concerns about the divisive tactics used by hardliners within the Republican Party, which he believes aim to enforce conformity or face destruction.
 The meeting concluded with a review of conservative victories from the 87th and 88th legislative sessions. Rogers highlighted significant achievements, including the passing of constitutional carry, the most significant property tax decrease in Texas history, and bans on abortion, child gender modification, and drag show performances in front of children.
 Overall, the meeting, sponsored by John Henry and Marilyn Luton, was polite and upbeat. The group also discussed changing the meeting night, and specific days were mentioned, but no official changes were made.

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

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Al's Fencing. *Chain Link, *Barbed Wire, *Pipe, *Game Fence *Cable, *Field Fence, *Privacy, *Iron, *Game Fence, *Cattle Pens, *Cattle Guards, built and installed. *Carports, Fence Repairs, *Tree Removal, *Entrance Ways, *Construction Clean-Up. Commercial and residential. Call-682-205-6860.

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COUNTRY BOY HANDYMAN Repairs, Painting, Roofing, Plumbing, Electrical, Small concrete projects and Fencing. (682)387-2294.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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SUPERIOR LAWN CARE Serving Hood County more than 9 years with 20 years Exp. Professional, dependable, competitive prices. Free estimates. (817)395-3490

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Commercial & Residential Tree Removals Tree Trimming Hazardous Removals Emergency Tree Services & More We Offer Forestry Mulching & Land Clearing Fully Insured We accept Credit Cards Call 817 487 8448 to get an estimate on your project today! Branchbosstreeco.com Branchbosstreeco@gmail.com



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

5240 Masonry
AFFORDABLE ROCK WORK *Sidewalks *Retaining Walls *Mailboxes *Fireplaces No job too small. FREE estimates. (817)279-3212

5260 Moving/Hauling
HAULING & CLEAN-OUTS Usually same or next day service, no job too large or small. Free Estimates. We take all credit cards. Call 817-566-4785

5260 Plumbing
PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE WORK Clean-outs, French Drains, and French Pit. Free Estimates. We take all credit cards. Call 817-566-4785

SPORTS & RECREATION

6040 Guns
ATTENTION firearms transferred \$25.00 Ed Hern (817)326-4933

MERCHANDISE

6620 Miscellaneous
WAGON YARD.COM We sell local honey, Watkins, Howard Products, Mexican Vanilla. Repair Battery Clocks, Elec Lamps. 817-573-5321

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

LIVESTOCK & PETS

8030 Pets
STD POODLE PUPPIES Well bred AKC STD Poodle puppies. 7 weeks old. 5 males and 5 females. Merle tuxedos, silver tuxedos and blk tuxedos. Solid Merle and apricots. Super smart and well bred. Wormed and vaccinated. Will need rabies. \$1200 (817) 757-6187 mrg76049@gmail.com

JULIE'S DOG HOUSE GROOMING
Very Reasonable; Senior Discount (817) 408-5288 wilsonjulianne@gmail.com

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

8040 Pets Lost & Found
IF YOU HAVE LOST OR FOUND AN ANIMAL, please contact Hood County Animal Control, 1550 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury, Texas 76048. 817-573-4277

MISSING DOG - Tan with white around the face and paws. Rat terrier mix. Went Missing around Blue Branch Ranch off Tin Top Hwy on May 24th. Please call 682-888-6125

EMPLOYMENT

8510 General
Airco A/C is looking for an experienced residential service tech. Good pay. Must pass background check. Please fax resume to 817-579-0706 or email to aairco@sbcglobal.net
Airco A/C is now hiring AC installers or helpers. Must be experienced. Good pay. Must pass background check. Please fax resume to 817-579-0706 or email to aairco@sbcglobal.net

HOUSE PARENTS needed at North Central Texas Academy. Both live-in and shift positions available. Apply online at: <https://happyhillfarm.org/residentparents/>

FRONT GATE ATTENDANT needed at North Central Texas Academy. Please pick up an application at our front gate located at 3846 N. Hwy. 144, Granbury, TX 76048.

General

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

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

Competitive pay and great work environment.

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

Come join the Hood County News team!

SELF-STORAGE ASSISTANT MANAGER
Pay \$18 per hour PART TIME (approx. 42.5 hrs every 2 weeks) requiring every other Saturday. Must have strong overall computer skills, including Microsoft Word and Excel. Must be comfortable with multi-tasking administrative duties and able to perform light outdoor property upkeep. Email resume to acistorage76048@gmail.com

HELP WANTED
Landscape/lawn maintenance. Starting at \$14 an hour. Brad (817) 219-8637

Construction

CONSTRUCTION - GENERAL LABORER Bleeker Earthworks has immediate openings. Please come by our office for an application. 765 Cleveland Rd. Granbury, Tx 76049 (682) 500-1801 bleekerearthworks@gmail.com

- CDL DRIVER AND SKID STEER OPERATOR. Bleeker Earthworks has immediate openings. Please come by our office to apply. 765 Cleveland Rd. Granbury TX 76049. 682-500-1801 bleekerearthworks@gmail.com

Professional

North Central Texas Academy is seeking:
High school History teacher
Upper Elementary teacher
All applicants must be state certified teachers.
Apply at: <https://www.northcentraltexasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/>
For questions please contact Amanda Schwausch at a.schwausch@nctapioneers.org

Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RICHARD JUDSON CONNER, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, in Cause No. P10343 pending in the County Court of HOOD County, Texas, to: Cindy Chase

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: Representative, Estate of RICHARD JUDSON CONNER The Hyde Law Firm 827 West Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 DATED 06 day of June 2024. /s/ Riley Roden

Riley Roden Attorney for Cindy Chase Bar no: 24138241 Office Phone: (817) 579-5779 Fax: (817) 573-4933 Email: riley@hydefirm.com

Application is being made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer's Off-Premise Permit by Dolgencorp of Texas, Inc. d/b/a Dollar General Store #30244 located at 3520 Contry Creek Road, Granbury, Hood County, TX 76048. Officers of said Corporation are Steven R. Deckard, CEO, Kelly M. Dilts, CFO, Neal E. Miller, VP Tax, and Emily C. Taylor, EVP/Secretary.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SARAH B. WRIGHT, Deceased, were issued on May 29, 2024, in Cause No. P10363, pending in the County Court of HOOD County, Texas, to: Deborah Reynolds.

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: Representative, Estate of SARAH B. WRIGHT The Hyde Law Firm 827 West Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 DATED the 06 day of June 2024. /s/ Riley Roden

Riley Roden Attorney for Deborah Reynolds Bar no: 24138241 Office Phone: (817) 579-5779 Fax: (817) 573-4933 Email: riley@hydefirm.com

Professional

North Central Texas Academy is seeking:
High school History teacher
Upper Elementary teacher
All applicants must be state certified teachers.
Apply at: <https://www.northcentraltexasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/>
For questions please contact Amanda Schwausch at a.schwausch@nctapioneers.org

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9031
Public Notices

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.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estate of Veta Anita Gilliam, Cause No. P10279, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

Brenda Lee Gilliam Brown in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of Veta Anita Gilliam, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this on this the 3rd day of June 2024
Christine C. Leftwich
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estate of William Haskell Gilliam, Cause No. P10280, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

Brenda Lee Gilliam Brown in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of William Haskell Gilliam, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this on this the 3rd day of June 2024
Christine C. Leftwich
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy

9031
Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard R. Heller, Deceased, were granted on April 24, 2024, in Cause No. P10223, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: David R. Heller.

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

DATED the 24th day of April 2024.

The Reid Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for David R. Heller
By: /s/ Samuel I. Reid
Steven J. Reid
State Bar No.: 16747900
Samuel I. Reid
State Bar No.: 24105702
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
Telephone: (817) 573-3718
Facsimile: (817) 573-9732
E-mail: steve@reidfirm.com
samuel@reidfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Keith E. Hurst, Deceased, were granted on May 29, 2024, in Cause No. P10391, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Jerri D. Hurst.

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

DATED the 29th day of May 2024.

The Reid Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Jerri D. Hurst
By: /s/ Samuel I. Reid
Steven J. Reid
State Bar No.: 16747900
Samuel I. Reid
State Bar No.: 24105702
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
Telephone: (817) 573-3718
Facsimile: (817) 573-9732
E-mail: steve@reidfirm.com
samuel@reidfirm.com

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estates of DONALD H. ALANA, Cause No. P09932, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

NANCY D. ALANA in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Amended Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of DONALD H. ALANA, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this on this the 10th day of June 2024
Christine C. Leftwich
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF
CHERYL C. AMERINE as Independent
Executor of the Estate of RONALD L.
VAN METER, aka RONALD LEE VAN METER, Deceased.

Pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, in Matters of Probate No. P10404.

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ABOVE ESTATE:
WHEREAS, on the 29th day of May 2024, in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, the undersigned duly qualified as the Independent Executor of the Estate of RONALD L. VAN METER, aka RONALD LEE VAN METER, Deceased.

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary on this estate were granted and this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Any person indebted to said estate is hereby notified to pay same to the undersigned.

CHERYL C. AMERINE, Independent Executor of the Estate of RONALD L. VAN METER, aka RONALD LEE VAN METER, Deceased.
Address:
c/o Law Office of LACEY P. WHITTEN, Attorney,
Attn: Lacey P. Whitten,
8526 N. New Braunfels Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78217.
Dated at San Antonio, Texas, June 11, 2024.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estate of William Haskell Gilliam, Cause No. P10280, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

Brenda Lee Gilliam Brown in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of William Haskell Gilliam, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas this on this the 3rd day of June 2024
Christine C. Leftwich
Hood County Clerk
P.O. Box 339
Hood County, Texas 76048
By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The following items will be considered at a Public Hearing conducted by the ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT of the City of Granbury on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

1. ZBA-2024-05, Request of Frank C. Dale for a Special Exception to Zoning Ordinance, Section 11.2.D Parking Table, to reduce parking requirements. The property is addressed as 2440 E. Hwy 377.

A. § 551.071. Consultation with Attorney. The Zoning Board of Adjustment may convene in executive session to conduct a private consultation with its attorney on any legally posted agenda item, when the Zoning Board of Adjustment seeks the advice of its attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the provisions of Chapter 551.

For more information, contact the Community Development Department at (817) 573-1114, Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge Street.

Advertisement to Bid

The City of Granbury is accepting sealed competitive unit bids for the following:

Granbury Regional Airport Pavement Rehabilitation RFP No. 23-24-06 until July 2, 2024 at 2:00pm CST, at which time they will be opened publicly at 401 N Park St. Granbury, TX 76048. Bids should be mailed, or hand delivered and shall be in a sealed envelope addressed to:
City of Granbury Municipal Service Center
Attn: Purchasing Department
"Granbury Regional Airport Pavement Rehabilitation RFP No. 23-24-06"
401 N. Park Street
Granbury, TX 76048

Bid packet and documents will be available on the City of Granbury website <https://www.granbury.org/72/Purchasing> starting June 17, 2024 at 1pm. Specific information regarding this bid shall be requested from Purchasing Manager at 817-573-7030 or crussell@granbury.org. Any Bids received after the closing date and hour will not be accepted and will not be returned. The City reserves the right to reject any and/or bids and to waive any formality in connection therewith.

classifieds.hcnews.com

PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048
Garage Sales 76048

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

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

New Beginnings
Resale Shoppe & Boutique

817-964-3445

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

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

YARD SALE: GRANBURY 207 S Cherry Lane- 1st phase of 3 phase yard sale. Moving/downsizing. Bargains galore. Back yard. Saturday June 15

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 1309 PRESTON TRAIL CT- Multi Family. A little bit of everything! June 14-15

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!

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 610 Apollo Ct- Friday & Saturday 14th, 15th many kitchen items some tools, sm appliances, rod & reels, patio furniture, sewing machine, framed art, power washer needs work. 8 am - 4:00pm

Large multi-family garage sale. Thurs-Fri, June 13-14. 8am-2pm. 3000 Saunter Ln., Meander Estates.

817-573-7066
classifieds.hcnews.com

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Public Notices

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



EXAMPLE A

Consolidated Notice of Receipt of Application and Intent to Obtain Permit and Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision

Air Quality Standard Permit for Concrete Batch Plants Proposed Registration No. 175613

Application. Croell, Inc., has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 175613, which would authorize construction of a permanent concrete batch plant located at 101 Electric Road, Tolar, Hood County, Texas 76048. 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 exact location, refer to application. <https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.894722,32.397978&level=13>. The proposed facility will emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter including (but not limited to) aggregate, cement, road dust, and particulate matter with diameters of 10 microns or less and 2.5 microns or less.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on March 8, 2024. The executive director has completed the administrative and technical reviews of the application and determined that the application meets all of the requirements of a standard permit authorized by 30 TAC § 116.611, which would establish the conditions under which the plant must operate. The executive director has made a preliminary decision to issue the registration because it meets all applicable rules. The application, executive director's preliminary decision, and standard permit will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Dallas/Fort Worth regional office, and at Hood County Library, 222 North Travis Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas 76048, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review at the TCEQ Dallas/Fort Worth Regional Office, 2309 Gravel Drive, Fort Worth, Texas. Visit www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cbp to review the standard permit.

Public Comment/Public Meeting. You may submit public comments or request a public meeting. See Contacts section. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. **The deadline to submit public comments or meeting requests is 30 days after newspaper notice is published.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the TCEQ's jurisdiction to consider in the permit process.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held 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. If a public meeting is held, the deadline to submit public comments is extended to the end of the public meeting.

Contested Case Hearing. You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. **Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 30 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application.**

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. To request a hearing, a person must actually reside in a permanent residence within 440 yards of the proposed plant. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number; (2) applicant's name and registration number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility; and (7) a list of all disputed issues of fact that you submit during the comment period. If the request is made by a group or association, one or more members who have standing to request a hearing must be identified by name and physical address. The interests which the group or association seeks to protect must be identified. You may submit your proposed adjustments to the application which would satisfy your concerns. See Contacts section.

TCEQ Action. After the deadline for public comments, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. The executive director's decision on the application, and any response to comments, will be mailed to all persons on the mailing list. If no timely contested case hearing requests are received, or if all hearing requests are withdrawn, the executive director may issue final approval of the application. If all timely hearing requests are not withdrawn, the executive director will not issue final approval of the permit and will forward the application and requests to the 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 air quality concerns submitted during the comment period.** Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

Mailing List. You may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive additional information on this specific application. See Contacts section.

Information Available Online. For details about the status of the application, visit the Commissioners' Integrated Database (CID) at www.tceq.texas.gov/goto/cid. Once you have access to the CID using the link, enter the registration number at the top of this notice.

Contacts. Public comments and requests must be submitted either electronically at 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 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 informacion en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040.

Further information may also be obtained from Croell, Inc., PO Box 430, New Hampton, IA 50659-0430 or by calling Mr. Jordan Hindman, Managing Partner at (816) 434-0563.

Notice Issuance Date: May 8, 2024

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

KNIEPER REALTY

Happy National Homeownership Month



BY PAM KNIEPER

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

Happy Father's Day and Happy National Homeownership Month! If you think about it, the two fit together nicely. Just think about all the dads who will receive home maintenance related gifts this Father's Day. From tool kits to riding lawn mowers and everything in between, we celebrate not only that man we love and call Dad, but also the pride he takes in the family home.

National Homeownership Month is celebrated every June to raise awareness about the benefits of owning a home and making homeownership more accessible for all Americans.

The National Association of REALTORS® reminds us that "The benefits of purchasing and owning your place of residence are both financial and emotional. Pride in homeownership and the feeling of security are huge intangible benefits."

Homeownership has always been considered the foundation of community stability and familial happiness and is still considered "The American Dream." NAR believes homeownership gives families more financial security, a better lifestyle and stronger communities through supporting local business, schools

and services making it a powerful financial, psychological and physical stake in our neighborhoods and communities.

For many Americans, homeownership is more than just having a place to call home, it's also a way to build wealth. Studies show that home equity is the single largest financial asset for households in the three middle-income brackets, representing between 50% and 70% of their wealth. So, if you're trying to decide if buying a home is worth it, consider the long-term benefits, like building equity as home values grow over time.

According to the Federal Housing Finance Association home values have increased by 315.7% since 1991. Home equity is one reason owning your own place can really pay off



COURTESY PHOTO BY PROSTOCK-STUDIO, ADOBESTOCK.COM

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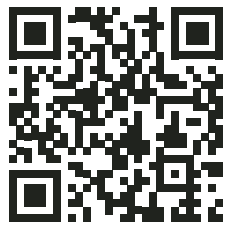
in the long run. The NAR states that homeowners attain 46 times the personal wealth of renters because of equity ownership.

There is little doubt that current market conditions are a bit more challenging. Home prices are up, interest rates are up, but so are inventories, and higher inventories are good for buyers. Having more than one home to choose from and

not having to enter competitive bidding are positives. Homes are staying on the market longer and this is causing sellers to be more competitive in their pricing and negotiations. Working with a REALTOR® who understands the market and keeps up with fluctuations in interest rates and property values can make a huge difference to your home buying experi-

ence. The agents at Knieper Realty stand ready to walk you through each and every step to make your homebuying experience as happy and stress-free as possible. So celebrate the dads in your family this Father's Day and give us a call if you decide that National Homeownership Month is when you want to start your homebuying experience. As always please feel

free to call with questions or comments. We can be reached at 817-219-0456 or contact us online at www.WeSellGranbury.com.



DEALS OF THE WEEK

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150 Deer Park Court, Granbury

REDUCED AND READY TO SELL



\$269,000

4504 Tulip Drive, Granbury

HOT NEW PRICE



\$498,500

1207 Caballo Way, Granbury



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Granbury welcomes new AD, trio of new coaches

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

For the first time in nearly two decades, the Granbury sports programs will go into a new academic year with a new athletic director at the helm. Lamont Moore replaces Dwight Butler, who led GISD sports since coming to Granbury from Big Spring in 2005. Butler retired at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

Moore actually joined the district in March as he was making the transition to take the helm. In his short time, he has already made two head coaching hires.

Moore comes to Granbury from Waxahachie, where he was the head track and field coach and a campus administrator. He's anxious to get his first athletic director gig underway.

"As I head into my first year as an AD, I couldn't be more excited. I was presented with a great opportunity to make an imprint on this athletic program, and also in the community," Moore said. "Thankful for Dr. (Jeremy) Glenn (GISD Superintendent) and the trustees for giving me this opportunity."

"I can't wait to start laying out my mission, my vision for the athletic program. I think we're off to a good start with the hires we made and working with the current coaches I



Granbury's new athletic director Lamont Moore (left) and new head football coach Bobby Allison visit during spring workouts.

inherited."

Moore was at Waxahachie for over six years. He was also an assistant football coach from 2015-20 and again this past season. Before returning to Waxahachie, he was assistant principal, head track and field coach and assistant foot-

ball at Bursleson High from 2020-23. He began his coaching career at Coram Deo Academy in Flower Mound in 2010 and was later the assistant head football coach of the Home School Athletic Association in Richardson from 2013-15.

Moore is a Waxahachie native and 1993 graduate with a resume as impressive as almost any high school player has put together. He was inducted in 2023 into the WHS Athletic Hall of Fame for leading the Indians to the 1992 Class 4A University

Interscholastic League football state championship. While playing at Waxahachie, he was also named a High School All-American and the "Dallas Morning News" Metro Player of the Year. Moore went on to play

football at Baylor University as a quarterback and wide receiver from 1993-96. After college, he played professionally in the Arena Football League for nine years for the Dallas Desperados, New Orleans Voodoo and Orlando Predators, scoring over 25 touchdowns in his career.

FOOTBALL

Bobby Allison was hired in early December and has raised the hopes of Pirates faithful. He spent the previous decade as the assistant head coach, defensive coordinator and recruiting coordinator at Northwest High School since 2014.

Allison helped the Texans reach the playoffs every season since 2016, compiling 62 victories in that span. This includes a 10-3 record and a third-round appearance last season.

Allison has 20 years of experience with stops at Odessa, Sharpstown, Levelland and San Angelo Central as well. He also has college experience, working two seasons as the special teams coordinator at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga.

Allison also has experience in turning a program around. During his time at Northwest, the Texans posted their first playoff victory in 2016, im-

PLEASE SEE **COACHES** | B3

GISD graduate named WFAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Week

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Recent Granbury Independent School District graduate Ella Garner received the perfect parting gift to her high school career when she was named WFAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Week by Dallas sportscaster Joe Trahan.

Garner, who graduated from GHS last month, received the honor for her achievements in both

academics and athletics. Sponsored by Buick/GMC, WFAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Week program recognizes North Texas high school seniors who have excelled in academics and athletics, as well as those who have contributed to making their community a better place to live. Nominees must also be a senior in the top 15% of their class, according to the GISD news release.

"I was very honored to receive this award, but I know that I didn't do this

alone," Garner told the Hood County News. "Coaches (Alan) Thorpe and (Kensley) Gamboa have pushed me to get to where I am today, and I was surrounded by great teammates that contributed to my success. Without them I wouldn't have received the honors that led up to this recognition."

Garner played varsity basketball all four years for the Lady Pirates and coach Alan Thorpe. She was a team captain, voted Team MVP and Defensive Player of the Year in District 5-5A. The Lady Pirates were UIL Bidistrict Champions her senior year as she led the team in scoring, assists, steals and rebounds. As a junior, she was named GM Sports Media Player of the Week as well as 1st Team All-District.

She was also a Track and Field athlete and placed second in District in the shot put. She qualified for regionals in the shotput, ran the 4x100 at area and ran the 300-meter hurdles.

Her community involvement includes Granbury Baptist Church, YMCA special needs soccer camp, Habitat for Humanity, Lady Pirate Basketball Camp, and Superintendent's Leadership Council volunteering.

Academically, Garner finished at a ranking of sixth overall in the GHS Class of

2024, was named Academic All-State, Superintendent's Leadership Council, and vice president of National Honor Society.

Garner told the HCN her experience during her WFAA interview was "unique." She described sitting at the studio with six of her peers — including Mann Vaghshia, another 2024 graduate.

"We did not know we would be there together, but it was nice to see a familiar face," she said. "We were all nervous, but Joe Trahan and his assistant, Amy Longoria, helped calm our nerves. Mr. Trahan picked the topic on the fly right before each personal interview about what we would discuss. We really weren't put on the spot to talk on camera too much, which made me — and the others — feel much better. In an hour, six episodes were shot. Not only did I get to film my segment, we toured the set and met weatherman Jesse Hawila."

Garner said Trahan was "great to talk to" during her interview and made her feel "very comfortable."

"You can tell that highlighting students is one of his passions," she said. "He made that very clear by telling us several times how much he enjoyed showcasing students. Even before we met him on set, Mrs.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GRANBURY ISD

Ella Garner, who graduated from Granbury High School last month, was named WFAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Week for her achievements in both academics and athletics.

Longoria insisted that this is his favorite thing he does." A segment featuring Garner will broadcast this Sunday, June 16 at 10:30 p.m. during "Sports Special with Joe Trahan," which airs on WFAA Channel 8 Sunday nights following the 10 p.m. newscast.

"God has blessed me with such incredible people in my life who have helped me earn this reward," Garner added. "I couldn't have done it without all my teammates and coaches from little league basketball to select basketball to high school basketball, and all my teachers, and my family. I am so

thankful to have participated in this sport. Participating in basketball kept me busy, and created in me a work ethic that I also took into the classroom. It taught me life lessons in teamwork, organization, competition and leadership. Looking back, I wouldn't want to change a thing."

Garner will attend Texas A&M University in the fall to study accounting at May's Business School in College Station. She was also the 2024 recipient of the GEF James Hodges Legend Scholarship.



Recent Granbury High School graduate Ella Garner received the perfect parting gift to her high school career when she was named WFAA's Scholar-Athlete of the Week by Dallas sportscaster Joe Trahan.

New AD/football coach leading revamped staff at Tolar High School

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Blake Mouser is used to being a key cog in a winning program. So, it's expected he will fit right in leading the Tolar sports programs, which includes him being the new head football coach.

And while he comes from a big-time program, his roots are in a small town. Although Tolar is growing, no one is ready to call it anything but a small community, and that's just fine with Mouser.

Mouser grew up in Blanco, north of San Antonio. It is now a Class 3A school, which is, ironically, the level to

which the Rattlers are moving, except the Rattlers will be Division II, and the Panthers are Division I.

"Fortunate and excited to be able to be named AD/head football coach for Tolar. I grew up in a small school setting and it's exciting to be back in a tight-knit community that cares deeply for their school," Mouser said.

Mouser replaces Jeremy Mullins, who guided the Rattlers to the Class 2A Division I state championship game in 2023 and is now at the new Eagle Mountain High School.

Mouser will be joined in the 2024-25 school year by five other new coaches leading

Tolar programs.

Before coming to Tolar, Mouser was at Austin Vandegrift for 11 years and was the offensive coordinator for the past decade. During his time there, he helped lead the Vipers to 106 wins, including a run to the Class 6A Division II state championship game in 2022.

The Vipers were 10-1 this past season.

From 2013-22 the Vipers reached at least the second round of the playoffs each season. This included seasons of 14-2, 12-1, 12-3, 11-3, 11-1 and 10-3.

Mouser noted he didn't

PLEASE SEE **TOLAR** | B3



COURTESY PHOTO

Blake Mouser, Tolar's new athletic director and head football coach, looks over a playlist during a game for Austin Vandegrift, where he was offensive coordinator for a decade.

Cool Junk implements summer backpack drive

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Any Hood County student in dire need of a backpack can greatly benefit through Cool Junk Antique Boutique's first-ever backpack drive this summer.

Last week, owner Sarah Harvey-Toth announced she is now accepting donations of new or gently used backpacks all summer long and will be distributing the backpacks to students later this summer — completely free of charge.

"I've always been a huge advocate for students, es-

pecially public education," Harvey-Toth told the Hood County News. "I've been a volunteer for Operation School Supplies for the past 10 years and have seen the need for backpacks continually. The need has only grown every year. OSS has been great at offering drawing string bags, but we know those don't last, as well as the fact that they often come branded with the sponsor's logo — which, in my opinion, labels the student as 'low-income' by their peers."

Operation School Supplies is a nonprofit organization that has provided free school supplies to Hood County

families in need. While the project is currently entering its 23rd year, the growing need has resulted in a recent partnership with Granbury Independent School District to assist with gathering donations and support.

As a native of Granbury and its school district, Harvey-Toth said she witnessed first-hand how hard it can be to fit in, especially at the middle school level. She said she made a promise to herself five years ago that she would make it her goal to provide new backpacks for students as soon as she could.

"We all know times are tough, and I've personally had one obstacle after another, which has not allowed the funds necessary to provide 1,500-plus new backpacks," she said. "So, after talking with my own children, we decided we may not have the money, but we have the means to collect, clean and distribute gently used backpacks to others. Thankfully we have Cool Junk to facilitate this project."

Throughout this summer, volunteers can drop-off new or gently used backpacks to Cool Junk at 1600 W. Pearl St. Backpacks need to be free of personal belongings and in usable condition.

From July 22 through Aug. 23, Hood County students in need of a backpack can visit

Cool Junk and pick out a backpack for free.

"One bag per student," Harvey-Toth said. "We're not asking anyone to provide documentation of any sort at this time. That may change in the future. Stop in and pick out the bag you'd like. Simple and easy!"

Harvey-Toth said while she would love to provide for every student in need, she is starting small with a goal of collecting 200 backpacks from the community.

"We have collected around 10 so far but have had lots of social media engagements with the promise of more to come," she said.

As for the future, Harvey-Toth said she would love to grow this project to allow the donation and distribution of lunch boxes and other necessary items that Operation School Supplies does not cover.

"We are in talks with GISD and OSS to make sure all needs are met but not oversaturated," she said.

Although Cool Junk's relocation last year wasn't ideal, Harvey-Toth said the new location on Pearl St. is the perfect spot to host the backpack drive as it's close to both Granbury Middle School and Granbury High School.

"The silver lining is we are very conveniently located to pull this off," she said. "We



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SARAH HARVEY-TOTH

Cool Junk Antique Boutique is hosting a backpack drive this summer for Hood County students. Since the project began last week, 10 backpacks have already been donated.

love being so close to middle and high school and all the local students and community support we have received. We just want to give back when we can."

To contribute to the project, donate a backpack to

Cool Junk from 10:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

For more information about the backpack drive, call Cool Junk at 682-936-4233.



Throughout this summer, volunteers can drop-off new or gently used backpacks to Cool Junk at 1600 W. Pearl St. for its first ever backpack drive. Backpacks need to be free of personal belongings and in usable condition.

'A culture of connectedness' AES launches first podcast

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Just because school stops for the summer doesn't mean learning does — and that's especially the case for Acton Elementary School.

The campus recently launched its first podcast called "The Learning Lounge," as a goal to bridge communication and learning between the school and its families, while also fostering a culture of connectedness.

"We are always looking for creative ways to engage with families and with all stakeholders," AES Principal Maggie Walton told the Hood County News. "The great thing about a podcast is that you can access it anywhere, everywhere, and at whatever time is convenient! Many of our families spend a great deal of time in the car, commuting to work, transporting their families to and from various activities, waiting in the pickup line at dismissal — all perfect times to tune in! ... Our hope is that this podcast will allow us to form personal connections with our audience as we cover meaningful and relevant topics."

The podcast will feature many staff members, students and Hood County residents. Walton added she is most excited to feature student leaders on the pod-

cast, as their perspective is unique.

"Giving them the opportunity to brainstorm and select what content to feature, plan and rehearse, and then record and publish is something we are so excited about," she said. "What better way to cultivate their creativity than by letting them play a part?"

Podcast topics will include everything from programs and events to community partnerships and student/staff accomplishments.

"In the four episodes that we've recorded so far, we've featured eight different staff members, each with their own unique passions, experiences and skill sets," she said. "The knowledge and excitement they bring to the podcast is truly remarkable!"

In addition to the topics that have already been discussed, Walton said she also plans to poll families to see what they want to hear more about.

"We are excited to feature topics that are relevant to our families," she said.

Each podcast will range from 10-20 minutes, Walton said, adding that the goal is to remain as concise as possible, while also ensuring the content is clear.

During the summer, a new podcast will drop every Tuesday at noon. When the school year starts, Walton said they will most likely shift to two episodes per

month, releasing the first and third Tuesday of every month.

"The podcasts will be recorded and broadcasted in the Spotify for Podcasters app and can be accessed in the Spotify app or on any internet browser," she said. "After each episode is released, the podcast will be posted to all social media accounts to make it easier for our families to tune in. Any materials and/or resources mentioned during each episode will be included in the show notes of the podcast and on the social media posts."

Walton said she believes the podcast is one more way to help listeners feel more connected, informed and prepared for everything going on at Acton Elementary School.

"The partnerships that we have with our Acton Elementary families and with our local community mean the world to us," she added. "Tune in to hear about the magical things happening at Acton Elementary! Welcome to the Learning Lounge, an Acton Elementary Podcast."

To listen to the first episode, "Home Away from Home: The Spirit of Acton Elementary," visit podcasts.spotify.com/.../Episode-1---Home-Away-...

Follow the Acton Elementary School Facebook page for announcements regarding new episodes.



COURTESY PHOTO BY CHAS53 ADOBESTOCK.COM

Since 2001, the nonprofit organization has provided free school supplies to Hood County families in need.

Applications now open for Operation School Supplies

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Operation School Supplies is now accepting applications for the 2024-25 school year.

Since 2001, the nonprofit organization has provided free school supplies to Hood County families in need.

"This will be the 23rd year Operation School Supplies has been meeting the needs of families who need assistance with school supplies," said Granbury Independent School District Director of Community Relations Lissa Oliver. "It is need based, and the need has been increasing over the last 23 years. (The organization) relies on donations and sponsors throughout the year."

Last year, the program received a record number of applications for school supplies. Former OSS President Micky Shearon previously told the Hood County News the nonprofit received more than 2,000 applications.

Due to the growing need, Granbury ISD decided to partner with OSS to assist with gathering donations and support.

"We're still using the nonprofit organization name, and it's going to stay a nonprofit organization," Oliver said. "We wanted to keep the recognition because it is such an important (program) in our community. It's not a Granbury ISD thing;

we're just kind of coming alongside this year to make it happen for our (families)."

APPLICATIONS

To qualify, families are typically already enrolled in some type of state or federal aid like the Free and Reduced-Price School Meals, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), or Medicaid.

Parents can sign up for the free school supplies by filling out a form located on the Granbury ISD website. To find the form, go to the tab labeled 'Parents & Students,' and scroll down to the tab labeled 'Operation School Supplies.'

Families are asked to submit one application per child. Notifications will be sent to the email address provided on the application.

Applications will be accepted based on availability or until the July 1 deadline. Walkup applications are not accepted on the day of distribution.

DISTRIBUTION

The Operation School Supplies Distribution & Resource Fair will take place from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6, at Granbury High School, 2000 W. Pearl St.

During distribution, a resource fair will also be set up for families to learn

about other nonprofit organizations like Mission Granbury, Hood County Children's Charity and Christmas for Children.

"As the families are there to pick up their supplies, they kind of stop at all those booths, and they're able to get in touch with a lot of different community resources like Rancho Brazos Community Centers, Forward Training Center and Ruth's Place," Oliver said. "That's just a small sampling of what will be there, but it's kind of like a little informational boost that helps them get signed up for other programs that they might need."

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are also needed to distribute school supplies or to host a community resource table. A volunteer form can be found on the Granbury ISD website using the same steps listed above.

DONATE

Operation School Supplies is relying on monetary donations in preparation for the 23rd annual distribution. To support the nonprofit organization, make a tax-deductible contribution check payable to Granbury ISD with "OSS" in the memo field, and mail to 217 N. Jones St., Granbury, TX 76048.

For more information, contact Oliver at lissa.oliver@granburyisd.org.

GISD's 2024 Summer Lunch Program: ensuring nutrition for students

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

The Granbury Independent School District (GISD) commences the 2024 Summer Lunch Program, a vital initiative to provide free, nutritious meals to Granbury ISDs students during the summer months. This program is designed to support families and ensure that children continue to receive essential nutrition even when school is not in session.

The Summer Lunch Program offers free meals to all children aged 18 and

younger. Additionally, students aged 18 to 21 who are enrolled in high school or under and identified as mentally or physically disabled through the special education program are also eligible for free meals. The program will operate on the following dates: Mondays through Thursdays from June 3-27 and July 8-18. Parents or guardians can pick up meals for their children after verification at the designated sites.

Acceptable forms of verification include:

- Student ID badge
- Student report card
- Birth certificate
- Attendance record from

Skyward Family Access Amy Whiteley, director of child nutrition for GISD, explains, "Menus are based on the Texas Department of Agriculture meal pattern requirements and food available by manufacturers." This ensures that every meal is balanced and nutritious, meeting the dietary needs of growing children.

"Texas law mandates that public school districts where 50% or more of the enrolled students are eligible for National School Lunch Program (NSLP) free or reduced-price meal benefits must operate a summer

PLEASE SEE LUNCH | B4

HOOD OUTDOORS

Summer fishing has officially arrived!



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 weather is setting in and with it come those summer water conditions that are key to pay attention to. Water is getting hot in the middle to upper 80s and even hotter in the backs of creeks. Water will be stratifying and thermoclines will be developing on most North Texas lakes. Knowing when these conditions apply will help you put fish in the boat. What I am talking about is the typical summer stratifying of our local waters. Most of our relatively shallow Texas waters will stratify

during the heat of summer. The top layer of water between the thermocline and surface will be the most oxygenated water. The layer of water below the thermocline is typically void of oxygen and most fish cannot survive there.

The layer of water called the thermocline is the transition between the top layer of water and the uninhabitable area below the thermocline. There is typically a sharp drop in temperature in this thermocline which at times makes it a favorable place for

many species; however oxygen levels are not necessarily the best.

Striped bass in the summer and several other species tend to "stress" in the Texas heat and at times will opt for the cooler water in the thermocline versus feeding in the hotter water above the thermocline. Many fish will lose weight in the heat of summer trying to survive.

Thermoclines can come and go in the summer. Sometimes rain and wind will cool and mix up the water. With little or no wind action and the intense heat, the thermoclines can reestablish quickly.

Thermoclines can be your friend, too. In fact, thermoclines eliminate a large portion of the livable area in the lake and in many cases will congregate fish. Using this

information to your advantage is critical when fishing right now.

So how do you know if there is a thermocline present? Some graphs with the gain on the highest setting will identify the area with a dark band at a certain depth. Another sure-fire method is when fishing with live minnows/shad. When your bait starts to die quickly at a certain depth, you probably need to put your presentation shallower until you can find a "happy" depth where your live bait will not die.

On Lake Granbury, we typically get a thermocline somewhere down around 15 to 25 feet below the surface. Thermoclines can be different on different areas of the reservoir. For deeper lakes the thermocline can be much

deeper.

I have located schools of striped and white bass suspended in a thermocline. When this occurs, you either work your bait at that level or slightly above them. Downriggers are effective this time of year for that one reason. Trolling baits for sand bass is effective as well.

As with any summer, your best times are typically early and late. Usually early in the a.m. the water temperature will be a bit cooler until the sun starts heating. Also, any summer rain will cool the surface and will more than likely kick off a feeding frenzy.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Water temperatures are in the middle 80s on the main lake and even higher in the

shallows. Black bass are good on main lake points on crankbaits and soft plastics. Look for top water action early near feeding flats. Striped bass are good to 12 pounds on the lower ends near channel breaks and major entrances. Sand bass are good early as well near Indian Harbor and the Shores. Look for schooling sandies on shallow flats. Slabs and spinners are effective. Crappies are good on submerged structure (trees and bridge pilings) using small jigs and minnows worked about 15 feet down. Catfish are best at night on cut shad and prepared baits. Best action is near creek entrances on many areas of the lake. Some good sand bass and striped action has been reported in the river below the dam.



Pictured from left are Gary Morgan, Derral Martin and Shean Morgan with their limit of big striped bass to 11 pounds caught Sunday, June 9, on Lake Granbury on a family outing. Derral is a resident in Pecan Plantation.



Pictured from left are Jeff Colyer, Ryan Killian, Tim Sipowicz, Matt Sipowicz and Jack Sipowicz with some big striped bass caught this past weekend on Lake Granbury. These folks are Pecan Plantation residents.

COACHES

FROM PAGE B1

proving from 1-9 to 10-2. In his time at San Angelo Central as the co-defensive coordinator, the Bobcats won 10 games for the first time in 20 years and advanced to the postseason. As the defensive coordinator at Sharpstown, he helped the team snap a 29-game losing streak and go 6-4 in his first season.

"I know he wasn't my hire, but we hit it off immediately. His vision is my vision," Moore said. "I probably would

have hired him if I was the AD at the time. He's done an excellent job in the short time he has been at the helm. The football program is in good hands."

BOYS BASKETBALL

Jeremy McFerrin takes over and has 13 years of experience as a basketball head coach, with stops at Plano West, Lubbock Monterey, and Trinity Christian-Lubbock.

McFerrin replaces the retired David Breazeale, who was one of the longest tenured coaches in GHS history.

He led the Pirates to the post-season several times in his 14 seasons, accumulating more than 200 of his 554 overall career wins in Granbury.

McFerrin comes to Granbury from Plano West, where in his three years there he led the Wolves to a 20-win season in 2023-24 and increased the school's win total in every season. While at Lubbock Monterey, he made the postseason all four years, highlighted by a 29-9 record in 2018-19, where coached his team to the 5A regional tournament. McFerrin was later named

the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches (TABC) 5A Outstanding Coach of the Year in 2019.

At the private school level as athletic director and head basketball coach, McFerrin guided Trinity Christian-Lubbock to a Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) Class 4A state championship in 2017. He was a two-time TABC coach of the year in 2016 and 2017 while at Trinity Christian.

"We are super excited to get Coach McFerrin. He brings a wealth of knowledge and

experience," Moore said. "A dynamic coach who can teach the game and build long lasting relationships with student-athletes. He's a winner and visionary, we can't wait to see what he does with our basketball program."

BOYS SOCCER

Joshua Croft comes to the program with hopes of returning the Pirates to the glory they once knew not so long ago. The program has one of the most storied histories at the school, including winning Granbury only team state

championship in 1999.

Croft has been a varsity assistant for the past four years at Bridgeland High School, where he helped lead the Bears to 57 wins in that time. This included a 16-6A district championship, two JV district titles, three bi-district championships, and a 6A Region 2 finals berth.

"Coach Croft is a young, hungry, dynamic coach looking to make his mark in the state of Texas," Moore said. "We are excited to see what he can do with our soccer program."

TOLAR

FROM PAGE B1

leave a perennial power like Vandegrift for just any school.

"This is a great opportunity to take over a solid program that has had recent success, and I look forward to being part of the Snake Farm," he said. "It will be a new challenge moving up to 3A, but I was part of a program that moved from 5A to 6A, so transition is not new to me. "Biggest thing is to take

care of ourselves in the way we prepare this summer and compete as hard as we can — everything else will take care of itself. We have a great senior class that will help lead our transition and hope to be competing for championships soon."

Prior to his time at Vandegrift, Mouser was an assistant at Temple for four seasons.

VOLLEYBALL

Amber Terrell takes the reins after serving as an assistant. She replaces Misty

Rhodes, who started the program, took some time off and returned to lead the program to its best season ever.

Terrell was a part of a Lady Rattlers squad that, in 2023, finished second in district and caught fire in the post-season. The team finished 25-15 and advanced to the Region II final before falling to eventual state champion Windthorst.

BASKETBALL

Jody Spain inherits a program that, under Lance Alford, posted the great-

est stretch of success in program history. In 2021, 2022 and 2024 the Rattlers reached the third round of the playoffs, and in 2023 they advanced to the regional finals.

Spain was previously the head baseball coach at Class 2A Frost and Class 3A Ballinger.

Alford retired as a baseball coach and took a teaching position in Weatherford.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Andy Atkins is now at the helm after Scott Richardson

left to start the program at the new Eagle Mountain High School next season. Richardson led the Rattlers to 77 wins in three seasons, including a regional finals appearance in 2023.

Atkins was formerly the head coach at Class 3A Bowie near Wichita Falls. He led the Jackrabbits to three straight playoffs in his three seasons leading the program, including a third-round appearance in 2023.

TRACK AND FIELD

Brett Mouser is the new

head girls track coach and the Rattlers new defensive coordinator in football. He was previously at Class 4A Giddings, 4A Brownwood and 5A Brenham.

Carson Humphreys is the new head boys track coach and will be the offensive coordinator in football. He was previously at Class 5A Abilene Cooper, a program that has reached the football playoffs 17 straight seasons.



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SUDOKU
Solution for the puzzle on June 8

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

			3			7	5	
		5	1			8	6	
3	4		5		7			
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	3			6			7	
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Engaging Young Minds at Constitution Camp: A week of fun and learning in Hood County

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

The Elizabeth Crockett Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution is once again gearing up for its annual Constitution Camp for Kids, an event designed to educate and inspire children aged 7 to 13 about the U.S. Constitution and American history. Peggy Purser Freeman, the driving force behind this camp, offers a glimpse into what makes this event so special and why it has become a cherished tradition in Hood County.

FROM INSPIRATION TO REALITY

Peggy Purser Freeman, the chairman of the ECC DAR Constitution Week committee, has long been passionate about bringing history to life. Her involvement with Constitution Week and the camp stems from a personal connection to the past. "About 12 years ago, I discovered one of my ancestors donated a cow to Washington's troops and later fought for independence in the Revolutionary War," she shares. This discovery ignited her dedication to historical education, leading her to join the DAR and eventually create the Constitution Camp.

A LEGACY OF LEARNING

Constitution Week, celebrated annually in September, commemorates the signing of the U.S. Constitution. However, Freeman recognized a need to engage young people in this important part of American history during their summer break. With the help of Kathy Hanlon, ECC DAR honorary regent and current state historian, Freeman's vision of a Constitution Camp for kids took shape. "Our goals for Constitution Camp are to emphasize citizens' responsibilities for protecting and defending the Constitution and to inform young people that the Constitution is the basis for America's great heritage and the foundation for our way of life," Freeman explains.



COURTESY PHOTO

The week-long day camp runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and promises a blend of fun, learning and adventure. Campers participate in a fun water fight activity.

A WEEK OF EXCITING ACTIVITIES

Entering its ninth year, Constitution Camp for Kids is set for June 17-21. The week-long day camp runs from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and promises a blend of fun, learning and adventure. With the support of dedicated teen helpers and adult volunteers, the camp can host up to 80 campers.

The camp is packed with engaging activities designed to make history memorable. "We start with a few Kings, including King George III and William the Conqueror, and then each day, we invite someone who serves in government to speak — judges,

soldiers, law enforcement and other elected officials," says Freeman. This year, Sam Houston, managing editor at Hood County News, will speak to the kids about the freedom of the press.

BRINGING HISTORY TO LIFE

Children will experience historical events through interactive sessions with characters like Crispus Attucks, James Madison, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. "We teach history as we throw tea in Boston Harbor, have lemonade without sugar, meet in secret at the Liberty Tree, engage in battles with water balloons, and learn to fight as the Native Americans did in the French and Indian

War," Freeman describes. They will also hear from a Minuteman, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and women like Elizabeth Burgin, who helped hundreds of men escape from a prisoner of war ship.

The learning continues with fun and educational games. "We study the Constitution and the Bill of Rights by singing and playing games like the Three-Headed Eagle or Capture the Rights, where bully kings try to take away the amendment each student has," Freeman notes. These activities not only teach the children about their rights but also involve water, adding an element of excitement.

A COMMUNITY EFFORT

The success of Constitution Camp is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the ECC DAR members and their families. "Constitution Camp could not happen without an amazing group of people, such as members like Donna Thompson, Jeanne Harris, Linda Clarkson and Cindy Shippley. They have all taught for seven years or more," says Freeman. She also extends special thanks to the husbands and volunteers who have supported the camp behind the scenes.

The camp is free and non-political, ensuring that it remains an inclusive and educational experience for all

participants. "Most importantly, Constitution Camp is fun, free and nonpolitical," Freeman emphasizes.

LOOKING AHEAD

As Constitution Camp for Kids prepares to open its doors once again, the excitement is palpable. With a blend of historical reenactments, interactive lessons and fun activities, this camp promises to make history come alive for the young minds of Hood County. For more information and ideas on how to celebrate the Constitution with your family, visit the camp's webpage at <https://constitutioncamp.org>



COURTESY PHOTO BY LIGHTFIELD STUDIOS ADOBESTOCK.COM

Providing free, healthy school meals to all students is crucial to combat childhood hunger and food insecurity.

LUNCH

FROM PAGE B2

feeding program," Whiteley says. "GISD qualifies for this mandate, as just over 50% of its students are eligible for free and reduced-price meal benefits during the school year."

"Providing free, healthy school meals to all students is crucial to combat childhood hunger and food insecurity. Universal meals

enhance learning, academic achievement and social cohesion, creating a more inclusive school environment," explains Dr. Janet Poppendieck, Urban School Food Alliance Advisory Council member.

GISD's 2024 Summer Lunch Program is more than just a meal service; it is a lifeline for many families in Hood County, ensuring that children receive the nutrition they need to thrive. By

participating in this program, GISD is committed to supporting the health and well-being of its students, helping them grow into healthy, active and successful individuals.

For more information about the program, including site locations, meal pick-up times, and meals served, please visit the GISD website SSO Site Menu - Google Docs ([edl.io](https://drive.google.com/document/d/1oDl10...))

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DAVID CROCKETT CHAPTER # 47

The David Crockett Chapter of The Sons of the Republic of Texas, Granbury, Texas, will honor a Veteran who has served our country, on active duty, in times of war or in times of peace. We will also honor a Gold Star Family.

The Guidelines are:

1. Name and contact information for each nominee.
2. The veteran's bio including a photograph, in uniform, if possible, branch and dates of service.
3. Nominee must live in Hood County or surrounding counties.
4. Nominee must have served on active duty.
5. Nominee must be willing to attend the David Crockett Chapter award ceremony Monday, October 7, 2024 in Granbury, Texas at Spring Creek Barbeque, 5:30 pm.
6. The last day to submit nominations is July 30, 2024.

Email questions and nominations to Lloyd Lietz lietztalk@aol.com. (817) 360-9895



PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Allison Dafoe pitching the ball during the home game Feb. 20.

SPORTS Roundup

Lady Pirates garner all-district accolades

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

For the first time since 2019 the Granbury Lady Pirates softball team advanced to the second round of the playoffs. Following this performance, seven members of the team have been named to the All-District 5-5A Team by the league's coaches, including a pair of superlative honors.

Senior Allison Dafoe was named the district's Co-Pitcher of the Year, while Rachel Venable was selected as the Co-Freshman of the Year.

Named to the first team were Hannah Dafoe and Karmyn Williams. Second-team honors went to Morgan Johnson, Carli Carlton and Preslee Carnes.

Dafoe posted an earned run average of around three per game, pitching in the majority of games for the Lady Pirates. She struck out over 200 batters and had a strikeout-walk ratio of approximately 4-1.

This is the second time for Dafoe to be named Co-Pitcher of the Year. She received the honor in 2022 as well and was named second-team all-dis-

trict in 2023.

Venable was one of the top offensive players for Granbury. She led the Lady Pirates in extra-base hits.

The Lady Pirates (15-19 overall, 6-6 in district) finished fourth in league play, overcoming a 2-5 start, to garner a postseason spot. They then swept District 6-5A champion Fort Worth South Hills 9-0 and 11-0 as Dafoe surrendered nine hits with 11 strikeouts and a single walk in the two games.

The Lady Pirates then fell in two games in their best-of-three series against Joshua. Dafoe surrendered just three earned runs in the series, striking out 13 and walking one.

Named academic all-district from the Lady Pirates were A. Dafoe, H. Dafoe, Carlton, Carnes, Venable, Johnson, Brenna Haynes, Meredith Jones and Abigail Stone.

TGCA ACADEMIC ALL-STATE

The Texas Girls Coaches Association honored several area senior athletes with all-state accolades for spring sports:

Golf

Granbury — Akiyah Ditto, Ryli Lewis, Emily McGuire, Reagan Neal

Track

Granbury — Ella Garner

Softball

Granbury — Allison Dafoe, Brenna Haynes, Abigail Stone
Lipan — Ashlyn Clark, Rylei Cudd, Sarah Marcantonio, Dixon Sinclair

Tolar — Ava LeCluyse

Tennis

Granbury — Katie Childs
Lipan — Olivia Benitez, Taylor Branson, Ashlyn Clark, Sarah Marcantonio

TABC HONORS LIPAN

The Texas Association of Basketball Coaches honored several from Lipan, including senior Lady Indian Taylor Branson. She is part of the Small School Blue/Red Team playing in this weekend's All-Star Game in Bryan.

Indians coach Brent Gaylor was named Class 2A Boys Coach of the Year after leading his team to a second straight state championship despite losing almost the entire roster to graduation.

Steven Bailey was named a Middle School Coach of the Year. Ty Johnston was a finalist for Boys Assistant Coach of the Year.

JUNIOR GOLF

Several young golfers from

the area have gotten their summer off to a strong start with solid performances on the North Texas PGA Junior Golf Tour.

Last week, at Squaw Creek in Willow Park, competing on the Prep Tour, Granbury's Townes Chaveaux won the Boys 9-10 age group, shooting 1-over-par 36 over nine holes. Lipan's Cass Hix tied for second with a 40.

In the Boys 13-14 division, Lucas Skavak of Lipan was fifth with a 55 over nine holes.

Competing on the Medalist Tour, Granbury's Landon Womack won the Boys 15-18 division at Burselson's Hidden Creek, shooting 4-over-par 76 over 18 holes. Braxton Pugh of Granbury tied for fourth, shooting 81.

Tolar's Alyssa Lester won the Girls 13-14 division at Mansfield National, posting a 9-over-par 81.

Also, at Mansfield National, Womack shot 76 to place third among Boys 15-18, while Granbury's Lincoln Sherrill and Lipan's Jack Smith each shot 83 to tie for third among Boys 13-14.

Quinn Bradley of Granbury tied for ninth in the Boys 15-18 category, shooting 82, and Granbury's Grady Molder was

12th with an 83.

HIGH SCHOOL RODEO

The Texas High School Rodeo Association State Finals Rodeo wraps up Saturday, June 15 in Abilene. Several local athletes are hoping to finish in the top four of their respective events and qualify for a berth in the National High School Finals Rodeo July 14-20 in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Lipan's Kynzi Callaway was 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 Lipan are Tripp Pittman and Kayla Garcia in team roping, along with Kilyn Osburn in barrel racing. Tolar is represented by Hunter Hutton in team roping.

PRO RODEO

Several competitors from the area are among the leaders for men and women in their respective events on the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association circuit. They include Granbury's Stevi Hillman, who is 18th among barrel racers with \$30,353 in money winnings this season.

Three from Lipan are also among the leaders. Patrick Smith is 30th in team roping-healers with \$22,598 won, Cole Clemons is 32nd in tie-down roping with \$21,370, and Tyler Tyron is 43rd in team roping-header with \$16,592.

SUMMER CAMPS

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

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, from 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, lineman camp, 10 a.m.-noon. Cost \$40

Volleyball — 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

GHS Soccer Summer Camp

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County summer sports camps are going in full swing. Photos from Tuesday, June 11 of Granbury High School's second day of Soccer camp for boys and girls in Kindergarden through 5th grade. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.



TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton State Football schedule altered, 4 changes to Texans' conference slate

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Football's 2024 schedule has been altered, with four changes announced June 10 to the previously announced campaign.

Changes occurred as Stephen F. Austin announced plans to return to the Southland Conference July 1. Tarleton State will no longer play SFA in 2024. Tarleton's four changes each surround United Athletic Conference games.

The first change will be Sept. 21, as the Texans will travel to take on North Alabama in a United Athletic Conference matchup. Tarleton State and North Alabama were previously not scheduled to play this upcoming season, and the Texans were originally supposed to play at West Georgia Sept. 21. Now, the Texans will go back to Florence, Alabama, where they won 43-28 in 2022. That game will kick off at 6 p.m. CT.

Tarleton's final three games were also altered. Now, the Texans will play at West Georgia Nov. 9, they'll host Abilene Christian in Stephenville Nov. 16, and they'll play their regular season finale at Memorial Stadium against Central Arkansas Nov. 23. Previously, the Texans were supposed to host Central Arkansas Nov. 9, play at Stephen F. Austin Nov. 16, and host Abilene Christian Nov. 23.

The new UAC schedule for all teams features eight conference games, four home games and four road games in a full round-robin format for each of the league's nine member institutions.

The revised schedule was a product of flexible and open-minded work by the league administration and member institution's leadership in response to SFA's departure. The focus of the revised slate centered on accommodating expressed protected dates from each institution, maintaining the balanced eight-game conference format, attempting to keep similar location sequencing from the previous schedule and mitigating as many travel plan disruptions as possible.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Football's 2024 schedule has been altered, with four changes announced June 10 to the previously announced campaign.

RFSI Grant Awarded to Tarleton State

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — A \$749,410 grant funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service has been awarded to Tarleton State University as part of the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure program.

The RFSI program through the Texas Department of Agriculture aims to help

build resilience across the middle of the state's food supply chain for food crops. The middle of the food supply chain occurs following harvest and before goods are sold at a store or market.

TDA extended an invitation to Tarleton State to submit a proposal for grant consideration.

"Expanding the capacity and distribution methods of locally and regionally

produced food products is critical in Texas," said Tarleton State President Dr. James Hurley. "Our university is proud to be involved with such an impactful program. We appreciate the support and leadership of (Agriculture) Commissioner Sid Miller in helping make this grant a reality for our region."

The RFSI program is intended to improve upon and

add to local and regional market options for locally or regionally produced food in Texas.

"From the producer all the way to the consumer, it is important to make sure there is no breakdown in our food supply chain," Miller said. "This grant is instrumental in securing the future resilience of our food supply chain, both in Texas and across the nation. I am

happy to see this grant go to Tarleton State University, where I know it will be put to good use."

Tarleton State will facilitate state-led complementary supply chain coordination activities.

"We are honored to be invited by the Texas Department of Agriculture to partner with them on this project," said Dr. Rupa Iyer, Tarleton State's vice

president for Research, Innovation and Economic Development. "It is a testament to Tarleton State's research capacity and ability to contribute to the economic development of our state."

With cooperative agreements nationally, the USDA is investing \$420 million in the RFSI program.

Tarleton State President James Hurley named CPUPC treasurer

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University President Dr. James Hurley has been named treasurer for the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors

(CPUPC).

The nonprofit council is comprised of the chief executive officers of the Texas public general academic universities, system offices, health-related institutions, and the three two-year state

colleges in the Houston area.

CPUPC provides a forum to elevate the contributions and successes of Texas higher education institutions and helps to build collaborative networks for the discussion of mutual needs and con-

cerns related to the challenges facing public universities in the state.

"I am honored to be nominated and selected for this role," Hurley said. "Advancing the educational programs of all public col-

leges and universities in Texas is a collective effort. I look forward to continuing to work with leaders from all parts of our state for the greater good."

Since 1983, CPUPC has met to advance Texas' public se-

nior colleges and universities as they pursue their respective goals of academic excellence, student career preparation, innovative research and community service.

High school students attend first Tarleton State Mariachi Institute



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State University is hosted more than 50 students from three DFW high schools at its first Mariachi Institute. Dr. Adolfo Estrada, left, post-doctoral Fellow of Musicology from the University of New Mexico, is lead faculty for the institute.

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University hosted area high school students at its first Mariachi Institute, which culminated with a free concert in the Clyde H. Wells Fine Arts Center Auditorium.

The four-day workshop, which took place last week, was sponsored by the Lozano Long Division of Global, Community and First-gen Initiatives in collaboration with the Department of Performing Arts, Division of Student Engagement and Success and Division of Enrollment Management.

More than 50 students from three DFW high schools were invited to experience campus life, engage with staff and current students, and learn from a variety of well-known mariachi instructors, including three-time Grammy-award-winning arranger and performer Jesus Guzman. Dr. Adolfo Estrada, Post-doctoral Fellow of Musicology from the University of New Mexico, is lead faculty for the institute.

Students from Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy, North Side High School and Castleberry High School in Fort Worth have attended classes taught by faculty from across the country, including instrument-specific instruction in harp, trumpet and violin. They have gone on campus tours, shared meals in the dining hall and stayed in the residence halls.

"We are thrilled to provide this amazing educational program for our distinguished high school partners," said Dr. Sherri Benn, vice president for the Division of Global, Community and First-gen Initiatives. "This is an educational (educational and entertaining) experience of student engagement toward college readiness through performance and the arts. Students are experiencing campus life and learning from some of the best mariachi instructors in the country."

Dr. Benn said the idea for the mariachi institute was inspired by a commitment to give back to the communities

that students come from and a passion for education.

"We wanted to create a unique learning opportunity along with a culturally enriching experience for the community through student engagement toward college readiness through performance," she said. "Mariachi music is part of the fiber of joy-filled celebrations such as weddings and baptisms, as well as emotion-filled ceremonies such as memorials and funerals. Music is a beautiful way to connect with culture, and we want all members of the communities we serve to know they are valued and celebrated."

"We are building on this week's workshop to grow our own," she added.

"We want everyone to know of Tarleton's dedication to promoting work, service and leadership readiness for a globally connected economy and transnational workforce by advancing mission-focused partnerships with the communities we serve."

The sound of success: Cody Haddock's plans for GHS bands

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the Hood County News

Granbury High School is tuning up for an exciting new chapter with the arrival of Cody Haddock, the school's new director of bands. Haddock, a seasoned music educator with a vibrant background, is ready to lead the GHS band program to new heights.

Growing up in Flower Mound, Cody Haddock's passion for music was evident from an early age. "I attended Flower Mound High School, where I discovered my love for music," Haddock recalls. His journey continued at the University of North Texas, where he earned a bachelor's degree in music education. Today, he resides in Fort Worth with his wife and three children.

Haddock's teaching career began at Carter Riverside High School in Fort Worth. "My time at CRHS was incredibly fulfilling. We fostered a positive environment that drew many students to join the band," he shares. Following his success at CRHS, Haddock spent four years at Colleyville's Heritage High School, where his bands excelled both on the field and

on stage.

Now, as he steps into his new role at Granbury High School, Haddock is eager to bring his vision to life. "This year, the goal is excellence in everything we do. The way you do anything is the way you do everything," he emphasizes. Haddock aims to instill a standard of excellence that will become the cornerstone of the band's culture, encouraging students to hold each other accountable and strive for their best in every performance and practice.

One of Haddock's primary long-term goals is to grow the band program's numbers. "Recruiting has always been a strength of mine," he explains. "A healthy band program has lots of kids in it. With good numbers, that opens up many opportunities for our students, and all the different band pro-

gram offerings can shine. This goal will take time, but it will pay off for years to come."

Granbury has already made a strong impression on Haddock. "There are tons of things to be excited about! It is a lovely town, and the people have been wonderful and welcoming," he says. He is particularly enthusiastic about the support from the community and administration. "Everyone wants to see the band be at its best, and I am eager to help us get there."

Haddock's vision for the GHS bands is not just about numbers and performance; it's about creating a community where students feel valued and inspired. "Excellence is not just about winning trophies. It's about setting a high standard in everything we do, from our rehearsals to our performances and even in how we support each other as a band family," he asserts.

The new director of bands is also focused on the broader impact of music education. "Music education teaches discipline, teamwork and perseverance. These are skills that students will carry with them throughout their lives," Haddock points out. He



COURTESY PHOTO

Granbury's new GHS band director Cody Haddock.

believes a robust band program can play a pivotal role in shaping well-rounded, successful individuals.

As Haddock settles into his new role, the excitement is palpable. The students and community of Granbury High School are ready to embark on this new journey with him, eager to see the

GHS band program flourish under his leadership.

Haddock's arrival heralds a promising new era for Granbury High School's band program. With his emphasis on excellence, community and growth, the future looks bright for the students and the music they will create together. As

Haddock puts it, "We are just getting started, and I can't wait to see what we will achieve together."

Granbury High School, get ready to march to a new beat under the guidance of Cody Haddock — a leader with a vision and a heart full of music.

HCN Junior



SCIENCE FACT: This is an upward force created by the still water pushing up on the board and is known as a hydrostatic force (a force exerted by a liquid at rest).

Buoyancy

INTERNATIONAL SURFING DAY

JUNE 15, 2024

International Surfing Day, celebrated annually on the third Saturday of June, is a thrilling occasion that beckons kids to

HAWAIIANS REFER TO SURFING AS HE'E NALU, WHICH MEANS "WAVE SLIDING."



COLOR Time



catch the waves and embrace the excitement of surfing. This day is all about the sun, sea, and surf, providing a perfect opportunity for children to dip their toes into the exhilarating world of wave-riding.

For kids, International Surfing Day is a chance to explore the joy of surfing, whether they are seasoned groms or first-time riders. Surf schools and coastal communities often organize special events, offering lessons, surf clinics, and beach festivities to celebrate the stoke of riding the waves.

Families can spend the day at the beach, watching surf demonstrations, participating in beach cleanups, and enjoying the vibrant surf culture. Parents can encourage their kids to try surfing under the guidance of experienced instructors, fostering a love for this water sport that promotes fitness, balance, and a connection to nature.

International Surfing Day isn't just about the waves; it's also

an opportunity to learn about ocean conservation. Kids can engage in educational activities that highlight the importance of keeping our oceans clean and protecting marine life. Surfing and environmental stewardship go hand in hand, creating a sense of responsibility for the health of our seas.

Children can get creative with surf-themed art projects, designing their own surfboards, drawing ocean scenes, or crafting beach-inspired decorations. This artistic expression adds an extra layer of fun to the celebration and allows kids to showcase their love for the surfing lifestyle.

Whether it's riding the waves, learning about ocean conservation, or expressing creativity through art, International Surfing Day offers kids a chance to experience the sun-soaked, salty joy that defines the surfing community. It's a day to celebrate the ocean, embrace the surf culture, and create lasting memories of sandy toes and endless waves.

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Instrument: **Trumpet**
How Long: **10 months**

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Hood County Summer

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LHS Baseball Summer Camp

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County summer sports camps are going in full swing. Photos from Tuesday, June 11 of Lipan High Schools second day of Camp for incoming 1st Grade and incoming 9th Grade athletes. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.



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THE Best of Hood County HCNNews 2023
7 STRAIGHT YEARS



Stewart Ranch hosts successful launch event

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

Fall Creek Land Partners celebrated a successful public launch event for the Stewart Ranch development June 8. An upcoming gated community providing a tranquil countryside living experience, Stewart Ranch is situated at 7065 Cleburne Highway, offering 75 lots ranging from one to 11 acres, just minutes from Lake Granbury and the city.

The launch featured family entertainment and complimentary food. McKnight Title was on hand to assist potential homebuyers, and developers Wes Thompson and Trennon Massengale were available for questions. "We had a good turnout! People came from Austin, Dallas, Mansfield, Cleburne, Stephenville and, of course, local Granbury people," said Eric Wilkins, owner of VYBE Realty. "Every person I spoke with commented on how beautiful the development is."

Wilkins, a Dallas native, was chosen to represent Stewart Ranch due to his focus on creativity, consistency and integrity. In addition to his real estate services, Wilkins offers marketing through his agencies — VYBE Marketing and Media and Mod.Lux Media, where he is a partner. His team played a pivotal role in creating the branding, website, social media graphics, email campaigns and sign design for Stewart Ranch, contributing significantly to the success of the event.

With over 30 years in the building and construction

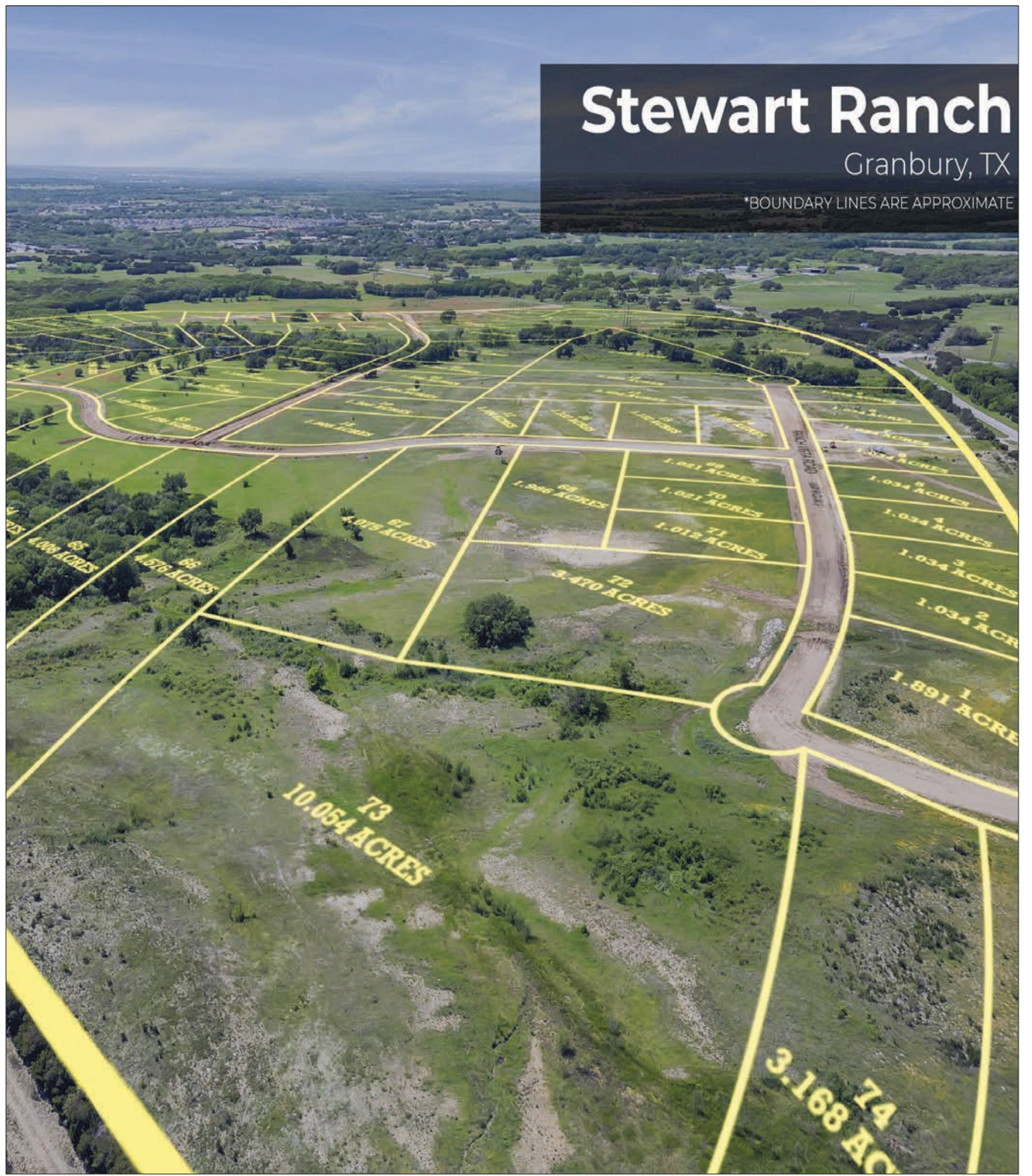
industry, Thompson emphasizes the company's philosophy of "quality over quantity." Thompson, who has deep familial ties to Hood County, highlighted the importance of enhancing the natural surroundings with one-acre and larger lot sizes.

Massengale, a Johnson County native, attended Godley schools followed by Tarleton State University. He has been in the building and development industry since 2006 after working in utility construction. The Fall Creek Land Partners team of Massengale and Thompson, together with Wilkins and VYBE Realty, manage all facets of Stewart Ranch — land acquisitions, development planning, design, estimating and construction oversight.

Regarding development progress, Thompson confirmed that all dirt work and waterlines are complete. "We will begin work on the concrete streets and gated entrance this week. Streets and electrical installation should be complete by the end of July," he said.

Stewart Ranch, named to honor the family of the previous landowner, Larry Stewart, boasts concrete streets, land dotted with trees and ponds, and is located within the Granbury school district. The neighborhood offers United Co-op fiber internet, underground utilities and a homeowners association. Regarding permitted animals, Massengale clarified, "Household domestic pets are allowed. On home sites that are four acres or greater, horses, cows or sheep are permitted with some limita-

PLEASE SEE **STEWART** | C2 Stewart Ranch development with lot lines overlay.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ERIC WILKINS

Wild at Heart: local yard certifies as wildlife habitat



COURTESY PHOTOS

Judith Smith explains the design of her newly NWF-certified Wildlife Habitat Garden.

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

Judith Smith, a resident of DeCordova Bend Estates, successfully created a Certified Wildlife Habitat through the National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife program June 1. Smith's habitat has also been co-certified with NWF's state affiliate, the Texas Conservation Alliance.

According to the NWF, every Certified Wildlife Habitat Garden is now also part of the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, a national effort to create a million gardens that provide habitat for declining pollinator insects such as butterflies and bees.

"Redesigning my yard to make it more inviting to wildlife not only gives me great wildlife-watching opportunities, but it also helps me to be greener — reducing the lawn to mow, cutting down on watering, and saving time, in the long run, to enjoy time outside," Smith says. "Wild morning glories cover the rocks I have in areas where most homeowners plant grass."

By retaining the tall cedars original to the property and adding 10 crape myrtles, which use little water to thrive, she has created a beautiful and sustainable space. Smith added a Texas star sage because it attracts birds and provides shade.



Smith planted drought-resistant plants such as chrysanthemums, lantanas, pink and purple Mexican petunias, and lilies.



Crape myrtles, sunflowers and Texas star sage beautify Smith's front yard.

"Many of the plants in my garden beds were 'planted' by the birds," Smith explains. "Sunflowers abound, and Mexican petunias attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Ground cover of Asian jasmine provides a home for numerous lizards. A blue-bird's nest attracts a family every spring. It is strategically mounted on a tree in my natural woods preserve."

The National Wildlife Federation states that over the past 45 years, the Garden

for Wildlife movement has recognized over 227,000 Certified Wildlife Habitat gardens across the United States to date, encompassing more than 2.5 million acres that support wildlife locally.

"Anyone anywhere can restore wildlife habitat right in their own yards and communities," says NWF Naturalist David Mizejewski. "Whether you garden in a suburban yard, an urban area or a rural plot of land, you can make a difference for local wildlife.

Creating a Certified Wildlife Habitat Garden is fun, easy and makes a real difference for the neighborhood wildlife."

Smith's grassroots effort reflects a growing trend among residents to make a difference by helping birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife while promoting sustainable gardening practices. For more information visit: The National Wildlife Federation at nwf.org



COURTESY PHOTO

Clarissa Layland of Granbury graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy.

Granbury Native Graduates from U.S. Naval Academy

From Staff Reports

Clarissa Layland of Granbury graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, earning a Bachelor of Science in ocean engineering and a commission as a U.S. Navy Ensign. Layland, an alumna of Granbury High School, completed four years of rigorous academic, physical and professional military training.

During her time at the academy, Layland didn't just excel academically. She was an active member of the rifle team, honing her marksmanship skills, and The American Society of Engineers, where she contributed to the advancement of engineering knowledge.

Founded in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy is a prestigious four-year service academy that prepares mid-

shipmen to be professional officers in the naval service. The academy's student body, known as the Brigade of Midshipmen, includes more than 4,400 men and women from across the United States and several foreign countries.

The Naval Academy is recognized as a top institution, with U.S. News & World Report ranking it among the top five undergraduate engineering schools and the top 20 best liberal arts colleges. Midshipmen are taught by both military and civilian instructors and participate in intercollegiate varsity sports and various extracurricular activities. Their studies include leadership, ethics, small arms, drill, seamanship and navigation, tactics, naval engineering and weap-

PLEASE SEE **NATIVE** | C2

Sweet comeback: Acton Donuts reopens after devastating crash

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

Acton Donuts, a local business in Granbury, is now back in operation after a tumultuous year. The shop, located at 3101 Fall Creek Highway, faced significant challenges following a car crash in December 2023 that damaged the building and disrupted the business.

Owned by Okju and Sehwan Chun since 1998, Acton Donuts has been a staple in the community for over two decades. The couple, originally from Korea, seized the opportunity to purchase the shop from its previous owners shortly after moving to the United States. They have been dedicated to serving the community since, seven days a week, from 5 a.m. to noon.

"Our typical day starts early," said Sehwan Chun. "I wake up around midnight to prepare and make the donuts, and Okju ar-

rives around 4 a.m. to open the shop." Their hard work has paid off, as the shop is known for its delicious classic glazed and chocolate donuts and savory options like croissant sandwiches and sausage rolls.

The fateful day of Dec. 7, 2023, began like any other. "It was around 9 a.m. I was working on a customer in the drive-thru, and Sehwan was in the middle of the shop preparing dough. Suddenly, we heard a loud sound, and debris was flying everywhere," recalled Okju Chun. A truck traveling at approximately 80 mph (they later learned) crashed into their shop, destroying the back area where equipment and ingredients were stored. The truck had first struck a car in the drive-thru before plowing through the building and narrowly missing Sehwan Chun.

This incident was one of several serious challenges for the Chuns. Earlier, in March 2023, a small electri-



Acton Donuts is open for business.

LAUREN DAVIS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

cal fire forced them to close for three months due to contamination and lack of parts. The fire caused minor exterior damage, but the smoke led to the loss of most of their inventory.

Despite these setbacks, the Chuns' resilience and the support of their loyal customers has been unwaver-

ing. "The most difficult part of running our business has been the language barrier," Okju Chun explained. "We would love to interact more fluently with our customers, but we are grateful for their support."

As they prepare to reopen in early June, the Chuns look forward to welcoming back

their community. "We are just grateful for our long-time customers and new ones. They tell us how great our donuts taste, and that reassures us we are doing well. We love to see our customers happy," said Okju Chun.

The reopening of Acton Donuts marks a new chapter for the Chuns and their busi-

ness, filled with hope and gratitude for the community that has supported them through thick and thin.

For updates and more information, visit Acton Donuts at 3101 Fall Creek Highway in Granbury.

STEWART

FROM PAGE C1

tions. Chickens are allowed, but no roosters."

"Trennon and I take a lot of pride in our family history in this area," Thompson explained. His great-great-grandfather, Erastus Umphress, was a prominent farmer and rancher in Hood County. Born in Jefferson County, Florida, in 1857, Umphress moved to Texas in 1872 and eventually owned 900 acres. He was known for his innovative farming practices and early adoption of registered Hereford cattle. According to www.granburydepot.org, Umphress married Margaret "Maggie" Grubbs and had eight children. He was influential in bringing railroad spurs to Granbury and aiding local cattle transportation. A devout Baptist and active Mason, Umphress donated land for the Shady Grove Church and was re-

spected for his community contributions and progressive spirit. "His legacy of community service and innovation is something we strive to honor in our developments," said Thompson.

"The market right now is in an interesting pattern," said Wilkins. "Small tweaks to interest rates make all the difference in the world. In one week, we will have more mortgage applications than in the past 90 days. The next week, we could have an all-time low for applications. However, the desire for people to live in neighborhoods where they can stretch out a little bit and be on two, three, four to 11 acres is at a high. People are moving to Granbury like crazy to get out of the hustle of the city. Most of those folks are looking for some space, and Stewart Ranch fills that need!"

For more information, visit <https://stewartranchtx.com/>



COURTESY PHOTO BY VICTOR ROBLES

From left: Wes Thompson, Eric Wilkins, and Trennon Massengale on site at Stewart Ranch for the launch event.



COURTESY PHOTO BY VICTOR ROBLES

Visitors enjoying lunch at the Stewart Ranch launch event.



COURTESY PHOTO BY ERIC WILKINS

Children enjoying the bounce house at the Stewart Ranch launch event.



COURTESY PHOTO BY VICTOR ROBLES

Title agents from McKnight Title on site at the Stewart Ranch launch event.

NATIVE

FROM PAGE C1

ons, and military law. Upon graduation, midshipmen earn a Bachelor of Science degree in one of 27 majors and commit to at least five years of service as commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marine Corps.

The academy's notable alumni include:

- One president.
- 21 members of Congress.
- Five governors.
- 73 Medal of Honor recipients.
- Two Nobel Prize winners.
- 54 astronauts.
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Layland's achievement marks a significant milestone in her career, demonstrating her commitment to her education and country.

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Grill Sergeant: Igniting dreams and redefining outdoor cooking in Granbury

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

In the heart of Granbury, a new business recently celebrated its ribbon cutting. Grill Sergeant is lighting up the community with premium grills and outdoor kitchen essentials. But there is an inspirational story of resilience and passion behind the store façade that is not to be missed. Larry Lindsey, at 73 years young, is the proud owner of Grill Sergeant, located at 608 E. U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury. Lindsey's store reflects a lifetime of dedication, hard work and an unwavering "grill" to succeed. After a long and fruitful

career in the restaurant industry, the financial crisis of 2008 hit hard. Real estate deals went sour, and the restaurant Lindsey owned in Florida fell victim to the economic downturn. For 40 years, his life had revolved around the restaurant business. In 2011, Lindsey found himself in a challenging position. He ran multiple unit franchises, owned three restaurants, and operated a successful catering business in North Carolina. But in the wake of financial losses, Lindsey was left wondering what to do next. (I was) too young to quit, too old and overqualified to find work that could satisfy me or pay what I desired to

make," Lindsey said. The need for health insurance was pressing, and he found himself at a crossroads. Then, an advertisement for Barbeques Galore caught his eye. It promised good commissions and insurance, so Lindsey applied. Despite his vast experience, he was initially overlooked. Undeterred, he wrote a letter to the company's president, urging them to give him a chance. It worked. Lindsey thrived at Barbeques Galore, find-

PLEASE SEE **SERGEANT** | C4


MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Larry Lindsey is the proud owner of Grill Sergeant, located at 608 E. U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury.



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Hood County News

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.

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.

MELODY BELLS singers of Granbury, women's choral group, seeks new members who love to sing 3-part harmony, especially first or second soprano. Also seeking experienced piano accompanist. Weekly Thursday rehearsals for Christmas concert season start Aug. 29, 10 a.m. to noon, at First Presbyterian Church Memorial Hall (the Annex), 301 W. Bridge St. Concerts performed during first two weeks of December. For more information, please call 817-999-1364.

FRIDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS: 9 a.m. exercise. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

SATURDAYS

HOOD COUNTY Hummers Walking Club, 8 a.m., meets every Saturday at Hilton Garden Inn, 635 E. Pearl St., for 5K or 10K walk for fun, fellowship and fitness. Details: 972-567-3278.

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS: 10:30 a.m. yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HABITAT FOR Humanity of Hood County Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We are building in the 4000 block of Sundown Trail. No experience or tools needed. Just come build with us.

SUNDAYS

THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has mini tournaments every Sunday at 2 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

FIRST MONDAYS

HOOD COUNTY Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Monday each month at 7 p.m. at the Hood County Emergency Operations Center, 401 Deputy Larry Miller Drive.

LOVE KNOTS 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.

The thrill of the grill

Top foods and techniques for summer grilling

BY MICKY SHEARON
Special to the
Hood County News

Grilling in Texas is more than just a method of cooking; it's a way of life. In Hood County, like much of Texas, the sizzle of meat on the grill, the smoky aroma filling the air, and the camaraderie of friends and family gathered around is a cherished ritual. But why is grilling so deeply embedded in our culture? Let's explore this beloved tradition, along with the top five things to grill and the best techniques to ensure your next BBQ is a hit.

THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF GRILLING IN TEXAS

Texas has a rich history of outdoor cooking that dates back to the early settlers and cattle drives. These pioneers had to cook their food over open flames, giving rise to what we now consider classic Texas BBQ. Over time, this practical necessity evolved into a cherished tradition.

Grilling brings people together. Whether it's a family gathering, a neighborhood block party, or a casual weekend with friends, the grill serves as the centerpiece of social interaction. It's not just about the food; it's about the experience, the memories created and the sense of community it fosters.

TOP FIVE THINGS TO GRILL

STEAK

Why: Texas is synonymous with beef, and nothing beats a perfectly grilled steak. The char on the outside and the tender, juicy inside make it a favorite.

Tip: Use a high-quality cut like ribeye or T-bone and season simply with salt,

pepper and a touch of garlic.

BRISKET

Why: Slow cooked to perfection, brisket is a staple of Texas BBQ. It requires patience but rewards with rich, smoky flavors.

Tip: Cook low and slow and use a good rub to infuse the meat with flavor.

CHICKEN

Why: Versatile and easy to cook, chicken can be marinated, rubbed with spices or simply seasoned.

Tip: Marinate the chicken overnight for maximum flavor and grill over medium heat to avoid drying it out.

SAUSAGES

Why: Sausages are a crowd-pleaser and cook relatively quickly. They come in various flavors, making them a versatile choice.

Tip: Prick the sausages with a fork to prevent them from bursting and cook over medium heat until nicely browned.

VEGETABLES

Why: Grilling isn't just for meat lovers. Vegetables like bell peppers, zucchini and corn take on a delicious smoky flavor.

Tip: Toss vegetables in olive oil and season with salt and pepper before grilling. Use a grill basket to prevent smaller pieces from falling through.

TOP FIVE GRILLING TECHNIQUES

DIRECT VS. INDIRECT HEAT

Description: Use direct heat for quick-cooking foods like steaks and burgers and indirect heat for larger

cuts like brisket or whole chickens.

Benefit: This technique helps in cooking food evenly and achieving the desired level of doneness without burning.

PREHEAT THE GRILL

Description: Always preheat your grill for at least 15 minutes before cooking.

Benefit: A hot grill sears the meat, locking in juices and creating a delicious crust.

OIL THE GRILL GRATES

Description: Use a paper towel soaked in oil to grease the grates before placing food on them.

Benefit: This prevents sticking and makes clean-up easier.

USE A MEAT THERMOMETER

Description: Ensure your meat reaches the safe internal temperature by using a meat thermometer.

Benefit: This guarantees food safety and helps in achieving the perfect doneness.

LET THE MEAT REST

Description: Allow meat to rest for a few minutes after taking it off the grill.

Benefit: Resting lets the juices redistribute throughout the meat, making it more flavorful and tender.

Grilling is more than just a way to cook food in Texas; it's a cherished tradition that brings people together. Whether you're a seasoned grill master or a beginner, knowing the best things to grill and the top techniques will elevate your BBQ game. So fire up the grill, invite your friends and family, and enjoy the rich, smoky flavors that have become a part of our Texan heritage.

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I'VE BEEN THINKING

Final interesting facts about Texas



CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER

Carol Goodman Heizer is an author who recently moved to Hood County from Louisville, Kentucky. She has had short stories published in eight editions of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. Her column for the Hood County News will appear every two weeks. cghzeizer@gmail.com | 502-396-0972

Traveling through Texas by way of fascinating facts in three previous columns has been a wonderful experience. The unexpected turns and dips on the road of information have made the journey exciting, yet sometimes startling. Since many of us have come here from another home state, perhaps a future column will reveal interesting facts from each of the other 49 states.

You can thank Texas for Whole Foods and 7-Eleven. You can find these stores everywhere now, but they both got their start in good ole Texas. 7-Eleven traces its origin to Dallas in 1927, when the Southland Ice Company began selling food in its stores and called the businesses "Tote'm Stores." They changed their name to 7-Eleven in 1946 to advertise their new store hours. Whole Foods was founded in Austin in 1980, and at the time was one of only a

dozen natural food stores in the country.

The state's official song is "Texas, Our Texas." The song became the official state anthem in 1929. Initially, the piece included lyrics referring to Texas as the "largest and grandest" state in the country. However, Texas had to change this to "boldest and grandest" in 1959 when the much larger Alaska joined the union.

Lavender, which is native to the Mediterranean, is now grown in Texas; there are numerous lavender fields and even festivals in central Texas. Blanco, in the center of beautiful Hill Country, is a small town known as the "Lavender Capital of Texas."

The "Texas Triangle" is made up of the four major cities of Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston and San Antonio. With a total population of 21 million, it is considered one of the 11 megaregions of the U.S.

The State Fair of Texas boasts the largest Ferris wheel in North America. It's also the largest and longest-running state fair in the country. Established in 1886, the State Fair of Texas takes place every fall in Dallas and lasts 24 days. Here, you'll find tons of fried food, carnival rides, live music, agriculture contests and a whole ton of Texas pride. You'll know you're there when you see Big Tex, the gigantic statue that is the fair's mascot. Last year's event welcomed more than two million visitors.

Texas is the fifth biggest wine producer in the U.S. Fredericksburg is at the heart of Texas' wine country, and one of the top things to do in Fredericksburg is of course visiting wineries!

Caddo Lake is the state's only natural lake. It is found on the border of Texas and Louisiana and is the only natural lake in Texas. It sprawls over 25,000 acres, and its name is derived from the Caddo Native American groups that originally inhabited the area before they were forcibly relocated.

Everyone in the town of

DISH, Texas, received free basic television and DVRs for 10 years from DISH Network in exchange for renaming their town to DISH (in 2005) from CLARK (established in June 2000) as part of a deal with the satellite TV company. Located in Denton County, Dish is home to just 200 residents and 60 gas wells.

Texas is filled with tiny little towns that boast awesome names. If you can't afford a European vacation, just hop in your car and drive through Paris, Athens, Naples, London, Dublin, and Florence, Texas. There's even a town called Earth in the plains of Llano Estacado—and it's the only town on the planet to bear that name.

There's nothing like authentic Tex-Mex food, a fusion of Mexican, Tejano and American traditions that is all its own. Chow down on some fajitas, try yourself a breakfast taco—and don't you dare leave the state without getting a taste of classic Tex-Mex queso. You'll also want to scoop up some chili, which is the official state dish, and chips and salsa, which is the official state appetizer.

SERGEANT FROM PAGE C3

ing a new passion in selling grills and talking about food. His natural talent and enthusiasm led him to consistently earn a spot in the President's Club, selling over \$750,000 worth of grills annually. Yet, corporate changes and the desire for independence spurred Lindsey to form his own company, Grill Sergeant LLC, in 2018.

The journey to opening his store was not straightforward. Health issues and

initial missteps with other grilling businesses delayed his plans. But with determination and support from his wife, Judy, Lindsey persisted. "None of this would even be possible without my Judy," Lindsey said. "She carried the ball for several years when I barely came off the bench. And now she is still my strongest supporter."

After meticulous planning and research, the energized couple opened the doors to Grill Sergeant in mid-March 2024, with a grand opening and ribbon cutting May 19 and 20. The store offers

a wide range of traditional gas grills, pellet grills, kamado-style grills like the Big Green Egg, griddles and specialized equipment for outdoor kitchens. They also carry a variety of charcoal, pellets, tools, cleaning supplies, unique gift items and an extensive selection of rubs and sauces.

What truly sets Grill Sergeant apart is the personalized service Lindsey and his team provide. "We treat every customer, no matter how small the purchase, as if they are spending thousands of dollars," Lindsey said. "If a customer

for whatever reason isn't satisfied, we sincerely want to know and rectify the situation. We bend over backward to give the kind of service you used to get everywhere. This isn't my job. It's my life, and I love it."

Lindsey's story speaks to the power of perseverance and the belief that it's never too late to follow a dream. He hopes Grill Sergeant will not only be a success but also inspire others. "I am living proof that dreams can come true. Failure is just another learning experience," he says.

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

Graduates in the real world



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly. newbury@speakerdoc.com | 817-447-3872

For the most part, handshakes, backslaps, hugs and teardrops — some joyously wept from grateful souls who achieved much, and some from others who barely sneaked by to graduate — now are part of history.

In bygone years, school superintendents and university presidents considered graduation events to be successful if everyone left venues in the same state of health and well-being as when they entered. (Nowadays, with some commencement exercises canceled or altered greatly because of safety concerns, most leaders would settle for the “mild stuff” — even squirrels running amok on stages in the berserk manner described in the novelty song about the First Self-Righteous Church of Pascagoula.)

It should be noted there are far more places for exercises to go wrong now. Long ago, most schools had just one “warmup” for gradu-

ation, it being from elementary to high school. Nowadays, youngsters graduate from kindergarten to first grade, then elementary to junior high or middle school, then to high school and the “biggie” at senior year’s end. I wouldn’t be surprised, up the way, if ceremonies mark progression from diapers to underwear, and/or nursery school to kindergarten ...

One superintendent of my acquaintance says he hopes his commencement-induced “tummy knots” will loosen soon. I understand, but like most other folks, wonder what lies ahead. Civility seems threatened.

I asked him if anything at this year’s graduation program caused him to smile on the way home.

“As a matter of fact, there was,” he answered, seemingly eager to share remarks by one of his school’s brightest graduates. (I am choosing not to reveal his name, nor his school’s, nor the

graduate’s.)

By way of background, much seemed to be predictable. Some 800 seniors “pumped and circumstance” their way into the stadium, and several thousand relatives and friends showed up, hoping the graduates would take seriously both the “rights and responsibilities” printed on their diplomas.

It was a long ceremony, of course — what with all graduates receiving a dozen seconds each in the spotlight crossing the stage. There were many speeches, of course.

Were there ever speeches! Students who achieved greatly academically — as well as heads of student organizations — were granted a few minutes each to share their thoughts, most of which centered on gratitude to teachers, coaches, band directors, counselors, and, of course, parents and other relatives. Most, my friend said, were well-chosen words. (I cautioned that I’ve been congratulated for a few “well-chosen words,” both words in print and expressed verbally. Sadly, though, there were addendums, something about the few “well-chosen



COURTESY PHOTO

In bygone years, school superintendents and university presidents considered graduation events to be successful if everyone left venues in the same state of health and well-being as when they entered.

words” interspersed randomly with several hundred that weren’t!

I hasten on, because my friend’s face brightened as he described the young man whose remarks “took the cake,” earning the evening’s most thunderous applause.

“He had ‘Paul Harvey kind’ of timing, obviously spending hours deciding precisely what he wanted to convey,” the superintendent said.

“The graduate was unhurried, quickly establishing eye-contact with the throng to create an appearance of serious intent and a spirit of

thanksgiving. I wish I could remember his exact words, but generally, here’s what the lad said.”

“I would like to begin my remarks this evening by especially thanking my mother, even though she’s no longer with us.”

Swiveling to survey the crowd, the graduate seemed to “drink in” the audible sighs from the audience, all seeming to share the tender moment.

Several seconds passed before he loosed the bombshell retort that immediately turned a moment of sadness

into laughter that bordered on side-splitting.

“Yeah, she left several minutes ago, probably out of sheer boredom.” ...

I congratulate him for his creativity. I’ll throw in a bouquet to his mom, too, if she knew what he intended to do, and went along.

Okay, I’ll extend the gift to all the graduates of our land, prayerful that they’ll strive to make our world a better place.

My generation fell short of what we’d hoped. Maybe we all should re-read the words on our diplomas.

PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Summer chit chat meetings slated for Pecan’s Woman’s Club



PHOTO COURTESY PECAN PLANTATION WOMAN'S CLUB

The Pecan Plantation Woman’s Club finished its club year with ladies wearing blue to the final gathering in celebration of the group’s 45th and sapphire anniversary. While collective meetings recess for the summer, Chit Chat luncheons begin June 20.



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

Even though the Pecan Plantation Woman’s Club will not meet collectively during the summer months, it does not mean fun and fellowship will cease for the ladies of our community.

The first “Chit Chat” luncheon is on the calendar for Thursday, June 20 in the clubhouse ballroom. This informal time of food and friends welcomes current

club members as well as visitors and guests interested in learning about Woman’s Club and its presence in our community. Social time begins at 10 a.m. with lunch service at 11:30 a.m. Ladies will hear a little “Granbury history” as presented by Melinda Fortner.

Reservations are required for the event and are due by Thursday, June 13. Ladies

may secure a spot by sending email to ppwres@gmail.com or calling Susan Martin at 361-215-4599.

MEMBER RENEWAL

In addition, the PPWC happily announces its website now includes a link for members to renew their membership for the 2024-2025 club year. Ladies may visit mypopecan.com to pay their dues. The new club year promises to be spectacular with new, noteworthy programs, as well as favorite annual events such as the Christmas Tour of Homes, Santa’s Workshop and Bakery, and the western themed Boot Scootin’ dinner and dance.

Woman’s Club welcomes all female residents to join

the group whose tenets include friendship, fellowship, philanthropy and a love of the arts.

PICKLEBALL TIME

A pickleball camp for young players (ages 8 through 12) runs Monday, June 17 through Friday, June 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: 817-573-7952.

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.

AUXILIARY UPDATE

Pecan’s Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary has two important fundraisers fast approaching. The first one is slated for Thursday, June 20 at 7 p.m. when the

auxiliary will be the designated Spotlight Nonprofit Organization at a Cleburne Railroaders baseball game at their home stadium.

The Railroaders’ management has offered discounted ticket prices to the auxiliary of \$11 per ticket when purchased online for this event, and \$5 will automatically be added to the ticket price to benefit Pecan’s emergency service personnel. Special pricing and the donation to Pecan’s groups is only applicable for online ticket purchases. For more details, call auxiliary Co-President Jeanie Curry 972-977-7049 or Seleta Webster 806-646-0656.

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 who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28



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Jeremiah 29:11



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 steadfast love, O LORD, helped me up.
 When the cares of my heart are many, Your
 consolations cheer my soul.

Psalms 94:18-19



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

Isaiah 41:10



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BOOK REVIEW

The park shelter has been reserved

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

You've told everyone where to be and what to bring (Grandma's favorite dessert!) and someone will set up games to occupy the kids. Your whole family celebrates Juneteenth, so maybe it's time to bring these two great books to your jubilee ...

If you sometimes feel like you're always the last to know, then read "Galveston's Juneteenth Story: And Still We Rise" by Tommie Boudreaux, Alice Gatson, Jami Durham and W. Dwayne Jones (The History Press, \$24.99). Because sometimes, you are the last.

Some 60 years before the end of the Civil War, Britain and the U.S. both "banned the international trade of enslaved people ... " Slavery still existed, of course, and "Galveston was known as the largest slave market west of New Orleans ... " Roughly a thousand people were enslaved there, and "many more ... passed through the city's slave trading houses." It's estimated that "thou-

sands" also tried to escape slavery through Galveston and Brownsville, over the Rio Grande to Mexico.

Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation proclamation Sept. 22, 1862. The Civil War ended in April 1865. On June 19 of that same year — two months after wars' end — Black Texans finally learned that they were free. The slaves in Galveston were the last in the country to be notified.

This essential look at the history of Juneteenth goes beyond that historic day to show more of what happened in the immediate aftermath of the posting of General Order No. 3. The authors don't stop there, though: they take their narrative well into the early 20th century, through Jim Crow laws, and into modern times and today's celebrations. Complete with lots of illustrations, "Galveston's Juneteenth Story: And Still We Rise" is a great book to browse and to keep around for reference.

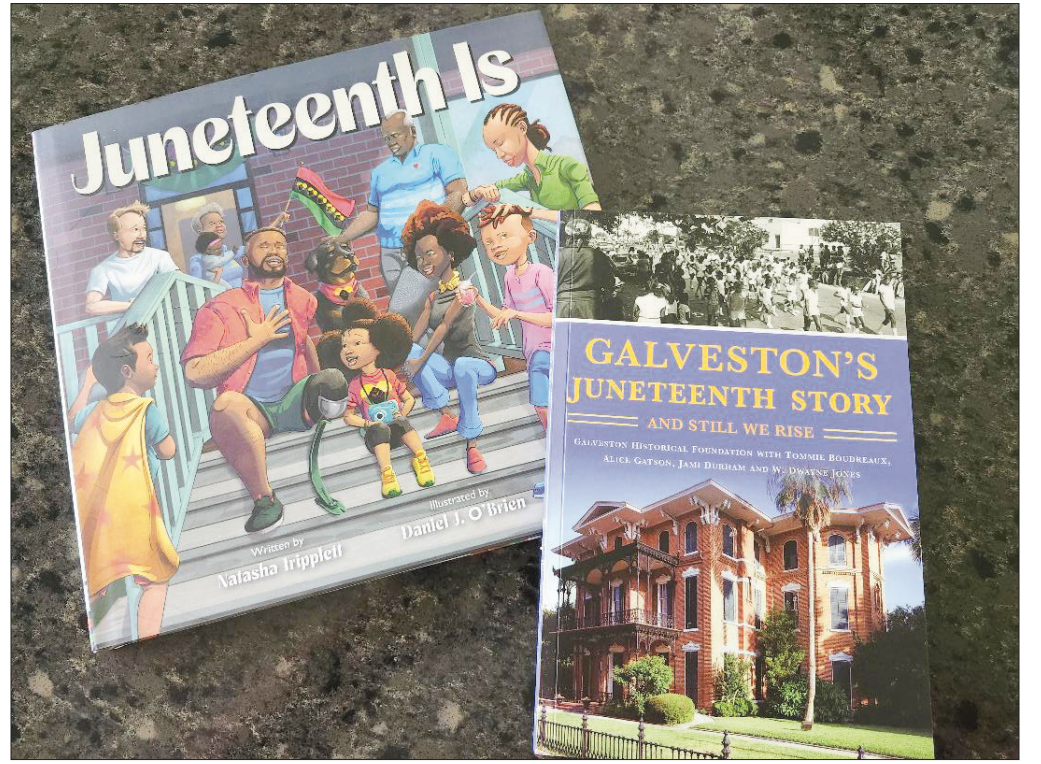
You know your child wants

to understand the history of this holiday, too, so look for the new picture book, "Juneteenth Is" by Natasha Tripplett, illustrated by Daniel J. O'Brien (Chronicle Books, \$17.99).

The morning has just started. The sun is up and today is the day for Jubilee. Everyone's heading for the park and a parade with drummers and steppers. They throw candy to everyone along the parade route. There are red, green and black flags everywhere!

After the festivities at the park, it's time to get together with family. Juneteenth is a time to "be thankful." It's "the ladies singing in the kitchen," an uncle's jokes (groan!), basketball in the front driveway, prayer around the table, and "generations of family recipes." And, of course, Juneteenth is a solemn time to acknowledge "things not taught in school." That's the lesson to be learned, and children ages 3 to 8 will love learning it with this book.

If these Juneteenth books



COURTESY PHOTO

Juneteenth Books by various authors, c.2024, The History Press / Chronicle Books \$24.99 / \$17.99, 141 pages / 40 pages

aren't exactly what you're looking for, be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or li-

brarian. They can put lots of other Juneteenth books for anyone of any age, directly

in your hands. Ask for help or be sure to put these two great books on reserve soon.



COURTESY PHOTO

Successive plantings allow you to harvest throughout the growing season.

GARDEN PATCH

Growing tomatoes 101

BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER



Phyllis Webster earned a degree in journalism before embarking on a long career in public relations and marketing. A Granbury resident since 1998, she has been deeply involved in the community. She is an award-winning writer and photographer, as well as a Master Gardener. She has authored Garden Patch since 2001. 817-680-4849

If you crave that fresh from the garden taste, try growing tomatoes at home! While the time to plant for summer harvest is past, you may start a fall crop in July. Growing homegrown tomatoes is rewarding provided you've done your part to ensure success.

For fall, purchase transplants and get them in the ground around July 1. You'll race against time to harvest before the first frost. Next spring, you can choose to start your crop either from seed or transplants. Purchasing seed allows you to grow unusual and hard-to-find varieties. And it's satisfying to grow your food from

seed to harvest.

To minimize diseases and pests, tomatoes are not directly seeded into the garden. Instead, the tiny seeds are sown into small containers, allowed to germinate (about 14 days) and then grow inside for six to eight weeks before transplanting. You'll need to purchase supplies, provide adequate space, ensure adequate light and regularly tend to your seedlings. To save time, many gardeners bypass the seeding process and purchase transplants. Working with seed lengthens the time to harvest and increases the chances for failure.

Prepare your garden site

well in advance of planting. The amount of space you have will help determine which types of plants to grow and how many. Check with your local AgriLife Extension about recommended cultivars and purchase appropriately. Also, learn the difference between determinate tomatoes and indeterminate.

Determinate plants grow to a specific height, usually 2-4 feet, and are easier to support. The plants stop growing when flowers form at the end of the growing points. Their fruit ripens over a shorter time. Successive plantings allow you to harvest throughout the growing season. Indeterminate plants keep growing without forming flowers at the growing points. Their longer length is harder to support, but they produce fruit for a longer season.

What is the expected yield

PLEASE SEE **TOMATOES** | C8

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PECAN

FROM PAGE C5

The second auxiliary fundraiser is a gold and silver purchasing event Saturday, June 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the EMS building located on Monticello Drive. Cowtown Gold & Silver will be on hand to buy scrap gold and silver with 10% of the purchases benefiting our VFD/EMS.

Old, broken jewelry and coins are welcome. Pure gold and silver items should be hallmarked, and if in doubt, the gold and silver buyers can test for purity.

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 of 9 to 10 a.m.

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 Tuesday, June 25 through Friday, June 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.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club will continue to meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of the 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.

GOOD READ

The Hood County Library's bookmobile will be in the PAC parking lot Wednesday, June 26 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Patrons may both check out and return materials to the bookmobile.

CANDLE CREATION

A candle making class with "scent of humor" is slated for Saturday, June 29 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the PAC. The fee is \$55 per participant and includes a 16-ounce candle and a car diffuser. Folks may register at the PAC.

SUMMER TIME

Session two of "Tennis and More Sports Camp" begins Monday, June 18 for children ages 6 to 12. Each day will include tennis, swimming and an additional sport. Sign up in the tennis shop: 817-579-9412.

GOOD TIMES

Soccer camp finished last week, and all reports boast children having a wonderful time and learning much about the sport.

In addition, the air rifle camp two weekends ago was a big success. Congratulations to the competition winners!

PICKLEBALL NEWS

Although the recent pickleball mixed doubles tournament moved from the outside courts to inside the PAC gym due to inclement weather, the event was not dampened and proved a very successful day. Many thanks go both to participants and spectators, as well as the volunteers who made the day happen. Folks assisted with the tournament computer program, officiated matches, prepared lunch and assisted with both set up and clean up. Cheers to all the participating players with special kudos going to the winners of each bracket.

TOMATOES

FROM PAGE C7

per plant? Some varieties produce more fruit than others. Cherry tomatoes, for example, produce prolifically. Other factors that affect fruiting include available water, weather, fertilizer and pest/disease issues.

Generally, one or two plants per person will produce substantial fruit. If you plan to can tomatoes, the AgriLife Extension recommends three to four plants per person. Choose the varieties that are best for canning.

Tomatoes require eight hours of sunlight per day. Plant them in a well-drained site; mounded rows or raised

beds work best. Tomatoes also work well in containers. The plants need regular moisture, so do not allow the soil to dry to the point that plants wilt. And do not allow the soil to become waterlogged. Improper moisture can cause the fruit to crack or lead to a killing disease such as blossom end rot. If you do not receive rain, wa-

ter every three to five days.

Select dark green transplants that are about the same height as width. Avoid leggy plants and those with damaged or unhealthy-looking leaves. Tomatoes may be planted with stems buried. Remove the bottom leaves, leaving 4"-6" of stem planted aboveground. Roots will sprout from the buried

stems.

Space plants 2-4 feet apart if caged. Allow more space if not using cages and if you are growing indeterminates. Caged plants need less training than plants that are staked. To minimize pests and soil-borne disease, apply mulch and avoid contact between fruit, leaves and soil as plants grow. Fertilize ev-

ery four to six weeks.

For answers to your horticulture questions, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hood County at 817-579-3280 or online at lakegranburymastergardeners.org.

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