



## Gotta go back, back, back to school

Staff Reports

New clothes, new backpacks, fresh haircuts and small tears on moms' cheeks were plentiful this week as students of Granbury ISD returned to school. The start of the school year is always a memorable time in the lives of families. Many families adjust to new routines or revert to long established ones as students return to school, buses return to the streets, and traffic picks up around the local schools. Friday nights will be filled with the sounds of high school sports. Students will achieve amazing things and teachers will pour their hearts and souls into our community's children. Check out the B section for more photos and stories about this back-to-school season.



COURTESY PHOTO BY LISSA OLIVER

See more photos in B Section.

## Sound solution in sight?

New study reveals noise reduction at bitcoin plant

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
ashley@hcnews.com

The low-frequency hum emanating from the bitcoin data center in Hood County has been a topic of conversation for more than a year, drawing attention from local, national and even international news outlets. Countless residents have claimed the sound — caused by massive cooling fans used to keep the computers from overheating — has been the source of numerous health issues like vertigo, migraines, ear infections and nausea. However, according to a recent sound study published by the company, the facility's noise levels are now significantly below legal limits. While this recent development may suggest improvements, it has prompted mixed reactions from the community as some residents continue to voice their concerns about the ongoing impact of the sound on their daily lives.

### SOUND STUDY

According to the MARA Granbury website, an independent, third-party sound survey was conducted around the data center July 18, revealing that noise levels measured between 43-63 decibels — well below the state and county law noise limit of 85 decibels.

Sound is measured in decibels (dB), a unit that quantifies the intensity or loudness of sound. According to the MARA Granbury website, the sound study used to measure the sound for the plant used the "A-weighted" decibels (dBA) scale because it reflects the sensitivity of the human ear to different frequencies of sound. For this reason, dBA is considered to be a more accurate measure of perceived loudness for humans.

The sound survey was carried out by Absolute Noise Control between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., with sound receivers strategically positioned at 11 different sites around the operational data center. These receivers measured the sound levels during the facility's operation, with the reported figures representing 15-minute average levels.

The results indicated that all locations around the Hood County data center recorded sound levels well below the legal limit of 85 dB, as stated on the Granbury MARA website.

"As part of our commitment to transparency, we have also voluntarily compared our sound measurements to Granbury's quiet hours limit, even though this limit does not apply to our operations since the Hood County data center is located outside of Granbury," the report states. "Even when compared to Granbury's noise limit during quiet hours of 65 dB, the sound measurements near the data center are all within acceptable limits."

### MITIGATION EFFORTS

MARA, formerly known as Marathon Digital Holdings, acquired the site in January and took operational control in April. At

PLEASE SEE **BOND** | A2

PLEASE SEE **SOUND** | A5

## County calls bond election for jail expansion, renovation

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
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After years of discussions and planning, Hood County residents will soon face a crucial decision about the future of the county jail.

During a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court Aug. 13, the court unanimously approved an order to call for a bond election Nov. 5. This election could facilitate the much-needed expansion and renovation of the county jail.

According to Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson, the order will authorize the county to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$50 million for the purpose of building additional jail space of 209 beds and refurbishing the current facility, which currently holds 192 beds — creating a total of 401 beds in the jail.

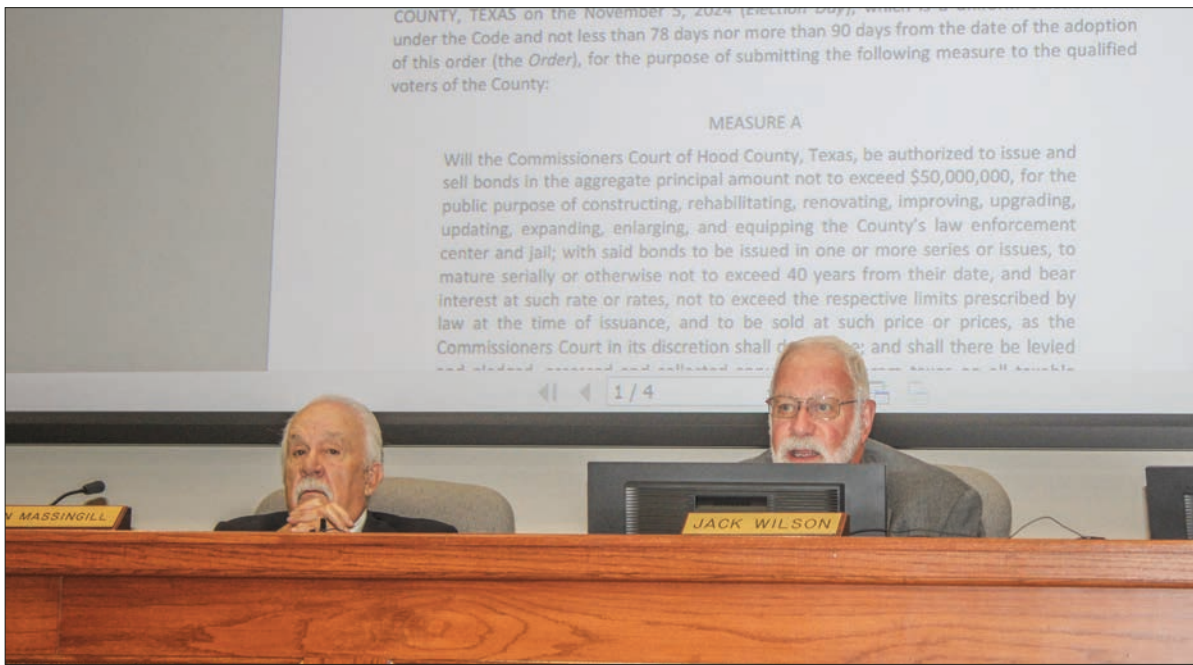
"The current jail facility is 192 beds and was built in 1995," Wilson said. "We, the county, started shipping prisoners out of county in 2000 and we've shipped them out pretty much every day since ... The build time is somewhere between 24 and 30 months to build the 209-bed facility, and then, you know, the refurbishment of the current facility will start after that."

The proposal developed by DRG Architects outlines plans for a new jail facility that will accommodate up to 150 inmates in general housing, provide flex cell housing for up to 28 inmates (either male or female), and include special housing for up to 31 inmates.

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

Additionally, phase one of a 6,200-square-foot expansion for the sheriff's office is included in the master planning budget, with a projected cost of \$2,480,000.

Interior renovations will entail a new kitchen, an expanded sally



Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson, right, explains the upcoming bond election for the Hood County jail expansion and renovation, during a regularly scheduled meeting Aug. 13.

port, an enlarged intake area, and refurbished inmate housing, totaling \$15 million, bringing the subtotal for construction to \$41,964,800.

Professional fees for architectural, mechanical, electrical, structural, civil, survey, environmental, soils and fire safety services, estimated at approximately 9%, will cost the county around \$3,800,000.

An additional 10% contingency allowance on construction costs will add \$4,235,000 to the total. As a result, the overall cost for the jail expansion and renovation is expected to be approximately \$50 million.

This proposal is based on an assumed start date for Phase I services of Sept. 1, with a November 2024 bond election to be called in August 2024.

Upon the passage of a successful bond election, DRG anticipates Phase II services commencing in January 2025 with design completion in June/July 2025 and construction commencement in late 2025. Construction completion could be expected in early 2027.

Following a short brief of the proposal and bond explanation, resident David Farris raised concerns during the meeting about the \$50 million bond, describing the dollar amount as "too round of a number," that lacked clarity regarding its specific purposes. He noted that while the expansion would increase the jail's capacity from 192 to 401 beds, he was curious about how much of the budget would be allocated for refurbishment, especially considering the potential for cost overruns.

Farris also expressed unease about the rushed timeline for the architectural plans. Additionally, he sought demographic information about the current jail population, such as average sentences and crime types, as he was apprehensive about the implications of adding low-security facilities.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews addressed his concerns, assuring Farris the individuals currently housed in the jail are primarily those who should not be on the streets. Andrews also clarified with Wilson that the facility is designed for maximum security,

featuring concrete walls and metal bars.

"In the current facility, we have a mixture of anywhere from minimum to maximum (security inmates) in the facility, and some of the people that we're shipping to other counties are in that same category," Wilson explained.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson informed the court that the architectural firm DRG had provided a high-level estimate for the project, indicating the design would be implemented in phases. She mentioned that if costs exceeded \$50 million, adjustments would be necessary and would potentially eliminate certain features from the plan.

"I promise you, this thing, we have gone over with a fine-tooth comb and really made sure that we're doing what's correct for the county," Andrews said.

He also emphasized the necessity of designing the new facility to separate male and female inmates, as the current jail layout does not allow for this separation, leading



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

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# COMMUNITY BUSINESS

## CHAMBER NEWS

# Shine bright at the 3rd annual Women in Business Summit: Inspiring the champion in you!

### Granbury Chamber of Congress

Get ready for an empowering experience at the third annual Women in Business Summit, hosted by the Granbury Chamber of Commerce Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. This year's summit is set to be our best yet, featuring a dynamic lineup of speakers, inspiring topics and invaluable networking opportunities designed to help women in our community unlock their full potential.

This year's theme, Inspiring the Champion in You: Shine Bright!, makes this a must-attend event for women looking to advance their careers, grow their businesses, and connect with like-minded professionals. Hear from top local leaders on overcoming imposter syndrome, unlocking your true potential, and maintaining a strong personal and professional presence. This is your chance to learn, grow and be inspired by the best in business!

Keynote speaker Leah King will

deliver a powerful message on how to shine bright in all aspects of life. With limited space available, this event is expected to sell out quickly. Tickets are \$75 for chamber members and \$100 for general admission and can be purchased at [www.granburychamber.com](http://www.granburychamber.com).

In addition to attending, consider becoming a sponsor. Sponsorship is a fantastic way to showcase your business to a diverse group of professional women and demonstrate your commitment to supporting women in business. Sponsorship packages offer benefits like brand visibility, event recognition and valuable networking opportunities. For more information, email [info@granburychamber.com](mailto:info@granburychamber.com) or call 817-573-1622.

We are deeply grateful to our presenting sponsors — Beam & Branch Realty, N on the Square, and The Nest — whose support makes this event possible. Their commitment to empowering women in our com-

munity is truly inspiring.

Beyond the summit, the Women in Business Group at the Granbury chamber offers ongoing opportunities for women to connect, collaborate and grow. When women are included in the workplace, they bring fresh ideas, innovative solutions and diverse viewpoints that drive long-term success. Our group provides a supportive network and valuable resources for women to thrive in the Granbury community. From Speed Networking luncheons to relaxed after-hours gatherings, we are committed to fostering an environment where women can share resources, experiences and opportunities.

Don't miss this transformative experience. Join us at the third annual Women in Business Summit and take the next step in your personal and professional journey. Get your tickets now and prepare to be inspired, empowered, and equipped for success!



COURTESY GRAPHIC

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COURTESY GRAPHICS

**New Member Spotlight: Lemongrass Spa Products.** "Lemongrass Spa has swiftly grown and expanded its offerings to a comprehensive collection of beauty and skincare products, as well as a strong community, that is the #LEMONGRASSTRIBE. Sharing a passion for clean living, natural beauty and self-care all while giving back to the communities in which we live is an opportunity we're all incredibly grateful to have." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

**New Member Spotlight: Legacy Broker Group- Caitlyn Upham, Realtor.** "Caitlyn Upham represents a perfect blend of sophistication, youth, intelligence, and extensive capability. Ideal for anyone seeking a real estate partner who can facilitate any transaction smoothly, she looks forward to collaborating and turning real estate aspirations into reality." Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**Member Spotlight: Taco Casa.** "Real fresh...real food...real good!" Thank you for being a member of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

## New Chamber Members & Renewals

Welcome to our New Chamber Members who Joined in July!

- Lemongrass Spa Products**
- Morning Fix, LLC - DBA: Scooter's Coffee Granbury**
- Stier Events LLC**
- The Waterin Trough**
- Lake Granbury RV Center**
- MKR Unlimited, Inc.**
- Blazin' Saddle 75 Bicycle Rally**
- Lonestar Roofing and Restoration LLC**
- Pinnacle Performance Care, LLC**
- Rouge Catering LLC**
- PUNCHBRIGHT**
- Advance America**
- Three Oaks Hospice**

Thank you to the following members who renewed their Chamber Membership in July!

We appreciate your continued support!

- First Due Detailing LLC**
- Johnson County Chem-Dry**
- API Roofing & Exteriors LLC**
- Mama's Pizza**
- Winston Properties - Kyle Rose**
- Steven Craig Bumpass Farmers Ins**
- Randy's Bar & Grill**
- Elderly Care Concierge**
- Sawyer Eye Center**
- Granbury Citizens Police Academy**

### Alumni

- State Farm Insurance - Angela Parker**
- Granbury Ghosts & Legends**
- Dr. Patti Birney Consulting**
- Angela Rains Insurance**
- Texas Emergency Medical**
- Tri County Electric Cooperative**
- Henson Lumber**
- The Doyle Agency**
- Grace Obstetrics and Gynecology**
- National Ropers Supply**

**Matthew Mills**

- Lake Granbury Master Gardeners**
- HEB**
- Epic Orthodontic**
- Rotary Club of Granbury**
- G & G Electric Service**
- Harbor Lakes Nursing & Rehab**
- Stonewall Title Company**
- Pecan Valley Centers**
- Plains Capital Bank**
- Stonewater Church**
- Opera Guild of Granbury**
- United Republicans of Hood County**
- BeyondFaith Hospice**
- Pate's Hardware**
- Dinosaur World/Jurassic Valley**
- Bellaire North Investments**
- Lakeshore ENT**
- Kitchen, Bath, and Home Texas**
- Texas Oncology**
- Pulliam Pools**

## BOND

FROM PAGE A1

to many female inmates being housed out of county.

"There is some cost to that (housing women out of county) and there's cost to keeping them here also, and that's one of the big contingents that we've struggled with," Andrews said. "But I think that we've really done our homework on this, we've really gone in and analyzed this, and I think that we are at a point now that this is a good place to move forward. I think that it's very necessary for this county."

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle began his stance on the matter by emphasizing the importance of population statistics in determining the size of the jail. He noted that Hood County's population has nearly doubled from 34,000 in 1995 to over 66,000 in 2022. He pointed out the original jail facility was built in 1995 when the population was significantly smaller.

"We have taken long, hard looks at the current jail, and we've had an engineer come in and look at the foundation of the structure," Eagle explained. "It was determined that the current jail, as it is, is not ready to be 'dozed' — but there's no way to fix it, until we get prisoners out of it. Originally, three or four years ago and beyond, we were looking at just building a 432-bed facility, all brand new. We managed to back way off of that, but there's a couple items that may give me pause for at least asking questions."

Eagle then addressed County Attorney Matt Mills and expressed concern over the presence of inmates with lengthy stays for minor offenses like traffic violations, credit card abuse and parole violations.

Mills responded to Eagle's concerns by explaining that some of the statistics regarding inmates' charges can be misleading. He noted that individuals might be arrested for a minor traffic offense but are often held for other warrants or offenses, which may not be immediately clear in the reports.

When Eagle mentioned an inmate with a 196-day stay for credit card abuse, Mills clarified that such an offense — regardless of the amount in-

involved — is still classified as a state jail felony.

"Some of those people may have felony priors, and they might be enhanced," Mills explained. "They're not getting a probation deal, or else they probably have played it already, so they're looking at going to state jail or worse, so that's why they kind of hold them."

"These are all questions that me as a taxpayer, I'm interested in, because just looking at today's report, I'm counting 61 females and I'm counting 16 that show a traffic offense, and I've got 29 violations of parole," Eagle said. "Many of them process crimes by just not showing up, so can you give an overall view of what parole violations might be?"

Mills explained that individuals typically need to make significant mistakes to violate parole, as the system allows for some leniency. He acknowledged that he is not an expert on how parole violations are processed but suggested that a parole officer would have a better understanding of the procedures.

He further clarified that his office primarily handles misdemeanor prosecutions, and most individuals arrested for misdemeanors can usually post bail and be released. Mills mentioned he regularly reviews the jail population for misdemeanor cases and reaches out to ensure those who cannot bond out receive timely legal representation.

"Sometimes, I'm frankly doing a better job for these inmates than their lawyer is doing for them, which is an ironic twist, but I understand the pressure of the jail," Mills explained. "A lot of times we're just trying to get a conviction on somebody's record. We're not necessarily trying to get them six months in jail on a misdemeanor, so sometimes I'm helping to move those along faster."

Following more discussion, Eagle raised concerns about the timeline for transferring inmates to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice following a conviction. He noted that, in recent years, the legislature established a 45-day limit for the state to process these transfers. However, he questioned whether the state is actually reimbursing the county if the deadline

is not met.

"I don't know if that's part of our equation, but all those are moving targets to try to determine what's best for the county as far as the jail is concerned," Eagle said.

Hood County Sheriff Roger Deeds responded that delays related to the 45-day limit were mostly a concern during the COVID-19 pandemic, as movement within the prison system was restricted. He explained that, under normal circumstances, it typically takes only two to three weeks to process an inmate's paperwork and secure a bed at TDCJ. Deeds reassured Eagle the sheriff's office hasn't experienced delays reaching the 45-day mark for some time.

Deeds also brought up concerns about overcrowding in neighboring counties, such as Erath and Somervell, which have limited capacity for incoming inmates. He emphasized Hood County's urgent need for new jail facilities and expressed worry about where to house inmates if nearby jails reach full capacity.

"The thing that really worries me, is when they say, 'Hey, I can't take them anymore. Come and get them.' Then I worry, 'Where am I going to put them?' so that's the reason I'm pushing for building a jail," Deeds explained. "If I could find housing out of county, sometimes that solves the problem, but it's getting to the point where there's no place to take them."

Samuelson added that as the new jail is built and the old one is renovated, there will be costs for temporarily relocating inmates. However, once the new facility is operational, there may be opportunities to generate revenue by renting out extra beds to other counties — a practice Hood County has had to rely on for years.

Wilson entered a motion to schedule a bond election Nov. 5 to fund the construction of a new jail facility with 209 beds, along with the refurbishment of the existing 192 bed facility, with the total cost not to exceed \$50 million.

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously, though Massingill noted it was passed reluctantly.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

# Newspapers are still a good bargain



**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.  
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Now that we are getting close to Election Day, we will hear a lot in the news about the economy. One side will tell you how desperately bad the economy is and the other will promote the idea times have never been so good. When dealing with political discussions, usually neither side rings 100% true. I have doubts the average citizen really understands how our national economy works. Do people know the role of the federal reserve board, who determines interest rates, or understand what goes

into computing the gross national product? I think the national economy is much simpler than that; folks understand if they have a job or not, and if things cost more money than they have in the past. They know if the price of fuel is higher and if housing costs more.

With that being said, it seems like there is always someone who will complain about prices. I will admit, I become a little frustrated when I hear people say how much more a newspaper costs today than it once did. Hardly a week goes by someone doesn't mention to me they "used to get a paper for

a quarter and now it costs a \$1!" Usually, the person making this statement has a scowl on their face and is shaking their head like the "robber barons" who own the newspaper are charging an arm and a leg and are the primary reason why we have inflation and higher interest rates. It is almost like the newspaper singlehandedly could be responsible for a host of problems ranging from unsightly teenage blemishes to the national debt.

I reflected on the issue and decided when confronted by such a comment, I respond with "Yes, a newspaper does cost more than it did 50 years ago." Then I suggest they make a comparison between the cost of a newspaper and other items. I have gone to the trouble to do a little research and found some interesting comparisons. See Figure 1.

It is true, over time the price of a newspaper has gone up, but not at the same rate as most products — in fact, significantly less. It is funny how people seem to have memories that they once paid a quarter for a pa-

per but forget they once paid as little as a nickel for a cup of coffee they now pay \$6 at the local coffee boutique. Talk about an increase! As a kid I could buy a Snickers and a Coke for a quarter and just last week I paid \$2.69 for a bottle of pop in a convenience store. Times have changed.

I have no doubt the manufacturers incurred price increases from their suppliers which were passed on to their customers. In the newspaper business we have been hit with several severe price increases and unfortunately, those increases have been repeated and have come in a short period of time. Most of our readers do not know that the U.S. postal service has raised the price of newspaper delivery more than four times in the past two years and over 18% in the past 15 months. Similarly, the price of a load of newsprint has gone up dramatically in the past three or four years, and coupled with the closing of several paper mills, the supply chain is tight and the cost ever increasing. Did you know the cost of seeing the paper delivered to

Product	Cost in 1974	Cost in 2024	% Change Over 50 Years
Bread	\$0.28	\$2.50	892%
Gasoline	\$0.53	\$3.20	603%
Electricity per kilowatt	\$2.50	\$15.45	618%
Cup of Coffe	\$0.56	\$3.41	608%
Canned Soft Drink	\$0.15	\$1.00	667%
U.S. Stamp	\$0.10	\$0.73	730%
Newspaper	\$0.25	\$1.00	400%

FIGURE 1

your door and the cost of the newsprint it is printed on is roughly 50% of the cost of the paper? This is before the first reporter, copy editor, pressman or publisher gets a penny. Or before the electric bill, phone bill and other regular expenses get paid. These core costs have nearly doubled in the past 10 years.

Prices for newspapers will continue to go up, just like every other commodity, but where else is there as much entertainment, enlightenment, joy and education as that achieved through the purchase and reading of a newspaper? In 10 minutes, that \$6 cup of coffee is gone forever, but with the newspaper you have grown, learned, seen and experienced your community and all that has happened that week. Sounds

like a wonderful bargain to me.

Newspapers need your support. We are an important part of the community. We report and document your life and are a source of information that cannot be replaced. If you do not believe that, ask a community that has lost its paper.

We are your community newspaper, and you are our community. You are worthy of our attention, and we are worthy of your continued support. Sounds like a match made in heaven!

Thought for the day: Price is one factor to consider when making a purchase, but value is what makes the purchase worthwhile.

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

## Folks around town



COURTESY PHOTO

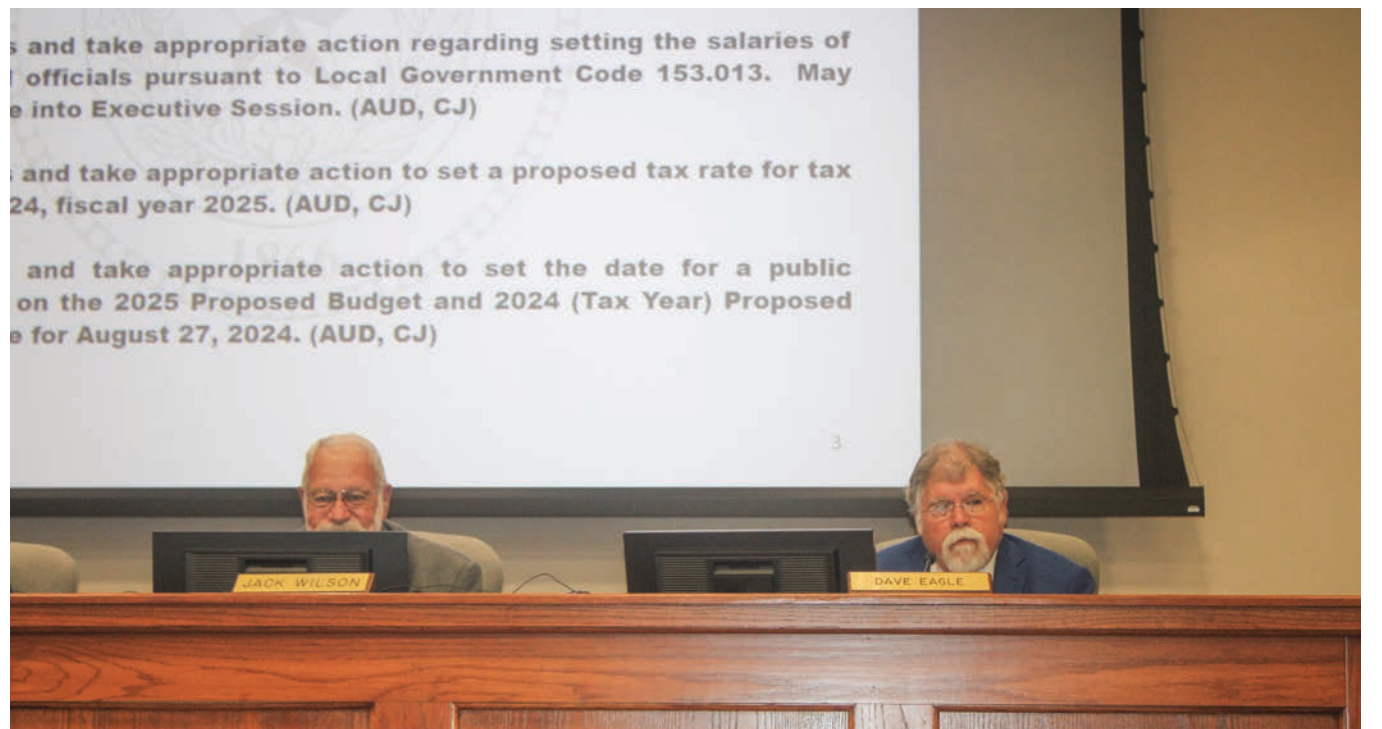
**Ramona Cadenhead**

### Say hello to our neighbor, Ramona Cadenhead!

Ramona has lived in Granbury for over six years, downsizing to a little 1949 house on the edge of the historic district near 377 and 144. She loves the people in Hood County and appreciates the smaller town feel. Despite Granbury not being as small as it once was, she finds a sense of comfort and belonging when crossing over the lake on one of the bridges coming home from an out-of-town trip, with the view of the Historic Court House across the lake being one of the most beautiful sights.

Ramona and her husband, Kenneth, recently celebrated their 40th anniversary. They have three adult children and three grandchildren, with all but one child living in Granbury. Ramona has worked for a large travel agency for over 35 years as her full-time paying job. The job nearest and dearest to her heart is owner of their cigar company, Bogeys & Stogies, which recently moved near the square in Granbury. Faith and friends are important to Ramona. In her spare time, she enjoys nurturing her love of music, crafting/creating, hanging out around the square, and cigars! She appreciates HCN for providing the whole story, including background and opposite sides, rather than just the "cacophony of chaos" fed from national news and social media.

# County proposes tax rate increase for fiscal year 2025



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle speaks about the proposed tax rate during a regularly scheduled Hood County Commissioners Court meeting Aug. 13.

**BY ASHLEY TERRY**  
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For the first time in several years, the Hood County Commissioners Court proposed an increase to its tax rate for fiscal year 2025 during a regularly scheduled meeting Aug. 13.

The proposed rate is 0.309524 per \$100 valuation, marking a one-and-a-half cent increase from last year's tax rate of 0.282622.

During the meeting, Hood County Judge Ron Massingill highlighted the extensive discussions that took place in previous workshops, where various scenarios were explored to cover increased costs across

the county.

"Everybody realizes that there is increased costs and that we're going to really have to increase the tax rate," Massingill said, adding that the court has worked to lower the tax rate in previous years. "This would kind of give us enough room with the sources of income that the county has to try to keep a balanced budget."

Hood County Auditor Stephanie Matlock confirmed the proposed tax rate would adequately fund the county's needs, but she emphasized that a few adjustments will still be necessary.

"There's still some more conversations that need to

happen, but I think that's a great starting point," she said.

Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews echoed this sentiment, noting the tax rate needs to align with the proposed budget to ensure financial stability.

"We still have a lot of work to do on the budget, and there's plenty of opportunity for this rate to go down," he explained. "It makes more sense to propose the rate high and then come down than to propose the rate low and come in a little bit later and have to raise that up. Right now, this matches the budget that we have, and that seems like the best place to start."

However, concerns were

raised about the proposed rate, with Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson emphasizing the need for careful scrutiny of expenses. She expressed her desire to find ways to lower the tax rate through finding potential savings and evaluating vendor contracts.

"I'm not really comfortable with this number, and I'm really looking forward to working, getting our pencils out, and figuring out how to get it lowered," she said.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle emphasized that the rate is preliminary and that the county is establishing a proposed rate, not setting a final rate.

PLEASE SEE **TAX** | A4

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# Court to reconvene Aug. 21 in Zamarron vs. Republican Party nomination lawsuit

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
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Trial is set to reconvene at 9 a.m. Aug. 21 to continue proceedings in the ongoing legal battle between Roberta Zamarron and the Hood County Republican Party over the controversial nomination process for the district clerk position. A preliminary hearing occurred Friday, Aug. 9.

**RECAP**

Zamarron, the interim district clerk of Hood County, filed a lawsuit Aug. 2 against the Hood County Republican Party, its Chair Greg Harrell and Hood County Elections Administrator Stephanie Cooper. Zamarron alleges that the party violated by-laws and election laws during the June 26 executive committee meeting, where her opponent, Melanie Graft, participated in the voting process for the district clerk nomination.

Graft, who serves as Precinct 408 Chair and as a member of the Granbury Independent School District board of trustees, was nominated for the position during the execu-

tive committee meeting. Zamarron was appointed to the role by 355th District Court Judge Bryan Bufkin following the death of former District Clerk Tonna Newman in February.

Zamarron's suit states the nomination created a conflict of interest, as Graft was allowed to vote while also being a candidate. The initial vote ended in a 7-7 deadlock before a re-vote resulted in Graft winning 8-6, which sparked concerns about transparency and fairness on social media.

The lawsuit argues Graft's participation in the voting process was illegal under Texas Election Code 161.005, which prohibits individuals from serving as both an officer of a political party and a candidate for an elective office. It also cites the self-appointment doctrine, which disallows a body from appointing one of its own members to a position, and contends that HCRP's bylaws prohibit anyone holding an elected public office from serving as a precinct chair while being a candidate.

Zamarron seeks to have the committee's vote reversed and hopes to be rec-

ognized as the Republican candidate for district clerk in the upcoming November election.

"There are no consequences for the executive committee if we're successful," she previously told the Hood County News. "Nobody will be removed from office, and that's not what we're seeking to do."

**PRELIMINARY HEARING**

A preliminary hearing Aug. 9 was presided over by visiting Judge Graham Quisenberry of the 415th District Court in Parker County. The court proceedings began with a request for a witness list, followed by a 50-minute recess to allow for expedited evidentiary matters related to the case at hand.

The court reconvened and began discussing the exhibits to be included in the record, with both parties agreeing to stipulate to certain facts and documents, like Harrell's response and the minutes of the aforementioned HCRP executive committee meeting.

District Attorney Ryan Sinclair, representing Cooper, stated that per law, Cooper must be represent-

ed by either the county attorney or district attorney. He emphasized that her role in the proceedings is strictly as a witness rather than a party to the lawsuit. "She takes no position on this matter," Sinclair stated. "She just needs a name for the ballot. After looking at the law, we need a decision by Aug. 24 to put a name on the ballot."

Sinclair further clarified that Cooper's involvement is necessary to ensure compliance with election laws and to provide any relevant information the court may require.

Attorney Ryan Taylor, representing Zamarron, added Cooper was only present to provide necessary testimony regarding the nomination process.

"She's here because she has to be," Taylor stated. Both Taylor and Harrell's attorney, Eric Opiela, later confirmed that neither party intended to seek attorney fees for Cooper.

During the hearing, the judge emphasized the importance of resolving the matter promptly and requested that both parties draft appropriate orders to address the legal issues raised.

"This case will certainly have my attention," Quisenberry said. "I would like to have those (orders) by Aug. 19."

Quisenberry then scheduled the case for further proceedings at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, at the Hood County Justice Center, although the specific courtroom for the hearing has yet to be determined.

The upcoming court session Aug. 21 will provide an opportunity for both sides to further present their arguments and evidence, as the legal dispute has drawn considerable attention from the local community. Many residents have expressed concerns about transparency and fairness in the nomination process, fueling a broader conversation about electoral integrity in Hood County.

As the case unfolds, the implications for the Hood County Republican Party and the upcoming election remain significant. The outcome of these proceedings could set important precedents for future nominations and election processes within the county.

## CALENDAR

**ONGOING**

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

**TUESDAY, AUG. 20**

**LAKE GRANBURY** Ministerial Alliance luncheon at Forward Training Center, 600 West Pearl Street. Speakers will be Forward Training Center Executive Director Monica Hays, Program Director Laurie Lilly and a student of the training center programs. The subject is how churches can use the center's services to benefit their people.

**WEDNESDAY, AUG. 21**

**LAKE GRANBURY/ HOOD** County Master Gardeners meet at 1 p.m. at the Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Court, Granbury. Program by Carol Montgomery from Clark Gardens in Mineral Wells to speak about growing plants in large containers. For more information contact the Hood County Extension office, 817-579-3280.

**REPUBLICAN WOMEN** and other friends gather to hear from the new vice chair of the Republican Party of Texas, D'rinda Randall. Randall will speak at The Wiley Center, 420 E. U.S. Highway 377, at 10 a.m. Join at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship. All are welcome!

**FRIDAY, AUG. 23**

**HOOD COUNTY** Hospital District Board meets at noon at the Annex 1 meeting room, 200 Deputy Larry Miller Drive, Granbury. Questions? Call 187-579-3200.

**TUESDAY, AUG. 27**

**MID CITIES** Stamp Club — Granbury Branch meets at the Bentwater Activities Center, 1800 Emerald Bend Court. Meeting begins at 7 p.m. Program about the Faroe Islands presented by Ken Aldridge. Questions? Call 817-910-8174.

**SATURDAY, AUG. 31**

**JOIN FORWARD** Training Center for the August Granbury Airport Breakfast fundraiser from 8-10 a.m. See the runway in action with arriving and departing aircraft. Questions? Call 817-573-6677 or email info@forwardtrainingcenter.org.

**POLICE BLOTTER**

## Granbury Police Department Criminal Activity Report

The following is a breakdown of activity that occurred through the Granbury Police Department during the period of Aug 6-Aug 12. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

**AUG 6**

10:25 a.m.: noise disturbance on Paluxy Road  
2:06 p.m.: suspicious activity/person on E. U.S. Highway 377  
2:38 p.m.: endangered child on E. U.S. Highway 377  
2:42 p.m.: lost property on E. U.S. Highway 377  
4:34 p.m.: theft over \$100 and under \$750 on E. U.S. Highway 377  
5:10 p.m.: suspicious activity/person on E. U.S. Highway 377  
\*\*Three minor accidents, a warrant service and 23 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 7**

2:16 a.m.: suspicious activity/person on James Road  
9:34 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on Hill Boulevard  
3:27 p.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on S. Morgan Street  
6:09 p.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on W. Pearl Street  
7:13 p.m.: assault on Harbor Lakes Drive  
8:54 p.m.: reckless driver on E. Pearl Street  
\*\*One minor accident and nine traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 8**

8:00 a.m.: assault on NE Loop 567  
11:04 a.m.: property found on NE Loop 567  
12:50 p.m.: possession of a controlled substance on S. Ables Street

1:09 p.m.: recovered property on Camp Crucis Court  
3:26 p.m.: theft of service on E. U.S. Highway 377  
\*\*Nineteen traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 9**

8:40 a.m.: loose livestock on Saratoga Boulevard  
11:09 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on Lipan Highway  
1:57 p.m.: theft of property on E. U.S. Highway 377  
2:57 p.m.: possession of marijuana on N. Plaza Drive  
5:41 p.m.: animal cruelty on E. U.S. Highway 377  
5:50 p.m.: possession of a controlled substance on E. U.S. Highway 377  
5:59 p.m.: reckless driver on E. U.S. Highway 377  
\*\*Two major accidents, one minor accident, a warrant service and nine traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 10**

9:53 a.m.: water code violation on S. Morgan Street  
9:40 a.m.: animal bite on E. U.S. Highway 377  
1:38 p.m.: threat on E. U.S. Highway 377  
2:15 p.m.: theft on S. Morgan Steet  
9:58 p.m.: prowler on N. Travis Street  
10:59 p.m.: assault/family violence on E. Pearl Street  
11:52 p.m.: suspicious activity/person on S. Lancaster Street  
\*\*One minor accident and 11 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 11**

12:05 a.m.: intoxicated person on Crawford Court  
1:25 a.m.: suspicious activity/person on Weatherford Drive  
6:51 a.m.: suspicious activity on Alexandria Drive

2:10 p.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on E. Pearl Street  
4:01 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377  
9:59 p.m.: driver with suspended driver license on Peck Road  
10:49 p.m.: threat on Dean Court  
\*\*Two minor accidents, two warrant services and 13 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

**AUG 12**

8:33 a.m.: hit-and-run accident on Weatherford Highway  
1:10 p.m.: suspicious activity on E. U.S. Highway 377  
9:13 p.m.: terroristic threat on N. Brazos Street  
\*\*One major accident, a minor accident, a warrant service and 32 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

## TAX

FROM PAGE A3

"We may end up at the end of the day with a little disagreement on what we think the rate ought to be, but this right now is just to get something on paper," he said, adding that he wasn't comfortable with the particular rate being discussed.

Eagle noted that if costs rise due to hiring additional employees or acquiring new equipment — potentially exceeding last year's budget — the county will have to either identify areas for cuts or consider raising taxes.

"That's always the dilemma that an elected official is in — setting tax rates," he said. "Please don't

take this one as a solid number today, because this is preliminary. I just want you to know that coming from this seat of the commissioners court."

"This is preliminary," Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson added. "But it's also required by state statute that we establish the preliminary rate in a certain timeline, so that's the reason it has to be established today."

Samuelson pointed out this marks the first year the 10% homestead exemption has been implemented, which is expected to lower taxable amounts. She emphasized that this development necessitates greater scrutiny of expenses, which she described as being a "good

thing" for the taxpayers.

"This is the first year that the taxable value for the general fund is impacted by that 10% homestead exemption, so it's good for the taxpayers, because they've got the 10% homestead exemption, and it makes us work harder to make sure that we are doing the best that we can with the funds that are in the tax rate. We had a really good session yesterday, but we've got some work to do to get this lower," she said, referring to the budget workshop held the day before.

Samuelson also provided a comparison of last year's average home value, which was \$330,687 at a tax rate of 0.282622 — resulting in a tax of \$934.59. With the proposed

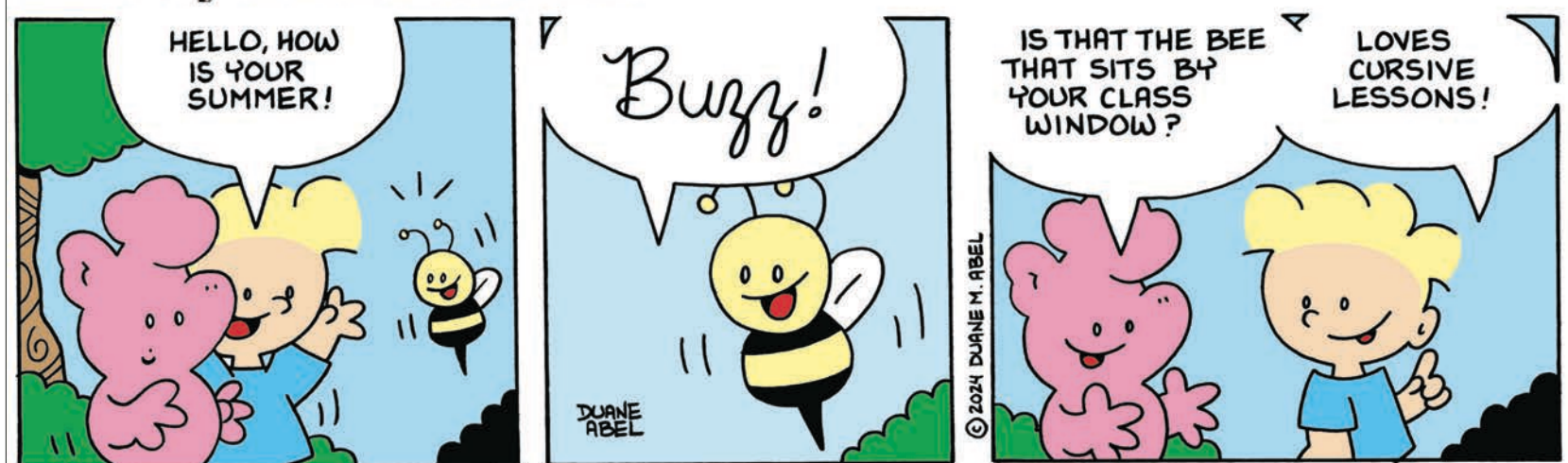
rate of 0.30952 and an increase in average home value to \$334,000, the tax would rise to \$1,033.80, reflecting an increase of \$99.20.

"We're working on that," she added, highlighting the ongoing efforts to address these changes.

Wilson then made a motion to set the proposed tax rate for the 2024 fiscal year at 0.309524, which was seconded by Andrews and passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

Additionally, the commissioners scheduled a public hearing for Aug. 27, to discuss the proposed budget and tax rate for 2025, as required by state law. Eagle entered a motion to hold the hearing, which was seconded by Wilson and also approved unanimously.

## ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com

**TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS**

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



**HCNEWS.COM**



PHOTO COURTESY MARA GRANBURY

A recent sound study published by MARA, formerly known as Marathon Digital Holdings, shows the bitcoin facility's noise levels are now significantly below legal limits.

## SOUND

FROM PAGE A1

that point, a noise and vibration consulting firm called Cerjan conducted an initial sound study. The results from that study showed a reading of 78 dB, indicating that sound levels have declined since MARA took ownership of the data center earlier this year.

"When we purchased the site, we were not aware that there were noise concerns from the neighbors," MARA's Director of Communication Ellie Atherton told the Hood County News. "When we first came on board in April and began operating the site and started to hear from the neighbors, we wanted to do our own due diligence and understand like, what we were actually operating at that time when we were at full capacity, and there were still multiple other miners that were hosted there as well."

Atherton explained that although MARA was still operating under the legal limit, the company wanted to do "anything they could" to mitigate any community concerns.

"As a company, being within legal limits is basically the least we can do," she said. "We want to be a long-term partner for the community. We want to be contributing in a meaningful way and be a good neighbor, so us just being within legal limits is like basically the baseline of what we could be doing."

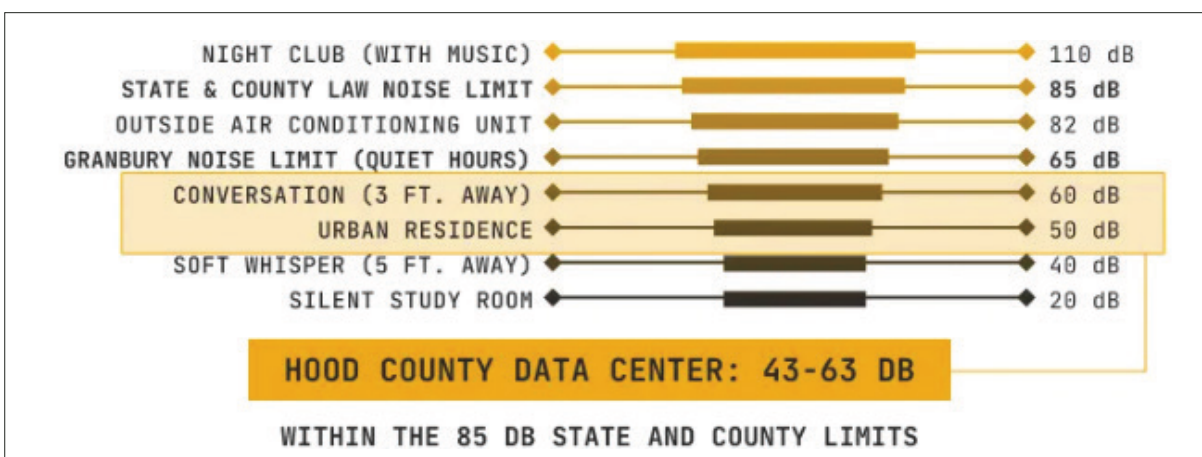
To maintain compliance with noise regulations, the company implemented a number of different processes and procedures to try to bring the sound levels down.

According to Atherton, the biggest contributor to sound at the site is the air-cooled miners. While she couldn't specify the exact number in operation at the time, she said the company committed to converting at least 50% of the site to immersion mining. This technique involves submerging the miners in a nonconductive dielectric fluid, which not only minimizes dust and maintenance but also significantly dampens noise.

"It required a major capital investment on our side," she explained. "Immersion mining technology and equipment is extremely expensive, but I think for us, being a good neighbor and a long-term partner to the community was really important to us, so we voluntarily decided to convert 50% of the site to immersion cooling."

Since then, the company has been gradually deactivating air-cooled containers, with 95 of them now offline completely.

"We are currently at about a third of the capacity we were at when in April, so about two-thirds of the air-cooled miners have come offline since April," Atherton explained. "The immersion mining technology is beginning to be installed, but it has not come online yet. We will start turning that on beginning at the end of this month, so the number of air-cooled containers and air-cooled miners will never increase from what it is right now. We will actually continue to bring more air-cooled miners of-



According to the sound study, the bitcoin plant showed decibel readings between 43-63, which is lower than Granbury's quiet hours level of 65 dB.



Since taking operational control of the site earlier this year, the sound readings have shown a significant reduction in noise levels.

fine and bring more immersion cooling online."

While sound levels vary at other MARA facilities based on operational capacity, Atherton explained that a similar site located in Abu Dhabi has become fully immersed in cooling technology. Despite being in the "heart" of Masdar City, Atherton said they have never received any complaints about noise from that site.

"We're very confident that the conversion to immersion cooling is going to make a huge difference here," she said.

### PROACTIVE PLANS

Although MARA has achieved significant advancements in reducing noise levels, the company still intends to maintain its efforts, as many changes are set to take place in the coming months.

Atherton said MARA will be breaking ground on a new sound wall later this month. Last November, previous owner US Bitcoin erected a 24-foot-high and almost 2,000-foot-long sound-proofing wall. However, many residents reported that sound levels did not improve, attributing this to the fact that the wall only covered a portion of the site.

"In our new sound study, you can actually see that the readings taken just outside of the sound wall where it currently exists are significantly lower than anywhere else on our perimeter," she explained. "So, we're going to build a sound wall that'll cover the rest of our perim-

eter to make sure that even with the immersion cooling that we're blocking out even more sound than we are right now."

By the end of this month, the company expects to have converted 20% of its site to liquid immersion cooling, with plans to reach 30% by September, 40% by October and 50% by December.

Updates to the sound wall are projected for completion in October. In November, MARA plans to start planting trees and enhance the landscape. By December, 100 to 110 air-cooled containers are expected to be deactivated.

### RESIDENT FEEDBACK

Since MARA shared its sound study findings on social media, numerous residents have raised doubts about the study's legitimacy. Some commenters questioned the accuracy of the results, alleging that MARA intentionally timed the survey during a low operational period rather than during peak hours. Others wondered if the testing conditions were adjusted to reflect lower noise levels.

Atherton clarified that the company did not select a specific date and time for the study, but that it was scheduled based on the testing firm's availability. She also addressed the residents' claims and stated they are inaccurate.

"While our site is at a decreased capacity right now, it has been at a decreased capacity for months, and that is part of our effort to make it quieter there," she said.

"We did not change our capacity or operations for the purpose of conducting this sound study. All of the environmental factors, the coordinates, the temperature, humidity percentages, weather, that is all recorded in the sound study to provide context, to make sure that if anyone ever looks at it, then they can adjust in any way for any environmental factors. There is analysis in that report as well that talks about how those environmental factors could contribute, but the short story is, there wasn't much weather that day, so it didn't have a huge impact."

Atherton reported that many journalists have also reached out to MARA indicating residents have claimed the sound has become louder since April. However, she stressed that this claim is also false.

"Objectively, we have data to show that that's simply not the case," she said. "There are other people in the community that have thanked us for providing the data and can testify to the fact that things have gotten quieter. We're trying to do a lot of work with the community to be good neighbors. We have a Facebook page, and that's where we seem to get the most feedback and engagement from the community."

Another common area of concern, Atherton said, is the sound reading conducted by Precinct 2 Constable John Shirley, which was brought up during a public court trial July 8 involving former site manager David Fischer.

"Over the course of the trial, the constable was actually found to have manipulated that sound data," Atherton said. "But people are really clinging to that number. Something that we've been working to correct in any way that we can is that those numbers were not true. There are sound experts that testified in that same case that the way that he was using that machine, it could not have been getting accurate readings."

Additionally, she mentioned that Constellation Energy, the partner providing power to the site, conducted its own sound study recently to ensure compliance with legal limits. According to Atherton, its findings also aligned closely with MARA's results.

Constellation Energy isn't the only entity conducting additional sound studies on the bitcoin plant, however.

During a Hood County Commissioners Court meeting July 23, the court voted 3:2 to commission its own independent sound study. The court declared HGC Engineering: Noise, Vibration & Acoustical Consulting Services to be the most qualified firm to conduct the study, with expenses not to exceed \$6,500.

"Hood County has commissioned an independent sound study," Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson told the Hood County News. "We look forward to receiving the results."

With Hood County funding its own sound study, Atherton expressed hope that study will reflect the truth, assuring residents that MARA is committed to staying within legal limits and actively working to improve conditions at the site.

"I have confidence that the truth will come out and that people will see that we are not only within legal limits, but that we are truthfully making significant efforts and strides to make their lives better and make the site better — and I hope that they will see that eventually," she said.

Atherton emphasized that MARA is taking community concerns seriously, particularly regarding claims about its operational noise levels.

"We are investing a lot of money voluntarily, time and resources to make improvements here and make the lives of the surrounding residents better," she said. "It's very important to us that we continue to be good neighbors and contribute in any way that we can. While we aren't operating at the levels that other people have claimed, it doesn't mean that we are taking any of this less seriously. It doesn't mean that we are going to throw our hands up and say, 'Well, we're within the legal limits, so we're fine.' It's really important for the community to support us, and for us to support them."

For more information on the sound study, visit maragranbury.com. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, send an email to granbury@mara.com or reach out via the MARA Granbury Data Center Facebook page.



PHOTO COURTESY SPORTYPICKLETX.COM

An image rendering of the main entrance of Granbury's new pickleball facility, Sporty Pickle, which will feature both indoor and outdoor pickleball courts, along with a full-service restaurant. Located at 2440 E. U.S. Highway 377, the new pickleball facility will be constructed on nearly five acres of property, offering a sports bar and restaurant, plus activities for all ages.

## Sporty Pickle: New pickleball facility, restaurant set to open on U.S. 377

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
ashley@hcnews.com

Granbury will soon be serving up a new recreational hotspot, as plans for a new pickleball facility have been officially unveiled.

The Granbury City Council Aug. 6 unanimously approved a special use permit for the venue, which will allow the establishment to operate as an outdoor amusement center in a heavy commercial zoning district.

Located at 2440 E. U.S. Highway 377, the facility — named Sporty Pickle according to its website — will feature indoor and outdoor pickleball courts, along with a full-service restaurant.

The proposed site spans nearly five acres and will replace existing buildings that are set to be demolished. Access to the facility will also be convenient, with entrances from both Old Granbury Road and U.S. 377, ensuring easy traffic flow and ample parking for visitors.

According to the site plan, the facility will feature six indoor courts and four outdoor courts, which will be equipped with metal canopies to shield players from the elements and reduce noise.

In addition to the pickleball courts, Sporty Pickle will feature a restaurant offering the “best bites and brews in town,” according to its website. With all the charm of a classic sports bar, patrons will be able to enjoy meals and refreshments while simultaneously watching the biggest games of the season on screens throughout the venue.

Community Development Director Kira Wauwie reported that public notice was sent to 14 nearby property owners, resulting in mixed feedback on the project, with one letter of support and one letter of opposition. Nevertheless, the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the project with a 6-0 vote.

During the discussion,

a concern was brought up about the possibility of pickleballs from the facility landing on U.S. 377.

Owner Frank Dale explained that the outdoor facility will be enclosed by a 6-foot chain-link fence with iron gates, effectively preventing any balls from escaping. Each court will also feature a 48-inch gate to further ensure that balls remain contained within the designated area.

In response to a question from Mayor Pro Tem Steven Vale about operating hours, Dale noted the facility is currently considering opening at 8 a.m. and closing at 10 p.m. on weekdays, with extended hours on weekends, potentially until 11 p.m. or midnight. He emphasized those hours could be adjusted based on customer demand.

“I haven’t played pickleball yet. I know there’s a lot of orthopedists in town who are probably appreciative of the sport,” Vale said, chuckling. “But we’ve got another facility up on (Farm-to-Market Road) 51,

the YMCA has pickleball and I think we’ve got a person here with us tonight who has somebody playing out at Pecan Plantation. It’s a growing sport.”

“Mr. Dale is looking to do an incredible project related to pickleball,” City Manager Chris Coffman said. “I’m excited to see somebody take that piece of property that’s been needed to be developed for a long time and come up with new plans. I’m excited for it.”

The Granbury City Council unanimously voted to approve the specific use permit with several conditions, noting that parking and storage must be on a hard surface, fire lanes must remain unobstructed, and the driveway on E. U.S. Highway 377 may be relocated with administrative approval if needed by TxDOT.

For more information about Sporty Pickle — and to stay in the know for future developments — visit the website at sportypickletx.com or email info@sportypickletx.com.

## Road repairs ahead

City greenlights \$1.3 million project for Calinco Drive, Old Acton Highway

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
ashley@hcnews.com

The Granbury City Council is paving the way for new road improvements — literally.

During a regularly scheduled meeting Aug. 6, the council unanimously authorized a \$1.3 million project to upgrade Calinco Drive with concrete pavement and add a seal coat to Old Acton Highway. This approval comes after the council previously rejected all bids for the seal coat project for Acton Highway and instructed staff to rebid.

Engineering firm Enprotec, Hibbs & Todd first issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) early last month for the Calinco Drive Improvements Project. The company later issued an addendum to add an alternate bid for Old Acton Highway.

Following the bid process, Jay Mills Contracting Inc. was the only company to respond, offering a base bid price of \$662,660 for the Calinco Drive project and an additive alternative bid price of \$282,069.20 for the seal coat project for Old Acton Highway.

Chris Hay, project manager for Enprotec, Hibbs & Todd, explained that bids for the project opened July 25, and there were three options for the bid: a base bid for asphalt pavement on Calinco Drive and two cross streets, an alternate bid for concrete instead of asphalt, and an additional bid for a seal coat on Old Acton Highway.

Hay noted the main decision for the council was whether to select the asphalt base bid or the concrete option, which had a cost difference of around \$312,000.

During the discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Steven Vale inquired about the lifespan comparison between concrete and asphalt.

Hay explained that according to TxDOT, the typical lifespan for asphalt is around 20 years while concrete can last 30 years. He noted the actual lifespan of asphalt can fluctuate based on maintenance.

“Typically, when you do a life cycle cost analysis, the concrete overall — especially at the prices that you see on the bid tab in front of you — the concrete will be cheaper over the overall life cycle,” Hay said.

Vale mentioned that most drivers coming off Plaza Drive usually turn right toward Harbor Lakes. He said while he doesn’t live in the area, he doesn’t believe the road serves as a major cut-through, adding that the traffic primarily consists of local residents due to the two cul-de-sacs connected to it.

“I think that the life of that road should last quite a while, depending on what option you go with and what we’re going to use,” he said.

City Manager Chris Coffman pointed out that a road repaved just two years ago near Meadows Drive is already showing signs of pavement failure at the stop sign.

“It’s very frustrating,” he said. “We completely reconstructed that street, and we’ve already got a failure there, so that’s one of the things I thought that would lean me towards recommending the concrete.”

Coffman also noted that Water’s Edge Drive is concrete, as are many areas around Granbury City Hall. He added that Travis Street has also been repaved twice in the nine years he’s been living in Granbury.

“It’s because of the base there,” he said. “There’s moisture under that street from the spring or something, because it’s failed. The ultimate cure for base failures is to have a better base and better surface, so I think it’s a lot of money investing.”

Following more discussion, Hay summarized the total costs, explaining that the contract price for the asphalt option — along with the additional bid — would be \$944,729. In contrast, the total for the concrete option and the seal coat for Old Acton Highway would amount to \$1,256,849. He added that based on the way the agenda item is written, there is roughly \$43,000 available for contingencies.

Vale added that during the budget workshop, the discussion heavily focused on road funding, noting that the city spends about a million dollars annually on road maintenance. He mentioned that while there was a proposal to increase that spending to \$2 million, the conversation shifted toward a larger initiative for improving the roads.

“It seems like we just can’t seem to catch up,” he said. “I guess my concern somewhat, is that we put asphalt down even before we get to some other roads that I know need to be done, and probably fairly soon, if not now, you know, we’re going to have some challenges with this road down the road — no pun intended — and we’re going to be back at it again. To me, personally, the concrete option is certainly a better one from a long-term perspective.”

Vale then made a motion to award Jay Mills Contracting Inc., the bid for street improvement projects for Calinco Drive and Old Acton Highway. The motion also included authorizing Coffman to execute a contract in an amount not to exceed \$1.3 million for concrete pavement on Calinco Drive and a seal coat for Old Acton Highway.

Following a second by Place 4 Councilmember Skip Overdier, the motion passed unanimously.

The project will be financed by a mix of funds, including \$1 million from the General Capital Project Fund and \$300,000 from the 2020 CO Bond Fund.

## Granbury Cultural Arts Commission appoints new member Aug. 16



PHOTO SCREENSHOT VIA YOUTUBE

Granbury City Council unanimously appointed Alison Southern Ullom to the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission during a regularly scheduled meeting Aug. 6.

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
ashley@hcnews.com

A new member was appointed to the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission during a regularly sched-

uled Granbury City Council meeting Aug. 6.

City resident Alison Southern Ullom was unanimously chosen by the council to fill the vacancy left by Micky Shearon, who

recently submitted his resignation to the board.

During the council meeting, Mayor Jim Jarratt noted the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission had requested a delay in filling

the vacant seat, suggesting the opportunity could be bigger and better than they had initially anticipated.

Mayor Pro Tem Steven Vale inquired whether the

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# Classifieds

Deadline: Saturday issue, 10 a.m. Wednesday

**(817) 573-7066**

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

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### 1020 Cemetery Lots

2 lots for sale at Holly Hills Cemetery in the Faith addition. \$1600 for both. Will meet at cemetery. (817) 880-9908

### 1070 Lots for Sale

1/4 acre lot bordering national forest, Cloudcroft, NM. All utilities, water, septic and propane. POA, low taxes, includes snow cover, 94 Dutch Star motor home, 32 foot, sleeps 4 people, queen size beds, storage building, 1 mile to ski slopes, security. \$49,000. Cash or consider trade for older 3/4 ton 5th wheel puller vehicle. 817-614-8030, 817-614-9286.

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### 1510 Apartments for Rent

1-bedroom apt. Furnished, washer and dryer. No pets. No smoking. Inspection required. \$225 weekly, plus deposit. All utilities paid. Contact Bob King, 817-279-3768, 682-420-7970.

Furnished apartment for rent. Professionally decorated luxury Tuscan inspired apartment above D'Vine Wine on the square. Large 1 bedroom with king size bed, full kitchen, cooktop, oven, microwave, side-by-side fridge with icemaker. 2 bath (Jack and Jill design), living dining room, seating area, private balcony. Completely furnished with linens, dishware, washer and dryer. Call 806-239-1770. Shown by appointment only. Please no pets, no smoking. Live downtown and be apart of all the energy and events that happen in Granbury!

### 1530 Duplexes for Rent

2BR DUPLEX - TOLAR, 2 BR/2 BA, Carport, fenced-in yard, 1-year lease, no smoking. \$1,400 mo/ \$1,200 deposit (817) 578-5293

### 1540 Homes for Rent

Nice clean A-Frame, 2-1, with refrigerator, \$1,300/mo, \$1,000 deposit. 817-578-9906.

GLEN ROSE 1-bedroom, 1-bath, Carport, Storage Shed, Utility Room, Kitchen Appliances Included. \$875/mo. 254-396-2658

### 1550 Mobiles for Rent

2-2-1.5, totally remodeled, lake access, community pool, \$1,700/mo, \$1,700 deposit, no pets. Call or text 817-894-0934.

Small 2-bedroom, appliances, mowing and trash paid. NO PETS! \$900 plus deposit. 817-613-1465.

2-bedroom, 2-bath, carport in Comanche Cove. \$1200/mo, \$1200 dep 409-457-7569

## VEHICLES

### 2060 Motorcycles



2001 SUZUKI INTRUDER 1500 Custom Paint job. Custom pipes. 13,000 actual miles. \$8,000. 817-279-8108 or 817-776-3090

**Subscribe or Advertise with us Today!**

**817-573-7066**

Hood County News

## HOME & BUSINESS SERVICES

### 5070 Cement/Concrete

JUAREZ CONCRETE Slabs, Driveways, Patios, Rock Work, Walls. 817-896-9805. Quality Work. Free Estimates.

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

### DOUG STULTS CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

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

### 5090 Cleaning Services

KAREN'S EXPERT CLEANING SERVICES Residential cleaning. Serving our area since 1994. (817)776-0260

### 5100 Computer Services

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

### 5120 Clock Repair

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

### 5140 Electrical

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

ELECTRICAL WORK Residential and Commercial. No job too large or small. Free Estimates. We take all credit cards. Call 817-566-4785

### 5170 Fencing

MAX-FENCING Ornamental. Iron. Pipe. Wood. Privacy. Chain Link. Farm. Barb Wire. Non-Climb Fence. RV Covers. Metal Buildings. Pipe Fence. Carports. Welding Service. Concrete & Stone Work. Dock Repairs. Free Estimates. **(817)559-2333**

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

ALL TYPES OF FENCING FENCE LINE CLEARING **254-434-1967**

FENCING 254-434-1967

### 5200 Home Improvement

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

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

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

### 5200 Home Improvement

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

REPAIR RANGERS Your go 2 handyman. No job too big or too small. (817)905-0983

GENERAL HOME REPAIRS AND REMODELING 30 years experience. Free Estimates. No Job Too Large or Small! Call 817-566-4785

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

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

DEVIN'S HANDYMAN SERVICE 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**

### 5210 Home Services

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

### 5220 Landscaping/Tree Service

NEW SERVICES AVAILABLE Concrete work, also box blading driveways, flowerbed cleanup, tree work, custom tilling. Brush hogging available. Free estimates. Senior discount. **817-793-2245**

TRUJILLOS SPEEDY LAWN CARE Lawn Mowing & Edging Tree Trimming & Removal **817-559-5152**

also clean and level lots Lawn Service: 10+ years mowing. Smiling faces all over Granbury. Also, long pole chain saw for tree work. Call or text 817-219-2359.

FATHER & SON Trim \* Removal Senior Discount 817-296-2880

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**

ANYTHING WITH STONE \*Retaining Walls \*Patios \*Houses \*Repairs \*Flower Beds \*Planting \*Bobcat Work \*Tornado Shelters \*20+ years \*Senior Discount Insured **(817) 919-4487**

### 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

### 6050 Hunting/Fishing

ATTENTION DOVE HUNTERS Hunt my 100 acres. Haskell, TX. \$50 a day a dove. Up to 10 guns. For scheduling and payment, call Tommy 817-243-4693. Alternate number 817-896-9906.

## 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

FOR SALE Avon Royal Sapphire collection. Plates, bowls, glasses, etc. Call for more information. (254) 485-6975

### 6635 Pocket Stuffers

Free - Propane, 30,000 btu Mr. Heater. (817)219-6332

## LIVESTOCK & PETS

### 8030 Pets

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

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

### 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

Find Contractors, Service Technicians, Landscapers, Plumbers, Electricians, Mechanics, Carpenters, Painters, and more...

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## EMPLOYMENT

### 8510 General

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

GUTTER HELPER Needing gutter helper for local seamless gutter company. **817-994-8778**

### 8510 General

Nursery Care Lead Attendant and Assistant Attendant Needed 2 Openings First Presbyterian Church Granbury a Vital and Vibrant Church Do you love Jesus and have a love and passion for caring for children? First Presbyterian church Granbury is a vibrant and growing church. If you have the necessary talents coupled with a faith filled caring heart, contact us right away to partner with FPC to shape, create, and implement future generations of dedicated disciples. Excellent pay: \$25 an hour for Lead Attendant, and \$20 an hour for the Assistant Attendant Approximately 5 hours per week (Sunday morning 8:30-11:30 and Wednesday evening 2 hours). A successful candidate will pass a criminal background check and a drug test. Do not let this opportunity get away: contact Rev. Angela Madden Scott/Head of Staff at RevAngela@fpcgranbury.org or call 817-573-2337 Ext. 2. Policy prevents members from applying.

**Granbury Heights Apartments**  
1705 W. PEARL - GRANBURY, TX 76048  
FAMILY & SINGLE UNITS

**NOW HIRING**  
Full-Time Maintenance Technician | \$11.50/hr

TDD/TTY - Hearing Impaired .....817-573-9803  
1705 W. Pearl St. ....817-573-0411

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."

**I SHOULD PROBABLY GET A RIDE HOME.**

**BUZZED DRIVING IS DRUNK DRIVING**

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# NOTICES

## Public Notices

Granbury Independent School District is soliciting proposals for CTE Instructional Supplies and Equipment under RFP# 2024-11 for Photography Services

The specifications are available online on <https://granburyionwave.net>. Proposals will be accepted until closing on August 30th, at 2pm.

All questions regarding the bid should be asked inside the bidding system.

If you have trouble connecting to ion-wave please contact purchasing office at 817-408-4087 or [Bradee.watson@granburyisd.org](mailto:Bradee.watson@granburyisd.org).

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
TRC 109 & 114  
CAUSE NO. C2023455

NORMA MALDONADO VS. EVA PEREZ  
TO: EVA PEREZ  
IN THE 355m DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit on the first Monday after the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of the issuance hereof. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation, a judgement may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer. Find out more at [TexasLawHelp.org](https://TexasLawHelp.org)."

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by NORMA MALDONADO as Plaintiffs, against the above named person(s) as Defendant(s), by Plaintiff's Original Petition filed on the 17th day of NOVEMBER, 2023, in a certain suit styled:  
NORMA MALDONADO VS. EVA PEREZ. A suit is now pending in the 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas. The cause number is: C2023455.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: Plaintiff NORMA MALDONADO, by and through its attorney of record, JEREMY SORELLE of THE HYDE LAW FIRM, PLLC, 827 W. PEARL ST, GRANBURY, TX 76048 brought suit under Cause No. C2023455 in the 355th District Court of Hood County, Texas, for PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT TO QUIET TITLE on the following described real property of which Defendant, EVA PEREZ, is a potential party of interest for the following property: Lot 11 in Block 8 of Montego Bay Subdivision, in Hood County, Texas, as shown by Plat of said Addition recorded in Volume 2, page 43, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas. The property is known as 3620 Montgomery, Granbury, Texas 76048.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 26th day of JULY 2024.

**HOMEMADE TRAILER** Constable ordered removal of homemade trailer from 1403 Lands End Granbury, Tx 76048  
To claim this property, proof of ownership must be provided. (817) 573-2101  
[Towing3N1@outlook.com](mailto:Towing3N1@outlook.com)

Hood County Hospital District board of directors will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, August 23, noon, at Hood County Annex I meeting room, 200 Deputy Larry Miller Dr., Granbury. For more information, 817-579-3200.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Guardbox Storage in Granbury, which is located at 1400 Weatherford Hwy., Granbury, TX 76048, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien online at [www.StorageTreasures.com](http://www.StorageTreasures.com). The auction will end on or around 11:00 A.M. on August 29, 2024. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. A \$100.00 cash deposit for removal and cleanup will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: Felicia Amador-furniture, clothes Elizabeth Tustin- Tv, baseball cards  
Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

**Hood County News**

Find Contractors,  
Service Technicians,  
Landscapers,  
Plumbers,  
Electricians,  
Mechanics,  
Carpenters,  
Painters,  
and more in the

# CLASSIFIEDS

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## Public Notices

LEGAL AD  
Hood County Purchasing Agent's office will receive sealed proposals at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, until 10:00 am, September 12, 2024. Proposals will be opened in a public meeting at that time and place.

Request for Proposal  
Fire Truck Maintenance  
RFP2024-08

Proposals may be submitted through Hood County's page on the BonFire website at <http://co-hood-tx.bonfirehub.com>. It is free to register and to bid. Proposal documents may also be obtained at the Purchasing Agent's Office located at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, or through the Hood County Purchasing website <https://hoodcounty.texas.gov/bids>.

Hood County reserves the right to award by best value and to waive formalities for the best interest of Hood County. Hood County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. All invoices shall be paid at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Hood County Commissioner's Court.

For additional Information, contact Hood County Purchasing Agent at 817-408-3440.

Advertisement to Bid  
City of Granbury  
The City of Granbury is accepting sealed competitive unit bids for the following:  
Purchase Horizontal Multistage Centrifugal Booster Pump 150 HP RFP No. 23-24-12 until August 27 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 in a sealed envelope addressed to:  
City of Granbury Municipal Service Center  
Attn: Purchasing Department  
"City of Granbury Horizontal Multistage Centrifugal Booster Pump RFP No. 23-24-12"  
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 August 12, 2024 at 2pm. Specific information regarding this bid shall be requested from Purchasing Manager at 817-573-7030 or [crussell@granbury.org](mailto: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.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION  
CAUSE NO. C-2023463

CHEYENNE NICOLE GALINDO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF E.G. AND H.G., MINORS VS  
NOAH SHAWN DYKES AND JACKIE LYNN DYKES  
IN THE DISTRICT COURT  
355TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS

**SUMMARY**  
On November 02, 2022, Plaintiff's Cheyenne Nicole Galindo and her minor children, E.G. and H.G., were traveling Northbound in the 1100 block of South Morgan Street. Defendant, Noah Shawn Dykes, while attempting to make a left turn on to a parking lot, failed to yield the right of way, and struck the Plaintiff's vehicle. Defendant, Noah Shawn Dykes was operating a vehicle owned by Defendant, Jackie Lynn Dykes.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
A Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Hood County Justice Center, 1200 W. Pearl St., Granbury, Texas 76048, for the discussion and input into the following proposed traffic regulation and take appropriate action:  
a. Establish a STOP Sign on Williams Drive at Montego Blvd

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS AND PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CODE THAT, BREW BEVERAGES, LLC, HAS FILED FOR A BREWER'S LICENSE, TO BE ISSUED TO BREW ALEWORKS, LOCATED AT 5650 MATLOCK RD., IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY, HOOD COUNTY, TX**  
BREW BEVERAGES, LLC  
CHRISTIAN D. PIATT,  
MANAGING MEMBER

## Public Notices

### Notice of Public Hearing on Hood County Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget

The Hood County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase the total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 11.17 percent, which is an increase of \$2,837,115, of that amount approximately, \$609,000 is to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year. Your taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property. Published in per Tax Code Chapter 26, Local Government Code 111.0075.

The public hearing will be held on August 27, 2024, at 9:00 AM in the Central Jury Room, Ralph H. Walton, Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl St., Granbury, TX 76048.

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearings and express their views.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF GRANBURY PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET**  
The Granbury City Council will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 116 W Bridge St., Granbury, TX to receive public comments on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget. This budget will raise more total property taxes than last year's budget by \$363,512 (3.58%), and of that amount \$177,716 is tax revenue to be raised from new property added to the tax roll this year.

Hood County Purchasing Agent's office will receive sealed proposals at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, until 8:00 am, September 11, 2024. Proposals will be opened in a public meeting at that time and place.  
Request for Proposal  
Pest Control Services  
RFP2024-06

Proposals may be submitted through Hood County's page on the BonFire website at <http://co-hood-tx.bonfirehub.com>. It is free to register and to bid. Proposal documents may also be obtained at the Purchasing Agent's Office located at 1402 W Pearl St, Ste 1, Granbury, TX 76048, or through the Hood County Purchasing website <https://hoodcounty.texas.gov/bids>.

Hood County reserves the right to award by best value and to waive formalities for the best interest of Hood County. Hood County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. All invoices shall be paid at the regular semi-monthly meeting of the Hood County Commissioner's Court.

For additional Information, contact Hood County Purchasing Agent at 817-408-3440.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
"NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF TERRY L AKE, DECEASED"

Notice is hereby given that original letters Testamentary for the Estate of Terry L. Ake, Deceased, were issued to Sherry Ake, Independent Executor on the 12th day of June, 2024, in Cause No. P10407 which is pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas.

All persons having claims against said Estate, which is being administered are hereby required to present such claims within the time, and in the manner prescribed by law. The address of the Independent Executor, Sherry Ake, is in Kingwood, Texas.  
Claims should be filed with the Court or addressed as follows:  
Estate of Terry L Ake  
c/o Michael Kaitcer, Esq.  
Whitaker Chai k Swindle & Schwartz, PLLC  
301 Commerce, Suite 3500  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

**AUCTION: GRANBURY 3118 W US Hwy 377- Property of Wade Flynn, Krista Saenz and Allen Webb, consisting of misc. household items, being sold to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale to the highest cash bidder. Tuesday August 20, 2024 at 10am.**

**It only takes one.**

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

**One call. One price. One great result.**

**Hood County News**

Phone: 817-573-7066  
Email: [classads@hcnews.com](mailto:classads@hcnews.com)  
Place your ad online: [placeanad.hcnews.com](http://placeanad.hcnews.com)

## Public Notices

Notice of fiscal year 2025 proposed annual salary changes for Elected Officials. Published per Section 152.013(b) to Texas Government Code.

Elected Officials	2025 Proposed Annual Salary	Increase
COMMISSIONER PCT 1	84,130.90	\$ 3,235.80
COMMISSIONER PCT 2	84,130.90	\$ 3,235.80
COMMISSIONER PCT 3	84,130.90	\$ 3,235.80
COMMISSIONER PCT 4	84,130.90	\$ 3,235.80
CONSTABLE PCT 1	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
CONSTABLE PCT 2	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
CONSTABLE PCT 3	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
CONSTABLE PCT 4	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
COUNTY CLERK	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
COUNTY JUDGE	96,137.48	\$ 3,697.60
DISTRICT CLERK	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 1	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 2	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 3	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE 4	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
SHERIFF	110,333.48	\$ 4,243.60
TAX ASSESSOR	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04
TREASURER	82,056.94	\$ 3,156.04

Please note annual salaries are paid based on a 26 pay-cycle year.

## Public Notices

Notice of Public Hearing on Hood County Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Budget

**Find us on Facebook.**

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

[facebook.com/hcnews](https://facebook.com/hcnews)

**TEXAS STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING NETWORK**

# TexSCAN

**TexSCAN Week of Aug. 11-17, 2024**

**AUCTION**

**John Ewers Estate / No Water Farms - Real Estate & Equipment Auction, August 16 & 17, Stratford, TX.**  
Visit [capauctions.com](http://capauctions.com) or call 888-300-0005 for more.

**CHARITY**

**Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-855-808-4152 today!**

**CELLULAR PHONE SERVICE**

**Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-855-493-3803.**

**ENERGY**

**Backup power - peace of mind. Get a standard warranty of 7 years, \$849 value. Call 888-925-0261, Briggs & Stratton Energy Solutions.**

**Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-704-8579 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.**

**LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

**Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-501-6864.**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

**Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 8/25/24.) Call 1-855-965-0841.**

**MEDICAL**

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

**DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-855-901-0467 [#6258](http://www.dental50plus.com/txpress)**

**OIL & GAS RIGHTS**

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

**WATER DAMAGE**

**WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-877-727-3027. Have zip code of service location ready when you call!**

**WANTED**

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

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



9031  
**Public Notices**

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**Public Notices**

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**Public Notices**

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**Public Notices**

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**Public Notices**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

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BY VIRTUE OF AN ORDER OF SALE

STATE OF TEXAS  
HOOD COUNTY

and issued pursuant to judgment decree(s) of the District Court of Hood County, Texas, by the Clerk of said Court on said date, in the hereinafter numbered and styled suit(s) and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff or Constable of said County, I have on August 2, 2024, seized, levied upon, and will offer for sale the following properties, on the first Tuesday in September, 2024, the same being the 3rd day of said month, in the 2nd floor Courtroom of the Hood County Courthouse at 100 East Pearl Street, in the City of Granbury, Texas, between the hours of 10 o'clock a.m. and 4 o'clock p.m. on said day, beginning at 10:00 AM, and will proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the right, title, and interest of the defendants in such suit(s) in and to the following described real estate levied upon as the property of said defendants, the same lying and being situated in the County of Hood and the State of Texas, to-wit:

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
1	C2018242 09/11/19	13469.000.0050.0(R000025219) AUGUST 02, 2024	LIPAN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. CHARLES EDWARD FREEMAN	All that certain tract of land being Tract 50, Section "E", The Old WD Ranch Subdivision, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, described as, 20.010 acres, more or less, in deed dated May 27, 2008, from The Veterans Land Board of Texas to Charles Edward Freeman, in Volume 2403, Page 695 Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas; SAVE & EXCEPT however, that certain 10.00 acre tract described in Volume 2403, Page 697, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas, leaving herein a residue of 10.01 acres, more or less.	\$84,140.00
2	C2018427 12/30/20	11121.004.0002.0(R000000421) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICK GENTRY	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 2, Block 4, Arrowhead Shores Subdivision, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Pages 57 and 57-A, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$12,000.00
3	C2018427 12/30/20	81000.000.4315.0(M000100297) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICK GENTRY	<b>TRACT 2</b> Personal Property consisting of a 14x56 Mobile Home, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$8,670.00
4	C2019164 06/03/21	81000.000.4131.0(M000100112) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. THOMAS E. HARRIS, JR., ET AL	<b>TRACT 3</b> Personal Property consisting of a 2009, 27 X 56, KAPA 56C3 Mobile Home, Serial #MP1515714A & #MP1515714B, Label #PFS1062293 & #PFS1062294, located at 5428 S. Oklahoma Trail, Granbury, Hood County, Texas	\$43,790.00
5	C2019165 12/06/23	11481.003.0075.0(R000007840) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. KATHY RENE GAILY, ET AL	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lots 74 and 75, Block 3, Comanche Cove, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 3, Page 45, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$30,000.00
6	C2019165 12/06/23	81000.000.2962.0(M000099101) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. KATHY RENE GAILY, ET AL	<b>TRACT 2</b> Personal Property consisting of a 1998, 28 X 60, Oakwood Mobile Home, Serial #HOTX10A03283A & HOTX10A03283B, Label #NTA0794725 & #NTA0794724, located at 1005 Colorado River Drive, Granbury, Hood County, Texas	\$26,190.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
7	C2019255 10/18/23	M7060.197.1361.2(N000129734) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LARRY GREGORY BANDY	<b>TRACT 1</b> .002500 Overriding Royalty Interest in and to the West Rim Unit 1H, Railroad Commission# 270048, XTO Energy Operator, said well being located in the J Schroeder Survey, Abstract# 505, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$2,470.00
8	C2019255 10/18/23	M7060.197.0411.1(N000123030) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LARRY GREGORY BANDY	<b>TRACT 2</b> .012718 Royalty Interest in and to the Tomlinson 1H, Railroad Commission# 226418, Eagleridge Operating, Operator, said well being located in the J Schroeder Survey, Abstract# 505, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$2,990.00
9	C2019255 10/18/23	M7060.197.0444.1(N000123052) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LARRY GREGORY BANDY	<b>TRACT 3</b> .012718 Royalty Interest in and to the Tomlinson 2H, Railroad Commission# 228739, Eagleridge Operating, Operator, said well being located in the John Schroeder Survey, Abstract# 505, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$11,980.00
10	C2019255 10/18/23	M7060.197.1098.2(N000123712) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LARRY GREGORY BANDY	<b>TRACT 4</b> .002500 Overriding Royalty Interest in and to the Rim Properties Unit 1H, Railroad Commission# 253099, XTO Energy Inc., Operator, said well being located in the J Schroeder Survey, Abstract# 505, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$3,930.00
11	C2019288 12/06/23	12964.000.0279.0(R000018408) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JASON RENNER	Lots 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, and 283, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "D", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 219, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$82,510.00
12	C2019406 03/12/20	M7060.187.0411.1(N000123029) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JAMES RANDY BANDY	<b>TRACT 1</b> .012717 Royalty Interest in and to the TOMLINSON 1H, Railroad Commission #226418, EAGLERIDGE OPERATING, operator, said well being located in the J. Schroeder Survey, Abstract #505, located in Hood County, Texas	\$4,600.00
13	C2020032 09/20/23	11121.005.0071.0(R000000541) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JOHN T. HOWARD, ET AL	Lot 71, Block 5, Arrowhead Shores Subdivision, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 3, Page 2, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$6,000.00
14	C2020166 10/19/21	81000.000.4601.0(M000100600) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. KELVIN D. KLOEHN, ET AL	Personal property consisting of a 12 X 48, Manatee Mobile Home, Serial #2039534788, Label #DLS0088916, located at 3509 Sumac, Granbury, Hood County, Texas	\$2,770.00
18	C2020190 06/06/23	12964.000.0099.0(R000018231) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SHEILA HARRIS, ET AL	<b>TRACT 3</b> Lots 99 and 100, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "D", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 219, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$19,000.00
19	C2020190 06/06/23	82000.486.3816.0(M000001043) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SHEILA HARRIS, ET AL	<b>TRACT 2</b> Personal Property consisting of a 14 X 52, Melody Mobile Home, Serial #2828B456S44001, Label #TEX0197099, located at 4000 Tennessee, Granbury, Hood County, Texas	\$4,240.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
20	C2020190 06/06/23	12964.000.0205.0(R000018336) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SHEILA HARRIS, ET AL	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 205, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "D", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 219, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$4,000.00
26	C2020268 05/23/23	12522.000.0031.0(R000013874) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GUSTAVO MARTINEZ	Lot 31, Indian Harbor Subdivision, Phase II, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 62A, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$19,540.00
27	C2020272 06/06/23	11280.002.0003.0(R000002656 and R002656) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. RICHARD CUEVAS	Lot 3, Block 2, Briarwood, Second Filing, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Page 20, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$103,160.00
29	C2020275 06/06/23	13446.002.0160.0(R000025032) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JAMES T. SMITH, ET AL	Lot 160, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores, Section "E", an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1341, Page 897, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$33,000.00
30	C2020283 04/13/23	13445.008.0032.0(R000024617) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JAMES M. TILLISON	Lots 9, 10, 32, and 33, Block 8, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "E", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 52, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas; SAVE & EXCEPT however, that Southerly 5.00 feet of Lot 32, Block 8, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "E" described in Volume 2245, Page 122, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$40,000.00
31	C2020291 09/01/23	11363.000.0226.0(R000003872) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BILLY L. MONTGOMERY	Lots 225, 226, and 237, Canyon Creek Subdivision, Unit 3, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 174, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$50,450.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
34	C2020303 04/18/23	12522.000.0065.0(R000013907) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JOHN R. EDWARDS, ET AL	Lot 65, Indian Harbor, Phase II, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 62, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$24,590.00
35	C2020312 04/18/23	12962.000.0480.0(R000017620) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GUNARS DREIFUSS	Lot 480, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "B", a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 213, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
36	C2020320 09/01/23	13442.000.0593.0(R000023704) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. L. ROSALIE SOUTH	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 593, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 21, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
37	C2020320 09/01/23	13442.000.0592.0(R000023703) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. L. ROSALIE SOUTH	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 592, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 21, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
38	C2020325 10/18/23	12522.000.0087.0(R000013927) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. DORIS DOSS, ET AL	Lots 87 and 88, Indian Harbor Subdivision, Phase II, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 62A, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$35,410.00
39	C2020326 06/06/23	11369.000.0037.0(R000005450) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. VANNA G. PANTHER	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 37, Canyon Creek IV Subdivision, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 307A, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
40	C2020326 06/06/23	11368.000.0001.0(R000005045) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. VANNA G. PANTHER	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 1, Canyon Creek III Subdivision, Unit 8, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1141, Page 836, Real Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
41	C2020328 06/13/23	12961.003.0041.0(R000016890) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. CURTIS W. JOHNSON	Lot 41, Block 3, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 3, Page 59, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$15,000.00
42	C2020337 08/16/23	12524.000.0074.0(R000014143) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. I. E. MORALES	Lot 197, Indian Harbor Subdivision, Phase IV, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 95, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$37,480.00

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43	C2020339 06/13/23	12967.000.0199.0(R000018651) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SUSAN REDDING	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 199, Lakeside Hills, a subdivision of Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in at A-225 and B-225, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$15,000.00
44	C2020339 06/13/23	12967.000.0104.0(R000018556) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SUSAN REDDING	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 104, Lakeside Hills, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded at A-225 and B-225, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$15,000.00
45	C2020344 09/01/23	13442.000.0561.0(R000023673) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. REBA BURTON	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 561, Oak Trail Shores Addition, Section "B", an addition to the City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1585, Page 565, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
46	C2020344 09/01/23	13442.000.0560.0(R000023672) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. REBA BURTON	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 560, Oak Trail Shores Addition, Section "B", an addition to the City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1585, Page 565, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
47	C2020396 10/18/23	11364.000.0130.0(R000040300) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. R. L. COX, AKA ROY LEE COX, ET AL	Lot 130, Canyon Creek II Subdivision, Unit 4, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1212, Page 855, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$18,000.00
48	C2020398 10/18/23	13441.000.0425.0(R000022953) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MARIAN RAY HALL, ET AL	Lot 425, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 10, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
49	C2021078 10/18/23	13600.000.0103.0(R000029147) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. TOLLIE E. ENIX, AKA TOLLIE EUGENE, ET AL	0.464 acre, more or less, being Tract 3, Quail Ridge Acres, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1210, Page 941, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$4,000.00
50	C2021080 10/18/23	12961.003.0008.0(R000016858) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MELODY LEWIS, ET AL	Lot 8, Block 3, Lake Granbury Harbor, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 3, Page 59, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$25,000.00
51	C2021083 12/13/23	14070.001.0009.0(R000033420 and R033420) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SUNCHASE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY	Lots 9 and 25, Block 1, Sunchase Village, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Page 258-B, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
52	C2021093 08/11/23	13630.007.0029.0(R000029387) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICIA BARRON	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 29, Block 7, Rancho Brazos, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 138, Page 431, Deed Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$4,000.00
53	C2021093 08/11/23	13630.007.0028.0(R000029386) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICIA BARRON	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 28, Block 7, Rancho Brazos, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 138, Page 431, Deed Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$203,390.00

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54	C2021116 10/18/23	81000.000.4316.0(M000100300) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICIA BURROUGHS, ET AL	<b>TRACT 2</b> Personal Property consisting of a Grey and Pink 14x44 Mobile Home, located in Hood County, Texas.	\$3,740.00
55	C2021116 10/18/23	12522.000.0169.0(R000013973) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PATRICIA BURROUGHS, ET AL	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 169, Indian Harbor, Phase 2, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 128, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$22,000.00
56	C2021122 03/06/24	13443.002.0015.0(R000023816) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 6</b> Lot 15, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "C", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 33, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
57	C2021122 03/06/24	13442.000.0002.0(R000023140) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 5</b> Lot 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 21, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
58	C2021122 03/06/24	12962.000.0057.0(R000017202) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 4</b> Lot 57, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 213, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$8,000.00
59	C2021122 03/06/24	12962.000.0037.0(R000017182) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 3</b> Lot 37, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 213, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$8,000.00
60	C2021122 03/06/24	11483.002.0052.0(R000008892) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 52, Block 2, Comanche Cove Subdivision, Section "C", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 200, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
61	C2021122 03/06/24	12962.000.0020.0(R000017165) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ROBERT PAGAN	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 20, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 213, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$8,000.00
62	C2021221 10/18/23	13380.007.0209.0(R000022141) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GRADY E. SMITH	Lots 209 and 210, Block 7, Oak Hills Section, in Oak Trails Subdivision, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Pages 24-25, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
63	C2021222 06/13/23	15620.005.0002.3(R000037511) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BARTON DAVIDSON	70.00 feet by 100.00 feet, containing 0.1607 acre, more or less being the North 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 5, W.A. Larned Addition, an addition to the Town of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1062, Page 583, Deed Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$36,000.00
64	C2021242 10/18/23	13380.007.0065.0(R000021998) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. FULL GOSPEL EVANGELISTIC CENTER, INC., ET AL	Lot 65, Block 7, Oak Hills in Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Pages 24 and 25, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$7,000.00

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129	C2022288 08/11/23	11361.000.0138.0 R000002898) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. RONNIE WHITE	Lot 138, Canyon Creek Subdivision, Unit 1, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 198, Map Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$18,000.00
130	C2022295 03/08/24	13380.002.0080.0 R000021580) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. E. J. HUGHES	Lots 80 and 81, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 118, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
131	C2022296 12/13/23	13260.002.0022.0 R000020538) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JOHN D. MARTIN	Lot 22, Block 2, Montego Bay Estates, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Page 43, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$8,000.00
132	C2022299 03/06/24	12529.000.0728.0 R000014786) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. BRUNITA SALAME, ET AL	Lots 727 and 728, Indian harbor, Phase 9, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 100, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$37,000.00
133	C2022305 03/06/24	13380.002.0095.0 R000021595) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GURDON S. WOODWARD	All that certain tract of land containing Lots 95 and 96, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Oak Hills Section, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, described as follows: a. that certain Lot 96, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, as described in Volume 1, Page 118, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas; and b. that certain Lot 95, Block 2, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, as described in Volume 1, Page 118, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
134	C2022309 08/11/23	12964.000.0208.0 R000018338) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. WILEY KENNETH SULLIVAN, JR.	Lots 208, 209, and 210, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "D", a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Slide "A", Page 219, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$12,000.00
135	C2022312 05/23/23	13441.000.0446.0 R000022972) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GLEN E. MARDIAN	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lots 446 and 447, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "A", a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 19, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
136	C2022312 05/23/23	13380.003.0116.0 R000021731) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. GLEN E. MARDIAN	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 116, Block 3, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Oak Hills Section, a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 2, Page 3, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$7,000.00
137	C2022313 03/06/24	13442.000.0004.0 R000023142) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SAM LOYA, ET AL	<b>TRACT 2</b> Lot 4, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "B", a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 21, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
138	C2022313 03/06/24	13442.000.0003.0 R000023141) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SAM LOYA, ET AL	<b>TRACT 1</b> Lot 3, Oak Trail Shores Subdivision, Section "B", a subdivision in Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 21, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$10,000.00
139	C2022362 05/03/24	11242.004.0022.0 R000002207) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MICHAEL E. MOOMEY, ET AL	Lots 21, 22, and 23, Block 4, Brazos River Acres, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", Slide 275B, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$81,380.00
140	C2022429 10/10/23	11362.000.0046.0 R000003250) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LINDA WORTHY	Lot 46, Canyon Creek Subdivision, Unit 2, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Cabinet "A", slide 190-B, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
141	C2022434 10/10/23	11362.000.0425.0 R000003620) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. EDUARDO PALACIOS	Lot 425, Canyon Creek Subdivision, Unit 2, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1441, Page 732, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
142	C2022473 03/19/24	11370.000.0065.0 R000005530) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JASPER ANDERSON	Lot 65, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1257, Page 355, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
143	C2022474 12/13/23	11370.000.0425.0 R000005889) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SHERRY MYERS	Lot 425, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1278, Page 798, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
144	C2022480 03/19/24	11370.000.0363.0 R000005828) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PRESTON D. CONNOLLY	Lot 363, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1274, Page 721, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
145	C2022481 03/08/24	11370.000.0294.0 R000005759) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. RICHARD J. MADKIN	Lot 294, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1221, Page 66, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
146	C2022489 03/19/24	12524.000.0191.0 R000014255) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MELVIN M. BREITENSTEIN, JR.	Lot 191, Indian Harbor, Phase 4, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1837, Page 416, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
148	C2022494 03/28/24	11370.000.0109.0 R000005574) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. FORREST HARRELL, JR.	Lot 109, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1261, Page 944, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
149	C2022496 03/28/24	11370.000.0106.0 R000005571) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LEE R. HATHCOCK	Lot 106, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1215, Page 701, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
150	C2022498 09/20/23	11370.000.0117.0 R000005582) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. VINCENT SALES	Lot 117, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1312, Page 413, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$14,000.00
151	C2022499 03/28/24	11370.000.0118.0 R000005583) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. CARRELL NORMAN	Lot 118, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1199, Page 271, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
152	C2022504 03/08/24	11367.000.0412.0 R000004804) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. SHIRLEY JACKSON	Lot 412, Canyon Creek III, Unit 7, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1068, Page 536, Real Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
153	C2022505 03/06/24	11367.000.0390.0 R000004782) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MARDENNA GULLINESE	Lot 390, Canyon Creek III, Unit 7, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1151, Page 46, Real Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
154	C2022506 03/06/24	11367.000.0368.0 R000004759) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. ARCHIE W. SMITH	Lot 368, Canyon Creek III, Unit 7, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1151, Page 82, Real Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
155	C2022510 03/08/24	12962.000.0019.0 R000017164) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. KENNETH DAVIS, ET AL	Lot 19, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "B", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 1, Page 213, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$8,000.00
156	C2022512 08/11/23	11370.000.0328.0 R000005793) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. CANDACE SHEFFIELD	Lot 328, Canyon Creek "V", Unit 9, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Clerk's File #2015-00133767, Official Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$18,000.00
157	C2022518 03/28/24	11369.000.0034.0 R000005447) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LARRY C. FRECHETT	Lot 34, Canyon Creek IV Subdivision, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1322, Page 493, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$16,000.00
158	C2022520 03/28/24	11367.000.0148.0 R000004554) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. LANORA RHOADES	Lot 148, Canyon Creek III, Unit 7, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 360, Page 324, Deed Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
159	C2022523 08/04/23	12961.001.0033.0 R000016558) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. MARY F. COX	Lot 33, Block 1, Lake Granbury Harbor Subdivision, Section "A", an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 3, Page 59, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$4,000.00
160	C2022527 03/08/24	11361.000.0333.0 R000003094) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. EDDIE L. ELLENBURG	Lot 333, Canyon Creek, Unit 1, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1278, Page 772, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
161	C2022530 08/04/23	13660.003.0018.0 R000029705) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. PEL CORPORATION	Lot 18, Block 3, River Country Acres Addition, an addition to Hood County, Texas, as described in Volume 1567, Page 622, Official Public Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$93,070.00

Sale #	Cause # Judgment Date	Acct # Order Issue Date	Style of Case	Legal Description	Adjudged Value
162	C2022537 03/08/24	11361.000.0171.0 R000002930) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. EVELYN W. VAUGHAN	Lot 171, Canyon Creek, Unit 1, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Slide A-190-B, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00
163	C2022538 03/08/24	11361.000.0289.0 R000003048) AUGUST 02, 2024	GRANBURY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL VS. JOHNNIE HORNBECK	Lot 289, Canyon Creek, Unit 1, an addition to Hood County, Texas, according to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Slide A-191, Plat Records of Hood County, Texas.	\$20,000.00

(any volume and page references, unless otherwise indicated, being to the Deed Records, Hood County, Texas, to which instruments reference may be made for a more complete description of each respective tract.) or, upon the written request of said defendants or their attorney, a sufficient portion of the property described above shall be sold to satisfy said judgment(s), interest, penalties, and cost; and any property sold shall be subject to the right of redemption of the defendants or any person having an interest therein, to redeem the said property, or their interest therein, within the time and in the manner provided by law, and shall be subject to any other and further rights to which the defendants or anyone interested therein may be entitled, under the provisions of law. Said sale to be made by me to satisfy the judgment(s) rendered in the above styled and numbered cause(s), together with interest, penalties, and costs of suit, and the proceeds of said sales to be applied to the satisfaction thereof, and the remainder, if any, to be applied as the law directs.

Dated at Granbury, Texas, August 2, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Constable Chad Jordan  
Hood County, Texas

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

**Notes:**

The Minimum Bid is the lesser of the amount awarded in the judgment plus interest and costs or the adjudged value. However, the Minimum Bid for a person owning an interest in the property or for a person who is a party to the suit (other than a taxing unit), is the aggregate amount of the judgments against the property plus all costs of suit and sale. ALL SALES SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL TAXES DUE ON THE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSESSED SINCE THE DATE OF THE JUDGMENT. For more information, contact your attorney or LINEBARGER GOGGAN BLAIR & SAMPSON, LLP, attorney for plaintiffs, at (817) 877-4589

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# Texas EMS receives \$23k grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation

From Staff Reports

**F**irehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation announced the award of a \$23,500 grant to Texas EMS to ensure first responders have the necessary equipment to keep community members and themselves safe. The grant was used to purchase Saphire IV Pumps, fulfilling a critical need within the department.

“On behalf of the department and its members, I want to thank the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation and our local Firehouse Subs in Granbury for recognizing our needs and awarding funding to provide this equipment,” said Sonya Byrd, captain/paramedic. “Providing first responders with the right tools is crucial for them to

successfully do their jobs.” The new Saphire IV Pumps will be used to provide excellent prehospital care for those in Hood County. Having the appropriate tools on hand makes all the difference in allowing first responders to effectively serve their communities and save lives.

In 2005, the Firehouse Subs founders established

the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. The charity provides lifesaving equipment, prevention education, scholarships and continued education, and disaster relief for first responders and public safety organizations, as well as support for military veterans. Since inception, the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation has awarded more than \$86 million to hometown heroes in all 50 states and Puerto Rico. Support for Canadian first responders is provided through the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada.

The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation is listed as a four-star nonprofit organization, the highest designation, by Charity



COURTESY PHOTO

Firehouse Subs Granbury owners Edith Mendez and Karon Adams (both center) are joined by Texas EMS, Steve Morris, Barrett Nation, Kelly Harris, Jene Wilton, Haley Collins, Ricky Reeves, Sonya Byrd, Nicolaus Mourer, Justin Shelby.

Navigator. Charity Navigator is the nation’s largest and most-utilized evaluator of charities. Grant allocations are made possible thanks to the overwhelming support of Firehouse Subs restaurants and generous donors. More than 70% of the funds

raised for the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation come from the generosity of Firehouse Subs guests and the restaurant brand.

For the past 18 years, donations have been the driving force behind Firehouse Subs Public

Safety Foundation® supporting first responders and public safety organizations nationwide. To learn more about Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation or to donate directly, visit [FirehouseSubsFoundation.org](http://FirehouseSubsFoundation.org).



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County Commissioners Court officially designated Wednesday, Aug. 21, as Hood County Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day during a regularly scheduled meeting earlier this week.

# County declares Aug. 21 Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
[ashley@hcnews.com](mailto:ashley@hcnews.com)

The Hood County Commissioners Court officially designated Wednesday, Aug. 21, as Hood County Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day, during a regularly scheduled meeting earlier this week.

As stated in the proclamation read by Hood County Substance Abuse Council Executive Director Harley Walts, Aug. 21 has been designated as the national day for fentanyl prevention

and awareness. This day serves to honor those who have lost their lives to illicit fentanyl poisoning and to recognize the profound impact the drug has had on countless family members and friends.

The initiative aligns with coordinated efforts from various fentanyl awareness organizations and families affected by the epidemic. By sharing their lived experiences, these groups aim to educate the public, especially youth, about the dangers of fentanyl and the importance of seeking help.





Hood County has witnessed a troubling rise in fentanyl overdoses, some of which have resulted in fatalities. In response, the court wishes to recognize those affected locally by the tragedy of fentanyl and bring awareness to the prevention resources available in the community.

The proclamation was signed by all members of the Hood County Commissioners Court Aug. 13, highlighting a united effort to raise awareness and promote prevention resources.

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# OBITUARIES

## Cliff L. Criswell

November 20, 1940 - August 10, 2024

Cliff L. Criswell, age 83, of Granbury passed away on Aug. 10, 2024 after a brave four-year battle with cancer. He was born in Mineral Wells, Texas on Nov. 20, 1940 to Ray and Mathel Criswell. He finished school in Mineral Wells and took some college courses.

He was married to Janice Stubblefield on March 27, 1959 in Mineral Wells at the home of her parents Milton and Janice Stubblefield. Cliff and Janice recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in March of 2024.

Cliff served in the Army National Guard for five years before beginning a career of more than 40 years in sales. He was a people person and never met a stranger. Cliff was a deacon at Lakeside Baptist Church and loved doing volunteer work with Loaves and Fishes. After he retired he enjoyed traveling with family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Janice Criswell; son Phil Criswell and wife Dar-



la, daughter Sharon Langston, daughter Pam Eaton and husband Scott all of Granbury; nine grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and a nephew Eldon Criswell and wife Angie of Wasilla, Alaska.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers Eldon, Dwain, Oliver, and baby Philip; and two sons-in-law, Paul Ruland and Doug Langston.

A memorial service will be held on Aug. 19, 2024 at 11 a.m. at Lakeside Baptist Church.

## Frankie Doyle Bone

July 22, 1988 - August 9, 2024

Frankie Doyle Bone was born on July 22, 1988 in Fort Worth, Texas. He went to be with our Lord and Savior on Aug. 9, 2024. Frankie was a born again Christian and had a gift for writing, photography, and loving everyone he met. He loved meeting new people.

Frankie was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother Geneva McRoberts, his grandfather Roy McRoberts, his uncle Leslie Lambert, his aunt Melissa Anne Cottongame, grandfather Joseph Kayl, and cousin Marvin Blount.

He is survived by his son Brayden Bleeker (Brayden's mother, Carly Sayer) of Granbury, Texas, Frankie's mother Denise Cottongame-Bone of Granbury, Texas, his brother David Almon Bone Sr. (Amber), niece Olivia Bone, nephew David Bone, Jr., maternal grandmother Rosanne Kayl, maternal grandfather Marvin Cottongame (Deborah), father Freddie Doyle Bone, sister Leigha Klein, brother Michael Bone, uncle Michael McRoberts, uncle Barry Wood, uncle Jerred Kayl, cousins Lainey and Liana Kayl, uncle Austin Cottongame (Taylor), nieces Claire and Sloan Cottongame, aunt Courtney Slack (Andrew), cousins Ethan, and Evan



Slack of Belgium, aunt Jennifer Pippin (Brandon),-cousins Emmerie Bronaugh and Dakota Pippin, aunt Courtney Barber (William), cousins Regan, Lilly, Brooke, and Case Barber, aunt Lindsey Rae Romine, cousins Paige, Gavin Brown, cousin Connie Coyne, cousin Marie Celi (Mario), cousin Joann Ramos, cousin Chad McWilliams (Aubrey). Many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. And many many really close friends.

2 Corinthians 5:7 - For we live by Faith not by sight... "To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord" 2 Corinthians 5:8 paraphrase.

Visitation: August 17, 10 a.m. to noon. Celebration of Life: Noon to 12:30 p.m. Interment: 1 to 1:30 p.m. Holly Hills Memorial Park, 1909 Weatherford Highway, Granbury.

# Mike and Christy Massey celebrate 50 years

## Submitted Item

Mike and Christy Massey will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends. The couple married in Electra Aug. 17, 1974. They met as students at Texas Christian University during a Valentine's Day Party in 1972.

Christy has always said Mike's family made her endure two peanut harvests before they would allow her to become a part of their family. She did become very adept at sewing peanut sacks during those two years.

With the exception of their time as students, they have

made their home in Hood County where they raised three sons on property belonging to Mike's family going back more than five generations.

Christy is a registered nurse and serves on the boards of directors of Pecan Valley Centers for Behavioral and Developmental Health Care, the Hood County Historical Commission and the Hood County Hospital District. Mike continues the family farming operation, along with their sons, owns a business in Fort Worth, and served 12 years on the board of directors of the Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District.



Christy and Mike Massey on their wedding day in 1974.

COURTESY PHOTO

## LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

### How to avoid some of the most common golf injuries

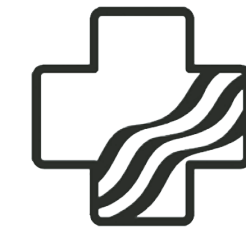
By Lake Granbury Medical Center

"We live in a community where folks love to stay active. And golf is a great way to keep moving, strategize your game and stay in touch with family and friends," mentions Dr. Richard Porter, Osteopathic Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine physician at Lakeside Physicians. "However, as with any sport, it is important to understand how to prevent injuries."

Golf is a great way to exercise, but it can come with injuries if you're not prepared to take your first swing. Here are three of the most common injuries golfers experience and ways to avoid them before they cramp your style.

#### BACK INJURIES

One study estimated that 54% of golf-related injuries involved lower back pain. Even professional golfers have had to sit out of tournaments due to this issue. That's because the twisting motion of golf swings — and spending long hours in a bent position to take shots — can cause minor



## LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

strains to severe injuries.

Common causes of golf-related back injuries include over-swinging and poor posture, which can result in lumbar strains, herniated discs and even spinal arthritis. However, there are ways to prevent back pain, such as stretching before and after playing, strengthening your core muscles (lower back, hips, pelvis, and stomach), wearing appropriate golf shoes, maintaining good posture and swinging properly.

#### HAND AND WRIST INJURIES

Injuries to the hands, fingers and wrists often occur due to the repetitive, high-speed nature of golf swings. Tight or improper grip, striking a rock or root and poor swing mechanics also can lead to wrist and hand injuries. Some common injuries include carpal tunnel syndrome, tendon-

itis, sprains and even a broken bone at the base of your hand beneath the pinky finger.

Learning the proper grip can minimize the impact swings have on your wrists. However, before you start a round, it is important to stretch your hands, arms and wrists before taking a few practice swings. Investing in quality clubs and grips can also minimize impact vibration and prevent you from gripping your clubs too tightly.

#### SHOULDER INJURIES

You're not alone if you have ever felt shoulder or arm pain after a few hours on the golf course. A common ailment among golfers is rotator cuff pain, which, like hand and wrist injuries, can be caused by poor swing mechanics, hitting a root or rock, taking deep divots and general overuse. Repetitive motions like

swinging a golf club can cause tendinitis, bursitis and rotator cuff tears.

However, avoiding such injuries includes getting coached on proper swing technique, engaging in shoulder-strengthening exercises and avoiding overuse. For example, if your shoulder begins to hurt during golf, stop playing and avoid carrying your bag with that shoulder.

When you swing, remember to stand with your feet shoulder-width apart, your knees slightly bent, and your spine mostly straight and if an injury/strain does occur, icing that area will decrease inflammation and help you recover faster.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with Dr. Porter, please visit him online at <https://lakegranburymedical.com/> RichardPorter or call (817) 573-5994.

## ARTS

FROM PAGE A6

commission intended to expand its membership or if they simply wanted to submit additional applications for the council to consider. Jarratt clarified it was the latter.

"There is some restriction now for in-city and out-of-city (members) and we're maxing that at this point in time," Jarratt explained. "They felt they needed some more time. But it's our appointment."

According to section 9.03.102 of the City Code, at least four of the seven members on the commission must be residents of the city. With remaining members Chair Cora Werley, Cheshe Langford, Barbara Loyd, Stacey Martin, Mickey Parson and Mary Ella Riley, the vacant role had to be fulfilled by a Granbury resident.

"I was just thinking, if we have an open spot and we have applicants, they could always come back later and say they want to add more positions," Place

3 Councilman Bruce Wadley said. "We can still fill the position tonight if we want to."

Other applicants for the position included city residents Jerry Allen and Phil Groeschel. However, the council ultimately chose Ullom, with Place 4 Councilman Skip Overdier being the first to recommend her for the role.

"I've known Alison," Overdier said. "She's in the Granbury Opera Guild with me, and she's actually the fundraising chairman for that organization. She's done a fantastic job

for them, she's a lifelong resident of Granbury, and I think that she'd be a great addition to the Granbury Cultural Arts Commission. So, I would like to make a motion to accept her as our nominee."

Following a second, the motion passed unanimously 5-0. Place 2 Councilman Eddie Rodriguez was not present at the meeting.

Ullom will serve the remainder of Shearon's term, which will expire January 2026.

## SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Obituaries are submitted online at [obituaries.hcnews.com](http://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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## TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison  
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**ACROSS**

- national gemstone
- TXism: "busy as \_ -armed fry cook"
- children
- TX Matson who won gold in shot put in 1968 Olympics (init.)
- last name of Dallas City Hall designer
- TXism: "changes his \_ often as he does socks"
- "Foard County \_" (newspaper)
- TX Michael Johnson won gold here in 1992 (4 x 100 relay)
- James Bond's code number
- by in Mexico
- TXism: "couldn't hit the side \_ \_" (poor shot)
- depend on
- in Lubbock County on U.S. 62 & 82
- most mature fruit
- performers
- first two initials of 8-across designer
- 27th governor, familiarly (2 wds.)
- irritate or annoy
- this Jeff of Houston Oilers committed suicide in 1993
- delighted
- state north of the Red River
- TXism for "your"
- 48-across is a \_ city
- decline, decrease
- star Paul of Texas-based 1963 film "Hud" (init.)
- members-only warehouse store: " \_ Club"
- Yemen port city
- TXism: " \_ \_ \_ fiddle string"
- sharpened
- also called "off-the-rack" or OTR
- Dallas Stars leag.
- a fancy Brooklyn coffee
- White \_ , Texas
- Hawaiian taro dish
- county that is north of Ector and south of Gaines
- French-based musical (2 wds.)
- unskilled laborer
- TXism: "got too \_ \_ fire" (spread too thin)
- first two letters of U.S. tax agcy.
- she was wife of Gov. Connally (init.)
- TXism: "was around when the \_ \_ \_ only sick" (old)
- Alan of "The Aviator" about TX Hughes
- Perryton is a city in \_ Texas
- cowboys wear big \_ buckles
- TXism: "if it ain't true, there ain't \_ \_ in Texas"
- highest academic honors go to \_ \_ cum laude graduate
- extremely
- TXism: "don't give a hoot \_ a holler"
- small lie
- J.V. " \_ " Sikes was an A&M star in the 1920s
- TXism: "mighty fond \_"
- " \_ low, sell high"
- TXism: "busy as \_ -armed paper hanger"
- TX Trini's "If I \_ \_ Hammer"
- arithmetic
- "Hook ' \_ \_ \_!" at the Wheel"
- TXism: "fresh married" ( \_ \_ \_ wed)
- "in the year of our Lord" abbr.

# 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 grief support group for those who have lost a loved one. For the past 27 years the group has helped people work through their grief journey. The sessions begin twice yearly with the next session beginning Oct 20. This is a Christ-Centered ministry, meeting at 3-5 p.m. in the Education Building of St. Frances Cabrini Church. For more information, please call Phillis or Bill Brewer at 817-573-8915

**EVERY MONDAY**

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

**ACTON AL-ANON** 12 Step Group meeting noon to 1 p.m. Located in the Acton Library in the same building as fire department, 6430 Smokey Hill Court. For more information call 817-308-3300.

**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 Coun-

ty 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. Details: 817-573-7474.

**RE]ENGAGE MARRIAGE** En-

richment 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.

**ACTON AL-ANON** 12 Step Group meeting noon to 1 p.m. Located in the Acton Library in the same building as fire department, 6430 Smokey Hill Court. For more information call 817-308-3300.

**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**

**LOCAL CHAPTER 238** of the Disabled American Veterans now meets at Charterhouse, 959 Charterhouse Circle, Granbury at 7 pm. The purpose of each meeting is to help the Veterans Administration keep its promise to take care of disabled veterans and to promote camaraderie among veterans, both 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.

## How to be a 'seasonal' investor

**CHAD CARROLL**  
Edward Jones  
Financial Adviser



Chad Carroll

As we transition from summer to autumn, change is all around us — leaves are taking on new colors, temperatures are dropping, and the days are getting shorter. But you can also experience different seasons in various aspects of your life — including when you invest. What are the seasons of an investor's life? And how should you respond to them?

The first such season may happen when you are in your 20s and just starting out in the working world. At this stage in your life, it's especially important to prioritize your financial goals. At the top of your mind may be a short-term goal, such as saving for a down payment on a house. To help achieve this goal, you'd generally want to save in "cash" accounts and invest in fixed-income vehicles that offer preservation of principal. At the same time, you don't want to disregard a longer-term goal — in particular, saving for retirement. While you may not be able to afford to put much away, every amount helps. And you'll want to invest for growth.

Now, as the seasons of your life progress, let's consider your early middle

years. At this point, you've moved past the down payment on your home and you're well into paying a mortgage regularly. And you might even have retired your student loans. But now, you may have another major goal — helping build resources for your children's college education or other post-secondary training. For this objective, you could consider several options, one of which is a 529 education savings plan, which can provide federally tax-free earnings and withdrawals if the money is used for qualified educational expenses. But you're also moving closer to retirement, so, if you can afford it, you may want to increase your contributions to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

As the seasons continue to move on, and you find yourself in your later middle years, your financial situation may have changed significantly. Now, your children may be out of school, your earnings may have grown to their highest level, and you might even have paid off your mortgage. Given these factors, you may now be able to

vote more of your resources toward your retirement by ramping up your IRA and 401(k) contributions even further, and possibly also considering other investment vehicles. And you may want to inject more balance into your portfolio, possibly lowering its overall risk level somewhat, especially in the years immediately preceding your retirement.

Once you move into your retirement season, you may need to continue, and possibly accelerate, the movement toward a more balanced portfolio — one that provides you with more income-producing opportunities. Some investments provide current income, while others provide it in the future, but all of them can contribute to your ability to enjoy your retirement lifestyle. However, you still need some growth-oriented investments to help keep you ahead of inflation. Plus, it's a good idea to keep at least a year's worth of living expenses in cash and another few years' worth in short-term, fixed-income investments. By doing so, you can help avoid having to sell assets in a down market.

The seasons of your life may come and go more quickly than you realize — but you can be prepared for them by making the appropriate investment moves.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

A tax rate of \$0.309524 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of Hood County.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.309524 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.267258 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.360036 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for Hood County from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that Hood County may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that Hood County is proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON August 27, 2024 AT 9:00 AM AT Central Jury Room of the Ralph J. Walton Jr. Justice Center.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, Hood County is not required to hold an election at which voters may accept or reject the proposed tax rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Hood County Commissioner's Court of Hood County at their offices or by attending the public hearing mentioned above. YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

**FOR the proposal:** Judge Ron Massingill, Commissioner Jack Wilson  
Commissioner Nanette Samuelson, Commissioner Dave Eagle  
Commissioner Kevin Andrews

**AGAINST the proposal:** None

**PRESENT** and not voting: None

**ABSENT:** None

Visit Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by Hood County last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by Hood County this year.

	2023	2024	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	\$0.282622	\$0.309524	increase of 0.026902 per
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$330,687	\$335,167	increase of 1.35%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$934.59	\$1,037.42	increase of 102.83, or 11.00%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$25,389,662	\$28,226,777	increase of 2,837,115, or 11.17%

**No-New-Revenue Maintenance and Operations Rate Adjustments**

**State Criminal Justice Mandate**

The Hood County Auditor certifies that Hood County has spent \$4,274,823 in the previous 12 months for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Hood County Sheriff has provided Hood County information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs. This increased the no-new-revenue maintenance and operations rate by \$0.000871/\$100.

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for Hood County at 817-579-3210 or smatlock@hoodcounty.texas.gov, or visit https://hoodcounty.texas.gov for more information.

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# Change of plans: How the NAR lawsuit is redesigning real estate deals

BY LAUREN DAVIS  
Staff Writer  
lauren@hcnews.com

Effective Aug. 17, the National Association of REALTORS® is set to introduce regulations that significantly change how commissions are handled in real estate transactions. This move follows a lawsuit settlement that highlighted the need for greater transparency and fairness in the industry.

All real estate agents must now negotiate compensation terms directly with their clients, whether representing buyers or sellers. The days of automatically splitting a 5-6% commission are over.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex has a population of approximately 6.6 million, with about 2.69 million in Dallas County and 2.24 million in Tarrant County. The Texas Real Estate Commission reports around 59,000 real estate agents in the area — this means there is roughly one real estate agent for every 112 people in the D-FW metroplex.

In such a competitive market, the new NAR rules are set to affect the livelihoods of many agents, leading to potential shifts in how real estate agents conduct business across the region.

## ABOUT THE LAWSUIT

In November, CNN reported that a federal jury in Missouri found the NAR and two brokerages liable for \$1.8 billion in damages due to a conspiracy to keep real estate agent commissions artificially high. Since the case involved antitrust violations, the NAR could potentially face up to \$5.4 billion in damages, as antitrust laws allow for the tripling of the awarded amount.

Ironically, the NAR, an organization known for enforcing a strict code of ethics among its members, faced a lawsuit concerning ethical issues in real estate sales. According to U.S. News & World Report, "The group (NAR) has made it clear it denies any wrongdoing in connection with its MLS (multiple listing service) or compensation rules."

The lawsuit challenged the NAR over commission practices that allegedly forced sellers to pay high, industry-standard commissions around 5-6% — an amount split between listing and buyer's agents. According to the complaint, this limited sellers' ability to negotiate rates, drove up housing costs and reduced transparency, all of which are critical issues in ethical real estate transactions.

VYBE Realtor and real estate marketing expert Eric Wilkins pointed out that while many changes are coming to the industry, the core issue has always been that sellers could have negotiated commission pay — something many sellers may not have realized.

Multiple listing services, many of which are owned by NAR subsidiaries, are key online tools for real estate agents. They allow them to list and find details about homes for sale in one place.

The MLS also helps agents

work together by sharing property information, such as details, including the commission percentage offered to the buyer's agent, which was clearly outlined there. Like a catalog, the MLS makes it easier for buyers to find homes and for sellers to reach more potential buyers.

The NAR has implemented a new rule regarding the MLS as part of the settlement. NAR has agreed to eliminate the requirement that sellers must offer compensation to buyer agents on the MLS.

Compensation offers will no longer be displayed on MLS listings, allowing agents to negotiate these terms directly with buyers off the MLS.

## REALTOR DUTY

"Negotiation is at the heart of real estate. Agents who shy away from it are not just avoiding conflict; they're missing out on opportunities to secure the best deals for their clients." — Anonymous.

"And so, everybody knows an agent," said Wilkins. "The problem is that many agents don't handle a lot of transactions, so they don't encounter the real-world issues that come up frequently in the business. Dealing with actual situations is necessary to gain practical experience."

Wilkins emphasized the evolving nature of the market and the need for creativity and adaptability. "We may see buyer agents charging flat fees or hourly rates. Agents' flexibility and negotiation skills will be crucial in this new environment."

The changing landscape of real estate sales, with its increased dialogue and negotiation, is set to foster better interactions between all parties. Granbury Association of REALTORS® past Board President Whitney Knieper said, "I think that in the long run, it's going to build better relationships between a buyer and their agent. Clients are going to know what they should have known all along — that their agent is working for them. Their agent's fiduciary duty is to their client." This shift may provide hope for the future of real estate transactions.

"Negotiating commission has always been available. It was a common practice that sellers would cover the buyer's agent's commission," said Wilkins. "Now, this is being addressed, and sellers are becoming more aware of their options as well."

Wilkins added, "The MLS no longer lists the buyer's agent's commission, BAC, offered by the seller. We (agents) have to call the listing agent directly to find out if a commission is being offered. This creates an addi-



COURTESY PHOTO BY TIMON, ADOBESTOCK.COM

The NAR lawsuit is redesigning how real estate deals are done.

tional layer of negotiation and transparency."

Joni Dawson, broker and owner of J Dawson Realty, provided insight into the lawsuit, saying "The National Association of REALTORS® has changed their rules for all of us nationwide."

"So, now, if a buyer calls me and says, 'Hey, Joni, I want to go look at a house,' okay, I'm going to have to meet them at my office or somewhere before I open a door. They're going to have to sign this buyer rep agreement and agree to whatever percentage we put in there, or a flat fee," Dawson said, adding, "And that's never been the case, ever, ever. In the early '90s, buyers weren't represented at all. That was back in the days of 'buyer beware' ... Everybody was always representing the seller."

## A NEW APPROACH

Dawson is proactively adapting her business model to address these changes. With over two decades of experience, Dawson has witnessed numerous market shifts, but she describes the latest NAR rules as particularly transformative.

"Previously," Dawson explained, "sellers would pay the commission, which would then be shared between the listing and buyer's agents. Beginning Aug. 17, buyers must sign a buyer representation agreement up front and agree to pay a commission or flat fee at closing."

To better support her clients, Dawson is rolling out a new business strategy aimed at providing clarity and assistance to both buyers and sellers. "I felt a calling to help buyers navigate this new landscape," she explained. "Many first-time home buyers have a hard enough time coming up with a down payment and closing costs. The probability of paying a buyer's agent will put a big burden on them."

"That's why I'm implementing a 1% flat fee for sellers, which covers a range of services. Additionally, each of my listings will specify the buyer's agent's commission to ensure transparency and simplicity in the process."

## PROTOCOL

All professionals in the area consistently emphasize the importance of a negotiated and signed buyer's compensation agreement before accessing a property.

This change clarifies the financial obligations up front,

ensuring buyers understand their agent's commission responsibilities. Wilkins explains, "If someone calls and asks to see a house like 123 Jones Street, the REALTOR® must first send them the agreement, which must be signed before the property can be shown."

Knieper, who has worked with Knieper Realty since 2010, said, "The major (transaction) changes involve updated forms to ensure consumers understand commissions, breakdowns and that these terms are negotiable."

Dawson, a seasoned professional in the field, explains how this process works. "Every agent, when they're showing, is going to have to call the other side and ask, 'Is your seller offering buyer agent compensation, or is the listing broker sharing commission?'"

"So, that's the first thing, we cannot even open a door, so no more 'looky-loos' unless it's an open house," Dawson said. "No more making that phone call and having that agent meet you because it's not going to happen without you (the buyer) signing the buyer rep agreement and negotiating a commission for services." This policy change is a serious one, and all parties need to understand its implications.

## PERCEIVED VALUE

The value of a buyer's agent is evident in various aspects, such as negotiation, contract writing, and understanding Texas real estate contracts. Wilkins acknowledges that buyer's agents also have valuable contacts with inspectors and can help explain title issues. However, the current changes might lead to new models emerging.

Changes such as a buyer's agent charging per house showing, per hour, or a flat fee could deter casual buyers who are not serious about purchasing. As Wilkins points out, "Many buyers look at numerous houses in a day without finding what they want, even with the help of the internet to narrow down options."

Wilkins believes those who adapt quickly to these new models will be the most successful. "The agents who make these adjustments will likely see success," he said. The key will be proving their value in this new environment and running a sustainable business.

## INNOVATIVE MARKETING

To promote her new commission model, Dawson has launched a billboard campaign along U.S. Highway 377 with the message, "Save thousands in commission fees." Dawson explains, "We're trying to make our value proposition clear and accessible to potential clients."

J Dawson Realty proposes a new approach to real estate transactions. It plans to charge a 1% flat fee to sellers, offering various services for this fee with additional a la carte services available. "The NAR lawsuit highlighted the need for choices and options," said Dawson.

Each listing sign will feature a QR code indicating that a 2% commission is available for the buyer's agent. Dawson will clarify to her sellers that offering a commission to buyer's agents will increase interest in their property. Dawson will charge 1% for her services.

"Every J Dawson Realty listing will offer buyer agent compensation. This way, the seller will be responsible for around 3% in total fees, rather than the traditionally negotiated 4% to 6%."

## LEVELS OF SERVICE

"The major changes that have happened are with the forms to make sure that consumers understand commissions and breakdowns and that they are negotiable," Knieper explained.

"And on the buyer side of the transaction," she added, "the major change that is not optional is that as REALTORS®, we must have a buyer representation agreement signed and agreed to by each buyer before we unlock a door and show them a house." Knieper stresses, "We can't even let you in unless you sign this form right here that says that I represent you."

Knieper breaks down several options on the new required buyer's form. "There's a full-service agent who shows you the house, negotiates your contract, and handles all of your dealings with the title companies, inspection, etc. That's a full-service agent."

"Then there's also just a showing agent option indicating the buyer can give an agent X amount of dollars to unlock the doors," Knieper said. "That's it. The agent will just unlock the doors. There are options there, but it will be an interesting change."

## WHAT BUYERS NEED TO KNOW

**Buyer Representation Agreement:** A legally binding contract required before viewing properties, outlining commission obligations.

**Negotiable Commissions:** Both buyers and sellers should understand that commission rates are negotiable and should be clearly discussed.

**Impact on Costs:** Buyers may need to cover their agent's commission if the seller does not offer it, impacting the overall cost of purchasing a property.

For further information and guidance, buyers and sellers are encouraged to consult with their real estate agents to fully understand these new regulations and how they may affect their transactions.

Knieper believes sellers who only pay their listing agent and do not agree to pay a portion of the commission to the buyer's agent may find their showings very limited.

The main thing that happened with the NAR lawsuit was some confusion among consumers about commissions. "On Aug. 17, new regulations go into effect," Knieper said. "These changes are not optional."

## TRANSACTION SUPPORT

Lauren Hutton, assistant office manager at Stonewall Title Company, noted the changes (resulting from the lawsuit) have encouraged closer collaboration among real estate agents. "Our role is to support agents and ensure transactions align with the new regulations. We've seen real estate agents working more closely together to navigate these changes."

Despite the complexities, the real estate community in North Texas appears to be optimistic. The new regulations are expected to foster better-informed transactions, benefiting both buyers and sellers in the long run. As Wilkins aptly put it, "Flexibility and strong negotiation skills will be crucial in this new environment."

# SAVE THOUSANDS

## IN COMMISSION FEES



### ASK ME HOW?

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[joni@jdawsonrealty.com](mailto:joni@jdawsonrealty.com)

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KNIEPER REALTY

# So, how is the real estate market?



**BY PAM KNIEPER**

Pam Knieper, broker/owner of Knieper Real Estate, is and has been the #1 top producer in Hood County for more than 15 years and running. She is known as the waterfront expert and the authority on real estate.

Statistics are a funny thing: some people love them, others hate them and some will tell you that with the right manipulation, you can make them say whatever you want them to say. Whatever your opinion, I can tell you we get asked about the real estate market multiple times every day and statistics do help us when responding to market condition questions.

I can tell you, without reservation, the reports for June of this year had me not only confused but also a bit concerned. The median sales price for Hood County was down 6.3% from June 2023, while all our surrounding counties were showing an increase over last year's prices. The good news is the median sales price for July did tick up ever so slightly.

The total number of closed sales (units) was down 21% from June of last year but only 0.8% down in July. So, while the totals are still down from last year, there was a definite uptick in July.

The most noteworthy numbers, in my opinion, are for inventory. As of the end of July, Hood County had 6.2 months of inventory available for sale. That number was 4.3 this time last year. So, why is that noteworthy? The short answer is supply and demand. A few years ago, when we were living through that feeding frenzy for real estate, with

competing bids and nothing to sell, our inventory numbers were at one-half to one month's supply. We actually had more real estate agents in Granbury than we had houses to sell.

Historically, five to six months of supply is associated with moderate price appreciation, and a lower level of months' supply tends to push prices up more rapidly. At 6.2 months, we are just a little on the high side but certainly not enough to be concerned. If we see a reduction in interest rates soon, we will most likely see inventories start to come down, but for now, we are

enjoying a healthy, stable market that is good for buyers and sellers.

Time on the market is averaging approximately 62 days to get under contract with another 29 days to closing. At 91 days overall, homes are staying on the market 8-10 days longer than last year.

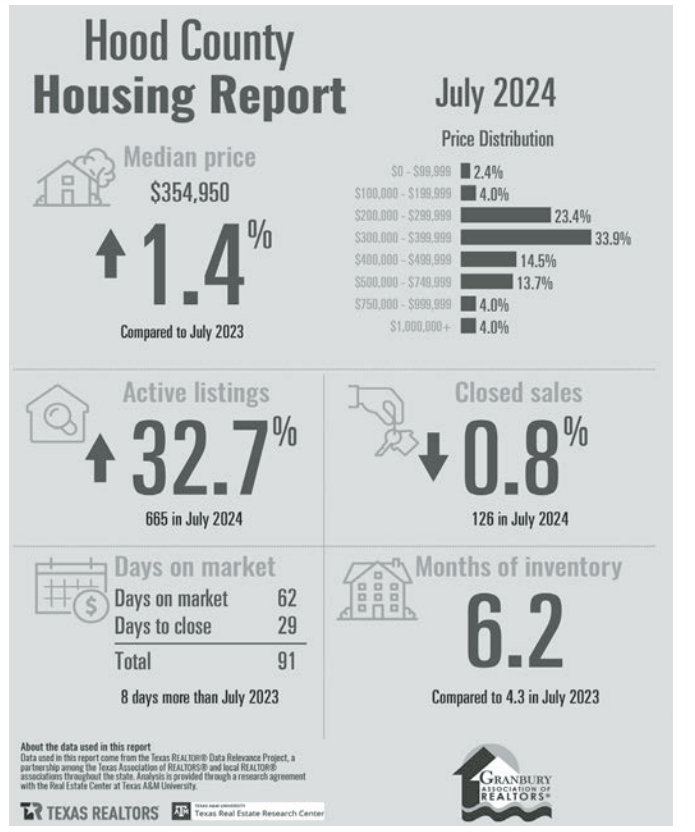
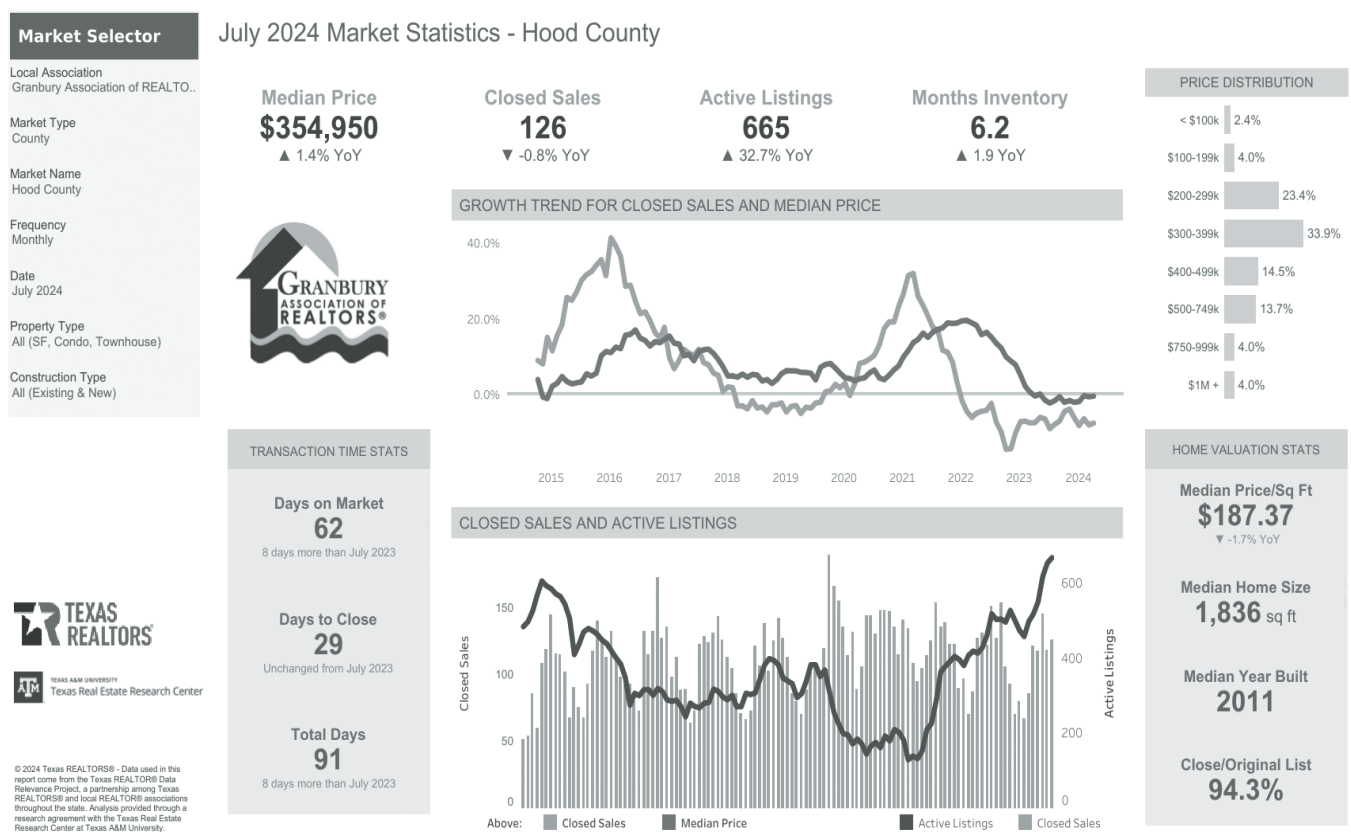
As of Aug. 9, there are 841 listed homes for sale in our MLS; of those, 168 are under contract. For those under contract, the average asking price is around \$406,500, and approximately 58 of those under contract are new construction.

Of course, all these sta-

tistics are averages and, for a myriad of reasons, can vary drastically from one neighborhood to another. If you are curious about your neighborhood, give us a call at 817-219-0456 or email us at info@knieperteam.com and ask for the statistics for your area. We are always happy to hear from you and will put together a comprehensive report just for you.

Buying or selling, the team at Knieper Realty wants to be your REALTORS® of choice, and we welcome your questions and comments. We can also be found online at www.WeSellGranbury.com.

## GRANBURY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS



LEFT: The graphic shows the Hood County market statistics for July 2024. RIGHT: The graphic shows the Hood County Housing Report for July 2024.

# DEALS OF THE WEEK

NEW BUILD - NEW PRICE

\$699,900

3720 Verde Hills Trail, Granbury

HILLTOP HOME ON ALMOST 8 ACRES

\$619,000

2807 Wind Point Court, Tolar

AMAZING LAKE HOUSE W/ BEACH

\$1,250,000

2420 Cedar Crest Drive, Granbury

NEWER HOME ON 2 PLUS ACRES

\$537,000

2017 Paramount Drive, Cresson

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## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL HOOD COUNTY



PLEASE SEE **FIRST DAY** | B2

Young Acton Elementary student walking into school Aug. 13, for GISD's first day of the 2023-2024 school year.

LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

GISD CTE teacher Adam O'Hanlon.

## From classroom to newsroom

GISD CTE teacher gains real-world insights

BY LAUREN DAVIS  
Staff Writer  
lauren@hcnews.com

Adam O'Hanlon, a video production teacher at Granbury High School, recently completed an externship with the Hood County News as part of a program offered by the Texas Workforce Commission.

The program, designed to give Career and Technical Education (CTE) teachers real-world experience in their fields, was open to various disciplines, including culinary arts, automotive technology, aviation and video production classes. Teachers spend time working directly with businesses related to their teaching fields, allowing them to gain practical insights and up-to-date knowledge about industry practices.

As the head of the AV program at GISD, O'Hanlon, who holds Photoshop and Premiere Pro certifications, found that shadowing professionals in a news organization provided him with new perspectives. This experience provided deeper knowledge of the media industry, which he plans to bring back to his classroom to better prepare his students for careers in video production.

During his externship, O'Hanlon worked closely with various departments at Hood County News, including graphic design, writing, magazine production and sales. This exposure helped him understand how different roles within a media organization collaborate to achieve common goals. The experience reinforced the importance of communication, meeting deadlines and teamwork — skills essential in the media industry and any professional environment.

O'Hanlon expressed the value of this experience in bridging the gap between classroom learning and industry expectations. "I think this kind of hands-on learning opportunity should be

mandatory for CTE teachers, to be honest with you," he said.

He acknowledged that while teachers often focus on pedagogy, industry experience is crucial for effectively preparing students for the workforce. O'Hanlon's students range from grades nine through 12, and many of them may not pursue college but instead aim to enter industry directly after high school.

One of the practicum requirements for O'Hanlon is that he must create a lesson plan incorporating new components from his experience at HCN and submit it to both the Workforce Commission and the head of Granbury High School's CTE department.

"I see two challenges," O'Hanlon says, "I need to teach the kids journalistic standards like 'try to stay neutral,' and secondly, carving out time to complete important hands-on projects."

Reflecting on his time at the HCN, O'Hanlon said the externship inspired him to enhance his teaching approach. He is particularly excited about the potential collaboration between his students and HCN. "I can already see it," he said, envisioning opportunities for his students to gain practical experience through projects like creating a school magazine or producing video content.

O'Hanlon intends to focus on developing relationships with industry partners to give students practical experience and opportunities to showcase their skills. He believes these experiences will not only build students' resumes but prepare them for success with a head start in their careers.

As he prepares for the new school year, O'Hanlon is eager to implement what he has learned. By bridging the gap between education and industry, O'Hanlon aims to empower his students to succeed in video production's competitive world.

## Stay curious: The power of intentional learning at every age

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

In a world that's constantly evolving, where new technologies emerge every day and global connections are just a click away, the concept of lifelong learning has never been more relevant — or more important. As a community, we thrive when we share knowledge, experiences and wisdom with one another. And the best way to ensure we always have something to offer is by committing to being lifelong learners.

But what exactly does it mean to be a lifelong learner? And how can we approach this journey with intentionality, so our efforts lead to genuine growth? Let's explore the value of continuous learning and discover the key ingredients necessary to make this a rewarding part of your life.

### LIFELONG LEARNING: MORE THAN JUST A BUZZWORD

Lifelong learning isn't just about enrolling in formal education programs or picking up a new hobby every now and then — although those can be great aspects of it. At its core, lifelong learning is a mindset. It's the belief that we can — and should — continue to grow, develop and expand our horizons at every stage of life. This mindset keeps us curious, adaptable and open to new experiences.

Whether you're 18 or 80, there's always something new to learn. And it doesn't have to be a grand, ambitious undertaking. It could be as

simple as reading a book on a topic you know little about, learning how to cook a new dish, or even mastering a new technology that's become part of our daily lives. The key is to remain open to new ideas and to embrace the opportunities that come your way.

### THE POWER OF INTENTIONALITY IN LEARNING

One of the biggest mistakes people make when it comes to lifelong learning is being too casual about it. They wait for inspiration to strike or for life to present them with new opportunities to learn. But if you want to truly grow and benefit from this process, intentionality is crucial.

Being intentional means making a conscious decision to learn and grow in specific areas that align with your goals, interests and passions. For example, if you're passionate about gardening, you might intentionally commit to learning more about sustainable gardening practices. Or if you're looking to advance in your career, you might focus on developing specific skills that will make you more competitive in your field.

By setting clear learning goals, you not only make it easier to track your progress, but you also ensure the time and energy you invest in learning are directed toward something meaningful.

### INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS: WHAT MAKES LIFELONG LEARNING EFFECTIVE?

So, what are the key ingredients that can make your lifelong learning journey suc-

cessful and fulfilling? Here are a few to consider:

**Curiosity:** Curiosity is the engine that drives lifelong learning. Cultivate a sense of wonder about the world around you. Ask questions, seek out new experiences and never stop being curious about how things work.

**Discipline:** While curiosity might get you started, discipline will keep you going. Commit to learning on a regular basis, whether it's daily, weekly or monthly. Set aside time in your schedule for your learning activities and stick to it.

**Adaptability:** The world changes rapidly, and so should your learning. Be open to adjusting your learning goals as new opportunities and challenges arise. Adaptability ensures that your learning remains relevant and valuable.

**Reflection:** Take time to reflect on what you've learned. How has it impacted your life? What new skills or insights have you gained? Reflection helps to solidify your learning and makes it more meaningful.

**Community:** Learning doesn't have to be a solitary endeavor. Join a community of like-minded learners, whether it's a local club, an online forum or even just a group of friends who share your interests. Sharing your learning journey with others can provide motivation, support and new perspectives.

**Passion:** Passion is what will sustain your learning in the long run. When you're genuinely passionate about a subject, learning about it becomes a joy rather than a chore. So, focus on areas that ignite your passion and

make learning a delightful experience.

### ALWAYS SOMETHING TO SHARE

One of the most rewarding aspects of being a lifelong learner is that you always have something to share with others. Whether it's a new skill, an interesting fact or a fresh perspective, your ongoing learning journey equips you with valuable insights that can enrich the lives of those around you.

By committing to lifelong learning, you're not just investing in your own growth — you're also contributing to the growth and vibrancy of our community. Each of us has the potential to be a well-spring of knowledge and inspiration for others, but only if we continue to nourish our own minds.

### THE LIFELONG LEARNING CHALLENGE

So, I challenge you to embrace lifelong learning with intentionality. Identify the areas where you want to grow, commit to learning something new regularly and share your journey with others. The rewards are endless: a sharper mind, a richer life and a community that thrives on shared wisdom and experience.

In the end, lifelong learning isn't just about staying relevant or keeping up with the times. It's about enriching your life and the lives of those around you. So, what will you learn today?





# GISD First Day Back



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

A joyous atmosphere filled the air as the staff of Nettie Baccus Elementary School warmly greeted students on the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 13, the first day of school. They did an outstanding job of ensuring that all students felt welcome, especially comforting and guiding the youngest ones on their very first day of classes.



## FIRST DAY

FROM PAGE B1

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The first day of school for Acton Elementary School kicked off early Aug. 13, as parents, students and teachers arrived to get the 2024-2025 school year started.



BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

# Lake Granbury waterfowl hunting drawing scheduled



BY JUDI PIERCE

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

There are a few events that mark the official end of summer. For the family, it may be a Labor Day celebration. For kids, it's shopping for

back-to-school necessities. And, for avid hunters, it's the annual BRA Waterfowl Hunting Blind Permit drawing scheduled for Aug. 30 at Lake Granbury.

The BRA offers hunters the chance to enter a lottery-style drawing for established hunting blind sites at the three BRA-owned reservoirs: Possum Kingdom Lake, Lake Granbury and Lake Limestone.

To be eligible, participants must be at least 18 years old and present at the day and time of the drawing for a chance to claim a permit site.

Registration closes once the drawing begins. Those arriving late will not be included in the drawing. One entry is allowed per person, and one site is allowed per entry. Up to four people may share each site.

All participants must have a valid Texas hunting license with the Texas Duck Stamp Endorsement and the current federal Waterfowl Stamp, which will go on sale Aug. 15. Up to four hunters may share a blind location.

Doors open at 8 a.m., and the drawing begins at 8:30 a.m. at the BRA Lake

Granbury office, 4552 Mambrino Highway in Granbury.

At each drawing, the first name selected will have the first pick of the hunting sites, followed by the remaining registered hunters until all locations are filled. In the case that fewer entries are received than the number of available sites, the remaining sites will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

If selected, a \$200 permit fee is required at the time of the drawing. Each location accepts checks/money

orders payable to the BRA. Lakes Granbury and Possum Kingdom accept all debit/credit cards except AMEX.

Though the BRA provides hunting site locations for those selected during the drawing, hunters are responsible for bringing their blinds. Hunting on the reservoirs is reserved for specified locations and is not permitted at any other BRA property that is not designated for waterfowl blinds. Hunters must always stay within 20 feet of their marked area while hunting and firearms or projectiles

are restricted outside the designated areas.

Have questions about the drawing? Call the lake office at 817-573-3212.

For the complete listing of waterfowl hunting rules, go to <https://www.brazos.org/hunting>.

For additional information about Texas hunting seasons, licenses and laws go to: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/regulations/outdoor-annual/>.

## NOTICE OF MEETING TO VOTE ON TAX RATE

A tax rate of \$0.385000 per \$100 valuation has been proposed by the governing body of City of Granbury.

PROPOSED TAX RATE	\$0.385000 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE	\$0.393736 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE	\$0.718077 per \$100

The no-new-revenue tax rate is the tax rate for the 2024 tax year that will raise the same amount of property tax revenue for City of Granbury from the same properties in both the 2023 tax year and the 2024 tax year.

The voter-approval rate is the highest tax rate that City of Granbury may adopt without holding an election to seek voter approval of the rate.

The proposed tax rate is not greater than the no-new-revenue tax rate. This means that City of Granbury is not proposing to increase property taxes for the 2024 tax year.

A PUBLIC MEETING TO VOTE ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON September 3, 2024 AT 6:00 PM AT City Hall 116 Bridge St., Granbury Tx.

The proposed tax rate is also not greater than the voter-approval tax rate. As a result, City of Granbury is not required to hold an election to seek voter approval of the rate. However, you may express your support for or opposition to the proposed tax rate by contacting the members of the Granbury City Council of City of Granbury at their offices or by attending the public meeting mentioned above.

YOUR TAXES OWED UNDER ANY OF THE RATES MENTIONED ABOVE CAN BE CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

$$\text{Property tax amount} = (\text{tax rate}) \times (\text{taxable value of your property}) / 100$$

**FOR the proposal:** Jim Jarratt, Skip Overdier, Greg Corrigan, Bruce Wadley, Steven Vale

**AGAINST the proposal:** None

**PRESENT and not voting:** None

**ABSENT:** Eddie Rodriguez

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

The following table compares the taxes imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Granbury last year to the taxes proposed to be imposed on the average residence homestead by City of Granbury this year.

	2023	2024	Change
<b>Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)</b>	\$0.385000	\$0.385000	increase of 0.000000 per \$100, or 0.00%
<b>Average homestead taxable value</b>	\$423,313	\$436,100	increase of 3.02%
<b>Tax on average homestead</b>	\$1,629.76	\$1,678.99	increase of 49.23, or 3.02%
<b>Total tax levy on all properties</b>	\$8,025,553	\$7,979,621	decrease of -45,932, or -0.57%

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Granbury at 817-573-1114 or , or visit [www.granbury.org](http://www.granbury.org) for more information.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE

The Lipan ISD will hold a public meeting at 6:00 PM, August 29, 2024 in Lipan ISD Library 106 Osage St. Lipan, Tx. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the school district's budget that will determine the tax rate that will be adopted. Public participation in the discussion is invited.

The tax rate that is ultimately adopted at this meeting or at a separate meeting at a later date may not exceed the proposed rate shown below unless the district publishes a revised notice containing the same information and comparisons set out below and holds another public meeting to discuss the revised notice.

Maintenance Tax	\$0.746900/\$100 (proposed rate for maintenance and operations)
School Debt Service Tax	\$0.306956/\$100 (proposed rate to pay bonded indebtedness)
Approved by Local Voters	

### Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories.

Maintenance and operations	-11.03 % decrease
Debt Service	-0.35 % decrease
Total Expenditures	-9.86 % decrease

### Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value (as calculated under Section 26.04, Tax Code)

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$862,784,347	\$1,015,321,355
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$11,352,733	\$13,335,861
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$313,992,235	\$356,190,684
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$11,352,733	\$13,335,861

\*Appraised value is the amount shown on the appraisal roll and defined by Section 1.04(8), Tax Code.

\*\* "New property" is defined by Section 26.012(17), Tax Code.

\*\*\* "Taxable value" is defined by Section 1.04(10), Tax Code.

### Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness\* \$14,087,247

\*Outstanding principal.

### Comparison of Proposed Rates with Last Year's Rates

	Maintenance & Operations	Interest & Sinking Fund*	Total	Local Revenue Per Student	State Revenue Per Student
Last Year's Rate	\$0.751400	\$0.330000	\$1.081400	\$7,839	\$8,661
Rate to Maintain Same Level of Maintenance & Operations Revenue & Pay Debt Service	\$0.790840	\$0.239120	\$1.029960	\$8,241	\$7,917
Proposed Rate	\$0.746900	\$0.306956	\$1.053856	\$7,839	\$8,060

\*The Interest & Sinking Fund tax revenue is used to pay for bonded indebtedness on construction, equipment, or both.

The bonds, and the tax rate necessary to pay those bonds, were approved by the voters of this district.

### Comparison of Proposed Levy with Last Year's Levy on Average Residence

	Last Year	This Year
Average Market Value of Residences	\$234,198	\$258,200
Average Taxable Value of Residences	\$74,763	\$101,088
Last Year's Rate Versus Proposed Rate per \$100 Value	\$1.081400	\$1.053856
Taxes Due on Average Residence	\$808.49	\$1,065.32
Increase (Decrease) in Taxes		\$256.83

Under state law, the dollar amount of school taxes imposed on the residence homestead of a person 65 years of age or older or of the surviving spouse of such a person, if the surviving spouse was 55 years of age or older when the person died, may not be increased above the amount paid in the first year after the person turned 65, regardless of changes in tax rate or property value.

Notice of Voter-Approval Rate: The highest tax rate the district can adopt before requiring voter approval at an election is \$1.053856. This election will be automatically held if the district adopts a rate in excess of the voter-approval rate of \$1.053856.

### Fund Balances

The following estimated balances will remain at the end of the current fiscal year and are not encumbered with or by a corresponding debt obligation, less estimated funds necessary for operating the district before receipt of the first state aid payment.

Maintenance and Operations Fund Balance(s)	\$3,343,195
Interest & Sinking Fund Balance(s)	\$250,000

A school district may not increase the district's maintenance and operations tax rate to create a surplus in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the purpose of paying the district's debt service.

Visit [Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes](https://Texas.gov/PropertyTaxes) to find a link to your local property tax database on which you can easily access information regarding your property taxes, including information about proposed tax rates and scheduled public hearings of each entity that taxes your property.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter-approval tax rate is calculated to limit the rate of growth of property taxes in the state.

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### SUDOKU

Solution for the puzzle on August 17

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

# SAME PAPER AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

# Lady Pirates set to carry momentum into 2024

**BY RICK MAUCH**  
*Special to the Hood County News*

Last volleyball season the Granbury Lady Pirates turned a slow start into an exciting finish. After going 9-19 in predistrict play, they finished 9-3 in District 5-5A to place third and advance to the second round of the playoffs for the first time since 2019.

"Just like a lot of teams, there are ups and downs in seasons, but I'm very proud of how our girls game back and ended the season on such a positive note," said head coach Desiree Shahan, who has led the Lady Pirates to the postseason four times in her five years at the helm.

**RETURNING TALENT**

With four starters returning — and eight overall varsity returners — optimism is high once again as the season is getting underway. Returning starters are:

Setter Allyson McCabe, senior: Led team in assists with 991, along with having 476 defensive digs and serving 35 aces

Right side hitter Blakely Bleeker, senior: 291 kills, 27 blocks

Outside hitter Sienna Watts, senior: Team-leading 430 kills, second-team all-district

Liberator Lily McCall, senior: Led team with 808 digs and 615 receptions, along with serving 36 aces

Also returning on the varsity are seniors Addi Cowling, middle/right side

hitter, along with defensive specialists Audrey Greinert and Megan James, and sophomore middle hitter Masyn Noe.

Shahan said she is also excited about talent coming up from the sub-varsity squads.

"I always love watching the growth of our sub-varsity teams. It's one of the exciting parts of being a coach and we are very fortunate to have some great talent in our program that feeds into our varsity team," she said.

**ANOTHER TOUGH SCHEDULE**

Throughout their history with previous head coach Tammy Clark and now with Shahan, the Lady Pirates have become known for taking on tough opponents in pre-district play. With a mindset that it pays

off when they get to district — usually tough, and once again so this season — it has often paid off.

Last season was no exception and neither will this season be. For example, they are once again competing in the prestigious John Tuner Classic in Pearland Aug. 15-17, along with hosting a tough field in their own Granbury Classic Aug. 22-24.

Also, they will once again be making the trek to Orlando for the extremely challenging KSA Events Fall Classic Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

"I always like to schedule a tough preseason. I think it helps prepare you for those tough games you face during district, especially the district that we are in," Shahan said. "We have to be ready to go and in order to do

that we need to face tough opponents."

**TOUGH DISTRICT**

Most District 5-5A teams are familiar with each other as they were in the same league last season. The newcomer is Saginaw Chisholm Trail (25-15, 10-4 in district in 2023), which dropped down after finishing second in District 3-6A and advancing to bidistrict.

Perennial power Aledo (34-9, 11-1, district champions, third round of playoffs) is back, along with fellow playoff participant Azle (18-28, 5-7, fourth, second round). Rounding out the league are Brewer (17-15, 4-8, fifth) and Saginaw (11-28, 1-11, seventh).

"I'm really excited for this district. It's definitely going

to be tough, but I'm really looking forward to seeing how our girls step up to the challenge," Shahan said. "We have a really strong group of seniors and they're ready to make some waves in our district and take it far into playoffs. This group has something special and it's going to be a fun season."

"I'm very proud of the growth that we have had in our volleyball program. Not only as athletes, but watching these girls grow off the court into strong women is something that I truly cherish."

"I believe that our program is the strongest it's ever been in more ways than one, and I can't wait to see all the great things we accomplish on and off the court," Shahan said.

# Lady Rattlers moving up and looking to move forward

**BY RICK MAUCH**  
*Special to the Hood County News*

The Tolar Lady Rattlers are moving up in classification and looking to move forward on the heels of the most successful volleyball season in program history.

And they're looking to do so with a new head coach, albeit a familiar face in the program. Amber Terrell takes over the varsity for Misty Rhodes after success at the junior varsity level.

Terrell, a five-year member of the Tolar program, said, "I've seen first-hand how tal-

ented our team is, supported by strong leadership and lots of experienced players."

The Lady Rattlers bid farewell to Class 2A with their best season ever. They finished 25-15, placed second in District 8-2A and advanced to the Region I final before falling to Windthorst.

Now, they are moving up and into District 8-3A.

"I'm excited about moving up to Class 3A as it will bring us better competition, which I believe will further develop our skills," Terrell said. "We feel confident that we will compete really well in our district and have a good chance to come out on top."

Terrell is a mother of three. Her son, Zane, is a senior at Tolar, daughter Allie is a sophomore and a returning varsity member for the Lady Rattlers volleyball team, while youngest daughter Cassidy is in the sixth grade and spends time in the gym with the older girls.

**PLENTY OF RETURNING TALENT**

The Lady Rattlers have seven returning varsity players on their senior-laden roster. They are:

Hitter Senne Imel, senior: Texas Girls Coaches Association All-Star (one of

only four 2A players so honored), first-team all-district

Outside hitter Allie Terrell, sophomore: District Newcomer of the Year, TGCA All-State

Setter Abbie Soileau, senior: First-team all-district

Middle hitter Lily Dewitt, senior: Second-team all-district

Middle hitter Allyson Dobbs, senior: Second-team all-district

Right side hitter Kenzi McQuain, senior: Second-team all-district

Outside hitter Kamryn Kolb, sophomore: Second-team all-district

New to the varsity this sea-

son will be senior defensive specialist Sophia Walters and freshman hitter/blocker Atley Kolb. Up from the sub-varsity are three juniors, middle hitter/defensive specialist Emma Jackson, outside hitter/defensive specialist Lane Gardner and defensive specialist Emori Murphey.

"Overall, Tolar volleyball today is stronger than it's ever been. We have no weak links on the team," coach Terrell said. "They are all good and bring a ton of experience to the program. I'm excited about the potential we have as a program."

**NEW DISTRICT**

The Lady Rattlers are the newcomers to 8-3A, replacing perennial power Brock, who moved to 4A. Everyone else in the district was also there last season:

Peaster: 38-8, 14-0, district champions, Region I finalists, preseason No. 6 in state

Millsap: 22-20, 10-4, third, bidistrict

Breckenridge: 15-14, 8-6, fourth, bidistrict

Early: 8-16, 4-8, tied for fifth

Eastland: 8-23, 4-8, tied for fifth

Comanche: 15-18, 1-11, seventh

Dublin: 1-23, 0-12, eighth



## Tolar Volleyball

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Tolar Lady Rattlers volleyball team hosted the North Central Texas Academy Lady Pioneers in a pre season Game Aug. 13, at Tolar High School. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.





LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The season kicked off with a bang for the Lady Rattlers with a 3-0 victory over NCTA Pioneers Aug. 13.

# SEALS bring home medals from State Games of America

**BY RICK MAUCH**  
*Special to the Hood County News*

The State Games of America is one of the most prestigious swim meets in the United States. It is held every two years and swimmers qualify through top performances in their respective states. In Texas, that is the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation.

This year the State Games were held in San Diego recently. The SEALS sent four swimmers.

Elizabeth Zieschang led the SEALS contingent, competing in the Girls 11-12 age group. She placed in the top five in five events, including bringing home silver and bronze medals.

Also, Annabel Ross brought home a bronze medal.

- Males
- 11-12
- Mason Prince, sixth in 100 fly, 1:24.85; 11th in 50 fly, 36.47; 10th in 100 back, 1:27.31
- 13-14
- Connor Spence, 22nd in 50 fly, 37.88; 16th in 50 back, 40.35
- Females
- 11-12
- Annabel Ross, seventh in

200 free, 2:56.95; 15th in 50 breast, 44.49; seventh in 100 fly, 1:31.86; 12th in 50 fly, 34.93; third in 100 back, 1:26.78; 13th in 100 free, 1:14.40

Elizabeth Zieschang, third in 50 breast, 38.91; fourth in 50 fly, 32.51; second in 200 IM, 2:42.22; fifth in 50 back, 34.78; fifth in 100 free, 1:05.42

**GRANBURY VOLLEYBALL**

The season is now in full swing, including tournaments this weekend for area teams. The Granbury Lady Pirates are in the John Turner Classic in Pearland this weekend.

Prior to tourney play, however, the Lady Pirates opened the season with a 3-1 loss at Stephenville Aug. 12. They won the opening game 25-12, but dropped the next three 25-15, 25-23 and 25-21.

Leading Granbury were:  
Kills: Sienna Watts 11, Kailynne Sermarini 8  
Aces: Lilyan McCall 2, Allyson McCabe 2  
Digs: McCall 21, Audrey Greinert 13  
Assists: McCabe 25  
Serve returns: McCall 24, Greinert 13

Following this weekend's tournament, Granbury travels to Joshua to face the

Lady Owls and Waxahachie Tuesday, Aug. 20. They will then host their own Granbury Classic Aug. 22-24.

**TOLAR VOLLEYBALL**

The Lady Rattlers opened the season with a 3-0 home loss to North Central Texas Academy on Aug. 13. Tolar standouts were setter Abbie Soileau, freshman Atley Kolb on blocks with several kills and Allyson Dobbs on blocks.

Tolar is in the Brock Tournament this weekend. That is followed by hosting Clifton before getting back into tournament play at Glen Rose Aug. 22-24.

**GRANBURY FOOTBALL**

The Pirates, led by new head coach Bobby Allison, will have one scrimmage at Saginaw Aug. 23 before opening the season. The scrimmage will begin at 5:30 p.m. for freshmen and junior varsity, with varsity taking the field at 7 p.m.

The Pirates open the regular season a week later by hosting Waco High at 7 p.m. Aug. 30.

**TOLAR FOOTBALL**

The Rattlers, with Blake Mouser in his first season leading the program, will

play two scrimmages. They travel to Cisco Aug. 15 and host Jacksboro Aug. 22. Sub-varsity gets going at 5 p.m. and varsity at 6:30 p.m.

The Rattlers open the regular season at Peaster Aug. 30 at 7 p.m.

Tolar has moved up to Class 3A this season.

**GRANBURY TENNIS**

The Pirates/Lady Pirates were off to a 2-3 start as of late last week. They defeated Burleson 14-5 and Decatur 12-7, with losses of 17-2 to Birdville, 16-3 to Peaster and 11-8 to Burleson Centennial.

Granbury has 10 returning varsity players. The team is led by five seniors, Roland Krause, Oakley Boyd, Mandi Labelle, Sullivan Williamson and Jackson Folger.

"This experience has been significant in the success of our matches. We have also had several young additions to the girls' side that have really helped us out as well," head coach Athan Laskaris said. "Many players have been playing quite a bit throughout the summer and in tournaments and it has shown."

"The level of play has been exciting to watch. I know our record doesn't show it yet, but I am extremely proud of this group and how far they

have progressed throughout the summer until now. With all these matches we are getting, and against good competition, we really look forward to our district matches."

Laskaris especially noted the impact of his seniors.

"They have been essential in the growth of this program. They encourage and teach the younger players about the game, and we have seen so much improvement over the summer and now leading into fall," he said.

The team also has a new assistant coach, Steven Weeks.

"He has been a great addition to the program, already making a positive impact on the student athletes," Laskaris said.

**JUNIOR GOLF**

Lainey Barnett of Lipan had a pair of strong showings recently on the North Texas PGA Junior Golf Medalist Tour. Competing in the Girls 13-14 division, she finished second in two tournaments.

At Indian Creek in Carrollton, she had a round of 89 over 18 holes. That was followed by a round of 92 at the Irving Golf Club.

Also from Lipan, competing in the Boys 13-14 category,

Jack Smith tied for fourth in Irving. He posted a score of 81 over 18 holes.

On the Prep Tour, Josiah Torres of Lipan tied for ninth in the Boys 9-10 age group. He shot 47 over nine holes at Fort Worth's Texas 9 course.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

The Granbury Pirates competed in their first meet of the season recently at the Birdville Early Bird Invitational 3200. The varsity boys placed fourth with 102 points, while the junior varsity boys were third in their division with 106.

Jaxon Glenn of the Pirates varsity won the overall individual competition, clocking a time of 10 minutes, 12.22 seconds. Aiden Lemens was 16th in 11:00.34 and Jacob Wolfe was 24th in 11:35.85.

James Barber led the Granbury JV runners, placing 16th with a time of 12:22.37.

The Lady Pirates will compete in their first meet of the season when they travel to a meet hosted by Byron Nelson High School in Trophy Club today, Aug. 17. That same day, the Pirates will compete in the Waxahachie Woodhouse at Maypearl.

Lipan travels to Bridgeport Wednesday, Aug. 21. Tolar will open the season Aug. 28 at Keene.



# NCTA VOLLEYBALL

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The NCTA Lady Pioneers Volleyball Team took on the Tolar Lady Rattlers during a preseason game Aug. 13, at Tolar High School. For full gallery go to [hcnews.com](http://hcnews.com).



# TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

## Tarleton Football's Britten listed on 2024 Walter Payton Award Preseason Watch List

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State Football senior running back Kayvon Britten was one of 35 players in NCAA Division I FCS to be named to the Walter Payton Award Preseason Watch List.

Presented annually to the national offensive player of the year in Division I FCS, Britten is one of just two players from the United Athletic Conference to be represented on the list. The UAC Preseason Offensive Player of the Year was named a First Team FCS All-America nominee earlier this week.

Finishing on the UAC First Team All-Conference list last season, Britten completed 2023 as one of the best running backs in the FCS College. The Cincinnati, Ohio, native led the UAC in rushing touchdowns (third in the FCS) and total touchdowns (tied-fifth in FCS). He was second in the conference in total rushing yards (ninth in FCS) along with rushing yards per game (tied-11th FCS) and yards per rush (21st in FCS).

Britten's 1,150 yards in 2023 were the sixth-most rushing yards in a single season in Texan Football history, averaging 6.3 yards per carry off 183 carries. His 16 rushing touchdowns were the third-most in a single season by a Tarleton football player. In addition to averaging 104.6 rushing yards per contest, Britten came up with 106 receiving yards and a touchdown on

11 catches.

Scoring in 10 of Tarleton's 11 games in 2023, Britten was also tabbed to the FCS Football Central All-American Third Team and the Phil Steele FCS All-American Fourth Team last season. The unanimous 2024 Preseason First-Team All-Conference selection by the UAC has over 2,300 career rushing yards and 34 career touchdowns.

In its 38th season and affectionately known as the Heisman of the FCS, the Walter Payton Award is named after legendary running back Walter Payton. Payton, a nine-time Pro Bowl selection for the Chicago Bears, starred at Jackson State en route to a Hall of Fame career in the National Football League. Past recipients of the Walter Payton Award include NFL veterans Steve McNair, Tony Romo, Brian Westbrook, Jimmy Garoppolo, Cooper Kupp and Trey Lance.

The Texans, who are set to compete in their first season as a full-fledged NCAA Division I program in 2024, open the season at Memorial Stadium Saturday, Aug. 24 at 2:30 p.m. against McNeese in front of a nationally televised audience on ESPN2.

Season tickets start at just \$150 and are on sale now by visiting TarletonSports.com/Tickets or by visiting the Tarleton Ticket Office in person located on the west side entrance of Memorial Stadium. Single-game tickets will be available for

purchase the week of each home game on Mondays.

The 2024 Walter Payton Award preseason watch list:

### QUARTERBACKS

Chase Artopoulos, Chattanooga, Sr., 6-2, 208 (Southern Conference)

Luke Bailey, Drake, R-Sr., 6-2, 190 (Pioneer Football League)

Zach Calzada, UIW, Grad, 6-4, 200 (Southland Conference)

Myles Crawley, Grambling State, R-Sr., 6-3, 185 (Southwestern Athletic Conference)

Paxton DeLaurent, Southeast Missouri, Sr., 6-5, 229 (Big South-OVC Football Association)

Cole Gonzales, Western Carolina, Jr., 6-0, 195 (Southern Conference) - 2023 Finalist

Mark Gronowski, South Dakota State, Sr., 6-3, 225 (Missouri Valley Football Conference) - 2023 Recipient

Pierce Holley, Eastern Illinois, Grad, 6-2, 215 (Big South-OVC Football Association)

Tommy Mellott, Montana State, Sr., 6-0, 209 (Big Sky Conference) - 2022 Finalist

Cam Miller, North Dakota State, Sr., 6-1, 213 (Missouri Valley Football Conference) - 2023 Finalist

CJ Montes, Fordham, Jr., 6-2, 205 (Patriot League) - 2023 Finalist

Darius Perrantes, Duquesne, Sr., 6-0, 220 (Northeast Conference) - 2023 Finalist

Connor Watkins,



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Football senior running back Kayvon Britten was one of 35 players in NCAA Division I FCS to be named to the Walter Payton Award Preseason Watch List.

Villanova, Grad, 6-3, 225 (CAA Football)

Jake Willcox, Brown, Fifth Year, 6-2, 195 (Ivy League) - 2023 Finalist

### RUNNING BACKS

Mari Adams, Davidson, Jr., 5-10, 210 (Pioneer Football League)

Kayvon Britten, Tarleton State, Sr., 5-7, 195 (United Athletic Conference)

Jamar Curtis, Lafayette, Jr., 5-8, 164 (Patriot League) - 2023 Finalist

Tyvon Edmonds Jr., Robert Morris, Sr., 5-8, 180 (Northeast Conference)

Jordan Fuller, Holy Cross, Sr., 6-0, 231 (Patriot League)

Jarett Hunter, Howard, Grad., 5-10, 205 (Mid-Eastern Athletic

Conference)

Mason King, Illinois State, Sr., 6-2, 215 (Missouri Valley Football Conference)

Lan Larison, UC Davis, Sr., 6-0, 195 (Big Sky Conference) - 2023 Finalist

ShunDerrick Powell, Central Arkansas, Sr., 5-9, 180 (United Athletic Conference) - 2022 Finalist

Jaylon Spears, Nicholls, Jr., 5-10, 200 (Southland Conference)

Marcus Yarns, Delaware, Grad, 5-11, 183 (CAA Football)

Bronson Yoder, William & Mary, Sr., 5-11, 210 (CAA Football)

Wide Receivers

Junior Bergen, Montana, Sr., 5-11, 180 (Big Sky Conference)

Efton Chism III, Eastern

Washington, Sr., 5-11, 200 (Big Sky Conference)

Nick DeGennaro, Richmond, R-Sr., 6-1, 190 (CAA Football)

Jared Richardson, Penn, Jr., 6-2, 215 (Ivy League)

Donovan Wadley, Merrimack, Jr., 5-9, 180 (FCS Independent)

Javin Whatley, Chattanooga, Jr., 5-10, 170 (Southern Conference)

Offensive Linemen

Zack Gieg, Southeast Missouri, Sr., 6-1, 290 (Big South-OVC Football Association)

Charles Grant, William & Mary, Sr., 6-4, 280 (CAA Football)

Marcus Wehr, Montana State, Sr., 6-4, 292 (Big Sky Conference)

## Tarleton Football ranked 21st in AFCA FCS Coaches' Preseason Poll



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

The AFCA is the third organization to put Tarleton State in a preseason top 25 poll.

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE - Tarleton State Football is once again ranked ahead of the 2024 campaign, with the American Football Coaches Association placing the Texans at No. 21 in its FCS Top 25 Preseason Poll.

The AFCA is the third organization to put Tarleton State in a preseason top 25 poll. The Texans were ranked No. 21 in the Stats Perform FCS Preseason Top 25 poll earlier this month and placed at No. 19 in Craig Haley's 2024 FCS Football Preseason Top 25 Rankings on Opta Analyst back in May.

Tarleton State is one of just two teams in the state of Texas (Incarnate Word, No. 15) to be ranked in the AFCA FCS Top 25 Preseason Poll. The Texans are also just one of two teams from the United Athletic Conference to be ranked in the preseason poll (Central Arkansas, No. 13).

The Texans, who own the best winning percentage in the state among all Texas D1 and D2 programs since 2018,

finished second in the United Athletic Conference in 2023. Head coach Todd Whitten was named UAC Coach of the Year, his fifth career Coach of the Year accolade.

Winning its final four games of the 2023 season, Tarleton State finished with its best record in the NCAA Division I Era at 8-3. After defeating in-state rival Abilene Christian for the first time since 2013 in the season finale, Tarleton State finished with the third-best winning percentage among all reclassifying schools since 2004 at .610. The Texans were also just the fourth reclassifying team in NCAA Division I to post eight or more wins in a single season.

Tarleton State was predicted to finish second in the UAC preseason poll behind Central Arkansas, collecting five preseason All-Conference honors in the process. Senior running back Kayvon Britten was named the UAC Preseason Offensive Player of the Year en route to Preseason All-Conference Offensive Team honors with senior wide receiver

Darius Cooper and senior center Tuli Teuhema. Defensive lineman Brandon Tolvert was named to the Preseason All-Conference Defensive Team and return specialist Deangelo Rosemond received Preseason All-Conference Special Teams accolades.

Britten and Cooper were also named Stats Perform FCS Preseason All-Americans, with Britten also being listed to the Walter Payton Award Preseason Watch List.

The Texans, who are set to compete in their first season as a full-fledged NCAA Division I program in 2024, open the season at Memorial Stadium Saturday, Aug. 24 at 2:30 p.m. against McNeese in front of a nationally televised audience on ESPN2.

Season tickets start at just \$150 and are on sale now by visiting TarletonSports.com/Tickets or by visiting the Tarleton Ticket Office in person located on the west side entrance of Memorial Stadium. Single-game tickets will be available for purchase the week of each home game on Mondays.

## TSU's occupational therapy doctorate program granted candidacy status

### Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University's occupational therapy doctorate program was recently granted candidacy status by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education.

No other occupational therapy programs exist within a 60-mile radius of Stephenville, positioning the new academic offering well to address the needs of the region.

With the decision, Tarleton State's program will be included on ACOTE's list of programs holding candidacy status that are eligible to admit students starting June 2025.

"This is such an exciting time for Tarleton State University and the College of Health Sciences," said Ramona Parker, associate vice president and executive dean for the College of Health Sciences. "I am very pleased with Shannon Levandowski and her team's

outstanding work in helping us reach this significant milestone."

Tarleton State's occupational therapy program now moves to the pre-accreditation review step of the accreditation process.

"We are thrilled to announce that Tarleton State University's OTD program has been granted candidacy status by the ACOTE," said Levandowski, occupational therapy program director. "This milestone marks a significant step forward as we

eagerly anticipate welcoming our first cohort of OTD students in summer 2025 and continue to advance our program's development to deliver exceptional educational experiences in occupational therapy in rural Texas."

Some of the strengths identified included a state and institutional commitment to rural medical programs and communities, a structural design that supports innovative and new programming, and a shared

institutional focus on the success of programs and students.

An \$80 million Health Professions Building is currently under construction and will add 92,000 square feet to meet classroom and laboratory space requirements. The new facility is scheduled to open summer 2025.

Moving forward, the program will also hire clerical and support staff to meet programmatic, administrative, fieldwork and doctoral

capstone requirements, including for any portion offered by distance education.

Students graduating from an ACOTE accredited occupational therapy and occupational therapy assistant educational program are eligible to take the National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy certification exam and apply for licensure in all states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

HOOD OUTDOORS

# Locating striped bass



BY MICHAEL ACOSTA

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. The Granbury resident of 30 years has been fishing all his life and has been a licensed guide since 1998.

Locating striped bass at times can be difficult, other days it is easy. These fish can move constantly, stay in an area for quite a while and sometimes they can be almost impossible to find. Granbury striped bass have been hit-and-miss recently, as I believe a summer slowdown is currently in place due to the heat. Finding these traveling machines will need you to look at the entire condition of the water body, read the weather, understand their habits, consult the moon chart and pay your dues on the water.

One can usually locate landlocked striped bass in the heat of summer by moving down to the main lake and using your sonar to locate fish. Summer fish will most certainly be near cooler water if possible. Also, strippers instinctively will head downstream after their spawning attempt in late spring. There are certain spots they will frequent each year, and if you keep a log, you can develop trends over the years. This doesn't mean they will be there, but it may be a good place to start. Look at the water temperatures. If it is real hot — around 90 degrees F — there will more than likely be a thermocline. Look for fish around the thermocline. Baitfish should be present as well. If the wind has been blowing for a while, the thermocline may change. If rain cools the water off, the fish may move up to feed or may move into the creeks and/or in the river. These fish can move up to 20 miles in a day though historically they move a whole lot less during the summer.

One thing to remember about full-blooded striped bass: really hot water is stressful to these fish. During the summer the fish will lose weight in our Texas waters.

These fish thrive in much cooler water. They will stay in the protection of the thermocline and will not feed as often in the heat of summer. When you do get rain during the summer that cools the lake some, this can really turn the fish on. The hybrid striped bass, on the other hand, is more tolerant of the heat, but most all species can be stressed during a hot summer. Many species, including black bass, will lose weight during these times.

Spring and fall fishing are generally the best fishing times for all species. In spring the fish are feeding up for their spawning efforts and in the fall the fish are feeding for the colder weather to come. Striped bass that move for their attempt at spawning may run upstream or may spawn on wind-blown banks on the main lake. When the water temperature is between 60- and 70-degrees F, the fish are really active, as these are the temperatures they prefer. This is an optimum time to chase these fish. Topwater action is usually at its best early, late and on overcast days. The entire water column top to bottom on many lakes can support fish as sufficient oxygen is generally present at all depths. Different lakes will have different depths where the fish will stay. Look for bait and you will probably find some predators. I have caught fish on the top and at 40 to 50 feet down. The fish may be moving frequently during this period. Log where you catch them. Look for bird action as this will put you on fish quick. Invest in a good sonar locator and learn how to read it and trust what you see.

Winter fishing is a different game for landlocked striped bass. A study done on Lake Whitney many years ago tracked striped bass move-

ments in the winter. Later in the winter season the fish moved farther and farther upstream. Why? I'm not sure anybody knows all the reasons, but the shallower water does heat up more quickly than the main lake. There should also be baitfish present. If the water temperature falls to extremely low temperatures (in the 40s) after a major freeze/cold snap, the fish may move back to deeper water in the main lake where the water temperature will not change as fast as the shallower water in the river.

Catching striped bass in the river during winter is one of the best times in my opinion. This is a great time to catch a big fish.

If you understand the habits of the species and the habits of the baitfish, you will have a great advantage. Consult the moon charts and look for morning and possible evening bites. Pay your dues on the water and you will most certainly be rewarded.

**HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT**

Granbury water temperatures are in the upper eighties to low 90s. Water level is about a foot low. Thermoclines are present and are about 15 to 20 feet down. Striped bass fishing is slow to fair to 10 pounds on live bait fished on the lower ends near underwater points. Sand bass are fair on spinner baits fished from Indian Harbor to Blue Water Shores. Look for fish feeding on the surface on shallow flats. Largemouth bass are slow to fair to 7 pounds on deep diving crankbaits and soft plastics fished near creek entrances and near deeper docks. Look for bass near shaded areas around those docks. Crappie fishing continues to be slow to fair on small jigs and minnows near submerged timber mid-lake. Crappie will be suspended in 10 to 15 feet of water. Catfish are biting on humps and flats on the main lake; however, the best reports are from night fishing near creek entrances.

BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER



## The Bridge Street HISTORY CENTER

Granbury, TX

# History from Larkin to present

BY DAVID CLEVELAND

My great-grandfather, Larkin Cleveland, was born in Fair Play, South Carolina in 1835. He died in 1925 in Acton and is buried in the Acton Cemetery. Larkin married Mary Strublin and she is also buried in the Acton Cemetery.

When they arrived in Texas following the Civil War, they purchased 500 acres of land near Acton. When they passed away the land was divided amongst their five children. Their youngest son, Carlton, was my grandfather, and he received 100 acres. Carlton married Kate Massey, whose family came to Texas from Alabama following the Civil War. My dad, John Cleveland was born in May of 1910. John grew up on the family farm and in 1930 he married my mother, Margaret Lusk. In 1932 my sister, Mildred Deann, was born and 10 years later, in 1942 I was born. My dad purchased the family farm from his parents, and he provided for his family by farming these 100 acres. We all worked in the fields to help with the farming. I was plowing with a team of horses when I was 9 years old. We were not wealthy,

but we had everything we needed. In those days everyone went to Granbury on Saturday afternoons to shop and visit. KCLE radio from Cleburne had a live broadcast from the Palace Theater in Granbury Saturdays from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. It was a country music show, and anyone could perform. People would come from all over to play music, sing songs and listen. At 1:30 p.m. the music was over, everyone left the theater, and at 2 p.m. the afternoon movie started. Most of us kids would go to the show. My mother gave me a dozen eggs that I sold at the feed store for .25 cents. It cost me 9 cents to get into the show and 5 cents for a coke. I went home with money in my pocket. I started to school at Acton School when I was 5 years old. Two schoolteachers taught eight grades. I went to school there until the seventh grade when I transferred to Granbury School. I finished school at Granbury. I attended church at Acton Baptist Church with my family and the church was the center of what social life we had. It was small enough that we knew everyone who attended. We would meet there Sunday afternoons

and us boys would play ball while our dads would play horseshoes, and our moms visited.

Christmastime at the church was always special because we had Santa, food, songs and a good time. The popular event in the summer was the Old Settlers and Soldiers Reunion. In the early days people came to the Reunion Grounds in wagons and camped out for several days. Events included a fiddling contest, singing and dancing. In later years a tabernacle was added, and a carnival came to town. The carnival had all kinds of rides, games and entertainment. Most of the adults went to the tabernacle and listened to the music and singing, and if it was an election year you could listen to campaign speeches. In 1958 W. Lee O'Daniels was running for governor of Texas. He traveled all over the state in a bright red fire truck with a country band. He came to Granbury during the reunion and parked his fire truck next to the tabernacle and made a speech.

Leneta and I were high school sweethearts and were married after gradu-

PLEASE SEE HISTORY | B8

# HCN Junior

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COURTESY PHOTO BY LISSA OLIVER

# Operation School Supplies

The volunteers of Operation School Supplies believe every child deserves a bright beginning. They described this year's Distribution and Community Resource Fair as an incredible community outreach experience. A special thank you goes out to the members of StoneWater Church for hosting and sponsoring such an amazing event. Gratitude was also expressed for the incredible volunteers and community partners who made Distribution Day run so smoothly. There are extra supply kits available, and the remaining kits are being delivered to Granbury ISD campuses for classroom distribution as needed beginning the first day of school. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.



COURTESY PHOTO BY LISSA OLIVER



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

## HISTORY

FROM PAGE B7

ating in 1961. After my wife and I were married, I went to work for the Texas Highway Department as it was called in those days. I operated heavy equipment, and I worked in nine counties in North Central Texas, including Hood County. After working 20 years for

the state, I resigned, and in 1984 I was elected County Commissioner of Precinct 3 in Hood County. In 1996 I worked for a company building subdivisions in Hood and Erath Counties and retired in 2004.

Major Accomplishments:  
Oversaw the maintenance of over 100 miles of Hood County roads  
Served on Hood General Hospital Board

Board member of Palo Pinto Community Service — the board oversaw the Head Start Program. We provided free food for needy people in a 12-county area.

In the early 1990s, I was appointed to the Community Development Program by Governor Ann Richards. We approved grants for small cities to provide water and sewer.

In 1991 I was asked by

the North Texas Council of Governments to oversee providing Hood County with the 911 Emergency System.

In 1994 we opened the Hood County Recycling Center where people could dispose of old oil, tires and batteries.

Play guitar and own a beautiful red and white '57 Chevy and have a dog named Frito!

The accompanying draw-

ing is the Hood County Square as I remember it from the 1950s.

The Lord blessed me in many ways through my years, a loving wife which I could have received, and two children who have given me nothing but joy and pleasure. I now have four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, whom I love very much. I still live on the

family farm with my family and my great-grandchildren are the seventh generation to live on the family farm.

To listen to this oral/video interview for David Cleveland and others, please log in to our website, <https://bshc-granbury.org/> and look under "The Stories" tab.

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## 103 and young as can be

*AVIVA Granbury veteran honored with Corps of Cadets pin on birthday*

BY ASHLEY TERRY  
Staff Writer  
ashley@hcnews.com

**A**t the vibrant age of 103, Fern Nielsen reminds us that life is a grand adventure, filled with laughter, love and a sprinkle of mischief.

The beloved Coast Guard veteran celebrated her remarkable milestone birthday Aug. 6 at AVIVA Granbury. She was surrounded by family, friends and community members who gathered to honor her life and service at AVIVA Granbury.

Born in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Nielsen joined the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, known as the SPARS (Semper Paratus — Always Ready), during World War II, eager to make a difference. Her journey into military life was not without its challenges, but her determination and cheerful disposition helped her navigate the obstacles of boot camp and beyond.

"My parents didn't want me to go into the service, but I survived," she fondly recalled.

The festivities kicked off with heartfelt tributes, including a special honor from the Corps of Cadets from Tarleton State University. Col. Doug Simon led the ceremony, recognizing Nielsen's incredible life story and the sacrifices she made for her country.

"Everyone here has a biography and history," he said. "Her life story is incredible, but when you mix that with the history that she did serve during World War II, the greatest generation, that is even more tremendous. When we recognize Ms. Nielsen, we are grateful for her sacrifice."

Nielsen was then presented with a pin and a plaque that reads, "We pay special tribute to you for your military service to America and for advancing the universal hope of freedom and liberty to all."

Keith, Nielsen's oldest son, also shared cherished memories and reflections on growing up with a mother who was always full of wisdom.

"Mom never lectured my older brother, younger brother and I much, but she did come out with a lot of sayings, kind of instructional things to live your life on," he explained.

Some of those phrases included: "Give people more than they expect and do it cheerfully."

"When you say I love you, mean it."

"Believe in love at first sight."

"Remember that great love and great



AVIVA Granbury resident Fern Nielsen blows out her candles to celebrate her 103rd birthday Aug. 6.

PHOTOS BY ASHLEY INGE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

achievements involve risk."

"When you lose, don't lose the lesson."

"Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values."

"Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll get to enjoy it a second time."

"Learn the rules but break some once and a while."

"Remember that your character is your destiny."

He also shared some insights from a recent conversation with his mother about the current state of the world, touching on serious topics like school shootings and unethical politicians, as well as the impact of technology. Reflecting on their discussion, he noted that she remarked on her life experiences, saying she was born before the advent of television, penicillin, polio vaccines, frozen foods, Xerox machines, contact lenses, frisbees and the birth control pill.

"There weren't things like credit cards, laser beams or ballpoint pens, and a man had not invented panty hose, dishwashers, clothes dryers, electric blankets, air conditioners, and he hadn't walked on the moon yet," Keith said, reading back on what his mother had told him. "Your dad and I got married first and then lived together. Every family had a father and mother, and every kid over 14 had a rifle that his dad taught him how to use and respect. Until I was 25, I called every man older than I am, 'Sir,' and after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with the title 'Sir.'"

During their conversation, Fern also talked about how fast food was what you ate during Lent and how time-sharing meant time the family spent together on the evenings and weekends. The term "making out" also referred to how you did on your school exam.

"Our lives were governed by the Ten Commandments, good judgment and com-



Fern Nielsen was all smiles when she was standing by the Tarleton State University Corps of Cadets Aug. 6, during her 103rd birthday party at AVIVA Granbury.

mon sense," Fern had said, reflecting on the values of her generation. "We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong, and to stand up and take responsibility for your actions. Serving your country was a privilege, and living here is a better privilege."

In a letter she wrote, Fern detailed her reason for joining SPARS and recounted her time in the Coast Guard.

"There were six girls to a room — three bunkbeds and two dressers. During white glove inspection, we had to stagger our drawers," she states in the letter. "One time a girl in our room left a slip strap hanging out and so all six of us had extra duty. Your bed (also) had to be tight so you could bounce a dime on it."

During boot camp where she was stationed in Palm Beach, Florida, Fern explained that the girls had to complete drills, like marching, calisthenics, swimming and attend classes about the Coast Guard.

"Our drill sergeants were men who showed no mercy," she wrote. "Some girls fainted in drill field — hot in September in Florida."

After six weeks of boot camp, the girls were allowed to sign up for a school. As she was fed up with office work, Fern wanted to try something different, so she decided to attend "cooks and bakers school."

"(We) had one free period each day and I chose that time to sing in a choral group," her letter states. "When work duties were given

PLEASE SEE **VETERAN** | C3



COURTESY PHOTO

Checking the oil is an important part of learning how to care for a vehicle.

## Cultivating character in fatherless young men

BY LAUREN DAVIS  
Staff Writer  
lauren@hcnews.com

Freedom Noble, a Granbury resident with a career in technology, has become a pivotal figure in shaping the lives of fatherless young men through his work with Advance Camp.

Since the program's inception in 2019, Noble has poured his heart into mentoring these boys; dedicated to providing the guidance and support they need.

As the volunteer director of biblical curriculum, his commitment is more than professional — it's personal. Noble, a father of three, brings his technical, pastoral and life experience to this role, helping to nurture the next generation of young men.

"I learned about Advance Camp through a friend who mentioned that Chad Wallen, the director of Advance Camp Texas, was looking for mentors for fatherless young men," Noble says. "Given my background as a former pastor and my work with teens, I thought it would be a great

fit." Noble's connection to the cause runs deep. "My mom and I had to leave my biological father because he was abusive," Noble reveals. "Fortunately, my stepfather stepped in and became the father I needed, keeping me from becoming just another statistic. I was one of the lucky ones."

Now, as a mentor, Noble is driven by the opportunity to offer that same guidance and support to young men who lack a father figure in their lives. For him, it's a chance to give back in a profoundly meaningful way.

Advance Camp has enabled Noble to witness remarkable transformations in the lives of the young men involved. "I've seen huge growth over the years," he said, noting how the program has evolved and the profound impact it's had on its participants. His commitment is fueled by a deeply personal connection. "I constantly find myself doing the things my father taught me or just did around me," he shares. "It's powerful to now be able to do that in

some way for young men who don't have that."

Since the start of his involvement in 2019, Noble has witnessed the growth and impact of Advance Camp. "I ran into two of our students recently. Chad was meeting them at Baked, and they're both moving on to great things. One of them, thanks to Advance Camp, was able to connect with a blacksmith and start an apprenticeship," Noble explains.

Advance Camp offers various camps and activities for young men, often without revealing the activities in advance. This approach helps the young men to engage in new experiences without preconceived notions.

"I remember Scott (a pseudonym) at his first camp. He was quiet and timid. But by lunch, he was comfortable in his own skin, thanks to the welcoming environment," Noble recalls. "By the end of the day, he was enjoying himself, building friendships, and finding a safe place."

One of Scott's first experi-

PLEASE SEE **CAMP** | C2

## THE IDLE AMERICAN

## Uncle Mort's 'wackiest' dream ever



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to speak and write. The Idle American, begun in 2003, is Texas' longest-running syndicated column. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Website: www.speakerdoc.com.

It's a line lifted from a short poem written by Robert Gray in 1868: "Ignorance is bliss when it is folly to be wise."

Ever fresh, it is an ongoing ponderance, like whether spearmint gum retains its flavor after overnight repose on the bedpost.

My Uncle Mort — cocksure of much — seems ever ready to provide answers, sometimes before questions are posed. Yes, his has been a blissful life to date ...

When he called the other day, he was wired, eager to tell me about his "wackiest" dream ever.

Many previous dreams were "wacky," but the

"i-e-s-t" added another dimension. He blamed over-eating at dinner, like unto Thanksgiving or Christmas, and he couldn't find an Alka-Seltzer for relief after he'd eaten the whole thing.

His dreams flitted quickly to various topics, including politics, sports and assorted current events ...

To begin, he cited recollection of meetings — including political candidates for both national and state offices — where participants gathered to learn how to enhance their popularity.

They were poring over a handbook entitled Clayton Williams' Guide to Diplomacy and Political

Social Graces.

If you're too young to remember the 1990 Texas gubernatorial race between Clayton Williams and Ann Richards, the victor, the dream sector sentence is wasted on you ...

In another part of his dream, Mort says he eavesdropped on Olympic policy makers, who were convening 100 years up the road.

They were adding new events with abandon.

"There are going to be so many events added, there may be games every four minutes instead of every four years," Mort laughed ...

Still another group was discussing oil's overwhelming role in world affairs.

One observer asserted that one event in biblical history greatly impacting the world occurred by absolute chance. Chance? From the Bible? Huh?

"When Moses descended

Mount Sinai, if he'd turned left instead of right, they'd have the commandments and we'd have the oil." ...

Mort was prepared to "roll on" — speaking at 250 words a minute with gusts to 300 — but when he lingered at a comma, it was my turn to talk.

I wanted to share my "take" on the Olympics, and I made it clear that I was NOT dreaming.

My observations concerned the Olympics' newspaper coverage. Further, I wanted to shed light on a football great who finally has a full-blown biography about his life. It was written by the most versatile journalist/author/playwright/speaker I have ever known ...

The Dallas Morning News' Kevin Sherrington — arguably the best sportswriter since the late Blackie Sherrod — provided grand coverage that even nonfans of

Olympics enjoyed, often earning smiles.

For example, when he wrote of the ever-modest Scottie Scheffler's response upon winning the gold in golf, he said the champion was "as demonstrative as a basset hound."

It was a classic piece, worthy of its front-page placement ...

Dave Lieber is "Mr. Versatility" of earlier reference. He has been a national award-winning columnist for more than 30 years, first for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and then for the Dallas Morning News, which features his "watchdog" column twice weekly.

He has written two hit shows, including Amon: The Ultimate Texan, and his newest of 10 books is a must-read for sports lovers. This is particularly true for folks who recall Southern Methodist University's foot-

ball glory days AND the Dallas Cowboys' inglorious beginnings.

"Dandy Don" Meredith, despite having polio as a child, went on to star in high school and at SMU. With the Dallas Cowboys, he survived feuds with the late Tom Landry, employing folly along the way, on and off the field ...

After football, Meredith was an immediate delight on ABC's Monday Night Football telecasts, bantering with the incomparable Howard Cozell.

A reader asked Lieber why no book had been written about Meredith. He couldn't believe it either, so he wrote one.

It's great, and now available at DonMeredithBook.com, this first-ever full-length biography about Jeff and Hazel's baby boy from Mount Vernon. ...

## Granbury resident celebrates five generations



COURTESY PHOTO

Longtime Granbury resident Joyce Goldston celebrated five generations in her family with a photo with her daughter, Debra Wilson, grandson Nathan Redden, great-granddaughter Grace Redden and her great-great-grandson Gabriel. A representative for the family said, "A long life filled with the blessings of family is a priceless gift from our Heavenly Father and for that we all give thanks."

CAMP  
FROM PAGE C1

ences was at a cooking camp, where a chef taught the boys how to prepare meals. Initially

nervous, Scott hesitated to engage. But by the end of the lunch break, his confidence had blossomed. "Scott, who was so nervous at first, was just bombing it on the slip-

and-slide," Noble recounts with a smile. The camp had helped him build confidence and form friendships, illustrating the transformative power of the program.

Noble also shared a story of another student who returned home from camp and cooked dinner for his mother. "His mom told us, 'I was so blessed to come home from work and see spaghetti made for us.' These are the moments where we see the young men not only learning skills but also serving their families," he says.

Another young man, Justin (also a pseudonym) had discovered a passion for blacksmithing through Advance Camp, which led to an apprenticeship — an opportunity he never imagined before joining the program. This story, among many others, underscores the life-changing potential of Advance Camp, a program that continues to grow and thrive under the guidance of mentors like Noble.

Advance Camp's approach of keeping each camp's activities a surprise for the participants adds an element of excitement and ensures the young men are constantly

challenged. "We keep the details of each camp a surprise, so they can't opt out of something that might push them out of their comfort zones," explains Noble.

This method has led to remarkable experiences, like the student who discovered a passion for blacksmithing — a career path he might never have considered otherwise.

But the program is about much more than just fun and surprises. Noble emphasizes that Advance Camp is designed to teach valuable life skills and provide meaningful mentorship. "We see these boys serving their moms, getting plugged into careers they wouldn't have had exposure to, and navigating hard issues with their families," he says.

The mentorship provided by Noble and others has had a lasting impact on the participants. "These young men are navigating incredibly tough issues, sometimes more difficult than what I faced at their age," Noble shares. "But they have a solid understanding of their faith and a good head on their shoulders. They know they can reach out to us for guidance and wisdom, which

is just awesome to see."

Advance Camp has a strong network of volunteers and mentors who are dedicated to guiding the young men. "We rely on word of mouth to spread the message about our camp. I used to put up flyers at the Starbucks in Granbury, and one lady, who was an hour away, wanted to bring her grandsons to camp. It's a testament to the need for programs like ours," Noble explains.

The program has expanded from Granbury to four other states, providing a safe and supportive environment for young men to learn and grow. "One of the challenges we face is finding mentors who are committed and can consistently be there for the young men."

"We ask for a one-year commitment to ensure stability and continuity in the young men's lives," Noble says. "The most impactful mentors are often those who are a bit older, maybe empty nesters, who have the energy and desire to make a difference."

Advance Camp is always looking for new mentors who are men of faith and good

character. "We have a thorough application process that includes background checks and character references. We want to ensure that our mentors can provide the guidance and support these young men need," Noble states.

The camp aims to address the identity and family-based problems many young men face. "Our approach has remained the same since the beginning. We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the young men, learning and growing together," Noble explains. "For example, during bike camp, we might talk about how the spokes of a bike tire all come up to true, symbolizing how our lives should center on Jesus."


Noble believes Advance Camp is making a significant impact on the lives of young men and their communities. "Every time I see the problems in our world, I realize it's often an attack on the father of the family. By mentoring these young men, we're combating those issues and providing them with a sense of identity and purpose," he says.

PLEASE SEE CAMP | C7




COURTESY PHOTO

An Advance Camp mentor teaches bike repair to a camp teen.



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## VETERAN

FROM PAGE C1

en, the girls in choir received serving food duty — the other girls scrubbed floors and worked in hot dishwashing machines.”

Fern completed school and then took a test, earning the rating of ship’s cook, third class — equal to a sergeant in the Army.

She then spent six months in Florida, although she recounts it “wasn’t all work.”

“Several times four of us would rent a car and drive to another town,” her letter states. “Before we had liberty, we had to pass personal inspection. We would line up and in those days, stockings had seams. The officer in charge would tell us our port or starboard seam was crooked.”

After Palm Beach, Fern met her future husband, George, in a town called Sandwich, Massachusetts on Cape Cod. “He was from Washington

PLEASE SEE **VETERAN** | C5



**Fern Nielsen was presented with a pin and a certificate by the Tarleton State University Corps of Cadets to honor her service as a Coast Guard veteran.**

ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

# GO PLAY

### 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.

### 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. at 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.granburycivicchorus.org](http://www.granburycivicchorus.org) for schedule and activities. Questions: [granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com](mailto:granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com). Come join us!

**FORWARD TRAINING Center “Cisco”** classes from 6-8:30 p.m. To sign up email [info@forwardtrainingcenter.org](mailto:info@forwardtrainingcenter.org). or call 817-573-6677.

### TUESDAYS

**HEALTHY CONNECTIONS** classes: 8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers (join at [weightwatchers.com](http://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](http://weightwatchers.com)); 6 p.m. Granbury clogger nights (watch or join). 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

**GRANBURY JAM Session** 7:30-10:30 p.m. at Brock’s Food and Drink, 4012 Acton Highway. Bring your instrument or get up and sing. Details: 505-710-5100.

**AMATEUR RADIO** Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed amateur radio operators welcome. 7 p.m., on the 147.240

MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

### WEDNESDAYS

**HAND AND FOOT card game** day. 10 a.m.; Dominoes (Mexican Train) 11 a.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

**HEALTHY CONNECTIONS** classes: 9 a.m. exercise class; 10 a.m. Mahjong; 10 a.m. cards; 11 a.m. dominoes. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

### THURSDAYS

**HEALTHY CONNECTIONS:** 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise; 11 a.m. Tai Chi/Pilates; 5 p.m. yoga (private class, reservation only). 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

**CHESS CLUB**, 6-9 p.m. at YMCA, 1475 James Road. U.S. Chess Affiliate, all ages and skill levels, children 10 and under must be accompanied by adult. Y membership not required. Details: [HoodCountyChess.com](http://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.

### 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 [simaneck1@charter.net](mailto:simaneck1@charter.net).

### 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

### 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.

### THIRD TUESDAYS

**THE PECAN Plantation Genealogy Group** meets at the EMS Training Room, 9518 Monticello Drive behind the fire station. Everyone is welcome. You do not need to be a resident to attend. Tell gate security you are attending the genealogy meeting in the EMS Training Room. Questions? Email [kcall3219@](mailto:kcall3219@)

gmail.com.

### 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](mailto: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](http://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.

### 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.

### SECOND SATURDAYS

**SECOND SATURDAY** Showoff at Fuzzy’s Taco Shop, 115 W. Pearl St. Car show, 8:30-10:30 a.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](mailto:calendar@hcnews.com) and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

# Encouraging Courtney

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Courtney's crew came through in a big way with the strong support of Courtney Current and her family as they navigate her stage IV malignant melanoma. Early in her melanoma journey, Courtney found solace in the song "Hummingbird" by Shane Smith and the Saints. This song became a source of comfort amidst the challenges of cancer. The hummingbird has since become a symbol of support for Courtney. Courtney has dedicated over 20 years to serving our community's healthcare needs, specializing in end-of-life. On Saturday, Aug. 10, friends, colleagues, and well-wishers gathered at Warren's Backyard to show their unconditional love and unending support, and to enjoy a perfect evening with Courtney and her family.



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# Beginnings

A TRIBUTE TO CHICAGO

SEP 13 THRU SEP 14

PECAN PLANTATION BITS

# Widows and Widowers Club to enjoy excursion to local spot



BY DIANE LONG

A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 30 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother, and former English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 17 years cumulatively. She spends her time both gathering neighborhood news and collecting new books to read. dianelong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

Pecan Plantation's Widows and Widowers Club has an exciting event on the calendar for Saturday, Aug. 24, when the group will visit Sledge Distillery to shop, hear live music and eat good food. The location is a family ranch approximately 10 miles outside Granbury; the group will depart from the Pecan clubhouse at 4 p.m. and arrive back at the same spot at approximately 8 p.m.

The distillery tour will replace the August monthly program at the clubhouse, but Thursday, Sept. 5 will bring the group back to the ballroom when Dewey Powers will lead a pro-

gram about birds and their migration.

All widows and widowers who are Pecan residents are welcome to join the group. For more information on the upcoming gathering specifically or on the club in general, contact Caryl Mahaffey at caryl.mahaffey@charter.net.

**GOOD READ**

The Hood County Bookmobile will be at the PAC from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28. Patrons may both check out and return library materials to the bookmobile. For more information, contact Robin Scanlon at 817-573-3569.

**SENIOR SPOTLIGHT**

With a new school year beginning, Pecan would like to recognize the class of 2025. Residents with seniors in their home may contact the Pecan Plantation communications department as it is compiling a list for recognizing outstanding youth for their important accomplishments.

To have a Pecan senior recognized in upcoming eBlasts, please send a photo and information about them, including the name of their high school, family members who live in Pecan, and specific honors earned to jay.arlington@ppoaweb.com.

**PROGRESS AHEAD**

Road construction and a paving project began last week on Bellechase Road running from its intersection with Bontura Road to its intersection with Woodlawn Drive. Work hours run from

7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday. Tuesday trash pickup will not be affected. Pecan's operations manager Daniel Van Patten asks homeowners scheduling roof replacement to take note of the work schedule as roofing crews will not have property access while road work is happening.

This first phase of the project will take two to three weeks (weather permitting), followed by work on Woodlawn Drive which will also take two to three weeks. The final portion of this initial plan will involve completely rebuilding Wedgefield Road and extending the member lane at the back gate, which will be a four-to-six-week process.

Van Patten reminds residents not to drive through powdered cement, and says there will always be one lane of traffic open in construction areas, although delays and limited access to drive-

ways will exist. Once the roads are stabilized, chip seal will be applied, though that layer is not the final road surface.

In addition, resurfacing of the front gate entrance is scheduled for the nights of Wednesday, Aug. 28 and Thursday, Aug. 29, again weather permitting, and a full closure of the gate will happen from approximately sunset to sunrise on those dates. More details will be forthcoming as work progresses. Members will want to check email for updates. "Thank you for your patience through this process," Van Patten says. "We will be working hard to make sure these projects impact you as little as possible." Questions regarding the roadwork happenings may be directed to 817-573-0594.

**PARTY TIME**

Pecaners will mark the end of summer with a Labor Day

Street Dance Saturday, Aug. 31 and a pool party Monday, Sept. 2.

**WOMAN'S CLUB**

The final summer Chit Chat for the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club happened last week, which means the ladies are looking forward to the first meeting of a new club year Thursday, Sept. 19. The PPWC is open to all female residents of Pecan, and both joining the group as well as membership renewal are possible by visiting www.myppecan.com.

**SYMPATHY**

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Marilyn Jones, who passed away Aug. 8. Marilyn served our community in numerous ways, specifically through the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club, and she will definitely be missed by family, friends, and neighbors.

**VETERAN**

FROM PAGE C1

State, and I was from Pennsylvania," she told the Hood County News last year. "How we met was we were on the beach, and I lost my identification bracelet."

Keith had explained that one of her friends shouted out that "whoever finds her bracelet, Fern will go out on a date with you," — which inspired George to make a show.

"He made it look good," she previously said. "He kept diving in after it and he said he found it the first time he dove in, but he made it look good."

Fern explained that after her first date with George, she told her best girlfriend, "That's the first boy I ever went out with that I could talk to like another girl."

"I told him that later on, and he said, 'I don't know if that's a compliment or not,'" she said, chuckling.

Throughout her life, Fern has enjoyed a rich tapestry of experiences, from her days in the Coast Guard to raising three children — Larry, Keith and Jeff — and cherishing time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

According to Keith, she always used to tell her children "You learn from yesterday. You live for today. You look to tomorrow. And then you always take a nap and rest this afternoon."

But Fern didn't always practice what she preached.

"She'll try anything," Colleen Nielsen, Fern's daughter-in-law previously told the HCN. "I remember one time going to a winery and all of sudden I turn

around and she was in there doing the stomping of the grapes kind of like Lucy did on 'I Love Lucy,' so she'll try anything for fun."

Fern's adventures have taken her from Pennsylvania to various states before she finally settled in AVIVA Granbury.

As her birthday celebration continued and Fern enjoyed a slow dance, it became evident that her zest for life and unwavering spirit had inspired everyone around her. With a heart brimming with memories and a beaming smile, she demonstrates that age is just a number — and her journey is far from over.

"This is something I will always remember," she said, reflecting on her birthday celebration. "I never expected anything like this. I know I came to the right place."



ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

At 103, Fern Nielsen still knows how to dance the afternoon away.

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Isaiah 41:13

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Proverbs 3:5-6

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

Psalms 94:18-19

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

Isaiah 41:10

# DEVOTIONAL

A guide to Granbury-area churches.

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 1 John 4:12

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Romans 8:28

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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

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BOOK REVIEW

# They say that you can never go back home again

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Oh, sure, you can physically be there a few times. You can stay overnight, sleep in your old bed, eat at the same table, but something will've changed. Home isn't home anymore, it's different. Whether it's a week or 10 years, you can never go home again — especially if, as in the new novel, 'Angel of Vengeance' by Preston and Child, home is nearly 150 years away.

Diogenes Pendergast had a hunch that Gaspard Ferenc was nothing but a small-time crook.

He'd followed Ferenc through the time portal to see what the man was up to and yes, it was some "get-rich-quick scheme" to take back to the 21st century. Diogenes knew that it wouldn't work, though, especially since the portal had disappeared.

When he spotted his great-granduncle, Enoch Leng, with Ferenc, Diogenes knew there'd be trouble. Leng must've known that Diogenes' brother, FBI agent Aloysius Pendergast, was there in 1880, as was Aloysius' partner, who'd come through the portal before Fere. Pendergast's ward, Constance Greene, had traveled back some time even before that.

They'd come to this time

and place to save a 9-year-old girl named Binky, who was actually Constance as a child. In later years, Constance had worked for Leng in his search for an extension of human life and at that time, she'd come to possess the Arcanum, a notebook with information Leng needed to "cleanse" the world. In his experiments on women he'd snatched, he'd murdered Constance's sister, Mary, and endangered her brother, Joe.

Constance planned on killing the monster who'd killed her sister.

But in addition to having a hold on most of New York's riverside area, Leng had one advantage: he knew about the portal, and he knew his plans to create a perfect world would be accelerated in the 21st century.

He only had to figure out when to get there ...

Though it's a fact that you could read 'Angel of Vengeance' by itself — don't. The truth is that you will be much, much happier if you go back to catch a few of the other Pendergast novels. This one relies on former books to fill in the blanks that you'll undoubtedly have.

Should you decide to begin the series with this latest installment from authors Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child, though, there are

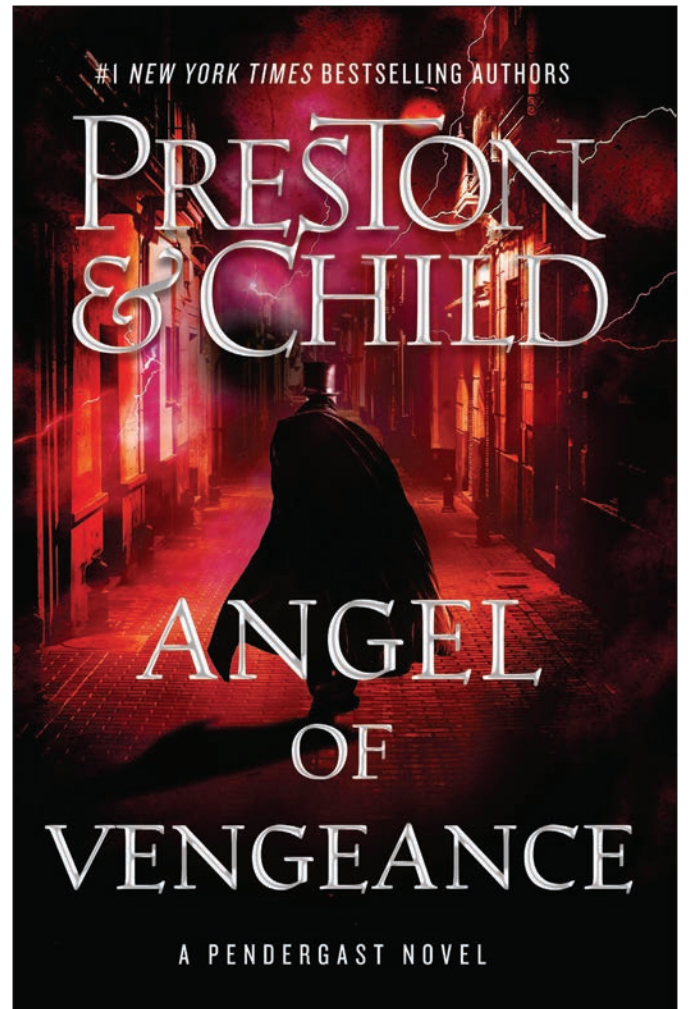


COURTESY OF DEBORAH FEINGOLD

FROM LEFT: Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child.

things you'll need to know. The characters are crisp and perfectly wrought, placed inside a lot of cringeworthy violence, alongside a vile but brilliant madman who, in a time warp-twisty way, per-

sonifies every despot who comes after him since 1880. Beyond that, overall, the story is dark and dank, a little steampunkish, as if someone painted a portrait of a New York City circa 1881, and



COURTESY PHOTO

'Angel of Vengeance' by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child, c.2024, Grand Central, \$30, 352 pages

then wiped it with watery grime.

Fans of Preston and Child will rejoice that 'Angel of Vengeance' is here, and that

it leaves a few untied ends to tease you. Newbies to these authors will love this book — but go back a few in the series first.

## CAMP FROM PAGE C2

For those considering becoming a mentor, Noble asks, "Can you commit to one Saturday a month for a year? Can you visualize the impact that can make in someone's

life? If you can, and you're a man of good repute who loves the Lord, we would love to have you join us."

Mothers are asked to drop off their young men at a central meeting point in the morning for each Advance Camp. From there, the boys are transported to the camp's

location for the day. To ensure everyone's safety, the specific camp locations are communicated only between the camp organizers and the mothers.

Donations are also a crucial part of supporting Advance Camp's mission. "It takes roughly \$40 to \$50 per student per camp. Anything the

Lord puts on people's hearts to give can bless a young man and potentially change his life," Noble says.

Advance Camp started in Granbury, but its roots go back to Oregon, where a similar program existed. "Chad, our director, began volunteering at a single mom's program

in Oregon. When he moved to Texas, he felt called to replicate that program here. Even after the original program in Oregon ended, Chad continued the mission," Noble explains.

By focusing on the young men of today, Advance Camp aims to create the leaders of

tomorrow. "Being a mentor with Advance Camp gives me a sense of assurance and hope for a brighter future," Noble concludes. "We're stopping what the devil would use for evil and helping these young men find their true identity and purpose."

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