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## Second Annual Cowboy Symposium



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Warren's Backyard hosted the 2nd Annual Cowboy Symposium Sept. 27-28, featuring live music, a chuckwagon cook-off, and dancing. The event was filled with fun and excitement, with all proceeds benefiting the Granbury High School barbecue team. Photos are from the festivities Saturday, Sept. 28, at Warren's Backyard. See more, page A6.

### County's Master Thoroughfare Plan shows promising results

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

With multiple roadway enhancements in the pipeline, Hood County's Master Thoroughfare Plan has recently revealed promising traffic modeling results — hinting that smoother mobility and decreased congestion are on the

horizon The Master Thoroughfare - also called MTP Plan long-range plan that serves to guide the location, size, and timing of roadway improvements needed to support a city's growth. During a special meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court Oct. 7, Ryan Jones, team leader at Teague Nall & Perkins, Inc., explained that the county's current plan dates back to 2000. He also emphasized that the major focus of a MTP is on arterials and highways rather than on local or residential roads. "(An MTP) is important because it ensures mobility safety, it allows the county to preserve right away for future corridor needs, it reduces emissions, improves air quality, and it also allows the county to plan financially for improvements that will be needed in the next 20-30 years," Jones explained. He noted that the initial effort to update the plan included





Assistant Fire Chief Billy Wimberly expressed concerns about financial discrepancies negatively impacting the VFD in Pecan Plantation at the PPOA board meeting Thursday, Sept. 26.

## Pecan Plantation VFD and EMS at odds over finances

**BY LAUREN DAVIS** Staff Writer Lauren@hcnews.com

 $\label{eq:pecan} \mbox{PECAN PLANTATION} - \mbox{Tensions sur-}$ rounding the future of the Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Medical Services were palpable during a recent board meeting, as community members and fire department leaders expressed their concerns over leadership and operational issues Thursday evening Sept. 26.

Chief Mike Barrett announced that the fire department's members have decided to resign Oct. 1 after struggling to work with a newly formed board that has been in place for less than six weeks. He highlighted that this marks the third board change within a year and voiced frustrations regarding the lack of respect from the Fire/EMS Inc. board toward volunteer fire services.

Barrett emphasized the need for proper accountability concerning the approximately \$840,000 received annually (70,000 per month) from Pecan Plantation Owners Association (PPOA) members' funding, which he argued is mismanaged by the Fire EMS Inc. board, particularly impacting the fire department's resources. Barrett read a resignation statement expressing regret over the decision but stated that he would not be resigning at that time. He reiterated the importance of addressing the equipment and resource needs of the dedicated volunteers who have served the community for many years. In addition to Barrett, Assistant Fire Chief Billy Wimberly raised concerns about an agreement made by the Pecan Plantation Owners Association (PPOA) regarding fire department coverage. Wimberly stated that the fire department had neither agreed to nor signed the agreement, which was executed by an unverified entity. He criticized the PPOA for the rapid turnover in its boards and highlighted that previous boards resigned due to pressures that rendered their roles ineffective. Wimberly pointed out discrepancies in financial allocations, noting that only about 3% of membership contributions reportedly go to the fire department, with an ongoing audit expected to clarify these funds. Pecan Plantation resident Jennifer Lancaster expressed her concerns about the turmoil within the fire department and its leadership. Initially supportive of Chief Mike Barrett, she voiced confusion over how he became chief, noting his claim of being appointed by his volunteers. She pointed out long-standing issues with funding and procedures, common in organizations like the PPOA. As she discussed how Barrett's dissatisfaction with existing leadership led to the resignations of two boards - one under pressure and another of experienced members facing unreasonable demands — her comments were met with hostile, vocal opposition. Despite the interruptions, she continued to criticize the current board's efforts to accommodate Barrett, highlighting his focus on a nominating committee instead of prioritizing community safety. She warned that Barrett's

during a special Hood County Commissioners Court meeting Oct. 7. looking at the projected growth for Hood County. Although the data from 2020 is slightly outdated, Jones explained that the county is forecasted to grow by 60% in the next 45 years. He added that a recent public survey from the city of Granbury's Comprehensive Plan also highlighted that traffic and pedestrian circulation was identified as the "most important issue

facing Granbury." Through a partnership with North Central Texas Council of Governments, TNP was able to gain access to a comprehensive regional model that supports entities like Hood County in assessing their growth forecasts. The project is also bolstered by a steering committee comprised of local government officials, educational representatives, and municipal staff — all working alongside TNP and Texas Department of Transportation to ensure that the proposed improvements align with public feedback and

Ryan Jones, team leader at Teague Nall & Perkins, Inc., discusses Hood County's Master Thoroughfare Plan

real-world experiences.

**ASHLEY TERRY** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

"The public is very important in this process," Jones said. "We want all of your feedback to make sure that the improvements that we're recommending, the alternatives that we're recommending, are really meeting your needs. You're the ones that drive the roads on a daily basis so you're the ones that we really need that feedback from. That's one of the goals tonight.

PLEASE SEE MTP | A7

### Pantries of Plenty: Combating hunger one bin at a time

#### **BY ASHLEY TERRY**

Staff Writer ashley@hcnews.com

As the air turns crisp and the season of giving approaches, Mission Granbury is providing a way for Hood County residents to turn kindness into nourishment — just in time for the holidays.

Through its communitywide annual food drive called Pantries of Plenty – POP for short — Mission Granbury aims to fill pantry shelves to ensure that every family can celebrate with a full table this year.

Starting next week, Mission

Granbury volunteers will deliver cans on them." specially labeled bins to specific businesses and organizations, providing a convenient way for both employees and customers to contribute nonperishable food and hygiene items to the drive.

"We deliver totes to all the schools and businesses that want to participate, like doctor's offices," said Andi Luna, Mission Granbury's emergency assistance network coordinator. "We also send out flyers with our Amazon QR code, so they can order straight from that because a lot of people walk into (a business) and they don't have

For the next month, residents can visit participating businesses by donating everything from ramen noodles and peanut butter to shampoo and body wash. A full list of the participating businesses will be announced at a later date.

Last year, more than 69,000 pounds of food and hygiene items were collected for the pantry.

While that figure may seem impressive, Luna noted that last year's donations only sustained the community for six months, as the ongoing need for support remains significant due to rising costs and food insecurity.

"It helps to supplement, and then when we get monetary donations, that helps us buy also," she explained. "There's many ways people can donate, but because the need is growing and the cost of groceries is up 28% since 2020, people are scrambling trying to feed their families."

Luna explained that many families are now living together to share expenses. With daycare costs reaching as high as \$900 a week for infants, she noted that many people are also juggling

PLEASE SEE PANTRIES | A11

PLEASE SEE VFD | A4



#### 138TH YEAR, NO. 40

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 40 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 40 pages

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## **COMMUNITY BUSINESS**

## CHAMBER NEWS Engage with Democracy: Granbury Chamber of Commerce hosts candidate forum for the Granbury ISD Board of Trustees election

By the Granbury Chamber of Commerce

To promote civic engagement and informed voting, the Granbury Chamber of Commerce is set to host a Candidate Forum on Monday, Oct. 7 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. This event holds particular significance as it serves as a crucial platform for voters to interact with candidates vying for positions in the upcoming Election Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Candidates running for the positions of Granbury ISD Board of Trustees Place 3 are (in ballot order) Tim Bolton and Bret Deason. Candidates running for the positions of Granbury ISD Board of Trustees Place 4, are (in ballot order) Courtney Gore, incumbent, and Jaci Lopez. These roles are vital in shaping the educational policies and governance that affect Granbury's schools, families, and future workforce.

The Chamber's candidate forum offers an invaluable opportunity for businesses and residents to engage with the candidates, learn



about their platforms, and understand their vision for the district. Attendees will gain insights into the candidates' priorities, proposed policies, and approaches to the key issues facing the school district.

Residents are encouraged to attend and participate in the forum. Questions for the candidates were submitted by the public earlier this week. Our moderator will select and ask the most relevant questions during the forum to ensure a meaningful discussion on the issues that matter most to our community. Dr.



COURTESY GRAPHICS

Eric Morrow, associate professor for government, legal studies and philosophy at Tarleton State University, will serve as moderator for the evening to introduce the candidates, start the dialogue, and keep the discussion moving.

Residents interested in attending the candidate forum can simply show up at the Lake Granbury Conference Center Monday, Oct. 7. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and the forum will start at 6 p.m., and the forum will also be livestreamed on the Chamber's Facebook page.



As the Election Nov. 5 draws near, this forum presents an opportunity for voters to learn more about the candidates running for office to help them make informed decisions when casting their ballots. As a reminder, the last day to register to vote is Monday, Oct. 7 and early voting begins on Monday, Oct. 21 at the Hood County Annex 1, Meeting Room at 1410 W. Pearl St. The last day of early voting in person is Friday, Nov. 1.

For residents who have yet to register, the process is simple and can be done online at www.votetexas. gov/register-to-vote/, by mail, or in person at various governmental offices. It's crucial to register by Oct. 7 to ensure your voice is heard in this important election.

Join your fellow residents at the Candidate Forum and help shape the future of Granbury ISD by making an informed choice at the polls. Your participation matters!

#### BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**RIBBON CUTTINGS** 



817 Print Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening.

COURTESY PHOTOS



COURTESY GRAPHIC

Board Member Spotlight: Matt Bufkin. We are so thankful for our Board Member Matt Bufkin with FNB. Matt has been on the Granbury Chamber Board for 5 years! When asked why he likes being a Board Member, he replied "I've really enjoyed getting to know so many new people who are passionate about their businesses and Hood County as a whole. I've learned a lot about other businesses in our community and how interconnected various businesses and entities are." Fun Fact about Matt: "I've lived in Granbury nearly my whole life and attended all Granbury schools." Thank you for serving on the Granbury Chamber Board!

#### NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



New Member Spotlight: Punch Bright Custom Design. We are a small family business passionate about creating high quality customized apparel. We believe that design has the power to connect, to stir emotions, and to leave a mark on people's lives. Customization is at the core of what we do. We've seen how a personalized design can turn a simple shirt into a cherished memento, a symbol of unity for a team or a reminder of a special day. Let us create your next favorite shirt! Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

Mysterious Scoundrels 5th Anniversary.



Anchor Fellowship Church Office Grand Opening.



Camp Fire Camp El Tesoro 90th year anniversary.



## FROM MY FRONT PORCH You can never wade into the same stream twice



#### **BY SAM HOUSTON**

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

Something I rarely do is take time off from work. The past few weeks I could tell my tank was running out of gas, and I decided to "disappear" for about three days. Nothing was wrong; I simply needed some alone time where I could think through some issues which had been weighing on me and set some goals for the next six months. I needed a change of scenery and an opportunity to recharge my batteries.

The first question was where I wanted to go. This was not a "get on the plane and go to Vegas" kind of trip. I wasn't seeking time to go have fun or blow a bunch of money at the dice tables. I contemplated all sorts of destinations including traveling to where I grew up, but it was simply too far away. I did not want to be sitting in the car for 10 hours a day for two of the three days. Such a long trip would sort of defeat the whole purpose of





Paul and Barbara Loyd

MART VINSON (1100D C

trying to refresh.

After careful consideration, I chose to go to Oklahoma City. It was the first place I lived when I graduated college and where I moved into my first apartment. It was my home base when I worked in the oilfield during the day and went to post graduate school at night. Once I moved away, I still regularly visited to conduct business. I have fond memories of the time spent in Okla City - it is relatively close by, and it seemed like a good place to go.

My taste buds have a keen memory, and there were restaurants in Oklahoma which I longed to revisit such as Chileno's Mexican, Cattleman's Steakhouse, and JW's Onion Hamburgers. I also wanted to spend some time reminiscing and stopping by some of my old haunts. Not sure anything conjures up memories and emotions like going to see places which were once important to you.

During my drive to get there, I crossed over the Arbuckle Mountains and

revisited the open prairie of the Sooner state. I began reflecting on the first time I drove into Okla City. That would have been 1978, and the oil boom was in full force. The economy was hot, and the city was growing but it was not sure of how it wanted to grow, or in what direction. Good paying jobs were plentiful, and the average working man was doing well. It was a time of prosperity. Over the next 40 years, I was in Oklahoma City at least once a year. On this trip, I came to realize I had not been there but once in the last four years and maybe only twice in six or seven years. Sadly, when I arrived last week, things really seemed to have changed and not for the better.

The clean, cute neighborhood where I rented my first apartment for the enormous price of \$175 a month (fully furnished) did not look the same. It had been surrounded by well-kept workingclass homes. The yards were maintained, the houses were painted, and people waved to one another. Now, there were weeds in the cracks of the sidewalk, the yards were unkept, and the neighborhood seemed to be overtaken by quick loan shops, tattoo parlors, vape shops, and tire repair places.

I did go to some of my old favorite restaurants, and the food was pretty good - maybe not as good as I remembered it - but good. I was sad to see Jimmy's Egg on May Avenue gone. I had eaten a thousand breakfasts there over a lot of years, but now it was knocked down, and the only thing which remained was an empty lot.

I drove down to the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial and remembered how years ago the many times I had been in and out of the Murrah building and the folks lost that fateful day. And, I remembered being at the site two or three days after the bombing to get a "looksee." There were hundreds of people on the sidewalk trying to get a glimpse of the damage, and each time a fireman or policeman walked by and crossed the barrier leaving

the bombing site, people would spontaneously applaud and cheer. I might fault "Okies' for a lot of things, but I will flat out tell you they showed me a lot of class that day.

The trip did not last as long as I planned. I left a day early and headed home. It was good to cross that old Red River and know I was back in God's country. I was back to the place where I had lived the bulk of my life and made my home. When I had left a few days before, I thought I needed a change of scenery to get my thoughts together. What I learned is that memories are precious, but the world never stands still, and things seldom stay the way you remember them. The trip also confirmed there is no place like home.

Thought for the day: Going home is what everybody is trying to do from the day they are born to the day they die.

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

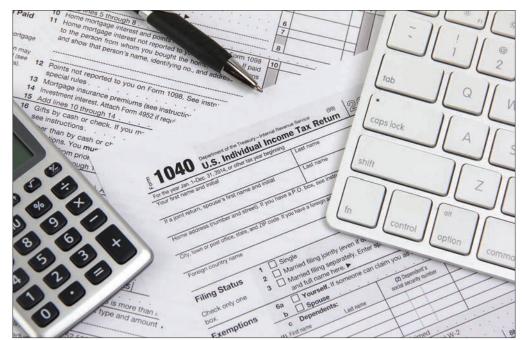
# AARP Tax-Aide program seeks volunteers for upcoming filing season

#### From Staff Reports

Tax filing season may be months away, but the Hood County Tax-Aide program is already seeking volunteers who want to serve their community through the AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program.

Dating back to 1968, Tax-Aide is the nation's largest free, volunteer-based tax assistance and preparation program dedicated to helping older adults with low to moderate incomes secure essential tax refunds. The program also offers support to all taxpayers who require assistance with their tax returns within the program's scope of services.

According to Hood County Site Coordinator Sharay Boynton, Tax-Aide volunteers provide free tax preparation and filing services to taxpayers, as well as provide tech support, help organize, recruit volunteers, translate and more. Volunteers are trained, and classes are generally held in November, December or January for the upcoming tax filing season. The training requirements vary by position, which include roles such as tax preparer, client facilitator and tech support. • Tax preparers assist taxpayers directly in preparing their returns. No prior experience is necessary, as training will be provided. If you enjoy working with your community and have a talent for computers and numbers, this could be the perfect role for you. • Client facilitators ensure that clients have all the required information before meeting with the tax preparer. They also help manage the flow of clients by scheduling



COURTESY PHOTO BY PKSTOCK, ADOBESTOCK.COM

### Say hello to our neighbor, Paul and Barbara Loyd!

In December 2020, Paul and Barbara Loyd relocated from Fredericksburg to a home just outside the city limits of Granbury. Friendly people and the abundance of local activities drew the couple to Hood County, where they found ample opportunities to volunteer within the community. Paul, a retired Oil & Gas Attorney, is a member of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni and earned his Lake Granbury Master Gardener credentials two years ago. Barbara is retired from a career in teaching art and English. Both volunteer for Visit Granbury, with Barbara serving for two years on the Granbury Arts Council. The stylish couple enjoys dressing up in period costumes. They can often be seen around town while participating in volunteer efforts for Visit Granbury's History Ambassadors group, sharing the history of Granbury with visitors and locals. They also constructed an art studio for Barbara last year. Barbara had the opportunity to showcase her art and assist with the children's summer art program through the Lake Granbury Art Association. Barbara was happy to help with the Tour of the Historic Shanley House, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2023. The Loyds appreciate the positive reporting of the Hood County News and the list of activities available for participation in many worthwhile community events.

appointments and sending reminders. If you're organized and enjoy engaging with community members, this position may be ideal for you.

• Tech support oversees the computer equipment used for tax preparation, ensures the security of taxpayer data, and provides technical assistance to volunteers. If you possess these skills and want to contribute to your local community, this role could be a great fit.

"The program is run as a VITA, Voluntary Income Tax Assistance, program of the Internal Revenue Service," Boynton stated. "All volunteers are certified, and training is provided so that the test(s) involved in the certification process can be mastered."

During the tax filing season from February to April, volunteers will assist taxpayers at the local site, located at the Hood County Library, 222 N. Travis St. The site will be open Monday through Thursday from 10:15 a.m.-3 p.m., with additional Saturday hours scheduled as tax season approaches.

Volunteers can expect a time commitment that varies from just a few hours to as many as 40 hours per week during this period.

"Tax-Aide volunteers make a meaningful difference in the lives of vulnerable older adults right in their communities by helping build their financial resilience," an AARP Foundation statement reads. "Even modest refunds can impact the lives of older adults, especially those living with low incomes. Our Tax-Aide volunteers help make sure they don't miss out on the credits and deductions they have earned and need."

For the 2024 tax season, 27,771 volunteers at 3,600 sites helped 1,680,084 taxpayers receive \$1,280,817,176 in refunds. In Hood County alone, local volunteers helped residents and those from nearby counties file a total of 562 returns, generating \$515,105 in refunds and \$194,879 that was owed to the IRS.

Volunteers come from a variety of industries and range in age from retirees to college students. An AARP membership is not required to volunteer.

"All levels and types of experience are welcome," Boynton stated.

To become a volunteer, contact Boynton at 817-578-4374 or sharayboynton@gmail. com. Individuals can also volunteer on the AARP Tax-Aide Volunteer Portal at aarp. org/volunteer/programs/ taxaide/.

For more information on the program itself, visit aarpfoundation.org/taxaide for details.

#### CORRECTION

In the Saturday, Sept. 28 edition of the Hood County News, an article about National Night Out incorrectly identified the month in which this annual event is held. While National Night Out is celebrated the first Tuesday in August in most states, Texas chooses to celebrate the event the first Tuesday in October due to cooler weather. We apologize for any confusion.

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

## Citizens Police Academy Alumni



James Ambrose and Stacy Ferguson, members of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni (CPAA) organization, volunteer to support the Granbury Police Department at public events and behind the scenes.

Stacy Ferguson and James Ambrose, members of the Citizens Police Academy Alumni (CPAA) organization, volunteer to support the Granbury Police Department at public events and behind the scenes.

Ferguson and Ambrose manned the GPD table at The Texas Cowboy Symposium Saturday, Sept. 28. The CPAA, made up of graduates from the free Citizens Police Academy course offered every spring, raises funds for equipment, events, and officer benevolence not covered by the city budget.

They also provide additional manpower for parades and large gatherings, helping to strengthen the bond between the police and the community. All funds raised by the CPAA,

a 501(c)(3) organization, directly benefit the Granbury Police Department.

## Texan's rights to free speech under attack ... again!

Submitted Item

mericans' right to speak their minds is considered sacred, which is why we must fight to protect the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the Texas Citizens Participation Act. Both measures were carefully written with protection of the individual — the "little guy" — in mind. They're designed to give a David a fighting chance if he finds himself in a legal duel with a Goliath.

Unfortunately, the Texas Citizens Participation Act is under attack once again. The Legislature is being lobbied fiercely by well-heeled business interests and law firms who want the law either repealed or gutted. On Wednesday, Oct. 2, the Texas House Committee on Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence will conduct a hearing to consider whether to gut the TCPA or stand up for a good law that's been giving David a fair shot since legislators passed it 13 years ago. It appears that Committee Chairman Jeff Leach, R-Plano, who has taken aim at the TCPA over the last several legislative sessions, wants to make sure Goliath's side gets multiple shots at David. The panel of witnesses Leach invited to testify at his Wednesday hearing includes three witnesses from business and legal interests who have been opposed to the TCPA and one lonely First Amendment attorney.

Ironically, that same First Amendment attorney is also representing Leach in a lawsuit in which Leach is accused of defamation, and Leach has used the TCPA as part of his defense. It seems that even the chair of one of the most powerful committees in the Texas House finds himself feeling like David at times. When they were omitted from Leach's invitation list, at least eight organizations who support the TCPA requested the opportunity to testify. They were all turned down. Among those denied the opportunity to testify are Texas Right to Life, the Young Republicans of Texas. the General Counsel for the Tarrant **County Republican Party** and the Protect Free Speech Coalition. Regardless of his political persuasion, few things are more dangerous to a David than a defamation lawsuit filed against him by an angry Goliath with deep pockets. David may have



TCPA protects Texans from lawsuits designed to chill their First Amendment rights. It makes our court system more efficient. And most importantly, it assures that while free speech may not always be free, it should never be something that the Davids among us – which is most of us – cannot afford.

### CALENDAR

ONGOING FORWARD TRAINING Center "Beginner Typing Skills" class. Call 817-573-

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

**THE GRANBURY** Doll Club is looking for docents and volunteers on Fridays and Saturdays. Call 817-894-5194.

**GRANBURY QUILT** Guild Raffle for "Jane Austin" quilt, 80-inches x 100-inches. Ticket prices are \$1 each or six for \$5 and can be purchased from guild member Gail Olney at 972-876-8304. Drawing Oct. 21, need not be present to win.

FRIDAY, OCT 4 THE FIRST Presbyterian Church of Granbury is having their Fall Rummage Sale at 303 W. Bridge St. from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Clothing for all ages, household items, and holiday decorations. Something for everyone at very low prices. Great treasures and a great time.

**SATURDAY, OCT. 5 THE FIRST** Presbyterian Church of Granbury is having their Fall Rummage Sale at 303 W. Bridge St. from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Clothing for all ages, household items, and holiday decorations. Something for everyone at very low prices. Great treasures and a great time.

#### ROMANCING THE Mon-

arch Festival. Free event, educational and fun activities for all ages. 1:30-4 p.m., 1410 W. Pearl St., Granbury, behind Hood County Annex I in the Lake Granbury Master Gardeners of Hood County Demonstration Garden.

#### SUNDAY, OCT. 6 BRUSHY COMMUNITY

Homecoming at the corner of Farm-to-Market Road 51 South (Paluxy Road) and Brushy Road at 12:30 p.m. Meet, eat and visit with neighbors old and new under the shade trees; bring

the truth, the law and the man upstairs on his side, but Goliath can afford an army of lawyers to fight all the way to the Supreme Court. In the process, he can be bled to death financially from the thousand cuts of discovery and depositions that come with a lawsuit.

If he can get the court to grant a motion to dismiss the suit, David is off the hook. The odds of David winning a motion to dismiss a nuisance suit are higher in an appeals court than they are at the local trial court level, however. Without the current stay in the TCPA, David would have to pay lawyers to appeal his denied motion while simultaneously paying lawyers to handle the discovery and deposition tasks that are necessary before trial. With the TCPA in place, the discovery and depositions come to a halt until the appeals related to the motion are exhausted. This makes it faster and less expensive for David to win, which is why the angry plaintiffs who sue their Davids don't like the law.

Here's a fringe benefit that often goes unmentioned but should not be: The dismissal of a groundless suit not only helps the defendant but removes a case from the perennially overcrowded court docket. That makes it a win not just for David, but for judges and taxpayers.

The bottom line: The TCPA protects Texans from lawsuits designed to chill their First Amendment rights. It makes our court system more efficient. And most importantly, it assures that while free speech may not always be free, it should never be something that the Davids among us – which is most of us – cannot afford.

The Texas House Committee on the Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence would do well to remember that. So would the entire Texas House, the entire Texas Senate and the Governor of Texas.

Signed, Texas Press Association

#### VFD FROM PAGE A1

actions could escalate tensions and ultimately jeopardize the stability of the fire department.

Other community members also voiced their worries. Mark Daniels cited the current situation may pose a significant problem regarding the fire department's influence on the community's Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating, which affects insurance premiums for homeowners. If Pecan Plantation is not adequately supported by emergency fire services, an increase in the ISO rating could lead to higher insurance costs for residents.

Another resident, Julie Gillett, with a background in non-profit management, argued against the proposed split of the organization, emphasizing that such a division would not benefit the community. She called for unity, suggesting that the fire and EMS departments could operate effectively as separate entities within the same organization, reinforcing the need for collaboration over fragmentation.

The meeting highlighted the urgent need for clear communication and cooperation among community leaders, fire department officials, and residents. Chief Barrett declined to comment further to the Hood County News, leaving many questions about the department's future unanswered. lawn chairs and a side dish or dessert. Smoked brisket, chicken and sausage will be provided. For additional info call 817-573-3127 or 281-782-8880.

**BLESSING OF** the Animals will take place at 2 p.m. under the trees at the Episcopal Church of the Good

Shepherd, 4530 Acton Highway. Donations will be accepted for the Hood County Animal Shelter. Questions? Call 817-326-6074.

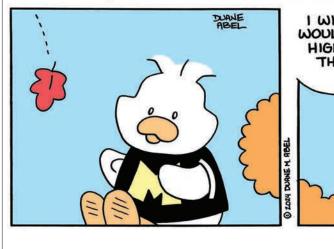
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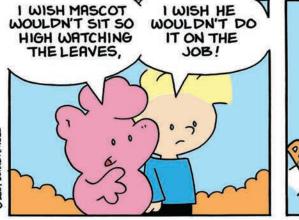
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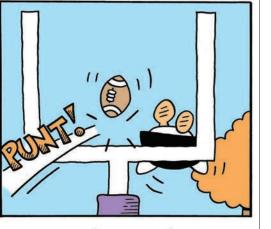
Information should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event for consideration. The Community Calendar is a free listing in the Hood County News to inform readers of programs, special meetings and nonprofit events. The event should be open to the public and free to attend. Email the who, what, 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.



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# COFFEE CHRONICLES: A SIP THROUGH TIME

**BY LAUREN DAVIS** *Staff Writer* lauren@hcnews.com

ake-Up Juice, Java, Liquid Energy, Rocket Fuel, or Morning Jolt are just a few of the endearing nicknames coffee has acquired over the years, but where did this beguiling, bold brew begin?

Coffee comes from the highlands of Ethiopia and Yemen, countries at the southern end of the Red Sea.

According to Mark Pendergrast in "Uncommon Grounds: The History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World," coffee's origins are shrouded in mystery. One popular Ethiopian legend, which originates around 850 AD, features a goatherder named Kaldi.

He discovered coffee when he noticed his goats behaving wildly after eating the leaves and berries of an unfamiliar tree. Intrigued, Kaldi tried the berries and experienced a burst of energy and joy.

Kaldi's newfound excitement led him to share this discovery through poetry and song, embedding coffee into Ethiopian culture.

#### **APPEARANCE**

The coffee plant, mainly Coffea arabica and Coffea canephora (robusta), usually grows between 3 and 10 feet tall but can reach up to 15 feet. Its shiny, dark green leaves are oval-shaped and grow in pairs.

The plant produces small, fragrant white flowers in clusters, which turn into bright red or yellow cherries containing coffee beans. While the coffee plant's appearance may change slightly depending on where it grows, its basic features remain the same.

#### **HOW IT WAS CONSUMED**

Pendergrast explains that early Ethiopians initially chewed coffee beans and leaves, known as "Bunn," but soon developed tastier methods of consuming caffeine.

name of God, notes John McHugo for BBC.com.

According to Pendergrast, it quickly became a daily staple and a valuable trade commodity. It was expensive and associated with elite social circles throughout the Islamic world. This popularity gave rise to kaveh kanes, or coffeehouses - also referred to as "Schools of the Wise" across Persia, Egypt, Turkey, Syria and North Africa, which became lively social hubs.

By the tenth century, coffee was likely already cultivated when Arabian physician Rhazes mentioned coffee in print.

#### **ON TO EUROPE**

Coffee traveled to Europe through two main routes. First, it traveled overland from the Ottoman Empire, which had embraced the drink and set up coffeehouses. Second, coffee was shipped by sea from the port of Mocha in Yemen, a key trading center for the beverage.

The National Coffee Association USA details that European travelers introduced coffee to the continent in the 17th century, where it quickly gained popularity despite some initial suspicion.

Coffeehouses emerged as social hubs across major European cities, with London's establishments dubbed "penny universities" for their low-cost coffee and stimulating conversation.

By the mid-17th century, more than 300 coffeehouses existed in London, leading to the rise of businesses like Lloyd's of London, founded at Edward Lloyd's Coffee House.



COURTESY PHOTO BY SOMCHAI20162516, ADOBESTOCK.COM

civilized world."

customers.

**THE BUNN FAMILY** 

ly shifted American prefer-

ences toward coffee. Thomas

Jefferson famously called cof-

fee "the favorite drink of the

According to historical

information on Bunn.com,

more than 170 years ago,

Jacob Bunn started a gro-

cery store in Springfield,

Illinois, where a young Abe

Lincoln was among the first

This business grew into

Grocery Company, later man-

aged by George R. Bunn, who

created a beverage equipment

Bunn Capitol Wholesale

division in the late 1950s.

In 1963, George R. Bunn

Corporation as a separate

company. He designed his

fluted sides and pour-and-

scene along with Sunbeam

drip coffee brewers.

coffee makers.

**COFFEE GROWERS** 

**AND STATISTICS** 

own versions of paper coffee

filters with a flat bottom and

Mr. Coffee appeared on the

established the Bunn-O-Matic

The coffee plant produces small, fragrant white flowers in clusters, which turn into bright red or yellow cherries containing coffee beans.

ly desired coffee variety. KopiLuwak.com explains that due to its unusual production process, Kopi Luwak remains rare. It boasts a rich, syrupy flavor with notes of caramel and chocolate, described as earthy, musty and exotic.

#### **COFFEE CRITICS**

In an article for the Smithsonian, Kat Eschner chronicles the rise of coffeehouses in central London, which reached 82 by 1663, mainly due to their novelty, as noted by Matthew Green in The Telegraph.

However, this popularity sparked backlash, exemplified by a humorous pamphlet that circulated in 1674, in which women protested against what they called the "newfangled, abominable, heathenish liquor called coffee."

The Women's Petition claimed that coffee drinking had rendered their husbands impotent and "as unfruitful as those deserts whence that unhappy berry is said to be brought." They lamented, "For can any woman of sense or spirit endure ... that when she approaches the nuptial bed, she should only meet a bedful of bones?' Additionally, the petition criticized coffee for making men overly talkative, stating that they would "sup muddy water" and "murmur insignificant notes" until they outtalked the women. NCA cites that coffee critics also included clergy in Venice who labeled it the "bitter in-vention of Satan," prompting Pope Clement VIII to taste it himself and ultimately granting it papal approval.

and used in many different countries, the following is a brief overview of coffee brewing through the years.

The coffee maker incurred many stylistic brewing methods on its way to America. Coffee.org reveals that the Turkish press was popular in 1640, followed by Germany's introduction of the siphon in 1884. Italy introduced its espresso machine in 1884. Although its ori-

gins are disputed, notes HistoryCooperative.org, the early 19th-century prototype of the coffee percolator is credited to the American-British physicist Sir Benjamin Thompson.

Cowboys in the American West deeply appreciated strong coffee, explains Anne Cooper Funderburg In her article on TrueWestMagazine. com. "Cowboys were undoubtedly the most devoted group of coffee drinkers."

Cowboy coffee is a simple method of brewing coffee. It is traditionally made by boiling coarse coffee grounds in water over an open fire, typically in a pot or a kettle. After boiling, the coffee is allowed

Excelsa. Arabica beans make up about 60% of total consumption and are known for their smooth, complex flavors. However, they are challenging to grow and are primarily cultivated in Brazil, Colombia and Ethiopia.

Robusta beans, which are easier and cheaper to produce, can taste more bitter. They are mainly grown in Vietnam and Brazil.

Liberica beans, known for their floral to woody flavor, come from Liberia and are less common. They are primarily found in Southeast Asia, West Africa and the Philippines. Excelsa beans are fruity and tart, with a lower caffeine content.

According to M. Shahbandeh's report published Nov. 23, 2023, for Statista, coffee consumption in the U.S. amounts to over 26.3 million 60-kilogram bags – or about 132.28 pounds per bag — in the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

This is a slight decrease from the total U.S. coffee consumption in the previous fiscal year. The decline in coffee consumption can be linked to economic factors.

Rising costs of living and inflation may lead consumers to cut back on nonessential items, including specialty coffee drinks. Additionally, some consumers may prioritize budget-friendly alternatives. Shahbandeh notes these economic pressures have contributed to the overall decrease in coffee consumption in the U.S.

In the U.S., the love for coffee spans age groups, with 37% of 13-18-year-olds enjoying it, rising to 47% among 18-24-year-olds, 63% for those aged 25 to 39, 64% for 40-59-year-olds, and a notable 72% among those 60 and older, states Coffeenatics. com.

Today, as you savor your cup of joe, reflect on the centuries of tradition and innovation that have shaped your experience.

Each sip delivers a burst of flavor and connects you to

Ethiopians then brewed the leaves and berries into a weak tea, mixed ground beans with animal fat for energy, and fermented the pulp into wine. They also created a sweet drink called "gishr" from roasted coffee husks.

#### **FROM ETHIOPIA TO ARABIA**

Yemen is historically recognized as Arabia's main coffeeexporting center. The name "coffee" derives from the Arabic term "qahwa."

From Ethiopia, coffee spread to Yemen, where it became a significant part of local culture and trade. Dubbed the "Wine of Arabia," monks in Yemen Sufi monasteries in the 15th century used coffee as an aid to concentration and even spiritual intoxication when they chanted the

#### **THE WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE COFFEE**

No discussion of coffee's history is complete without mentioning Kopi Luwak, the world's most expensive coffee at around \$100 per cup.

Britannica.com details the coffee as originating from the Indonesian islands of Java and Sumatra. This unique coffee involves a small civet cat resembling a raccoon — locally known as Luwak, which feeds on ripe coffee cherries.

The process began in the early 18th century during Dutch colonial rule when farmers realized the beans passed through the civet's digestive system and created a distinct flavor.

Initially a way to use the beans left behind, this method evolved into a high-

#### **GROWTH OF THE COFFEE-MAKER**

Though many variations of boiling pots, percolators, pressers, drip, and pressure coffee makers were invented

to settle, and it can be poured directly into a cup, often without any filtering.

According to Coffee.org, Germany invented the first drip coffee maker in 1908. Italy's French press followed in 1929, and the Moka Pot followed in 1933. Germany presented its Chemex in 1941.

#### **COFFEE ARRIVES IN NORTH AMERICA**

In the mid-1600s, coffee was introduced to New Amsterdam, now New York. Although coffeehouses quickly emerged, tea remained the preferred beverage until 1773, when colonists protested a heavy tax on tea imposed by King George III.

The NCA also reports that the protest, known as the Boston Tea Party, significant-

IBISWorld cites the United States as the world's biggest importer of coffee. Although Americans don't drink as much coffee per person as many Europeans, the large population and limited coffee-growing regions - only Hawaii and California — make the U.S. the top importer.

beans account for 99% of all coffee consumed globally, according to Intracen.org. There are four main types of coffee beans: Arabica, Robusta, Liberica, and

a vibrant history that spans continents and cultures, inviting you to contemplate the stories brewed into every cup.



COURTESY GRAPHI





# Delicious Chuckwagon food served at The Texas Cowboy Symposium at Warren's Backyard

#### **BY LAUREN DAVIS** Staff Writer

lauren@hcnews.com

The Texas State Chuckwagon Cook-Off Championship took place at Warren's Backyard Saturday, Sept. 28. Chuckwagon cookoffs have become famous throughout the Southwest, especially in Texas. "We had wagons from Texas, Kansas – all over — come in for this event," organizer Homer Robertson said.

Chuckwagon cooking offers a historically authentic experience unlike typical barbecue or catering. "These cook-offs are two-part events," he explained. "We

judge the wagons for authen- in a Dutch oven, a dish that ticity, ensuring they look like they did in the 1880s, with no plastic, plywood, or stainless steel. It's a living history lesson."

This year's event featured eight wagons and fed hundreds of people. The second part of the competition involved judging five food categories: meat, beans, bread, dessert, and potatoes. All food had to be cooked over wood fires, with nothing prepackaged or frozen.

Robertson explained in a previous interview that the meat is always beef, because chickens were not taken on the trail. The dessert served was a fruit cobbler cooked

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people greatly enjoy.

Participants practice year-round, perfecting their recipes and techniques. The competition also included a youth cook-off on Friday, featuring high school students who assisted in cooking a steak and a dessert.

The goal was to involve the younger generation in this culinary tradition. "This was our second annual Chuckwagon competition. It's the Texas State Chuckwagon Cook-Off Championship," Robertson announced. Awards were given out Saturday night before the dance.



Homer Robertson, Todd Gittings, and Keith Lamont cooking beef tips at the Texas Cowboy Symposium.



Ricky Scott and Larry Grant cook chicken fried steak on Saturday, Sept. 28, at Warren's Backyard.

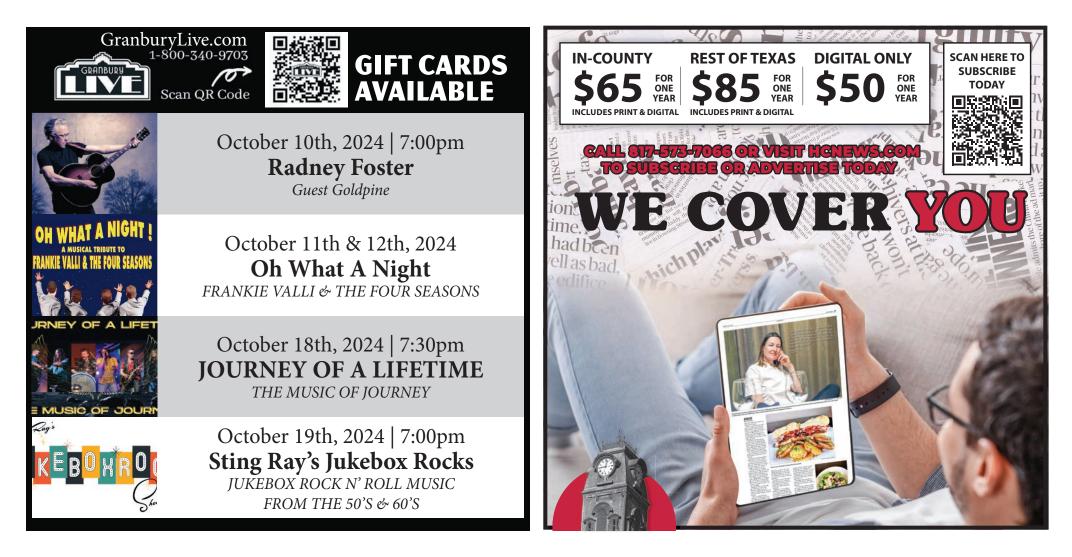


THE RAFTER JB WAGON: John and Becky Conway from Cambridge, Kansas, cook chicken fried steak.

PHOTO BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS



3G Land and Cattle was one of eight historically accurate chuckwagons that were set up during the Second Annual Cowboy Symposium at Warrens Backyard Sept. 27-28.



#### **MTP** FROM PAGE A1

That's why we're having this meeting in the evening is to try to get more involvement from the public."

The study was originally formed in March, which led to a workshop in April and a special Hood County Commissioners Court meeting in May where priority corridors — described as "near-term needs" — were confirmed based on the feedback received from the public.

Jones emphasized that the main objective of the Master Thoroughfare Plan is to alleviate traffic congestion. He noted that he frequently encountered resident concerns about traffic issues on State Highway 144, U.S. Highway 377, FM 167, and State Highway 171 near Cresson.

"The primary goal for this study is to relieve some of that traffic congestion and provide some additional routes that will improve mobility," Jones explained. "One of the things that we've been talking about is moving traffic from coming up 144, and then northeast on 377, and getting people moving south to U.S. 67 and then over to Chisholm Trails — that's just going to be providing some additional mobility and providing additional routes to release some of that congestion that we've been seeing on 377, and some of these north and south routes.'

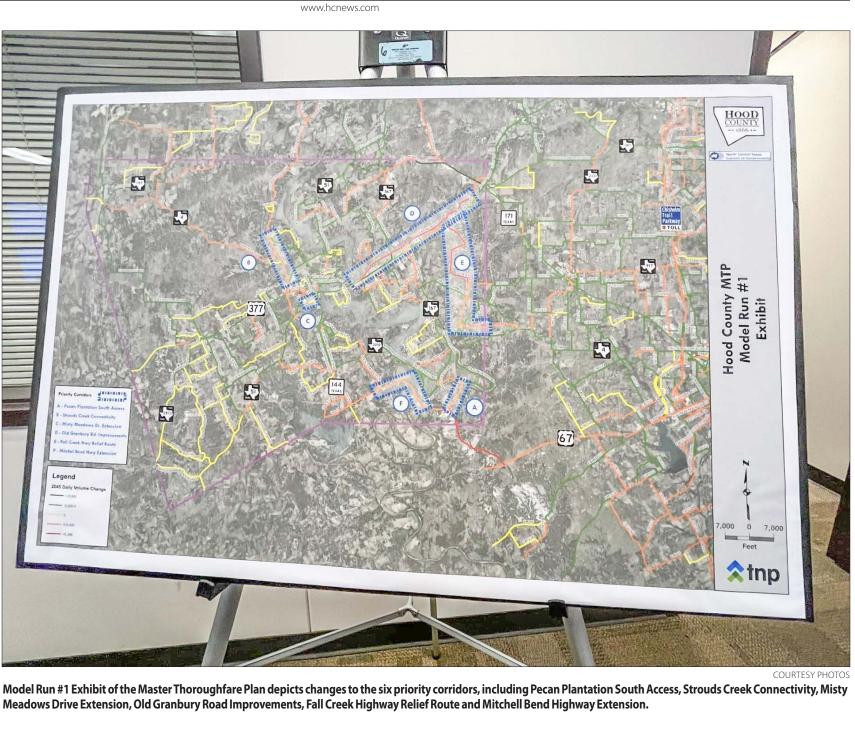
Jones explained that during the first workshop, the team identified 18 distinct issues related to safety and congestion, along with 18 potential solutions. After reviewing the data with NCTCOG, however, they realized that evaluating all 18 alternatives would be overwhelming, so they prioritized them down to six key corridors deemed necessary for immediate attention referred to as the "priority corridors.'

After the six priority corridors were incorporated into the model, NCTCOG analyzed the impact to regional traffic — not only for Hood County, but adjacent counties like Johnson and Parker. The six priority corridors

are listed below:
Pecan Plantation South
Access — will gain new ac-

Strouds Creek
 Connectivity addresses

**Connectivity** — addresses safety concerns for a resi-



Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson asked Jones about the overall objective of the 12-month process, as she emphasized the importance of understanding the ultimate benefits for the county and its residents once the plan is adopted.

Jones explained that the plan will offer multiple benefits, including an updated map outlining the roadway improvements needed for the next 20 to 30 years. He explained that this information will be publicly accessible, allowing current and prospective residents of Hood County to learn about the county's future infrastructure plans. He said the plan will also help preserve the necessary right-of-way for new corridors, as the county can require developers to dedicate land for future road expansions during the development process. "We know the growth is coming, so it's very important to have a plan," Jones said. "We need to be able to anticipate when this infrastructure is needed, so that when the traffic comes, we're ready. We need to be able to preserve the right of way, and then we also need to be able to plan financially for building these new improvements. These roadway improvements are going to be expensive. It's not going to be cheap." Former Precinct 4 Commissioner Steve Berry emphasized the importance of having a mobility plan when seeking funding from entities like TxDOT and state senators, as it can significantly enhance the chances of securing funding. "This is the first step in the long process," Samuelson said. "We have to have this in place to be able to go and ask for the funding, so when you said these roads are really expensive, it's kind of scary to think that that's going to be all on the burden of the Hood County taxpayers. But not necessarily so, because we can get funding from other resources." Samuelson also requested for the previous presentations and minutes from the Master Thoroughfare Plan meetings be set up on the Hood County website for the public to view. Hood County residents who did not attend the meeting are encouraged to email Jones at rjones@tnpinc.com for any questions or concerns regarding the Master Thoroughfare Plan.

dential neighborhood that often becomes isolated during floods.

• Old Granbury Road Improvements — currently two lanes, the road is projected to require expansion to four lanes due to increasing traffic demands.

• Fall Creek Highway Relief Route — identified as a congested north-south route that needs additional connections to accommodate planned development in the area.

• Mitchell Bend Highway Extension — aims to improve access to the southeast part of the county, which is currently somewhat cut off by the lake.

• Misty Meadows Drive Extension — proposed to enhance access for nearby schools by connecting to the loop.

Jones explained that NCTCOG incorporated the six priority corridors into their mobility model by first establishing key parameters such as functional classification, lane configuration, speed limits, and intersection controls. The team then began to evaluate the results to determine whether these priority corridors will positively impact traffic flow and congestion.

He highlighted that one of the key metrics used in evaluating the impact of the new corridors is the level of service, which the NCTCOG model produces. The team examined changes in traffic volume by comparing the base 2045 model with the new corridors incorporated. To visualize this data, they created a color-coded map: green indicates a reduction



The overall layout of the Master Thoroughfare Plan shows updated roadway plans to reduce the traffic congestion in Hood County.

in traffic volume, yellow shows minimal impact, and orange or red signifies an increase.

Jones also added that by digesting the modeling results, they were able to access how the newly proposed corridors are impacting congestion levels on key roadways like State Highway 144, U.S. Highway 377, Fall Creek Highway, and State Highway 171 near Cresson.

"It certainly appears that the proposed improvements, the alternatives that we're looking at as part of the study, are having a positive impact regionally for the county and for your neighbors," Jones said. "What we're seeing so far is positive. We're very encouraged by the results."

Jones noted that all county roads in Hood County are classified with a level of service rating — A, B, or C which indicates their operational performance. He highlighted that the modeling showed encouraging results, with most roadways scoring well below a congestion threshold of 1.4.

"Anything that's 1.4 or over is an F, but everything in Hood County was less than a 1.4," Jones explained. "In fact, most of the things we were looking at were down closer to a one, so that's a real positive indicator for what we're doing. It reduced traffic congestion on 144, 377, FM 167, and State Highway 171, and it increased mobility to 67 and Chisholm Trail Parkway and the result of all that is increased safety."

He noted that there are some other safety improvements that were discussed in the first workshop, including the "unsafe" railroad crossing in Cresson, the Stroud Creek flooding issue, and the south access to Pecan Plantation. He explained that these types of improvement will be incorporated into the MTP regardless of what the modeling shows.

"These things are kind of just safety concerns, but what I was really encouraged about is some of these new routes that we're showing," Jones said. "Some of the new connections are really having a great positive impact."

In further discussion, Wade Haffey, a senior transportation planner with NCTCOG, added that their modeling focuses primarily on future years, particularly 2045. He expressed surprise at the positive impact of new connections — especially the southern route to U.S. 67, which alleviated traffic on Highway 377. NCTCOG Principal **Transportation Planner** Chris Reed pointed out that the volume difference maps provide important information about the new connections being examined. He mentioned that the area southeast of Pecan Plantation and Old Granbury Road showed higher traffic volumes, indicated by red and orange on the maps, which reflect growth due to the new routes. However, he noted a positive outcome: the north-south traffic on Highway 144, south of downtown Granbury, actually decreased, which was shown in green on the map.

"You're seeing the benefit of reduced congestion on that corridor based on the priority corridors heading out east and west on either side of it," Reed said. "We thought that was a good result."

Jones also emphasized that the red markings on the map do not necessarily indicate negative outcomes, just as green does not automatically signify positive ones.

"It's not necessarily a good or a bad thing," he explained. "In this case, we colored it just to be able to evaluate what was going on, and we were very pleased with the results, because the results show that the changes we're making are having a positive impact."

Following more discussion, Jones then outlined the next steps in the Master Thoroughfare Plan process stating that they will compile feedback from the steering committee, the court, and the public to determine if any revisions or adjustments are needed in their proposals.

He explained that once feedback is incorporated, an updated map and draft report will be prepared. A subsequent workshop or presentation will then be held to share the final recommendations, which will then be brought to the Hood County Commissioners Court for approval.

"The number of workshops that are going to follow will largely be dependent on what kind of feedback we get," he explained. "Right now, we're seeing a lot of positive results from the modeling ... Things are moving in the right direction. We're seeing some good, positive results, and so unless we get some feedback that's going to change that direction, I think we're on track."

Jones also added that the timeline for the project is on track, with the planning process expected to "wrap up" in March of next year.





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(817) 880-9908

On Lake Granbury 2 acres with large oak trees. Approx 3600 sq ft home, 4bd, 3 1/2 ba, 2 car garage plus 2 car covered parking, newly redecorated. Workshop and outside storage next to an approx 2400 sq ft guest house with 1 bd, 2 ba and loft. Dock, sprinkler system, water well services both houses. Gated and fenced. A 1 year social membership to Harbor Lakes Golf Club, initial fee and monthly dues are included. Appraised for \$1,650,000, Offered \$1,550,000. Call 817-480-4472 for an appointmnet.

nientlv located bv downtown. Waher/dryer hook ups, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops. Small pets welcome. 55 and older. \$500 deposit, \$1100 per month. Leasing info call (817)559-9314

#### **Duplexes for Rent**

1530

GARDENS OF DECORDOVA 55+ COMMUNITY! 2 BR/2 BA, Duplex, Welcome to Gardens of DeCordo va, a distinctive community designed for those who appreciate a tranquil lifestyle. Benefit from the carefree living experience with our attentive on-site management and 24/7 emergency maintenance services. We invite you to join us for daily activities in the clubhouse Welcome home to a lifestyle unlike any other. \$1,695/mo (817) 910-1230 communitydirector.gd@chad nic.com





#### Firewood

6570

PREMIUM Split seasoned oak, \$450 cord, \$300 half cord, delivered and stacked. CASH ONLY. 817-243-6827 6620

3BR SINGLE FAMILY HOME GRANBURY 3 BR/3 BA Newer Appliances in Kitchen New Roof!! This is the Perfect AFFORDABLE dream home. Established part of Subdivision on a Quiet cul-de-sac. Beauti ful custom cabinets & granite counter tops with island in Kitchen. Come and see what this home has to offer!! Offered by Elevate Realty Group, Carol Seitz, Agent \$287,000.00 (817) 243-6153 CarolSeitz@Charter.net

1110

#### **Townhomes & Condos**

**3BR TOWNHOUSE - GRANBURY** TX 3 BR/3 BA Price Improvement and a New Roof!! This is a Rare opportunity to own that home on the golf course in Decordova Bend with Creek views. For Sale by Elevate Real Estate Group Carol Seitz Agent, \$275,000.00 (BAC) (817) 243 -6153 CarolSeitz@Charter.net

**Homes for Rent** 

1540

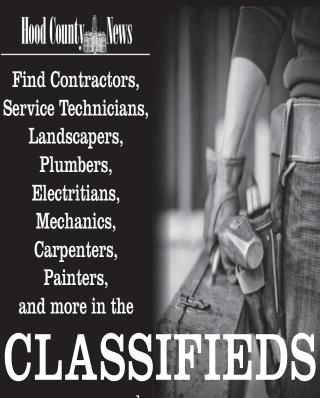
1550

Nice 3-2-1 home. Fenced backyard, D.W-W.D connection. West side of Granbury. \$1400 per month, \$1400 deposit. 817-925-9841

#### **Mobiles for Rent**

2-bedroom, 1-bath, large covered deck, appliances, mowing and trash paid. NO PETS! \$900 plus deposit. 817-613-1465.

MOBILE HOME - CRESSON Recently Updated: Mobile Home 2-1-1 car carport, fenced \$1,000/mo with approved credit plus deposit. Weatherford School Dist. Call or text 817-706-1738



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Clearing/Removal \*Fences

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

5070

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KAREN'S EXPERT CLEANING SER-VICES 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**

ANTIQUE 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

5170

#### Fencing

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

SERVICE FALL SPECIAL 15% OFF \*Remodeling \*Painting \*Tile \*Granite \*Kitchen & Bath \*Decks \*Cement \*Brick \*Rock \*Power Washing \*Sheet Rock Repair \*Seamless Gutters **FREE ESTIMATE** 

**DEVIN'S HANDYMAN** 

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

817-629-9608

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



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

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One Stop Shop A-Z Construction & Painting A+ BBB Member snodgrasspaintingandremodeling. com (817) 578-8387 (817) 271-3324

#### Home Services

5210

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

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#### Miscellaneous

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9031

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### & PETS 8030

Pets



LIVESTOCK

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



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

#### Pets Lost & Found

8040

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

### **EMPLOYMENT**

8510 General

#### **GRANBURY WEDDING VENUE** Wait staff, part time only, mostly evenings and weekends.

214-534-8667

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

Granbury ISD is currently looking for an HVAC Assistant to join our outstanding Maintenance team. Only responsible and qualified candidates need apply. Criminal background checks and fingerprinting will be reguired. Competitive wages and excellent benefits, including health insurance and retirement. Apply online at https://www.granburyisd.org/jobs

#### 9031 **Public Notices**

### Advertisement to Bid

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

Roof Replacement on Granbury Square Plaza RFP No. 23-24-15 until Thursday October 17, 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 "Roof Replacement on Granbury Square Plaza RFP No. 23-24-15"

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/Pur chasing starting Monday, September 30,2024 at 2pm. Specific information regarding this bid shall be requested Purchasing Manager at from 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.

#### NOTICE PURSUANT TO TEXAS NAT-URAL RESOURCES CODE, TITLE 3, SUBTITLE B, §91.116 FOR COMMER-CIAL SURFACE DISPOSAL FACILITIES Application was filed on August 6, 2024. Location is located at 7600 E Hwy 377, Granbury, Hood County, Texas, in the J Howard Survey, Abstract 716. Nearest municipality is Cresson. The owner of the site is Screaming Eagle Energy Service, LLC. The applicant is Screaming Eagle Energy Service, LLC. The type of fluid or waste to be disposed of at the facility is salt water. Injection disposal method. Affected persons may protest this application. Protests must be in writing and must be received by the 15th day after the last date of publication of this notice. The last date of publication of this notice is expected to be October 5, 2024 which means protests should be received by October 21, 2024. Protests must be sent to: Technical Permitting Section, Oil and Gas Division Railroad Commission of Texas, PO Box 12967, Austin, Texas

78711, 512-463-3840. Advertisement to Bid City of Granbury The City of Granbury is accepting sealed competitive unit bids for the

following: Tree Trimming for Electric System and Various City Properties RFP No. 23 -24-16 until Wednesday October 16, 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 "Tree Trimming for Electric System and Various City Properties RFP No. 23 -24-16"

- 401 N. Park Street
- Granbury, TX 76048

available on the City of Granbury web-

9031 **Public Notices** 

Notice of Self Storage Sale Please take notice Lancrow Self Storage located at 1409 N Plaza Dr - 1301 N Plaza Dr / 2721 Fall Creek Hwy 4071 Acton Hwy Granbury TX 76048/ 76049 intends to hold a public sale to the highest bidder of the property stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as online auction an www.storageauctions.com on 10/21/ 2024 at 10:30AM. Unless stated otherwise, the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Chad Wellhausen; Earlina Crook. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

ABC STORAGE, WISHING TO AVAIL THEMSELF OF THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 59 OF THE TEXAS PROPERTY CODE [CHAPTER 576 ACT OF THE 68TH LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION 1983] HEREBY GIVES NOTICE OF SALE UNDER SAID ACT, TO WIT: ONLINE AUCTION AT www.auctionspear.com [J TO P Auctions] AUCTION CLOSING DATE IS 10/20/24.

ABC STORAGE WILL CONDUCT A ON-LINE SALE, IN TOTAL UNIT ONLY, NO CHECKS ACCEPTED!, OF THE CON-TENTS OF:

2100 SOUTH MORGAN STREET

01-11 DAWN GROVES- Crates, totes, suitcases, vacuum, ice chest, misc. 01-21 Wylie McIntosh- Crates, packing blankets, wicker 6 drawer dresser,

telephone table, misc. 01-49 Bonnie Bolding- Toddler bed, television, toys, boxes, KLH speakers, piano, patio furniture, army duffle bag and jacket, misc.

01-89 Laura Hornaday- Side table, fish mounts, outdoor metal art, Texas art, rods & reels, card table, misc.

01-113 Wylie McIntosh- Chairs, boxed sombrero, sewing machine, lamps games, dolls, star wars items, misc. 01-167 Leona Roberts- Chest, baseball cards, rod & reels, buffet, Sunn mixer board SPL-3416, couch, hutch, misc. 01-207 Bonnie Bolding- Guitars- electric & acoustic, archery, AMA speakers, tools, dewalt, metal detector, tool boxes, side table, welding tanks, saws, dining table, chairs, misc.

01-225 Emily Antley- Chairs, pool island canopy, dresser, side table, totes, bar stools, sawhorse, misc.

3606 CONTRARY CREEK ROAD

02-19 Kent Steel- Troy-bilt pressure washer, yard tools, glider, tools, baseballs, painter equipment, blankets, shop vac, sprayer, lanterns, christmas trees, fertilizer spreader, sanding tools, moose light, misc.

02-36 Jennifer McNabb- Fireplace screen, tables, microwave, ladder, chest of drawers, cabinet, desk, armoire, dining table, christmas items, side table, rocking horse, coke bottles, tools, art, bread box, wicker rocking chair, lamps, dishes, glass, tennis racket, gloves, desk, misc.

714 EAST BLUE BONNET DRIVE 04-38 Craig Shewmake- Electrical contents and more, wire-copper & aluminum, ladders, steel conduit, conduit connectors, SMA technology, keg-arator, kegs, DJI drone, cement mixer, Bid packet and documents will be craftsman generator 3500 watt, floor jacks, side mount truck tool boxes,

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY** 



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

#### PERMIT NO. WQ0013809001

APPLICATION. LGRVR Water Supply Corporation, 5711 Coffee Pot Lane, Granbury, Texas 76049, has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to renew Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) Permit No. WQ0013809001 (EPA I.D. No. TX0127426) to authorize the discharge of treated wastewater at a volume not to exceed a daily average flow of 12,000 gallons per day. The domestic wastewater treatment facility is located at 7001 Ranch House Lane, Granbury, in Hood County, Texas 76049. The discharge route is from the plant site to a man-made ditch; thence to an unnamed tributary; thence to Brazos River Below Lake Granbury. TCEQ received this application on February 20, 2024. The permit application will be available for viewing and copying at Hood County Courthouse, 100 East Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas prior to the date this notice is published in the newspaper. This link to an electronic map of the site or facility's general location is provided as a public courtesy and not part of the application or notice. For the exact location, refer to the application.

https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/LocationMapper/?marker=-97.680833,32.388611&level=18

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MAILING LIST. If you submit public comments, a request for a contested case hearing or a reconsideration of the Executive Director's decision, you will be added to the mailing list for this specific application to receive future public notices mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk. In addition, you may request to be placed on: (1) the permanent mailing list for a

Granbury ISD is an Equal Opportunity site https://www.granbury.org/72/Pur Employer

### **NOTICES**

#### 9031 **Public Notices**

#### Advertisement to Bid City of Granbury

The City of Granbury is accepting Statement of Qualifications for Engineering Services Bid No. 23-24-14 until Tuesday October 15, 2024, at 2:00pm CST, at which time they will be opened publicly at 401 N Park St. Granbury, TX 76048. Please electronically submit proposal in .pdf format via

1. Email to crussell@granbury.org 2. OR submit your proposal to the address below on a thumb drive:

City of Granbury Attn: Christy Russell, Purchasing Man-

ager

401 N. Park St., Granbury, Texas 76048. 3. Or https://www.granbury.org/72/Pu rchasing

Bid packet and documents will be available on the City of Granbury website https://www.granbury.org/72/Pur chasing starting Monday, September 30,2024 at 2pm. Specific information regarding this bid shall be requested Purchasing Manager at from 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.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PATRICIA POFF, Deceased, were issued on August 26, 2024, in Cause No. P10472 pending in the County Court of HOOD County, Texas, to: JOHN THOMAS POFF.

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

c/o: Representative, Estate of PATRI-CIA POFF The Hyde Law Firm 827 West Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 DATED the October 01, 2024. /s/ Riley Roden Riley Roden Attorney for John Thomas Poff Texas Bar No. 24138241 827 West Pearl Street Granbury, TX 76048 Office Phone: (817) 579-5997 Fax: (817) 573-4933 riley@hydefirm.com

chasing starting Monday, September 30, 2024 at 2pm. Specific information regarding this bid shall be requested Purchasing Manager at from 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.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of SANDRA LOU NICHOLS, Deceased, were issued on September 25, 2024, in Cause No. P10488, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: CLÁUDE MICHAEL NICHOLS.

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

c/o: Steven G. Kuban Attorney at Law 107 E. Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 DATED the 26th day of September, 2024 Steven G. Kuban Attorney for Claude Michael Nichols State Bar No.: 24078807 107 E. Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 Telephone: (817) 573-8872 Facsimile: (817) 579-1651 E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

Granbury Independent School District is soliciting a Request for Proposals 2024-17 for HVAC Replacements.

The specifications are available online on https://granbury.ionwave.net. Proposals will be accepted until closing on October 14th, at 2pm. All questions regarding the bid should be submitted online. If you have trouble connecting to ionwave please contact purchasing office 817-408-4087 or

#### Bradee.Drake@granburyisd.org

Tarrant County HIV Administrative Agency administers federal and state funding for HIV service delivery. On Friday, October 4, 2024, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was released for the delivery of medical and support services for people living with HIV in the following counties: Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise.

To view and download the RFP, visit https://tarrantcountytx.ionwave.net/. To apply, agency must register as a Tarrant County supplier. Registration instructions can be found via the link above

winch, breaker box, metal shelving, pipe benders, Milwaukee packout, Milwaukee grinder, much mors.

THE SALE IS TO SATISFY A LAND-LORD LIEN. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ONLINE AND BID AT GO www.auctionspear.com [J To P Auctions], CLOSING DATE SUNDAY 10-20-24

REMINDER: NO CHECKS ACCEPTED! T.E. [BUDDY] WATERS OWNER LESSOR

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Joe Reed Mullens, Deceased, were issued on 9-25-2024, in Cause No. P10486, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Judith Hallowell Wilson. The residence of the Independent Administrator is Hood, Texas; the post office address is: c/o: Mark B. Dewitt, Attorney at Law, PO Box 1274, Granbury, Texas 76048 1274. All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated on the September 30, 2024. By: Mark B. Dewitt, PO Box 1274, Granbury, Texas 76048, ph. 817-573-1181, Attorney for the Estate.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DAVID M. SANDERFORD, Deceased, were issued on September 25, 2024, in Cause No. P10489, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: DAVID MICHAEL WELLS

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

Attorney at Law 107 E. Pearl St.

Granbury, Texas 76048

DATED the 26th day of September, 2024. Steven G. Kuban Attorney for David Michael Wells State Bar No.: 24078807 107 E. Pearl St. Granbury, Texas 76048 Telephone: (817) 573-8872

Facsimile: (817) 579-1651 E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

specific applicant name and permit number; and/or (2) the mailing list for a specific county. If you wish to be placed on the permanent and/or the county mailing list, clearly specify which list(s) and send your request to TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

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

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

Further information may also be obtained from LGRVR Water Supply Corporation at the address stated above or by calling Ms. Elizabeth Andaverde, Source Environmental Sciences, Inc., at 713-621-4474.

Issuance Date: May 8, 2024

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS: To Colton Taylor Keith Pope in the Estate of JUDY L. CORNELIUS, Cause No. P10156, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

JEANEEN DUFFEY in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and Declare Decedent Died Intestate and determine who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of JUDY L. CORNELIUS, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate.

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

Colton Taylor Keith Pope, if you are interested in said estate you are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas on the 1st day of October 2024 Christine C. Leftwich Hood County Clerk P.O. Box 339 Hood County, Texas 76048 By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS: To all persons interested in the Estate of Michael Lex Hodges, Cause No.P10510, County Court of Hood County, Texas.

Kathy D. Hodges in the above numbered and entitled estate filed an Application to Determine Heirship and declare who are the heirs and the only heirs of the said Estate of Michael Lex Hodges, deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of

publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said

Honorable Court at above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

Given under my hand and seal of said court at office in Granbury, Texas on the 1st day of October 2024 Christine C. Leftwich Hood County Clerk P.O. Box 339 Hood County, Texas 76048 By /s/ Jamie Barfield, Deputy









#### 9031 **Public Notices**

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. The auction will end on or around 5:00 P.M. on October 24, 2024. Property will be sold to the highest bidder. Á \$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: Logan Myers- tool boxes, grill, golf clubs Fairy Seay-furniture

#### Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

ORDINANCE NO. 24-58 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDI-NANCE NO. 01-819, THE ZONING OR-DINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCOR-DANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULA-TIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PRO-VIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OF-FICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit (SUP) on the property located on a 0.24-acre tract of land described more fully as:

A 0.24-acre tract described as Part of Block A2, Barton Addition of Granbury, addressed as 816 North Houston, within the City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, and located within the Light Commercial [LC] zoned district with the following conditions:

1. The operations and site development shall be in conformance with the site plan (Exhibit A).

2. This Specific Use Permit shall be subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master fee schedule.

3. Any violation of the terms and conditions stipulated in the Specific Use Permit may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

Any person, firm or corporation who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with or who resists the enforcement of any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00). Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.

This ordinance as adopted by the Granbury City Council on October 1, 2024, is on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 116 W Bridge St. and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The following Public Hearings will be considered by the PLANNING & ZON-ING COMMISSION of the City of

		www.hcnews.com					
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#### **JBLIC SALES** Granbury 76049 y 76048 Garage Sales 76049 ge Sales 76048 E SALE: GRANBURY 1700 **Meander Estates Community Sale** erford Highway- Garage Sale Oct 11-13, Oct 18-20 holarships! On Masonic Lots to choose from! parking lot. Saturday Octo-401 Abes Landing "Community Garage Sale" Welcome to Abe's Landing Subdivision Oct. 4th & 5th Fri-Sat. 8am-6pm **DECORDOVA RANCH** BORHOOD GARAGE SALE **COMMUNITY SALE** LAND 1210 Waters Edge Sat, Oct. 5th, 8am-4pm open at 7am. Rain or Shine Entrance is on Davis Rd. DAY, OCTOBER 5 misc., home decor, kitchen aby accessories, tools, clothh more! Rain or shine! 3543 Fri-Sat, Oct 4-5, open at sunamily sale! Fall and Christmas welry, clothes, plants, chaise **Gardens of DeCordova** kitchen items, misc. 6005 S **Annual Craft Fair** Saturday, Oct. 12, 9am-3pm Hills Ct. Fri-Sat, Oct 4-5, 8am-**Gardens of DeCordova Clubhouse** 5413 Garden Circle vnee trail- Vaseline glass, hull 817-910-1230 crystal. Acrylic end tables. 406 Capricorn Dr, Sky Harbor. Wedrio cabinet. Dock block. Little erything. Fri-Sat, Oct 4-5, 8am-Sun, 10/9-10/13, 8am-5pm. Christmas, old bells, furniture & household items. Huge sale-something for everyone. dleview Ct- Estate sale: Many tems, garden tools, office TWO ESTATE SALES!: PECAN PLANitchen table. Fri-Sat, Oct 4-5. TATION. Next Door Neighbor Sales park once, shop twice! 8009 Ravenswood AND 9701 Nottaway. w Beginnings 4-5 OCT -Everything from antique e Shoppe & Boutique furniture to shotgun shells/reloading gear, to bird dog kennels and appliances, tools and more. Photos on estatesales.net. 9a--4p FRI 9a-3p SAT. 817-964-3445 4 Water's Edge Dr., ESTATE SALE Oct 5 and 6 from 8 to s from the Movie Theatre) Add. 2220 Cobblestone Ct. #heretohelp 76049 Huge Estate Sale: furniture, : Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm electric scooters and wheel chairs, Sat. 10am - 4pm household goods, hobby items ine: Wed.-Sat. 10am-3pm clude drones, remote controlled cars, appliances, garage tools and HELPING PEOPLE Rummage ect., clothes, shoes, collection of pen Tues & Thurs, 8am-2pm, watches, collection of caps, wall art of the month 9am-1pm 306 and mirrors, clocks and much more gs Plaza. 817-573-7801 (817) 894-4989 Cochrandr61@yahoo.com **IVE YOUR ENCORE SHOP** First Baptist Church of Granbury BUSINESS WOM Class ENCORE SHOP, 1815 Weatherford Hwy. New, gently worn, beautiful ladies clothing size petite to plus. On hangers, name brand, some with tags, Fall/Winter. Dress and casual women's clothing, jackets. Hand bags, shoes, scarves & jewelry. Most items \$10 & below. All money from sale goes to mission trips and children's schol-

Fri & Sat Oct 11 & 12. 8am-2pm.

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 6301 Gran Tera Ct- Huge multi-family

Granbury on Monday, October 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. The Public Hearings will also be considered by the GRANBURY CITY COUNCIL on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. All Public Hearings will be held within the Council Chambers of Granbury City Hall, 116 W. Bridge Street, Granbury, Texas.

1. SUP-2021-12 Specific Use Permit for Dwellings, Single-Family, attached use in Central Business zoning; located at 210 E. Ewell St.

2. SUP-2024-9 Specific Use Permit for Construction Equipment Rental and/ or Sales use in Light Commercial zoning; located at 4640 E US Hwy 377.

3. Z-2024-11 Planned Development Amendment from Planned Development/Multiple-Family to Planned Development/Multiple-Family; located at 717 Hill Blvd.

(including civil penalties)

4. CP-2024-02 Future Land Use Plan amendment from Medium Density Residential to High Density Residential located at 805 Hill Blvd.

5. Z-2024-07 Zoning Change from Light Commercial to Multi Family located at 805 Hill Blvd.

6. CP-2024-03 Future Land Use Amendment from Retail Office to Commercial located at 3700 FM 4. 7. Z-2024-08 Zoning Change from Interim Holding to Heavy Commercial; and from Interim Holding to Light Commercial, located at 3700 FM 4. 8. SUP-2024-05 Specific Use Permit for Daily Outdoor Display in Heavy Commercial zoning; located at 3700 FM 4. 9. Z-2024-13 Zoning Change from Planned Development Light Commercial, R-7 Single-Family Residential, R-8.4 Single-Family Residential, R-10 Single-Family Residential, and Townhome; to Planned Development R-7 Single-Family Residential; located at 1101 Loop 567.

10. CPTP-2024-01 Amend the Thoroughfare Plan contained within the 2016 Comprehensive Plan; located at 1101 Loop 567.

11. CP-2024-04 Future Land Use Amendment from Low Density Residential to Retail/Office located at 4120 E US Hwy 377.

12. Z-2024-14 Zoning Change from Interim Holding to Planned Development Light Commercial; located at 4120 E US Hwy 377.

13. PL-2024-27 Replat of Lot 4R Blk 5 Crites Addition; located at 912 W Bridge St.

For more information, contact Community Development at 682-279-8250, Granbury City Hall, 116 West Bridge St., Granbury, TX 76048.

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ON PUBLIC NOTICES

arships

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

SAVE

# A CELL TOWER'S GOING UP NEXT DOOR Or hadn't you hearn?



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

#### PANTRIES **FROM PAGE A1**

multiple jobs.

"It's a struggle," she said. "We have right now, an average of 40 homebound seniors that we're feeding, and it costs us a little over \$400 a week to feed them because we give them a week's worth of groceries. We also make sure they have pet food."

While Mission Granbury is dedicated to offering vital support for both residents and their pets, Jean Bondy, director of development and community partnerships, emphasized that their main priority is feeding people which makes their partnerships with veterinary clinics and feed stores even more special.

Luna explained that their goal for POP this year is to collaborate with Tarrant Area Food Bank to provide nutritious — and tailored food options.

"If they have allergies or we have diabetics that come through, we want to make sure that they have what they need," she said. "We hope we get them enough groceries and not just lima beans or sodas. We're trying to make nutritious boxes so that we're actually feeding them and not just putting a band-aid on (the problem)."

During Mission Granbury's last fiscal year — Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 — the food pantry served 4,689 individuals, of which 37% were children. Additionally, Mission Granbury programs provided services to 20,223 individuals, 45% of which were children.

As the cost of living continues to rise, more and more individuals are finding it challenging to make ends meet. Luna noted that even the most basic necessities are becoming increasingly difficult to afford.

"Last year, at a conference, they said you needed to make \$21 an hour in order to just meet your basic needs," she said. "And it's \$31 for this year. Should something



COURTESY OF MISSION GRANBURY

Last year, more than 69,000 pounds of food and hygiene items were collected for Mission Granbury's Pantries of Plenty food drive.

else happen medically, or a tire goes out, anything like that, (it can become overwhelming)."

Luna highlighted that the crisis is widespread, as it's affecting everyone from all walks of life. She explained that even Mission Granbury is experiencing the effects, as it's been harder for the nonprofit to purchase certain hygiene items, like deodorant.

"This can affect everyone. Nobody is safe from this economic downturn we have," she said. "We're seeing the brunt of it from even our most compassionate donors that like to really donate. They've had to cut back because it's affecting everyone."

Bondy explained that it's important for residents to understand the magnitude of food insecurity in Hood County alone. She noted that the effort to combat this need wouldn't be possible without many of the local nonprofits working together, like Rancho Brazos Community Centers and People Helping People.

"If Sharla Caro (at Rancho Brazos Community Centers) needs something and we have it, we'll give it to her," she said. "Sometimes, People Helping People, they have extra stuff, and they say, 'Hey, we can't use this, can you?' So, there's a lot of communication going on in our partnerships."

With demand higher than ever this year, Bondy encouraged the businesses participating in the Pantries of Plenty food drive to set up a contest to see who can collect the most items.

"A lot of the businesses really get into it," Bondy explained. "Like Fit Body Boot Camp - they went crazy last year and had a dunking booth, so there's some friendly competition, but the whole purpose is to collect food to restock the pantry shelves."

Bins will get picked up the week of Nov. 11 - leaving the community with about a month to collect as many food and hygiene items as possible for Mission Granbury.

"We hope that this grows bigger in the community and that we make more relationships to possibly get more volunteers," Luna added.

Bondy explained that Pantries of Plenty is an opportunity to give back and help your neighbors — adding that no donation is too big or too small.

"We want to continue to grow Pantries of Plenty," Bondy added. "Because the need continues to grow."

To donate to the food drive, visit one of the participating businesses or purchase from Mission Granbury's Amazon wish list here: amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ ls/2Y4O9T5MDZFBO/ ref=hz\_ls\_biz\_ex. A QR code for the wish list can also be found on Mission Granbury's website at missiongranbury. org.

Mission Granbury is located at 3611 Plaza E. Court and can be reached by calling 817-579-6866. The weekly drive-through food pantry takes place from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, and 2-5 p.m. on Wednesday.

For more information about Pantries of Plenty, email Luna at aluna@missiongranbury.org or Bondy at jbondy@missiongranbury. org.

## Free flu clinic set for Oct. 10

#### From Staff Reports

Hood County residents will be able to get a free flu shot from 1 - 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Ruth's Place Food Pantry, located at 2723 Maplewood St.

Texas Health's Faith Community Nursing team will host the clinic in a drive-through format, so individuals will be asked to stay in their vehicles. No insurance or ID is required. Vaccines will be given to those ages 9 or older.

Faith Community Nursing, a system-wide program under Texas Health Community Hope, links faith communities with health-related resources that focus on holistic care for the body, mind, and spirit. Emphasis is placed on equipping faith-based communities with the tools and resources to offer prevention and wellness support to care for the people they serve. These resources are delivered by volunteer congregational-based Faith Community Nurses (FCNs) and Health Promoters (HPs).

Texas Health Community Hope represents the many ways Texas Health Resources is working to improve the health of the people in the communities we serve through a broad range of innovative programs, investments, and collaborations.

## LETTER

#### SIGNS

After trying to ignore the Melanie Graft signs, saving "doing right," I have to respond. You can do what is legal but not necessarily right. She should have recused herself from the vote. It's not the correct way to operate. It screams good ole boy politics.

I haven't voted Democrat in fifty plus years but will have to this time and just hope and pray we have a better field next time. The national isn't much better, but at least

the Republicans are the much lesser of two evils. John F. Marsh Granbury

#### **GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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

Writers are limited to one letter every 30 days.

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

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





Domestic violence does long term

#### What does it mean to be rich?

The key to being rich is knowing what counts - living life your way and having someone who can help you get there.

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## STAY CONNECTED AT HCNEWS.COM

## damage

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

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

## **CHOOSE** to see. **CHOOSE** to help.



Between September 1, 2023 and August 31, 2024, we provided services to 322 residential and non-residential clients. 142 were women, 70 were children and 9 were men.

We answered 950 hotline calls and housed 142 women and 70 children in the Ada Carey Shelter for Women and Children.

### HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please consider making a donation to support any of the various programs available at Mission Granbury.

Learn more and donate at https://www.missiongranury.org/donate or scan the QR code.



Thank you for your support! 817-579-6866

24-hour Crisis Hotline 844-579-6848

## Great Granbury Cleanup to beautify community Oct. 19

#### BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer ashley@hcnews.com

Hood County residents will soon get another opportunity to transform their community into a cleaner and greener — place to live.

The twice-yearly Great Granbury Cleanup will take place beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, where many volunteers will spend their morning picking up trash along frequented roadways.

One big change for the October event is that rather than meeting at Hewlett Park before the cleanup, residents will be instructed to meet at City Hall at 116 W. Bridge St.

"What we do is we gather them here, give them some safety videos to watch, and offer a little encouragement and thank you," **Communications Manager** Jeff Newpher told the Hood County News. "If they have questions at the time, they get those answered, or, if they're not sure what areas need to be cleaned up, (we can help). We kind of have a really good sense by that time of the day the areas that would most likely not be crowded if you went out there and started cleaning up with you and your team."

Teams of four people will be provided safety vests, bottles of water donated by Kroger, trash bags, and grabbers to pick up trash.

"We like to have people working in at least two-person teams, so one can hold the bag, and one can use the grabber," Newpher said. "But at least two people on a team is good, and half of the



The semiannual Great Granbury Cleanup will take place beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, where many volunteers will spend their morning picking up trash along frequented roadways.

team members should get a grabber if they want one."

Although gloves were previously supplied by the city for the event, Newpher emphasized that this year participants will need to bring their own.

"The gloves that we could get that were inexpensive weren't really thick enough to protect people's hands from anything except liquids," he explained. "So, we are asking anybody that's coming to bring your own gloves, because you might pick up a soft drink can that has an edge on it. We just don't want people to have any issues with things that they might pick up."

There are five trash collection areas that volunteers will be able to choose from, as they help tackle litter across the community:

• U.S. Highway 377 -James Road to Loop 567 • Loop 567 - Business 377 (Airport) to Business 377

(Mesquite Pit) • State Highway 144 -Pearl Street to Spanish Trail • FM 4 - Highway 377 to

Fall Creek Highway

• Crawford Avenue Newpher highlighted that the designated cleanup area on Crawford Avenue is less trafficked and ideal for youth sports teams.

"That's the area that we would love to have young student athletes," Newpher said. "Whatever brings them all together."

He noted that, if the teams

wear their jerseys, it will also create great photo opportunities and showcase how they're dedicating their Saturday morning to beautifying Granbury.

In addition to the sports teams, Granbury Independent School District also collaborates with the city to enable Granbury High School students to participate in the cleanup by collecting trash around their campus.

Newpher mentioned that with the help of GISD volunteers, the typical number of participants in the cleanup usually averages around 150.

"Weather permitting, this will be the third time we've done this," Newpher said. "We just want people to have fun while they're cleaning up their city."

With the Great Granbury Cleanup, Bulk Trash Pickup, and the Shred It Instead event all occurring on the same day, Newpher noted that it's a win-win — especially for residents and tourists who get to see how pristine the community looks.

"I like having them all on the same day, just because on Sunday you go out and you go, 'Isn't this town really beautiful?" he said.

Once an area has been fully cleaned, volunteers should leave their trash bags at the cleanup site for city staff to collect later. Volunteers will also need to ensure that they return their vests and grabbers to the "back porch" of City Hall.

To participate in the Great Community Cleanup, volunteers need to be at least 7 years of age, as safety is a priority when picking up trash along highly trafficked areas.

"Some of these places that people go are right on the side of the road, and we just want everybody that participates to be of an age where they'll understand the safety video and the concerns," Newpher explained.

To register for the Great Granbury Cleanup, visit granbury.org/cleanup online. An Under 18 Consent Form can also be found at the same link.





### OCTOBER 25 & 26,2024

We're thrilled to invite you to a fabulous weekend of Western Art with the Granbury Arts Alliance on October 25 and 26,2024, at the Lake Granbury Conference Center.

Kick off the weekend with a special VIP experience on Friday, from 6-9 P.M. It's the perfect opportunity to mingle with talented artists and fellow art collectors and enthusiasts. Enjoy delicious food, refreshing drinks, and live music while you explore the art. Plus, you'll have the chance to make purchases before we open to the public!

We can't wait to see you there and share this wonderful experience together!

OCTOBER 25: VIP EVENING 6-9 P.M. (\$50 per person)

OCTOBER 26: FREE TO THE PUBLIC 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Lake Granbury Conference Center 621 E Pearl St. Granbury, TX 76049



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR TICKETS!

www.granburyartsalliance.org

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OUR CUSTOMERS HAVE AWARDED US THE MOST 5 STAR REVIEWS IN TOWN AND VOTED US #11N HOOD COUNTY FOR THE LAST 14 YEARS!

"Services were performed with courteous, professional personnel and affordable pricing. Have used their services since moving to Texas and planning to continue. Another pleasant experience today with their system check up services." -James N., 08/23/2024

"Hmm. Let me think about this. I don't use a service over and over unless I really like them and in the case of using Daffan I have used them for more than ten years. They have installed a new HVAC system, added new insulation, maintained the system, repaired whatever was needed and made sure my family was happy. And happy we have been and I would highly recommend them for any repairs, upgrades or service- it's hard to find quality and honesty with vendors and Daffan

is one." -Tom F., 08/18/2024

"Daffan is always very responsive. Their technicians arrive in clean, well maintained vehicles and are always well dressed, friendly and very competent and professional. From the young ladies in the office to the technicians servicing our A/C units, Daffan folks are always polite, friendly, knowledgeable and willing to take time to answer your questions. This company is a model for others to follow." -Gary C., 08/16/2024



TACLA29191E

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

### William Allen Hardin

November 15, 1942 - September 29, 2024

My name is William "Allen" Hardin. I was born Nov. 15, 1942 in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas.

I am married to the former Sharron Wilson, a native of Ouanah. We have been married since Aug. 20, 2003. I have a daughter by a for-mer marriage, Melody Sue Hardin of Austin, Texas, and two stepdaughters Suzann Tramel and Jenna McGill.

I moved with my mother and father to Polk County, Arkansas when I was 10 years old. I was president of my junior class, senior class, student council, and Future Farmers of America. I lettered in basketball four years. I graduated from Hatfield High School, and later attended one semester at Texas A&M University.

I served on active duty in the United States Navy and was honorably dis-charged from the inactive reserve in 1968

My first law enforcement experience was as assistant city marshall of Hico, Texas, I started to work for them on July 28, 1965. I became a game warden cadet on June 19, 1967. and moved to Granbury in February of 1968. I worked as a game warden here until April of 1979 when I became a lake ranger for Brazos River Authority. I was employed as bailiff for the 355th District Court in June of 1990. I took office as constable of precincts 3 and 4 on Jan. 1, 1993, until Dec. 31, 1996. I took office as Hood County Sheriff on Jan. 1, 1997 and served in that position until Dec. 31, 2004. I was the first Re-publican sheriff in Hood County since reconstruc-tion days (1870s). I was the last sheriff of the old millennium and the first of the new millennium to actually live in the jail as sheriffs are supposed to.

I was semi-retired, selfemployed, and carried a commission as a fire marshall until December 2007. On Dec. 17, 2007, I was employed as an environmental crimes investigator for the Health Department and the district attorney carried my law enforcement commission. I let my



tive law enforcement. I helc a Master Peace Offi-cers Certificate from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education. I held a peace officers li-cense.

I served on the Granbury City Council for two terms. I was a member of the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department for 28 years and served as chief for one year. I was one of the organizers of the Hood County Volunteer Rescue Unit and was elected their first interim president. I served one year as vice president of the Metroplex Locksmith Association. I am a member of American Legion Post 278, in Granbury, and the Hood County Amateur Radio Club. I was one of the or-ganizers of the first Lutheran church ir Hood County. I am a member and elder in the First Pres-byterian Church in Granbury.

I have never been arrested nor convicted of a crime, even a class "C" misdemeanor

I opened Hardin's Locksmith service in 1989; it was incorporated as AAGH. Inc. in 1990. The corporation was dissolved in 1999 and again began to operate, as HARDIN'S (a sole proprietorship). I became a licensed manager in October of 2004. I am a Licensed Septic System Installer (class II) and a OSSF Designated Representative.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024 at the Wiley Funeral Home Chapel in Granbury with visitation prior to service from 10-11 a.m. in the chapel.

Graveside services with Military Honors will be held at 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024 at the Dallas-Fort Worth Na-tional

## **OBITUARIES**

#### Daly Ray 'D.R.' Bales, Jr.

April 23, 1937 - September 20, 2024

Daly Ray Bales, Jr. was born in Owensboro, Kentucky, and then moved to Coolidge, Arizona when he was 11. He was active in Boy Scouts, ran track and cross country and worked as a crop dust loader for his Dad to pay for his college. He earned his pilot's license at 19 by trading labor at the airport for lessons. He attended Georgia Tech, received his 2nd Lieutenant rank through the cadet program and married Kathleen in 1960. They were married for 58 years before she passed away. He flew the KC135 during the Cuban missile crisis and then the F-100, F4, F105, and F16 fighters in his 30-year Air Force career. He also spent a year in Korea. Rising to the rank of Colonel, he retired in 1988 as Wing Vice Commander. He continued flying with his Mooney and loved competing in his aerobatic airplane, EXTRA-200, in which he won many awards. He flew the aerobatic airplane up until a few months before he passed away. He took great joy in taking his children, grandchildren, and many other people flying. He, along with his wife, purchased and managed numerous rental houses. D.R. always joined right in and did the majority of the maintenance. If he didnt know how to do something, he bought a book and taught himself. He had



a reputation for being the hardest worker many men have known. He loved dogs, hiking, the desert, and was known for his sweet tooth and love of salt on everything! He had high values, high standards for himself and others, impeccable integrity, a love for his country and a great sense of humor. D.R. Bales was survived

by his wife of 3 years, his 5 daughters, and his numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Col. D.R. Bales, Jr. took his last and final flight earlv in the morning on September 20. His takeoff was smooth and easy and his landing will be even better. As a believer in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, we are comforted, knowing that his final landing place will be in Heaven.

"Col. Bales, you have been given clearance to buzz the Pearly Gates!'

#### SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

Holly Hills Memorial Park

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

ACROSS

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The delay in mailing is a result of state regulations, which require that tax statements reflect the certified tax rates from all local taxing entities. Since the Hospital District's tax rate is pending voter approval in the election scheduled for Nov. 5, HCAD cannot proceed with issuing accurate property tax statements until after the election results are certified.

Delayed mailing of

tax statements due

to Hospital District

Voter Approval Tax

#### **KEY INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS:**

• Election Date: Nov. 5, 2024

• Affected Entities: The delay specifically affects all property owners within Hood County.

• New Mailing Date: Tax statements will be mailed promptly following the certification of election results, which is expected in mid-Nov.

• Tax Payment Deadline: Residents will still have ample time to submit payments before the usual delinquency date of Feb. 1.

Residents are encouraged to stay informed about the tax rate election and its potential impact on their property taxes. For more information about the election or the delay in mailing tax statements, please contact the Hood Central Appraisal District at 817-573-2471 or visit www. hoodcad.net



**CROSSWORD** 

commission go on Feb. 15, Cemetery in Dallas. 2018 and retired from ac-

#### Linda Charlene Ostrander

August 22, 1955 - September 27, 2024

Linda Charlene Ostrander passed away on Sept. 27, 2024, at her home, at the age of 69, after a long illness. She was a pillar of the Pecan Plantation community where she owned a busy coffee shop. She was an entrepreneur who retired from American Airlines where she was a flight attendant planner. She was preceded in death by her father Charles White, her brother Malcom White, her husband Oakley Ostrander and her mother Novelle White. She attended Lakeside Baptist Church in Granbury. Linda had many friends and was well -loved and respected by the community. She will be



greatly missed. Funeral services were held at Wiley Funeral Home on Friday, Oct. 4 at 10 a.m. Linda was an avid animal lover. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Hood County Animal Shelter.



\_, Texas

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\_ rooster,

50 Monte

51 TXism: "if

## Take advantage of open enrollment

#### **TAYLOR MOBLY Edward** Jones

Financial Adviser

If you work for a midsize or large company, you may soon be able to review your employee benefits package, as we are entering the open enrollment season. So, consider your options carefully, with an eye toward making changes appropriate for your needs.

Here are some of the key areas to look at:

#### **RETIREMENT PLAN**

Depending on your employer, you could change your 401(k) or similar retirement plan at any time of the year, but you might want to use the open enroll-

ment season to review your contribution amounts. If your salary has gone up over the past year,

#### Taylor Mobly you might

want to boost your pre-tax contributions (including catch-up contributions beginning at age 50). At a minimum, try to put in at least enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered. At the same time, look over how your contributions are allocated among the various investment options in your plan. You'll want your investment mix to reflect your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon.

#### LIFE INSURANCE

If your employer offers group life insurance at no cost as an employee benefit, you may want to take it - but be aware that it might not be enough to fully protect your family should anything happen to you. You may have heard that you need about seven to 10 times your annual income as a life insurance death benefit, but there's really no one right answer for everyone. Instead, you should evaluate various factors — including your mortgage, your income, your spouse's income (if applicable), your liabilities, the number of years until your retirement, number of children and their future educational

needs — to determine how much insurance you need. If your employer's group policy seems insufficient, you may want to consider adding some outside overage.

#### **DISABILITY INSURANCE**

Your employer may offer no-cost group disability insurance, but as is the case with life insurance, it might not be sufficient to adequately protect your income in case you become temporarily or permanently disabled. In fact, many employer-sponsored disability plans only cover a short period, such as five years, so to gain longer coverage up to age 65, you may want to look for a separate personal policy. Disability policies vary widely in premium costs and benefits, so you'll want to do some comparison shopping with several insurance companies.

#### **FLEXIBLE SPENDING** ACCOUNT

A flexible spending account (FSA) lets you contribute up to \$3,200 pretax dollars to pay for some out-of-pocket medical costs, such as prescriptions and insurance copayments and deductibles. You decide how much you want to put into your FSA, up to the 2025 limit. You generally must use up the funds in your FSA by the end of the calendar year, but your employer may

grant you an extension of 21/2 months or allow you to carry over up to \$640.

#### **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT**

Like an FSA, a health savings account (HSA) lets you use pre-tax dollars to pay out-of-pocket medical costs. Unlike an FSA, though, your unused HSA contributions will carry over to the next year. Also, an HSA allows you take withdrawals, though they may be assessed a 10% penalty. To contribute to an HSA, you need to participate in a high-deductible health insurance plan.

Make the most of your benefits package — it can be a big part of your overall financial picture.

## SUPPORT SYSTEMS

#### **EVERY DAY**

**ALCOHOLICS ANONY-**MOUS. 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.

**SUNDAY THROUGH FRI-**DAY ACTON 12 Step Group meets at 7 p.m. at 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 meets from 3-5 p.m. for those who have lost a loved one through death, including the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling or close friend. For the past 28 years, this group has helped people work through their grief process. Next session begins Oct. 20. Christian based, nondenominational and welcome all who are suffering. Parish Hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Phillis and Bill Brewer at 817-573 or Sherry Bingham at 817-657-0822.

#### **EVERY MONDAY**

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

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.

#### **ONGOING PEDALING** for

Parkinson's classes at the Hood County YMCA. Stop by front desk for paperwork packet and info. Doctor's release required before your first class. Classes are on stationary bikes and assistance is provided by certified instructors. Mondays and Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. Pedaling a bike from 80-90 RPMs for 40 minutes has been proven to help with Parkinson's symptoms. Call for more information 817-408-0559.

#### **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).

GRIEFSHARE 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: Grief-Share.StoneWaterChurch.com or call 817-579-9175. May call anytime for help.

#### **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. Ouestions: Tim White 817-223-0973 or Becky Pierce 254-396-5918.

ACTON 12 - Step Women's Group meets at 5:30 p.m. at 3609 Acton Highway (behind Madison Park).

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

#### **GRIEFSHARE RECOVERY**

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

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

ACTON 12 - Step Women's Group meets at 5:30 p.m. at 3609 Acton Highway (behind Madison Park).

#### **ONGOING PEDALING** for

Parkinson's classes at the Hood County YMCA. Stop by front desk for paperwork packet and info. Doctor's release required before your first class. Classes are on stationary bikes and assistance is provided by certified instructors. Mondays and Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. Pedaling a bike from 80-90 RPMs for 40 minutes has been proven to help with Parkinson's symptoms. Call for more information 817-408-0559.

**EVERY FRIDAY** 

**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

bance on Panama Court

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E. Pearl Street

dav\*\*

**SEPT 29** 

9:31 p.m.: noise distur-

10:04 p.m.: hit and run on

\*\*Three minor accidents,

a warrant service and 26

traffic stops occurred this

12:20 a.m.: noise distur-

12:25 a.m.: noise distur-

3:48 a.m.: driving while

10:30 a.m.: suspicious ac-

11:09 a.m.: suspicious ac-

11:01 p.m.: noise distur-

\*\*A major accident and

6:54 a.m.: driving while

8:10 p.m.: reckless driv-

ing on Contrary Creek Road

8:26 p.m.: hit and run on

\*\*Two minor accidents

and 31 traffic stops oc-

license invalid on W. U.S.

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47 traffic stops occurred

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Highway 377

this day\*\*

**SEPT 30** 

Highway 377

Seabiscuit Drive

curred this day\*\*

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 817-8942449 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.

## POLICE BLOTTER City of Granbury Police Department Criminal Activity Report

The following is a breakdown of activity that occurred through the Granbury Police Department during the period of Sept. 24-30. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more



#### CALENDAR **FROM PAGE A4**

**TUESDAY, OCT.8** 

#### **SALVATION ARMY**

Women's Auxiliary Monthly Meeting at Acton Methodist Church youth building, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Event begins at 10 a.m. with mingling, 10:30 a.m. meeting program and guest speaker which will be Texas Rescue. Lunch by McAlister's, \$15 gratuity included, cash preferred, make checks payable to SAWA.

#### **TEXAS DEMOCRATIC**

Women of Hood County monthly meeting. Guest speakers: Jon Back, Democratic candidate for Hood County District Clerk, and Courtney Gore, candidate for Granbury ISD board of trustees. Meeting begins at 11 a.m., Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377, Granbury. Details: 254-716-5195.

#### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16 LAKE GRANBURY Master Gardeners of Hood Countv

significant activity.

#### **SEPT. 24**

7:42 a.m.: found property on N. Travis Street 2:09 p.m.: noise disturbance on Donna Circle 6:14 p.m.: animal bite on S. Crites Street 7:33 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. Moore Street 7:55 p.m.: driving while intoxicated on E. U.S. Highway 377 \*\*One major accident, three minor accidents and 15 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

#### **SEPT 25**

12:16 a.m.: noise disturbance on Quiet Cove 7:58 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on E.

U.S. Highway 377 10:04 a.m.: reckless driving on E. U.S. Highway 377 3:05 p.m.: criminal trespassing on E. U.S. Highway

377 \*\*One major accident, three minor accidents and 30 traffics stops occurred this day\*\*

MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

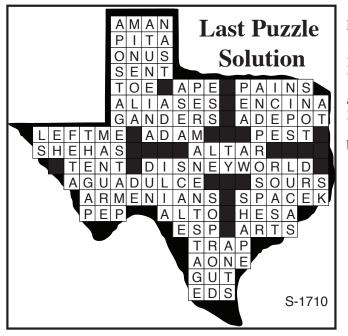
#### **SEPT 26**

8:58 a.m.: hit and run on James Road 5:35 p.m.: criminal trespassing on E. U.S. Highway 377 5:49 p.m.: noise disturbance on N. Quail Drive 9:45 p.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street 10:05 p.m.: driving while intoxicated on E. U.S. Highway 377 11:46 p.m.: driving while intoxicated on E. U.S. Highway 377 \*\*One major accident, three minor accidents and 21 traffic stops occurred this day\*\*

#### **SEPT 27**

12:40 a.m.: suspicious activity on E. U.S. Highway 377

10:55 a.m.: assault on W.



Pearl Street 12:13 p.m.: theft on Weatherford Highway 3:06 p.m.: driving with invalid license previous conviction on Contrary Creek Road

4:17 p.m.: hit and run on E. U.S. Highway 377

\*\*Two minor accidents and 21 traffic stops occurred this day\*

#### **SEPT 28**

12:02 a.m.: driving while intoxicated on S. Morgan Street

7:02 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on S. Morgan Street 2:09 p.m.: theft over \$100

and under \$750 on E. U.S. Highway 377 2:25 p.m.: assault, family

violence on Second Street 4:11 p.m.: noise disturbance on E. U.S. Highway 377

4:40 p.m.: hit and run on E. U.S. Highway 377 7:30 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377

7:51 p.m.: suspicious activity on E. U.S. Highway 377

8:16 p.m.: noise disturbance on E. Pearl Street 9:08 p.m.: noise distur-

print and online at classifieds.hcnews.com

in on



classifieds.hcnews.com

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 12 MONARCH FEST from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free familyfriendly celebration of the Monarch butterfly migration at the Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smoky Hill Court

in Granbury. Learn how and why we tag Monarchs, their incredible life cycle and migration, citizen science projects, how to create your own Monarch Waystation and butterfly habitat and more! Special activities for children include face painting, a caterpillar craft and a DIY butterfly water fountain, all offered by Rio Brazos Chapter volunteers from the Texas Master Naturalist program. https:// txmn.org/rbc/.

#### MONDAY, OCT. 14 **GOLF TOURNAMENT.**

34th annual fundraiser golf tournament supporting the **DCBE-Acton Volunteer Fire** Department. Tournament entry is \$100 per person, 4 person team. Shotgun start begins at 10:30 a.m. Silent auction with items published later. DCBE Country Club, 5301 Country Club Drive. Sponsorships and donations still needed. Questions, 817-326-2659.

**THE NORTH** Central Texas Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377. Program presented by Dr. David K. Barnett, local historian, author of several books about Granbury. Subject: Civil War veterans and impact on the founding of our community. Visitors welcome, no charge for first time attendees. Questions? http://www. ncentexcwrt.com., David Wells at 817-579-5769 or Bill Dyess at 817-326-8216.

monthly meeting at 1 p.m. at the Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Court, Beth Rainwater, of Rainwater Farms in Hico, will speak about daylilies. For more information, contact the Hood County Extension Office, 817-579-3280.

#### **REPUBLICAN ROUNDUP**

meeting at the Wiley Center room, 420 W. Highway 377. 9:30 a.m. coffee & fellowship, 10 a.m. program with guest speaker Bob Hall, Senate District 2, special presentation on "Election Integrity." Special Guest Brandon Hall candidate for State Board of Education will be on hand.

#### SATURDAY, OCT. 26 HORTICULTURE IN the

Hood - Lake Granbury Master Gardeners of Hood County present Native Grasses of the Texas Prairie with master gardener Glynna Torres from 9-10 a.m. at the Reunion Grounds, 641 Reunion Court, Granbury. For more information, contact the Hood County Extension Office, 817-579-3280.

#### FRIDAY, OCT. 25 **CERT (COMMUNITY** Emer-

gency Response Team) Disaster Preparedness Basic Training Class. Allows citizens to be much better prepared to help themselves, their families and their neighbors in times of need or disaster. Class dates are Oct. 26-27, Nov. 1-2. Email HoodCo-CERT@gmail.com.

#### **HOOD COUNTY** Hospital

District board of directors regular scheduled meeting at noon in the second floor Courtroom, 100 E. Pearl St., Granbury.

# City's free paper shredding event scheduled for Oct. 19



About 423 cars attended the city's Shred It Instead event April 13, with the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department raising approximately \$2,200 in the process.

#### **BY ASHLEY TERRY**

Staff Writer ashley@hcnews.com

Prepare to clear out those stacks of tax returns, old bills, and bank statements, as the city's free community paper shredding event will be back in just two weeks.

Set for 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 19, at American Town Hall located at 220 N. Travis St., Shred It Instead will allow residents to dispose of three "banker boxes" of paper.

"The whole name of it is Shred It Instead, because people were asking, 'Instead of what?' Communications Manager Jeff Newpher said. "Well, instead of throwing it in your regular trash and instead of putting out big boxes of tax records and old bank statements on your trash pickup day, come have it shredded."

While the event was previously held at the Lake Granbury Conference Center, this event will take place near the Hood County Library on Travis St. until noon — or until the shredding truck is filled.

Newpher noted that during the last event in April, the truck was completely filled in just about two and a half hours. He advised residents to come to the shredding event right after finishing the community-wide Great Granbury Cleanup, which is scheduled to wrap up around 10:30 a.m.

"We're trying to emphasize that it's paper only," he explained. "The only issue we had was when someone had some boxes of paper that had staples in it and that jammed up the machine for about 10 minutes."

He pointed out that one small oversight led to a queue of approximately 40 cars, emphasizing that no binder clips, staples, or paper clips should be left in the boxes of paper.

With the format similar to previous events, the entire

process is expected to be efficient and hassle-free, allowing residents to quickly dispose of their documents while minimizing wait times.

"What we're trying to do is make it so people put three boxes of paper in their trunk. They pull around, stop, pop the trunk, and then we'll have volunteers that'll grab the totes and go over to the shredding machine," Newpher explained. "If all goes well, they don't even have to get out of their car."

However, if individuals do want to watch the process of their papers getting shredded, Newpher said they are more than welcome to park their vehicle, carry their boxes to the shredding truck, and wait until the batch containing their paper is shredded.

"If you want to do that, we're not going to deny you the joy of seeing your stuff go in the shredder truck," he said. "We are accommodating everyone for that." While some concerns have been raised about the security of personal information, Newpher reassured residents that the company handling the shredding is the same one that managed the April event.

"This is also the same company that's been doing the shredding for the city of Granbury for years, and we've never had an issue," he said. "So, yes, I would say it's as secure as the city of Granbury's shredded materials are."

During the event earlier this year, about 423 cars came through the shredding line, and approximately \$2,200 was donated to the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of firefighter protective gear.

For questions or to learn more information about Shred It Instead, call 682-279-8256. Please leave a message if necessary.



COURTESY PHOTO BY PINPORN MANOSRI, ADOBESTOCK.COM The city's fall bulk trash pickup set for Saturday, Oct. 19.

## Bulk trash pickup returns Oct. 19

#### **BY ASHLEY TERRY**

Staff Writer ashley@hcnews.com

Granbury residents will have another way to dispose of their unwanted heavy appliances during the city's fall bulk trash pickup set for Saturday, Oct. 19.

Residents are asked to place their items curbside by 7 a.m. Saturday.

Acceptable items for the bulk trash pickup include refrigerators, freezers, and A/C units — all of which must have Freon certification reclamation — and mattresses.

Tree limbs will also be collected, but they must be bundled and no longer than four feet. Each household is limited to six items for pickup.

Communications Manager Jeff Newpher told the Hood County News that items must be manageable for two workers to lift and load; otherwise, they may not be collected.

"Bulk trash is for items that are too large to put in your garbage tote, and it's usually two guys who are working to pick it up, so if it's too large for two guys, then it might not get picked up," he said. "But if two people could walk it out to the curb before 7 a.m. on the 19th, then two people could load it into the back of the Waste Connection truck."

Newpher also noted that he has not encountered a company in Granbury that performs the Freon certification but added that it might be a question that Waste Connections could answer. "Waste connections could answer.

"We're really grateful for Waste Connections, because they are a partner with the city," he added.

Items that will not be picked up for bulk trash include tires, paint, oil, liquids, construction, and masonry materials.

Newpher also wanted to stress that bulk trash day does not affect normal residential trash pick-up.

"If you're a Monday or a Wednesday pickup, you'll still get (your trash picked up) the previous Monday or Wednesday, and the following Monday or Wednesday," he said. "This is not a substitute for either of those."

For more information, please contact Waste Connections at 800-350-3024.



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## 2024 RUCK FORWARD

PHOTOS BY JESSE RAMIREZ JR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

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Two prospective Air Force members salute the flag during the

national anthem.



Marchers make their way down Howard Clemmons Road, approaching the final rest stop Sept. 28.



A ceremonial military flyover takes place before the event begins.



A viewer inspects details inscribed in the helmet of a new statue dedicated to Tolar native Sergeant First Class Riley Stephens.

## **GRANBURY SENIOR LIFESTYLE EXPO** Oct. 16 • 2-4pm • Wiley Center • 400 E US Highway 377 • Granbury, TX

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## Building bonds: Ray and Mike Lewis' flight story



Pilots Ray Lewis (Left) and son Mike Lewis showcase the Autogyro Cavalon 915is they built together.

#### From Staff Reports

he annual Fly-In and Car Show at Pecan Plantation was a resounding success this past weekend. Under perfect weather conditions, it attracted aviation enthusiasts and vintage car lovers. Attendees relaxed in the warm fall sunshine, with car radios playing Beatles and Eagles hits in the background.

Among the aircraft exhibitors were Pecan Plantation residents Ray and Mike Lewis, a father-son duo showcasing their newly built Autogyro Cavalon 915is.

ing recreationally all the time," Mike stated. The pair often traveled to the EAA AirVenture airshow in Oshkosh, creating lasting memories along the way. "I have fond memories of riding mopeds around the airshow grounds with the 'follow me' flag," he recalled. "You'd never see little kids doing that these days." Mike Lewis joined the U.S. Army after college and moved around frequently due to his military duties, making it hard to pursue his flying dreams.

"Dad always wanted me to get my pilot certificate," Mike Lewis said. "He owned a Bonanza that I could have flown, but with my military duties, it just wasn't feasible."

After 22 years in the Army, Mike Lewis retired and quickly found a great job with Lockheed Martin, where he still works eight years later. At this point he seized the opportunity to pursue his dream of flying.

Ray Lewis has been flying for over six decades without a single incident and has received numerous awards, including the prestigious Wright Brothers Award. Skies Gyros, Craig McPherson's company in Blum, under their builder-assist program.

After completing the aircraft, he began his flight training. Unfortunately, just before his final practice flight for the check ride, another pilot in a taildragger collided with him on the runway, totaling the plane. "It was a bummer, but I was lucky to walk away without injury," Mike Lewis said.

After the accident, Ray and Mike Lewis were able to upgrade to the Autogyro Cavalon 915is they now have. Mike Lewis describes their journey with humor. "When we ordered our Autogyro, we wanted it in LAUREN DAVIS | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

under the guidance of the factory's head of production.

"We jumped at the chance," Mike Lewis recalled. "In June 2023, the whole family traveled to Hildesheim, where Dad and I worked on the plane while the others explored the area.

"In just seven build days, we had the airplane 99% complete," Mike Lewis explained. They worked closely with the factory's head of production and the assembly line staff. They were thrilled to receive a builder's certificate for their experimental aircraft, which was built to certified factory standards. "It was a win-win for us!" he added.

Ray Lewis, a seasoned pilot with over 60 years of experience, has been passionate about aviation since his late teens. He financed his flight training by doing underwater salvage work during his college years at the University of Texas at Austin.

"I grew up with my dad fly-

In his 80s, rising insurance costs prompted him to sell his Bonanza and purchase an Autogyro MTO Sport 915is kit. Mike Lewis assisted his dad with the build on weekends, balancing the project with his family and work. They assembled the Autogyro at Blue cherry red, but it arrived in maroon — Texas A&M colors!" he laughed. "You can imagine my dad's face!"

While making the purchase, they received an exciting offer from the CEO from Autogyro: if they traveled to Germany, they could build the aircraft on-site Now, with about 110 hours of flight time in the Autogyro, Mike Lewis is eager for more adventures with his father. "Dad is a wealth of knowledge," he said. "I learn something new every time I fly with him. I'm hoping for many more years of flying together."

## Granbury prepares for 11th Annual 50 Fellas Foodfest: *A culinary celebration for a cause*

#### **BY LAUREN DAVIS** Staff Writer

lauren@hcnews.com

Excitement is building for the 11th Annual 50 Fellas Foodfest, which will be held Saturday, Oct. 19, from 6 -8:30 p.m. at the Granbury Reunion Grounds' Courts Cleveland Showbarn.

This highly anticipated event is not just a cooking

competition but an indispensable fundraiser supporting the Granbury ISD Education Foundation.

The Education Foundation has about 23 board members and 100% of the funds raised by 50 Fellas Foodfest goes back to the schools. "We have no overhead; we just put it all back in GISD," said foundation president, Stacy Mitchell.

#### FOOD, RAFFLE PRIZES, AND AN AUCTION

The Foodfest features 50 teams of two men each, who will prepare delicious one-bite samples of appetizers, entrées, or desserts. Attendees can look forward to an evening filled with mouth-watering dishes, complimentary water, and tea,

PLEASE SEE **FELLAS** | B3



COURTESY PHOTO

2023 50 Fellas Foundation organizers and participants (From left) Stacy Mitchell, Holly Martin, Jeremy Glenn, Todd Garner and Michelle Lucero.



PHOTO COURTESY OF APACHE CROWN DANCERS

The famous Apache Crown Dancers will perform at the Dinosaur Valley Inter-Tribal Powwow in Glen Rose Saturday, Oct. 19.

## Glen Rose event offers chance to learn Native American heritage

#### **BY RICK MAUCH**

*Special to the Hood County News* 

Native American heritage and history will be both honored and enjoyed Oct. 19 in Glen Rose.

The Second Annual Dinosaur Valley Inter-Tribal Powwow will take place at the Somervell County Expo Center in Glen Rose. The event, which takes place from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. is designed to honor Native American heritage, along with presentations designed to educate visitors about the history of those who were the first to occupy America and the significant contributions they made to the growth of this country.

Oh, and there'll be lots of food and fun as well. For example, if you've never tried Indian tacos or fry bread, now's your chance.

And it's free to attend. This year's event is making a move from Glen Rose Heritage Park to the show barn of the Expo Center. Event spokesperson Julie Hale said the move offers more opportunities to showcase all they have to offer.

"By comparison to this year, the event is 200% changed!" she said enthusiastically. "We have partnered with a co-located event the Heritage and Hooch Festival and a calf roping event, so our traffic should be significantly increased. We are also able to utilize the sound stage and special effects team that the H&H festival has.

"We have been able to attract fantastic dancers and leading staff and more talent as a result of the venue change. Our vendors have been carefully curated to provide only the best shopping options. We will have no

PLEASE SEE EVENT | B3

## Constitution Week celebrated by local schools

#### Staff Reports

Each September, the Elizabeth Crockett Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (ECCDAR) celebrates the Constitution of the United States during Constitution Week. This year seemed special to the members, as all five GISD elementary schools invited the Constitution Committee presenters to their fifth-grade or fourth grade classes. The up-close introduction included the American revolutionary history, its people, its liberty,

and the Constitutional rights of Americans.

On Wednesday, Sept. 17, ECCDAR members were joined by Sons of the American Revolution, parents, children, and community leaders at a Constitution Day Tea.

This year's event attend-

ees were inspired by District Judge Bryan Bufkin, as well as Hood County resident Zoila Douglas who shared her childhood story of fleeing Cuba and finding freedom in the United States. Tan Flippin, discipleship pastor at Lakeside Baptist Church Granbury, offered a special prayer for the nation, leaders and those in the armed services.

Students from Grace Classical Christian Academy attended Bells Across America at Granbury's Langdon Center as part of Constitution Week. Bells Across America is an annual celebration of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Event attendees gather to ring bells of liberty much as the church bells of Philadelphia rang out when the U.S. Constitution was first signed at 4 p.m. Sept. 17, 1787.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Students from Grace Classical Christian Academy attended Ring the Bells at Granbury's Langdon Center.



Fifth grade classes at Baccus helped Peggy Freeman as Mrs. Alexander Hamilton interview King George III played by Dickey Freeman about taxes.







Oak Woods School fifth graders welcomed guest speakers: minute man Phil Harris; Donna Thompson, who gave an overview; Dickey Freeman as King George III helped students understand the meaning of the word "tyrant;" Sue Goldson as Mercy Otis Warren shared about the role of women in the creation of the Constitution; Wes Thompson as Ben Franklin and Clint Helton as George Washington joined Peggy Freeman as Mrs. Alexander Hamilton in presenting the reason for the Constitution roles of the framers of the Constitution.

Jim and Kathy Hanlon as George and Martha Washington at STEAM Academy at Mambrino.



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## GISD's Houcine Chraibi honored as Optimist of the Year

#### From Staff Reports

he Granbury Independent School District recently announced that Assistant Director of Finance Houcine Chraibi has been named the Optimist of the Year by the Granbury Optimist Club. This prestigious award is presented annually to an individual who exemplifies outstanding dedication to community service, particularly in their work with youth.

Chraibi's involvement in numerous projects benefiting students and families across Hood County has made a lasting impact, showcasing his commendable commitment to fostering positive opportunities for

#### young people.

Through his leadership and volunteer efforts, he has played a key role in supporting youth programs aligned with the mission of the Optimist Club, which aims to "bring out the best in

kids" by promoting a caring and supportive environment. From community service projects to educational initiatives, Chraibi's contributions truly reflect the core values of the Optimist movement.

"I am deeply honored to receive this recognition, but this award really belongs to the entire Granbury Optimist Club," Chraibi said. "It reflects the incredible investment the club has made in our youth and the collective dedication to helping young people across Hood County thrive. Our focus has

always been on providing opportunities, building confidence and shaping a brighter future for our kids. I'm proud to be part of this mission, and I look forward to continuing our work together."

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF GRANBURY ISD Granbury ISD's Assistant Director of Finance Houcine Chraibi has been named the Optimist of the Year by the Granbury Optimist Club.





#### 2023 50 Fellas cooks.

#### FELLAS **FROM PAGE B1**

along with the opportunity to vote for their favorites.

An admission ticket includes adult beverages, with **Revolver Brewing providing** the beer and wine available as well — this is why the event is for adults aged 21 and over.

Guests can purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win exciting prizes, such as lakerelated items including fishing rods.

There will be a live auction tailored specifically for men, capturing the spirit of the 50 Fellas. One highlight is a unique hunting experience. Scott and Stacy Mitchell, owners of a ranch near Wichita Falls, are offering a special lot at auction for the winning bidder and a friend—a weekend of skeet shooting and hunting for hogs & turkeys. "Every year, attendees rave about how the event improves," acknowledged Mitchell. This year the or-

#### ganization has attracted 90 sponsors.

A standout feature of the event is a live auction item offering parents a special opportunity: A graduation spot next to the stage. This prize allows parents to be the first to hug their child as they walk off the stage. Although the number of these spots is limited by Granbury Independent School District, the chance to share this moment and watch the fireworks afterward makes it a highly sought-after item. The opportunity to be the first to celebrate their child's achievement in such a personal way is a major draw for the auction.

This year, some sponsor

#### **SOCIAL FOOD EVENT WITH A SIDE OF COMPETITION**

The event has already sold out this year, with all 700 tickets purchased weeks in advance. No tickets are sold at the door.

Mitchell shared her enthusiasm for the event. "Thanks to the incredible support of our Granbury community, this Foodfest has grown into one of the largest social events of the year," she stated. "It's casual and fun people wear everything from shorts to boots — they want to come in and eat and socialize for a great cause.

"We have representatives from every campus, along with several businesses like Justice Plumbing, Pinnacle Bank, and First National Bank," Mitchell explained.

Participating teams in-

clude district administra-

ness representatives, and

community leaders, each

nary skills.

school campuses, local busi-

eager to showcase their culi-

"These cooks, they all want

tors, men from various

to win, and it's hilarious," Mitchell said, "but they do make good food. Deep-fried prime rib, crab cakes, last year somebody did steak and lobster... they go all out on this because they really want to win," she added. "Some of our teams have even dressed up to match their dishes, making it a fun and competitive atmosphere."

The event is not just about good food; it serves a crucial purpose. Proceeds from the Foodfest go directly to funding innovative teaching grants, scholarships, and other educational resources within GISD. Over the past decade, the event has raised an impressive one million dollars to support local edugoes back to the schools, and we have about a 95% donor retention rate."

Last year's Foodfest raised \$177,000, and Mitchell anticipates surpassing that total this year due to increased sponsorships.

Attendees can look forward to an evening filled with food and a vibrant atmosphere enriched by music and entertainment while they enjoy the food samples. Pinnacle Bank is providing a playlist of music that will accompany the festivities.

With the event taking place in a spacious covered area, Mitchell and her team are optimistic about a great turnout despite the weather. They hope for pleasant temperatures that compel community ticketholders to come out and enjoy the festivities. The 50 Fellas fundraiser concept has spread beyond Granbury. Georgetown ISD, after hearing of its success from a former Granbury administrator, requested information and successfully implemented the event

as well. "This event brings everyone together it's not just about food; it's about community," Mitchell said. "We're proud to see people from outside the county wanting to join in, thanks to the buzz this event generates."

For those who missed out on tickets, there are still opportunities to support the Foundation through sponsorships or donations. Interested parties can email gef50fellasfoodfest@gmail.com or visit the website at www.granburyisd.org/50fellas for more information.

As the countdown to the 11th Annual 50 Fellas

donations include rounds of golf at DeCordova Bend Estates and Harbor Lakes, with funds raised going toward teacher grants for classroom needs. "Teachers apply, and we review and award as many as we can," noted Mitchell.

**90 SPONSORS THIS YEAR** 

cation initiatives.

"Holly Martin and Michelle Lucero on the board — they coordinate everything! This is our only fundraiser," Mitchell explained. "Granbury is a small community, so we aim to make this event as impactful as possible. Every dollar we raise

Foodfest continues, Granbury is poised to celebrate a night of culinary excellence while raising critical funds for local education. It promises to be a delicious and memorable evening for all involved.

#### EVENT **FROM PAGE B1**

direct sales and no junk."

Vendors will feature such items as handcrafted knives, jewelry, clothing, home décor, and more.

"For our vendors who are Native Tribal members, their booths will be clearly marked so the shoppers will know that they are buying legit wares that comply with the Native American Arts Act, a law that prevents misrepresenting 'Native Crafted' articles," Hale said.

There will also be two traditional tepees set up in the arena for people to see and experience.

#### **EDUCATION**

"Educating the future generation is the key. Native culture, at its foundation, is about protecting the family and changing the negative trajectory of Native youth and youth in general," Hale said. "Our MC will address the dance and cultural elements that focus on core family values of love, support, respect for elders, and more.

"All modern powwows are drug and alcohol-free events. Our youth are invited into the drum circle and encouraged to don regalia and dance. From adults to children, you cannot help but want to be involved when you are in attendance."

Hale said, for example, when the Grass Dance is announced, the MC will explain its origins and how it is represented today.

"Warriors will dance in a way that you can practically see them tracking wild game or enemies... the bobbing heads and low to the ground movement are all beautiful to watch, but you can definitely be transported to a vision of a warrior on the hunt, on the trail," she said.

Hale said there is even a Native youth organization from Houston bringing in two charter buses full of children from kindergarten through 12th grades to see/learn/participate. Fox 4 television has also requested some dancers to be in their studio for a morning show a week before the event, along with airing video of the event after.

"To say we have gotten significant traction is an understatement!" Hale exclaimed.

#### **SHARING HERITAGE**

Hale noted that event organizer Vick White Hawk Castillo is a Glen Rose resident who is Mescalero Apache. He is dedicated and leading the charge to establish the White Hawk Foundation for Indigenous Cultural Education.

"The root of powwows is community and family and in our scattered world, many Native Americans don't have readily available cultural associations if they live away from the reservation environments," Hale said. "So, powwows give them the connection and outlet to keep their culture alive.

"Additionally, in the world of negative light on Native culture alcoholism and poverty we are able to highlight the beauty of the history and modern Native cultural pride by showcasing a variety of dances, regalia, and community involvement."

The master of ceremonies will explain each dance and its history. Also, attendees are welcome to join the dancers at various times in community dance.

Apache is the spotlighted nation for the event. Along with Mescalero, the Lipan and White Mountain tribes will be represented.

#### **JONATHAN ROSS**

Among the guest speakers is Jonathan Ross, who some might know as the voice of John Redcorn on "King of the Hill", the character Bad Face on "Tulsa King," or Chief Ken Hotate in "Parks and Recreation."

"Jonathan is great! He is a Native first and actor second," Hale said. "He's a personal friend who decided to jump in and help us give some spotlight to the event by his attendance."

A "King of the Hill" reboot is planned on Hulu for middle to late 2025.

Hale said Ross will be speaking on a variety of topics, including keeping the culture "true" in relation to

onscreen appearances.

"For example he had a scene where his character was supposed to do a 'blessing' with tobacco and the set creators provided him with actual ceremonial tobacco. He quickly had that switched out for dried oregano as it would have been inappropriate for him to actually use a ceremonial product in an acting scene," Hale said. "He will be in mix and mingle mode, so I hope folks just come to hang out with him. He's chatty and very down to earth and approachable."

#### **PRINCESS ATAUVICH**

Also speaking and available for visitation will be Kasey Atauvich, Princess for the U.S. Marine Corps Native Veterans Association. She represents the mission and values of the organization and will be discussing its role in serving Native USMC veterans.

Castillo is a 24-year USMC veteran with two purple hearts.

"The native culture, in general, holds our nation's warriors in high regard," Hale said. "Powwows always open with a flag ceremony and posting of the colors and are extremely patriotic events, including the presence of the POW/MIA flag.

"This year we will have a contingent of active-duty Marines from the JRB (joint reserve base) providing our color guard.

place around 6 p.m., Hale

said.

#### **FOR GOOD CAUSES**

The event will benefit the Rylan Strong Network and its fight against childhood cancer, along with Somervell County Toys for Tots.

Castillo, being a retired Marine, is the new Toys for Tots director in Somervell County. Hale is the outgoing director.

"We have merged all that passion into one incredible event," she said.

Hale said corporate advertising and donations are still being accepted as the event approaches. For more information, contact her at 682-307-0659 or info@apachecrowndancers.com, or Castillo at 817-559-3308 or vgcastillo@yahoo.com.

#### **APACHE CROWN DANCERS**

Saturday, Oct. 19.

The Apache Crown Dancers will be making an appearance at the powwow. They are rarely seen off the reservation in White Mountain, Arizona and outside of private ceremonial dances, Hale said.

Vick is a Crown Dancer, so we are able to bring them here in exhibition," Hale said. "They represent a dance of significant cultural importance. Their regalia is representative of the Apache origin story. They dance for community protection and healing.

"Vick is currently working on requests to have this group dance in exhibition at Buckingham Palace, Canada, Alaska, and Hawaii. We will have special effects on the dance arena for their dance." The exhibition will take

Native American actor Jonathan Ross, who plays the voice of John Redcorn on "King of the Hill", the character Bad Face on "Tulsa King" and Chief Ken Hotate in "Parks and Recreation" will be a guest speaker at the Dinosaur Valley Inter-Tribal Powwow in Glen Rose on

PHOTO COURTESY OF JONATHAN ROSS



## HOOD OUTDOORS Fall Boat Checklist



#### **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.

t is that time of the year. Some folks put their boats up for the season, and many of us keep right on using our boats throughout the year. Either way, it is a good idea to get that maintenance done, especially before it freezes. You still have some time before our first freeze, which is typically around the first week in December but could occur earlier.

First thing on the list is make sure your batteries are fully charged and the water level is normal. A fully charged battery should not freeze. The summer sun and repetitive charging can "boil" the water out of the battery's cell. This leads to an undercharged battery and loss of life. A battery that is not fully charged can also freeze, which may destroy it.

The next item on my maintenance list is the lower unit. This is a good time to change the lower unit oil and look for any water in the oil. If you have water in the oil, you may have a bad seal. You definitely don't want water in your lower unit when it gets cold enough to freeze as the chances are, you will incur a large repair bill on the lower unit. This is also a good time to check the tilt/ trim and hydraulic steering for proper fluid levels.

Periodically, it is recommended that you remove your prop and see if any fishing line is wrapped on the shaft. Fishing line can damage lower unit seals, which would lead to water in the lower unit, which we just talked about. It is also a good idea to put some grease on the shaft before you put the prop back on.

Other items that should be looked at include the "bulb" on the fuel line. This is an inexpensive item that can prevent fuel from getting to your engine. All rubber hoses should be checked periodically as well.

A fuel stabilizer is cheap insurance in the gas tank, especially if you are to let your boat sit for a while.

One item that is not mentioned much, but is a good idea to check, is the tightness of all hardware. Start with the biggest hardware including those bolts holding the engine to the transom or jack plate. Over time, these can loosen for a variety of reasons. The same applies to your trailer.

Check steering cables and lubricate as necessary. A previous boat of mine would get water in the cables, and on those really cold mornings would not move when the water froze not a good thing when you are trying to get on the water.

Speaking of trailers, it is



COURTESY PHOTO BY BUKHTA79 ADOBESTOCK.COM

First thing on the list is make sure your batteries are fully charged and the water level is normal.

also a good time to check bearings and seals. Look for pitting in the bearings and replace seals regularly as the rubber can deteriorate with time.

These are just a few items to check. Other items such as bilge and livewell pumps and hoses, including thru-hull fittings, should be checked. Make sure all of lights are functional on the boat and on the trailer.

Best advice is to do a little maintenance up front and, hopefully, you will prevent many of the breakdowns that can happen.

#### HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures are in the upper 70s to low 80s. Level is at pool or close to it. Striped bass are slow to fair to 10lbs on live bait fished on the lower ends with an occasion report near Indian Harbor to the Shores. Some good striped bass are being caught below schooling sandbass. Sandbass continue to school early and late. Many of the

sandbass are small, but there are some bigger ones mixed in. Look for the schooling sandbass from Striper Alley to Decordova Estates and near the Shores. Crappie fishing is on underwater structure (trees/bridges,etc). Small jigs or small minnows are producing crappie from Waters Edge to the Peninsula. Catfish are active on baited holes and on flats and humps near creek channels. Cut shad is the preferred bait for catfish. The large yellow cats are good on live perch.

### BRIDGE STREET HISTORY CENTER Just a reminder: 10th anniversary of Ramay-Macatee speeakers series



#### **BY MAURICE WALTON**

Maurice Walton is a retired attorney and serves on the Bridge Street History Center board of directors. He and his wife, Carol, moved to Granbury in 1978..

This year marks an exciting milestone for the Bridge Street History Center and our community - the 10th anniversary of the Bridge Street History Center's annual Ramay-Macatee Speakers Series. To celebrate this occasion, we've planned a special event that promises to be a treat for history buffs and literature enthusiasts alike. On Thursday, Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Granbury Live, the history center will host a roundtable discussion featuring three distinguished voices in Texas literature and history: noted authors S.C. Gwynne and Stephen Harrigan, moderated by the well-known jurist, historian and podcaster, Justice Ken Wise. What makes this event truly special is that it will be the first time these three accomplished men have appeared together on the same stage in this format. While they're all acquainted with each other, and Wise has previously interviewed both Harrigan and Gwynne, this unique combination promises fresh historical insights along with entertaining and interesting conversation. If you're curious about what to expect, I highly recommend watching the roundtable discussion featuring Harrigan and Gwynne with author Elizabeth Crook at the LBJ Library, available on YouTube.

Coordinating the schedules of these busy men was no small task. We began planning in January, and thanks to the moral and financial support of our sponsors, we're thrilled to make this idea a reality. As someone who has for several years relished the thought of seeing these three men together, I decided to prepare myself for this special event by reading Harrigan's 2024 book "The Leopard is Loose" and Gwynne's 2023 book "His Majesty's Airship." While I don't typically write book reviews, these works are so captivating that I thought I would give it a shot. I'd like to share my thoughts with you with the hope they will help you get excited for the event.

mother and older brother are living with his maternal grandparents. His two uncles, who are World War II veterans, each suffering with psychological scars from the war, live close by, and form a part of the family unit as it existed for the young boy in 1952. As he unravels the intricacies of his relationships, a leopard escapes from the Oklahoma City Zoo. The community is thrust into dangerous excitement, including men driving around the streets of the city in pickups with rifles looking for the leopard. The boy's family is not unaffected by the reality that a leopard is roaming loose around Oklahoma City. When I read about the book in anticipation of reading it, the story line seemed a little unusual, but when I started reading it, I was fascinated. Harrigan wove a wonderful story from what seemed like an unusual story line. Gwynne's 2023 book "His Majesty's Airship" highlights his meticulous research and his ability to make an obscure historical event come to life. The story centers around the rise and fall of the world's largest airship, the luxurious and technologically advanced, British made R101. It may be an obscure event today, but in 1930 when the crash occurred, it was a big deal. At that point in aviation history, it had not yet been determined whether airships or fixed wing aircraft were the wave of the future. The crash of the R101 pretty much settled the issue. In unfolding the story of the doomed airship, which included fascinating details about the construction of R101 and stories about its designers, officers, workers and crew, Gwynne manages to weave in the tragic love story of an ambitious British officer and a married Romanian princess. Throughout the book, the ending is not in doubt. From the very start, I knew that

the 1900 hurricane that hit Galveston. I also enjoyed Wise's recent interviews with Texas' longest serving governor, Rick Perry. My list doesn't even include his many stories about early Texas history; there are just too many "favorites" to list. You have to remember, he has been writing and hosting his podcast since 2015.

While these books and podcasts offer a taste of what's to come, the roundtable discussion will likely focus more broadly on writing as a craft and the panelists' thoughts on Texas history. All three men have expressed a deep fascination with the state's rich past, and I anticipate we'll hear some of their unique insights and perspectives. In closing, I want to em-

phasize what a rare opportunity this event presents. If you're fortunate enough to be in the audience at Granbury Live Nov. 7, you'll witness a piece of history in the making. This will be the first time Stephen Harrigan, S.C. Gwynne, and Justice Ken Wise have shared the stage in a roundtable discussion. For those who have attended previous Ramay-Macatee Speakers Series events, you may have seen these gentlemen individually, but never together in this format. I hope to see you there. If tickets haven't sold out by the time you read this column, you can purchase them at granburylive. com. Don't miss this chance to be part of a truly special evening of Texas history and literature.

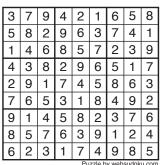
"The Leopard is Loose" is told from the perspective of a young boy growing up in Oklahoma City in 1952. He is living in a time of transition for his family. His father, a test pilot, has just died, and he and his R101 was going to crash. After all, the crash is what the story is built around. As the story developed, I also knew there was going to be a devastating loss of life, and that most of the characters I had become attached to were going to perish in the crash. Despite knowing the ultimate fate of R101 from the outset, Gwynne's narrative is so engaging that I found myself wishing for a different outcome.

And what about Wise? How did I prepare myself for his appearance? Easy, I listened to some of my favorite episodes. Just to name a few: Episode 75, an interview with Harrigan; Episodes 67 and 68 about Bonnie and Clyde (no Robin Hood stuff here, just the facts, ma'am); and Episodes 23 and 24 about



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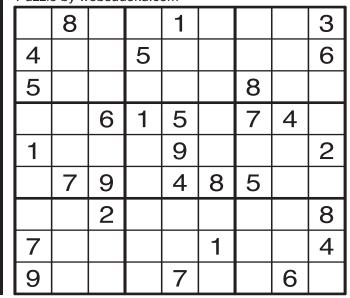
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Hood County News **B5** 

## 90th Anniversary El Tesoro

PHOTOS BY JESSE RAMIREZ JR. | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Hood County's very own Camp El Tesoro celebrated its 90th Anniversary style. For full gallery go to hcnews.com





Lynn Torrance Cox wears a colorful badge that signifies her long and After the flag ceremony, campers made their way toward the dining hall for a meal catered by Hard Eight Barbeque. cherished history at Camp El Tesoro.



A certificate signed by Governor Greg Abbott recognizes the 90-year legacy of Camp El Tesoro.



Each seat in the WoHeLo Lodge is complete with silverware and a commemorative sticker marking a milestone in Camp El Tesoro's history



Some campers opted for a tranquil evening of fishing on the quiet

dock at Camp El Tesoro.





Camp F amp

Texas musician Brad Thompson entertains campers and counselors with a live performance, part of the 90th-anniversary celebration at Camp El Tesoro.

An old canoe, now repurposed as a salad bar, adds a unique touch to the dining hall at Camp El Tesoro.

## **2024 GHS and Tolar homecoming courts**



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOLAR ISD

Tolar High School recently announced its Homecoming Court for 2024. King nominees include Peyton Brown, Brooks Stone, and Dustin Wildcat. Queen nominees include Senne Imel, Presley Ramsay, and Abbie Soileau. The homecoming game will be held Friday, Oct. 11.



PHOTO COURTESY GRANBURY ISD

Granbury High School has officially announced its homecoming king and queen nominees for 2024. Pictured are (L-R): Luis Ramirez-Ortiz, Karmyn Williams, Everett Brown, Cameron Magat, Phoenix Schultz, Jayden Dyer, Logan Robertson, Elliot Roe, Aiden Felton, and Lilly Tyler. Homecoming is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. vs. Azle at Pirate Stadium. For more homecoming information, visit the GISD Homecoming page at granburyisd.org/homecoming.

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Lipan Volleyball

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS The Lady Indians volleyball team held their last home game of the season in Tate Gym on Tuesday, Oct. 1. The Lady Indians took on the Santo Lady Cats, and the Indians came away with 3 sets to 1 victory over the Lady Cats. For full gallery go to hcnews.com.





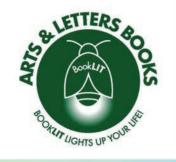




















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**Tolar Volleyball** 



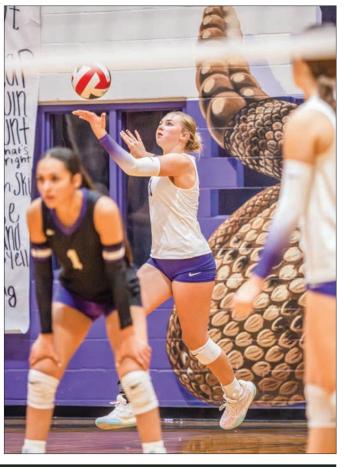
PHOTOS BY JESSE RAMIREZ JR. | HOOD COUNTY NEWS The Lady Rattlers hosted the Early Lady Longhorns in a district match on Oct. 1, in Tolar. The Lady Rattlers secured a decisive 3-0 sweep in the Tuesday afternoon game. For gallery go to hcnews.com.













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### GERMAN GAME NIGHT, 6-9 PM Prizes for: Bierstein Hoisting, Hammer Schlagen, Jumbo German Jenga & More!

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The Lady Indians during time out during the last home game of the season versus Santo Oct. 1.

## Tolar Rattlers to open league play Pirates face perennial state power

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

he Granbury Pirates (1-4, 0-3 in District 3-5A Division I) return to action after a bye week to face arguably the greatest program in the history of Texas High School football when the Aledo Bearcats (4-1, 3-0 at press time) come to town for a 7 p.m. kickoff Friday, Oct. 11.

At press time, Aledo was ranked No. 2 in the state and hosting No. 1 Denton Ryan. The Pirates' last outing was a 63-20 loss at Ryan Thursday, Sept. 26.

Offensive leaders vs. Ryan: Hayden Meyer, 116 yards, 2 TD passing, 11 carries, 43 yards; Spencer Taylor 12 carries, 39 yards; Jonathan McCandless 66-yard TD catch; Elijah Johnston 51-yard TD catch.

Defensive leaders vs.

Guillory 65 carries, 503 yards, 9 TD; Kaydon Finley 28 catches, 489 yards, 8 TD. Aledo defensive players to watch: Chase Wilburn 26 tackles, 6.5 for loss; Adrian Fuller 13.5 tackles, 2 interceptions.

Aledo, which has won 12 state championships 11 since 2009 leads the all-time series 7-4.

#### **TOLAR FOOTBALL**

The Rattlers (4-1) won their fourth straight, 42-6 at home over Breckenridge Friday, Sept. 27, before having a bye this week. When they next play, it will be at home against Early (1-4) Friday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m.

Offensive leaders vs. Breckenridge: Briton Rice 10-of-16, 158 yards, TD passing; Peyton Brown 24 carries, 126 yards, 3 TD; Dacen Watkins 2 catches, 36 yards; Drake Owens 4 catches, 52 yards. Defensive leaders vs. Breckenridge: Brylen Feist 11 tackles, interception; Noah Yanish 8 tackles; Owens 8 tackles, 1 for loss; Cayden Abrego fumble recovery for TD.

ing TD. Early defensive players to watch: Kaedon Byrd 14 tackles per game, sack; Mario Vasquez 10 tackles per game, 2 fumble recoveries; Barton 2 interceptions. Both teams have been

playoff regulars, with the Rattlers having reached the 2A Division I state final last season and the state quarterfinals the previous season. Tolar is 31-4 in that span.

Tolar leads the all-time series 5-3, winning 48-14 last season.

#### **GRANBURY VOLLEYBALL**

The Lady Pirates (21-17, 4-1 in District 5-5A) won 3-0 at Saginaw Friday, Sept. 27 and rallied for a 3-2 win at Azle Tuesday, Oct. 1. Granbury dropped the first two games 18-25 and 24-26 before winning the next three 26-24, 25-23 and 15-8. Leaders vs. Saginaw Kills: Kailynne Sermarini 12, Blakely Bleeker 10. Sienna Watts 8. Aces: Lilyan McCall 2, Audrey Greinert 2, Mattie Weaver 2, Watts 2. Blocks: Masyn Noe 2. Digs: McCall 28, Allyson McCabe 12. Assists: McCabe 34. Receptions: McCall 22. Leaders vs. Azle Kills: Watts 18, Noe 11, Bleeker 10. Aces: Greinert 2. Blocks: Bleeker 3, Jayla Hayes 3.

#### matches at 6 p.m.

#### **TOLAR VOLLEYBALL**

The Lady Rattlers (21-9, 5-1 in District 8-3A) had their 13-match winning streak ended with a thrilling 3-2 loss at Peaster Friday, Sept. 27. After the Lady Greyhounds won the first two games by 25-22 scores, the Lady Rattlers won the next two by identical scores. Peaster held on to win the fifth game 15-12.

"Man, such a good match," Tolar coach Amber Terrell said, noting the whole team as standouts. "We really played well together."

The Lady Rattlers rebounded to defeat Early 3-0 at home on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Standouts were Allyson Dobbs (4 kills, 4 blocks) and Emma Jackson (7 digs, 2 blocks, ace).

Tolar travels to Dublin Tuesday, Oct. 8 for a 5:30 p.m. match before hosting Breckenridge Friday, Oct. 11 at 4:30 p.m.

The Lady Pirates were competing in the Brewer Invitational at press time. It was being run at Central Park in White Settlement, the same course that will host the District 5-5A Meet Friday, Oct. 11.

#### GRANBURY

#### **BOYS CROSS COUNTRY**

Also competing in the Race for the Loot, the Pirates placed fourth in the varsity boys 5K division. Granbury runners included: 14. Aiden Lemens, 18:15.

- 16. Brendon Thorne, 18:19.
- 24. Jacob Wolfe, 19:14. 25. Samuel Valdez, 19:20.
- 27. Nolan Segars, 19:32.
- The JV boys placed second, led by James Barber, eighth in 20:06,

and Matthew Pitts, 10th in 20:29.

The Pirates will next compete in the District 5-5A Meet.

**TOLAR CROSS COUNTRY** 

The Rattlers and Lady

Rattlers ran in the Brock

Invitational Wednesday.

Sept. 25. The varsity boys

by Ernesto Ramirez, who

was 103rd with a time of

21:38. The Lady Rattlers

were led by Ayla Skahan,

of 18:34.35 over 3200

Wednesday, Oct. 9.

a time of 15:07.75.

LIPAN CROSS COUNTRY

The Lady Indians ran

in the Brock Invitational.

Addiline Lawrence paced

Lipan, finishing 82nd over

the 3200-meter course with

meters.

who was 136th with a time

Tolar will compete in the

District 8-3A Meet at Dublin

were led over the 5K course

Lipan will host the District 11-2A Meet Monday, Oct. 7.

#### **GRANBURY TENNIS**

The Pirates/Lady Pirates stepped outside of district play to travel to Denton Tuesday, Sept. 24. They came home with a 10-9 victory, improving to 9-6 on the season.

Braxton Bailey came through in the clutch, capturing his singles match 8-6 to clinch the victory for Granbury.

"Braxton's match may have sealed it, however, there were several very close and meaningful matches that helped put us in that position. Very proud of our team and how we competed tonight," Granbury coach Athan Laskaris said.

Also winning for Granbury were:

Girls singles: Ava Hamrick, 8-1; Albane Combres, 8-3; Lili Vaughn, 8-6. Boys singles: Roland Krause, 8-3; Tyler St. Don, 8-1.

Ryan: Kaleb Johnston 5 tackles; Johnston 5 tackles; Cooper Cumba 4 tackles, fumble recovery for TD; Bryson Hager 4 tackles, interception.

Season offensive leaders: Mery 588 yards, 7 TD, 4 interceptions passing, 121 rushing yards; Andrew DeBello 194 rushing yards; Jackson Arnett 16 catches, 226 yards, 2 TD; McCandless 18 catches, 194 yards, 3 TD.

Season defensive leaders: Chase Cantrell 38 tackles, 6 for loss, 2 sacks; Tahj Clayton 28 tackles; Cumba 25 tackles, 2 for loss, sack, fumble recovery for TD; E. Johnston 21 tackles.

Aledo offensive players to watch: Gavin Beard 69% completions, 584 yards, 9 TD, 2 interceptions; Ray

Season offensive leaders: Rice 60% completion, 824 yards, 6 TD, 3 interceptions, rushing TD; Brown 79 carries, 426 yards, 5 TD; Feist 15 catches, 256 yards, 2 TD; Owens 11 catches, 209 yards, TD.

Season defensive leaders: Owens 47 tackles, 2.5 for loss, sack; Cash Clark 39 tackles, 2 for loss, 2 sacks; Kelvin Murray 36 tackles, 5 for loss; Feist 31 tackles, 1 for loss, interception.

Early offensive players to watch: Andrew Reedy 166 average receiving yards, 11 TD; Weston Barton 9 pass-

Digs: McCall 28, McCabe 19, Weaver 17. Assists: McCabe 49.

Receptions: McCall 38, Watts 20.

The Lady Pirates will host Chisholm Trail on Tuesday, Oct. 8, followed by hosting Aledo Friday, Oct. 11, both

#### **GRANBURY GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY**

The Lady Pirates placed third in the varsity girls 5K division in their own Race for the Loot Friday, Sept. 27, at the Granbury Disc Golf Course. Seven Granbury runners placed in the top 26:

8. Ava Stein, 21:45. 11. Kambry Zschiesche, 22:22

13: Josefina Berry, 22:28. 15. Adalyn Hollis, 22:50. 23. Alexie Patrick, 23:45. 24. Karolina Berry, 24:14. 26. Ziva Sedgwick, 24:37. Elyse Jernigan led the junior varsity girls for Granbury, placing 14th with a time of 28:04.

Girls doubles: Combres, Ellie Weeks, 8-4.

Boys doubles: Colten Whitefield/St. Don, 8-1.

Mixed doubles: Mandi Labelle/Sullivan Williamson. 8-5.

On the JV side and last match of the night, Noah Lilley-Martinez came back from being down 4-1 to win 7-5.

Granbury is 3-2 in District 5-5A and in third place. They were playing at Saginaw to seal a playoff berth at press time.

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Hood County News **B9** 

## TARLETON State University<sup>TM</sup>

## Texans improve to 4-1 for 3rd straight year, fend off Lions in front of Family Weekend record crowd

*Tarleton State University* 

STEPHENVILLE – Family Weekend always brings a strong showing to Memorial Stadium, and the best Family Weekend crowd in Tarleton State history enjoyed a Texan Football Victory on Saturday, Sept. 28.

No. 16 Tarleton State (4-1, 1-0 UAC) improved to 4-1 for the third straight year with its 36-33 win against Southeastern Louisiana (1-4, 0-0 SLC) in Stephenville. The Texans won in front of a Family Weekend record crown, as 22,312 fans were on hand to witness Tarleton's first game at Memorial Stadium in over a month.

The Texans and Lions played neck-and-neck throughout the contest, and Tarleton State clawed out a narrow victory for the second straight year in this meeting, the first two matchups in series history. This was Tarleton's final non-conference regular season game of the year, as the Texans finished the slate 3-0 against Southland Conference teams. Tarleton has won seven straight non-conference games against non-FBS opponents dating back to 2022, and 13 of their last 14 dating back to 2021.

The Texans have won eight of their last nine games.

Tarleton WR Darius Cooper had his best game of the season with nine receptions for 80 yards and a pair of touchdowns. The reigning FCS National Offensive Player of the Week Kayvon Britten raced for 173 yards and a touchdown on 28 carries (6.2 YPC). Victor Gabalis completed 15-of-26 for 203 yards, three touchdowns and an interception.

Defensively, Blake Smith ended the game with an interception as the Lions faced a 4th and 10 their own 47yard line with 1:05 to play. Ty Rawls helped Tarleton change the game in the third quarter with a forced fumble and fumble recovery three plays after Tarleton retook the lead, which the Texans then followed up with a touchdown on the next play to go up 29-19. Rawls also had seven tackles and a TFL. Bam Smith finished with a team-high nine tackles and two quarterback hurries, and Donta Stuart added seven tackles.

It was a true nailbiter, back-and-forth contest throughout on Saturday. The first quarter ended without a score, with the first five drives combined ending in punts. The Texans got things going from there, stringing together a 12-play, 90-yard drive that ended in a Britten 2-yard rushing touchdown, his sixth TD of the season.

The Lions answered with their own long drive, a 12play, 75-yard march that ended on a fake field goal rushing touchdown by Justin Dumas to make it 7-7. Tarleton turned it over two plays later, and the Lions took advantage with an Antonio Martin Jr. 3-yard touchdown rush. The Lions missed the extra point to make it 13-7 SLU.

The Texans settled down and responded with a 75yard scoring drive to take the lead back. Gabalis capped it with a 27-yard touchdown to Cody Jackson with 47 seconds remaining in the half.

SLU moved quickly down the field to take the lead into the locker room, booting a 20-yarder through as the first half clock expired. The Lions led 16-14 at the break.

Southeastern Louisiana started its offensive footing in the second half with a field goal to go up 19-14 before Tarleton started to take control back. The Texans retook the lead after a 9-play, 83-yard drive, which Derrel Kelley III bulldozed his way



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

through on for an 11-yard touchdown. Tarleton State succeeded on its two-point conversion, Gabalis to Benjamin Omayebu, to make it 22-19. Rawls then forced the turnover, and Gabalis found Cooper for their first of two scoring connections, this one from 23 yards out to put Tarleton ahead 29-19.

SLU's running back Martin broke free for a 57-yard touchdown run to stop the bleeding for SLU. Tarleton took a 29-26 lead into the fourth quarter that was quickly erased by Martin's third touchdown rush of the game, this one from two yards out to put the Lions up 33-29.

Down four, the Texans marched down to take the lead for good, covering 75 yards on 11 plays, ending on a 4-yard Cooper touchdown catch from Gabalis.

Tarleton's defense held firm on SLU's final two drives, as the Texans forced a three-and-out and forced the turnover to end the game. Martin finished with the big game for SLU, recording 206 yards and three touchdowns on 32 carries (6.4 YPC). Southeastern Louisiana quarterback Eli Sawyer completed 17-of-27 for 155 yards and an interception. KK Reno had a team-high 11 tackles for the Lions.

Tarleton State will hit the road for a single game, with only conference play remaining in the regular season for the Texans. Tarleton will play at Southern Utah on Saturday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m.

### TSU welcomes texans back with week of homecoming traditions

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Homecoming is one of the most treasured times of tradition at Tarleton State University, with many generations of Texans returning to 125 Years of Excellence. "Tarleton Homecoming is about alumni returning to campus to reconnect with their Tarleton Texans holds dear. It's all about coming together as one Texan Nation."

Celebrations will kick off Sunday evening, Oct. 6, with the Memorial Homecoming 5K and the Lighting of the Smokestack. Other events throughout the week include the Silver Bugle Hunt, Launching of the Ducks, Purple Pancakes, Yell Contest, Snake Dance, the L.V. Risinger Memorial Bonfire and the Homecoming Parade.

Many first-year students have excitedly prepared for their initial homecoming experience since Duck Camp, where they learn about the with traditions and a cool history. Tarleton State is just that," said first-year kinesiology major McKenna Green. "I am so excited that homecoming is almost here, and I'll finally get to experience all the super fun traditions. The one I am most excited about is the bonfire because I have heard it will be fun and full of Tarleton spirit." Because homecoming is such an essential part of the Tarleton State community, the outreach campuses located in Fort Worth, Waco and Bryan will also celebrate cherished traditions such as the Launching of the Ducks and Purple Pancakes.

campus Oct. 6-12 for a week of celebratory events.

This year's festivities are highly anticipated, with the university also celebrating side current students, we share our Tarleton stories and honor our traditions while embracing new traditions that this generation of

family," said Brian Warner,

Tarleton Alumni Association

President. "Together, along-

many Tarleton State traditions celebrated during this week.

"When looking for a college, I knew I wanted a place For the schedule of events and more information on Tarleton State Homecoming, visit www.tarleton.edu/ homecoming/.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Tarleton State Men's Golf senior Alvaro Huidobro had his fifth career top 20 finish, shooting 6-underpar to claim 14th in the Texans' second tournament of the season at the Mark Simpson Invitational on Monday, Sept. 30.

### Huidobro collects fifth career top 20 finish to lead TSU Men's Golf in Mark Simpson Invitational

Tarleton State University

ERIE, Colo. – Tarleton State Men's Golf senior Alvaro Huidobro had his fifth career top 20 finish, shooting 6-under-par to claim 14th in the Texans' second tournament of the season at the Mark Simpson Invitational on Monday, Sept. 30.

Huidobro shot an even par in round one and followed that up for a season-best 4-under-par 68 in the second round in Monday's 36hole day. The Spaniard completed play with five birdies to obtain a two-under par 70 in Tuesday's final round, lifting him into the top 15. Huidobro reached the top 10 lowest in the program in the Division I Era for lowest 36-hole score (140) and 54hole score (210).

The Texans finished 11th as a team with a 54-hole score of 860, the fourthlowest in program history in the Division I Era. Tarleton State's first round team score of 284 and its 36-hole score of 572 both cracked the top 10 lowest in the program in the Division I Era.

Senior Carson Gallaher shot a season-low 1-underpar 215 54-hole score, including a pair of 2-under par rounds.

After making his collegiate debut in Tarleton

State's first tournament of the season, freshman Kellen Young shot a 4-under-par 68 in Monday's first round and compiled a total 54-hole score of 218. Young's first round of 68 matches the lowest score for a round by a Tarleton State freshman in the Division I Era.

Senior Cristobal Sepulveda compiled a 54hole score of 221 while sophomore Juan Ballester came up with a 225 54-hole score in his second tournament with the Texans. Tarleton State goes back

on the road next week, competing in the Oregon State Invitational Oct. 7-8.

### Tarleton State men's rodeo team takes second straight dominating win

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Tarleton State University's men's rodeo team amassed 665 points in last weekend's National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association (NIRA) Southwest Region stop at Sul Ross State in Alpine, taking a commanding first place for the second consecutive week.

The effort was led by firstplace finishes from bareback rider Tuker Carricato and saddle bronc rider Coleman Shallbetter. Carricato topped the 80-point mark on both his broncs, earning an 83.5 in the long-go, then adding an 85 in the championship finals. Shallbetter's 164 twohead total came on rides of 79 and 85 points.

Roedy Farrell and Bailey Small each contributed second-place finishes in Alpine. Farrell's runner-up effort included rides of 75.5 and 83 points on bareback broncs for a 158.5 tally. Small posted a 79-83-162 in saddle broncs.

Teammate Waitley Sharon was fourth in saddle bronc

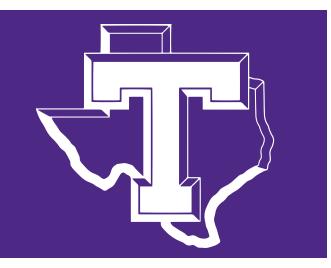
riding with a 158 on scores of 78 and 80 and Teel Sikes was third in steer wrestling on the strength of his 4.2-5.2-9.4 performance.

On the women's side, Tarleton State barrel racers Hadley Tidwell, Rylee Abel and Jordan Driver captured the top three spots in the event and paced the team to a third-place finish.

Tidwell topped the field with her first-place 15.91 in the preliminary round, then added an event-best 15.59 in the finals for a two-run 31.5, followed by Abel's 15.9515.82-31.77 and a 15.92-15.93-31.85 from Driver.

Shyanne Bauerle took the goat tying crown at SRSU flashing with a 6.2-7.3-13.5. Kayla Garza wound up third in the event on runs of 6.7 and 7.9 and teammate Cidney Estes' 2.1-3.3-5.4 was good for fifth in breakaway roping.

Both squads continue NIRA Southwest Region action Oct. 10 at the Clarendon College Rodeo.



# Pecan Plantation Fly-In introduces local youth to aviation through the Young Eagles Program

#### From Staff Reports

The Pecan Plantation Fly-In and Car Show, held Saturday, Sept. 28, provided a day of fun and excitement for the community. One of the main highlights was the Young Eagles program, which gave 75 children their first experience of flying in an airplane.

"Pilots have always enjoyed sharing the experience of flying with others, especially kids," said Bruce

McJunkin, coordinator of the Pecan Plantation Young Eagles program alongside his wife, Geneva. "It's a thrill to see their faces light up during their first flight."

The Young Eagles program, launched in 1992 by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), is designed to introduce youth aged 8-17 to aviation by offering free flights. Pilots from across the country vol-

unteer their time and aircraft to take kids into the sky, hoping to inspire the next generation of aviators. Since its inception, more than 2.5 million children have participated in the program.

The EAA Chapter 983. based in Pecan Plantation, actively participates in this nationwide initiative by hosting recurring Young Eagles rallies. McJunkin explained that the chapter's pilots not

only fly the children but also donate their time and aircraft. "This program is all about encouraging young people to explore education and aviation," McJunkin said. "We also offer some youth scholarships for advanced flight training."

In addition to offering free flights, the chapter administers scholarships for local youth, including opportunities to learn flying skills in

sailplanes through a glider club near Cresson. The chapter also plans to start hosting an affordable FAA ground school at Pecan Plantation for youth and adults aspiring to become licensed pilots.

Several prominent aviators have led The Young Eagles program over the years, including actor Cliff Robertson, General Chuck Yeager — the first man to fly faster than the speed of

sound — and Harrison Ford. Pilots Chesley Sullenberger and Jeffrey Skiles celebrated for the U.S. Air emergency landing in the Hudson River as well as famous aerobatic pilot Swan Tucker and Jimmy Graham, a Green Bay Packer player, have also chaired the program.

As McJunkin summarized, "This program is all about inspiring the future of aviation one flight at a time."



PHOTOS BY LAUREN DAVIS HOOD COUNTY NEW! (From left) New pilot, Wyatt **Richeson with Geneva and** Bruce McJunkin, coordinators of Pecan Plantation Young Eagles program, chapter EAA



**Pecan Plantation Young** Eagles program pilot Tim Long returns from a flight with (front passenger) Jaxon Tyler and (backseat) Darin Stephens and Caleb Childrey (wearing headset).







There are **Approximately 3.8** millon teachers Teachers in the united states as of the 2023-2024 School year.

orld Teachers' Day, celebrated annually on October 5th, is a time to recognize and honor the invaluable contributions of educators worldwide. This special day serves as a reminder of the vital role teachers play in shaping the minds and futures of students and society as a whole.

Teachers are the unsung heroes who inspire, motivate, and empower individuals to reach their full potential. They dedicate their time, energy, and expertise to nurturing young minds, fostering a love for learning, and instilling valuable skills and knowledge that last a lifetime.

On World Teachers' Day, we express gratitude to teachers for their tireless dedication, passion, and commitment to education. It's an opportunity to thank them for their hard work, patience, and unwavering belief in the potential of every student.

This year's World Teachers' Day theme, 'Teachers at the Heart of Education Recovery, highlights the crucial role teachers play in helping communities navigate the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite unprecedented disruptions to education, teachers have shown remarkable resilience, creativity, and adaptability

in ensuring continuity of learning for students.

As we celebrate World Teachers' Day, let's reflect on the profound impact teachers have on shaping the future of our world. Whether in traditional classrooms, virtual settings, or informal learning environments, teachers inspire curiosity, critical thinking, and a thirst for knowledge.

World Teachers' Day is also an opportunity to advocate for the rights and well-being of teachers worldwide. Ensuring that teachers receive adequate support, resources, and professional development opportunities is essential for creating a conducive

learning environment and promoting educational excellence.

This World Teachers' Day, let's celebrate educators' dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to shaping the next generation of leaders, innovators, and changemakers. Whether through heartfelt appreciation, thoughtful gestures, or acts of kindness, let's show teachers that their efforts are valued and appreciated every day, not just on October 5th. Together, let's honor and uplift educators who continue to make a difference in the lives of students and communities around the globe.



NGLISH: Teacher **SPANISH:** Maestro **ITALIAN:** Insegnante FRENCH: Professeur **GERMAN:** Lehrer



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## The ABCs of LOL: A playful look at acronyms and their quirky origins "HTML" (hypertext markup

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

cronyms — those pesky, shortened forms of words that save time and often make us scratch our heads — have wormed their way into every corner of our lives. From text messages to official government documents, acronyms are everywhere. But how did they become so ubiquitous? And why do we use them? Let's dive into the entertaining world of acronyms, exploring their origins, their role in our lives, and a few humorous mishaps they've caused along the way.

times of war. The efficiency

of these abbreviations soon

spread beyond the military,

infiltrating corporate board-

rooms and even our every-

WHY WE USE ACRONYMS:

The primary reason for us-

ing acronyms is, of course,

efficiency. Why say "United

Children's Emergency Fund"

"UNICEF"? Acronyms allow

us to convey complex ideas

in a snap, which is particu-

paced, information-saturat-

But there's more to acro-

nyms than just saving time.

They also add an element of

exclusivity. Think about it:

every industry has its own

set of acronyms that can

make an outsider feel like

they're decoding a secret

language. Whether it's doc-

tors using "MRI" (magnetic

resonance imaging) or tech

enthusiasts throwing around

day conversations.

THE GOOD, THE BAD

Nations International

when you can just say

larly useful in our fast-

ed world.

**AND THE LAZY** 

#### **THE ORIGINS OF ACRONYMS: FROM ANCIENT ROME TO THE INTERNET AGE**

Acronyms may seem like a modern convenience, but they've been around for centuries. In fact, their history dates back to ancient Rome. The Romans, always keen on efficiency, used acronyms such as "SPOR," which stands for Senatus Populusque Romanus, meaning "The Senate and People of Rome." This was emblazoned on everything from monuments to coins. The practice of shortening phrases into initials was a clever way to save space on stone tablets — a sort of ancient Twitter, if you will.

Fast forward to the 20th century, and acronyms became a staple in the military. The U.S. military, in particular, loved acronyms, using them to communicate complex ideas quickly and clearly. Acronyms like "AWOL" (absent without leave) and "RADAR" (radio detection and ranging) were born out of necessity during part of a special club. On the flip side, acronyms can also cause confusion and frustration. Have you ever

language), acronyms can

make you feel like you're

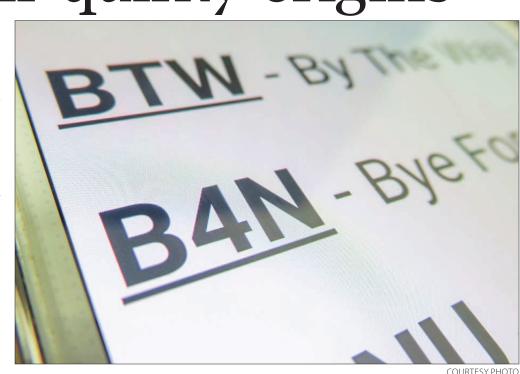
received a text message full of acronyms and felt like you needed a decoder ring? You're not alone. Acronyms can be overused, misinterpreted and sometimes downright annoying. In our quest to communicate quickly, we often sacrifice clarity. As the saying goes, "To err is human, but to really foul things up, you need a computer ... or a confusing acronym."

#### **ACRONYMS GONE AWRY:** WHEN LETTERS GO BAD

While acronyms are generally helpful, they've also been known to cause a few chuckles — and sometimes, outright disasters. Here are a few humorous examples of acronyms gone wrong:

1. The infamous "PC LOAD LETTER" error: In the early days of office computing, printers would sometimes flash the cryptic error message "PC LOAD LETTER." Frustrated users often had no idea what this meant. leading to a few creative interpretations. One theory was that "PC" stood for "please check," while "LOAD LETTER" was a reference to the paper tray. The reality? It was just a poorly designed message telling users that the printer was out of lettersized paper.

2. NASA's space food fiasco: Even rocket scientists aren't immune to the perils of acronyms. NASA once used the acronym "OSCAR" to describe "oxygen supply carrying apparatus, regenerative." However, some-



Acronyms — those pesky, shortened forms of words that save time and often make us scratch our heads have wormed their way into every corner of our lives.

one noticed that the letters could also stand for "outr space crap and recycling." Needless to say, the name was quickly changed.

3. The unfortunate naming of the PATCO Union: The Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization faced an embarrassing moment when it was pointed out its acronym sounded a bit too close to "paco," which is slang for "coward" in Spanish. This was particularly awkward given that their job was anything but cowardly.

4. Caution with company names: Companies must also be careful with their acronyms. When Powergen Italia, an Italian branch of a British company, decided to create a website, they inadvertently registered the domain "powergenitalia.

com." It wasn't long before someone pointed out the unfortunate combination of words, leading to a hasty rebranding.

#### **FROM LOL TO ROFL: THE RISE OF INTERNET ACRONYMS**

Of course, no discussion of acronyms would be complete without mentioning the internet's contributions. Acronyms like "LOL" (laugh out loud), "BRB" (be right back), and "IDK" (I don't know) have become so ingrained in our online communication that they've practically become a new language. These short forms have allowed us to communicate emotion and intent in an environment where body language and tone are absent.

But even these acronyms can cause some confusion.

For example, parents have been known to misinterpret "LOL" as "lots of love," leading to some hilariously awkward messages. Imagine a message reading, "Grandma just passed away. LOL."

#### **EMBRACING THE** ACRONYM APOCALYPSE

Love them or hate them, acronyms are here to stay. They're a testament to our desire for efficiency and our love of playful language. So the next time you're texting "BRB" or discussing the "IRS," take a moment to appreciate the quirky world of acronyms. And if you find yourself struggling to decode a particularly tricky one, just remember: it could be worse. You could be staring at "PC LOAD LETTER" and wondering what on earth it all means.



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## Monarch Fest at Acton Nature Center

*The Eastern Monarch population that migrates* through Texas annually dropped to the second lowest level ever recorded

From Staff Reports

onarch Fest hosted by the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist returns to Hood County Saturday, Oct. 12. The event takes place at the Acton Nature Center at 6900 Smoky Hill Court, Granbury from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

This will be the second monarch event of the season with the Hood County Master Gardeners sponsoring their program on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 1:30-4 p.m. at 1410 Pearl Street.

The public is invited to join the volunteers at "Monarch Fest," a family-friendly event to celebrate the southbound monarch migration. These iconic orange and black butterflies are on their way south this September and October to their winter roosting grounds high in the mountains of Mexico.

Featured learning activities will include the "how and why" of Monarch tagging. Three of the Monarchs tagged at the ANC have been recovered at the winter roosting grounds in Mexico.

There will also be education stations featuring how to select and grow the nectar plants southbound Monarchs need to fuel their migration. Information on the butterflies' life cycle and the importance of milkweed will also be included. Milkweed is the only host plants that Monarch caterpillars will eat when the adults return to Texas to lay their eggs in the spring.



PLEASE SEE **MONARCH** | C3 Young attendees at last year's "Monarch Fest" at Acton Nature Center enjoy painting monarch caterpillars.

COURTESY PHOTO BY GARY MARKS

## A new 'leash' on life: Emmanuel Lutheran, T.E.X.A.S. Rescue to host 'paw'-some pet blessing Oct. 12

#### **BY ASHLEY TERRY** Staff Writer

ashley@hcnews.com

Hood County pet lovers will not want to miss an afternoon filled with furry friends and heartwarming connections as Emmanuel Lutheran Church and T.E.X.A.S. Rescue team up for an event that's sure to make tails wag.

Set from 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, Oct. 12. at T.E.X. Rescue, located at 950 Williamson Road, community members — and their pets - are invited to a Blessing of the Animals event. For the past few years, Emmanuel Lutheran Church has held a pet blessing event at its pavilion outside the church to honor and celebrate Saint Francis of Assisi — a beloved saint who was well known for believing that all creatures are loved by God. This year, however, the church has decided to partner with T.E.X.A.S. Rescue to not only reach more members of the community, but equine animals as well making it a neigh-borly gathering for all involved. "This year, we're widening our approach," Evangelism Chairman Sally Adamson told the Hood County News. "It seemed like a really neat way to showcase the blessing of animals — not just pets. (We wanted) to also showcase a facility that's in Granbury that most people don't know about."

T.E.X.A.S. (Texas Equine Xperience And Sanctuary)



Granbury last year.

"The class project involved creating a small, shaded area for people to gather at T.E.X.A.S. Rescue," Weichart said. "So, to have more events and interaction in the community, I contacted Tracy and asked if we could have the pet blessing at T.E.X.A.S. Rescue.'

Tracy Miller said he was immediately excited about the partnership — especially con

Rescue is a nonprofit organization that serves to rescue, rehab, and rehome donkeys, horses, and mules.

Husband-and-wife duo Tracy and Vicki Miller founded the organization in 2020 to provide care and a forever home for many equine animals that have long-term medical or behavioral issues – problems that are sometimes deemed "unacceptable" as they will need lifelong care.

"We rescue animals that have been starved, abused, neglected, forgotten, whatever the case may be," Tracy Miller said, in a previous interview with HCN. "Part of our mission statement is 'We're helping the animals

COURTESY PHOTO

Husband-and-wife duo Tracy and Vicki Miller founded T.E.X.A.S. Rescue back in 2020 to provide care and a forever home for many equine animals that have long-term medical or behavioral issues. They run the operation with their son, Austin.

whose ancestors built the great state of Texas."" **Emmanuel Lutheran Pastor** 

Dan Weichart explained that the idea for the collaborative event between the church

and T.E.X.A.S. Rescue actually originated when he was a member of Leadership

sidering he's never witnessed a pet blessing before. "I think it's a great idea," he said. "We've got a couple of donkeys we'd like to bring

out to let them participate in it, and we would love to see it turn into an annual event here. Since we have the space, it's just kind of a natural setting for it."

The pet blessing will take place by the Millers' oak tree under the pergola — providing a beautiful and serene setting for this special occasion.

T've got some ideas on decorating the pergola for it, so I think we'll be ready," he said. "This is gonna be fun."

During the pet blessing,

PLEASE SEE PAW | C2

## Vettes on the Square

#### From Staff Reports

"Vettes on the Square" returns to Hood County Saturday, Oct. 12. The annual event, celebrating 18 years, will take place from 9 a.m. until about 3 p.m. in the Hood County Courthouse parking lot.

The event is hosted by the Brazos River Corvette Club, which was founded in 2003 for Corvette enthusiasts in the Brazos River area.

The BRCC "Vettes On The Square" has become one of the more predominant car shows of its kind, requiring the volunteer work of more than 100 BRCC members before, during, and after the show.

In 2023, more than 100 owners from four states signed up to show their love of Corvettes.

For the fourth year, BRCC "Vettes On The Square" show chairman Theresa Halford has worked diligently on the project bringing both club

members and fans of the Corvette together while supporting a cause.

An average of \$10k per year has been donated from the club to local charities such as the area Volunteer Fire Departments, Habitat for Humanity, People Helping People, Ruth's Place, and many others over the years.

Club members chose Mission Granbury as the charity that would receive the funds from the car show this year. Mission Granbury offers nine interrelated social service programs to Hood and surrounding counties for those in need or in crisis. Services include a women and children's shelter, veteran's assistance, senior care, and non-residential victim services as well as a food pantry, help with bills, medication, emergency shelter, and other needs.

Information about the Brazos River Corvette Club, including photos from past



COURTESY PHOTO

Club members chose Mission Granbury as the charity that would receive the funds from the car show this year.

car shows, can be found at www.brazosrivercc.com. To enter your Corvette in this year's car show or to know more about this event. please contact show chairperson Theresa Halford at 432-634-7214. More information about Mission Granbury and the

programs they offer can be found at missiongranbury. org. Their resource center is located at 3611 Plaza Court, phone 817-579-6866. Their

24-Hour Crisis Hotline is 844-579-6848.

## Mary Allen celebrates a century of faith, family, and service

From Staff Reports

Mary Isabel Manley Allen, born Oct. 23, 1924, in Atlanta, Georgia, will celebrate her 100th birthday Saturday, Oct. 26, at Acton Baptist Church, surrounded by family and friends. A member of "The Greatest Generation," Allen's life

reflects resilience, faith, and service, shaped by the hardships of the Great Depression and deepened by her unwavering commitment to her Christian beliefs.

Growing up during the Depression, Allen lost her father at the age of nine. Left without financial assistance, her mother, Myrtle, sup-

•

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ported the family by taking in boarders. This experience taught Allen the value of hard work and gave her an indomitable spirit that would carry her through

many challenges. In 1955, Allen's life took a pivotal turn when she embraced Christianity, a decision that led to decades of ministry work. She became a dedicated teacher and evangelist, focusing on children's ministries.

Her daughter, Elaine Thomas, describes her mother as a "prayer warrior" and a "godly servant," always ready to share her faith with others. She later reflected on this transformation through poetry, writing:

"What a difference the Lord has made,

In my life, since I've been saved. He freed me from all sin

and shame, And now I'm called by His

dear name. His Spirit came to dwell

within.

To manifest Christ's life to men.

My heart's desire is now to seek

And bring the lost to Jesus' feet."

After raising three children, Allen returned to work in the executive offices at Rich's in Atlanta, where she was employed for 19 years. In retirement, she was far

from idle. At 70, Allen answered a new call to serve as a missionary in Ukraine with CoMission, helping to establish bible studies in schools.

For a year, she lived in the small town of Izmail, near the Romanian border, helping to establish Bible studies and train locals in evangelism despite unreliable water, electricity, and heating challenges. She returned to Ukraine twice, including a trip at age 80 to minister to street children. To keep her spirits up, she wrote a lighthearted jingle about the struggles of daily life:

"Oh, for a shower nice and hot To scrub and clean each

spot. The glories of hot water

and lights,

Help me triumph in Your might."

"It was a difficult year, but she never wavered," said Thomas. "Her heart was always open to God's call, no matter where it led."

Throughout her life, Allen was active in her church and community. She served on the Georgia State Board for Child Evangelism Fellowship, developed Christian curricula for children, and taught other believers how to share the gospel through Evangelism Explosion. Even into her 90s, Allen continued her ministry, teaching children about the hope found



Mary Isabel Manley Allen will celebrate her 100th birthday with her three children, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Acton Baptist Church.

in Jesus Christ. Several of her devotionals were featured in the book For the Joy.

After moving to Granbury in 2006, Allen became an active member of Acton Baptist Church and the Granbury Quilters' Guild. In addition to her missionary work, she authored two children's devotionals distributed at Easter and Christmas.

With three children, four grandchildren, eight greatgrandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. Allen's family will gather to honor her remarkable life. "Her faith has been her guiding light," said Thomas. And that faith continues to inspire all of us."

Allen's legacy of faith and service has touched countless lives, and as she celebrates her 100th birthday, her influence continues to ripple through generations.

#### PAW FROM PAGE C1

Weichart will place a hand on the animal's head, say their name, and will then bless them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Following the blessing, each pet will receive their own pet blessing certificate. Pets and owners are also welcome to stay after their blessings to enjoy fellowship, along with the beauty of the animals and the grounds.

Tracy Miller said although he's curious to learn the inner workings of a pet blessing, he's even more excited to see a variety of different animals and their owners.

"(A pet blessing) is something that most people don't do, and if you've never done it before, jump on the bandwagon," he said. "Go do it. Bring your animal out, whether it's a dog, cat, turtle, chicken, whatever. I think the bigger variety we have out here, it's going to make it that much more exciting, because the people that show up are obviously animal people, and I think they're going to be excited about seeing what somebody else has to bring." In previous years, Adamson

noted that the event featured many exotic animals, like a sheep, a cow, and even one local student's heifer. However, last year's event included fewer unique animals — a challenge that Adamson is eager to address this year.

"We would bless fish, we'd bless iguanas, hamsters ... We are open," Adamson said. "Any living thing that they want blessed, we will bless it. We also will bless an animal in absentia, so if someone comes and says, 'I couldn't bring my dog, Fluffy,' we will still say a blessing for Fluffy and give him a certificate."

Tracy Miller also issued two challenges for attendees: to see how many exotic animals they can bring and to invite as many people and pets as possible.

"I think the more people we can get, the better," he

people's pets, that would be super."

The only requirement, Tracy Miller said, is for the animals to always be under owner control, whether using a leash, harness, rope, or even a fish tank.

"Donkeys do not always like four-legged critters, and I don't want to see an animal get out into the pen with them," he explained.

While Adamson will be providing dog and cat treats for the animals, Vicki Miller will be providing "human treats," and coffee.

"Maybe I'll do a big cake with animals all over it, and be able to serve some little samples," Vicki Miller said.

Adamson said her hope is for this to serve as a "community-wide event" and to have more attendees - and animals — than ever before.

huge part of her life.

"I just rescued her, and she's been wonderful," she said. "She's been a great companion after my husband died. She's filled a special place in my heart, which has been a real blessing to me."

She said more than anything she wants to get the word out to the community about the event, adding that she hopes animal lovers will come together to celebrate their cherished pets.

"I'm excited," Tracy Miller said. "In my opinion, I think this will probably be the most fun event we could have here just because it involves animals."

Through the partnership with T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, Weichart said he is looking forward to exemplifying the "church without walls" idea by doing the pet blessing in



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potential purchase

said. "It's going to be exciting, especially for the first time here, and we're going to blow it up big time on all of our social media and try to get it out to as many sites as possible."

According to Adamson, all animal lovers are welcome to attend the blessing - with or without a pet.

"Bring pets, or don't bring pets," she said. "If they just want to come see the donkeys, the horses, and other

"It's not a big drain on your day, but it's a fun hour, two hours to just get together with other people and their pets and visit and meet people," she said. "And, it's a good opportunity for people in the community to meet each other with a common interest, which is our pets that we all love.'

Adamson added that her dog — a German Shepherd mix named Daisy Mae — is a the community.

"Please join us for this fun and informal event," Weichart added. "If you have never met a donkey, you are missing out on making a new friend with one of God's friendliest creatures."

For more information about T.E.X.A.S. Rescue, visit texasrescue.org online. To learn more about Emmanuel Lutheran Church, visit their website at elcgranbury.com.



PHOTOS BY ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

For the past few years, Emmanuel Lutheran Church has held a pet blessing event at its pavilion outside the church to honor and celebrate Saint Francis of Assisi — a beloved saint who was well known for believing that all creatures are loved by God.



Traveling in a small group enriches your experience.

#### DAYDREAM ACHIEVER

## The benefits of traveling in a group



#### **BY ZAC WILSON**

Zac Wilson is a Certified Travel Advisor, ASTA Verified Travel Advisor, CLIA Master Cruise Counselor, and owner of Daydream Vacations Travel Agency in Granbury. www.DaydreamVacations.com

Traveling in a small group enriches your experience. If you're looking for a trip that is well organized, where you can meet new friends with the fun of shared experiences, led by an interesting group leader, reducing anxiety, increasing safety, and saving money or receiving additional amenities, then group travel is for you.! Here are my top reasons to enjoy group travel.

#### **FIND YOUR TRIBE**

Group travel is filled with fun experiences shared

with the people you love and opportunities to make new friends. You can either start by creating your own small group of family and friends, or you can venture out on your own to meet new people. Couples and solo travelers alike often make new friends and end up taking another trip together.

#### **SAFETY IN NUMBERS**

Many travelers want to travel to new and exciting destinations but are anxious about traveling alone to unknown places. Small group travel increases

safety and reduces anxiety. Your support system of fellow travelers and a group leader creates a relaxed atmosphere.

#### **GROUP LEADER**

I surveyed my fellow travel agents, and they unanimously agreed the number one reason for group travel is the value of a group leader. Whether it's a professional tour guide, or someone you know hosting the group, it's wonderful to have someone to help keep you organized, and available to help you with needs as they arise.

#### **GROUP RATES AND AMENITIES**

Traveling in a group of 10, 20 or more people together can often save you money. Depending on the

size of your group, you may receive a group discount on your travel package or at least some bonus amenities. Depending on the itinerary, you may also receive an exclusive experience or tour. Your professional travel advisor can easily guide you to the best options available.

#### **SHARED INTERESTS**

Group travel is a great way to meet like-minded people and enjoy a shared interest together. Some popular examples include wine tours in France, pickleball in the Caribbean, wildlife photography in Alaska, scuba diving in Cozumel, history throughout Europe, or faith-based tours in Rome, Greece and Israel. Personally, I enjoy hosting my annual river

cruises in Europe as a small group leader. They are filled with history, culture and cuisine.

#### CONVENIENCE

Your travel advisor handles all the planning and logistics for your group. Tour companies often handle the details seamlessly while traveling, creating a hasslefree experience, so you can focus on enjoying the trip.

Popular small group itineraries include touring the United Kingdom, Alaskan Cruise Tours with wilderness lodges combined with a cruise, European River Cruises combined with a few nights in unique cities like Prague, Budapest or Paris, and South African Safaris. Someday I hope to lead a group on a 116 day world cruise!



#### BY MICKY SHEARON

driving, going to work or ing recurring panic attacks

## I'VE BEEN THINKING Who is he really?



**BY CAROL GOODMAN HEIZER** 

Carol Goodman Heizer is an author who moved to Hood County from Louisville, Kentucky in 2019. She has had short

stories and articles published in six editions of "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books. Her column for the Hood County News will appear every two weeks. She was a public school teacher for 17 years, earlier in her professional career.

I have often passed individuals like him before in different areas of the city, on different days of the week, and in all seasons. I have seen big ones, little ones, young ones and old ones. But they have never captured more than a few minutes of my thinking time before. I gave more thought to them during the Christmas season as I dropped my contribution into the round, red kettle. But somehow during the remainder of the year, they seemed to escape my attention.

Although I was driving down the road and he was walking down the sidewalk, his presence seemed to step in front of me. Webster defines him as "a destitute person, without a home or regular job, and

PLEASE SEE THINKING | C6

#### MONARCH FROM PAGE C1

Visitors will learn how to create a "Monarch Waystation" with the nectar and milkweed plants Monarchs need to thrive and survive, and representatives of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas will also be there to answer questions. Other booths will include features on Monarch health, milkweeds, and native plant seeds (while supplies last) and feature other aspects of citizen science. The Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master

Special to the Hood County News micky@hcnews.com

As someone who has experienced the overwhelming grip of panic attacks, I know firsthand just how terrifying they can be. For me, they often strike when I'm in a crowded space or confined to a small area, like being stuck in the middle seat on an airplane. It begins with a rush of heat, followed by shortness of breath, and within moments. I'm sweating, and my heart is racing so fast that I feel like I have to escape or scream

Panic attacks are sudden, overwhelming feelings of fear and anxiety that can strike unexpectedly, sometimes without any apparent cause. They can be terrifying and often leave those who experience them feeling helpless and confused. Whether you're personally affected by panic attacks or know someone who is, understanding the symptoms, causes and available resources can be incredibly empowering.

#### WHAT ARE PANIC ATTACKS?

A panic attack can occur at any time, whether during a stressful situation or seemingly out of the blue. They are marked by intense physical and emotional symptoms that typically peak within 10 minutes. However, the impact can be felt much longer, leaving a person shaken even after the immediate symptoms fade.

#### COMMON SYMPTOMS OF **PANIC ATTACKS**

During a panic attack, individuals may experience a range of physical and emotional symptoms. Not everyone will feel every symptom, but the most common include:

· Chest pain or tightness Racing heart (palpitations)



COURTESY PHOTO

Panic attacks can be overwhelming, but with the right tools and support, it's possible to regain control over your life.

· Sweating or chills · Trembling or shaking · Dizziness or lightheadedness ·Nausea or stomach

discomfort Numbness or tingling

sensations · A sense of impending doom or danger

· A feeling of being detached from reality (depersonalization)

While some symptoms, like chest pain or shortness of breath, can mimic those of a heart attack, panic attacks are not lifethreatening. However, the experience is deeply uncomfortable and often frightening.

#### WHAT CAUSES **PANIC ATTACKS?**

The exact causes of panic attacks are not fully understood, but several factors can contribute to their occurrence:

· Stress and anxiety: Stressful life events such as the loss of a loved one, divorce or significant life changes can trigger panic attacks.

· Genetics: There may be a hereditary component, meaning if someone in your family has panic attacks or panic disorder,

you may be more likely to experience them.

· Mental health conditions: People with anxiety disorders, depression or other mental health conditions may be more prone to panic attacks.

· Physical health issues: Some medical conditions, such as thyroid problems or heart issues, can cause symptoms similar to panic attacks. It's always important to rule out any underlying medical causes with a healthcare provider.

#### **PANIC DISORDER: WHEN PANIC ATTACKS BECOME A** PATTERN

Experiencing one or two panic attacks in your lifetime doesn't necessarily mean you have a panic disorder. However, if panic attacks are frequent and come without warning, this could indicate a more severe condition known as panic disorder.

People with panic disorder often live in fear of having another panic attack, which can lead to avoidance behaviors. For example, they may stop going to places or doing activities they associate with previous panic attacks, such as

being in crowded spaces. This avoidance can severely impact a person's quality of life.

According to the American Psychological Association, a diagnosis of panic disorder is typically made when a person experiences frequent, unexpected panic attacks and has an intense worry about future attacks. The Mayo Clinic further explains this fear often leads to significant changes in behavior or even avoidance of certain places or situations.

#### **TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR** PANIC ATTACKS AND **PANIC DISORDER**

The good news is that panic attacks and panic disorder are treatable. Several approaches can help manage and reduce the frequency of panic attacks:

· Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT): CBT is one of the most effective therapies for panic attacks and panic disorder. It helps individuals identify and challenge irrational fears and beliefs that contribute to their anxiety.

· Exposure therapy: This type of therapy involves gradually exposing a person to the situations or activities they fear, allowing them to develop coping mechanisms and reduce their anxiety over time.

Medications:

Antidepressants, anti-anxiety medications and betablockers can all be used to manage panic attacks. A healthcare provider will be able to determine if medication is appropriate.

·Lifestyle changes: Regular exercise, practicing mindfulness or relaxation techniques, and maintaining a healthy diet can help reduce stress and anxiety, lowering the likelihood of panic attacks.

For anyone experienc-

or living in fear of them, seeking professional help is essential. Mental health professionals can guide treatment and offer coping strategies that make a significant difference.

#### WHERE TO FIND HELP

If you or someone you love is struggling with panic attacks or panic disorder, you don't have to go through it alone. There are several reputable organizations that provide valuable resources, support and information on managing panic attacks:

· Anxiety and Depression Association of America: This organization offers resources for understanding and managing anxiety and depression, including panic attacks and panic disorder. https://adaa.org/

· Mental Health America: MHA provides a wide range of mental health information, support groups and community resources to help individuals cope with panic attacks. https://mhanational.org/

·National Alliance on Mental Illness: NAMI offers support and education for those affected by mental health conditions, including panic disorder. They also have helplines and support groups available. https://www.nami.org/

#### **FINAL THOUGHTS**

Panic attacks can be overwhelming, but with the right tools and support, it's possible to regain control over your life. Understanding the symptoms, causes and treatments available can help those affected feel more empowered to seek help and manage their condition. If you or someone you know is experiencing frequent panic attacks, don't hesitate to reach out to a healthcare professional for advice and support.

Naturalist will have a booth as well.

The face-painting booth is a must-stop for many younger guests as well as craft projects including a take-home "caterpillar" to paint, and a butterfly water fountain/puddler made from an upcycled plastic jug.

"Monica Monarch" is eagerly anticipated to share her viewpoint of the life cycle, possibly bringing her caterpillar cousins to show and tell. There will also be a story nook for a read-aloud of monarch storybooks. The first monarch program at the ANC in 2012 began as a tagging event, but it has grown to more than a dozen activities and booths.

While the day should be a fun event for all, there's also a somber undertone. The Eastern Monarch population that migrates through Texas annually (north in the spring, south to Mexico in the fall to overwinter there) dropped to the second lowest level ever recorded for the winter of 23-24, according to Monarch Watch, an education and conservation organization. These unique butterflies are not counted individually in their winter roosts in the Oyamel fir forests of Mexico, but by the acreage they cover. This past winter, the entire eastern Monarch population would not fill Granbury's Pirate Stadium twice over.

Source: https://monarchwatch.org/blog/2024/02/07/ monarch-population-status-52/

"In order for our grandchildren's children to be able to marvel at the spectacular monarch, we need to help fuel their migration with Monarch Waystations (native nectar plants and their host milkweeds), reduce the use of herbicides & pesticides (especially neonicotinoids), and offer the monarchs shelter, habitat, and food resources," said Valerie Taber of the Rio Brazos Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalist program.

Direct questions to https:// txmn.org/rbc/contact-us/

## Spicing it up: Celebrating National Chili Month in the heart of Texas

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

When October rolls around, Texans don't just notice the cooler temperatures — they can almost smell the chili simmering across the state. That's because October is National Chili Month, a time to celebrate one of the heartiest, spiciest, and most comforting dishes in American cuisine. And in Texas, chili isn't just food it's a way of life.

From its roots in cowboy camps and border town kitchens to its reign as a staple at cook-offs and tailgates, chili holds a special place in the heart (and stomach) of every Texan. Whether you're a connoisseur of the "bowl of red" or just looking for an excuse to celebrate this hearty dish, National Chili Month is the perfect time to pay homage to chili and its cultural significance across the Lone Star State.

#### THE ORIGINS OF NATIONAL CHILI MONTH

While Texas has a long-standing love affair with chili, the creation of National Chili Month wasn't a Texas-born idea. It emerged as part of a broader celebration of American food culture, highlighting regional specialties like chili, barbecue, and pie. The idea behind National Chili Month is simple: encourage people to cook, enjoy, and celebrate chili in all its forms. The month of October was chosen to coincide with cooler fall temperatures, which seem to make this spicy, hearty dish even more satisfying.

Texans, naturally, embraced the idea wholeheartedly, and National Chili Month quickly became a time when people across the state crank up their stoves, dust off their cast-iron pots, and perfect their chili recipes. Whether you like it burn-your-tongue spicy or with a mild warmth; there's no wrong way to enjoy a bowl of chili — unless you're adding beans. (More on that in a moment.)



#### THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILI TO TEXANS

In Texas, chili is more than just food — it's a cultural icon. While many associate Texas cuisine with barbecue, chili quietly simmers in the background as the unofficial state dish. In fact, it became the official state dish of Texas in 1977, further cementing its status as a staple in Texan culture.

Chili first gained popularity during the cattle drives of the 19th century. Cowboys would combine beef, dried chilies, and spices into a stew that was easy to make over campfires. This "cowboy chili" evolved over time, influenced by Mexican cuisine, Native American traditions, and Texas settlers' ingenuity.

Today, you'll find chili at tailgates, football games, and local cook-offs, where passionate chefs compete for bragging rights and chili supremacy. And the debates rage on: beans or no beans? Spicy or mild? Texans are famously loyal to their chili recipes, each family passing down a version that reflects their own culinary heritage.

#### THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF CHILI FOUND AROUND TEXAS

Ask 10 Texans how they like their chili, and you'll likely get 10 different answers. While the classic "bowl of red" reigns supreme in many circles — simple, meaty, and made without beans — there's a variety of styles that reflect the diversity of the state.

• Traditional Texas Chili (Chili con Carne): The purest form of chili, made with chunks of beef, chili peppers, and spices. True to its cowboy roots, this chili is all about the meat and heat, without beans or tomatoes. Texans are proud of this style, as it stays true to the original chili that was enjoyed on the open range.

• Chili with Beans: While purists might scoff, plenty of chili lovers

in Texas add beans to their recipes for extra texture and heartiness. Kidney beans, pinto beans, or black beans are often added to

the mix. · Vegetarian Chili: A surprising number of Texans are embracing meat-free versions of chili. Made with beans, vegetables, and even plant-based meat alternatives, these chilis offer a lighter but still flavorful option for non-carnivores.

• Green Chili (Chili Verde): This variation features pork (instead of beef) and tomatillos, which give the dish a tangy, green hue. It's a popular choice in the southwestern parts of the state and among adventurous eaters who want to mix things up.

• Frito Pie: While not exactly a bowl of chili, this beloved Texas dish involves pouring chili over a bed of Fritos, adding cheese, and devouring the crunchy, spicy goodness. You'll often find this at high school football games and casual gatherings across the state.

#### HOW TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL CHILI MONTH

If you're ready to embrace the magic of National Chili Month, there are plenty of fun (and delicious) ways to get involved.

Host a Chili Cook-Off: Chili cook-offs are practically a sport in Texas, and there's no better way to celebrate National Chili Month than by organizing one in your neighborhood. Invite friends, neighbors, and family to compete for the title of best chili. Make sure to have plenty of toppings like cheese, onions, and cornbread to accompany the various entries.

• Try a New Recipe: Expand your chili horizons by experimenting with different styles and recipes. You could go traditional with Texas-style chili con carne or try something adventurous like a smoky vegetarian chili or white chicken chili.

• Chili Tasting Party: Not up for cooking? Organize a chili tasting where everyone brings a different type of chili, and you can sample the variety of flavors that exist within the world of chili.

• Attend a Chili Festival: October is prime chili festival season, and you can find events all across Texas that feature chili cook-offs, tastings, and live entertainment. It's a great way to experience different styles of chili and meet other chili enthusiasts.

• Make it a Family Tradition: October is the perfect time to pass down your family's chili recipe (or create a new one). Spend time in the kitchen with loved ones, perfecting your family's signature dish and ensure the next generation appreciates the art of chili-making.

So, whether you're a die-hard chili aficionado or just looking for a new fall tradition, National Chili Month is the perfect excuse to indulge in a bowl of warm, flavorful goodness. Texas has its own unique take on chili — spicy, meaty, and as big as the state itself — and October is the perfect time to celebrate this iconic dish in all its delicious forms.

# The art of letting go: growing through life's uncontrollable moments

#### **BY MICKY SHEARON**

Special to the Hood County News micky@hcnews.com

In today's fast-paced and often unpredictable world, many of us fall into the trap of wanting to control every aspect of our lives. We try to fix problems beyond our reach, overthink situations that haven't even occurred, and invest emotional energy into things we simply cannot change. These habits drain our joy and inner peace, leaving us feeling frustrated and powerless. However, there's a powerful lesson in learning to accept what is beyond our control and focusing on what we can change: ourselves. This article explores how letting go of the uncontrollable can protect our energy, promote growth, and, ultimately, bring us more happiness.

#### SELECTIVE USE OF ENERGY: FOCUS ON WHAT YOU CAN CHANGE

One of the most significant habits that can rob us of our peace is the tendency to waste energy on things we cannot control. Whether it's dwelling on past mistakes, stressing over future uncertainties, or trying to influence people or situations beyond our reach, these actions only lead to frustration and exhaustion. When we pour energy into these areas, we often find ourselves drained, with little left to handle the challenges we can actually affect.

The key to avoiding this energy drain is being selective about where we direct our focus. If we encounter a problem that is within our power to fix, we should address it. But if the issue lies beyond our control, the best course of action is to accept it and shift our mindset. Instead of letting an unchangeable situation consume us, we should adjust our thoughts and reactions, finding ways to move forward rather than getting stuck in frustration.

#### AVOID OVERTHINKING: STOP TRIP-PING OVER YOUR PAST OR FUTURE

Another common habit that drains our energy is overthinking. We often get caught up in regrets over the past or worries about the future, leading to unnecessary stress and anxiety. However, neither the past nor the future is within our control. What's done is done, and what's to come has not yet arrived. Dwelling on these time frames prevents us from living fully in the present, where our true power lies.

This habit of tripping over thoughts of what could have been or what might be takes us away from the present moment, where real change can occur. To avoid this, we must practice mindfulness—focusing on the here and now and only expending mental energy on what is within our current control. By doing so, we free ourselves from the mental clutter that overthinking creates and gain more clarity and peace in the present moment.

#### THE POWER OF LETTING GO: GROWTH THROUGH ACCEPTANCE

One of the most liberating real-

izations we can have is that we do not need to control everything in life. In fact, some of the most powerful moments of personal growth come when we find the courage to let go of what we cannot change. It is in these moments that we are challenged to shift our focus inward and grow beyond the limitations of our circumstances.

Letting go does not mean giving up or becoming passive. Instead, it's an active process of acceptance—recognizing that while we cannot control every situation, we can always control our response. This shift in perspective not only relieves us of the burden of trying to manage the uncontrollable but also pushes us to evolve. When we stop wasting energy on trying to change external forces, we redirect that energy toward changing ourselves-developing resilience, patience, and a more profound sense of peace.

#### CHANGE YOURSELF, CHANGE EVERYTHING

The truth is that when we can no longer change a situation, we are presented with an opportunity to change ourselves. This internal shift—growing beyond the limitations imposed by unchangeable circumstances—can transform our lives. By accepting what we cannot control and focusing on our personal growth, we improve not only our own well-being but also our relationships and overall outlook on life.

This transformation begins with a change in mindset. Instead of feeling helpless in the face of



COURTESY GRAPHIC

uncontrollable situations, we can view them as opportunities to build character. Rather than fighting against the inevitable, we can adapt, learn, and grow. This internal change not only helps us navigate life's challenges with more grace but also empowers us to live with greater purpose and fulfillment.

#### CONCLUSION: EMBRACING WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL FOR A MORE PEACEFUL LIFE

Ultimately, our inner peace and joy are heavily influenced by how we manage our energy and what we focus on. Trying to control the uncontrollable is a habit that drains our energy and leads to frustration. On the other hand, learning to let go of what we cannot change, practicing acceptance, and focusing on personal growth allows us to protect our energy and live with more peace.

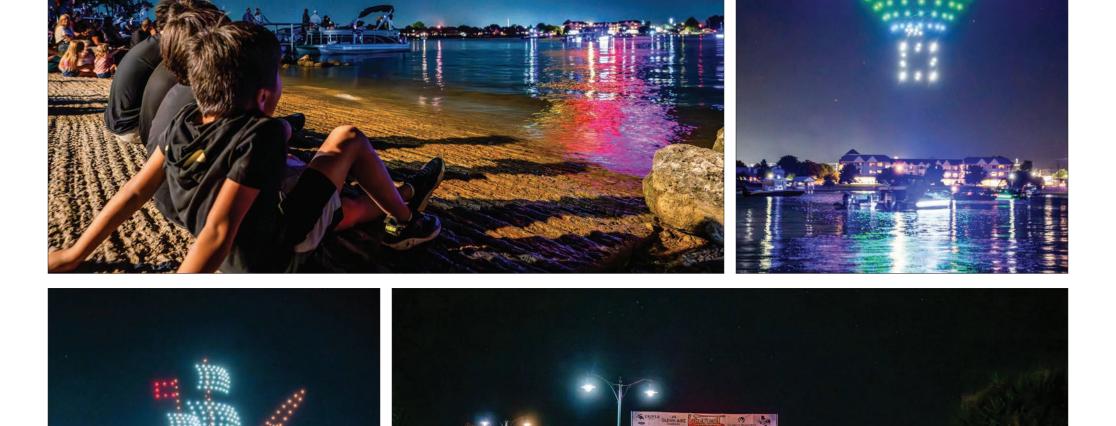
By being selective about where we invest our mental and emotional energy—fixing what we can and letting go of the rest—we take control of our lives in a more meaningful way. This shift in focus allows us to stop tripping over the past and future, stay grounded in the present, and grow through life's inevitable challenges. In doing so, we create a life that is not defined by external circumstances but by our own resilience, inner peace, and personal development.

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PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS This weekend's LakeFest Sept. 28, ended with a concert by 7 Bridges and a drone show over Lake Granbury! For Full Gallery go to hcnew.com







COURTESY GRAPHIC

## GARDEN PATCH Divide and multiply!



#### **BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER**

Phyllis Webster earned a degree in journalism before embarking on a long career in public relations and marketing. A Granbury resident since 1998, she has been deeply involved in the community. She is an awardwinning writer and photographer, as well as a Master Gardener. She has authored Garden Patch since 2001. 817-680-4849

Fall is the perfect season for dividing spring-blooming peren-nials such as iris and daylily. The rule of thumb is to perform this chore in the season opposite of the plants' bloom. Digging and dividing when the plants are actively growing causes them undue stress. Likewise, new divisions may suffer damage if planted too close to freezing weather. Fall division allows for root regrowth prior to winter.

While it is not necessary to divide plants every year, doing so every few years generally boosts their performance. Over time, perennials can become crowded in their beds, which may result in fewer blooms and diminished growth. Thinning and dividing will rejuvenate the plants. With less competition for resources, the perennials thrive and bloom with renewed vigor. What's more, dividing produces more plants!

Iris responds to division about every three to five years. A day or two before digging, give the plants good soak to fully hydrate the roots and loosen the soil around them. This makes it

easier to dig and lift the plants

and better ensures the plant rhizomes do not break apart. Use a garden spade to carefully cut around the clump needing divi-sion. Then, little by little, sever roots and slip the shovel beneath the clump until it is easily lifted.

Carefully shake off excess soil from the rhizomes. Use a clean, sharp knife to cut apart the clumps and separate the rhizomes. Discard any unhealthy rhizomes, such as those that appear shriveled, soft or diseased. Save the healthy rhizomes with green leaf fans.

Cut the leaves back to four to six inches long before planting to help the rhizomes focus energy on developing new roots. You may plant the iris immediately or store it in a cool, dark and dry location for a few weeks. If stored, wrap the roots in slightly damp paper towels. The goal is to prevent the roots from drying completely. Do not over do the water.

To plant, select a sunny, welldrained site. Amend the soil with compost or organic matter prior to planting to improve drainage.

Plant the rhizomes with their tops slightly exposed and lightly covered with soil. Space plants 12-18 inches apart to ensure good air circulation. Water to settle the soil around the plants.

Daylilies, like iris, tend to become crowded and respond to division every 3-5 years. Water the plants the day before dividing and use a spade to dig a circle around the clump, keeping the shovel 6-8 inches from the plants' base minimize root damage. Gently pull or cut the clump apart. Ensure each division has several leaves and a healthy root mass. To stimulate root growth, trim plant leaves back to six to eight inches.

When planting, dig holes large enough to spread out the transplant's roots. Plant daylilies the same depth as previously planted, ensuring the plant crowns (where leaves meet the base) are just beneath the soil surface. Plant divisions 18-24 inches apart. Water the planting area thoroughly and add two to three inches of mulch around, but not atop, the plants. Do not fertilize newly divided iris or daylilies until the next spring using a balanced, slow-release fertilizer to boost growth.

For answers to your horticulture questions, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. Hood County at 817-579-3280 or go online to visit lakegranburymastergardeners.org.



#### **Top Tips for Picture-Perfect Shots**

The iPhone has revolutionized photography, putting a powerful camera in the hands of millions.

## iPhone photography hacks: Top tips for picture-perfect shots

#### **BY MICKY SHEARON**

Special to the Hood County News mickv@hcnews.com

The iPhone has revolutionized photography, putting a powerful camera in the hands of millions. Whether you have the latest iPhone or an older model, there are several tips and tricks to elevate your photography game and make the most of your device's camera. Below are the top iPhone camera tips that will help you easily capture professional-looking photos.

#### **USE THE GRID FOR BETTER COMPOSITION**

Composition is key to great photography, and one of the best ways to improve it is by turning on the grid feature in your iPhone camera settings. The grid divides the screen into nine equal parts, following the "rule of thirds" — a classic photography principle. This rule suggests placing your subject along these grid lines or at the intersections, creating more balance and allowing your photos to naturally draw in the viewer's eye.

How to enable grid:

· Go to Settings > Camera > Grid and toggle it on.

#### **FOCUS AND ADJUST EXPOSURE MANUALLY**

Relying on auto-focus and autoexposure doesn't always produce the best results. To take control, tap the screen where you want to focus. This will lock the focus and exposure on that point. You can also manually slide your finger up or down on the screen to adjust the exposure, brightening or darkening your shot as needed.

Pro tip: Use this feature for backlit photos or when shooting in challenging lighting conditions to ensure your subject is perfectly exposed.

#### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PORTRAIT MODE

One of the standout features of iPhones with dual or triple-lens systems is Portrait Mode. This mode uses depth sensors to create a bokeh effect, keeping the subject sharp while blurring the background. It's perfect for portraits, close-ups and even product shots. Additionally, you can edit the depth effect after capturing the photo to increase or reduce the level of background blur.

Portrait Mode tips:

· Ensure there's enough distance between the subject and the background for a more pronounced blur.

· Experiment with different lighting effects within Portrait Mode to create mood and drama.

#### **UTILIZE NIGHT MODE FOR LOW-LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY**

Night Mode, available on recent iPhone models, allows you to capture detailed and sharp images in low-light environments. The camera automatically activates Night Mode when the lighting is dim, and it uses a longer exposure time to let in more light. This feature works best when your hand is steady or the iPhone is placed on a tripod, reducing motion blur.

*Tips for Night Mode:* · Hold the camera still or use a sur-



LAUREN DAVIS HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The VanJam Band entertained with their steady stream of Country, Gospel, Rock n Roll, Blues, and Bluegrass favorites at The Pecan Plantation Fly-In and Car Show Saturday, Sept. 28. (From left) Steve Doody, Keron Vanlandingham, and David Mason. Drummer Greg Parsley was out of town.

face to stabilize your phone.

· Use a tripod for long-exposure shots, especially for capturing movement like stars or city lights.

PLEASE SEE IPHONE | C7

#### THINKING FROM PAGE C3

rejected by society; abandoned or forsaken." As children, we referred to them as tramps, hobos or beggars. But as adults, we attempt to show some dignity to them by saying they are homeless people.

His shoulder-length hair was dirty and messy, and it seemed it had not encountered a brush or comb for a long time. But as I looked at his hair, I noticed something more disturbing. Beneath that hair was a head that bowed forward toward the ground,

watching the passing concrete as it vanished beneath his feet. And his shoulders – they were stooped and bent as though they carried the weight of the world upon them.

But in his hand was, perhaps, the most tragic aspect of his existence — a paper bag wrapped and twisted to fit the shape of a whiskey bottle. What did that bottle imply? Was it the cause of his condition, or was it the effect of his situation?

I could not help but ask myself how long it had been since his teeth had been brushed or his nails had seen

a file. How long had it been since his face had felt a razor against it, or his body enjoyed a warm shower? Could he remember his last experience with receiving medical care?

How long had it been since he had last eaten? Had it been a decent meal provided by a mission organization or a sympathetic passerby? Or had it been junk food along with his whiskey? And what about his next meal? Or did he even think of such things? Was he so conditioned to eating only when he stumbled upon food that he did not attempt to plan ahead? Has he found that planning is futile and only intensifies his hunger?

Does he think of his past, or does he deliberately block it from his memory? Perhaps he doesn't remember. Perhaps he doesn't care. If such is the case, can we begin to understand the sadness of such a life?

Does he think of his present, or is he able to survive by not thinking? Does he notice people's sideway glance as they pass near him? Does he notice their attempt to pretend he doesn't exist? Does that hurt him? Or has he lost his ability to feel emotions? Does he think of his future.

or does he also deliberately block that from his mind? Are his tomorrows so filled with hopelessness and despair that he simply sees them as something to be endured?

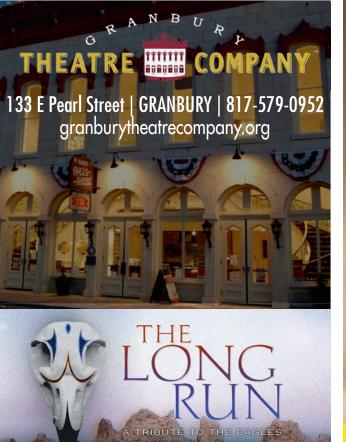
Does he feel that death would be a welcome visitor that could deliver him from his life of embarrassment and deprivation? Does his existence seem so futile that he considers taking his own life?

If he is attempting to change his lifestyle, is there someone in his world to encourage and support him in his efforts? Or are there those around him who do not want him to change, for it would

mean their losing a comrade?

He obviously has a name. I wonder what it is? How long has it been since he heard it? Has he changed his name in an attempt to obliterate his real identity? Or does he care? Do we attempt to make ourselves feel better by trying to convince ourselves he does not care?

But that whiskey bottle being carried with such determination — what is its real story? And what could it tell us about the man carrying it? Who is he ... really?



**OCT 17 THRU OCT 19** 



SATURDAY OCT. 12<sup>TH</sup> 2024 10AH - 12PH



## The face you woke up next to this morning is as familiar to you as your own

#### **BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER**

Every eyelash and curve of the cheek, the tip of the nose, the wrinkles that bracket the smile you can't get enough. You adore that face but as in the new memoir "The Widow's Guide to Dead Bastards" by Jessica Waite, how much do you really know the person behind it?

It was just an ordinary day, a bit chilly, and Jessica Waite was lunching with her mother and a friend when she went outside to check her voicemail. She picked up the first missed call ... and her life changed in an instant.

Waite's husband, Sean, had dropped to the floor in a Houston airport, unconscious. Efforts to revive him failed. He was 47 years old.

Where once Waite kept secrets from their respective families, she now had to call everyone to tell them Sean died. Despite marital problems, he'd been a good father, but now she'd have to raise their son alone. She once thought about divorcing him, or at least demanding that he get help, but now she only wanted him to come home. He had anger issues and a mercurial temper, and as she cleared his possessions, paperwork, and his computer, she learned that he also had a dual life.

Sean, as Waite learned, betrayed her with a collection of adult entertainment on his laptop and an escort service appointment on his calendar. He had at least one regular girlfriend. He'd also been spending lavishly and was tens of thousands of dollars in debt.

Waite was stunned and angry, but she still loved Sean, deeply, fully. But did he ever really love her? She couldn't forget their travels, the laughter, so many special moments. But she also couldn't forget epic fights, or this other life he'd cultivated.

"How," she asks, "does a devastated spouse forgive a dead one?"

If you're cringing right now whether from experience or imagination you're right to do so. "The Widow's Guide to Dead Bastards" is

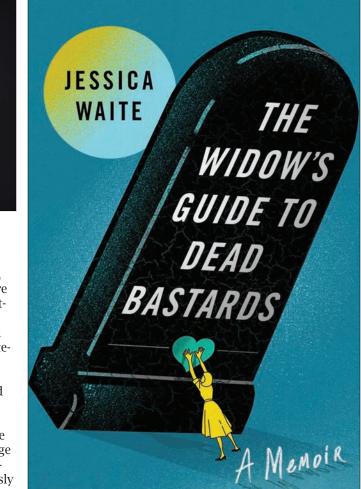


Jessica Waite

that kind of book ... at least at the start. The ending, on the other hand, is quite a surprise.

In author Jessica Waite's world, the trapdoor was set nearly a decade ago and readers aren't spared the fall through it. What quickly becomes obvious, though, is that the door in the floor leads to a chasm where readers become privy to a curiously hateful love story precipitated by a man with two vastly divergent sides. Waite uses the resulting chaos to bat readers' emotions around inside a profane haze of therapy, disbelief, disillusionment, and new-age classes before taking us to an ending-notending that will poke at what you believe about an afterlife. It's graceful, grateful ... but also so galled.

"The Widow's Guide to Dead Bastards" is the kind of tale you might find in a whodunit, but it's all true. It's also perfect for anyone who's grieving, for New Age practitioners, and for anyone who's wisely, cautiously mindful that death is something we'll all face.



"The Widow's Guide to Dead Bastards" by Jessica Waite. c.2024, Atria Books, \$29.99, 311 pages

#### **IPHONE** FROM PAGE C6 EXPERIMENT WITH BURST MODE FOR ACTION SHOTS

Capturing fast-moving subjects like kids, pets or sports events can be tricky. Burst Mode helps solve this by taking a rapid sequence of photos with just one press. Simply hold down the shutter button, and the iPhone will snap multiple shots in quick succession. Afterward, you can review the sequence and choose the best shot(s).

Burst Mode use cases: · Action-packed scenes like sports or dancing · Candid moments where the right expres-

#### LEVERAGE HDR FOR HIGH-CONTRAST SCENES

HDR (High Dynamic Range) is a feature that merges three different exposures into one photo, balancing highlights and shadows for a more evenly lit image. This is particularly useful for high-contrast scenes like landscapes or situations where the sky is bright, but the foreground is darker. When enabled, the iPhone's camera will automatically take multiple exposures and combine them into a well-balanced image.

When to Use HDR: · Scenes with bright skies and dark shadows · Photos taken during sound, keeping your lens clean is essential for clear, sharp photos. Fingerprints, dust and smudges can lead to blurry or hazy shots. To maintain optimal clarity, regularly wipe your camera lens with a soft, microfiber cloth.

#### EDIT PHOTOS LIKE A PRO

Your iPhone camera doesn't just take great photos — it also comes with powerful editing tools. After capturing your image, use the builtin editor to adjust brightness, contrast, sharpness and more. Additionally, you can use third-party apps like VSCO or Snapseed to add professional-grade filters and

## *Breathe, Mort, breathe!...*

#### **BY DON NEWBURY**

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who is Texas' longest-running syndicated columnist, writing weekly since 2003. newbury@speakerdoc.com | 817-447-3872

> stuff" appeared in a recent issue of the Dallas Morning News.

Trouble is, the newspapers he sees are left behind at the general store, including some that are missing their coupons and others torn or with missing sections, thus ready for bird cage lining. "Wasn't it Will Rogers who claimed that all he knew was what he read in the newspapers?" my uncle often brags. Reading newspapers was about all they had in common... Anyways, Mort was aghast at the thought of millions of invading crickets and the "pros and cons" of enduring them. While they emit unpleasant odors, they're critical to the ecosystem, etc., etc., etc.

Assuring that crickets break down organic matter and recycle dead plant material is the National Library of Medicine. Further, we are advised that treating the invaders with essential oils is the way to go.

And, we learn that crickets are dead set against certain scents, including peppermint, lavender, citronella and vinegar

Mort's misunderstanding resulted when he saw an ad concerning professional cricket in Dallas, details about tickets, schedules, etc., and how this is the world's second most popular sport. It has 2.5 billion fans worldwide. Anyhow, he got all mixed up about the bug crickets and the sport of cricket. Understandably, the world today provides much to be processed, and some of our "processors" are not what they used to be, or perhaps never were! Perhaps the "timing was right" for 40 senior adults, largely from our church, to get away from it all for a few days, so we retreated to Branson, MO. Things didn't go according to script in the beginning, though, for what is usually a seven-hour trip. We left in something of a "convoy of cars," not knowing that scarcely an hour along our way a chemical spill on Interstate Highway 35-W near Gainesville closed traffic in both directions. There were additional traffic mitigations, and the travel time ballooned to 10 hours. At one point, segments of our "convoy" were in three states. To be continued

sion or gesture might be fleeting

#### USE LIVE PHOTOS TO CAPTURE MOTION

Live Photos bring your images to life by capturing 1.5 seconds before and after you press the shutter. This feature allows you to preserve motion and sound, adding context to your still photos. Live Photos can also be turned into short video clips, GIFs or used to choose the best frame from the sequence.

How to enable Live Photos:

• Tap the Live Photo icon at the top of the camera screen before taking a picture.

• To view the motion, press and hold the image in your photo gallery.  High-contrast environments like forests or cityscapes

#### EXPERIMENT WITH DIFFERENT LENSES

If you have a newer iPhone model, you likely have multiple lenses at your disposal, including ultra-wide, wide and telephoto lenses. Each lens serves a different purpose:

·Ultra-wide: Great for landscapes and large groups

• Wide: Ideal for everyday photography

• Telephoto: Perfect for zooming in without losing quality, useful for portraits or distant subjects

#### **KEEP YOUR LENS CLEAN**

As simple as it may

#### effects. Editing tips:

• Don't overdo filters natural edits often look better.

• Use the "auto" enhance feature as a starting point, then fine-tune your adjustments.

#### CONCLUSION

The iPhone camera offers a wealth of features that, when used correctly, can help you take stunning photos. From mastering focus and exposure to exploring Portrait Mode and Night Mode, these tips will allow you to make the most of your iPhone's camera and capture breathtaking images. Happy shooting! ular fairy tale novel involving a wooden-figured boy whose nose lengthened with each telling of a falsehood....

Late author Carlo Lorenzini

got by with it with his ever-pop-

Jiminy Cricket! I never

an insect popularized by

the-barrel placement.

spotlight.

dreamed I'd be writing about

Pinocchio, or that this week's

piece may warrant bottom-of-

I may have reached a new

low, what with insects in the

Okay, so I've opened the box made famous by Pandora, because there'll be quick links tying the length of my nose as well as my Uncle Mort's to spinning stories that are less than factual.

Most, however, could have happened.

Anyway, Mort was breathless when he called. "They are going to start charging for crickets, and the pesky little creatures are headed our way by the millions"

My curiosity aroused, I asked Mort if he might be experiencing a medication side effect maybe the kind they garble at ends of TV ads or appear in smallest print in newspaper ads.

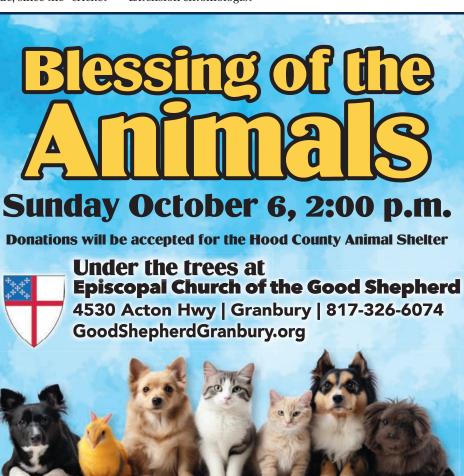
He's accustomed to my chiding that brings him up short, and he shot back that his claims must be true, since the "cricket We are advised to avoid chemical treatment for the infestations, but instead to turn out the lights, he said...

The critters we get In Texas are largely black crickets, part of the Gryllus Assimilis complex.

I'm on dangerous ground providing more details than one might want to know, but the claim is that the crickets are "understudied" and largely misunderstood.

Conditions were such that, after Labor Day, the crickets swarmed to new heights, according to Wizzie Brown, a Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension entomologist





### PECAN PLANTATION BITS Fidget Chicks' Fundraiser feeds hungry shoppers at crafts fair



The Fidget Chicks provided lunch meals for purchase at the VFD/EMS Auxiliary crafts fair in a fundraising effort to support their work of crafting and delivering mats to dementia patients. Pictured from left are Charlotte Bishop, Diane Hibbs, Barbara Copeland, Lucille Burkhead, Li Cross, and Jackie Mills.



#### **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. dianedlong@ yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

Last week's Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary's annual crafts fair was a resounding success, and one area that made the day such a good one was the Fidget Chicks' presence at the event. These ladies sold lunches that could be eaten on the premises or taken "to go," and the proceeds from the venture will help the Fidget Chicks purchase fabric and supplies for the fidget mats they craft and do-

nate to nursing homes and memory care facilities to aid dementia and Alzheimer's patients. Many thanks to everyone who stopped by the PAC kitchen and patronized this event.

#### **WELCOME HOME**

The next new member orientation is happening today, Saturday, Oct. 5, at 10 a.m. in the Terrace Room of the Pecan clubhouse. All new residents to our community, as well as long time folks who would like a refresher course on the amenities of our neighborhood, are invited to attend. For neighbors who cannot join today, another orientation is on the calendar for Tuesday, Oct. 15, also at 10 a.m. in the Terrace Room. Contact Sarah Lord to make a reservation: sarahlord@ ppoaweb.com.

#### **TRAVEL EATS**

"Pecan around the World" is a popular occasion, and it is coming tonight, Saturday, Oct. 5, to the clubhouse. Chef Jordan Ray will engineer this all-inclusive event that will include fine cuisine from several countries including Morocco, Brazil, Italy, and Australia. Reservations are required: 817-573-2641.

#### FUN TIME

ART MEETING

The Pecan Plantation Art Guild will gather again Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the PAC when Sue Bagwell (PPAG Artist of the Month for July) will present skills for painting on black tar paper. Prospective members (Pecan residents ages 18 and over who love art) and guests are welcome to join. Work by PPAG members is featured in the Pecan clubhouse and PAC; all pieces are priced to sell.

#### **NIGHT PARTY**

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is holding an evening social Tuesday, Oct. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the clubhouse ballroom. The night's program is entitled "An Introduction to Yoga" and will be given by certified fitness trainer and certified yoga instructor DeDe Lamont. In addition, attendees will enjoy a light dinner of soup and salad bar.

#### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

The Pecan Breakfast Club will gather again Wednesday, Oct. 9 when folks will hear from photographer Bob Moorhouse, former manager of The Pitchfork Ranch and Cowboy. Breakfast Club meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month with food service beginning at 9 a.m. and the program immediately following. Reservations are due by noon on Tuesday, Oct. 8: 817-573-2641.

#### **PARTY TIME**

The next "mystery bus" event is on the calendar for Wednesday, Oct. 9. Folks who have registered for this event should gather on the front steps of the clubhouse for departure. This most enjoyed outing (and the final one for 2024) will fill up quickly.





## TASTE of GRANBURY

whiskey, wine and bites from Granbury's finest restaurants

### Live and Silent Auction!

with Live music by Liz White and the Mysterious Scoundrels



### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10<sup>TH</sup> at LA BELLA LUNA from 5-8 PM

### TICKETS \$150 per person OR \$1200 per table of 8

For tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please contact us at: www.tasteofgranbury.com or call 817-573-0427

WWC helps to raise scholarship funds for female students in Hood County through the Lois G. Cleveland Memorial Scholarship Fund



SCAN ME

"Cornhole at the PAC" begins Monday, Oct. 7 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. in the gym. All Pecaners are invited to join. For more information, send email to Glenn Faucett at faucettglenn@gmail.com.

#### GOOD GAME

"Trick or Treat Bingo"

PLEASE SEE **PECAN** | C9

∰&**600**8±



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available.

**ROAD WORK** 

Pecan's fall garage sale

Oct. 18 for members only

from 3 to 6:30 p.m. and

Saturday, Oct. 19 from 7

a.m. to 5 p.m. Online sign-

ups and listings of partici-

pating households will be

The road project for

Wedgefield Road is pro-

gressing as expected, and

the next two steps are on

moval from Woodlawn to

stabilization. The follow-

ing phase of work will af-

circle, and this action is

Oct. 7 before a final por-

fect Wedgefield Road from

Cherokee Drive to the back

scheduled to begin Monday,

tion of work on Wedgefield

the back circle and approxi-

mately three days of cement

the horizon: asphalt re-

weekend will happen Friday,



#### Friday, 04 October - Thursday, 10 October

#### **Beetlejuice Beetlejuice (PG13)**

Fri: 2:00PM, 4:35PM, 7:10PM, 9:45PM. Sat: 11:15AM, 1:50PM, 4:25PM, 7:00PM, 9:35PM. Sun: 11:30AM, 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 2:25PM, 5:00PM, 7:35PM

#### Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG) Thurs: 6:30PM

#### Joker: Folie à Deux (R)

Fri: 3:55PM, 5:05PM, 7:00PM, 8:15PM, 10:05PM. Sat: 10:00AM, 1:05PM, 4:10PM, 6:15PM, 7:15PM, 9:20PM, 10:20PM. Sun: 10:00AM, 1:05PM, 4:10PM, 5:45PM, 7:15PM. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 3:00PM, 5:00PM, 7:00PM, 8:05PM

#### Reagan (PG13)

Daily except Sat, Sun: 2:00PM. Sat: 12:00PM, 3:10PM. Sun: 10:40AM, 2:15PM

#### Speak No Evil (R)

Fri, Sat: 10:00PM. Sun: 7:15PM. Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs: 8:00PM

#### Terrifier 3 (R)

Thurs: 8:00PM

#### The Wild Robot (PG)

Fri: 2:00PM, 2:45PM, 4:30PM, 5:10PM, 7:00PM, 7:35PM, 9:30PM. Sat: 10:30AM, 12:00PM, 1:00PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM, 5:00PM, 6:00PM, 7:30PM, 8:30PM. Sun: 10:45AM, 11:45AM, 1:15PM, 2:15PM, 3:45PM, 4:45PM, 6:15PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:30PM, 5:30PM, 7:00PM. Thurs: 3:00PM, 4:00PM, 5:30PM

#### Transformers One (PG)

Fri: 2:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM, 9:30PM. Sat: 10:00AM, 12:30PM, 3:00PM, 5:30PM, 8:00PM, 10:30PM. Sun: 10:00AM, 12:40PM, 3:20PM, 6:00PM. Mon, Tues, Wed: 2:20PM, 4:50PM, 7:20PM. Thurs: 2:30PM, 5:10PM

#### Showtimes Subject to Change Without Notice

#### (682) 260-5920 | cinergy.com/locations/granbury/



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#### PECAN **FROM PAGE C8**

comes to the clubhouse Thursday, Oct. 10. Participants are encouraged to wear costumes as the one voted the best will take home a prize.

#### **GOLF GAME**

Pecan's Men's Golf Association will hold its MGA Championship Saturday, Oct. 12 and Sunday, Oct. 13. Sign up in the golf pro shop: 817-573-2645.

#### **FALL COLOR**

Two "fall artistic expression classes" led by Pecan resident Anita Lloyd are on the calendar.

The first is acrylics for adults happening Oct. 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 4 to 6 p.m., and the second will feature

#### Christmas card making Nov. SALE WEEKEND 5, 12, 19, and 26. Sign up at the PAC: 817-573-7952.

#### **ART OFFERING**

www.hcnews.com

Pecan artist Kathy Yoders will be leading "Learn to Draw: The Basics" beginning Sunday, Oct. 13 from 1 to 4 p.m. with subsequent classes happening each second Sunday of the month for participants ages ten and older. For more information, contact Kathy (kathylyoders@gmail.com). Sign up also is at the PAC.

#### **ROAD TRIP**

The Pecan Plantation Recreational Vehicle Club is looking forward to an outing at Finish Line RV Park Oct. 13-18 in Hot Springs, AR. For complete information on this fun group and its presence in our community, visit its website: www. ppoarv.org.

## 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. Location is at 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

10:30 a.m. yoga. 1321 Waters Hood County building on the 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 simanek1@charter. net.

#### **THIRD MONDAYS**

**GRANBURY QUILTERS** Guild meets the third Monday each month at United Coop

Road from Cherokee Drive to the back entrance gate proceeds the week of Oct. 13. The speed limit in work zones is 15 miles per hour, and, as always, residents are thanked for patience during this process of community improvement. Additional updates will be disseminated as warranted.

#### WOMAN'S CLUB

The next meeting of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is on the calendar for Thursday, Oct. 17, and reservations are due by noon Friday, Oct. 11. Reserve a spot by sending email to ppwcres@gmail.com.

#### SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Keith Spradlin, who passed away on Sept. 18.

#### HOOD COUNTY Histori-

cal 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 at 817-279-2995 for additional details.

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

#### **FIRST THURSDAYS**

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

#### **SECOND THURSDAYS**

HOOD COUNTY CERT meets the second Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Emergency Operations Center located at 401 Deputy Larry Miller Drive. HoodCoCert@ gmail.com.

THE GRANBURY EWMA, Chapter P motorcycle group meets at Spring Creek Barbeque, 317 W. U.S. Highway 377. Dinner and fellowship is at 6 p.m., an informal meeting is at 7 p.m. Group of pleasure riders who love to ride in Texas and beyond. Many Goldwing riders, also 2- and 3-wheelers, any and all riders are welcome.

4000 block of Sundown Trail every Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. No experience or tools needed. Join them anytime. HAND AND Foot card game day. 10 a.m.; Dominoes (Mexi-

can Train) 11 a.m. Healthy

Connections, 1321 Waters

Edge Drive, Suite 1001. De-

**HEALTHY CONNECTIONS** 

classes: 9 a.m. exercise class;

cards; 11 a.m. dominoes. 1321

Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001.

THURSDAYS

**HEALTHY CONNECTIONS:** 

10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. ex-

ercise; 11 a.m. Tai Chi/Pilates;

reservation only). 1321 Waters

5 p.m. yoga (private class,

Edge Drive, Suite 1001. De-

CHESS CLUB, 6-9 p.m. at

YMCA, 1475 James Road. U.S.

skill levels, children 10 and un-

der must be accompanied by

adult. Youth membership not

required. Details: HoodCoun-

Chess Affiliate, all ages and

tails: 817-579-2979.

tyChess.com.

10 a.m. Mahjong; 10 a.m.

Details: 817-579-2979.

tails: 817-579-2979.

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are used to support veteran and community youth programs. Open to members and guests. Details: 515-554-6498.

#### GRANBURY CIVIC Cho-

rus — rehearsals, Mondays 7-9 p.m. at Acton Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Concerts in May and December. See www.granburycivicchorus.org for schedule and activities. Questions: granburycivicchorus2001@ gmail.com.

#### FORWARD TRAINING Center "Cisco" classes from 6-8:30 p.m. To sign up, email info@ forwardtrainingcenter.org.or call 817-573-6677.

#### **TUESDAYS**

#### **HEALTHY CONNECTIONS**

classes: 8:30 a.m. Weight Watchers (join at weightwatchers.com); 9 a.m. yoga (private class, reservation only); 10:30 a.m. yoga (private class, reservation only); 1:30 p.m. line dancing; 5:15 p.m. Weight Watchers (join at weightwatchers.com); 6 p.m. Granbury clogger nights (watch or join). 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

#### **GRANBURY JAM** Session

7:30-10:30 p.m. at Brock's Food and Drink, 4012 Acton Highway. Bring your instrument or get up and sing. Details: 505-710-5100.

**AMATEUR RADIO** Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed amateur radio operators welcome. 7 p.m., on the 147.240 MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

**WEDNESDAYS** 

HABITAT FOR Humanity

at Brew Drinkery, 206 E. Pearl Street. Prizes and fun. Use your phone to play. Free.

GENERAL TRIVIA, 7-9 p.m.

#### 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, from 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**

- HABITAT FOR Humanity Hood County building on the 4000 block of Sundown Trail every Wednesday and Saturday from 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. No experience or tools needed. Join them anytime.
- **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:** 

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@gmail. com.

#### **FOURTH TUESDAYS**

#### **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. Highway 377 Granbury at 6 p.m., dining/social, 6:30 p.m. meeting. Other activities, fundraisers and meeting changes can be found at hscaggies.org.
- THE HOOD County Democratic Club meets each month at 1410 Pearl St., Annex #1 at 7 p.m. Questions? Call 817-233-5453.

#### **THIRD FRIDAYS**

#### LEGACY CHRISTIAN Acad-

emy of Granbury sponsors skating dates year round at Granbury Skating Rink from 10 a.m. to noon. All Christian music. \$8 cash at the door. No outside food or drink.

#### 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 and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.



3300 Oak Trail Dr.	8
Lakeside Baptist 500 W. Bluebonnet 817-573-2094	<u>E</u> ()
Mambrino Baptist 1625 Mambrino Hwy. 817-573-4901	ع ر
Mission Bautista El Buen 315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd. 817-573-4133	()
Oak Trail Baptist 4501 Peppertree Rd. 817-279-6430	<u> </u> E
Paluxy Baptist 1844 Acton Hwy. 817-579-5111	2
Patillo Baptist 4791 Fm 2803, Lipan 940-769-2968	1 8 1
Pecan Baptist 7178 Fall Creek Hwy. 682-205-1565	A 3
Rainbow Baptist 1571 North Fm 200, Rainbow 254-897-2121	( 1 2
Southside Baptist 910 Paluxy Rd. 817-573-1462	() N E
Sovereign Grace Baptist 820 Paluxy Rd. 682-936-4988	8 9 1
Tolar Baptist	3

Hood County News C11

# Warpulas turn 80



COURTESY PHOTO

On Aug 31, Calvin and Judy Warpula of Granbury experienced the surprise of a lifetime when their entire family of four children and spouses, 14 grandchildren and spouses, and three great grandchildren convened to celebrate their 80th birthdays. Family came from Alaska, Michigan, North Carolina, Arkansas, Ohio, and from Tomball, Midland, Lubbock, Richardson, Grapevine, and North Richland Hills in Texas. On the day of the surprise, Calvin and Judy were at a grandson's marathon in Cleburne and when they drove back home everyone was ready to celebrate wearing a specially designed shirt. On the back of the shirt, were 20 different sayings that the family had heard Calvin and Judy repeat throughout the years. Planning for the celebration began in June, with the family managing to keep the secret until the Warpulas arrived home to a crowd of cheers and yells. Calvin's 80th birthday was June 30, and Judy's was Aug 3.



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## Lake Granbury Art Association Fall Art Show

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS The Lake Granbury Art Association extended an invitation to the public to enjoy the 2024 Fall Art Show, with a show reception and awards ceremony during Granbury's Last Saturday Gallery Night Saturday, Sept. 28 at the Shanley House Center for the Arts. The show will run through Oct. 27.



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### DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES

**3 Months:** \$55/week | **6 Months:** \$50/week | **12 Months:** \$45/week