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William 'Allen' Hardin: A life of service Former sheriff, councilmember passes away at 81

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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The Hood County community is mourning the loss of a dedicated public servant and respected community leader.

William "Allen" Hardin — known for his service as Hood County sheriff and his longtime dedication to the Granbury Volunteer Fire Department — passed away Sept. 29, at the age of 81.

Born Nov. 15, 1942 in San Angelo, Hardin's journey of service began early in

life when he enlisted in the United States Navy, where he served in active duty and was later honorably discharged from the inactive reserve in 1968.

His law enforcement career began in 1965 as an assistant city marshal in Hico. In 1967, he became a game warden cadet and relocated

to Granbury in February 1968. In Granbury, he worked as a game warden until April 1979, when he transitioned to a lake ranger role with the Brazos River Authority. In June 1990, he took on the position of bailiff for the 355th District Court and later served as constable for precincts 3 and 4 from Jan. 1, 1993, to Dec. 31, 1996.

Hardin wore many hats throughout his life — but while Hardin's legacy spans decades of service in law enforcement and local government, he was mostly known around the commu-

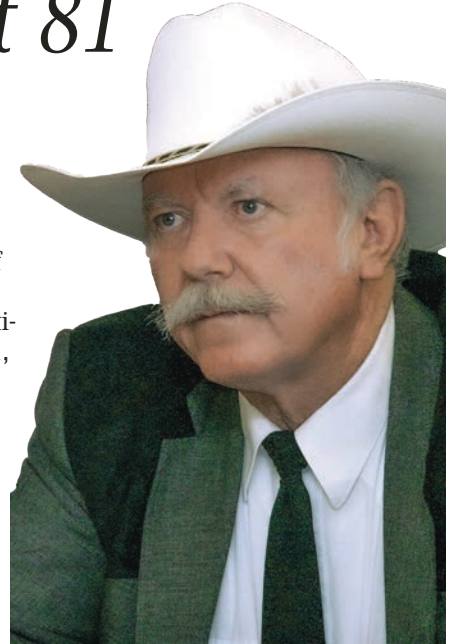
nity for his seven-year stint as the Hood County sheriff from 1997 through 2004.

"He was a person that wanted to always help his community," said City Fire Marshal Kevin Jones, who first met Hardin in 1989. "He wanted to help citizens where he lived. I mean, being in that much of a public service type element."

According to Hardin's obituary — which he wrote himself — he made history as the first Republican sheriff in Hood County since the Reconstruction era of the 1870s. He was also notable for being the

last sheriff of the old millennium and the first of the new millennium to reside in the jail, as was traditionally expected of sheriffs.

According to a political ad in the March 11, 2000 edition of the Hood County News, Hardin's first term as sheriff brought about significant advancements. He highlighted in the ad that the Hood



MARY VINSON | HCN FILE PHOTO

William "Allen" Hardin

PLEASE SEE
HARDIN | A5

The Headless Horseman haunts the Dora Lee Langdon Center once again



LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Sleepy Hollow Experience returns to Granbury Oct. 3-27. Please see more photos, C5.

Lake Granbury Harbor residents rally against HOA's de-brush mandate

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
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A wave of concern has swept through the Lake Granbury Harbor community following a recent letter from the community's homeowners association demanding property owners de-brush and trim trees on their lots.

According to the HOA's letter — which was sent out to residents at the end of last month — the community was deemed a fire hazard by the Hood County Fire Marshal. The letter states the HOA was given a warning in lieu of a \$35,000 fine, along with an order for residents to thin out the brush on their properties within

90 days or face a \$2,500 fine for noncompliance.

To meet the requirements, the LGHOA board of directors established a mandatory program to clear brush and thin out trees throughout the community. The letter states that all properties within the LGHOA must delimit all trees up to a 7-foot canopy, while trees larger than 8 inches in diameter can only be cut down if they are dead. Additionally, all smaller trees, vines and shrubs must be removed providing they are not newly planted.

"We understand this is an extra expense to our property owners," the letter states. "To make things easier on our owners, we have established a place within the

community to dump all brush and wood."

Homeowners were also given the option to inquire about having their properties cleared at a reduced rate. The letter states that property owners who do not live in the community must enroll in the HOA's new mowing program to "manage their properties' growth." Property owners can choose to hire external services for maintenance as well; however, if a lot is neglected, it will automatically be placed on the LGHOA mowing list.

Upon receiving the letter, many residents immediately took to social media with complaints and concerns that they won't be able to afford the cleanup. Some even

expressed fears of potentially losing their properties over the issue.

"Not everybody has the money to clear their whole land," property owner Sonia Forsythe told the Hood County News. "Not everybody wants to clear trees. Many of us want our trees and not everyone can afford to clear the land nor face a possible loss of property for noncompliance on a choice that no one voted on."

To add to the confusion, the Hood County Fire Marshal's Office publicly disavowed the claims made by the HOA. In a statement posted on its Facebook page Sept. 25, officials clarified that they have not issued any orders requiring homeowners to clear brush or trim trees.

"Although clearing brush away from your home would help in making your homes more fire resistant, we do not have the authority to require home owners to do it," the post reads. "We have contacted the HOA and advised them of this."

Hood County Fire Marshal Jeff Young also confirmed to the HCN that requiring homeowners to undertake specific actions on their own property is outside their jurisdiction.

"That is not in our scope," he said. "We don't have the authority to go and tell people what they can do on their own property."

Young explained that while no mandates have been issued to the

PLEASE SEE LGHOA | A4



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138TH YEAR, NO. 41

Local, zone(s): 3 sections, 36 pages, plus supplements | State: 3 sections, 36 pages

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COMMUNITY BUSINESS

R.L.G. MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

granbury CHAMBER

RISING LEADERS OF GRANBURY (RLG) COMMITTEE MEMBER

C.J. Prater

Business: Edward Jones
Time as a RLG Committee Member: 1 year and 2 months

Edward Jones
 MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

COURTESY GRAPHICS

Committee Member Spotlight: CJ Prater. We are so thankful for our Committee Member CJ Prater with Edward Jones. CJ has been a RLG Committee Member for 1 year and 2 months! Fun Fact about C.J.: "I am a world champion jump roper and I ran away with the circus." Thank you for serving as a Committee Member for RLG!

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

granbury CHAMBER

New Member Spotlight

Three Oaks HOSPICE

Three Oaks Hospice

We strive to care with empathy that transcends the typical boundaries of medical assistance, and serve with dedication that embodies genuine commitment and hospitality.

New Member Spotlight: Three Oaks Hospice. We strive to care with empathy that transcends the typical boundaries of medical assistance, and serve with dedication that embodies genuine commitment and hospitality. Facing an advanced illness can be challenging, but hospice care helps ensure peace, comfort and high quality of life during those final days, weeks or months. Three Oaks Hospice provides individualized care for patients dealing with terminal illnesses. Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

granbury CHAMBER

New Member Spotlight

Advance America

Advance America

At Advance America, we get it. Setbacks happen. Our job is to help you turn that setback into an epic comeback.

No matter where you are on your financial journey, we meet you there with personal loan solutions that open doors to possibilities.

New Member Spotlight: Advance America. At Advance America, we get it. Setbacks happen. Our job is to help you turn that setback into an epic comeback. No matter where you are on your financial journey, we meet you there with personal loan solutions that open doors to possibilities. Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

granbury CHAMBER

Member Spotlight

Freddy's FROZEN CUSTARD & STEAKBURGERS

Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers

"Freddy's Family creates fresh, made-to-order, craveable food, served to our guests with genuine hospitality in a fun, inclusive environment."

Member Spotlight: Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers. "Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers was co-founded in 2002 by brothers Bill and Randy Simon with their friend and business partner, Scott Redler. It was named in honor of Bill and Randy's father. Together, they built a brand focused on quality, hospitality, cleanliness and timeless traditions." Freddy's Family creates fresh, made-to-order, craveable food, served to our guests with genuine hospitality in a fun, inclusive environment. Thank you for joining the Granbury Chamber of Commerce!

CHAMBER NEWS

Rising Leaders of Granbury: Reignite and Spark upcoming workshop

Granbury Chamber of Commerce

The Rising Leaders of Granbury's mission is to provide a network of rising leaders in the Hood County community through collaboration, leadership, business development, education and opportunity.

If you are a rising leader and live or work in the Granbury/Hood County area, we invite you to join us at RLG events. You'll meet other rising leaders who are looking to make new connections and increase opportunities for growth. Whatever your industry is and whether you're new or experienced, we're here to support you and connect you with like-minded individuals.

The Rising Leaders of Granbury is excited to announce an upcoming workshop designed to help you reignite your potential and spark your growth through clarity and connection. This one-of-a-kind event promises to empower you to create a lasting impact for yourself and your business. Are you ready to elevate your personal and professional



growth? Then sign up today!

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

Date and time: Oct. 29 from 2 to 5 p.m.

Location: Lake Granbury Conference Center

Registration fee: \$35 member/ \$45 general admission

Through clarity and connection, create a lasting impact for yourself and your business in this one-of-a-kind workshop.

- Receive marketing materials and strategic frameworks to strengthen your personal and professional brand and drive greater results.

- Network with other rising leaders where authenticity is celebrated.

- Ignite your goals with a creative gift that will keep you inspired long after the event.

Gain insights and hands-

on experience from AJ Sarcione, a communications, marketing and leadership advisor who has worked with executives and teams at Nike, LinkedIn, Northwestern Mutual, Yahoo, Verizon and more.

Join a community of like-minded individuals where authenticity is celebrated and relationships are deepened to support your personal and professional growth.

Be immersed in an exciting experience that combines creativity, storytelling and intentional action to ignite your goals and keep you inspired.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This workshop is perfect for aspiring leaders, entrepreneurs and anyone looking to enhance their skills and broaden their horizons. Whether you're just starting

out or looking to refine your existing skills, there's something valuable for everyone.

WHY ATTEND?

In today's fast-paced world, finding clarity and building connections can be challenging. This workshop is an opportunity to step back, reflect and recharge. By investing your time in this unique experience, you'll not only gain valuable knowledge but also foster relationships that can propel you forward.

HOW TO REGISTER

Spaces are limited, so be sure to secure your spot early. To register, visit www.granburychamber.com and look under events or contact our special events coordinator Bethany Deupree at bethany@granburychamber.com or 817-573-1622.

Don't miss out on this chance to reignite your potential and spark your growth. Join the Rising Leaders of Granbury for an inspiring and transformative experience that will help you make a lasting impact in your life and business!

RIBBON CUTTINGS



COURTESY PHOTO

Lake Granbury Beautification Council.

ribbon cutting CEREMONY

Keller Williams Realty Brazos West

October 23rd |
 Open House 11:00am | Ribbon Cutting 11:30am
 1099 Waters Edge Dr. #100

granbury CHAMBER

KW BRAZOS WEST
 KELLERWILLIAMS.

kw ONYX

Keller Williams-Brazos West.

ribbon cutting CEREMONY

Southern Star

October 16th | 4:00pm
 102 North Houston Street

granbury CHAMBER

Southern Star
 on The Historic Granbury Square
 fashion . music . fripperies

Southern Star Market.

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

The generalities of politics and the deficiency of specifics



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

In today's political landscape, voters are inundated with a plethora of promises and proposals from candidates vying for their support. Yet, despite all the fervent rhetoric and the impassioned speeches identifying all that is wrong with the world, a striking trend emerges: politicians often remain conspicuously vague when it comes to the specifics of their policies.

Political generalities manifest in the form of broad statements, slogans and aspirational language that resonate with the electorate. Phrases like "change we can believe in," "better together," or "a brighter

future" exemplify how politicians often package complex ideas into digestible and emotionally appealing soundbites. These generalities serve several purposes: they unify diverse groups under a common banner,

simplify complex issues, and create a sense of hope or urgency.

While generalities can mobilize support and inspire action, they often lack the "meat" required for substantive policy discussions. In a world where issues like climate change, healthcare, the southern border and economic inequality require thoughtful approaches, generalities can lead to a disconnect between voter expectations and political realities. I imagine that if solving national and international issues is as simple as coming up with a five- or six-word phrase, the issues between Israel and Hamas would have been solved generations ago. These problems are complex, and it will take serious, complex discussions and actions to solve them.

Most people in our country believe there is a problem at our southern border. It has been a problem for more than 30 years, and the problem keeps growing. Over those 30 years, there is plenty of blame to pass around for the situation that exists. What would be appealing to hear is a candidate who offers a concrete, well-thought-out course of political action that will result in a solution. Imagine, instead of only identifying a problem and blaming someone, spelling out a specific plan to solve the problem!

To be clear, I am not suggesting or promoting one political party or one candidate over the other. Seems like both candidates have had a chance to fix the border problem and neither one has done it. In fact, the problem has just gotten

worse through the past two administrations. People no longer want promises, slogans or threats, they want specifics about a course of action which will stop illegal immigration. Mr. or Mrs. Candidate, tell me what your thoughts are so I can vote for the person who presents the best plan — not the person who makes the most promises.

Why do politicians avoid the specifics? Politicians operate within a highly competitive environment where appealing to the broadest base is crucial. Specifics can alienate certain voter segments, while generalities provide a safer, more inclusive platform. By avoiding detailed commitments, politicians can appeal to a wider audience, leaving room for interpretation and adaptation based on shifting

public sentiments. In other words, in a quickly changing world, it allows politicians wiggle room to move as the wind blows to garner the most votes. It would seem for today's candidates, the goal is not to solve the problem, it is to win the election.

Face the problem, work the problem, solve the problem. Whatever you do, stop talking about the problem while offering only generalities as a solution or playing to an audience.

Ya think this is why we are in the shape we are in?

Thought for the day: Solving problems does not seem to be the number one goal of today's politicians, the priority is getting elected and re-elected.

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

Folks around town



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Joshua Crawford

Say hello to our neighbor, Joshua Crawford!

When the craving for tacos strikes, our main thoroughfares are peppered with plenty of options. For many long-time residents of Hood County, the Taco Delight drive-through, with Joshua Crawford and his crew's welcoming smiles, are their go-to spot for tacos. Taco Delight is one of the oldest continuously operating restaurants in town. Affectionately known to patrons as Taco D, Joshua started working at his family's business when he was 14 or 15. Before that, he and his friends would often hang around after school, sometimes sneaking a Choco Taco or two, although not too often because his father, Dwight, kept a close eye on the inventory. Sadly, Dwight passed away at a young age, so the restaurant had also changed hands, but Joshua "bought it back" in 2017. He was thrilled to return to the restaurant his dad started in 1988, and to Granbury, where he was raised. Having grown up in a small business, Joshua knew what he was getting into. He said, "I set my hours, and it's all the time." Now, he works alongside his wife, D.d. Crawford, and his youngest daughter, Carlee. Their eldest daughter, Cali, also works locally as a dog groomer. Carlee, a junior at GHS, spends much of her spare time involved with Granbury FFA activities, including the challenging task of raising a show pig. Joshua and his family are hard at work all week, but they carve out time for Motorcross. Their family camper is always ready for weekend adventures at the track, where they reunite with old friends and make new ones who share the same passion. Joshua is just an old-school kind of fellow; he has no use for computers, emails, texts, or any technology he considers unnecessary. His wife and daughters do a great job with the technology and keeping him updated on local happenings. His weekly copy of the Hood County News is more than enough for him to stay informed about local events. Most of all, Joshua enjoys the high school sports coverage.

Granbury goes purple: Mission Granbury unveils new interactive display for Domestic Violence Awareness Month

BY ASHLEY TERRY

Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

Granbury will soon be shining bright — and purple — in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

During the month of October, Mission Granbury will display two large purple ribbons as well as purple lighting on the square to bring awareness to domestic violence and to show support for survivors.

With a new feature this year, the project will include a 6-foot cork-covered wooden ribbon that will be displayed on the square, allowing residents to write down their feelings on small laminated purple ribbons, and attach them to the cork ribbon with push pins.

As approved unanimously during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Hood County Commissioners Court Oct. 8, the project will bring to light the seriousness of domestic violence and just how prevalent it is in communities.

Mission Granbury's Shelter Program Director Rebecca Freeman explained during the meeting that the ribbon is similar to the organization's clothing project, where individuals can express their thoughts on a T-shirt using a Sharpie.

"It's interactive with the community, and it gives anybody in the community that domestic violence has touched their life the opportunity to write their feelings on a ribbon and pin it to the cork board," she explained.

"It's very powerful when people feel comfortable expressing their feelings, and they usually happen under the guise of darkness," said Director of Community Partnerships Jean Bondy. "But people come out



COURTESY OF MISSION GRANBURY

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Mission Granbury will display a 6-foot cork-covered wooden ribbon on the square, allowing residents to write down their feelings on small laminated purple ribbons, and attach them to the cork ribbon with push pins.

and share how they feel, and it just creates that awareness."

In conjunction with the ribbon project, Mission Granbury will also utilize the square's gazebo and lawn for a "Light the Night" ceremony scheduled from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 22.

"Light the Night" will honor the 205 victims who lost their lives in 2023 to domestic violence," Freeman added.

"Y'all do a great job of doing this," Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said. "This is very important. It looks really good on the square and does a good job

of making everybody aware of domestic violence."

As Granbury shines bright and purple this month, residents can pay tribute to and honor those who have suffered this Domestic Violence Awareness Month — coming together in solidarity to foster hope and support for a safer future.

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County moves forward with Master Thoroughfare Plan following successful workshop Sept. 30

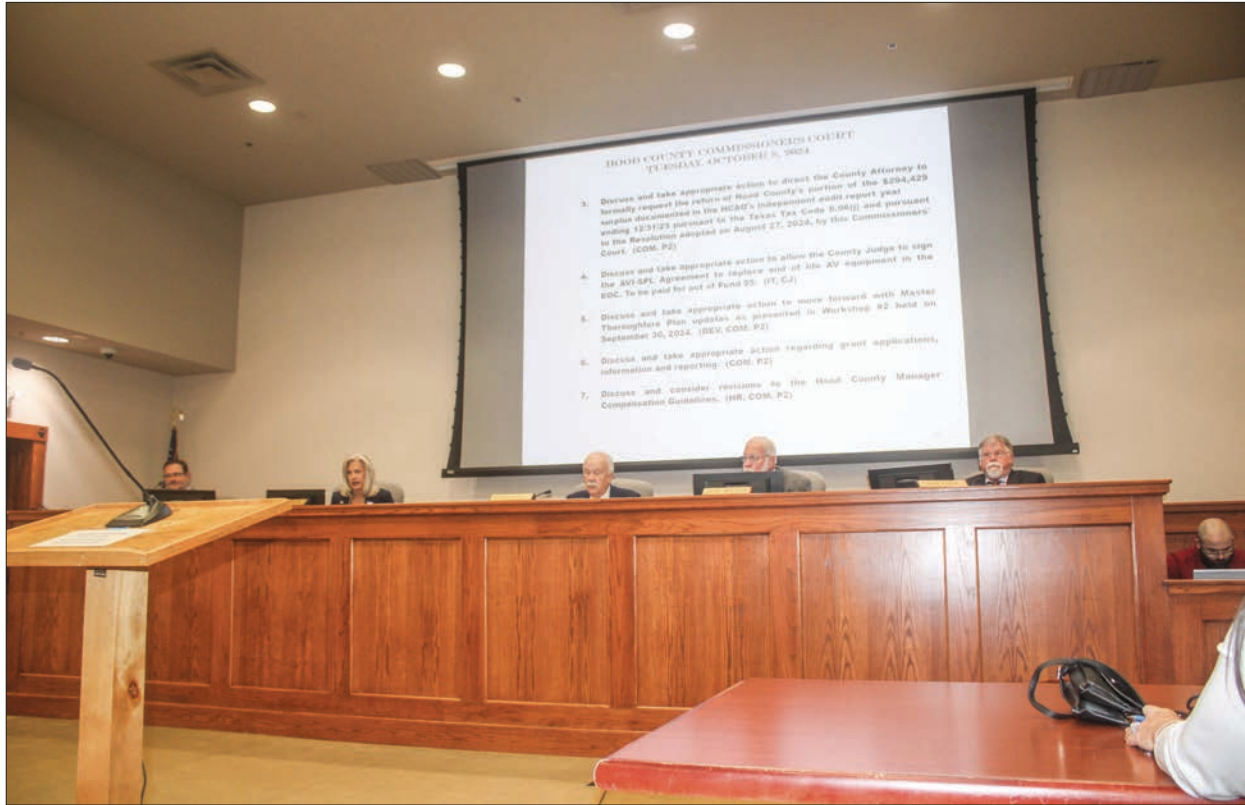
BY ASHLEY TERRY
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Following a successful workshop Sept. 30, Hood County officials are wasting no time in moving forward with the proposed updates to the Master Thoroughfare Plan.

"The feedback during the Sept. 30 workshop was great, and the data modeling that the North Central Texas Council of Governments provided looked really good," Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson said, during a regularly scheduled Hood County Commissioners Court meeting Oct. 8. "So, unless someone on the court believes we should hold additional planning sessions or

PLEASE SEE MTP | A5

ASHLEY TERRY | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Members of the Hood County Commissioners Court discuss updates to the Master Thoroughfare Plan that were presented during the Sept. 30 workshop.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

According to a letter from the Lake Granbury Harbor HOA — sent to residents at the end of last month — the community was deemed a fire hazard by the Hood County Fire Marshal. The letter states the HOA was given a warning in lieu of a \$35,000 fine, along with an order for residents to thin out brush and trees on their properties within 90 days or face a \$2,500 fine for noncompliance.

LGHOA

FROM PAGE A1

Lake Granbury Harbor HOA, the Hood County Fire Marshal's Office has distributed recommendations in the past on how to enhance community fire safety.

"We have made it available on Firewise programs that are sponsored by the Forest Service that have recommendations on how to become a Firewise community," Young explained. "We can suggest it all day long and tell them what a great idea it is, but we have no way to make that a requirement, nor would we fine anybody for noncompliance."

Young said when he confronted Lake Granbury Harbor HOA President Kevin Fair about the situation, he was told by Fair that an individual in a red truck with a yellow stripe had visited the community and claimed he was a fire marshal.

"I said, 'Well, OK, therein lies the problem,'" Young said. "I said, 'I don't have red trucks, and I am the fire marshal.'"

When Fair suggested it might be someone from a nearby department, Young pointed out that none of those departments have red

"Not everybody has the money to clear their whole land. Not everybody wants to clear trees. Many of us want our trees and not everyone can afford to clear the land nor face a possible loss of property for noncompliance on a choice that no one voted on."

SONIA FORSYTHE
LGH property owner

trucks either.

"There's one department that has black over red, but it's two tones," Young said. "And their stripe is not yellow; it's a muted gray, so none of the information that he gave me describing who this person was, who they represented, is nobody from around here."

Young states he believes the entire encounter was a scam, adding that he has no way to disprove or confirm Fair's story.

"To me, it just sounds like a twist on the truth," he said.

Forsythe also said she doesn't believe Fair's account of what took place. She pointed out that comments made by Fair in February regarding the need for residents to clean up their properties made the

recent demands from the alleged fire marshal seem less credible.

"That's the thing," Forsythe said.

"If he hadn't already been saying something like that in February, that he was going to have people clean up their yards and their trees, maybe it would sound a little more plausible, but the fact that he had already said that, that's what gave me pause. Like, I trust people as much as I trust people, until something just doesn't click, and that didn't click for me. The attempt at using the fire marshal's office in this way is injurious to our community."

Since receiving the letter from the HOA, Forsythe said she hasn't heard any updates on whether the mandatory cleanup is still in effect,

but states that several residents are currently in the process of hiring lawyers to dissolve the HOA.

"We're kind of forced to comply," she said. "I don't mind an HOA, but what I don't like is them being able to take your property. That's what I have a problem with."

Young encourages residents who are still feeling apprehensive about the mandate to understand that no fines or fees will be imposed by the county or the fire marshal's office for tree limbs and brush on their properties.

"I've had several conversations and emails back and forth with several different residents there telling them that that is not something we do," he said.

He emphasizes that if anyone claiming to represent the fire marshal's office visits a resident's home and attempts to impose fines, they should not pay them. Instead, they should try to obtain the individual's credentials and contact the fire marshal's office at 817-579-3335.

The HCN attempted to reach out to Fair for a comment, but did not receive a response before press time.

CALENDAR

ONGOING

FORWARD TRAINING

Center "Beginner Typing 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.

SATURDAY, OCT. 12

MONARCH FEST

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Free family-friendly celebration of the monarch butterfly migration at the Acton Nature Center, 6900 Smoky Hill Court in Granbury. Learn how and why monarchs are tagged, 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

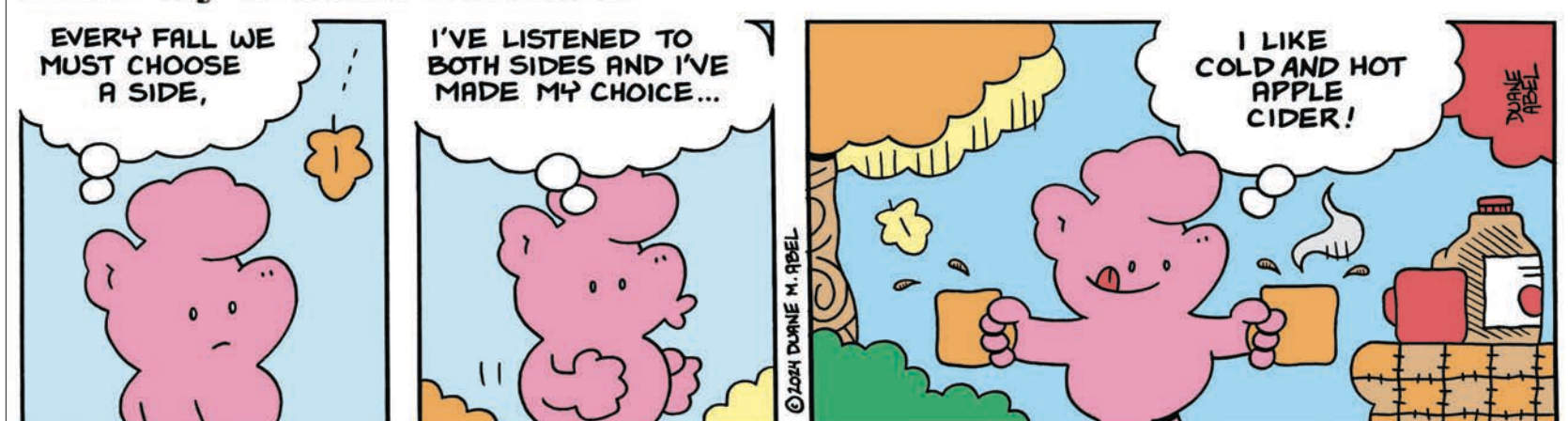
Civil War Roundtable will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 E. U.S. Highway 377. Program presented by Dr. David K. Barnett, local historian, author of several books about Granbury. Subject: Civil War veterans and impact on the founding of our community. Visitors welcome, no charge for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

PLEASE SEE CALENDAR | A7

TO SUBMIT CALENDAR ITEMS

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

ZED by Duane M. Abel



www.corkeycomics.com



HCNEWS.COM

"He was a sheriff that would deal with problems to the fullest extent."

KEVIN JONES
Granbury City Fire Marshal

HARDIN
FROM PAGE A1

County Sheriff's Office increased the number of inmates working on county roads and buildings. To streamline operations, he also hired a businessperson as a jail administrator, which, the ad states, resulted in cost savings for taxpayers.

In the ad, Hardin claimed to have solved more crimes than any previous sheriff, despite handling nearly triple the calls for service since taking office and only employing eight additional deputies. He also played a crucial role in enhancing the communication system of the Hood County Sheriff's Office — an accomplishment that Jones corroborates.

"It was hard for him and his staff back when he became sheriff, because budgets weren't as big as they are today," Jones explained. "But he was always willing to do something ... What comes to mind is that at one time, they couldn't afford the video systems that they have today in police cars, so he came up with an idea that he would just buy little video cameras and put them in patrol cars. He gave it a shot to see how it would work."

Jones explained that Hardin was always seeking ways to improve resources for his team. He stated that Hardin consistently looked for better equipment, like rifles, to ensure that members of the HCSO were always prepared for any challenges that might come their way.

According to Jones, Hardin also facilitated the acquisition of military surplus rifles for the depart-



Sheriff Gene Mayo (left) sincerely thanks former sheriff Allen Hardin for helping make a smooth transition when he first took office in 2005.

MARY VINSON | HCN FILE PHOTOS

Health investigators Tanya Apple and Allen Hardin share a light moment in the Annex III offices back in 2009.



ment, as he realized traditional shotguns were no longer sufficient as threats were becoming more sophisticated at that time.

"He was a sheriff that would deal with problems to the fullest extent," Jones said, as he emphasized Hardin's strong advocacy for drug removal in the county.

Jones also pointed out that Hardin was a member of the Tri-County Task

Force, working alongside current Sheriff Roger Deeds to combat drug-related activity.

Under Hardin's leadership, the Hood County Sheriff's Office also procured the largest seizure

of stolen property in Texas history.

Jones explained that the stolen property involved heavy equipment, noting that the HCSO eventually located a ranch in Hood County that contained some of the stolen items. Jones explained that the theft ring was so sophisticated that a massive barn was designed to conceal the stolen goods. He said the barn appeared to be filled with hay bales but actually had hidden doors that led to an expansive space filled with the stolen equipment.

"It was a big conglomerate theft ring," he added.

After his tenure as Hood County Sheriff, Hardin held a commission as a fire marshal until December 2007. Later that month, he began working as an environmental crimes' investigator for the health department, with his law enforcement commission managed by the district attorney. He officially relinquished his commission in 2018, marking his retirement from active law enforcement.

Hardin also served on the Granbury City Council for two terms and was also a member of the GFVD for 28 years, serving as chief for one year. He was one of the organizers of the Hood County Volunteer Rescue Unit and was elected its first interim president. Hardin served as vice president of the Metroplex Locksmith Association for one year and was an active member of American Legion Post 278 in Granbury, as well as the Hood County Amateur Radio Club. He was also one of the organizers of the first Lutheran church in Hood County and held the position of elder at the First Presbyterian Church in Granbury.

Jones said when he first met Hardin, his first impression was that he was "kind of a serious but funny" guy, who was always eager to get tasks accomplished.

"He'd say, 'Let's just get it done; don't waste time,'" Jones said. "He was a funny guy. Sometimes he'd call me to do just off-the-wall type things."

For a sheriff, Jones added that Hardin also drove a peculiar type of vehicle — an Astro minivan to be specific.

"Allen was a different type of person," he added. "But if you ever needed him, you could count on him being there for sure."

MTP

FROM PAGE A4

workshops, I feel we're ready to move forward."

The Master Thoroughfare Plan — also called MTP — is a long-range plan that serves to guide the location, size and timing of roadway improvements needed to support a city's growth.

During the meeting last month, it was revealed that the main objective of an MTP is to alleviate traffic congestion, which ultimately led to the creation of Hood County's six "priority corridors," — meaning roadways that need immediate attention.

The six priority corridors include:

- **Pecan Plantation South Access** — will gain new access routes to the south.
- **Stroud Creek Connectivity** — addresses safety concerns for a residen-

tial 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.

After presenting the proposed roadway improve-

ments, it was revealed by Ryan Jones, team leader at Teague Nall & Perkins Inc., that the modeling results showed to have a "positive impact" on highly congested roadways like State Highway 144, U.S. Highway 377, Fall Creek Highway and State Highway 171 near Cresson.

Following public discussion, Jones explained that the next steps in the Master Thoroughfare Planning process involve compiling 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, and then a subsequent workshop or presentation will be held to share the final recommendations, which will be brought to the Hood County Commissioners

Court for approval.

However, former Precinct 4 Commissioner Steve Berry later revealed in the workshop how important it is for the Hood County Commissioners Court to request funding for the MTP — spurring members of the court to approve the plan earlier than intended during Tuesday's meeting.

"I agree. We need to push this," Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle said. "The first day that proposed bills can be filed is Monday, Nov. 11, for the next session. We need to be the squeaky wheel at this point, so we need to get it done, and we need to make a resolution to send to our legislators to wrap it up."

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill noted that he had requested proposals from TNP to send to Sen. Brian Birdwell and Rep. Shelby Slawson to essentially get

Hood County "in line" for funding the MTP.

"Former commissioner Steve Berry was there and said how instrumental Sen. Birdwell was in getting money for the Cresson Bypass," Massingill said. "And he said the best time to start on this funding is to do it right now."

He added that while he hasn't yet received a response from Birdwell or Slawson, he is confident they are aware of the request and believes the county is making progress on the MTP.

While Samuelson, Eagle and Massingill were all eager to get the process rolling, Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews expressed some hesitancy in moving forward, as he wanted to ensure all developments regarding the plan had been addressed.

Development Director Clint Head explained that citizen

feedback is still being addressed regarding the Master Thoroughfare Plan. With two paid meetings remaining though, he assured that any necessary changes will be made before the public hearing and final adoption of the plan.

"The next step is to quantify the cost," Massingill said. "That's why I sent the plan to Sen. Birdwell, and Shelby Slawson to tell them 'Please get us in line for the funding.'"

Samuelson added that if the public has any comments or questions regarding the MTP, they are welcome to visit the county website to view the presentation from the Sept. 30 workshop.

With a motion by Samuelson and a second by Massingill, the county is officially moving forward with the Master Thoroughfare Plan updates.



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County greenlights AV equipment upgrade at EOC



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Hood County Emergency Operations Center will soon get a much-needed upgrade to its audiovisual equipment, following approval from the Hood County Commissioners Court Oct. 8. According to Emergency Management Coordinator Margaret Campbell, the AV equipment has not been upgraded since the EOC building was constructed in 2013.

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

After more than a decade using the same equipment, the Hood County Emergency Operations Center is now set to receive a long-awaited upgrade.

In a 3:2 vote Tuesday, the Hood County Commissioners Court officially approved a \$98,658 agreement with audiovisual consultant AVI-SPL to replace the end-of-life AV equipment at the EOC to enhance emergency preparedness.

During the meeting, Chief Information Officer Drew Wiederkehr and Emergency Management Coordinator Margaret Campbell explained to the court that the AV equipment had not been upgraded at the EOC since the building was constructed in 2013. Wiederkehr also noted this wasn't the first time he and Campbell had presented the agenda item to the court, but previous attempts to secure the funding had been unsuccessful.

"It did not pass ... so we're back again," Wiederkehr said.

Campbell explained that as technology has progressed over time, the equipment at the EOC has started to become outdated — leading to more frequent malfunctions.

"It's becoming harder and harder to have the EOC function as it should, whether it's for an exercise, actual emergency, or even any of the various uses that the EOC is reserved for," she said.

Campbell noted that Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant uses the EOC for emergency exercises, adding that during this time, multiple monitors need to operate both independently and collaboratively. She explained that the monitors are needed

to allow teams to display critical data such as GIS maps, dispatcher calls and resource requests. However, due to the outdated equipment, she said sometimes it takes a while to get everything configured properly.

"When we know we have a drill coming, we typically call IT and they're great. They come in and they help us, but it takes a couple of days to get everything configured correctly," Campbell said. "My concern is that in an actual emergency, we don't have a couple of days to get everything working correctly."

"I'm a little torn on this," Precinct 1 Commissioner Kevin Andrews said. "I hate to replace things that are working, but they also need to be working, for sure, when we need them. Being out of support is a big concern ... so I do understand that this is something that needs to be addressed."

Andrews suggested the court reallocate the American Rescue Plan Act funds from the generator grant to use for the EOC AV equipment instead, due to the various generator grant stipulations.

"Generator grants are so burdensome that we can just get them done outside of the grant for less money than it costs us to do that," Andrews said. "Is there any objection to maybe reallocating those ARPA funds away from that generator grant, or to bring the EOC up to speed with appropriate use with the ARPA funds?"

Campbell noted it was a great option, especial-



The Hood County Emergency Operations Center is designed to coordinate and manage emergency response efforts. Margaret Campbell, right, serves as the county's emergency management coordinator.

"AVI is the company that worked in this room and took an extremely long time with a lot of problems getting the cameras in here to work — almost a year to get those cameras working. My confidence in their skill set is pretty low based on that experience. I just feel like we need some other options to look at."

NANNETTE SAMUELSON
Precinct 2 Commissioner

ly since ARPA guidelines state that upgrading EOCs is an eligible expense. She mentioned that while the generator grant has been submitted for almost a year, it comes with numerous strings attached due to the federal funding process — making the overall project expensive.

"I think it would be wise to maybe look at an alternative," she said. "We still need generators with our departments and the EMS, and we still have a priority list and how we would like to address them, but I think it would be wise to look at

finding another way to fund them that is more cost effective than the generator grant."

Precinct 2 Commissioner Nannette Samuelson said while she agrees the EOC equipment needs to be available and working in case of an emergency, she has some concerns regarding the company AVI-SPL.

"AVI is the company that worked in this room and took an extremely long time with a lot of problems getting the cameras in here to work — almost a year to get those cameras working. My confidence in their skill set

is pretty low based on that experience," Samuelson said. "I just feel like we need some other options to look at."

Wiederkehr recounted past discussions with the county involving the AV equipment, noting he previously proposed a different company due to initial objections regarding the AVI-SPL vendor, but his second suggestion was also rejected.

"I presented a completely different company around the same price, and was still told, 'No,'" he explained. "The reason I am submitting

AVI is because they already have all the AV equipment in the county ... and I would rather just keep the EOC under that same contract with them."

Hood County Judge Ron Massingill explained the delay was due to the effects of COVID-19, but Samuelson clarified that her communications during that period indicated issues that stemmed from poor planning rather than the pandemic.

"We also have an IT assessment that's starting soon with someone who's

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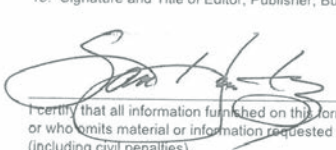
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The power of response

How small shifts can lead to big life changes



COURTESY GRAPHIC

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

It should be no secret that our daily habits hold incredible power, capable of either fostering personal growth and happiness or draining us of joy and inner peace. While much of life can seem unpredictable or uncontrollable, our reactions to circumstances determine how we navigate through challenges. In fact, our responses shape the majority of our outcomes in life. This article will explore how the habits of reacting negatively to daily frustrations, comparisons, and uncertainties can undermine our well-being and how transforming those habits can lead to a more fulfilling and peaceful life.

A SHIFT IN PERSPECTIVE: USING FRUSTRATION AS FUEL

One of the most common habits that can steal our joy is the tendency to focus on how life "should" be. Many of us get frustrated when things don't go as planned or when we face inconveniences, leading to negative emotions like anger, envy, or worry. This mindset traps us in a cycle of disappointment and irritation, preventing us from seeing opportunities for growth in difficult moments. However, frustration and inconvenience don't have to lead to unhappiness. Instead, they can be harnessed as motivation. Rather than allowing these feelings to control our mood and outlook, we can choose to see them as chances to learn and improve. For example, when faced with a setback, we can look for the lesson it offers instead of becoming angry. If we encounter obstacles, we can find ways to adapt and overcome rather than allowing ourselves to become stuck in a negative emotional loop. By shifting our perspective, frustration transforms into a tool for self-improvement rather than a source of distress.

TURNING ENVY INTO ADMIRATION: THE HARMFUL HABIT OF COMPARISON

Another joy-stealing habit is comparing ourselves to others. In today's society, where social media constantly bombards us with carefully curated highlights of other people's lives, it's easy to fall into the trap of envy. We may see someone's success or happiness and feel inadequate, questioning why we haven't achieved the same. This comparison can lead to a deep sense of dissatisfaction with our own lives, robbing us of peace. But comparison doesn't have to lead to envy. Instead of resenting others for their achievements, we can choose to admire them. Admiration allows us to appreciate the success of others without diminishing our own worth. By shifting from envy to admiration, we acknowledge that everyone's journey is different, and we can find inspiration in other people's stories rather than feeling discouraged. This mindset encourages us to celebrate both our own progress and the accomplishments of others.

FROM WORRY TO ACTION: THE POWER OF PROACTIVE BEHAVIOR

Worrying is another habit that can drain our inner peace. When we worry, we focus on all the things that could go wrong, often feeling paralyzed by the fear of potential adverse outcomes. This can prevent us from

taking action, leaving us stuck in a state of anxiety and uncertainty. Worry is often a response to the unknown, and it can cause us to lose sight of our ability to influence our future.

Instead of allowing worry to control us, we can use it as a signal to take action. If something is concerning us, we should ask ourselves what steps we can take to address the issue. Rather than sitting in a state of anxiety, we can turn our attention toward problem-solving and proactive behavior. By replacing worry with action, we regain a sense of control over our circumstances and reduce the emotional toll of stress and uncertainty.

DOUBT VS. FAITH: BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY

Finally, doubt is a habit that can prevent us from reaching our full potential. When we doubt ourselves or our ability to handle challenges, we limit our possibilities. This self-doubt can cause us to hesitate, missing out on opportunities for growth, success, or happiness. It's easy to focus on life's uncertainty and feel overwhelmed by the potential for failure.

However, replacing doubt with faith—both in ourselves and in the process—can make a significant difference in how we approach life. Faith gives us the confidence to move forward even when we don't have all the answers. It allows us to trust that things will work out as they should, and it encourages us to take risks and pursue our goals without being paralyzed by fear. In moments of doubt, we should remind ourselves of our strengths and past successes, reinforcing the belief that we can handle whatever comes our way.

THE POWER OF CHOICE: CONTROLLING OUR RESPONSES

The key message in all of these points is that we have far more control over our lives than we may realize. While a small portion of our experiences is shaped by factors outside of our control, the vast majority of our lives are determined by how we respond to those circumstances. Our choices—how we handle frustration, envy, worry, and doubt—shape the trajectory of our lives far more than the events themselves.

Ultimately, our habits play a critical role in determining where we end up. If we cultivate habits reinforcing negativity, such as anger, comparison, or fear, we will find ourselves drained of joy and peace. On the other hand, if we build habits that encourage a positive outlook, self-compassion, and proactive behavior, we will create a life filled with growth, fulfillment, and inner peace.

CONCLUSION: CULTIVATING HABITS FOR A FULFILLING LIFE

In conclusion, the way we respond to life's challenges and uncertainties has a profound impact on our overall happiness and sense of peace. By making small but intentional shifts in our daily habits—choosing to view frustration as motivation, turning envy into admiration, replacing worry with action, and fostering faith over doubt, we can take control of our emotional well-being and shape a more positive, fulfilling life. The power to change our lives truly lies in how we choose to respond to the hands we've been dealt.

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE A4

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.

TUESDAY, OCT. 15

PECAN GENEALOGY Group monthly meeting at 10 a.m. in the room behind the fire station in Pecan Plantation. Just tell them at the gate where you are going. Need not live in Pecan. October topic is Genealogy for Lineage Society Membership.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16

LAKE GRANBURY Master Gardeners of Hood County 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.

THURSDAY, OCT. 17

OPERA GUILD major fundrais-

er at Lake Granbury Conference Center. Doors open at 4 p.m. Cash bar. Entertainment: B-Ray & the Humans, 4-6 p.m. Dinner at 5 p.m. catered by Randy's Bar & Grill. Bingo at 6 p.m. Heads N Tails, Life & silent auctions. Tickets include dinner, bingo cards, door prize ticket. Contact Red's on the Square or Sally Adamson, 469-387-3477.

SATURDAY, OCT. 19

ANNUAL JUNKIN' in the Hood at Warrens Backyard, 2901 Weatherford Highway, Granbury, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. FREE. Fellowship and fun! Watch college football, listen to live music and visit over 35 vendors and food trucks. Questions? Call Joni Berry 817-219-4859.

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<p>Real Estate for Sale</p> <p>1010 Acreage for Sale 1020 Cemetery Lots 1030 Commercial for Sale 1040 Duplexes for Sale 1050 Homes for Sale 1060 Waterfront Homes 1070 Lots for Sale 1080 Mobiles for Sale 1090 Waterfront Mobiles 1100 Real Estate Notes 1110 Townhomes & Condos 1120 Property For Trade 1130 Want To Buy</p> <p>Real Estate for Rent</p> <p>1510 Apartments for Rent 1520 Commercial for Rent 1530 Duplexes for Rent 1540 Homes for Rent 1550 Mobiles for Rent 1560 Rooms for Rent 1570 Roommates Wanted 1580 Spaces & Lots 1590 Townhomes & Condos 1600 Want to Rent</p> <p>Vehicles</p> <p>2010 Automobiles 2020 Parts & Accessories 2030 Big Trucks & Trailers 2040 Classic Automobiles</p>	<p>2050 Four-Wheel Drive 2060 Motorcycles 2070 Pickups & SUVs 2080 Vans & Campers 2090 Trailers 2095 Heavy Equipment</p> <p>Farm & Ranch</p> <p>3010 Corrals & Fencing 3020 Farm Equipment 3030 Feed & Pasture 3040 Stock Trailers 3050 Related Items</p> <p>Finance</p> <p>4010 Business Opportunities 4020 Insurance 4030 Investments 4040 Mortgages & Notes</p> <p>Home & Business Services</p> <p>5010 Adult/Elderly Care 5020 A/C Heating Repair 5030 Appliance Repair 5040 Automotive Services 5050 Bulldozer Services 5060 Business Services 5065 Carports 5070 Cement/Concrete 5075 Chimney Sweeping 5080 Child Care 5090 Cleaning Services 5100 Computer Services</p>	<p>5110 Construction 5120 Clock Repair 5130 Dock repair/Rebuild 5140 Electrical 5150 Electronics Repair 5160 Exterminating 5170 Fencing 5180 Floor Coverings 5190 Health Care 5200 Home Improvement 5210 Home Services 5220 Landscaping/Tree Service 5230 Interior Design 5240 Masonry 5250 Mobile Home Service 5260 Moving/Hauling 5265 Plumbing 5270 Sand/Gravel/Soil 5280 Roofing 5290 Painting 5295 Pressure Washing 5300 Septic/Sewer 5310 Small Engine Repair 5320 Secretarial/Office 5330 Storage 5340 Tractor Service 5350 Welding</p> <p>Sports & Recreation</p> <p>6010 Boats & Water Sports 6020 Recreation 6030 Golf 6040 Guns 6050 Hunting/Fishing 6060 Pools & Spas</p>	<p>6070 RV's/Travel Trailers 6080 Sporting Goods</p> <p>Merchandise</p> <p>6510 Antiques 6520 Appliances 6530 Arts & Crafts 6540 Building Materials 6550 Computers 6560 Electronics 6570 Firewood 6580 Furniture 6590 Health 6600 Air Conditioners 6610 Lawn Equipment 6620 Miscellaneous 6630 Musical Instruments 6635 Pocket Stuffers 6640 Portable Buildings 6650 Tools 6660 Trees 6670 Wanted</p> <p>Education</p> <p>7010 Tutor/Instruction 7020 Music 7030 Computer 7040 Art Instruction</p> <p>Livestock & Pets</p> <p>8010 Livestock 8020 Livestock Lost & Found 8030 Pets 8040 Pets Lost & Found</p>	<p>Employment</p> <p>8510 General 8520 Construction 8530 Food Services 8540 Medical/Dental 8550 Office Employment 8560 Professional 8570 Sales 8580 Salon Personnel 8590 Employment Wanted 8600 Employment Information 8610 Carpool Information</p> <p>Notices</p> <p>9010 Happy Notes 9020 Free 9030 Public Notices 9040 Notices 9050 Personal Lost & Found 9070 Card of Thanks</p> <p>Public Sales</p> <p>9570 Auctions 9580 Flea Markets 9590 Out of Town Sales Garage Sales 76035 Garage Sales 76048 Garage Sales 76049 Garage Sales 76462 Garage Sales 76476</p>	<p>Business Hours Monday - Thursday, 8am-5pm Friday, 8am-1pm</p> <p>Deadlines Saturday issue, 10am Wednesday</p> <p>Special Offers Pocket Stuffers Free classified ads. Miscellaneous items up to \$100. Some restrictions apply.</p> <p>Wheels & Deals Place your ad with photo of your vehicle for only \$65.95. the ad will run until it sells or up to 2 months.</p> <p>Place your ad online at www.hcnews.com, call 817-573-7066, or visit us at 1501 S. Morgan St.</p>	<p>Classified Advertising Cost Classified ads for the Saturday edition are \$17.60 per week for 4 lines or less. Your ad will also appear on www.hcnews.com during the ad run.</p> <p>Error Responsibility Customers are asked to check their ad immediately after it appears in the paper and report at once any error found. Claims for adjustment should be made at that time. The Hood County News is responsible for an incorrect ad only the first time it runs, so check your ads carefully</p>
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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

1010
Acreage for Sale

LAND - GLEN ROSE 2 Parcels, one is 2.33 acres other is approx. 4.5. Water & Electric to property. Call, text or email Charlie for info. 254-396-6885, Ch_bair@hotmail.com Please leave message if no answer. For Sale by Owner.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

1510
Apartments for Rent



LP2 Apartments-Brand new 2bd, 2ba contemporary apartment for rent in Glen Rose. Conveniently located by downtown. Washer/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

2 BR 1 BA APT \$1225 Quite park-like setting Fenced backyard Carport W/D hook-up Commute Friendly, Walk to FNB, Shops, Fast-food, non-smoking. No Dogs Cat OK Leave Voice Message No Texting (682) 205-3079

Duplexes for Rent

1530
Duplexes for Rent

GARDENS OF DECORDOVA 55+ COMMUNITY! 2 BR/2 BA, Duplex, Welcome to Gardens of DeCordova, 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@chadnic.com

Homes for Rent

1540
Homes for Rent

SINGLE FAMILY HOME - GRANBURY Available now 3-2-1 home. Fenced backyard, W/D connection. West side of Granbury. \$1400 per month, \$1400 deposit. 817-925-9841

Mobiles for Rent

1550
Mobiles for Rent

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

3-2, 1417 Meander Rd behind HEB area, stone wrapped skirting. \$1,200/mo, \$500 deposit. Travel trailer for 1 or 2 people, 1417 Meander Rd, \$800/mo, \$300 deposit. 2-2, 126 Myrtle Ln. \$1,000/mo, \$500 deposit. 817-919-4487.

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Masonry

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Plumbing

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LOOKING FOR Small gauge shot gun. Small caliber rifle & handgun for grandchildren. Text 432-582-3019.

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RVs/Travel Trailers

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6620
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Pets



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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
Pets Lost & Found

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

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EMPLOYMENT

General

Granbury ISD is currently looking for a Carpenter 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 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 a Director of Maintenance 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.

Professional

Are you a detail-oriented professional looking to start or advance your career as an appraiser? We are hiring and will provide full training to the right candidate!

Position: Field Appraiser
Location: Hood Central Appraisal District, Granbury, TX
Job Type: Full-Time
Responsibilities Include: Perform property appraisals for residential, and rural properties in compliance with Texas Property Tax Code and appraisal standards.

To view the full job description and apply, please visit: <https://hoodcad.net/job-openings/> Join our team and grow with us!

Are you an experienced Registered Professional Appraiser looking for a new opportunity? We are seeking a detail-oriented professional to join our team.

Position: Deputy Chief Appraiser
Location: Hood Central Appraisal District, Granbury, TX
Job Type: Full-Time
Responsibilities include: Assist the Chief Appraiser in the overall direction and supervision of the district's appraisal, collections and support services activities, ensuring adherence to the Texas Property Tax Code and the Texas State Comptroller's guidelines.

To view the full job description and apply, please visit: <https://hoodcad.net/job-openings/> Apply now and bring your expertise to our team!

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Service Technicians,
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Mechanics,
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NOTICES

Public Notices

Hood County Hospital District board of directors will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Friday, October 25, noon, at Hood County Courthouse, 2nd floor courtroom, 100 E. Pearl St, Granbury, Texas.

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 an online auction via 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 THEMSELVES 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 ONLINE SALE, IN TOTAL UNIT ONLY, NO CHECKS ACCEPTED!, OF THE CONTENTS 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 duffel 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-erator, kegs, DJI drone, cement mixer, craftsman generator 3500 watt, floor jacks, side mount truck tool boxes, winch, breaker box, metal shelving, pipe benders, Milwaukee packout, Milwaukee grinder, much mors.

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

REMINDER: NO CHECKS ACCEPTED!
T.E. (BUDDY) WATERS OWNER / LESSOR

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 at 817-408-4087 or Bradee.Drake@granburyisd.org

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gary Richard Dotter, Deceased, were issued on September 12, 2024, in Cause No. P10482, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to Christine W. Dotter as Independent Executrix of the Estate. All persons having claims against this Estate that is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. c/o Edwin R. Jensen II, Jensen & Jensen 6051 Interstate 20 West, Suite 103 Arlington, Texas 76017. DATED the 2nd day of October 2024.

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. A \$100.00 cash deposit for removal and cleanup will be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants: Logan Myers- tool boxes, grill, golf clubs Fairy Seay-furniture
Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury 817-573-2416

CITATION BY PUBLICATION
TRC 109 & 114
CAUSE NO. C2023463
CHEYENNE NICOLE GALINDO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF E.G. AND H.G., MINORS
vs.
NOAH SHAWN DYKES AND JACKIE LYNN DYKES
IN THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS
TO: NOAH SHAWN DYKES AND JACKIE LYNN DYKES

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: "You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. You are hereby commanded to appear and defend such suit on the first Monday after the expiration of twenty (20) days from the date of the issuance hereof. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation, a judgement may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org."

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by CHEYENNE NICOLE GALINDO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF E.G. AND H.G., MINORS as Plaintiffs, against the above named person(s) as Defendant(s), by Plaintiffs Original Petition filed on the 30th day of NOVEMBER, 2023, in a certain suit styled:

CHEYENNE NICOLE GALINDO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF E.G. AND H.G., MINORS.
VS. NOAH SHAWN DYKES AND JACKIE LYNN DYKES. A suit is now pending in the 355th Judicial District Court of Hood County, Texas. The cause number is: C2023463.

A brief statement of the nature of this suit is as follows, to wit: Plaintiff CHEYENNE NICOLE GALINDO, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS NEXT FRIEND OF E.G. AND H.G., MINORS, by and through their attorney of record, LEES, "KENNY" PEREZ of KENNY PEREZ LAW, 1900 NORTH EXPRESSWAY 77, STE. A, BROWNSVILLE, TX 77521 brought suit under Cause No. C2023463 in the 355th District Court of Hood County, Texas. On November 02, 2022, Plaintiff's Cheyenne Nicole Galindo and her minor children, E.G. and H.G., were traveling Northbound in the 1100 block of South Morgan Street. Defendant, Noah Shawn Dykes, while attempting to make a left turn on to a parking lot, failed to yield the right of way, and struck the Plaintiffs' vehicle. Defendant, Noah Shawn Dykes was operating a vehicle owned by Defendant, Jackie Lynn Dykes.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court, at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 19TH day of SEPTEMBER 2024.

WITNESS: ROBERTA ZAMARRON CLERK OF THE 355TH DISTRICT COURT OF HOOD COUNTY, TEXAS BY Sarah A. Roach, Deputy

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit by Gandhari Enterprises Inc dba Gandhari Enterprises Inc, to be located at 535 S Morgan Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Rakesh Gandhari, President.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Package Store Permit by Gandhari Enterprises Inc dba Gandhari Enterprises Inc, to be located at 2201 S Morgan Street, Granbury, Hood County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Rakesh Gandhari, President.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of DONALDA C. TARTER, Deceased, were issued on September 25, 2024, in Cause No. P10474, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: TRACY D. CROW.

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

c/o: Steven G. Kuban
Attorney at Law
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
DATED the 30th day of September, 2024
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Tracy D. Crow
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

Public Notices

NOTICE OF ELECTION (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN)

To the registered voters of Hood County Hospital District, Texas (A los votantes registrados en el Distrito Hospitalario del Condado de Hood, Texas):

Notice is hereby given that the polling places below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on October 25, 2024 for voting in a special election to consider the following (Por la presente se da aviso de que los lugares de votación a continuación estarán abiertos de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. el 25 de octubre de 2024 para votar en una elección especial para considerar la siguiente):

Proposition A: Approving the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.02 per \$100 valuation in the Hood County Hospital District for the current year, a rate that is \$0.02 higher per \$100 valuation than the voter-approval tax rate of the Hood County Hospital District, for the purpose of providing indigent healthcare and emergency medical services. Last year, the ad valorem tax rate in the Hood County Hospital District was \$0.00 per \$100 valuation. **[Proposición A: Aprobar la tasa impositiva ad valorem de \$0.02 por cada \$100 de valoración en el Distrito Hospitalario del Condado de Hood para el año en curso, una tasa que es \$0.02 más alta por cada \$100 de valoración que la tasa impositiva aprobada por los votantes del Distrito Hospitalario del Condado de Hood, con el propósito de brindar atención médica y servicios médicos de emergencia para indigentes. El año pasado, la tasa impositiva ad valorem en el Distrito Hospitalario del Condado de Hood fue de \$0.00 por cada \$100 de valoración.]**

Registered voters will be able to cast their election day ballots at any vote center identified below (Los votantes registrados podrán emitir sus boletas electorales el día de las elecciones en cualquier centro de votación identificado a continuación):
Acton Methodist Church, Youth Building, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, TX
First Baptist Church, 1851 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury, TX
Hood County Annex 1, Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St., Granbury, TX
Tolar Community Center, 120 Tolar Cemetery Rd., Tolar, TX
Calvary Church, 4800 Glen Rose Highway
Lipan Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 119 N. Caddo St., Lipan, TX
Pecan Activity Center (PAC), 9145 Plantation Dr., Granbury, TX
St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 2301 Acton Hwy, Granbury, TX
Generations Church, 5718 E. Hwy 377, Granbury, TX
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 4530 Acton Highway

Location, days, and hours for early voting by personal appearance (Ubicación, días y horas de votación anticipada en persona):
Hood County Annex 1, 1410 W Pearl St, Granbury, TX 76048
October 21-25, 2024 (21-25 de octubre de 2024): 8:00am-5:00pm
October 26, 2024 (26 de octubre de 2024): 7:00am-7:00pm
October 27, 2024 (27 de octubre de 2024): 9:00am-3:00pm
October 28-November 1, 2024 (28 de octubre-1 de noviembre de 2024): 7:00am-7:00pm

Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024 (Las solicitudes de votación por correo deben ser recibidas a más tardar al cierre de operaciones del 25 de octubre de 2024). Applications should be sent to (Se deben enviar las solicitudes a): Stephanie Cooper; mailing address (dirección de envío): 1410 W. Pearl Street, Granbury, TX 76048; physical address (dirección física): 1410 W. Pearl Street, Granbury, TX 76048; phone (teléfono): (817) 408-2525; fax (fax): (817) 408-2592; and email (correo electrónico): scooper@co.hood.tx.us.

County's website (sitio web del Condado): www.hoodcounty.texas.gov/departments/elections_administration/index.php

NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR PUBLICATION (AVISO DE ELECCIÓN PARA PUBLICACIÓN)

To the registered voters of Hood County, Texas (A los votantes registrados en el Condado de Hood, Texas):

Notice is hereby given that the polling places below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on October 25, 2024 for voting in a special election to consider the following (Por la presente se da aviso de que los lugares de votación a continuación estarán abiertos de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. el 25 de octubre de 2024 para votar en una elección especial para considerar la siguiente):

Proposition A: The issuance of bonds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000,000 for expansion and renovation of the County's law enforcement center and jail and the levy of taxes sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds. **[Proposición A: La emisión de bonos por la cantidad que no exceda de \$50,000,000 para la ampliación y renovación del centro de policía y de la cárcel del Condado y la imposición de impuestos suficientes para pagar el capital y los intereses de los bonos.]**

Registered voters will be able to cast their election day ballots at any vote center identified below (Los votantes registrados podrán emitir sus boletas electorales el día de las elecciones en cualquier centro de votación identificado a continuación):
Acton Methodist Church, Youth Building, 3433 Fall Creek Hwy, Granbury, TX
First Baptist Church, 1851 Weatherford Hwy, Granbury, TX
Hood County Annex 1, Meeting Room, 1410 W. Pearl St., Granbury, TX
Tolar Community Center, 120 Tolar Cemetery Rd., Tolar, TX
Calvary Church, 4800 Glen Rose Highway
Lipan Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 119 N. Caddo St., Lipan, TX
Pecan Activity Center (PAC), 9145 Plantation Dr., Granbury, TX
St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 2301 Acton Hwy, Granbury, TX
Generations Church, 5718 E. Hwy 377, Granbury, TX
Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 4530 Acton Highway
Location, days, and hours for early voting by personal appearance (Ubicación, días y horas de votación anticipada en persona):
Hood County Annex 1, 1410 W Pearl St, Granbury, TX 76048
October 21-25, 2024 (21-25 de octubre de 2024): 8:00am-5:00pm
October 26, 2024 (26 de octubre de 2024): 7:00am-7:00pm
October 27, 2024 (27 de octubre de 2024): 9:00am-3:00pm
October 28-November 1, 2024 (28 de octubre-1 de noviembre de 2024): 7:00am-7:00pm

Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024 (Las solicitudes de votación por correo deben ser recibidas a más tardar al cierre de operaciones del 25 de octubre de 2024). Applications should be sent to (Se deben enviar las solicitudes a): Stephanie Cooper; mailing address (dirección de envío): 1410 W. Pearl Street, Granbury, TX 76048; physical address (dirección física): 1410 W. Pearl Street, Granbury, TX 76048; phone (teléfono): (817) 408-2525; fax (fax): (817) 408-2592; and email (correo electrónico): scooper@co.hood.tx.us.

County's website (sitio web del Condado): www.hoodcounty.texas.gov/departments/elections_administration/index.php

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1-12 Prescribed by Secretary of State Sections 4.004, 83.010, 85.004, 85.007, Texas Election Code 9/2023

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION AVISO DE ELECCIÓN GENERAL

To the registered voters of the County of Hood (A los votantes registrados del Condado de Hood

Notice is hereby given that the polling places listed below will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., November 5, 2024, for voting in a general election to elect (presidential electors, if applicable), Members of Congress, Members of the Legislature, and state, district, county and precinct officers.

(Notifíquese por la presente, que las casillas electorales citadas abajo se abrirán desde las 7:00 a.m. hasta las 7:00 p.m. el 5 de noviembre de 2024 para votar en la Elección General para elegir (electores presidenciales, si es aplicable), Miembros del Congreso, Miembros de la Legislatura, y oficiales del estado, distrito, condado y del precinto.)

On Election Day, voters must vote in the precinct where registered to vote, unless the countywide polling place program is being used in the election. (El Día de Elección, los votantes deberán votar en el precinto donde están inscritos para votar, a menos que el programa de sitios de votación del condado se está utilizando en la elección.)

Table with 2 columns: Location of Election Day Polling Places (Include Name of Building and Address) and Precinct Number(s) (Número de precinto)

During early voting, a voter may vote at any of the locations listed below. (Durante Votación Adelantada, los votantes podrán votar en cualquiera de los sitios de votación nombrados abajo.)

Table with 2 columns: Location of Main Early Voting Polling Place (Include Name of Building and Address) and Days and Hours of Operation (Días y Horas Hábiles)

Table with 2 columns: Locations for Branch Early Voting Polling Places (Include Name of Building and Address) and Days and Hours of Operation (Días y Horas Hábiles)

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán enviarse a:)

Stephanie Cooper Name of Early Voting Clerk (Nombre del Secretario/a de la Votación Adelantada) 1410 W. Pearl Street Address (Dirección) Granbury 76048 City (Ciudad) Zip Code (Código Postal) 817-408-2525 Telephone Number (Número de teléfono) scooper@hoodcounty.texas.gov Email Address (Dirección de Correo Electrónico) HoodCounty.Texas.Gov/departments/elections Early Voting Clerk's Website (Sitio web del Secretario/a de Votación Adelantada)

Applications for Ballots by Mail (ABBMs) must be received no later than the close of business on: (Las solicitudes para boletas que se votarán adelantada por correo deberán recibirse no más tarde de las horas de negocio el:)

10 / 25 / 2024 (date)(fecha)

Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on: (La Tarjeta Federal Postal de Solicitud deberán recibirse no más tarde de las horas de negocio el:)

10 / 25 / 2024 (date)(fecha)

Issued this 24th day of September, 2024 (day) (month) (year)

(Emitada este día 24 de Septiembre, 2024 (día) (mes) (año))

Signature of County Judge (Firma del Juez del Condado)

PUBLIC SALES

Granbury 76048 Garage Sales 76048

New Beginnings Resale Shoppe & Boutique

MISSION GRANBURY 817-964-3445 1204 Water's Edge Dr., (Across from the Movie Theatre) #heretohelp Shop: Mon.-Fri. 9am - 5pm Sat. 10am - 4pm Donate: Wed.-Sat. 10am-3pm

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

JOSIAH ESTATES COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE FRI. & SAT. OCT. 11TH & 12TH, 8:00AM-2:00PM Rain or Shine

Canyon Creek POA Fall Garage Sale. Oct 11-13, 8am-5pm.

Granbury 76048 Garage Sales 76048

1207 Elizabeth Blvd- Sat. 10/12, 8AM - 2PM. A wide range of items. (817)559-9291

1207 Elizabeth Blvd- Collectible Sale: Sat. 10/12, 8AM - 2PM, Vintage & antique items, Waterford, crystal, art prints & more! (817)559-9291

4 family yard sale at 2308 Navasota St in Canyon Creek. Tools, old dolls, baby stuff and lots more! Fri. 10/11 & Sat. 10/12. 8am-5pm.

Granbury 76049 Garage Sales 76049



Gardens of DeCordova Annual Craft Fair Saturday, Oct. 12, 9am-3pm Gardens of DeCordova Clubhouse 5413 Garden Circle 817-910-1230

406 Capricorn Dr, Sky Harbor. Wed-Sun, 10/9-10/13, 8am-5pm. Christmas, old bells, furniture & household items. Huge sale-something for everyone.

Granbury 76049 Garage Sales 76049

ENCORE SHOP First Baptist Church of Granbury 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 scholarships. Fri & Sat Oct 11 & 12. 8am-2pm.

MEANDER ESTATES COMMUNITY SALE Oct 11-13, Oct 18-20 Lots to choose from!

Faith Assembly first annual Fall Craft Fair, 300 Granbury Ct. Sat 10/12, 8AM-6PM. Inside and outside vendor booths. Free admission to shop for crafts and more!

GARAGE SALE: GRANBURY 608 Cleveland- Miscellaneous, household, and vintage items Friday October 11, Sat Oct 12

YARD SALE: GRANBURY 3210 Golden Oaks Cir.- Vintage, Antiques, Treasures and Much Much More!!! October 11-12, Friday & Saturday 8am-4pm



TexSCAN Week of Oct. 6-12, 2024

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Hood County News

Hood County Treasurer Leigh Ann McCoy elected CTAT second vice president



COURTESY PHOTOS

The 2024-2025 executive board of the County Treasurers Association of Texas includes: Second Vice President Leigh Ann McCoy; First Vice President Leann Monk; President-Elect Pauline Medrano; President Ruben Cavazos; Treasurer Raul Reyes; Secretary Brittini Turner; and Immediate Past President Karrie Crownover.

From Staff Reports

Hood County's own Leigh Ann McCoy now officially holds a new position as the second vice president of the County Treasurers' Association of Texas for 2024-2025.

McCoy — who has served as Hood County's treasurer

for more than five years — was sworn into office at the 76th annual CTAT conference in Denton Sept. 18.

As the second vice president of CTAT, McCoy will be the chair of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. In this role, she will be tasked with preparing and submitting any and all pro-

posed changes, additions or amendments to the bylaws for the executive board's consideration before they are shared with the membership at large. She is also part of the executive board of the CTAT.

McCoy was also nominated for the Texas Outstanding County

Treasurer Award. In the treasury notes of the official publication of the County Treasurer's Association of Texas Spring & Summer 2024, she states, "I pride myself in always serving Hood County with the same dedication and excellence as when I started this journey. I truly believe that when we

stop learning, we stop growing. So, I'm constantly looking for new ways and opportunities to improve myself and the treasurer's office."

CTAT states the organization is excited to have McCoy represent Hood County and be the 2024-2025 second vice president. In addition, CTAT wishes

a warm congratulation to this year's executive board: President Ruben Cavazos of Willacy County; President-Elect Pauline Medrano of Dallas County; First Vice President Leann Monk of Tyler County; Treasurer Raul Reyes of Webb County; and Secretary Brittini Turner of Hunt County.

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This will be Mission Granbury's third year holding Panttries of Plenty to help replenish our Food Pantry. In the last Fiscal Year (September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024), we have seen a 142% increase in the number of individuals served through our Food Pantry. 40% of those are children under the age of 18. This staggering demand has depleted out pantry shelves. Last year, more than 66,000 pounds of items were donated by the community, and we hope to surpass that number this year.

Please consider making a donation this year. Click on the QR Code to see the list of collection sites and ways to order items from our Amazon Wish Lists.
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GPD earns third accreditation from Texas Police Chiefs Association

BY ASHLEY TERRY
Staff Writer
ashley@hcnews.com

The Granbury Police Department recently achieved an impressive milestone by being recognized as an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program — marking the third time in the department's history it has received this prestigious honor.

According to a news release from the city of Granbury, the TPCA Accreditation Program was first launched in 2006 to assess if law enforcement agencies are in compliance with more than 168 Best Business Practices specially designed for Texas law enforcement. The practices were carefully developed by seasoned law enforcement professionals to assist agencies in the efficient and effective delivery of service, the reduction of risk and the protection of individuals' rights.

The Best Business Practices encompass key operational areas, including use of force, vehicle pursuits, citizen rights protections, property and evidence management, as well as both patrol and investigative functions. Building on these standards, the Granbury Police Department first earned accreditation in May 2016 and successfully reaccredited in June 2020.

While this is the department's third accreditation, Granbury Police Chief Mitch Galvan explained that the voluntary process is rigorous and did not come without its fair share of hurdles.

"Becoming an accredited agency is not easy," he said. "It requires a lot of work reviewing and changing policies and procedures to meet the high standards required to attain this distinction. Once an agency obtains its initial accreditation, it doesn't stop there. The agency is required to provide yearly reports in several areas, as well as keep up with all the new mandated policy changes or additions that occur during the time leading up to the reaccreditation audit that occurs



The Granbury Police Department recently achieved an impressive milestone by being recognized as an "Accredited Law Enforcement Agency" by the Texas Police Chiefs Association Law Enforcement Accreditation Program — marking the third time in the department's history that it has received this prestigious honor.



The Granbury Police Department first earned accreditation in May 2016 and successfully reaccredited in June 2020.

every four years — if the agency applies to be reaccredited. If an agency chooses to do so, they go through the process all over again.

It is a time-consuming process and requires a tremendous commitment from the agency to maintain that high level of professional

standards."

The department began its most recent accreditation process in February, where an in-depth

self-assessment of its policies, procedures, facilities and operations took place. Following this internal review, the department requested an independent audit, which included an on-site inspection conducted by trained police chiefs from across Texas Aug. 14. The results of this audit were submitted to the TPCA Accreditation Committee for final review, which lead to the official accreditation Aug. 29.

According to the news release, of more than 2,800 law enforcement agencies in Texas, the Granbury Police Department was the 129th to achieve accredited status in 2016 — and few departments have reached reaccreditation since.

As this is the department's third accreditation, it affirms GPD's commitment to maintaining state-of-the-art law enforcement practices and serves as a testament to the confidence the city's leadership and residents can have in their police force.

"Achieving our third accreditation is a very clear sign that our department is dedicated to providing professional police services to our community by maintaining the highest professional standards, policies, and procedures," Galvan said.

He further noted that one of the key benefits of obtaining accreditation is the confidence it provides to both officers and the community, assuring them that the Granbury Police Department adheres to policies and procedures that meet or surpass the state's best practices in law enforcement.

The formal presentation of the accreditation will take place during the Oct. 15 Granbury City Council meeting, and the department will be further recognized at the Texas Police Chiefs Association Annual Conference in March.

"I am very proud of my staff's continued commitment to be the best police department in the state of Texas," Galvan added.

For more information on the Texas Police Chiefs Association Accreditation Program, visit texas-policechiefs.org online.

Hood County Hospital District Proposes to Reinstate 2-Cent Property Tax Rate.

Voters Must Approve the Tax Rate Before Its Implementation.

Texas law requires local governments to take financial responsibility for ensuring persons living in their jurisdictions and who do not have health insurance or qualify for other healthcare assistance programs receive medical services.

26.7 percent of the county's residents are 65 and older. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 10.4% of its residents living in poverty, and 15.4% are medically indigent. Moreover, 72 percent of all emergency calls are made by persons aged 60 plus.

What is the Hospital District's budget?

The District Board of Directors has approved a budget for Fiscal Year Oct. 1-Sept. 30, 2025, totaling \$2,861,330. Included is approximately \$2 million in supplemental funding for Hood County's two EMS providers.

Who provides Emergency Medical Services?

Texas EMS is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization providing 911 emergency medical services county-wide. Operations include 31 full-time staff and eight licensed ambulances, four of which operate 24-hour shifts staffed by two personnel with one on-duty supervisor. Plans are to operate out of two stations and add two new ones. The Pecan Plantation VFD and EMS, Inc. serves this community.

What happens to EMS if voters do not approve the tax rate?

The following will likely occur; a reduction in ambulance service and staffing; no new stations, and no equipment and vehicle replacement.

The Hood County Hospital District could be dissolved. However, Hood County Commissioners Court would be responsible for paying for healthcare (including EMS) for the medically indigent living in Hood County.

Use this link to read a full overview of the Hood County Hospital District, its purpose and statutory obligations, and reasons why a 2-cent property tax provision is on the Nov. 5 general election ballot.

<https://hoodcounty.texas.gov/hchd>



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OBITUARIES

Sally Martin

July 3, 1935 - September 29, 2024

Sally Prince Martin died Sept. 29, 2024, in Granbury, Texas, age 89, of complications from pulmonary fibrosis. Born July 3, 1935, in Galveston, Texas, she was the younger daughter of Dr. Homer E. Prince and Sibyl (Strickland) Prince. After graduating from Lamar High School in Houston in 1953, she attended the University of Texas, where she met her future husband, Russell L. Martin, Jr., of Mt. Pleasant, Texas, who was immediately and ever after smitten by her vivacious personality and sheer beauty. A study in contrasts—she was the effervescent life of the party, he the strong, silent type—they were married June 15, 1956, at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Houston and enjoyed 68 years of married life together.

Sally loved both music and teaching, pursuits she followed throughout her life. She sang once with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra in Houston, and she began her teaching career in Galveston while Russell was enrolled in medical school, quickly civilizing an unruly group of 6th grade students. But she was most influential as a teacher of the Bible, a subject she studied all her life, opening the scriptures to generations of students, from children in Sunday school to adults in Bible classes, in Mt. Pleasant, Dallas, and Granbury. Sally was also a gifted counselor, encouraging, guiding, and comforting many through the trials of life. She had a ready ear and sympathetic heart.

Her children and grandchildren remember her as the best of mothers and grandmothers, at times a stern disciplinarian ("No dessert for you!") but most often a never-failing source of amusement, laughter, songs, stories, and games. Known as "Sassy" to her grandchildren, she kept the Fun Encyclopedia (there really is such a book) always at the ready.

In 1999, after Russell's retirement from his medical practice, he and Sally



built a home on the Brazos River near Granbury, where they delighted in each other's company, enlivened by a wide circle of friends and family and punctuated by frequent trips across the country in their Airstream trailer. The family thanks the many good souls at Grace Bible Church for their care and support during Sally's last few years. The family especially thanks Heidi Gifford for her attentive and devoted service.

Sally Martin is survived by her husband, Russell, and their four children: Russell L. Martin III (Janet) of Plano, Texas.; Margaret Martin (Martha Muckleroy) of College Station, Texas.; Murphy S. Martin (Axelinta) of Jackson, Mississippi.; and Susan M. Harrington (Tom) of Baltimore, Maryland. She is also survived by 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and by numerous nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her parents and by her sister, Sibyl Prince Walker.

The funeral will be Nov. 2 at 11 a.m. at Grace Bible Church, Granbury, Texas., with burial to follow at Acton Cemetery. Serving as pallbearers will be grandsons John Martin, Henry Martin, Sam Martin, Max Martin, Peter Martin, Will Harrington, Joe Harrington, and Daniel Hammett. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Sally's memory can be made to Grace Bible Church, 201 E. Clifton Rd., Granbury, Texas 76048; or to Thru the Bible Radio, PO Box 7100, Pasadena, California 91109. "My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever."

Reta Kay Hutson

August 17, 1934 - September 30, 2024

Reta Kay (Callaway) Hutson, 90, passed away peacefully on Sept. 30, 2024, with her children by her side.

Reta was born on Aug. 17, 1934, in Whitney, Texas, to her parents, Joe Chesley Callaway and Lorena (Wooten) Callaway. She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Billy Hutson; and parents, Joe Chesley Callaway and Lorena (Wooten) Callaway.

Reta is survived by her loving children, Wayne Bell, Diane Schlaepfer, Donna K. and husband Pat Cummings, Harvey Dean and wife Darla Bell; she has many loved grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and her beloved cat, Fuzzy.



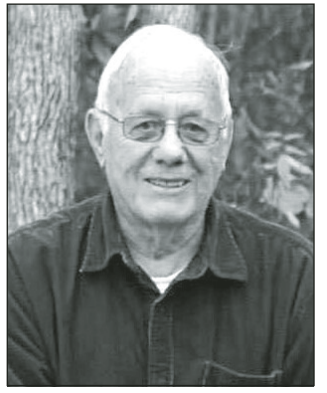
She was a wonderful and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Lawrence Leo Willenborg

July 12, 1929 - September 30, 2024

Lawrence Leo (L.L.) Willenborg, age 95, of Granbury, passed away Monday, Sept. 30, 2024, at Harbor Lakes Rehabilitation Center in Granbury. Lawrence was born July 12, 1929, in Wichita Falls to John Charles Willenborg and Mary Teresa Uptmore Willenborg. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in Fort Worth. Lawrence had a long career as a sheet metal fabricator, welder, and machinist and owned his own shop. Upon retirement he moved to Lake Granbury where he enjoyed fishing, welding, and working in his shop. He was an avid bowler until age 94. He enjoyed hard work and continued to mow his yard until shortly before his death. He also volunteered to help his neighbors by mowing their yards when they were unable to. Lawrence was a quiet man but would quickly help others in need.

Lawrence is survived by his grandchildren Jennifer Boles Leal of Granbury, Christopher Lee Axelson and wife, Tammi of Lufkin, Eric Keith Axelson and wife, Ashley of Magnolia, Jacob Ross Axelson of Crockett; great-grandchildren, Joshua Leal of Hurst,



Ashleigh Lara and husband, Martin Lara of Lubbock, Raelynn Axelson Shipp and husband, Aaron of College Station, Cole Axelson of Lufkin, Avery Axelson of Lufkin, Owen Axelson of Magnolia, Riley Axelson of Magnolia, Aiden Axelson of Crockett; nephew Johnny Wayland of Stephenville; great-nephew Austin of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Travis Wayland of Del Rio; numerous other relatives and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife Rosemary Wayland Willenborg, daughters Connie Willenborg Axelson, and Nancy Willenborg Boles.

Services were held on Friday, Oct. 4, 2024 at Blue Bonnet Hills Memorial Park under the direction of Wiley Funeral Home in Granbury.

Delphine Fox

October 11, 1926 - October 2, 2024

Delphine Fox was born on Oct. 11, 1926 to Ola and Lemuel Kinnard in the Mambrino community in Hood County. She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, Jake, Dendy, and Douglas; two sisters, Lucy Faye Beebe and Dorris Mabery; and three husbands, BJ Richmond, Jr., Homer L. Boase, and Herman Fox. Delphine passed away on Oct. 2, 2024, nine days before her 98th birthday.

She is survived by her three sons, Randy Richmond, BJ Richmond, III and Brian Boase. She has

eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

She was a member of the First Methodist Church of Granbury, a master quilter, and an avid sports fan of her children and grandchildren and attended as many of their activities as possible.

She spent her working career in banking in Wichita Falls and retired and moved back to Granbury in 1980.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024, at Nubbin Ridge Cemetery in Hood County.

SUBMITTING AN OBITUARY

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

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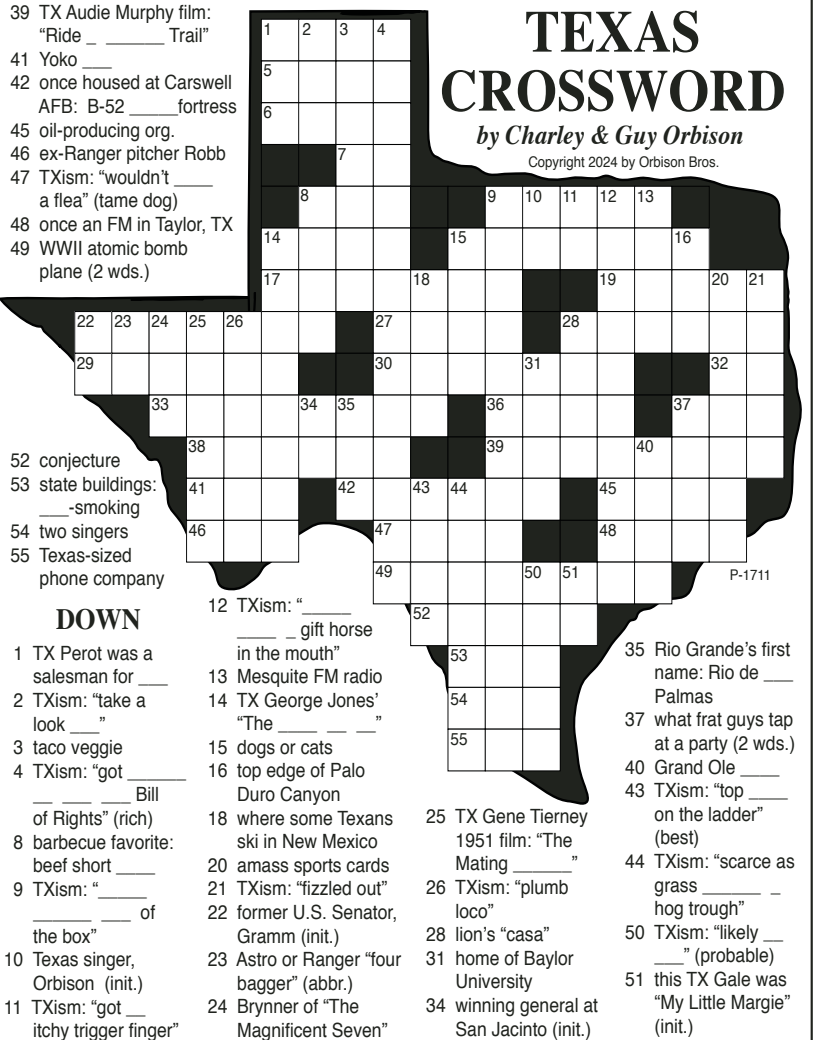
- Mustang Island, e.g.
- TXism: "she's _____ ringed" (engaged)
- TXism: "suits _____ a fare-thee-well"
- San Antonio private college (abbr.)
- TXism: "_____ rat" (toddler)
- Sinatra of 1963 film "4 for Texas"
- TXism: "sitting in high cotton"
- TX J. King Fisher is buried in Uvalde's _____ Cemetery
- TX Clint Black's "_____ Man"
- Coleman paper: Chronicle & Democrat _____
- SMU's James Cronin won 1980 Nobel Prize in this _____
- TXism: "feeling his _____" (frisky)
- actor Jack of "JFK"
- historic B&B in New Braunfels: "_____ Mansion Inn"
- "Baby Boomers" are _____ babies of WWII
- Dallas actress Darnell (init.)
- _____ Blancas" (The White Islands)
- TXism: "skinny as a _____"
- Texas-based "Steak and _____" eateries
- square dance move
- TX Audie Murphy film: "Ride _____ Trail"
- Yoko _____
- once housed at Carswell AFB: B-52 _____ fortress
- oil-producing org.
- ex-Ranger pitcher Robb
- TXism: "wouldn't _____ a flea" (tame dog)
- once an FM in Taylor, TX
- WWII atomic bomb plane (2 wds.)
- conjecture
- state buildings: _____-smoking
- two singers
- Texas-sized phone company

DOWN

- Perot was a salesman for _____
- TXism: "take a look _____"
- taco veggie
- TXism: "got _____ Bill of Rights" (rich)
- barbecue favorite: beef short _____
- TXism: "_____ of _____"
- _____ of _____
- Texas singer, Orbison (init.)
- TXism: "got _____ itchy trigger finger"
- TXism: " _____ gift horse in the mouth"
- Mesquite FM radio
- TX George Jones' "The _____"
- dogs or cats
- top edge of Palo Duro Canyon
- where some Texans ski in New Mexico
- amass sports cards
- TXism: "fizzled out"
- former U.S. Senator, Gramm (init.)
- Astro or Ranger "four bagger" (abbr.)
- Brynner of "The Magnificent Seven"
- TX Gene Tierney 1951 film: "The Mating _____"
- TXism: "plumb loco"
- lion's "casa"
- home of Baylor University
- winning general at San Jacinto (init.)
- Rio Grande's first name: Rio de _____ Palmas
- what frat guys tap at a party (2 wds.)
- Grand Ole _____
- TXism: "top _____ on the ladder" (best)
- TXism: "scarce as grass _____ hog trough"
- TXism: "likely _____" (probable)
- this TX Gale was "My Little Margie" (init.)

TEXAS CROSSWORD

by Charley & Guy Orbison
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Vote for solid investment strategies

CHAD CARROLL
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser



Chad Carroll

Democratic and Republican presidents alike. And the same is true about which party controlled

Congress.

While it might be an overstatement to say that decisions made in Washington have no effect on the markets, it's not always so easy to draw a direct line between what happens there and how the markets perform. For one thing, political candidates often make promises that are not fulfilled, or, if they are, have different results than intended.

Also, other institutions can have a significant impact on the markets. For example, the Federal Reserve, which controls short-term interest rates, can certainly affect many market sectors. And there will always be external events, such as foreign conflicts and even natural disasters, that can make short-term impacts on the investment world.

So, rather than making changes to your portfolio in anticipation of what might happen if certain candidates get elected, or even in response to actual policy changes, look to other factors to drive your investment decisions. These factors should in-

clude the following:

YOUR GOALS

You probably have short- and long-term goals you'd like to achieve. For your short-term goals, such as a wedding, a down payment on a house or a long vacation, you may want to invest in instruments that provide stability of principal. For your long-term goals, most important of which may be a comfortable retirement, you'll need to own a reasonable number of growth-oriented investments.

YOUR RISK TOLERANCE

When you build and maintain your investment port-

folio, you'll need to accommodate your individual risk tolerance. All investments carry some type of risk, but you need to be comfortable with the overall risk level of your investments.

YOUR TIME HORIZON

Where you are in life is an important consideration when investing. When you are young and just starting out in your career, you may be able to focus more on growth, as you have time to overcome the inevitable short-term market downturns. But as you near retirement, you may want to consolidate any gains you may have achieved, and lower your risk level, by mov-

ing your portfolio toward a somewhat more conservative approach. Even in retirement, though, you will need some growth potential to stay ahead of inflation.

YOUR NEEDS FOR LIQUIDITY

As you invest, you'll need to maintain an adequate amount of cash and cash equivalents in your holdings. Without this liquidity, you might be forced to sell long-term investments in case you have unexpected expenses.

In any case, when it comes to investing, you may want to pay less attention to what names are on the ballot — and instead "vote" for the longer-term strategies that reflect your needs and goals.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS

EVERY DAY

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

SUNDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

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, non-denominational and welcome all who are suffering. Parish Hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Phillis and Bill Brewer at 817-573-8915 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).

GRIEF SHARE 14-WEEK seminar. Next session begins Sept. 10, 6:30-8 p.m. Presented by

StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: 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. Questions: 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.

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

RE/ENGAGE MARRIAGE Enrichment meets every Thurs-

day 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 call 817-308-3300.

FIRST MONDAY

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

FIRST TUESDAY

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

SECOND MONDAY

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

SECOND SATURDAY

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

THIRD MONDAY

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

THIRD TUESDAY

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

FOURTH TUESDAY

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

FOURTH SATURDAY

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ENDORING BRET DEASON AND COURTNEY GORE

As Mayor Pro Tem of Granbury, I am proud to endorse Bret Deason and Courtney Gore for Granbury ISD trustee.

Bret Deason, a business owner, is deeply involved in our community, serving on various civic boards like the Optimist Club. He regularly attends school board meetings, donates to school organizations, and has two children who graduated from GISD, one of whom is pursuing a career in aviation thanks to the high school's program. Bret's dedication to education and the community makes him an excellent choice for the school board.

Courtney Gore, running for re-election, has delivered on her promises. She thoroughly investigated CRT concerns, finding none, and played a key role in the library book review with community involvement. Her expertise in school finances is unmatched, and she continues to work for transparency and positive change.

Both Bret Deason and Courtney Gore are strong advocates for public education, committed to serving all students. Their conservative values and dedication

to Granbury ISD make them the best candidates for these positions.

Sincerely,
Steve Vale
Mayor Pro Tem, Granbury

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS

Mark Twain once said "common sense is uncommon." Supporting public schools in your community is the essence of common sense! The wellbeing of our town is directly tied to the strength of our schools. Educational and career opportunities provided by public schools give our youth a path to becoming successful adults who, in turn, contribute to the community. Obviously, this is a desirable outcome for all citizens, even those without children of their own.

Unfortunately, some school board candidates have clearly stated they have no interest in supporting or strengthening our public schools. For example, one such candidate is advocating for revoking funding for last years' teacher pay increases. Where is the common sense in this? They have no desire or ability to lead such a complex operation as Granbury Independent School District. As voters, we must pay at-

tention to these candidates' qualifications. If their goals are not to foster the continued school growth and improvement of our schools and our children, they don't deserve our vote.

Our trustees must be careful stewards of our scarce financial resources. They must understand the complexities of how school funding works. For instance, understanding the difference between Maintenance and Operations and Interest and Sinking funding is critical. We must reject candidates who home school or have zero comprehension of how public schools work. We must demand that candidates demonstrate support for our public schools and advocate for appropriate increased funding for teachers and facilities.

Courtney Gore and Bret Deason are candidates that deserve your vote. They have experience, skills and commitment to public education. As a GISD trustee, Gore advocated for teachers to obtain competitive salaries, professional development and robust support systems. She exemplifies the commonsense leadership required for a district consisting of 8,000 students and 1,200 teachers.

PLEASE SEE LETTERS | A15



Notice of a Virtual Public Hearing

Notice

Virtual Public Hearing – Fort Worth District

Department policies affecting bicycle use on the State Highway System



Scan to access project page

In accordance with Texas Administrative Code, Title 43, Part 1, Chapter 25, Subchapter D, Rule §25.55 (a) and (b), the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is offering a virtual public hearing on district transportation projects, programs, and policies affecting bicycle use on the state highway system. The virtual hearing will consist of a pre-recorded video presentation and will include both audio and visual components. The presentation will be posted online by **Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 5 p.m., and will remain online through Monday, November 25, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** To log into the virtual public hearing, go to the following web address at the date and time indicated above:

www.keepitmovingdallas.com/bicycle-2024

If you do not have internet access, you may call Terrence McAllister at (817) 370-6515 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, to ask questions and access project materials during the project development process. **Please note that the materials will not be available until Thursday, November 7, 2024.**

Members of the public may call the verbal testimony line at (833) 233-1177 to leave their recorded comments after review of the public hearing presentation beginning on **Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 5 p.m. through Monday, November 25, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.**

Formal written comments may also be provided by mail or email as explained below. All verbally provided testimony, and timely written comments will be considered by TxDOT and included as part of the official record. Responses to verbally provided testimony and comments will be prepared by TxDOT, included as part of the hearing and project record, and made available online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/bicycle-2024.

The virtual public hearing will be conducted in English. If you need an interpreter or document translator because English is not your primary language or have difficulty communicating effectively in English, one will be provided to you. If you have a disability and need assistance, special arrangements can be made to accommodate most needs. If you need interpretation or translation services or are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation to attend and participate in the virtual public hearing, please contact **Flavia Paulino** at **Flavia.Paulino@txdot.gov**, no later than **Friday, November 1, 2024, at 4 p.m.** Please be aware that advance notice is required as some services and accommodations may require time for TxDOT to arrange.

*La audiencia pública virtual se llevará a cabo en inglés. Si usted necesita un intérprete o un traductor de documentos porque su idioma principal no es el inglés o tiene alguna dificultad para comunicarse eficazmente en inglés, se le proporcionará uno. Si usted tiene alguna discapacidad y necesita ayuda, se pueden hacer arreglos especiales para atender la mayoría de las necesidades. Si usted necesita servicios de interpretación o traducción o usted es una persona con alguna discapacidad que requiera una adaptación para asistir a y participar en el evento de audiencia pública virtual, por favor póngase en contacto con **Flavia Paulino** por correo electrónico dirigido a **Flavia.Paulino@txdot.gov**, a más tardar a las **4:00 p.m. hora central del viernes, 1 de noviembre de 2024**. Por favor sepa que es necesario dar aviso con anticipación, ya que algunos servicios y adaptaciones pueden requerir tiempo para que TxDOT los organice.*

Written comments from the public regarding the proposed project are requested and may be submitted by mail to **STV Inc. Attn: Shyanne Hernandez, 5750 Genesis Court, Suite 200, Frisco, Texas 75034**. Written comments may also be submitted by email to **Shyanne.Hernandez@stvinc.com**. All written comments must be received on or before **Monday, November 25, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** Additionally, as stated above, members of the public may call the verbal testimony line at (833) 233-1177 and verbally provide comments from **Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 5 p.m. through Monday, November 25, 2024, at 11:59 p.m.** Responses to written comments received and public testimony provided will be available online at www.keepitmovingdallas.com/bicycle-2024 once they have been prepared.

If you have any general questions regarding the proposed project or the virtual hearing, please contact **Terrence McAllister** at **(817) 370-6515** or **Terrence.McAllister@txdot.gov**.

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AV

FROM PAGE A6

got a lot of expertise around different counties and how they operate with IT, so if nothing else, I would expect that, since we're paying this expert to do this assessment, we might want to wait and to see what their recommendations are," Samuelson said.

Wiederkehr clarified that the assessment will primarily focus on network operations and procedural processes, stating that it won't directly address the actual AV equipment or other systems within the county.

"I'm not sure that their scope of work is that limited," Samuelson responded.

"I'm for moving ahead," Massingill chimed in.

He then made a motion to use the ARPA money that was set aside for the generators to update the EOC using AVI-SPL. The motion was seconded by Precinct 3 Commissioner Jack Wilson.

Andrews also noted the upgrades are expected to be completed swiftly, with Campbell confirming that AVI-SPL has assured Wiederkehr the work can be done before the critical election period in early November.

"So, you're saying that AVI will be completely finished with this by Nov. 5?" Samuelson asked.

"I can't promise that, but they believe they are going to be able to get it done by then," Wiederkehr said.

"Because that's less than 30 days," Samuelson added. "The worst thing that can happen is they're halfway done, and we have no EOC, not the old one or the new one."

"They understand the severity of it," Massingill said. "I call for the vote."

The motion passed 3:2 with Samuelson and Precinct 4 Commissioner Dave Eagle voting "No."

LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

Five gynecologic cancers demystified

By Lake Granbury Medical Center

The American Cancer Society estimates that 19,680 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2024, and 75% of them will be in stage III or IV disease at diagnosis.

"Women know their bodies best," said Kira Butler-Holmes, board-certified OB/GYN physician at Lakeside Physicians. "If you notice changes or something that doesn't seem familiar, schedule an appointment with your physician as soon as possible."

So, what are these cancers, and what are the potential risk factors and symptoms?

Cervical cancer is commonly caused by HPV, but smoking, a weakened immune system, long-term oral contraceptive use and multiple full-term pregnancies also can be risk factors. Regular Pap smears can help identify it early, but symptoms to watch for include irregular bleeding, pelvic pain and unusual vaginal discharge.

Uterine cancer (or endometrial cancer) risk factors



Cervical cancer



Endometrial cancer



Ovarian cancer

TYPES OF GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF DESIGNUA, ADOBESTOCK.COM

include obesity, not having children, using estrogen without progesterone and having a family history of the disease. Symptoms include abnormal bleeding, pelvic pain, pain during intercourse and a change in bowel habits.

Ovarian cancer symptoms are often mistaken for digestive issues, as the symptoms include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, feeling full quickly after eating and frequent urination. Being 60 or older, genetics and a history of

endometriosis can increase your risk.

Vaginal cancer symptoms include abnormal pelvic pain, pain during intercourse, unusual vaginal discharge and irregular bleeding. The main cause is persistent HPV infections but being 60 or older and having a history of cervical or vulvar cancer also can increase your risk.

Vulvar cancer is rare and occurs on the external part of female genitalia. Symptoms include itching or pain and changes in vulvar skin color or thickness.

However, it also can present as a lump or sore on the vulva that doesn't heal. Risk factors include past HPV infection, smoking, being 50 or older, having a weakened immune system and a history of cervical cancer.

Remember, many of these cancers are not detected by a Pap smear, so beyond regular screenings, it's vital to tell your doctor if you notice any symptoms. That way, they can schedule other types of tests, such as imaging, blood tests and biopsies, to diagnose your condition early on, when

it's most treatable.

If you're diagnosed with cancer, your doctor's approach will be tailored to your individual needs, as well as the specific type and stage of your cancer. Treatment options can include surgery, radiation, chemotherapy, immunotherapy and medications.

For more information or to schedule an appointment with Butler-Holmes, please call 817-279-1776 or visit <https://LakeGranburyMedical.com/> KiraButler-HolmesMD.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE A14

Deason graduated from GISD, as did his adult children. His strong business background gives Deason a clear understanding of financial management. He has demonstrated his leadership and commitment

to the community through volunteer work, serving on boards of multiple charities, and community service groups that provide both scholarships and assistance to families struggling to make ends meet.

This school board election is important to our community! Please take time to review the candi-

dates' goals, experience and passions for our public schools; then cast your vote for Bret Deason and Courtney Gore!

Gene Auerbach
Captain, SC, USN (Ret)

GUIDELINES FOR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please 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.

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VETERANS DAY

HELP US HONOR OUR LOCAL VETERANS

We're running a special section in November to honor our local veterans.

HURRY! Deadline to submit is Monday, October 14th.

Submit your veteran's photo to our website:

www.hcnews.com

Include name of veteran, branch of service, years served, and a photo.

Hood County News

SUBMIT YOUR VETERAN HERE

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THE Best of Hood County
HCN News ★★★★★
7 STRAIGHT YEARS

KNIEPER REALTY

How to choose a listing agent when selling your home



BY PAM KNIEPER

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

There are currently 1,554,604 REALTORS® in the United States; 150,141 are Texas REALTORS® and the Granbury Association of REALTORS® current head count is at 445.

As of this writing, there are 706 homes for sale in our MLS. With 445 agents that is LESS THAN two listings per agent. So, as you can imagine, the competition for a slice of the pie in our small hometown is fierce. The National Association

of REALTORS® says 39% of sellers found their agents through a referral by friends or family, and 26% used the agent they previously worked with. Previous experience with an agent is a terrific way to qualify or disqualify an agent, and while referrals are always welcome, beware of the ones that sound like this: "my second cousin's grandson's girlfriend who just got her license." So, what's a responsible home seller to do? Ask questions.

ARE YOU A FULL TIME AGENT?

It is extremely difficult to give home sellers the time and attention needed when you are teaching a social studies class to a group of sixth graders.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN SELLING REAL ESTATE?

Everyone must start somewhere, and there are mentoring positions for new agents. But when there are so many options available, choosing an agent with at least 5-10 years' experience is highly recommended.

DO YOU OFFICE IN GRANBURY?

Every market is different, and an agent who works

and lives in the metroplex will not be as well equipped to sell your home as an agent who knows and lives in this market area.

DOES YOUR BROKER OFFICE IN GRANBURY?

There are an alarming number of real estate offices with "absentee" brokers. Their broker sponsors multiple offices all over the state and very often the agents have never met their broker. The "buck stops here" person in this industry is the broker, so I recommend looking for local offices with brokers who are present and accounted for.

WHO DO I CALL IF YOU ARE UNAVAILABLE?

Sick kids, jury duty, vacations, whatever the reason, a solo agent cannot and will not be available 24/7. Find out what the backup plan is. Are they on a team? Do they have a licensed assistant? Who can you call when there is a crisis or a critical deadline?

GET SPECIFIC TO YOUR LOCATION

What do you know about my subdivision or HOA? What do you know about lakefront properties in Granbury? What do you know about MUD districts? Local, experienced agents will be able to answer ques-

tions specific to your location. I've seen too many homes advertised recently as being on city water and sewer, when in fact they are on private water and a septic system. Homes advertised as being available for short term rental when in fact they are not, agents calling lake front properties river front — these are the kind of mistakes that get home sellers sued.

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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 Oct. 1-7. While there were many incidents, this is a partial list of more significant activity.

OCT. 1

11:42 a.m.: suspicious activity on N. Park Drive
12:49 p.m.: criminal trespass on U.S. Highway 377
5:31 p.m.: suspicious activity on W. U.S. Highway 377
7:32 p.m.: threats on Reunion Court
***Three major accidents, one minor accident, a warrant service and 32 traffic stops occurred this day**

OCT. 2

7:40 a.m.: suspicious ve-

hicle on W. Apache Trail
10:34 a.m.: assault on Crossland Road
4:44 p.m.: fraud on E. U.S. Highway 377
8:02 p.m.: possession of a controlled substance on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:50 p.m.: possession of a controlled substance on W. Atchley Drive
***Four major accidents, three minor accidents, a warrant service and 26 traffic stops occurred this day**

OCT. 3

12:12 a.m.: shots fired on E. Pearl Street
12:38 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance on E. U.S. Highway 377
2:50 a.m.: possession of a controlled substance, driver with invalid license on E. U.S.

Highway 377
10:10 a.m.: minor in possession of alcohol on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:42 a.m.: harassment on E. Pearl Street
4:55 p.m.: theft of property on E. U.S. Highway 377
9:30 p.m.: assault on Rolling Terrace Circle
9:37 p.m.: intoxicated driver on E. U.S. Highway 377
9:54 p.m.: noise disturbance on W. Pearl Street
***Three major accidents, four minor accidents, a warrant service and 19 traffic stops occurred on this day**

OCT. 4

8:50 a.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on Southwest Parkway
11:00 a.m.: driver while invalid license on E. U.S.

Highway 377
12:24 p.m.: intoxicated person on N. Plaza Drive
2:36 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377
6:45 p.m.: intoxicated driver on E. U.S. Highway 377
***Five minor accidents and 31 traffic stops occurred this day**

OCT. 5

12:58 a.m.: noise disturbance on Paluxy Road
2:18 a.m.: intoxicated person on S. Cherry Lane
8:11 a.m.: driver with invalid license on NE Loop 567
1:31 p.m.: criminal misdemeanor on S. Morgan Street
6:48 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377
7:52 p.m.: property found on E. U.S. Highway 377
9:01 p.m.: noise distur-

bance on Paluxy Road
10:02 p.m.: property found on N. Crockett Street
One minor accident, two warrant services and 16 traffic stops occurred this day

OCT. 6

12:55 a.m.: noise disturbance on N. Crockett Street
1:19 a.m.: intoxicated driver on W. Pearl Street
3:12 a.m.: noise disturbance on N. Crockett Street
9:49 a.m.: criminal trespass on Panama Court
2:08 p.m.: theft under \$100 on E. U.S. Highway 377
5:07 p.m.: possession of a controlled substance on E. U.S. Highway 377
5:56 p.m.: threat on W. Pearl Street
7:13 p.m.: theft of property less than \$2,500 on E. U.S.

Highway 377
8:00 p.m.: noise disturbance on Quiet Cove
***Two minor accidents and 48 traffic stops occurred on this day**

OCT. 7

4:20 a.m.: possession of drug paraphernalia on E. U.S. Highway 377
10:41 a.m.: theft under \$100 E. U.S. Highway 377
12:02 p.m.: criminal trespass on E. U.S. Highway 377
12:43 p.m.: driver with invalid license on E. U.S. Highway 377
3:48 p.m.: terroristic threat on River Road
6:48 p.m.: criminal trespass on W. U.S. Highway 377
***Two minor accidents and 36 traffic stops occurred on this day**

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Pride of Granbury sweeps awards at Wildcat Marching Festival in Godley



COURTESY PHOTO

The Granbury High School Pride of Granbury Marching Band with its first place trophy at the Godley Wildcat Marching Festival.

BY MICKY SHEARON

Special to the Hood County News
micky@hcnews.com

The Pride of Granbury marching band once again demonstrated its musical and performance excellence, taking first place at the Wildcat Marching Festival last weekend at Godley High School. With 20 high school bands from across North Texas competing, Granbury's victory was not just a win for its hometown but a statement of its hard work, dedication and talent.

In addition to claiming the top spot in the overall marching competition, the Granbury band won numerous accolades in its classification. The band brought home awards for Outstanding Percussion, Outstanding Color Guard and Outstanding Drum Majors. These achievements are a testament to the group's all-around excellence, from the musicians on the field to the students leading the show.

Cody Haddock, Granbury High School's director of bands, couldn't have been prouder of his students' performance, both on and off the field. "The band's performance on Saturday night

was by far the best run of the year so far," Haddock shared. "The way the kids rehearsed all week set them up to have a great run, and they really set the tone for the rest of the year."

For Haddock and the students, the Wildcat Marching Festival win is the culmination of weeks of preparation and practice. Since the summer, the band has been diligently working on perfecting its routine, balancing musicality with intricate marching formations. The students' hours of effort finally paid off under the stadium lights in Godley.

"Marching band is a great example of delayed gratification," Haddock explained. "We have been working on this show since the summer, so seeing pure joy on their faces makes all the long days worth it." That sense of accomplishment, after enduring the heat of summer practices and the long hours after school, is not lost on the students, who continue to push themselves for future performances.

AN INSPIRING PERFORMANCE, ON AND OFF THE FIELD

While the band's outstanding performance on the field was a highlight of the evening,

Haddock was particularly moved by band members' behavior off the field. In his words, the students exhibited a level of maturity and respect that made him even prouder.

"While their performance on the field was inspiring, I was most impressed with how the band carried themselves off the field, with dignity and class," Haddock said. "They represented Granbury with pride and showed that success isn't just about what you do, but how you do it."

Haddock's emphasis on character is a significant part of the culture he's built within the Granbury High School band. For him, marching band is more than just music and movement — it's about teaching life lessons. He sees the delayed gratification inherent in band culture as a way for students to understand the value of hard work, perseverance and teamwork. The victories on the field, according to Haddock, are only part of the equation.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE US-BANDS DALLAS REGIONAL

The win at the Wildcat Marching Festival marks an exciting start to the Granbury

band's competitive season, and it gives the group momentum as it prepares for its next major challenge — the USBands Dallas Regional. This prestigious competition will see bands from across the state and beyond, and Haddock is confident his students are up to the task.

"This is a great start to our competitive season, and we have some positive momentum heading into the USBands Dallas Regional," Haddock said. His optimism is rooted not just in the band's Wildcat performance, but also in the commitment he's seen from his students over the last few months.

The Granbury band's recent success has certainly energized the students, and it will continue to rehearse and refine its show in preparation for upcoming competitions. The goal, of course, is to continue building on the success it's already achieved, with an eye toward state-level competitions later in the year.

MORE THAN MUSIC

While the accolades and trophies are rewarding, Haddock remains focused on the larger mission of the Granbury High School band program. Beyond competi-

tion, he views marching band as a unique educational experience that teaches valuable life skills.

"Marching band teaches discipline, teamwork and delayed gratification," Haddock reiterated. "It's about learning how to work toward something bigger than yourself, and then experiencing the satisfaction of seeing it all come together."

That sense of unity and purpose is what drives Haddock and his students. The band's victory at the Wildcat Marching Festival is not just a win for the community — it's a symbol of what can be achieved when a group of young people work together toward a common goal.

For now, the Granbury High School marching band members will continue rehearsing, confident in their abilities and excited for what lies ahead. As they move forward in their season, the entire Granbury community will no doubt be cheering them on, proud of what these students have already accomplished and eager to see what they will achieve next.

Trustee candidates face off: Granbury ISD forum highlights (Part 1)

BY LAUREN DAVIS

Staff Writer
lauren@hcnews.com

This is the first of a two-part series covering the candidates vying for the Granbury ISD board of trustees' Place 3 and Place 4 positions.

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce hosted a candidate forum Monday, Oct. 7, at the Lake Granbury Conference Center.

Candidates for Place 3, Tim Bolton and Bret Deason, and Place 4, Courtney Gore and Jaci Lopez, presented their platforms and answered questions.

Holly Martin, interim president of the Granbury Chamber of Commerce, introduced the forum's moderator, Eric Morrow, an associate professor at Tarleton State University.

Morrow, who has a background in nonprofit work, specializes in civic learning and democratizing engagement and has made significant contributions to programs

that promote student success and retention at Tarleton.

CANDIDATE INTRODUCTIONS

Courtney Gore is seeking re-election to Place 4 on the Granbury ISD school board, a role she has held for the past three years. She is the mother of four, all attending Granbury ISD schools. "I am extremely committed to our schools in Granbury because I have kids in the school district," she emphasized.

With a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Western Governors University and membership in Kappa Delta Pi, one of the largest honor societies for educators, Gore has taught across multiple grade levels, math and science, and preschool programs for children with disabilities.

Currently, she serves as an office manager for a growing agricultural company, where her leadership has doubled sales in her first year. Gore is also a founding member and former

Family Rights Advocacy board member, a board member of the Granbury Education Foundation, and an active participant in numerous committees, such as the GSD Strategic Planning Committee and the Legislative Action Committee. "I will continue to serve our community with integrity for the next three years, just as I have done the last three."

Jaci Lopez is running for Place 4 on the Granbury ISD school board. A resident of Hood County for 11 years, Lopez is a homeschooling mother of four children, all educated at home since her oldest was in third grade. "I was a Texan born in the wrong state," she joked about her move from California, adding, "We got here as fast as we could."

Lopez's experiences include being a former business owner and the wife of a long-haul truck driver, providing her with firsthand

PLEASE SEE **GISD** | B2



COURTESY PHOTO

Pecan Plantation Country Club tennis pro John H. Ingram III gives an acceptance speech at the United States Professional Tennis Association award ceremony Sept. 18 in Palm Springs, California.

Ingram III receives prestigious George Bacso Lifetime Achievement Award

BY LAUREN DAVIS

Staff Writer
lauren@hcnews.com

John H. Ingram III, a longtime tennis professional at Pecan Plantation Country Club, was honored by the United States Professional Tennis Association Sept. 18 in Palm Springs, California, with the George Bacso Lifetime Achievement

Award, which recognizes more than 50 years of dedication to the sport of tennis.

Ingram's career is marked not only by his accomplishments in coaching, playing and teaching but also by his humor, love for costumes, and flair that he brings to every court he steps on.

Dressed in a pale blue suit

with a French blue bow tie and a navy-banded white straw fedora, Ingram took the stage at the award ceremony with his trademark charm. "I brought a prop," he joked, waving a vintage wooden tennis racket. Recalling advice from the late tennis legend Vic Brayden at his first USPTA convention in 1977, he

PLEASE SEE **TENNIS** | B3

GISD

FROM PAGE B1

knowledge of the challenges facing working families. Her leadership roles include serving as a former parliamentarian for the Hood County GOP Executive Committee and as a current precinct chair, making her well-versed in parliamentary procedure and governance. "I understand Robert's Rules of Order and how to be a board member," she noted.

Despite not finishing college, Lopez bought textbooks to study philosophy, government, and history to continue her education. As a delegate to the National Republican Convention, she also has experience in advocacy and representation.

Bret Deason is running for Place 3 on the Granbury ISD School Board, bringing 18 years of local experience and a commitment to education. He is a business owner in Granbury and husband of a public school teacher. "It is imperative that we support our public education system because the Constitution dictates it," Deason stated, emphasizing the importance of Article 7 of the Texas Constitution, which mandates education for all citizens.

Deason and his wife, Tracy, have two children: a son, a Texas A&M University graduate and flight instructor who started his aviation journey at Granbury ISD by building and flying a kit plane, and a daughter, a freshman at Tarleton State University.

His platform focused on removing politics from education and shifting the focus back to students and teachers. "Too much politics has gotten in the way over the last three years," Deason said. "It's time to get our focus back on student outcomes and supporting our teachers."

Deason strongly advocated for transparency in finances and education. He believes parents should have easy access to their children's curriculum and a straightforward process to address concerns with the school board. He also brings years of service on the Hood County Children's Charity Board and the Algebra Squad scholarship committee.

Tim Bolton is running for the Granbury ISD School Board, Place 3. A self-described "fiscally conservative education partner," Bolton is determined to ensure that taxpayer dollars are spent wisely and efficiently. "We spent \$93 million last year of your property tax money, and I think we need to focus back on getting that where it belongs — on the things that matter."

Bolton is a staunch advocate for limiting government growth, he noted, "If there's one thing that government does well, it's growing government. They tax and spend and tax and spend. I believe government is accountable to the people, and I want to represent you. I want your voice to be heard," he stated.

His platform centered on supporting teachers. "I want to equip teachers with the tools they need, reward them with competitive pay, and give them the recognition they deserve," Bolton said. He believes putting resources directly into the classroom, where "teachers meet students," is key to improving educational outcomes.

"I want to earn your trust as a trustee, and I want to demonstrate what it means to be trustworthy," he promised.

DEFINE THE ROLE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL IN GRANBURY

Courtney Gore emphasized that the primary role of Granbury public schools is to serve all children, providing them with the best educational opportunities regardless of their home environment or academic standing.

"It is our job to get them where they need to be academically," she stated, highlighting the importance of closing educational gaps and creating a safe, healthy learning environment. Gore also stressed the need to provide high-quality teachers and to partner with community organizations like United Way to support students beyond the classroom, ensuring their

well-being at home.

She explained that public schools offer more than academics, addressing essential needs like weekend food programs for children in difficult circumstances. "It's more than just academics," she noted, emphasizing the importance of connecting students to their schools and showing them better opportunities. Gore credited her own success to public school educators and shared, "If it wasn't for public school educators, I wouldn't be sitting here in front of you."

Jaci Lopez highlighted the importance of public education in shaping the future of Texas and the nation. She referenced the mission of the public education system, which aims to ensure all children have access to quality education, allowing them to achieve their full potential and fully participate in the state and country's social, economic, and educational opportunities.

Lopez emphasized that children are the future of our nation, and how they are taught today will directly impact the future of policies, the economy, and legislation. She noted, "How we teach them and how well we teach them is literally the future of our nation."

Bret Deason emphasized Granbury ISD's vital role in fulfilling its constitutional duty to provide quality education. He shared that many students come from difficult backgrounds but that every one of them mentioned a school teacher in their essays, reflecting the positive impact of educators.

Deason highlighted the unique opportunities offered by the district, including more than 23 different certifications students can earn. "Not all of them are going to go to college," he said, "but a lot of them are going to go into the workforce." He believes these certifications help prepare students to become productive citizens.

Tim Bolton reflected on the profound impact of his own education, crediting great teachers who invested in him and became lifelong friends. He described these educators as "family" and expressed a desire to bring that same experience to the next generation of students.

Bolton shared the educational paths of his children, noting that his son was the first alumni graduate of Happy Hill Farm, his second son graduated from Granbury High School, and his third son is currently a senior there. He said, "I want to bring you my best."

WHAT STRENGTHS, KNOWLEDGE, OR QUALITIES DO YOU BRING TO STRENGTHEN THE BOARD AS A WHOLE?

Bret Deason believes he possesses the following qualities and strengths he will bring to the school board:

- Relationship-building skills: Experience in sales and owning his own business has honed his ability to develop relationships and work collaboratively, even with those he may disagree with.
- Employee evaluation experience: As a business owner, he has experience evaluating and hiring employees.
- Budget management experience: Deason has significant experience running a budget.
- School board meeting experience: He has attended school board meetings for four years.
- Community involvement: Actively engages with students, even after his children have graduated, by volunteering, attending events, and speaking at school programs.
- Commitment to supporting students:

Bret Deason is running for Place 3 on the Granbury ISD board of trustees.

- Experience as a former public school teacher: Deep understanding of teachers' daily challenges, including the pressures from legislative demands.
- Parental perspective: Firsthand experience as a parent with children in public school.
- Educational background: Insight into the teacher and student experience within the school system.
- System and process implementation: Expertise in creating and streamlining systems in the business world and school board operations.
- Community engagement: Strong ability to listen to and implement community feedback.

Jaci Lopez believes she possesses the following qualities, strengths, and knowledge she will bring to the school board:

- Parliamentary experience: Served as a former parliamentarian, will bring knowledge of parliamentary procedures to the board.
- Home education exper-

tise: Extensive experience homeschooling her four children, often teaching multiple grade levels at once for more than 13 years.

Tim Bolton believes he possesses the following qualities and strengths he will bring to the school board:



Tim Bolton is running for the Granbury ISD board of trustees, Place 3.

- Principled leadership: A strong, conservative foundation driven by integrity and responsibility.
- 35 years of corporate experience: Background in IT, legal, contracts, and management.
- Budget management expertise: Extensive experience managing budgets, payroll, and resources.
- Employee empowerment: Emphasis on empowering and supporting teachers and administrators.
- Customer satisfaction focus: Committed to serving students and parents, recognizing them as "customers," and striving to meet their needs.
- Investor engagement: Acknowledges the importance of taxpayer trust and ensures that their interests are prioritized.
- Fiscal responsibility and transparency: Focus on government accountability, ensuring that all activities are managed with transparency and financial responsibility.

Courtney Gore believes she possesses the following qualities and strengths she will bring to the school board:



Courtney Gore seeks re-election to Place 4 on the Granbury ISD board of trustees.

- Experience as a former public school teacher: Deep understanding of teachers' daily challenges, including the pressures from legislative demands.
- Parental perspective: Firsthand experience as a parent with children in public school.
- Educational background: Insight into the teacher and student experience within the school system.
- System and process implementation: Expertise in creating and streamlining systems in the business world and school board operations.
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Tim Bolton believes he possesses the following qualities and strengths he will bring to the school board:

Tim Bolton addressed this question by criticizing the assumption that the community could be asked for more money without first addressing their concerns. He pointed out that previous bond proposals did not clearly address the critical needs, leading to voter distrust.

PREVIOUS BOND ELECTIONS HAVE FAILED. WHAT IS YOUR PLAN TO ADDRESS SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT WERE OUTLINED IN THESE BONDS?

Tim Bolton addressed this question by criticizing the assumption that the community could be asked for more money without first addressing their concerns. He pointed out that previous bond proposals did not clearly address the critical needs, leading to voter distrust.

Courtney Gore countered that the needs outlined in previous bond proposals are still pressing and have not diminished. She explained that the community must regroup and support new bond initiatives to build a school needed for the district's growing student population. Gore emphasized the importance of community engagement in crafting a plan that aligns with local needs.

Jaci Lopez expressed skepticism regarding future bonds, stating that the community needs a fair and transparent evaluation of its needs before any proposal is made. She stressed that it is essential to understand the demographic shifts occurring in Granbury, questioning whether the growth is among families with children or primarily retirees.

Bret Deason reiterated the importance of addressing community growth with accurate data and engaging with developers to understand the types of housing being built. He noted that the school district must anticipate growth, as failing to address capacity through bond proposals would leave the district lagging behind. Deason acknowledged that the maintenance of aging buildings will also become a significant issue as the district grows.

WHAT IS YOUR PERSPECTIVE OF THE GROWTH OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND WHAT IDEAS WOULD YOU BRING TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES RELATED TO GROWTH?

Courtney Gore emphasized that addressing large capital expenses in Granbury ISD will require a bond election, but this can only happen after hiring a new superintendent and completing a demographic study.

"The more informed and engaged our community is, the better educational opportunities we'll have for our kids," she said. Gore believes community involvement is crucial, and she is committed to fostering this by gathering input and creating a comprehensive plan that everyone can support.

While larger class sizes and portable classrooms may be temporary solutions, "Increased classroom sizes are not what's good for kids, as it leads to teaching challenges and worsens behavior issues," she said.

Jaci Lopez expressed concerns about Granbury ISD's growth, questioning whether the district's expansion is driven by an increase in students or retirees. She noted, "Enrollment has actually grown by just over 200 students over the last four years."

Lopez believes the district should first conduct a fair and transparent evaluation of existing resources before considering new construction. She also emphasized the uncertainty surrounding future policies, such as school vouchers, stating, "We need to see how that's going to affect Granbury ISD before we start pushing another bond on the taxpayer investors that may not want

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Former Lady Pirate overcame cancer to achieve dream

Williams now plays for Weatherford College

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County News

At an age when most girls are developing their first crush and looking forward to life in junior high school, Lilli Williams was simply trying to hang onto life.

The Weatherford College sophomore softball player from Granbury was diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma in September 2018. She was 13 years old.

Ewings is a rare form of bone cancer. She had an even rarer type that formed in her soft tissue.

"Just before my 13th birthday, which was in July, I found a lump on my side close to my ribs, and I saw many doctors to figure out what it was," she recalled. "None of the doctors really knew what it was, so after seeing a surgeon, we decided to remove the mass."

When the tumor was run through a biopsy, doctors discovered it was cancer. After being diagnosed, she had surgery to put in a port, a device used in place of an IV, and started chemotherapy treatment almost immediately. Throughout a nine-month span, she received 20 rounds of chemotherapy.

"I was in and out of the hospital for constant check-ups, scans and treatment. The chemo I received was extensive, and I ended up having to get blood transfusions because of it," Lilli said. "Halfway through my treatment, me and my parents had to decide my next step of treatment, which was either proton therapy (radiation) or surgery."

They went the surgery route, which included the removal of her last right rib and a lot of surrounding muscle.

"I finished my chemotherapy treatment in April of 2019. The battle was long, but I'm grateful for the people that surrounded me during my harsh treatment," she said. "I am officially in remission and cancer-free as of April of this year!"

DEALING WITH THE DIAGNOSIS

"My parents told me about the diagnosis, and we were all in shock. I was a completely healthy and active 13-year-old that played sports, the last thing on our minds was cancer," she said. "At that point in my life I didn't know that kids got cancer, I thought it was an 'old person' disease."

No one else in her family had ever faced cancer, which made her diagnosis feel all the more unusual, Lilli said.

"Ewing's sarcoma is rare, and with its cause still un-



PHOTO COURTESY OF WEATHERFORD COLLEGE

Former Granbury Lady Pirate Lilli Williams overcame her battle with bone cancer to achieve her dream of playing college softball as she is now a member of the Weatherford College Coyotes.

known, it was hard to grasp," she said. "Fewer than 1,000 people are diagnosed with it each year, making it even more surreal to process."

Of course, she was sidelined from playing softball. With chemotherapy weakening her immune system, she was essentially quarantined at home.

"I tried to stay as active as my body could handle, but the treatment really took a toll on my energy and strength," she said.

Occasionally, she'd watch her teammates play, but all she could do was watch from the sidelines.

"My coaches were kind enough to let me play one inning in a game I attended, and I was beyond grateful just to set foot on the field again," she said. "Not being able to play was tough, especially since I'd always been active in every sport that came my way since I was a kid."

Going from that to almost no activity aside from walking was one of the hardest parts of her journey. Today, she's proud to say she's back to nearly 100% physically and emotionally.

"While the chemotherapy left its mark on my body, I feel like I'm doing pretty well and I've gained a lot of

strength since my treatment," she said.

LIVING A DREAM

Like many young athletes, Lilli dreamed of playing in college. Most, however, do not have the additional challenges she has faced and conquered.

"During treatment, I never imagined I'd be playing college softball, yet here I am, at a great school, playing for an amazing program," she said.

Coyotes coach Haylee Williams saw more in Williams than her talent — which, of course, there is plenty. She believes she has much more than a solid infielder (mostly third base), she has a walking inspiration for the rest of the team — including Williams herself.

"Lilli is such a hard worker and so diligent in her process throughout each day," the coach said. "You would never know the struggle she has been through and always has a positive, upbeat attitude."

"She is a great teammate and a pleasure to coach."

At Granbury, Lilli played on the varsity all four of her high school seasons. She helped the Lady Pirates reach the playoffs twice, earning first-team all-district

and academic all-district honors all four years. Her senior year, she was named academic all-state.

She played her freshman season at the University of Arkansas Rich Mountain community college. She helped the Lady Bucks to a second-place conference finish. They also became the first UARM softball team to earn a national ranking, reaching No. 13.

"That's a milestone I'm proud to have contributed to," said Lilli, who was also first-team NJCAA academic all-American at the school. "Now at Weatherford, I'm excited to be part of a team with amazing talent and chemistry."

CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE

Lilli said battling cancer profoundly changed her perspective on life.

"At 13, I never imagined I could be affected by such a serious disease. I had lived a sheltered childhood," she said. "Being diagnosed opened my eyes to the harsh realities of the world and made me realize just how fragile life can be."

"It taught me that if I'm going to do something, I might as well give it my all, because I never know when I might

have the opportunity to do it again."

Lilli said this newfound appreciation drives her to embrace every moment and experience it to the fullest, reminding her to cherish not only the big milestones but also the small joys along the way.

CAREER GOALS

Lilli plans to graduate from WC with an associate of science degree and intends to transfer to another school to pursue a degree in animal science on the pre-vet track. Her ultimate goal is to attend veterinary school and become a small animal veterinarian.

"I chose WC because it's close to home, allowing me to spend time with my family, and it offers amazing resources to support my education," she said. "I truly love the vibrant energy of the campus and the supportive community surrounding it. I believe that my time at WC will provide a strong foundation for my future as I transition to a four-year school."

And she wants to continue playing at a higher level.

"I am currently in the process of getting recruited at a four-year school," she said, adding, "It is going

to be hard finding a four-year that compares to what Weatherford College has to offer."

INSPIRATION TO OTHERS

Lilli admits that she sees herself as an inspiration to others.

"I believe I can resonate with pediatric cancer patients who have faced similar challenges, showing them that it's possible to emerge stronger and reach new heights — like playing college sports," she said. "I hope my journey gives them hope and motivation to keep fighting."

"I also feel that I inspire fellow softball players by competing at a high level after overcoming cancer. My experience demonstrates that hard work and determination can take you anywhere you want to go. I've put in countless hours of effort to get to where I am today, and I want to show others that they can achieve their dreams, too."

"My current favorite quote is 'The windshield is bigger than the rearview mirror for a reason. Because what's in front of you is so much more important than what's behind you,' Jason DeFord, aka (singer) Jelly Roll."

TENNIS

FROM PAGE B1

shared, "When you're making a presentation, hold a racket, and you'll be a lot more comfortable."

Ingram's speech was peppered with humorous anecdotes and heartfelt gratitude. He reminisced about his early days in Houston, teaching tennis lessons for \$3 an hour (though if you arrived in a nice car, it was \$4). One of his first students, a beginner, ended her lesson by telling him, "I hope you get better, too." Ingram laughed, then added, "Wouldn't it be nice to go back to the first person you ever taught and say, 'I'm sorry?' We were just winging it back then."

Despite the humor, Ingram's speech reflected his genuine appreciation for those who shaped his journey. He began by thanking his parents, who gave him the means to take tennis lessons, and his brother Tom, a longtime USPTA member.

He also honored Karen Shannon, their children, son Jay, daughter Katherine — who was very instrumental in making the tribute

video — and the family dogs, Charlie and Lucy, for their support. His list of mentors was long, including icons like Vic Braden, Bill Tym and colleagues like Ron Woods, Dick King, and Ken McAllister, all of whom influenced his path.

"Because of USPTA, I think we all got better," he said. "If you go to the conventions, you'll make lifelong friends, and it'll make you a lot better and more skilled at our craft." He closed with a reflective thought, inspired by "It's a Wonderful Life." "You don't know how many people you touch in the course of your lifetime."

Ingram's path to becoming a Dallas-area tennis icon wasn't always certain. "I was going to go to law school," he admitted, "but this tennis thing seemed like a pretty good gig. I thought I'd do it for a couple of years, but I guess I've never had a real job." That "gig" turned into a lifetime, with Ingram mentoring countless professionals along the way.

Friends and colleagues are quick to praise his impact. Ron Woods, a fellow tennis pro, captured Ingram's spirit perfectly: "It doesn't matter how much you know or how great of a teacher you

are — unless you make it fun for people, it doesn't matter. And that's what John does. He makes tennis fun."

Katherine Ingram, his daughter, said, "He inspires me every day with his unyielding positive attitude, his kindness, and his dedication. I'm so proud of him."

Ingram's love for tennis isn't just about technique; it's also about having fun, often in costume. From Santa Claus to Scottish kilts, Ingram's penchant for dressing up is legendary. Craig Bell, a close friend, joked, "He's in the Hall of Fame for looking sharp and snappy. Whether it's Halloween or the Fourth of July, John's in costume and playing the role."

USPTA CEO Brian Dillman also credits Ingram for shaping his career. "When John certified me in 1991, I was nervous, but it was a great experience. Because of him, I'm here today."

Ingram remains humble despite his countless achievements. "I owe everything to the USPTA. I've made lifelong friends, but most importantly, I've learned so much." Since 2015, he has been the Club Tennis Pro at Pecan

Plantation Country Club, where his teaching continues to inspire.

His legacy, marked by achievements, costumes and friendship, is one that transcends trophies. As Craig Bell fittingly summed up, "Well played, J.I.3. Well played."

To view Ingram's USPTA's George Bacso Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony video Scan the QR code Below



COURTESY PHOTO
Pecan Plantation Tennis Pro
John Ingram Make tennis fun.



Turning your insecurities into superpowers: 4 empowering ways to flip the script

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

We all have insecurities. They creep into our minds when we least expect them, whispering doubts and highlighting our weaknesses. But what if, instead of letting these insecurities hold us back, we could turn them into sources of strength, motivation and even inspiration?

This might sound far-fetched, but it's entirely possible — and the benefits can be life-changing. Below are four practical strategies to help you reframe your insecurities and use them as fuel for personal growth and empowerment. Whether it's through sharing your story, helping others or expressing yourself creatively, these methods can help you tap into your hidden potential.

1. SHARE YOUR STRUGGLES — YOU'RE NOT ALONE

Let's be real — everyone deals with insecurities. From body image to imposter syndrome, there's not a single person who hasn't experienced self-doubt. While it's easy to feel isolated in these struggles, the truth is many people feel the same way. One powerful way to break the isolation is by sharing your insecurities.

Opening up about your fears and vulnerabilities, even if it's anonymously, creates a sense of community. You realize you're not alone in your struggles, and

suddenly, the weight you've been carrying feels a little lighter. It could be as simple as joining an online support group, writing a blog, or talking to a close friend. By being vulnerable, you give others permission to do the same, creating solidarity and reducing the shame attached to your insecurities.

Pro Tip: Start small! If it feels overwhelming to share your struggles with others, consider writing them down in a journal or posting them anonymously on a supportive forum. You might be surprised by how much better you feel.

2. BE THE MENTOR YOU NEEDED

One of the most empowering ways to transform your insecurities is by mentoring someone else. Whether it's a younger sibling, a coworker, or a teen going through a similar experience, offering guidance to others helps both parties grow.

Think back to a time when you were struggling with insecurity. How helpful would it have been to have someone tell you it was okay, that they had been through it too? By becoming that person for someone else, you'll not only help them, you'll also gain perspective on your own journey. You might find that by advising others, you also end up teaching yourself.

Mentoring is about building a bridge between your past experiences and someone else's current challenges. It creates a loop of positive

reinforcement where both people walk away stronger and more confident.

Pro Tip: You don't need to be an expert to mentor someone — just being there and listening can make a huge difference.

3. EMBRACE VULNERABILITY AS BRAVERY

We often think of bravery as the absence of fear, but in reality, true courage involves confronting our fears head-on. Insecurity thrives on silence, but the moment you choose to face it with vulnerability, you break its hold on you.

Take my friend Debbie, for example. Debbie always dreamed of being on stage, but a painful memory kept her from pursuing that passion for over 40 years. As a little girl in elementary school, she auditioned for a part in her school play. At the time, she had a slight lisp, and as soon as she began reading her lines, a few of the other kids started making fun of her. Mortified, Debbie ran off the stage, vowing never to try again.

The embarrassment stuck with her for decades, making her feel unworthy and fearful of judgment. But recently, with the support of her husband and friends, Debbie decided it was time to confront her fear. She auditioned for a local theatre production — an act of immense bravery. To her delight, she not only faced her childhood insecurity but also landed the role she auditioned for. Debbie's story shows that embracing

Turning Your Insecurities Into SUPER POWERS

4 Empowering Ways to Flip the Script



GRAPHIC BY MICKY SHEARON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

We all have insecurities. They creep into our minds when we least expect them, whispering doubts and highlighting our weaknesses.

vulnerability, though scary, can lead to incredible personal triumph and newfound confidence.

Pro Tip: Challenge yourself to view vulnerability not as something to avoid, but as an essential step toward growth. Whether it's through talking to a loved one or sharing a personal story, see it as an opportunity to be courageous.

4. GET CREATIVE — CHANNEL YOUR INSECURITIES

Insecurities are often rooted in emotions — fear, anxiety, shame — that can feel overwhelming. But instead of letting those emotions weigh you down, why not channel them into something creative? Whether it's painting, writing, dancing,

acting or even something more conventional like gardening or cooking, finding a creative outlet can be a game-changer.

Creativity is a powerful tool for self-expression. It allows you to process your insecurities productively, transforming negative feelings into something tangible and beautiful. Think about it: some of the world's greatest art, music and literature were born from the artists' insecurities and struggles. When you express yourself creatively, you reclaim your narrative and shift the focus from what's "wrong" with you to what's unique about you.

Pro Tip: Not sure where to start? Try journaling about your insecurities for just 10 minutes a day or pick up a

paintbrush and express your feelings through color. The important thing is to let your emotions flow.

EMBRACE YOUR INSECURITIES AS TOOLS FOR GROWTH

Insecurities aren't fun, but they don't have to hold you back. By sharing your struggles, mentoring others, embracing vulnerability and channeling your emotions into creative outlets, you can turn your insecurities into a source of inspiration and empowerment.

The next time self-doubt creeps in, remember that you have the power to flip the script. Every insecurity is an opportunity for growth, connection and self-discovery. All you need to do is take the first step.

GISD

FROM PAGE B2

it." **Bret Deason** discussed the challenges Granbury ISD faces with growth, including overcrowding, outdated facilities, and rising maintenance demands. He stressed the importance of considering the type of housing being developed, saying, "If they're building starter homes, it's going to result in more kids. If it's multi-million dollar homes, there will probably be fewer kids."

He also pointed out the urgency of passing a bond to build new schools, adding, "If we don't pass a bond to build a school, it's a two-to-three-year process." Deason emphasized the need to find ways within the district's annual budget to address the growing maintenance issues as the district's buildings age.

Tim Bolton addressed Granbury's growth, highlighting that the increase in population may not translate directly to more students in classrooms. He pointed out that while student projections may predict growth,

external factors such as the potential impact of school vouchers could alter those numbers.

Bolton noted, "Retirees move to Granbury," and questioned why the district assumes it will be any different from others in Texas, where many districts are closing campuses due to declining student populations. He added, "The clientele ... are older citizens who don't have 2.1 children per household."

VOUCHERS — WHAT IS YOUR ROLE OR POSITION ON THIS IN TERMS OF HOW IT WILL IMPACT GRANBURY ISD?

Jaci Lopez's position on school vouchers:

- Acknowledged Gov. Abbott's push for universal school vouchers, noting his confidence in securing the votes for it.

- Stated that the exact details of the vouchers or educational savings accounts remain unclear, as they are yet to be defined by the Texas Legislature.

- Maintained an open stance, saying, "I am not for or against vouchers" due to the uncertainty surrounding

what will be proposed.

- Emphasizes the importance of understanding the potential impacts on Granbury ISD and suggests making GISD an attractive district by improving pay so families are less likely to take vouchers elsewhere.

Bret Deason's position on school vouchers:

- Criticized the voucher program, likening it to "Obamacare for Education," calling it a government program that diverts taxpayer money without accountability.

- Referenced the South Carolina Supreme Court's decision to strike down its voucher program and highlighted concerns over its constitutionality.

- Pointed to Article 7 of the Texas Constitution, which mandates providing free public education, suggesting that vouchers contradict this provision.

- Advocated for improving public education within the existing system rather than diverting funds to a voucher program.

Tim Bolton's position on school vouchers:

- Supported vouchers, viewing them as part of a

free-market system where students and parents become consumers of educational services.

- Claimed vouchers will push schools to become "the very best" to attract students and their funding.

- Disagreed with the idea that vouchers will harm public schools, stating, "a rising tide lifts all boats," meaning both public and private schools will improve in response to competition.

- Opposed government involvement in the voucher program, fearing that it would come with too many "strings attached."

Courtney Gore's position on school vouchers:

- Personally opposed to school vouchers but acknowledges the uncertainty, stating, "Just because they're saying it's inevitable doesn't mean it's going to happen."

- Emphasized that public tax dollars must be accompanied by public accountability, with transparency and standards for education.

- Acknowledged the concerns of homeschool and private school families about government involvement but stressed the need for accountability if public funds are involved.

WHAT MOST IMPORTANT QUALITIES WILL YOU BE LOOKING FOR IN A NEW SUPERINTENDENT?

Bret Deason: "First thing I'm going to be looking at is how they treat their staff and interact with their students and their teachers as well. Do they support the programs that the teachers need?"

"How that superintendent acts towards our community is going to be very important. Also, what is their vision for a growing school district, and how do we address the needs there?"

Tim Bolton: "I want to look for somebody who has experience as a superintendent or at least a school administrator. I think they need to come with that experience and background."

"I think that they need to reflect as well the community, this community's conservative ideal."

Courtney Gore: "They have to have great communication skills. If they can engage our community, get our community involved in our schools, and keep our parents engaged in their children's education."

"Making sure that they have financial aptitude ...

improving student outcomes ... Are they able to hire the right people to drive instruction ... to improve student outcomes."

Jaci Lopez: "Someone who wants to empower teachers to do what they do best, and that's educate ... let them teach in the way that they need to teach so that we are improving our test scores at GISD."

"I want to see strong leadership development ... developing leaders around you ... someone who reflects the community's values ... and understands that whenever we're educating students, it is vital that we're teaching them about personal liberties and civics."

The Granbury Chamber of Commerce's candidate forum allowed local residents to hear directly from those running for the Granbury ISD board of trustees, Place 3 and Place 4. This article covers the event's first half, with candidate responses to initial questions. Part two, featuring more responses from the candidates, will be available next week. Stay tuned for continued coverage of this crucial election for Granbury ISD leadership.

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GHS Volleyball



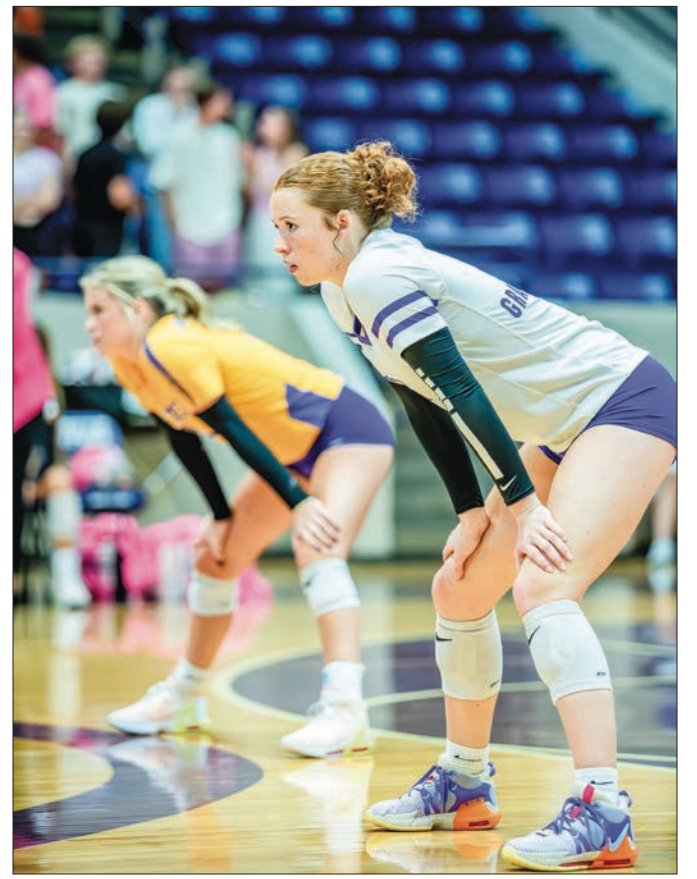
PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Lady Pirates had back-to-back home games, hosting the Brewer Lady Bears Friday, Oct. 4 for the win in three sets: 25-13, 25-11, 25-10. Before the game, several GISD elementary students stood on the court with the Lady Pirates for Elementary Night. On Tuesday, Oct. 8, the Lady Pirates hosted the Chisholm Trail Lady Rangers. The Lady Rangers ended a four-game winning streak for the Lady Pirates three sets to one: 25-21, 16-25, 25-19, 27-25. To see full photo galleries go to hcnews.com.

**Friday, OCT. 7
VS Brewer**



**Tuesday, OCT. 8
VS Chisholm Trail**





PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

GHS Pirate golfer hitting his first drive of the Berry Briggs Tournament Monday, Oct. 7.

Pirates win tourney remembering their own

Lipan runners qualify for regional meet

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the
Hood County News

Briggs Berry, it could be said, was one of the most likeable athletes ever to come through Granbury High School. Sadly, he never got to see adulthood as he passed in 2014 from a rare immune deficiency.

On Monday, Oct. 7, the Pirates hosted the Briggs Berry Memorial at Pecan Plantation, held annually to honor the late former Pirate golfer who helped the team reach the state tournament in his playing days.

"It is very important and I'm glad we have the tournament every year in the name of him," Pirates coach Steve Ward said. "He touched many lives and was a fun and exciting golfer."

"Many of the coaches that attend the tournament remember Briggs when he played and that is important."

The Pirates Purple team won the tournament with a 302 score, led by Jacob Reagan and Quinn Bradley with scores of 75 each. Brock was second with a 317.

The Pirates Gold team was third at 325, with Braxton Pugh pacing them with a 74, the lowest individual score in the tournament. Reagan defeated Bradley in a scorecard playoff for second.

Also for the Pirates Purple, Caden Davis and Parker Jones each shot 76 and Lincoln Sherril posted a 79. Rounding out the Pirates Gold were William Webb, 83, followed by Drew Haynes and Carter Martin at 84 each, with Aiden Matherne shooting 91.

The four lowest individual scores comprise the team score.

"I'm real pleased with the way the guys shot. They are getting better every week," Ward said. "This was a great tournament to see what the guys can do. We have a lot of players and they push each other to be better."

Granbury White placed fourth with a 329. They were led by Kamden Aparicio's 79. Followed by Jaxson Vaughn and Henry Ballew at 82 each, Brayden Thackerson at 86 and Hunter White with a 93. Granbury Lavender

shot 371, led by Miller Schenewark, 83; Kylan Loving, 87; and Grady Molder, 89.

Granbury Black shot 373, paced by Briar Rouse, 86, and Jeff Bowerman, 93. Granbury Grey's 405 was led by Coleman Dunn with a 93.

LIPAN CROSS COUNTRY

Court Gaylor and Wyatt Yates led Lipan runners in the District 11-2A Meet Monday, Oct. 7, which was run in Lipan. Both qualified for regionals with a top 10 individual finish.

Gaylor ran the 5K course in a time of 18:04.34, placing fifth, while Yates was seventh in 18:27.36.

Leading the Lady Indians was Addiline Lawrence, who narrowly missed a regional berth with a 13th-place finish, posting a time of 13:49.88 over the 3.2K course. Also for the Lipan girls, Annslee Tarpley was 17th in 14:01.99; Zoe Bolfling, 28th, 15:29.92; and Peyton Lawrence, 30th, 16:14.89.

Also for the Indians, Tucker Tims, 20th, 20:46.32; and Brayden Harrison, 25th, 21:32.12.

The 2A Region II Meet is in Grand Prairie Monday, Oct. 21. From there, the top four teams and the top 10 individuals not on a qualifying team will advance to state.

GRANBURY FOOTBALL

For a third consecutive game the Pirates (1-4, 0-3 in District 3-5A Division I at press time) will face one of the state's top five teams. After falling 63-20 at then No. 1 Denton Ryan, followed by hosting then No. 1 Aledo at press time, they travel to No. 5 Richland (6-0, 4-0) Friday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

The Pirates had a bye week while the Royals defeated Keller Fossil Ridge 57-14 at home this past week.

Granbury season offensive leaders at press time: Hayden Meyer 588 yards, seven TD, four interceptions passing, 121 rushing yards; Andrew DeBello 194 rushing yards; Jackson Arnett 16 catches, 226 yards, two TD; Jonathan McCandless 18 catches, 194 yards, three TD.

Granbury season defensive leaders at press time: Chase Cantrell 38 tackles, six for loss, two sacks; Tahj Clayton

28 tackles; Cooper Cumba 25 tackles, two for loss, sack, fumble recovery for TD; Elijah Johnston 21 tackles.

Richland offensive players to watch at press time: Drew Kates, 75% completions, 1,730 yards, 19 TD, one interception, 267 yards, four TD rushing; Xavier Johnson 27 catches, 685 yards, seven TD.

Richland defensive players to watch at press time: Rodrick Roberts 50 tackles, 12 for loss, three sacks, interception; Carlos Davis 40 tackles.

The Royals have won 18 of their past 19 games dating to last season in which they were 12-1 and advanced to the third round of the playoffs. They have scored at least 35 points in 17 straight games and are averaging over 50 points this season.

The Royals lead the all-time series with Granbury 2-0, winning in 2008 and 2009.

TOLAR FOOTBALL

After a week off for both teams, the Rattlers (4-1 at press time) and Early were playing their District 5-3A Division II opener at press time. Next, the Rattlers turn their attention to hosting Dublin (0-5 at press time) Friday, Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Tolar season offensive leaders at press time: Briton Rice 60% completion, 824 yards, six TD, three interceptions, rushing TD; Peyton Brown 79 carries, 426 yards, five TD; Brylen Feist 15 catches, 256 yards, two TD; Drake Owens 11 catches, 209 yards, TD.

Season defensive leaders at press time: Owens 47 tackles, 2.5 for loss, sack; Cash Clark 39 tackles, two for loss, two sacks; Kelvin Murray 36 tackles, five for loss; Feist 31 tackles, one for loss, interception.

Dublin offensive players to watch at press time: Kaden Gaitlin 1,205 yards, 15 TD, seven interceptions passing, 195 yards, TD rushing; Francisco Garcia 23 catches, 300 yards, three TD.

Dublin defensive players to watch at press time: Alonso Moreno 42 tackles, two for loss, interception; DJ Ferguson 31 tackles, five for loss, two sacks.

Two teams could not be



On Monday, Oct. 7, the Pirates hosted the Briggs Berry Memorial at Pecan Plantation, held annually to honor the late former Pirate golfer who helped the team reach the state tournament in his playing days.

going in different directions even more. The Rattlers were 31-4 over 35 games at press time and Dublin was 3-22 over its past 25 games with 10 straight losses.

Ironically, Tolar trails in the short series 2-1, winning 52-14 in 2016 but falling 28-27 in 2018 and 35-20 in 2019.

GRANBURY TENNIS

The Pirates/Lady Pirates secured a playoff berth in resounding fashion, defeating visiting Saginaw 19-0 Tuesday, Oct. 1.

"So proud of how we competed. The score may not look like it, but there were several close matches, but we handled adversity well and kept battling," Granbury coach Athan Laskaris said.

The Pirates, 10-6 overall, finished third in District 5-5A with a 4-2 record. They were playing bidistrict at Grapevine at press time.

Winners against Saginaw were:

Boys singles: Roland Krause 4-6, 6-3, 13-11; Colten Whitefield 6-4, 6-1; Tyler St. Don 5-7, 6-2, 10-7; Oakley Boyd 6-1, 6-3; Braxton Bailey 8-3; Chase Bohney 8-5.

Girls singles: Mandi Labelle 6-1, 6-1; Paloma Sandoval 6-1, 6-2; Ava Hamrick 6-11, 6-1; Albane Combres 6-0, 6-2; Atleigh Young 6-1, 7-5; Lili Vaughn 8-3.

Boys doubles: Krause/Boyd 6-1, 6-4; Whitefield/St. Don 6-1, 6-0; Bailey Hayden

Garcia 3-6, 6-3, 10-3.

Girls doubles: Hamrick/Sandoval 6-1, 3-6, 10-6; Combres/Ellie Weeks 6-1, 2-6, 11-9; Allie Kazmier/Young 6-4, 4-6, 10-2.

Mixed doubles: Labelle/Sullivan Williamson 7-5, 6-2.

GRANBURY VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Pirates (22-18, 5-2 in District 5-5A) split a pair of home matches, defeating Brewer 3-0 Friday, Oct. 4 and falling 3-1 against Chisholm Trail Oct. 8. Granbury is second in district, a half game ahead of Azle and a game up on Chisholm Trail.

Leaders vs. Brewer
Kills: Blakely Bleeker 11, Sienna Watts 9

Aces: Lilyan McCall 2, Allyson McCabe 2, Watts 2
Blocks: Jayla Hayes 2
Digs: McCall 29, Audrey Greinert 16, Watts 16

Assists: McCabe 29
Leaders vs. Chisholm Trail
Kills: Watts 17, Bleeker 10

Blocks: Masyn Noe 3, Hayes 2
Digs: McCall 31, McCabe 25
Assists: McCabe 39
Receptions: McCall 31, Mattie Weaver 19

The Lady Pirates were hosting district-leading Aledo at press time. They travel to Fossil Ridge Tuesday, Oct. 15 and host Saginaw Oct. 22, both matches at 6 p.m.

TOLAR VOLLEYBALL

The Lady Rattlers (23-9, 7-1 in District 8-3A) contin-

ued their march toward a playoff berth in their first season back in Class 3A with 3-0 sweeps at Comanche Oct. 4 and at Dublin Oct. 8.

Emma Jackson led the way against Comanche with seven kills, two blocks and two aces. Leaders against Dublin were Kamryn Kolb and Sophia Walters (stats not available at press time).

The Lady Rattlers will host Millsap Oct. 15 at 5:30 p.m. and play at Eastland Oct. 18 at 4:30 p.m.

GRANBURY CROSS COUNTRY

In preparation for the District 5-5A Meet, the Lady Pirates and Pirates ran in the Brewer Invitational Friday, Oct. 4. The Lady Pirates placed fifth on the 5K Central Park course, the same course on which district was being run at press time.

Lady Pirate individual results were:

19. Josefina Berry, 21:32
24. Ava Stein, 21:53
29. Adalyn Hollis, 22:14
41. Alexie Patrick, 22:45
53. Ziva Sedgwick, 23:57
66. Karolina Berry, 24:41

Leading the Pirates was Tristen Goodwin, who was 83rd with a time of 20:24.71.

The Lady Pirates junior varsity was paced by Elyse Jernigan, 36th in 27:02.

From district, the top three teams and the top 10 individuals qualify for the 5A Region I Meet at Mae Simmons Park in Lubbock Oct. 22.



Granbury Pirate golfer awaiting his turn at Tee one during the Berry Briggs Golf Tournament Oct. 7.



Pirate lining up his putt during the tournament on Oct. 7.



GHS Pirate smiling after his drive on hole one during the Briggs tournament on Oct. 7.

TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

TSU pulls out OT road win to start 5-1

Tarleton State University

CEDAR CITY, Utah - The Tarleton State and Southern Utah football series is not for the faint of heart.

It was another chaotic installment of the latest chapter between the Texans and Thunderbirds, and yet again it was a one-point difference. This year, the Texans left the field victorious by a point, as they pulled out a 38-37 win in overtime at Eccles Coliseum in Cedar City Saturday night.

The Texans and Thunderbirds have played four times over the past four years, and the combined margin of victory is now nine points. The teams are split 2-2, with Tarleton winning by one point this year, Southern Utah winning by one point in 2023, Tarleton winning by two points in 2022, and Southern Utah winning by five points in 2021.

The Texans led 28-7 at half-time before Southern Utah stormed back in the second half. The Thunderbirds scored 24 unanswered points to lead 31-28 with three minutes to play in regulation. Tarleton State drove down and tied up the game on a field goal, then picked off Southern Utah on the Thunderbirds' first offensive play of their next drive. Tarleton missed its field goal late, sending the game into overtime.

Tarleton State got the ball first and Kayvon Britten cashed in his third touchdown of the game to put the Texans ahead 38-31. Southern Utah answered with

a touchdown of its own, but missed the extra point to send the Purple and White home with the win.

The No. 14 Texans (5-1, 2-0 UAC) remained perfect in conference play and have their best start to a season in their NCAA Division I era. Their 5-1 mark through six games is their best start to a year since beginning 2019 11-0. The Texans have won nine of their last 10 games, dating back to last season. The Thunderbirds (2-4, 1-1 UAC) dropped their first UAC game of the year.

Britten made history Saturday as he finished with 191 yards and three touchdowns on 37 carries, averaging 5.2 yards per carry. He crossed the 1,000-yard mark Saturday in only the sixth game of the year, now at 1,025 rush yards on the season. Only five players in FCS history have reached the 1,000-yard plateau quicker than Britten. He also became the third running back in program history to rush for 1,000 yards in two different seasons (Derrick Ross, Daniel McCants).

On his birthday, quarterback Victor Gabalis completed 18-of-32 for 285 yards, throwing one touchdown and rushing in another. Three receivers logged more than 80 yards; Keylan Johnson had 98 yards on two catches, Benjamin Omayebu had 87 yards on eight receptions, and Darius Cooper went for 81 yards on five catches.

Defensively, the Texans had two stars lead the way. AJ Owens had the huge late in-

terception in the fourth quarter to go with a forced fumble, a sack and six total tackles (five solo). Defensive back Donta Stuart had 18 tackles, the most by a Texan in a game since Ronnell Wilson had 22 against Mississippi College March 6, 2021.

Blake Smith also had an interception to go with seven tackles, and Charles Perkins joined Owens with a sack, adding three tackles. Caden Holt and Kasyus Kurns each added eight tackles, with Kurns logging a pass breakup.

The Texans had a fast start to the conference matchup, marching 75 yards on the opening drive, with Britten punching it in from a yard out to make it 7-0 Texans. Owens and Perkins provided back-to-back sacks on Southern Utah's opening drive to give Tarleton the ball back, and it was déjà vu for the Texans, who marched down 77 yards, finished by a Britten three-yard scamper. Tarleton led 14-0 after the opening frame.

The Thunderbirds opened the second quarter with their best drive of the game, reaching the red zone before Smith intercepted Bronson Barron in the end zone to stop the threat. The Texans took immediate advantage, putting together an 80-yard scoring drive, finishing with another rushing touchdown, this time Gabalis from five yards out. SUU responded with its first score, a 75-yard drive capped off by a Barron pass to Shane Carr from 27 yards away to make it a 21-7 game.

Tarleton State wasn't done

in the first half yet, stringing together its fourth 75-plus yard drive with another touchdown. This time it was a Gabalis pass to Dawson Hearne from three yards away to put the Texans ahead 28-7. SUU missed a field goal as the first half expired.

Southern Utah scored 10 points in the third quarter, first a 24-yard field goal with 9:47 left, then a Barron seven-yard touchdown pass to Chase Merrell to make it a 28-17 game.

In the fourth quarter, Southern Utah's Targhee Lambson rushed in a 10-yard score with 11:37 to play. The T-Birds didn't convert their two-point conversion, making it a 28-23 Texan lead. Tarleton missed a field goal on its next drive, leaving the door open for Southern Utah to take the lead. The Thunderbirds did, as Lambson rushed in a touchdown from eight yards away. SUU converted on its two-point conversion to make it 31-28 Southern Utah.

Tarleton didn't panic, and drove from its own 25-yard line to Southern Utah's 15-yard line. Adrian Guzman split the uprights on a 32-yard field goal to tie the game 31-31 with 1:02 remaining.

On Southern Utah's first play, Owens picked off Barron to give Tarleton the chance to win in regulation. The Texans got to the 7-yard line with a half-minute left but missed the potential game-winning 24-yard field goal. Southern Utah ran out the clock to send the game to overtime.

In OT, Gabalis nearly



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

This year, the Texans left the field victorious by a point, as they pulled out a 38-37 win in overtime at Eccles Coliseum in Cedar City Saturday night.

rushed it in himself, then Britten scored from a yard out to make it 38-31. On Southern Utah's drive, Barron passed to Joshua Acord from two yards away for the touchdown, but the Thunderbirds missed the extra point to end the game 38-37 Texans.

Barron finished 19-of-36 for 286 yards and three touchdowns, to go with two interceptions. Lambson rushed for 217 yards and two touchdowns on 38 carries, averaging 5.7 yards per rush. George Ramirez had the big defensive game for the T-Birds, finishing with 13 tackles, three tackles for loss and a forced fumble.

Tarleton State will play its Homecoming game against Utah Tech Saturday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. Before the game,

Tarleton State will host a Bart Crow concert in Texan Alley to further elevate the tailgate experience.

After the game, Tarleton State will host a spectacular drone show at Memorial Stadium. Fans are encouraged to stick around to witness the hundreds of drones flooding the sky to make custom Tarleton State animations, a first-of-its kind experience at the university.

Single-game tickets are on sale now for the Homecoming game and can be purchased at www.tarletonsports.com/ tickets or by calling the Tarleton Athletics Ticket Office at 254-968-1832. Texan Alley RV and tailgate passes are sold out.

Tarleton State University president delivers State of the University address

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE — Celebrating excellence across the board, Tarleton State University President James Hurley delivered his annual State of the University address Thursday, Oct. 3.

"With the support of our state legislature, The Texas A&M System board of regents and Chancellor John Sharp, we are shattering records in enrollment, research expenditures, student success and financial support while preparing our Texans to achieve excellence," he said. "Our steadfast commitment to access, opportunity and affordability will continue to set us apart for the next 125 years."

For five straight years, Tarleton State has achieved record enrollment, with approximately 18,000 students attending in fall 2024. Impressively, the Class of 2028 has surpassed 3,000 students, an 11% increase from the previous high and a 45% jump since 2019.

Hispanic enrollment has climbed as well and now accounts for 24% of the student population, putting the university closer to becoming a Hispanic-serving institution. Tarleton Today, a program that allows students to earn university credit while completing graduation requirements at Texas high schools, has surpassed 3,100 students, a 64% increase.

Opportunity is also expanding in Fort Worth, where first- and second-year courses are now offered for the first time across 24 undergraduate programs. The new Interprofessional Educational Building will officially open later this month, aiming to increase access to quality healthcare and education.

The collective efforts of outstanding faculty and staff are being noticed.

Money magazine named Tarleton State one of the



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY

Celebrating excellence across the board, Tarleton State University President James Hurley delivered his annual State of the University address Thursday, Oct. 3.

"Best Colleges in America" for 2024. Their analysis showcased the country's top colleges and universities based on graduation rates, cost of attendance, financial aid and alumni salaries.

"As we grow, student success remains at the forefront," said Hurley. "We will remain meticulous in finding innovative ways to ensure that our university remains a first-choice destination."

The biggest announcement came when the president articulated plans for a College of Osteopathic Medicine. A formal feasibility study and a search for the planning dean are already underway. Glaring disparities exist in healthcare access and quality in rural and medically underserved communities. Overall, Texas ranks 47th in patient-physician ratio, something which Tarleton State is equipped to address.

Continuing work to expand access to market-responsive programs, 10 new academic offerings have been approved or submitted over the past year, with 29

more already in the planning stages for the future. To meet workforce needs, 129 academic degree options are now available, including 35 that have been added since the start of 2019.

New undergraduate degree programs in zoo animal care and management, social work, neuroscience, communication studies and leadership and strategic studies debuted this fall plus master's degree programs in marketing along with construction science and management.

Providing a streamlined pathway to earn both bachelor's and master's degrees in five years, 28 new 4+1 programs were launched this fall across all colleges.

Multiple initiatives were also announced today during the State of the University.

To address affordability, Tarleton State will now cover first attempt fees for entry-level licensure and certification exams upon successful completion.

The university's 125 Guarantee was unveiled,

with the program set to award bachelor's degree seeking students an amount of \$1,000 if the student completes all degree requirements in four years after high school graduation. The award rate of \$125 per long semester is symbolic of the university's 125 Years of Excellence celebration.

Additionally, starting spring 2025, full-time Tarleton State employees will be eligible for a master's degree tuition benefit where the university will reimburse tuition and fees for those who successfully earn their first master's degree at the institution.

"Our employees are a significant part of what makes our university special," said Hurley. "We appreciate the hard work they put in each day. This tuition benefit will transform many lives, and we look forward to seeing that positive impact for years to come."

A part of Tarleton State's strategic plan, silver-level Military Friendly® Campus designation was attained this

year, signifying the university's investment in initiatives that improve the lives of veterans. Military Friendly® is a standard that measures an organization's commitment, effort and success in creating an environment that encourages military-connected individuals to realize their academic goals.

In pursuit of becoming a Senior Military College, Tarleton State has also announced that the Leadership and Military College will be the university's eighth academic college. Through the programs offered, students will be prepared for future leadership roles in the public and private sector.

In research and development, investment has reached record levels for the fifth consecutive year. Over the last five years, the university has nearly doubled its research expenditures.

As part of ongoing construction efforts, numerous projects are rapidly progressing. The Event Center, Dick Smith Library expansion and the Health

Professions Building are all slated to open by the end of next year. By next spring, a Buffalo Wild Wings and the Texas Campus Store are scheduled to be showcased on the first floor of the new parking garage located at North Saint Felix and West Washington streets.

The president added that future planned capital projects include a new agriculture building, a third building in Fort Worth and a new residence hall.

"From academics and healthcare to the student experience and athletics, these construction projects will touch every part of our campus community," he said. "We are building something special to ensure the success of the next 125 years."

Continuing with the excellence theme, rodeo claimed the 38th and 39th national titles in program history earlier this year as the men won the team championship and Gus Gaillard brought home top individual accolades in saddle bronc riding. The women were reserve champions.

In athletics, the four-year NCAA Division I reclassification successfully concluded, making the Texans championship eligible across all sports.

Underscoring the unbreakable bond among Tarleton State students, faculty, alumni, donors and the greater university community, the "Always, Texan" comprehensive campaign was unveiled by Hurley, setting a goal of raising \$250 million by 2030.

"With our Texan Nation fully behind us, lofty goals are possible," he said. "Our vision for the future is clear, and we are blessed to have supporters who believe in the power of a life-changing education. With their backing, Tarleton State will be the premier comprehensive university in the nation."

HOOD OUTDOORS

Fall fishing techniques when the bite is off



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.

One of the more difficult times to fish is in the fall when the lake is cooling (turning over) and there is an overabundance of baitfish. The good thing is that fish are more active and are more willing to chase your presentation. You can use this to your advantage. The striped bass and other predator fish in the last several weeks on Granbury have been feeding along with the white bass. I am sure they are feeding elsewhere however if you find some surface feeding fish, I would work those areas for the bigger predators. The bigger predators are there trying to get an easy meal under or close to the feeding surface fish.

These active fish are willing to chase your presenta-

tion. Live or artificial bait will put fish in the boat — slabs, swimbaits, jerk baits and a variety of top water or crankbaits just to name a few. Many days the artificials will out fish live bait. You may have to alter your retrieve rate until you find what they are looking for, but they will chase your presentation.

If you are shallow and are using live bait, try freelining a shad near the feeding fish or float your bait under a balloon/float rig. If you are really shallow, the boat may spook the fish. Long casts are recommended.

These predators are typically in the feeding mode, but these fish cannot resist the hunt even if they're not real hungry. That's just one of the reasons the artificial presen-

tation may put more fish in the boat.

The striped bass and sand bass typically move up from a suspended position onto a feeding flat to feed. Thrashing of the water and the flash of a lure jigged off the bottom is irresistible. They will come in and eventually one of the fish will take the bait and the others will start hitting anything in their vicinity. On Granbury these fish have been in 12 to 20 feet of water.

Early light and overcast conditions are preferred for the shallow water action, however, many times the fish may start feeding when they are able to see the lure better. Bouncing your presentation off the bottom also stirs up interest and can bring on the bite.

Many folks will troll or down rig this time of the year and put fish in the boat. Many times trolling can locate the fish for you. Once you find them you may want to stop and work that area

thoroughly.

Each day is new adventure. I like using slabs jigged vertically when in deeper water. White and chartreuse holographic is an effective color of choice. Smaller slabs to 1 ounce will put sandies in the boat and really large slabs fare effective for the bigger striped bass.

Another point to make is that the predator fish are generally not too far from shallower feeding grounds like points or flats as I suggested earlier. It may be a good idea to work the flats first and then move out deeper until you can locate the fish and or bait. Remember, if there isn't any baitfish present, you probably should not be wasting your time in that area.

HOOD COUNTY

FISHING REPORT

Lake Granbury's water level is falling and is about a foot low. Water temperatures are in the upper 70s to low 80s. The lake is turning over and



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAEL ACOSTA

Pictured is Granbury's Marco Wolf with his limit of striped bass caught last weekend on Lake Granbury.

will continue as the water cools. White bass (sand bass) are schooling on many areas of the lake from the lower ends to Indian Harbor to the Shores. There are lots of small sand bass, but there are some keeper fish mixed in. Striped bass are good on live and trolled baits in 10 to 20 feet of water from Striper Alley to Indian Harbor. Some catches have been reported near town as well. Catfish are active and can be caught all over the lake using cut shad and prepared baits. Best reports for the bigger catfish continue to be on the upper ends. Crappie action continues to be fair to good on jigs and small minnows fished near underwater structure in 10 to 15 feet of water. Largemouth bass to 6 pounds are possible working

creek entrances and docks from DeCordova to Indian Harbor. Some good largemouth catches are reported in the river near Tin Top. Comanche Creek (formerly Squaw Creek) has reopened for the fall/winter season and anglers were not disappointed. Daily catches of limits of largemouth bass to 8 pounds and eater sized channel catfish are common. Many largemouth bass anglers were boasting about 50-100 fish days. Channel catfish limits are common on prepared baits. Tilapia are also abundant in Comanche Creek and can be caught under a float or with cast nets. Tilapia are an invasive species and should not be returned to the water if caught.

CIVIL WAR ROUNDTABLE

Civil War Round Table to meet in September



BY BILL DYESS

Bill Dyess, a retired attorney, has lived in Granbury since 2007, and has had an interest in the American Civil War since childhood. He is a member of the steering committee of the North Central Texas Civil War Round Table.

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table will meet Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ, 317 East U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury. The program will be brought by Dr. David K. Barnett, a local historian and author of several books about the history of the Granbury area. Barnett gave a most interesting program last year, when he spoke on the impact that Civil War veterans had on the settlement of the Granbury area. This month's program will go into more detail on the lives of a number of those veterans.

The program at our September meeting was presented by Dr. Anne J. Bailey,

professor emeritus, Georgia State University, who completed her talk, began at our last April meeting, about the actions of the Texas cavalry in opposing Union Gen. William T. Sherman's "March to the Sea" in 1864. While lacking the numbers and resources to greatly slow Sherman's movement, two separate groups of Texas cavalry proved to be a constant irritant to Sherman's campaign.

OCTOBER IN THE CIVIL WAR

After a spring and summer of major battles — Seven Days, Second Bull Run, and Antietam — in the

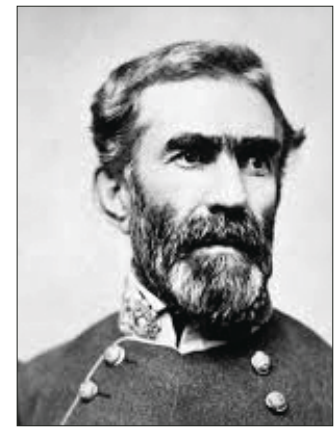
eastern theater, something of a lull began in October 1862. After the battle of Antietam, Lee had abandoned his campaign into Maryland and returned to Virginia. The Confederate excursion into Kentucky, under Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg, was halted Oct. 8, when a Union army, under Gen. Don Carlos Buell, defeated the Southerners at Perryville, Kentucky, forcing Bragg to begin a retreat. In northern Mississippi, Confederate Gen. Earl Van Dorn was unsuccessful in his efforts to regain the important rail and road center of Corinth, Mississippi. Small battles and skirmishes occurred almost daily in all three theaters.

DID YOU KNOW

While Gen. George McClellan was the leading Union Commander during the early part of the

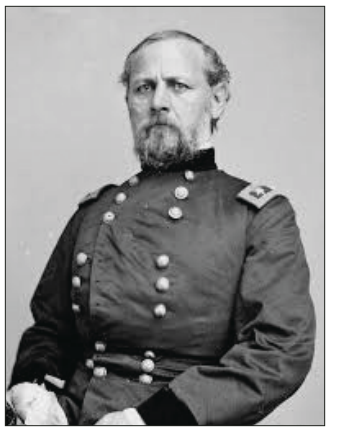
Civil War, he and President Abraham Lincoln were almost constantly at odds over what Lincoln perceived as McClellan's reluctance to aggressively seek battle with Confederate forces. On Oct. 25, 1862, after McClellan advised that his movement was delayed due to the need of rest for his horses, Lincoln wired him, "I have just read your dispatch about sore tongued and fatigued horses. Will you pardon me for asking what the horses of your army have done since the battle of Antietam that fatigue anything?" At the end of his patience, Lincoln, Nov. 5, 1862, relieved McClellan of his command, with instructions to "await further orders." No such orders ever came.

The North Central Texas Civil War Round Table meets the second Monday of each month, except June, July and August, at 6:30 p.m.



COURTESY PHOTO

A picture of Confederate General Braxton Bragg.



COURTESY PHOTO

A picture of Union General Don Carlos Buell.

at Spring Creek Bar-B-Que, 317 Ease U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury. Guests are always welcome. There is no charge for first time attendees. For more information, please refer to our website: www.ncntexcwrt.com, or call David Wells at 817-

579-5769 or Bill Dyess at 817-326-8216. Civil War Round Tables exist in cities and communities worldwide. All are independent and share a common objective in promoting and expanding interest in the study of the American Civil War.

BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY

Live on Lake Granbury? Here's what you should know this fall



BY DEE BAILEY

Dee Bailey is the inspections and permitting coordinator for Brazos River Authority.

Summer has officially ended, and it's finally starting to cool down. But that doesn't mean Lake Granbury goes into hibernation. Here are a few things you should know.

BE-LEAF IT OR NOT

Every year during the fall months, the Brazos River Authority receives calls about people raking, dump-

ing or blowing leaves and grass clippings into Lake Granbury. No big deal, it's all organic, right?

Well, no.

Though they may seem like a harmless natural addition to water, blowing or dumping leaves or grass trimmings into the water can profoundly affect the lake. Organic material adds nutri-

ents to the water, resulting in the growth of algae that can clog canals, make lake access difficult and, in some cases, cause fish kills. If you don't like algae growing near your dock and seawall, be careful to keep extra leaves and grass in their place away from the water. And, dumping anything into the lake is considered a violation of

state environmental crimes. You could receive a citation.

FERTILIZERS

Remember to use fall fertilizers and preemergents sparingly near the water. Fertilizers will also cause algae and growth of other water plants in the lake, making it difficult for you to access the area around your dock.

WHAT ELSE?

If erosion is an issue for your property, consider building a retaining wall or seawall. Just remember, the placement of the wall is extremely important, and a permit from the BRA and possibly the U.S. Army Corps

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SUDOKU
Solution for the puzzle on October 5.

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

Texas students find their voices in 'Poetry Out Loud' contest

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

The Texas Commission on the Arts is calling all high schools and organizations across the state to join in a unique and exciting opportunity — the Poetry Out Loud program. With fall fast approaching, educators are encouraged to sign up and help their students dive into the beautiful world of poetry. The deadline is approaching, so it's time to act fast.

Poetry Out Loud is more than just a poetry recitation contest. It's a national program presented by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation, designed to bring the power of the spoken word to life. Whether your students are seasoned performers or just dipping their toes into public speaking, this program offers an incredible opportunity for growth. Students memorize and recite poems in competition, honing their public speaking skills, boosting their self-confidence, and connecting to some of the most influential voices in literary history.

HOW DOES POETRY OUT LOUD WORK?

Once schools or organizations sign up, they will receive free resources, in-



COURTESY GRAPHIC

The Texas Commission on the Arts is calling all high schools and organizations across the state to join in a unique and exciting opportunity — the Poetry Out Loud program.

cluding materials to help guide students in their poetry selections and recitation preparation. The goal? Each participating high school or organization will host its own competition to select a winner by Dec. 15. From there, the competition only heats up.

Those school and organization winners will advance to the Texas state competition in February 2025. The stakes are high, with participants battling for not only the top spot but also incredible rewards. The state winner and runner-up will receive cash prizes, and

their schools will be awarded funds to stock their libraries with even more poetry books. The state champion will go on to represent Texas at the national competition, where he or she will compete against other top performers from across the country.

At the national level, the rewards become even more impressive. The contest offers a \$50,000 scholarship pool for the winning students and additional cash awards for schools or organizations. This is a fantastic opportunity for high schoolers to showcase their talent, represent their community,

and potentially earn significant scholarships for their future.

MORE THAN JUST MEMORIZING POEMS

What makes Poetry Out Loud so special is how it transforms students. Public speaking can be a daunting skill to master, but this program provides a supportive and creative outlet for students to express themselves. Learning to perform poetry from heart isn't just about standing on stage — it's about connecting with language, engaging with mean-

ing, and finding your voice.

Through the contest, students develop their ability to communicate, refine their presentation techniques, and, most importantly, learn how to share their emotions and perspectives through the timeless medium of poetry. Many former contestants have walked away with not only a trophy but also a newfound love for literature and performance.

SIGN UP TODAY

The Texas Commission on the Arts is eager to see new schools and organizations join in on the fun this year.

If you're a teacher, now's the time to get involved! Interested educators should sign up soon to receive materials and begin preparing their students for this one-of-a-kind opportunity. The deadline for holding a school or organizational competition is Dec. 15, so don't wait! For more information or to sign up, go to <https://www.poetryoutloud.org/>.

Let's raise a generation of confident, articulate and creative young Texans. Poetry Out Loud is not just a contest — it's an invitation to find your voice and let it soar.

BRA

FROM PAGE B8

of Engineers is required. BRA inspectors will be happy to come out to your home to help you determine placement.

Like any body of water, silt happens. Fall is a good time to dredge since dredging is not allowed during the months of March, April, May and June to protect fish spawning habitats. Dredging

in and around the docks will make lake access easier for you. Dredging also requires a permit from the BRA and possibly the Corps of Engineers due to the dredging methods and disposal of dredge materials.

DOCK OWNERSHIP

Many people think that when you buy a house on the lake, dock ownership transfers automatically. If you've recently purchased a home on the lake that has a dock or

a landscape water pump, you may not be aware that these items don't automatically transfer at closing. If you've not registered your dock with the BRA, you will need to have both docks and landscape pumps transferred into your name through the Brazos River Authority lake office.

If your property does not currently have a dock or if you're interested in modifying or expanding your dock, see our website for dock

information and a permit application. Since the installation of a dock requires water access, dock builders and contractors are required to have a business operation permit through the BRA. The BRA can email you a list of permitted contractors before you get started. Remember, it's always a good idea to ask for references.

Think safety. No one wants a family member or friend to be injured while enjoying your dock. Loose boards,

rails or malfunctioning electrical lines can prove fatal if not properly maintained.

Living on the lake has its privileges and responsibilities. Sometimes, knowing what to do and when can seem overwhelming. Did you know that there is a web page tailored specifically to people who have homes with water access to Lake Granbury? The Living Lakeside at Lake Granbury web page provides information tailored to many lake-

side residents' questions. From the current lake level and dam release information to questions about fluctuating lake levels, permit applications and studies that affect the reservoir, you can find all the information you require at <https://www.brazos.org/LivingGranbury>.

As always, feel free to contact the lake office, and our friendly staff will gladly visit with you. Contact us at information@brazos.org or by phone at 817-573-3212.



pulled pork

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

Y O S H R E D D E D Y W W S L
E R P O T R H A H D Y S D H S
G K L Q L N X D T F R S Y O A
G N I K J L U E T S P U M U U
D E I E T S F L P K L Z H L C
F F M K U G H L A Z C O L D E
R D G I O S I U E W W O W E D
Z Z V W T O P P U J E H R R T
W F W T Z C C J A L W X L C S
B P S E H C I W D N A S A B N
W U E L C X M A R I N A D E Z
E R I H S E A S O N I N G L Y
W R M D K M B P O R K L Q V Z
J R E K O O C B K R E D N E T
E G O H E J Q V Q Z P T M N W

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. sandwiches | 2. bbq | 3. sauce | 4. pot |
| 5. cooking | 6. slow | 7. crock | 8. pulled |
| 9. seasoning | 10. pork | 11. time | 12. shoulder |
| 13. tender | 14. cooker | 15. shredded | 16. marinade |



October 12th marks a celebration of smoky, succulent goodness – National Pulled Pork Day! It's a time to relish in the mouthwatering delight of tender, flavorful pulled pork, a beloved favorite among barbecue enthusiasts.

Whether piled high on a sandwich, tucked into tacos, or served alongside classic sides, pulled pork tantalizes taste buds with its rich, savory flavor and melt-in-your-mouth texture. From backyard barbecues to cozy family dinners, this versatile dish brings joy to every occasion.

Join the festivities on October 12th by savoring the irresistible taste of pulled pork and sharing the culinary delight with friends and loved ones. Let's celebrate National Pulled Pork Day with hearty servings and hearty smiles!

Recipe To Try

Dr. Pepper Crock Pot Pulled Pork Recipe

Equipment Needed:

- Crock Pot

Ingredients:

- 1 pork butt/pork shoulder roast 4-5 pounds
- salt, pepper, & garlic powder
- 1 onion sliced, optional
- 1 can Dr. Pepper
- ¾ cup barbecue sauce or to taste
- Rolls & coleslaw for serving

Instructions:

1. Place the onion in the bottom of the slow cooker. Rub the outside of the roast with salt, pepper and garlic powder.
2. Pour the Dr. Pepper over the pork and cook on high 4-5 hours or on low 7-8 hours.
3. The meat will be very tender. Using 2 forks, shred the pork and place back in the juices.
4. Add barbecue sauce to taste. Allow to cook an additional 30-60 minutes if desired.
5. Serve on crusty rolls with coleslaw.

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North Central Texas Academy celebrated Senior Night

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LISA KEZA

Last week, North Central Texas Academy celebrated Senior Night, winning in three sets against the Hamilton Bulldogs: 25-12, 25-11 and 25-17. Lea had eight kills, two aces and two blocks. Angelina was the leading offensive player for the night with nine kills on 12 attacks with no errors. Stasa was 100% from the service line, 18/18 with six aces. She added 32 assists and two kills. Natacha added 14 digs and one service ace.



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Granbury Association's Oktoberfest



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Attendees raised their steins and immersed themselves in Oktoberfest 2024's infectious rhythms of Bavarian music and dance, with abundant beer and delicious food to fuel the fun-filled three-day celebration. This family-friendly event took place from Oct. 4-6th and featured a Kinderplatz to keep children entertained. Street vendors were set up at the Granbury Square Plaza, Bridge Street, and Crockett Street. Please see more photos, page C4.

Granbury's DAV chapter welcomes new officers with special guest Dennis Nixon

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

The Disabled American Veterans Granbury Memorial Chapter #238 is set to host its annual election, appointment, and installation of chapter officers Monday, Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. The event will take place at the chapter's headquarters, located at 959 Charterhouse Circle in Granbury. This significant occasion will be officiated by a highly esteemed guest, Dennis R. Nixon, a decorated veteran and longtime advocate for disabled veterans. Nixon, a combat-disabled Marine Corps veteran, has dedicated his life to the service of others, especially those who have borne the cost of defending our nation. His long and inspiring career with DAV stretches back more than 40 years, starting from his military service in Vietnam to his current role as the Department of Texas judge advocate. Nixon's journey began

when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at the age of 17 in 1964. He trained as a combat engineer and was deployed to Vietnam twice. During his second tour in 1969, Nixon's life changed forever when he was severely injured by a booby trap while on patrol in Danang. After enduring eight surgeries and a lengthy hospital stay, his leg had to be amputated. Despite this life-altering event, Nixon was determined to continue serving his country, albeit in a different capacity. In 1970, after being medically retired from the Marines, Nixon joined the DAV as a National Service Officer (NSO). For 36 years, he dedicated his time and energy to helping fellow veterans secure the benefits and care they deserved, particularly those injured in combat. His advocacy has had a lasting impact on countless veterans, ensuring they receive the support necessary to live with dignity and respect. In 2018, Nixon's unwavering commitment to

the cause led to his election as National Commander of the DAV, a prestigious role overseeing more than one million members across the country. Since retiring from the DAV's professional staff, Nixon has continued to volunteer his expertise, training new service officers and mentoring others in Waco. His leadership has left an indelible mark not only at the local level but across the entire nation.

WHAT IS DAV AND WHY IT MATTERS
The Disabled American Veterans is a nonprofit organization with a singular purpose: fulfilling the promises made to the men and women who served in the U.S. military. For over a century, the DAV has empowered veterans to live high-quality lives by advocating for their rights, providing access to benefits, and assisting in their transition back to civilian life. Founded in 1920 and char-

tered by Congress in 1932, the DAV boasts a membership of more than one million veterans, all of whom work to support each other and ensure their sacrifices are recognized. The organization fights tirelessly on Capitol Hill to protect veteran interests, particularly focusing on those with service-related disabilities. Locally, the Granbury Memorial Chapter #238 plays a crucial role in connecting veterans and their families with critical resources, from benefits assistance to employment services. The chapter also works to raise awareness of the unique challenges faced by disabled veterans, fostering a community of support and advocacy. **THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP IN LOCAL CHAPTERS**
At the heart of the DAV's work are its local chapters, like the one in Granbury. These chapters serve as the backbone of the organization, where the work is



COURTESY PHOTO

Dennis Nixon

ensuring that local veterans receive the assistance they need. The event promises to be both a solemn and uplifting occasion, a moment to reflect on the past and look forward to the future.

JOIN THE EVENT
Veterans, family members and community supporters are all encouraged to attend the ceremony Oct. 14. The event will offer a unique opportunity to learn more about the DAV's mission and witness the installation of local chapter officers. For those who wish to learn more or become involved with the DAV, the Granbury Memorial Chapter #238 can be reached at 682-719-5353 or via email at davgranbury@gmail.com. In a community like Granbury, where so many have served, the DAV remains a pillar of support. With events like this, we can continue to recognize the sacrifices of our veterans while building a stronger future for those who have defended our freedoms.

The frustrating reality of dropped calls: Understanding the causes

BY LAUREN DAVIS
Staff Writer
Lauren@hcnews.com

As smartphones have become essential communication tools for millions, the frustration surrounding dropped and lost calls has intensified across the United States. In 2023, an estimated 92% of Americans owned a smartphone according to ConsumerAffairs.com. Apple users made up 61% of the U.S. smartphone market share as of the first quarter of 2024, followed by Samsung at 23%, then

Xiaomi, Google, Lenovo/Motorola and others comprising the final 16%. Many cell phone users find themselves grappling with interruptions that can disrupt personal and professional communications. A recent report from J.D. Power revealed that Americans experienced 11 dropped calls, texts or data issues for every 100 phone uses, an increase from nine in 2021. Major carriers like Verizon, T-Mobile and AT&T all reported worse scores in 2023 compared to two years prior. This troubling statistic

highlights a growing concern as our reliance on mobile technology deepens, shattering the expectation of seamless connectivity. **UNDERSTANDING CELL TOWERS**
Cell towers play a crucial role in mobile communication as they relay signals via radio waves. According to Michaela Goss from TechTarget.com, there are two primary types of cellular base stations: macrocells and small cells. Macrocells, towering be-



PHOTO COURTESY OF ILIJA, ADOBESTOCK.COM

Many cell phone users find themselves grappling with interruptions that can disrupt personal and professional communications. PLEASE SEE CALLS | C3

LGAA announces winners of Fall National Art Show



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Tents were set up outside the Shanley House Gallery for the Lake Granbury Art Association's Fall Art Show to provide refreshments and better funnel the large crowds.

BY EDEN DUNCAN

GILBREATH

Special to the Hood County News eden@hcnews.com

The Lake Granbury Art Association presented the winners of the Fall Art Show to a packed house at Shanley House Gallery Saturday, Sept. 28 at the reception honoring the artists. The show opened Aug. 31 and runs through Oct. 27.

The LGAA Fall Show is an open juried competition, meaning the show is open for LGAA members as well as non-members to send images of their work for consideration. Once the judge chooses the pieces that will compete, the art selected is then delivered to the gallery. After the pieces are hung in the gallery, the judge carefully studies the work and chooses which pieces will receive awards.

There were 361 entries this year representing artists from 23 states across the country. Just 77 pieces were selected representing artists from 11 states.

John Cole received the top award, Best of Show title with his piece, "Old. No. 7," a large oil painting. Cole received the \$1,000 award sponsored by Dominique Inge in loving memory of her husband Charles Inge.

In the painting category, three oil paintings took the prizes: Judi Simon received the Award of Excellence for "Tiffany's Gifts"; Benjamine Lester received the Award of Achievement for "Balancing Act"; and Yeqiang (Ye) Wang received the Award of Merit for "Return to Classicism - Portrait of Giovanna."

In the drawing category, Toni James received the Award of Excellence for "J.R.," a pastel piece; Bridget Davet received the Award of Achievement for "Hornbill," a pastel piece; Rebecca J. Jones received the Award of Merit for "Pointless," a graphite piece.

In the dimensional art category, Cynthia James received the Award of Excellence for her piece "Racing Mountains," a work in fused glass; Anne Simms received the Award of Achievement for "Moonlight," a stained-glass mosaic; Jack Hein received the Award of Merit for "Smelly Memory," a porcelain, underglaze work.

Photographs swept the graphics category. Sharon Sturgis received the Award of Excellence for "Helping Hand"; Jason Hodges received the Award of Achievement for "Autumn Sunrise on the Brazos"; Michael Potts received the Award of Merit for "Soul Mate."

In the mixed media category, Kara English received the Award of



Large crowds attended the Lake Granbury Art Association's Fall Art Show. The show is open to artists across the nation. Work that was submitted had to be selected to compete; the chosen works were hung and judged by local artist and art judge James R. Spurlock.

Excellence for "Tijuana Brass," mixed media; Madison Branch received the Award of Achievement for "Thinking About the View from Every Bedroom Window," mixed media collage; Belinda Daughtry received the Award of Merit for "Through the Garden Window," pyrography, watercolor pencil, charcoal on basswood cradle.

James Otto's oil painting "Good Day Sunshine" won the Granbury Mayor's Purchase Award. It was chosen by the mayor and purchased by the City of Granbury for display at Granbury City Hall.

John Cole's charcoal drawing "Kindred Spirits" received the People's Choice Award, selected by guests visiting the show.

Other artists selected to show are Jade Ahn, Madeleine Althoff, Sue Bagwell, Bonnie Bird, Diane Bollinger, Gayle Bone, Audry Caylor, Justin Caylor, Dave Clark, Robert Cook, Robin Crouch, Carmen Davailus, Tiffany Davis, Robert DeLeon, Barbara Dobernz, Amy Faggard, Carlos Flores, Jr., Garry Goerdel, Molly Golson, Kelly Graham, Hollis Harper, Debra Hart, Jim Hastings, John Jones, Lori Jones, Robert Jones, Wendi Jones, Lauri Ketchum, John Kock, Kim Lanier, Maureen Lewis, Barbara Lindley, Jim McDonald, Kellee Mitchell, Happy Modisette, Valerie Ordas, Shawna Prather, Victoria Ratliff, Nettie Rickerson, Carol Ross, Arena Shawn, Jane Cornish Smith, Pamela Steege, Deanna Thibault, Susan Thillen, Carol Ann Welch, Leslie Wheaton, Glen Wilbert, Kay Wirz, Kathy Yoders, and Rebecca Zook.

Local artist James Spurlock was selected as this year's judge. Spurlock is a high caliber, prolific artist who is well-respected within his field both as an artist



Judi Smith's oil painting "Tiffany's Gift" received the Award of Excellence in the painting category of Lake Granbury Art Association's Fall Art Show.



Benjamine Lester's oil painting "Balancing Act" received the Award of Achievement in the painting category of Lake Granbury Art Association's Fall Art Show.

and a teacher. Spurlock has spent over 47 years as a professional artist with experience in more than 13 media. "We are fortunate to have someone with James' expertise and passion involved in this event," said Fall Art Show committee chair Lourdes Doonan.

Doonan had this to say to the artists: "Thank you for

sharing your talent with us. You inspire us, and it has been an honor to showcase your work."

Shanley House Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 - 4 p.m. The gallery is located at 224 North Travis.

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RAMBLINGS OF THE GRILL SERGEANT

BY LARRY LINDSEY
Owner, Grill Sergeant LLC

Good morning and welcome to the ramblings of the Grill Sergeant. The purpose of this first message is to let you know who we are and what we do. Grill Sergeant is a retail grilling store located at 608 East U.S. Highway 377 in Granbury. We are directly across the street from Home Depot and Wendy's. We are a combination of businesses in a business. To begin, we offer a wide variety of equipment to furnish an outdoor kitchen. Any size, from quaint to obscene. Our customers for this are both individuals and contractors, building new and remodeling homes. Our portfolio includes most all the current and popular manufacturers of quality outdoor grills and accessories. In addition to outdoor kitchens, we offer a full line of freestanding grills, griddles, pellet grills, ceramic and charcoal grills. All the grills we sell are offered in natural gas, and/or liquid

propane. We can, in most cases, get parts and facilitate repairs on all kinds of equipment. After almost 15 years in the business, we know where to get the products and who can best work on that brand or problem. Our showroom is also filled with accessories, ranging from tools to help prepare, cook and clean. We also carry grilling fuel, such as lump coal, pellets, flavored wood chunks and chips from natural fruit trees. We carry Thermapen, Meater, Egg Genius and Digiq temperature controls, from a single probe to multi-probe, blue tooth and Wi-Fi. Last, but not least, we offer a very large selection of rubs, spices, sauces, brines and injections. In future articles I will offer recipes, and general information about the various offerings on our shelves. Over the next few weeks, I intend to focus on a variety of ways to prepare Thanksgiving turkey and ham on whatever grilling device is your pleasure. I look forward to visiting with you again soon.



Grill Sergeant offers a wide variety of equipment to furnish an outdoor kitchen.

COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY GRAPHIC

CALLS

FROM PAGE C1
 tween 50 and 200 feet high, cover larger areas with low-frequency signals. Setting up a macrocell can cost around \$200,000, whereas small cells are typically under \$10,000. Carriers are transitioning macrocells to 5G, but the process is likely to take several more years, leaving many areas needing more infrastructure to support modern communication demands. As Goss explains, the signals of small cells, roughly the size of a pizza box, can be blocked by walls and other barriers, which limits their effectiveness indoors. Are you curious about the cell phone connectivity in your area and how it might impact your travels? Exploring local cell phone infrastructure can be a fascinating endeavor. By visiting AntennaSearch.com, you can uncover the number and types of cell towers nearby, giving you insights into your connectivity when you ven-

ture out of town. For instance, in Hood County there are 197 towers and 103 antennas within a 3-mile radius, while Parker County boasts 35 towers and 258 antennas in the same area.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COVERAGE

Dead zones — areas where cell signals are weak or nonexistent — are a major reason for dropped calls. The typical coverage radius of a cell tower is only 1 to 3 miles, with even shorter ranges in dense urban environments. Just like a dropped baton in a relay race, a dropped cell phone call can disrupt a seamless connection. In the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the U.S. relay teams were favorites, but miscommunication during handoffs caused the baton to be dropped, resulting in disqualification. Similarly, poor signal strength or network issues can cause dropped calls. As reported by Newsweek, the U.S. relay team was dis-

qualified in the 2024 Paris Olympics due to a failed handoff between Christian Coleman and Kenny Bednarek — much like the frustration we feel when an important phone call cuts off at a crucial moment because of a weak connection. Both situations underscore how vital smooth transitions are — whether in relays or cell phone networks. Without coordination, a race may be lost, or a conversation may be interrupted, leaving users scrambling to reconnect.

OTHER FACTORS AT PLAY

Various other factors exacerbate the issue. According to Julio Caesar from TechReviewAdvisor.com, interference from electronic devices and weather conditions can disrupt signals. "The 2.4 GHz band offers longer range but is more susceptible to interference," he explains, while the 5 GHz band provides faster data but has a shorter reach. Weather is another form of interference and can affect cell service, notes Meredith

Pond for weboost.com. Cellular network traffic is carried on radio waves, so cell reception can be affected by any atmospheric condition that might similarly affect your FM radio signal. She reports weather can have a direct or an indirect effect on 4G or 5G cell signals but won't really affect cell signals under 2GHz. Experts point out that outdated towers and insufficient infrastructure contribute significantly to dropped calls. Verizon.com notes that physical barriers such as mountains and buildings can block signals, while materials like concrete and metal absorb or reflect cell signals. Cell phone service providers periodically conduct maintenance on their infrastructure, which can lead to temporary outages or degraded service. During these times, users may experience dropped calls or difficulty connecting.

HIGH TRAFFIC AND USER ERROR

As reported by Vonage.

com, overwhelmed cell towers can lead to dropped calls, especially during peak usage times. Configuration issues or high-bandwidth apps like mobile games — Candy Crush, Call of Duty: Mobile, and Among Us, for example — can further stress the network. Users may also inadvertently contribute to call drops. Accidentally hitting the "end call" button or ignoring low-battery warnings can abruptly disconnect conversations. User error can also cause poor signal reception. For instance, switching from 4G to 3G in a low-coverage area may disrupt a call, or running high-demand apps during a conversation could overwhelm the device.

911 EMERGENCY

It's reassuring to know that you can still call 911 for help even if your cell phone doesn't have service. According to www.911.gov, all wireless phones can call 911, even if they aren't connected to a carrier. However, if you call 911

from a phone without service, the call center won't be able to see your location. They also can't call you back to check where you are or what the emergency is. If the call gets disconnected, they have no way to reach you again.

MOVING FORWARD

In a world increasingly dependent on mobile communication, understanding the myriad reasons behind dropped calls is essential for users. While network providers work to enhance their infrastructure, cell phone users can take steps to mitigate call drops by inspecting their SIM cards for damage, updating device firmware, and exploring options like Wi-Fi calling. As our reliance on smartphones continues to grow, the call for better connectivity will only become more pressing. For now, users must navigate the complexities of modern communication while hoping for a future where dropped calls are a thing of the past.

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Burgers and Badges with Granbury's finest

Popular event formerly known as "Tip a Cop" returns

From Staff Reports

"Do you want fries with that?" It's not a question you typically expect from a police officer when they're standing in front of you, but at Burgers and Badges, it's a likely scenario. Members of the community can show their support for City of Granbury Police Department Thursday, Oct. 17 from 5-8 p.m. at Grump's Pavilion for this popular event.

The annual event, hosted by Grump's since 2004 and formerly known as "Tip-a-Cop," provides an opportunity for Granbury's finest to serve and protect in a whole different way.

The outdoor pavilion will have activities for both kids and adults, including the experience of getting

to interact with the police department in a fun, casual way that isn't often possible when law enforcement is on duty.

Patrons can order a hamburger or cheeseburger, home-fried chips with ranch, and iced tea for \$12 a person that will be delivered to their table by a smiling GPD officer.

A portion of the profits and all donations and tips will go to the Granbury Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association, a 501(c)(3) organization that provides the police department with extra support during community events and extra funding for equipment, events and benevolence for PD staff.

James Ambrose, fundraising chair for the CPAA,

shared some of the reasons its efforts are so important. "Every dollar we bring in through donations, raffles and events like Burgers and Badges lets us help increase the officers' health, their safety, and it makes them feel more appreciated.

"That kind of support means a lot, and it lets our officers know how much we value them and their families. That all comes back around to benefit the whole community. One of our main goals in fundraising this year is to pay for a second K-9 officer for the GPD, including training and outfitting the vehicle needed for that K-9."

Parking is available off Cleveland Road, as well as off Plaza East, with signs directing guests to the entrance.



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Members of the community and Granbury Police Department mingle during the popular Burgers and Badges event held at Grump's.

GRANBURY HISTORIC MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION'S OKTOBERFEST

PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

In true German tradition, the Granbury Historic Merchants Association's Oktoberfest patrons enjoyed beer hoisting contests, Hammerschlagen, Jenga, polka dancing and more. This family-friendly event took place Oct. 4-6 and featured a Kinderplatz to keep children entertained. Street vendors were set up at the Granbury Square Plaza, Bridge Street and Crockett Street, with karaoke Friday night and live polka music Saturday night and Sunday afternoon. It was a jam-packed, fun-filled weekend event for everyone.



Sleepy Hollow Experience

PHOTOS BY LAYTH TAYLOR | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

The Sleepy Hollow Experience is back in Granbury at the Dora Lee Langdon Center. This is a truly unique performance you must experience yourself. The actors bring patrons into the famous story about Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman - with a new twist. The show runs Oct. 3-27. Photos are from opening night Oct. 3. Get your tickets here <https://brianccloudus.com/performances/the-sleepy-hollow-experience> and experience this famous ghost story for yourself.



ANNUAL GHOST RUN



PHOTOS BY **JESSE RAMIREZ JR** | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
 Participants of all ages gathered for the seventh annual Ghost Run Saturday, Oct. 5. Racers made their way through the streets of Granbury to raise awareness and support for victims of domestic abuse. The event featured competitive races, spirited costumes and a supportive community cheering on runners as they embraced the challenge for a meaningful cause.



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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.
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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.
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If we weren't totally "away from it all," we were on the outskirts, kind of like the characters in the delightful 1953 Broadway musical "Brigadoon."

Only the long of tooth remember the tale of two New York guys stumbling across a delightful village in the highlands of Scotland that came alive for only one day each century and very much alive it was with love, music and goodwill.

That was the atmosphere our church group of 40 senior adults found in Branson, Missouri, where we enjoyed four blissful days, opting to let the rest of the world deal

with its many problems ...

Oh, the outing — called "Meet You in Branson" — didn't start out well. Our soon-separated "convoy" may well have traversed four states at various times on the 465-mile trek.

Smiles and good cheer abounded, though, and we were Lord-favored by perfect weather, grand entertainment, delightful hosts at the smallish Carriage House Inn and even hints of approaching fall. Crisp mornings seemed tailor-made for strolls, even if short ones.

There were scant signs of leaves abandoning green for flaming colors of red, orange

and yellow. Even without the breathtaking foliage soon to envelope the Ozarks, there still were enough "trip highlights" to illuminate an airport runway ...

For Randy Brooks, it was nothing short of a homecoming. Now living in the metroplex — the man who played the original role of Jesus in "The Promise," a long-running pageant in Glen Rose — thrilled us in song.

During our Sunday visit to the College of the Ozarks, he warmed many hearts with a hymn-sing in the beautiful Williams Chapel that was built by students over a 12-year period in the 1940s-1950s. Following Glen Rose, Randy played the Jesus role in Branson for several years, winding up with another long run in New York City before COVID spelled the end of the pageant in Europe. He felt it was time to end the 30-year

run, but still sings for various groups. He does so without solicitation, and at age 71, is ever popular ...

We dined at COTO's Keeter Center, where culinary students are trained to prepare sumptuous meals. It was a stunning buffet, with the dozens of student servers pausing to sing "The Doxology" for our mealtime prayer.

Speaking of food, all was super-good. We particularly enjoyed Pickin' Porch Grill and Danna's BBQ ...

Pickin' Porch is tucked away at the back of the Branson Craft Mall, a place known for its gigantic rocking chair in front. We cast our vote with locals who claim its hamburgers to be THE BEST. Coupled with uniquely-flavored French fries, the combo is incomparable ...

"Queen Esther" was worth

PLEASE SEE AWAY | C9

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 are used to support veteran and community youth programs. Open to members and guests. Details: 515-554-6498.

GRANBURY CIVIC Chorus — rehearsals, Mondays 7-9 p.m. at Acton Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Concerts in May and December. See www.granburycivicchorus.org 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 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.

HAND AND

Foot card game day. 10 a.m.; Dominoes (Mexican Train) 11 a.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS

classes: 9 a.m. exercise class; 10 a.m. Mahjong; 10 a.m. cards; 11 a.m. dominoes. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

THURSDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS: 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise; 11 a.m. Tai Chi/Pilates; 5 p.m. yoga (private class, reservation only). 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

CHESS CLUB, 6-9 p.m. at YMCA, 1475 James Road. U.S. Chess Affiliate, all ages and skill levels, children 10 and under must be accompanied by adult. Youth membership not required. Details: HoodCountyChess.com.

GENERAL TRIVIA, 7-9 p.m. at Brew Drinkery, 206 E. Pearl Street. Prizes and fun. Use your phone to play. Free.

THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has mini tournaments every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

MELODY BELLS singers of Granbury, women's choral group, seeks new members who love to sing 3-part harmony, especially first or second soprano. Also seeking experienced piano accompanist. Weekly Thursday rehearsals for Christmas concert season start Aug. 29, 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:

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

FIRST MONDAYS

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

LOVE KNOTS

Loving Hands Ministry. The ministry needs people to crochet, knit, or use a knitting loom to make gifts to comfort the ill, bereaved, infants, etc. 1-3 p.m. Acton Baptist Church fellowship hall, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-4693.

SECOND MONDAYS

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

THIRD MONDAYS

GRANBURY QUILTERS Guild meets the third Monday each month at United Coop Electric, 320 Fall Creek Highway, 6 p.m. Details: 817-296-8186.

LOVE KNOTS Loving Hands Ministry. The ministry needs people to crochet, knit, or use a knitting loom to make gifts to comfort the ill, bereaved, infants, etc. 1-3 p.m. Acton Baptist Church fellowship hall, 3500 Fall Creek Highway. Details: 817-326-4693.

WAMS (WESTERN Area Modeling Society) radio control club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ 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.

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

HOOD COUNTY Historical Society meets the fourth Tuesday each month (except November and December) at 7 p.m. at the Historic Granbury Railroad Depot, 109 E. Ewell St. Contact Karen Nace 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-wheeler, any and all riders are welcome.

THIRD THURSDAYS

THE HOOD Somervell A&M Club meets the third Thursday (except June, July and August) at Spring Creek BBQ located at 317 W. U.S. 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 Academy 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. Show 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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

A guide to Granbury-area churches.

*No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.
1 John 4:12*

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

Psalm 94:18-19

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

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254-835-4755

Faith Assembly Of God
300 Granbury Court
817-326-2270

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3500 Fall Creek Hwy.
817-326-4693

Allison Baptist
9926 Allison Ct., Lipan
254-646-9926

Bible Baptist
4804 E. Hwy. 377
817-579-5424

Brazos River Baptist
2201 Mitchell Bend Hwy.
817-663-5384

Dennis First Baptist
7600 Fm 1189, Lipan
817-565-9027

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1840 Acton Hwy.
817-247-7209

Fairview Baptist
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254-965-3840

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817-613-2322

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214 Kickapoo Ct., Lipan
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2815 Lipan Hwy.
817-573-3339

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201 West Gibbs Blvd.,
Glen Rose
254-897-2351

Granbury Baptist
1200 Weatherford Hwy.
817-573-4943

Granbury First Baptist
1851 Weatherford Hwy.
817-573-7137

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315 Holly Hills Cemetery Rd.
254-396-5773

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817-573-2094

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817-573-4901

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Rainbow
254-897-2121

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"Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

John 15:4

PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Auxiliary-sponsored arts and crafts fair draws crowd

BY DIANE LONG



A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 30 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother and former English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 17 years cumulatively. She spends her time both gathering neighborhood news and collecting new books to read. dianelong@yahoo.com | 817-579-9360

The Pecan Plantation 2024 Arts and Crafts Fair held at the PAC grounds last weekend featured a healthy attendance and thus produced success both for vendors and shoppers. The VFD/EMS Auxiliary welcomed large crowds for most of the day, which boasted perfect weather. Music from the Marina Trio on the PAC patio helped create a festive atmosphere for the event.

Thanks to the hard work of many auxiliary volunteers, participation by fantastic artisans and vendors, in addition to Pecan Plantation residents and area shoppers, the event raised more than \$7,000 to support Pecan's emergency personnel. Many thanks go to all who participated in and contributed to the success of this popular annual event.

The last regular meeting of the year for the auxiliary will be Monday, Nov. 4. The auxiliary is still in need of leaders willing to serve as officers in 2025, and folks interested in leadership positions may contact Sandy Stultz at 916-718-2942.

GROWING GREEN

Pecan's Community Gardens members will participate in a workday today, Saturday, Oct. 12 at 8 a.m. followed by a "happy hour in the garden" Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Pecaners interested in

the Community Gardens and its work are welcome at both events.

HOT STUFF

In honor of its second anniversary in our community, Pecan's ACE Hardware is hosting a chili cook off and car show today, Saturday, Oct. 12. The car show will begin at 9 a.m. and the chili cookoff at 10 a.m. Neighbors and friends are welcome.

ART OFFERING

Pecan artist Kathy Yoders will lead "Learn to Draw: The Basics" beginning tomorrow, Sunday, Oct. 13, from 1 to 4 p.m. with subsequent classes happening the second Sunday of each month for participants ages 10 and older. For more information, contact Kathy (kathylyoders@gmail.com). Sign up at the PAC.

WELCOME HOME

The next new member orientation will be Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. in the Terrace Room of the Pecan clubhouse. All new residents to our community, as well as longtime folks who would like a refresher course on the amenities of our neighborhood, are invited to attend. Contact Sarah Lord to make a reservation: sarahlord@ppoaweb.com.

GENEALOGY GROUP

Pecan's Genealogy Group will gather Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 10 a.m. in the EMS training room on Monticello Drive. Phil Harris will present a program about genealogy for lineage society membership. Pecan residence is not required to attend the meeting.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The next meeting of the Pecan Plantation Woman's Club is on the calendar for Thursday, Oct. 17 with social time beginning at 9:30 a.m. and President Gerta Howell calling the meeting to order at 10 a.m. After ladies conduct their business meeting, they will hear from Dr. Robin Hall, physician, breast cancer survivor, and author of "The Other Side of Illness." Lunch provided by the clubhouse staff will complete the day, and the tabletop charity of the month is Hood County Cancer Services.

The PPWC, whose tenets are friendship, fellowship, philanthropy and a pursuit of the arts, welcomes all ladies in our community.

SALE WEEKEND

Pecan's fall garage sale weekend will happen Friday, Oct. 18 for members only from 3 to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 19 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Listings of participating households will be available to shoppers.

OPEN HOUSE

The Pecan Plantation VFD/EMS happily announces an open house of its facilities Saturday, Oct. 19 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Attendees will meet Pecan's emergency service chiefs and crews, tour each



PHOTO COURTESY LANA ROBINSON

Doug and Karen Gomez, who own and operate Fire Eyez Photography in Pecan Plantation, were on hand at the Sept. 28 Arts and Crafts Fair with their collection of Pecan Wildlife Christmas and note cards. The day was a rousing success, netting more than \$7,000 in support of Pecan's emergency services.

station, and view the inside of emergency vehicles. Board members will be on hand to visit with neighbors. Children are welcome.

FUN FOOD

Friday, Oct. 25 is "Prime Rib and Trivia Night" at the clubhouse with Monte Lewis hosting the evening. Call the clubhouse to reserve a spot: 817-573-2641.

TREAT TIME

With Halloween coming later this month, "Trunk or Treat" is on the PAC's calendar for Saturday, Oct. 26 in the PAC parking lot from 2 to 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed

to make the day happen, namely by providing candy for the plethora of trick or treaters. Call the PAC to sign up: 817-573-7952.

In addition to Trunk or Treat, a Halloween party will happen inside the PAC, and the event will include a cupcake walk, games, crafts, balloon animals and a pumpkin carving contest. Contenders will compete in two age groups (13 and older and 12 and younger) with prizes awarded for the top three places in each category. Pumpkins should be delivered to the PAC between 8 a.m. and noon on event day to be eligible for judging. Winners will be announced at

the Halloween party.

FLU SHOTS

Pecan residents may receive their flu shots at the Charlie Lee Memorial Building on the emergency services compound from our EMS staff from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Cost per vaccine is \$25.

SUPER STAR

Finally, congratulations to Pecan Plantation Tennis Pro John Ingram, III who received the United States Professional Tennis Association's George Basco Lifetime Achievement Award Sept. 18. The honor was given to coach John for his service and dedication to the sport of tennis for the past 50 years.

"We are super proud of John," said Pecan's general manager Rick Lantgen. "His love of the game is infectious for anyone who plays, and he puts together great programs for our members, especially the junior players. We are lucky to have him in our Pecan family."

Ingram has been Pecan's tennis pro for the last decade. He is a master professional, a Texas Division Pro of the Year Award winner, a USPTA national tester, and former president of the Dallas Professional Tennis Association. He has played tournament tennis since 1967 and held rankings in singles, doubles and mixed doubles.

Coach John is truly a superstar on the tennis court, a neighborhood celebrity in Pecan, and the most likeable coach players will ever meet. May he have many, many more years of tennis success in our community.

AWAY

FROM PAGE C7

the trip. We saw the 670th performance of its nine-month, 679-show run. More than 6,000 attended sold-out performances for five shows

during the final full weekend. "David," called master poet, fearless warrior and anointed king, opens March 8, 2025, running through Jan. 3, 2026. The Sight and Sound Theater continues to set the standard for Bible-based productions, having done so since opening

in Branson in 2008. Our bunch loved SIX, a half-dozen brothers whose "production" of instrument-like sounds is as impressive as their grand voices. They also raved about Pierce Arrow's Decades Show, Nashville Roadhouse and Acrobats of

China ... Motel management turned over the lobby to us for Brooks' mini concert our final night. We crowded chairs into the small lobby to enjoy Randy's songs. This tied a ribbon on our trip. When the songs end-

ed, the motel staff served ice cream and cake to our group. There were no accidents, reports of sickness or disharmony of any kind. Friendships were strengthened and new ones made. I didn't hear the word "politics" one time. One guy did

lose his comb, though. He didn't need it, anyway, but maybe he liked to carry it as a reminder of that long-ago time when he had a good stand of hair ...

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
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Beans and rice, rice and beans!

BY NANCY PRICER
Special to the Hood County News

Whenever I make a meal that has beans and rice, Dave Ramsey's voice pops into my head. His "beans and rice, rice and beans" metaphor was not meant to be taken literally, but they are budget-friendly and the beans provide lots of protein and fiber. Plus they can be made ahead of time.

Because of that, I will make Charro Beans and Cilantro Lime Rice sometimes when my family gets together for a Sunday meal. My grandson Hudson says I should make it for every Sunday dinner. He is my biggest cheerleader for everything I make, but

these recipes are a big hit with everyone. The flavors are spot on and together the cost is less than \$1.50 per serving. One Sunday we made burrito bowls with some pulled pork I had in the freezer. These are also great for meal prepping for the week.

I make my beans in a pressure cooker, but I adapted the directions here to also make the beans in a slow cooker or on the stovetop.

Serve this up with some chips and salsa, and no one will leave the table hungry.

My daughter-in-law doesn't like onions, so I don't add onions to the beans, but serve freshly chopped onions on the side along with some extra cilantro. The lime

juice and cilantro freshen up the flavors of both dishes.

CHARRO BEANS

- 1 pound dried pinto beans
- 12 ounces bacon, chopped
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 large jalapeno, seeded and chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 15-ounce can fire roasted tomatoes (can use plain diced tomatoes)
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 2 cups water
- 2 teaspoons chili powder
- 2 teaspoons cumin
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano

• 1/2 bunch cilantro, chopped
Fresh limes, optional
Pressure cooker directions: Note: No need to presoak beans for this method.

Cook bacon, remove. Saute onions and jalapenos two to three minutes. Add garlic. Cook 30 seconds. Add beans, tomatoes, broth, water, chili powder, cumin, pepper, oregano, bacon and cilantro. Pressure cook for 45 minutes. Natural release 35-40 min.

SLOW COOKER DIRECTIONS:

Soak beans eight hours or overnight. Drain. In skillet on stovetop, cook bacon, remove. Saute onions and jalapenos two to three

minutes. Add garlic. Cook 30 seconds. To slow cooker, add onions, jalapenos, garlic, beans, tomatoes, broth, water, chili powder, cumin, pepper, oregano, bacon and cilantro. Cook on low five to seven hours or high four to five hours.

STOVETOP DIRECTIONS:

Soak beans eight hours or overnight. Drain.

In large pot on stovetop, cook bacon, remove. Saute onions and jalapenos two to three minutes. Add garlic. Cook 30 seconds. To slow cooker, add onions, jalapenos, garlic, beans, tomatoes, broth, water, chili powder, cumin, pepper, oregano, bacon and cilantro. Bring to a

boil. Reduce heat to low/medium. Cover. Simmer at least two hours. Add extra liquid if needed.

CILANTRO LIME RICE

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 1 1/2 cups rice
 - 1 clove garlic, minced
 - 2 1/4 cups water
 - 1 teaspoon salt
 - Zest of 1 lime
 - 3 tablespoons lime juice
 - 1 cup chopped cilantro
- In a saucepan, heat oil and toast rice until golden brown. Add garlic, cook one minute. Add water, salt and lime zest. Bring to boil. Cover. Simmer 15 minutes. Remove from heat. Let rest 10 minutes. Add lime juice and cilantro.

BOOK REVIEW

Books about medicine and the medical establishment

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

Cough, cough, sneeze. 'Tis the season, right? Time for sniffles, tissues, and chicken soup to ward off the chills. Staying indoors, sick on the sofa, maybe it's a time to read these helpful and thought-provoking books about medicine...

Does climate change affect your health? Says author and pediatrician Debra Hendrickson, it does if you're a child, and in her new book "The Air They Breathe" (Simon & Schuster), she explains.

You know how much you're affected by wildfire smoke, heat, humidity and events that are exacerbated by climate change, but imagine how those things affects little lungs and hearts. This book looks at how this issue is a danger now and what may happen as the planet

warms even further, and it's essential reading for anyone who's thought about the environment, health and the future.

So, on that bug you fight this fall: what can you do about it? Start by reading "The Living Medicine" by Lina Zeldovich (St. Martin's Press), a book about a life-saving medicine that science nearly forgot about.

You may have seen news about phages, which are viruses that eat bacteria. This book tells you more, including the history of this "living medicine." Readers who reach for natural cures will want to read this.

When any kind of an outbreak happens, don't you wonder about the people who save lives? In "Crisis Averted" by Caitlin Rivers, PhD (Viking), you'll read about the scientists, researchers, doctors and oth-

ers who do their jobs under the radar.

Keeping you hale and hearty takes more than just a doctor or two. Read this book to learn about the heroes who help, and how we can help them do their jobs better.

And finally, if you're concerned with the medical establishment itself, or the cost of healthcare, or with keeping your local medical facility in your community, you'll want to find "Blind Spots" by Marty Makary, MD (Bloomsbury).

Have you ever wondered what happens if a medical diagnosis is wrong? Or when a "cure" isn't a cure at all, or when a medicine is worse than the disease? Makary writes that nationally, medical mistakes occur in nearly every facet of healthcare and sometimes, research doesn't tell the whole story and

needs to be taken further. But there are things you can do to protect yourself and your family, and things we, as a nation, can do to ensure that sometimes-deadly mistakes don't happen again, now or in the future.

If you've ever taken extra supplements, avoided certain foods or activities, jumped on a fad bandwagon, gotten sick from a medicine, or if you've ever been to a doctor, this is a book you'll want now.

And if these books for your health are not enough or don't fill the bill, ask your favorite bookseller or librarian for more health-related books. They've got thousands to pick from, and they can help you find exactly what you need. But do check out these four books, above. When it comes to your health, they ain't nothing to sneeze at.



Books about medicine and the medical establishment by various authors, c.2024, various publishers, \$27.99-\$30, various page counts.

GRANBURY SENIOR LIFESTYLE EXPO

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