



Hood County News

MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER | A HOOD COUNTY LEGEND SINCE 1886

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Nancy Worcester and her friend fill the room with laughter during the "Nancy and Her Friends" puppet show at the Hood County Library on July 8, 2023.

PHOTOS BY EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Nancy and Her Friends puppet show comes to a bittersweet end

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Nancy and Her Friends puppet show made their last stop at the Hood County Public Library Sat. July 8.

The 45-minute sold-out puppet shows featured visits from all sorts of friends that taught valuable lessons such as the importance of yourself, kindness and much more. The audience was filled with laughter from both kids and parents.

The end of July will mark the end of Nancy and Her Friends as she announced her retirement from ventriloquism.

After 30 years and multiple seasons of "Nana Puddin" with Dennis Lee, Nancy Burks Worcester has driven hundreds of thousands of miles performing at over thousands of churches, schools, and libraries.

Worcester said what she will

miss the most is, "the laughter of children. Whether it be 20, 100 or 700 kids, just knowing you have them right there in your hand and not only making them laugh, but also being able to tell them they are important and their voice matters."

Worcester, who is a Granbury resident, found her gift for ventriloquism while volunteering at the Hood County Library where she picked up a book titled Ventriloquism for kids.

It was after taking the book home she realized she was good at ventriloquism and started doing shows where her daughter attended elementary school at Nettie Baccus in 1990.



Children of all ages were laughing non-stop during "Nancy and Her Friends" puppet show where Nancy entertained the audience with children's stories and visits from many puppet friends at the Hood County Library on July 8, 2023.

At the time she had written to Dennis Lee, a famous ventriloquist, about her aspirations and asked for advice. He wrote back

and came to her show, and they eventually ended up working together on his television show

PLEASE SEE PUPPET | A3

Native Texan to Italian local Granbury airman recognized as Service Member of the Year



COURTESY OF KYLE HEATHINGTON

Granbury native and Air Force Master Sgt. Kyle Heathington was recently recognized as the JFC (Allied Joint Force Command) Naples Outstanding Service Member of the Year.

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Air Force Master Sgt. Kyle Heathington has only been stationed in Italy for three years now but is already making a name for himself in The Bel Paese (beautiful country).

Heathington — a 2004 Granbury High School graduate and sixth-generation Hood County native — was recently recognized as the JFC (Allied Joint Force Command) Naples Outstanding Service Member of the Year.

To be considered for the yearly award, military members must be nominated by their chain of command. The advisory board committee then looks for nominees with exceptional service or achievements, according to servicemembersoftheyear.org.

"Once you have been submitted by your chain of command, they put together all of the things you did throughout the year and you go and stand before a board of senior enlisted leaders," Heathington explained. "You answer questions and they kind of judge your uniform along with the packages submitted from your chain of command. All of that is compiled into an overall holistic picture of what you've done throughout the year, and then the winner is selected from the members of the board on a rating system. For last year, I ended up winning for our joint force command in our headquarters."

Although this was Heathington's first time receiving the Service Member of the Year award, it wasn't his first time to be nominated.

He was also up for the same award when he was stationed at the Delaware Air Force Base from 2014 to 2020.

Heathington also received the Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award last year.

"I'm very proud of him," said Gary Heathington, Kyle's father. "He was in Junior ROTC for three years in high school, and he wanted to go in the Marines at 17. I said 'No, I'm not gonna send you over there as a Marine. You can go in the Navy, or Air Force, but I prefer the Coast Guard.' Luckily, Air Force was the first one to contact him, and now he's a master sergeant."

Kyle has now been in the Air Force for a total of 19 years and has traveled all over the world.

"The only two continents he hasn't been

PLEASE SEE AIRMAN | A2

View from the top: Mayors talk progress for their towns in 2023

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The buck may not stop with Hood County's mayors, but the elected officials are certainly involved in how bucks are spent or saved.

Mayors preside over city council meetings, listen to the complaints and concerns of residents and field requests to appear at functions.

The Hood County News asked the mayors of Granbury, Cresson and Tolar to share their thoughts about how 2023 has been going and what they fore-

see for the remainder of 2023.

GRANBURY: 'BUILDING MOMENTUM'

Granbury Mayor Jim Jarratt said that the city of Granbury has made progress toward reaching its' 2022-2023 fiscal year's budgetary goals. He said the city is also "building momentum" toward accomplishing its five-year Strategic Plan.

"These successes are primarily due to the resourcefulness, tenacity, hard work and creativity of the city of Granbury staff," he stated.

Accomplishments this year have included a salary survey and an updated salary structure to hopefully increase the retention rate. Before, the city had been losing employees "at an unsustainable rate," Jarratt said.

In an email to the Hood County News, the mayor wrote that the dividends reaped by investing in quality staff have resulted in the following achievements so far in 2023:

- An airport that is operating at 250%-300% above expectations, with fuel sales and new hanger construction trending

sharply higher.

- Increased tourism.
- Innovative, flexible outsourcing of electrical staff that has yielded "enormous savings" while improving infrastructure reliability and capabilities.
- Communications enhancements that have increased transparency, citizen understanding, and participation.
- Increased partnership between the development community and city staff, with continued growth and building despite a moratorium.

Continued high performance

PLEASE SEE MAYORS | A2



137TH YEAR, NO. 85

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

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COMMUNITY BUSINESS



CHAMBER NEWS

Granbury Chamber of Commerce Women in Business Group



COURTESY PHOTO

Kara Watson

Chamber Message

My name is Kara Watson, a Realtor with Empire Realty Group, and as the chairperson of the Granbury Chamber's Women in Business group (WIB), I have witnessed the incredible importance and impact our group has on women in our community. The goal of WIB is to lift women up personally and professionally through a variety of events throughout the year.

We provide a platform for women to connect with like-minded individuals. We can all find ourselves feeling isolated and we may find it challenging to find support and build relationships with others. By joining the WIB, women gain access to a supportive and collaborative community where everyone can come together, share ideas, and establish valuable connections. One of the events we host is a Speed Networking luncheon. This is a great way for everyone to get out of their comfort zone and meet other women in the community. Everyone has an opportunity to make new connections and find new clients and hopefully make new friends. We also offer after-hour get-togethers. These after-hour events are held in a more relaxed environment that allows women to create new connections and deepen the connections they have made. Our next after-hours event is on July 25 at the Lake Granbury Mercantile. We will have food, wine, and an opportunity to connect to others. Space is limited so please reach out soon to the Granbury Chamber of Commerce for a ticket before it is sold out.

WIB is also dedicated to empowering women through skill development and education. We understand that continuous learning is the key to success. Therefore, last year we hosted our first Women in Business Summit; Inspiring the Champion in You; it was a huge success! We had local successful women entrepreneurs come and speak on topics such as branding, leadership, life balance and company culture. Our keynote speaker, Kristin Dickerson, host of NBC 5's Texas Today shared her journey through the ups and downs in her life. It was a great day filled with good food, fun, learning and inspiration! We will be hosting our 2nd Annual Women in Business Summit this year on September 26 at the Lake Granbury Conference Center. Our topics will include relationship building, Finding Your Passion, Making Connections and Marketing using today's newest technology. Tickets are on sale now through the Granbury Chamber's website!

WIB offers women a supportive network, access to resources and opportunities, and the chance to contribute to Granbury. We are committed to empowering and uplifting women, and I invite you all to our upcoming events to see what we are all about!



Spirit Halloween is coming to Granbury

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

Get ready to get your spooky on because the number one Halloween costume store is coming to Granbury.

Residents will be able to visit the 6,500 square foot Halloween store very soon that will be filled with hundreds of costumes, decorations, animatronics, and accessories. Spirit Halloween will make its appearance in the shopping center next to Brookshire's, located at 1406 E US Highway 377.

"We can't wait to bring Spirit Halloween to Granbury," Jamie Bailey District Sales Manager said.

The store has not announced yet when the opening date will be but hopes to have a date soon.

In previous years the closest locations for residents in Hood County were Weatherford and Cleburne.

The new location is looking for a store manager, an assistant store manager and sales associates. To apply visit Work4spirit.com



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

An opening soon sign is posted up on the doors of the soon to be Spirit Halloween store.



COURTESY OF KYLE HEATHINGTON

Kyle Heathington, left, is currently stationed in Naples, Italy. He is pictured with his wife, Nicole, his 13-year-old son Mason, and his 3-year-old daughter Madalyn.

AIRMAN

FROM PAGE A1

to are Antarctica and South America," Gary said.

Throughout his several deployments, Kyle had a couple of different duties as an airman. He prepared aerial deliveries in Okinawa, Japan, for four years and now acts as a middleman between NATO and the Air Force as a logistical specialist.

"Anything that gets onto airplanes, I help put it there, like passengers or cargo or any-

thing of that nature, like that's what I do," Kyle explained. "My current duty station is the Joint Force Command Naples, which is a NATO ally joint command — one of only three under NATO."

For now, Kyle will be stationed in Italy until 2026, but he said he is still unsure of what the future holds. However, he said he thoroughly enjoys the community of Naples, and hopes to stay there for both the near — and distant — future.

"We will see what happens next," he said. "I don't have any concrete plan. Where I'm

at, we have a good community, and we have a fantastic church we're a part of. That support is needed, not only throughout the service members, but also for our family. It's really important to have a sense of community, and the community that we have found here, it's really special, which has made us not really want to leave."

Kyle is married to his high school sweetheart, Nicole, and together they have two children: Mason, 13, and Madalyn, 3.

He added that it was a great honor to receive the Service

Member of the Year award, but his squadron also deserves equal recognition.

"For me, it's a testament to the things that not only I do, but the team that I'm a part of that we do," Kyle said. "Nothing that we do is by ourselves. We have to rely on our people, and they have to be able to rely on you. One of the biggest take-aways for me is, 'Yeah, it's an individual award, but it's because of my team that this was even in consideration.'"

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MAYORS

FROM PAGE A1

by experienced, professional city staff "resulting in a safe and clean city."

Jarratt said that the first half of 2023 was "very successful" and he noted the work of the staff in preparing the budget for the upcoming fiscal year with an eye toward keeping the property tax rate as low as possible.

The mayor indicated that there have been some uncontrollable delays on some things, such as development of an in-person, "one-stop-shop" for those needing permits, licenses, development agreements and other services.

Also still in progress is the ac-

quisition and implementation of various software programs.

"One facilitates greater citizen engagement and control over the preparation of permits and other applications," Jarratt stated. "Another provides city staff with powerful planning and reporting tools, improving productivity and increasing customer satisfaction."

He said that the projects will likely be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

Lastly, Jarratt addressed everyone's favorite, or maybe least favorite, topic: U.S. Highway 377.

"The U.S. Highway 377 initiative remains a priority," the mayor said. "Improving the working relationship with Hood County leadership to cooperatively develop the plan to en-

hance 'feeder roads' will be essential as construction begins on the widening of 377."

CRESSON: 'MATURE, STRONG'

A lot has happened since hometown girl Teena Putteet Conway became mayor of Cresson three years ago, taking the reins from Bob Cornett who had served in that role for many years.

One of Conway's chief goals has been to relieve the town of eyesore properties where trash and junk have accumulated. Progress has been made in that regard.

"We are the crossroad into Fort Worth and Granbury and Weatherford and Cleburne, so we need to look halfway decent," she said.

The town has been moving

forward in other ways as well. "Overall, we're running pretty smoothly here in cresson," Conway said of the town that has a projected population of just over 3,000 residents based on the 2020 U.S. Census.

The long-awaited and much-needed Cresson Relief Route was underway when Conway took the mayor's seat and it's still underway as she starts the second year of her second term.

There have been delays with the Texas Department of Transportation project. According to TxDOT Public Information Officer Bethany Kurtz, the three-mile bypass that will divert traffic from the railroad switching yard at the intersection of U.S. Highway 377 and State Highway 171 is

PLEASE SEE MAYORS | A4

FROM MY FRONT PORCH

Follow the rules and don't make a wake



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.

One of the great things about the United States is we are a country of individuals. By the very nature of our Constitution, we are guaranteed the freedom to be allowed to live our lives and express ourselves, even if we choose to do so in a way that is "different" than our neighbors. Of course, individual rights must be balanced with the rights of others.

We have the individual right to play music in the middle of the night. Yet the exercise of that right must be balanced against the rights of my neighbor who is trying to sleep at 2 a.m. and does not want to hear a stereo cranked up to the point of shaking him out of bed. This balancing act is what creates a world where people can still be individuals, but society can still function effectively. It is the social contract. It requires a little give and take sometimes, but isn't that the way it ought to be? Shouldn't we try and be respectful of the wishes of others and shouldn't they "bend" a little sometimes to accommodate

the "other guy"? Sounds a little like the "golden rule" doesn't it?

Just this past week I volunteered to help with the organizational part of the big 4th of July parade. I got to my post early in the morning, and as parade participants arrived, helped direct them to their proper location in the parade line. The organizers of the parade had given each entry specific instructions of where to park their cars, the time for entries to arrive, and the directions for lining up. After years of experience, there is a plan in place which assures the best flow of traffic and eliminates difficulties and confusion.

This was not some every day, small-town parade. It had over 100 entries and the parade took an hour and fifteen minutes to pass. Crowds were overflowing and full of enthusiasm. The floats were designed and constructed masterfully. The whole town looks forward to the parade and cooperates to make it come off without issues.

Irrespective of the planning, the instructions and all the hours spent on organization, there are always a few people who believe they do not have to follow the rules. Mind you, there were not many, but there were a few folks who had not read the instructions they had been provided. They simply showed up, drove into the parking lot, and wanted to go about "lining up" as they wished. When instructed they had to go through the same procedures as everyone else, they became a little indignant.

I tried to be as nice and civil as I could be when I instructed the few "rulebreakers" they had to take their vehicle or float into a different gate. I explained if the guidelines were not followed, traffic would grid lock and the parade would come to a halt. In response, I got, "but I know where I am supposed to go", or "nobody told me where I needed to go".

The offenders I refer to did finally adhere to the same guidelines as everybody else. All they did by complaining and trying to circumvent the instructions everyone else was happily following, was to get themselves upset and to waste everyone's time.

Were these few violators a major problem or did they prevent the parade from happening? Of course not. The matter goes to a larger issue; the mindset of some who believe they are exempt from adhering to normal everyday social rules. It is those simple rules which allow the world to function. It is respect for others.

It would seem there are those who either feel privileged and above adhering to rules, or they simply do not care about others than themselves. My guess is these same folks who sometimes park in a handicap space because they are in a hurry despite the fact they are not disabled. Or they go through the express line at the grocery store with more than the allotted items because the line was shorter, never minding how they back up the line behind them. Neither one of these incidents are major crimes, but they are reflective of an attitude which is all too prevalent.

My old "lake" friend told me a hu-

man should never be a "wake maker". Never be the person driving a big boat, who leaves the dock area at full throttle. That man is looking forward and sees the smooth water, the beauty of the day, and is excited to have fun. He never looks behind him and sees the problem he creates by generating a huge wake. His failure to follow the "no wake" instructions does not affect him or the operation of his boat, but what he leaves behind sends boats slamming up against the dock and causes problems for others.

The world is not all about any one of us. It is about the shared experiences which make up the event we call life. It is ok to be an individual, to have your own views and to live life as you choose, but sometimes the social contract asks for you to remember your neighbors and think of others besides yourself. Is it that hard?

Thought for the day: Rules are for the obedience of fools and the guidance of wise men.

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

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Folks around town



MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Jim Sharp

Say hello to our neighbor, Jim Sharp!

Jim Sharp and his wife have lived in Hood County for 21 years and have attended the last 23 Fourth of July parades. His wife Sue and he are both members of the Hood County Sheriff's Posse and love involving themselves in all the activities. Their passion in retirement is volunteering with Texas Equine. "I will tell you this," Sharp said. "We feel Hood County represents to me America's foundation. It encompasses freedom, patriotism, Christianity, and family." Sharp added that the Hood County News is their constant source for keeping in touch with the community.

Child predator sentenced to life plus 10 years following son's tip

Staff Reports

A Granbury man whose son reported him to law enforcement was sentenced in late June to a term of life imprisonment plus 10 years for child sexual exploitation, announced U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas Leigha Simonton.

In February, after three days of trial and just 45 minutes of deliberation, a federal jury found David Earl Boyd, 64, guilty of two counts of producing child pornography, one count of possession of child pornography, and one count of penalties for registered sex offenders. Mr. Boyd was sentenced Wednesday by U.S. District Judge Terry R. Means.

"This sentence ensures Mr. Boyd will never again exploit a little child,"

said U.S. Attorney Leigha Simonton. "I want to again thank Mr. Boyd's son for reporting his father's behavior to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. It cannot have been easy, but it likely prevented further harm. We hope the families of the children already victimized will rest a little easier knowing Mr. Boyd will remain behind bars for the rest of his life."

"This defendant's actions were exceptionally disturbing given the severity of the life-altering abuse these children experienced," HSI Dallas Special Agent in Charge Lester R. Hayes Jr. said "HSI stands ready with our law enforcement partners to identify and investigate those who prey on the most precious members of

our society, our children."

According to evidence presented at trial, in the spring of 2022, Boyd, already a registered sex offender, took sexually explicit images of two young children, aged 6 and 3.

Boyd's son discovered nude images of the children in his father's trash folder. He took a screenshot of the trash gallery and submitted a report to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which forwarded the tip to law enforcement.

Shortly thereafter, officers arrested Boyd and seized his Samsung smartphone.

During an extraction of the phone, forensic examiners discovered thousands of child pornography images in a directory associated with

an application designed to conceal images and videos. (Although Boyd had previously deleted the app, the directory retained the images and videos.)

Previously, Boyd was convicted of possession of child pornography in Taylor County. In 2003, the state sentenced him to three years and required to register as a sex offender.

Homeland Security Investigations' Dallas Field Office, the Hood County District Attorney's Office, and the Dallas Police Department conducted the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Aisha Saleem prosecuted the case with the help of Assistant U.S. Attorney Alex Lewis. U.S. District Judge Terry Means oversaw the trial.

PUPPET

FROM PAGE A1

"Nana Puddin".

"It means to the most to me when parents come up to me and say I've never seen my kid laugh so hard... or when they say they are going through something, and I helped them let go and just laugh," Worcester said.

With her connection to Hood County Library and many years of performances, it's bittersweet for the library to know this was her last time performing there.

"We're sad to see her go. She has been a fabulous addition to our summer reading program year after year. The families really look forward to her coming. We've had a couple of different generations to see this puppet show. She brings so much laughter to all the patrons," Diana "Cookie" Haun, Youth Librarian and Assistant Director of the Hood County Library said.



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Nancy Worcester takes some photos with her fans after her fun filled puppet show at the Hood County Library on July 8, 2023.

This summer her tour started in June all over New Mexico then she headed to Texas. After this stop in Granbury she is headed to

Kerrville, Fredericksburg, Mason, Jonestown and will make her final stop of the tour in Haskell on July 20.

Worcester said she will still

be in the area and will likely have a few more performances here and there in the town.

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CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

SIGNATURE BEAUTY Bar & Fashions 6th Anniversary Sparkle & Shine Soiree will be held at Diamond A Ranch, 9855 Lipan Hwy, Lipan, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. To register, please call 817-219-9899.

THURSDAY, JULY 27

MARINE CORPS League Detachment 1297 will hold its monthly meeting at the American Legion Hall located at 3409 Davis Rd. in Granbury. Chow is at 18:00, meeting at 19:00. Marines, FMF Navy Corpsman/Navy Chaplains Memberships available. Associate memberships also available. All hands welcome. Semper Fidelis. 682-498-3250

FRIDAY, JULY 28

HOOD COUNTY Hospital District Board of Directors regularly scheduled meeting will be held at noon in the Annex I meeting room, 202 Deputy Larry Miller Dr. For more information, please call 817-579-3200.

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.



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Hood County News

DAV Granbury to host veteran information seminar July 29

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Veterans don't always know about the vast array of rights and benefits that they've earned through serving their country — but that's exactly why the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization was formed.

The DAV is dedicated to a single purpose: empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity, according to dav.org. Its mission is carried forward by providing several services, but its main one is to provide free, professional assistance to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service and provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government, according to the website.

"To be a member of the DAV, you have to be a disabled American veteran," said Ken Horton, DAV Granbury member and service officer. "You can become a life member for \$300, and with that, what you get is you have representation by a group that will go to bat for you that will assist you in filling out your paperwork for any of the disabilities that you might apply for or any of the benefits that you might apply for through the VA."

As a way to assist Hood County veterans with what they qualify for, the DAV Waco National Service Office is inviting disabled veterans and their families to attend a DAV Veterans Information Seminar on Saturday, July 29.

The seminar will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hood County Annex #1, 1410 W. Pearl St.

During the seminar, DAV National Service Officer (NSO) Paul Shook will discuss facts that will strengthen attendees' knowledge and understanding regarding the benefits and services that they have earned following their service.

standing regarding the benefits and services that they have earned following their service.

"He will sit down with anyone wishing to have one-on-ones to fill out paperwork, so that they can apply for any of the benefits that they are entitled to," Horton explained.

Shook will also discuss the new law changes that may affect veterans to include the PACT Act, Blue Water Navy, and Camp Lejeune Water Contamination.

According to va.gov, the PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for veterans exposed to burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic substances.

The PACT Act adds to the list of health conditions that we assume (or "presume") are caused by exposure to these substances. This law helps the VA provide generations of veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve, according to the VA website.

"This is a real important time, because the (ninth) of August is when the Veteran Administration is cutting off the PACT Act and the Blue Water," Horton explained. "If they fit in on that PACT Act — they'll be able to find out at this meeting — they can get registered, so it's very important that if you're able and if you're entitled, you need to do it."

If claims for the PACT Act are submitted before the Aug. 9 deadline, veterans may receive benefits back-dated to Aug. 10, 2022.



With 5,000 veterans in Hood County alone, DAV Granbury is trying to ensure local veterans are informed about their benefits, and how to access them.

"Even though the VA is trying to help, we as representatives fight for the veteran — not just the VA, because they can turn you down on anything — but if you've got a representative that is qualified, they will go to bat for you," said Sam Turner, DAV Granbury member and service officer.

Turner explained that there's several things that veterans don't know about, like their burial benefits for instance.

"You can be buried in national cemeteries. You can even be in Arlington if you get on the list," he said. "There's, like 13 different retirement centers for veterans. Big Spring has one, and I know they have one over in the Dallas area, but it's just part of the things that we're

trying to help veterans with." Veterans don't have to be a member of DAV to come to the seminar, but they are welcome to join the organization after, Turner said.

"That's what we're here to do is help veterans, young and old," he said.

The DAV Granbury meets on the second Monday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Acton, located at 3601 Fall Creek Highway. There are currently 110 members in the local chapter.

"We don't drink, we don't smoke, we don't party, we don't play bingo — this is strictly an organization to help other veterans," Turner added.

For more information about DAV Granbury, call 682-719-5560 or email davgranbury@gmail.com.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

MAYORS

FROM PAGE A2

now scheduled for completion in summer 2024.

"We can live with that," Conway said of the push into the next calendar year.

She stated that this year developers have been moving forward with projects after a period of economic uncertainty. Movement on one of those projects, developer Jim Martin's Cresson Pointe, means that the Bob Cornett Park will also move forward, she said.

Several years ago, the city of Cresson received two exciting gifts: a \$500,000 grant from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for a multi-use park, and the donation of 23.5 acres from developer Ike Thomas on which to put that park. The land is behind the Scottish Inn hotel and south of the Cresson Relief Route.

For a while it looked as if the city might have to turn down the grant money because of ancillary needs that would not be covered by the grant and which the city could not afford — things such as restrooms, a parking lot, mowing and a road leading to the property.

But then, in 2021, Martin offered to pay those costs, realizing that the nearby park would make Cresson Pointe's homes that much more appealing.

The city was also helped by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department extending the deadline for bringing the park to fruition.

Referring to Martin and his subdivision, Conway said, "They're going to graciously grade the area around the pond, which is really

where the park is going to be. So, to take advantage of that contribution, we're sort of on their schedule, so to speak. And now they're coming forward and saying, 'Okay, we've got the final plat ready. We want to move forward.' So, that's a good thing as far as the park because that helps us kick that back off. We're kind of back full strength now as far as delivering what was initially proposed as the Bob Cornett Park."

Since it was incorporated in 2001, the city of Cresson has operated off of sales tax, and that revenue is holding steady, the mayor said. She noted the success of the Cresson Bluff Winery and Vineyards and Twisted Hooks Marine, which sells pre-owned boats.

City officials are hoping to delay imposing property taxes for as long as possible. Conway said city officials have saved money by purchasing mowing equipment and handling mowing in-house.

With Cresson's elected body serving two-year terms, Conway's second term will end next year. She indicated that she intends to seek re-election.

"I won't be the mayor as long as Bob Cornett was the mayor, but I'd like to see some more of my cleanup activity actually happen before I let somebody else come in here," she said lightheartedly.

Conway indicated that all is well as Cresson City Hall.

"I think that, you know, as we mature as a team, I think we've gotten stronger, to be honest," she stated. "We just tend to work really well together."

TOLAR: 'HOLD MY BEER'

First-term Tolar Mayor Matt Hutsell laughs over a comment that

was posted by a local resident on Facebook after the town recently hosted its' first ever fireworks show during a well-attended community event that featured food trucks and live entertainment.

The feedback was "awesome," he said, and his favorite post on Facebook stated, "Tolar just told Granbury, hold my beer."

The annual fireworks show sponsored by the Granbury Chamber of Commerce is a big draw for tourists and locals alike. Although Hutsell found the post amusing, he said that Tolar wasn't trying to compete with Granbury. In fact, its' fireworks show took place on Saturday, July 1, while Granbury's took place on the July Fourth holiday.

The comment, though, seems indicative of what Tolar is on the road to becoming. After that first successful event, Hutsell said the city will likely plan July pyrotechnics going forward thanks to Tolar's quarter-cent sales tax that is starting to bring in more revenue.

Hutsell, who also serves as Tolar's fire chief, said that things are going well for both the city and its volunteer fire department.

"City-wise, we're finally moving forward getting the police department going," he said. "We ordered a police vehicle towards the end of last year and it came to fruition. We got it in the beginning of this year, and now we've hired a police chief and he's done all the necessary preparations. We're waiting on the state now."

Fellow volunteer firefighter Ray Wilson will serve as police chief once the police department becomes official. Wilson has been working with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement to make sure the de-

partment meets all requirements. Hutsell continued, "We used to have a police department, but we were literally broke because of it because it's just so expensive to run and we didn't have the tax base, really, to have one. So, that seemed like it was always a struggle."

Tolar has gone more than a decade without a police department.

"Fast forward to now, with all the growth, the public demand for a police department is there, so we had to finally get moving on it again," the mayor said. "We've been able to set aside some COVID relief money to get it going and that bought the car and stuff."

Hutsell said he believes the tax base is now sufficient to keep the police department going. There are more people there now and sales tax revenues grow every year.

Another big move made by Tolar city officials in 2023 was applying for a TxDOT grant that would fund shared-use paths, providing connectivity so that pedestrians, runners and bicyclists can more easily get from one place to the other.

The City Council is working to improve other infrastructure as well.

"We're moving forward with building a sewer plant and a new water well, and a new 40,000-gallon ground storage tank," Hutsell said. "It's been on our radar for several years and we're getting moving on it. But, because of COVID, the price tag significantly increased."

He stated that the City Council hired a consultant to re-examine the city's water and sewer rates and then raised the rates to show creditors that the city has a plan to pay for the infrastructure.

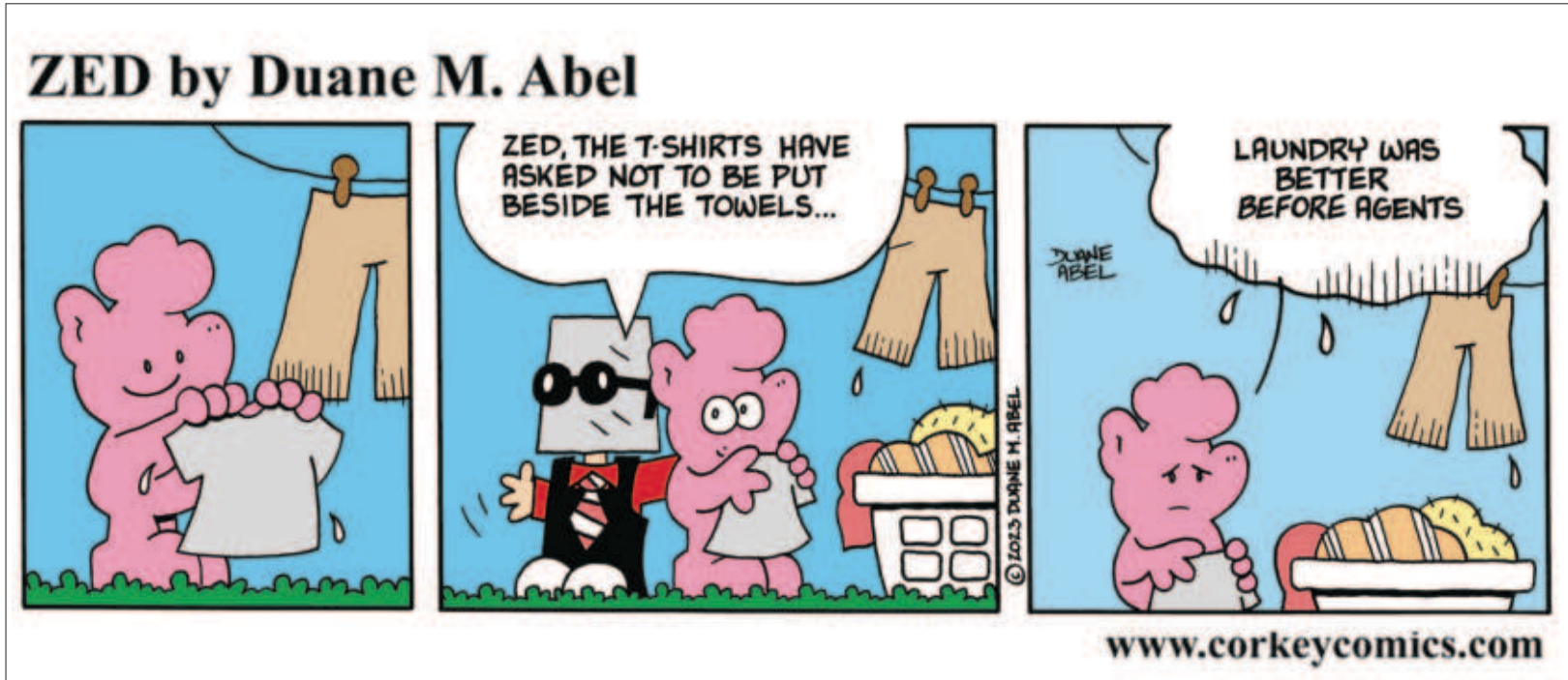
"You always hate raising the rates for anything, but this matter, it was going to have to be done regardless of growth because the sewer plant was put in in the '70s," Hutsell said. "We'll be able to cover the cost of it with more people coming in and we'll be able to lower the prices back down to what they were. But to get the initial loan and to get our credit rating where it needed to be and the low interest rate, that's something we had to do, which is unfortunate, but it is what it is."

Hutsell praised the city's hard-working staff for the important role they play in moving the city forward.

As for how the books on 2023 will close, Hutsell said, "I hope we can say it was overall a year of growth and (that) we got stuff done that we've been talking about for a long time, that we needed to do to move on to other things."

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ZED by Duane M. Abel



ZED, THE T-SHIRTS HAVE ASKED NOT TO BE PUT BESIDE THE TOWELS...

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'Hero' commissioner pulls double duty as church security adviser

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

These days, Jack Wilson isn't in the news so much anymore, except in the pages of his local community newspaper. As the elected county commissioner for Precinct 3, Wilson is frequently quoted or referred to in articles about county government.

There was a time, though, just a few years ago, when Wilson was big news all across the country. The then-71-year-old was hailed as a hero for taking down a shooter at West Freeway Church of Christ in White Settlement. There seemed to be no question that his quick thinking saved many lives.

Wearing a wig and a fake beard, 43-year-old Keith Thomas Kinnunen rose from the pew where he was seated near the back of the church auditorium, pulled a sawed-off shotgun from under his coat and shot two church members, Anton Wallace, 64, and Richard White, 67, killing each with a single shot. He then turned to his left, presumably to begin firing into the crowd of worshippers.

Thanks to Wilson, he never got that chance.

Wilson, a firearms instructor and head of security for the church, killed Kinnunen with a single shot to the head within six seconds of him opening fire. Livestream video shows a calm and steady Wilson walking swiftly past the two mortally wounded church members to make sure the gunman was no longer a threat as worshippers screamed and crouched in their pews or on the floor.

Although it was Wilson who took down Kinnunen on that Sunday in late December 2019, video shows other church mem-

bers drawing weapons, preparing to defend innocent lives.

Wilson had trained the church security team's 18 members, providing 300-man hours of training at the shooting range on his property in Hood County. The training didn't just involve static, or non-moving, targets. Wilson said they prepared for a variety of scenarios.

"It's continual training and practice," Wilson said of the skills needed to protect worshippers in a mass shooting situation. "And one of the things that I teach them when I'm doing classes on the range is you don't do head shots, you do body shots unless that's literally all you have. Well, in my situation, all I had was a head shot because I had people between the shooter and I, including some kids. I made the decision in a split second what my target was because (a head shot) was all I had without having to worry about collateral damage."

SPEAKER, TRAINER

Three-and-a-half years have passed since the West Freeway shooting and the ceremony that occurred two weeks later in Austin during which Wilson was awarded the Governor's Medal of Courage.

Since that time, Wilson's life has changed, and not just because he was elected to the Hood County



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS
Jack Wilson, who in 2020 was awarded the Governor's Medal of Courage for taking down a church gunman, enjoys a break during a July 4th lunch for first responders where he served as a volunteer.

Commissioners Court, a post he had already announced he would seek before the shooting incident occurred.

Wilson routinely receives and accepts speaking invitations and requests for security training from churches, not only in Texas but in other parts of the country. He does some of that work as a volunteer but is sometimes paid when travel is involved. He recently traveled to Southaven, Mississippi, and

PLEASE SEE HERO | A14

Since being elected Hood County Commissioner for Precinct 3, Jack Wilson, in white shirt, can often be seen at public events and ceremonies.



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When bug bites and stings need medical attention

Summertime brings sunshine, more hours outside, and an increased risk of bug bites and stings. Insects like mosquitoes, ticks, bees, and spiders are often harmless, but sometimes their bites and stings can spread disease or cause dangerous allergic reactions and infections. An insect bite releases saliva, and stings release venom that can cause the skin to become red, swollen, and itchy. When symptoms last longer than a few days or they become worse, medical intervention may be required.

"If you spend time outside, getting bit or stung by an insect is nearly unavoidable, which is why it's important to know when to get medical treatment," said Chad Pacanowski, P.A., Physician Assistant at Lakeside Physicians Express Care in Granbury, Texas. "Depending on the severity of a reaction to a bite or sting, a round of antibiotics or topical ointment may be prescribed."

Pacanowski recommends seeking medical care if you experience the following:

- An allergic reaction: Hives, rapid heartbeat, or swelling of the mouth, tongue, and throat could indicate an allergic reaction or anaphylaxis. If you or a

loved one are experiencing symptoms of an allergic reaction or anaphylaxis, which is life-threatening, call 911 and administer epinephrine if it is available.

- Cellulitis: Swollen lymph nodes and oozing pus can be symptoms of cellulitis, a non-contagious skin infection that requires antibiotics. If left untreated, it could cause sepsis.

- Bite from a disease carrier: Ticks can carry Lyme disease, and mosquitoes can spread viruses through their bites like West Nile and Zika. If bitten by a disease-carrying insect and you experience symptoms like fever, fatigue, or red streaks surrounding the bite, seek medical attention.



COURTESY PHOTO

Depending on the severity of a reaction to a bite or sting, a round of antibiotics or topical ointment may be prescribed.



LAKE GRANBURY MEDICAL CENTER

- Flu-like symptoms: Go to the emergency room if symptoms like chills, headache, sore throat, and fever last more than 48 hours after a bite or sting or if symptoms worsen rapidly.
- Worsening redness: Redness usually goes away

after a few days; however, if the redness spreads or red lines from the bite site develop, it could be a sign of infection.

"To better protect yourself or your loved ones this summer, wear long-sleeved

shirts and pants, use insect repellents with DEET as an active ingredient, and avoid bug-infested areas. Make it a point to check your skin when you go inside to find any insects that might have attached to you or bites needing treatment,"

Pacanowski said. If you do experience an allergic or other serious reaction to a bug bite or sting, seek immediate care. Lakeside Physicians Express Care is open daily from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Hwy 377 across from HEB.

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around town



WADE BLAKE | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Dusty golden light settled over the Livestock Raisers Association Arena during the Diamond Cross Rodeo Company's Fourth of July rodeo event.

Hood County Animal Control seeking donations amid 'animal crisis'

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

The Fourth of July is always an exciting day filled with delicious food and dazzling fireworks. But for pets, the celebratory holiday is anything but exciting, as loud booms cause several to flee their homes in terror every year.

In just six days, the Hood County Animal Control (HCAC) took in 58 animals, with much of the overcrowding attributed to the Fourth of July holiday.

On July 6, HCAC Sergeant Kelly McNab created a post on Facebook, revealing that the facility was full and in "desperate need of help."

"We currently have 90 animals in our care," McNab said, in an email to the HCN on Wednesday. "Unfortunately, we receive numerous calls daily from owners wanting to surrender their pets to our facility."

She explained that the influx of animals is caused by people breeding their pets faster than the HCAC can save them.

"We are in an animal crisis," she said. "If you want to save a pet, start by keeping your own."

chipping their pets, so they can be identified if they are ever brought into HCAC.

"We also accept donations at the facility," she added.

DONATIONS

The following items are currently needed at the Hood County Animal Shelter:

Pet Supplies
Kitten food – Purina Kitten Chow
Cat litter
Cat toys
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Pedigree dog food
Collars
Leashes
Stainless steel bowls
Towels
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Cleaning supplies

Bleach
Paper towels
Clorox wipes
Hand sanitizer
Laundry soap
Clorox spray

ADOPTION

The HCAC is located at 1550 Weatherford Highway. The facility is open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. the first Saturday of every month.

"Anytime we are open,



we are open for adoptions," McNab said. "We also try having additional adoption events on different weekends throughout the month. These adoption events are ei-

ther at the facility or at local businesses."

For more information on the Hood County Animal Control, call 817-573-4277.

"We feel defeated and can't

do this without your help," McNab added. "Even one dog adopted is a life saved."

ashley@hcnews.com / 817-573-1243



PHOTOS BY MARY VINSON | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Animals waited in eager anticipation to see if they were going to be adopted by a new family during Hood County Animal Control's adoption event on Saturday, July 8.

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5080
Child Care

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL
NOW ENROLLING Infants - Pre K
817-573-7298
fumgranbury.org

5090
Cleaning Services

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

5100
Computer Services

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

5120
Clock Repair

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

5140
Electrical

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

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

5170
Fencing

MAX-FENCING
All Types of Fence
Ornamental. Iron. Pipe. Wood. Privacy. Chain Link. Farm. Barb Wire. Non-Climb Fence. RV Covers. Metal Buildings. Pipe Fence. Carports. Welding Service. Dock Repairs. Free Estimates. (817)559-2333
maxjuarez2018@gmail.com

SHORT CUT Lawn Care Service

www.hcnews.com

LIVESTOCK & PETS

8010
Livestock

Eggs, chickens, roosters and lots of pullets for sale. (817)964-9065, 3800 Paluxy Hwy, Granbury.

8030
Pets



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



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

8040
Pets Lost & Found

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

EMPLOYMENT

8510
General

EDUCATION - CREATIONS CHILD CARE Now hiring fun, loving, reliable teachers. Must have High School diploma or equivalent. (817) 573-2808 GRANBURY.CREATIONS@GMAIL.COM

- EXPERIENCED POOL CLEANING TECH C & C Pool Service is currently looking for an experienced pool cleaning tech. Will consider training the right person but prefer experienced. 4 day work week, 12 pools per day. Top pay for right individual. Must have own transportation. If interested please call Holli at 432-288-5574 (432) 288-5574

GUTTER INSTALLERS
Must have current DL.
Experience preferred.
Immediate openings available.
Call: (817) 243-6560

WE'RE HIRING!
MINERAL WELLS AND SURROUNDING AREA POSITION

Santo Propane is looking for a full-time propane delivery route driver for our Mineral Wells and surrounding service area.

Basic duties include delivering propane to residential and commercial customers in a safe and efficient manner; while also maintaining records with regulations and company procedures.

Candidate should possess a Class A CDL License, Tanker Endorsement, Hazmat Materials Endorsement and be able to pass a drug screen. (Railroad Commission License would be a plus!)

Please contact 254-646-2237 for more information regarding this position. You may also come by our Lipan or Granbury location to fill out an application.

You can email completed application and resume to the following email: monty@santopropane.com

The City of Granbury has Full Time open positions for Senior Planner, First Class Lineman, Parks Laborer, Utility Equipment Operator, Utility Line Locator, Light Equipment Operator, Water Plant Operator. The city offers a competitive starting salary, depending on qualifications and experience, and a full range of leave and insurance benefits. The city participates in the Texas Municipal Retirement System at a 7% employee deposit rate with a city matching ratio of 2:1. A detailed job description and employment application can be found at www.granbury.org or 116 W Bridge St, Granbury, TX. EOE

Needing gutter installer or helper for local seamless gutter company. 817-994-8778.

Electrician helper with experience needed part time, possibly full time. Hand tools required. 817-894-1961.

8510
General

HELP WANTED



GRANBURY Crew Members \$14/HR

Flexible schedule hours between 10am - 10pm

Start a career with DQ TODAY!

APPLY ONLINE:
www.richesondq.com

WE'RE HIRING!
GRANBURY AND SURROUNDING AREA POSITION

Santo Propane is looking for a full-time propane delivery route driver for our Granbury and surrounding service area.

Basic duties include delivering propane to residential and commercial customers in a safe and efficient manner; while also maintaining records with regulations and company procedures.

Candidate should possess a Class A CDL License, Tanker Endorsement, Hazmat Materials Endorsement and be able to pass a drug screen. (Railroad Commission License would be a plus!)


Please contact 254-646-2237 for more information regarding this position. You may also come by our Lipan or Granbury location to fill out an application.

You can email completed application and resume to the following email: monty@santopropane.com

8540
Medical/Dental

NOW HIRING

Charge Nurse LVN / RN
Certified Medication Aide
Certified Nurse Aide

EEOC kamii_minchew@csnhc.com
Come be a part of a caring team where the residents come first!
301 S. Park St • 817-573-3726
Granbury, Texas

8560
Professional

AGRICULTURE/FORESTRY/FISHING - WILDLIFE CONSULTANT
Large Hood County Ranch searching for Wildlife Consultant. Includes deer, fish, dove, ducks, different types of birds, and interesting grass and flowers. Qualified and interested applicants, please send resume and references to roranchemail@yahoo.com

North Central Texas Academy is seeking chemistry/math teacher, assistant volleyball coach and assistant basketball coach. Full and part time positions available.
Apply at <https://www.northcentralexasacademy.org/about-hhfa/employment/teacher-application/>

8570
Sales
Impressionistic Fine Artist Sales Representative needed. Part time marketing of original oil paintings. Commission based pay. Call cell 831-238-0419.

Deliver your ads to thousands twice a week!

Advertise in the Classifieds!
Hood County News
817-573-7066

8510
General

NOTICES

9020
Free
JUNK REMOVAL We haul your clutter off. Appliance removal to entire house cleanouts. Reasonable rates and fast service. (817) 578-5510

9031
Public Notices

LEGAL AD
Hood County Commissioners' Court has received an application to consider a revision of the plat for:
VISTA OAKS, PHASE 2, LOT 18R

The Hood County Commissioners' Court will meet to consider the application and to hear any protest to the revision on Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, at 9 a.m. in the Central Jury Room of the Ralph H. Walton Jr. Justice Center, 1200 West Pearl Street, Granbury, Texas 76048.

Application has been made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate by Fuego Mexican Restaurant LLC dba Fuego Mexican Restaurant located at 1030 E US Hwy 377 #100, Granbury, Hood County, Texas. Managing Member of said LLC is Alexis Montoya.

Invitation to Bid
The City of Granbury is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified vendors for a Service Contract on Chlorine Dioxide System & Purchase of Sodium Chlorite for the Granbury Water Treatment Plant. Sealed proposals must be received no later than 2:00pm Central Standard Time on Tuesday, July 25th, 2023, at the following address: City of Granbury Municipal Service Center
Attn: Purchasing Department/Christy Russell
"RFP NO. 22-23-17 Service Contract on Chlorine Dioxide System & Purchase of Sodium Chlorite"
401 N. Park Street
Granbury, TX 76048
Any proposals received after the closing date and hour will not be accepted and will be returned. The City reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals.
Specific information regarding this Bid shall be requested from Christy Russell, Purchasing Manager, at 817-570-7030 or crussell@granbury.org. The documents may be obtained from the City of Granbury website or by emailing the purchasing department at purchasing@granbury.org starting on Monday July 10, 2023 at 1:00pm.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Sandra Lea Ledbetter, Deceased, were issued on June 29, 2023, in Cause No. P10058, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Lonnie K. Ledbetter, Jr.
The residence of Lonnie K. Ledbetter, Jr. is Granbury, Hood County, Texas. The post office address is: Lonnie K. Ledbetter, Jr. c/o Christopher M. Deskin 2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600 Dallas, Texas 75201
All persons having claims against this Estate which are currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED THE 6th day of July, 2023.
Lonnie K. Ledbetter, Jr.
Independent Executor of Estate of Sandra Lea Ledbetter, Deceased
FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Christopher M. Deskin
2021 McKinney Avenue, Suite 1600 Dallas, Texas 75201
214-999-4731 (telephone)
214-999-4667 (teletype)
cdeskin@foley.com (e-mail)

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE RETAILER'S OFF-PREMISE PERMIT by RICHARD TARNOFF dba LET IT BRIE, to be located at 2441 E HWY 377, SUITE 107, GRANBURY, HOOD, Texas. OWNER is RICHARD TARNOFF.

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Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Linda Michlik, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, under Cause No. P10008, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to Kristina Lynn Gesell.
Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for Kristina Lynn Gesell, addressed as follows:
Kristina Lynn Gesell, Independent Administrator Estate of Linda Michlik, Deceased c/o Brent Kiel 508 N. Ridgeway Cleburne, Texas 76033
All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Dated July 7, 2023.
Cain & Kiel, PC
By: Brent Kiel,
Attorney for Kristina Lynn Gesell

ORDINANCE NO. 23-43
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, AMENDING THE GENERAL FUND FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-44
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit on the property located on an approximate 0.241 acre tract of land described as Part of the West ½ Block 57, Thrash Addition City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, addressed as 125 S. Travis St. and located in the R-7 Single Family Residential Zoned District.

The Specific Use Permit shall be issued to allow for "Short-term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted", as defined by the City of Granbury Zoning Ordinance under the following terms and conditions:

1. The Specific Use Permit shall automatically expire 5 years from City Council approval (July 5, 2028).
2. Except as required by these conditions, the site shall conform to the site plan (Exhibit A) and the floor plan (Exhibit B).
3. Prior to issuance of a short-term rental permit, low height shrubs to provide parking headlight "sweep" screening shall be installed along the south side of the driveway.
4. The short term rental shall be limited to not more than 2 bedrooms.
5. Except as provided in these conditions, the Specific Use Permit shall be subject to the Supplemental Standards as contained in the Zoning Ordinance.
6. This Specific Use Permit is subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master Fee Schedule.
7. Any violation of the supplemental land use standards or terms and conditions stipulated in the SUP may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

SECTION 6.

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY MCCROCKLIN, Deceased, were issued on June 14, 2023, in Cause No. P10042, pending in the County Court-at-Law of Hood County, Texas, to: ANNE MARIE MEYER and SHARON KAY PELOSO.

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: Reagan M. Smith
Attorney at Law
417 W. Main Street
Waxahachie, TX 75165
DATED THE 14TH day of JUNE, 2023.
/s/ Reagan M. Smith
Reagan M. Smith
Attorney for ANNE MARIE MEYER and SHARON KAY PELOSO
State Bar No.: 24119094
417 W. Main Street
Waxahachie, TX 75165
Telephone: (214) 446-5080
Facsimile: (214) 446-5081
E-mail: reagan@thehalawfirm.com

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Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-45
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit (SUP) on the property located on an approximate 0.345 acre tract of land described in Exhibit 'A', City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas, addressed as 210 W. Lambert St., and located in the R-7 Single Family Residential Zoned District.

The Specific Use Permit (SUP) shall be issued to allow for Short-term Rental (STR) Residential Unhosted", as defined by the City of Granbury Zoning Ordinance under the following terms and conditions:

8. The Specific Use Permit shall automatically expire 5 years from City Council approval (July 5, 2028).
9. Except as required by these conditions, the site shall conform to the site plan (Exhibit B) and the floor plan (Exhibit C).
10. Prior to issuance of a short-term rental permit, low height shrubs to provide parking headlight "sweep" screening shall be installed along the north side of the driveway.
11. The short term rental shall be limited to not more than 2 bedrooms.
12. Except as provided in these conditions, the Specific Use Permit shall be subject to the Supplemental Standards as contained in the Zoning Ordinance.
13. This Specific Use Permit is subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master Fee Schedule.
14. Any violation of the supplemental land use standards or terms and conditions stipulated in the SUP may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

SECTION 6.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 23-46

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, AS AMENDED, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY GRANTING A SPECIFIC USE PERMIT FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

SECTION 1.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by granting a Specific Use Permit (SUP) on the property located on an approximate 0.45 acre tract of land described as the South half of the West half of Lot 3, Block 36 Thrash Addition, City of Granbury, Hood County Texas, addressed as 520 W. Bluff St., and located in the R-7 Single Family Residential Zoning District. The Specific Use Permit (SUP) shall be issued to allow for 'Short-term Rental, (STR) Unhosted', as defined in the City of Granbury Zoning Ordinance under the following conditions:

1. The Specific Use Permit shall automatically expire 1 year from City Council approval (July 5, 2024).
2. Except as required by these conditions, the site shall conform to the site plan (Exhibit A) and the floor plan (Exhibit B).
3. The short term rental shall be limited to not more than 3 bedrooms.
4. Except as provided in these conditions, the Specific Use Permit shall be subject to the Supplemental Standards as contained in the Zoning Ordinance.
5. This Specific Use Permit is subject to all other City Code requirements, permits, periodic inspections; and an inspection fee as established in the City's Master Fee Schedule.
6. Any violation of the supplemental land use standards or terms and conditions stipulated in the SUP may be deemed in violation of the zoning ordinance and the Specific Use Permit may become null and void and/or the Certificate of Occupancy may be revoked.

SECTION 6.

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

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Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 23-47
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 16-50 WHICH ADOPTED THE 2016 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS; BY AMENDING THE MAP OF THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN [FLUP], CONTAINED WITHIN THE 2016 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR CERTAIN AREAS WITHIN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE MAP OF THE FUTURE LAND USE PLAN IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

ORDINANCE NO. 23-48

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 01-819, THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRANBURY, TEXAS, BY CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF GRANBURY; REVISING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE OF ALL ORDINANCES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ordinance No. 01-819, as amended, is hereby amended by rezoning the hereinafter property and area; described as a 0.33 acre tract of land described as Lot 2, Block 1 Larned Addition, addressed as 1600 W. Pearl St., in City of Granbury, Hood County, Texas:

From Business Commercial [BC] to Light Commercial [LC]

SECTION 6.

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

These ordinances are on file in the Office of the City Secretary, 116 W Bridge St. and can be seen in its entirety during normal business hours.

Application has been made for a Private Club Registration Permit for Starr Hollow Private Club, Inc., a domestic non-profit corporation doing business as Starr Hollow Club, located at 5717 Starr Hollow Court, east side, 8 miles north Int. Hwy. 377 and Hwy. 201, Tolar, Hood County, Texas, Martha V. Leonard, President, Madelon L. Bradshaw, Vice President, and John H. Maddux, Secretary. Said application has been made to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
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 11:00 A.M. on August 1, 2023. 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: Stephanie Liming- golf clubs, chairs, boxes

Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury
817-573-2416

Granbury Independent School District is soliciting proposals 2023-16 for Library Books, eBooks, and Online Subscriptions as well as 2023-17 for CTE Instructional Supplies.

Bid proposals are available online on <https://granbury.ionwave.net>. The bids are open immediately and will close July 27th, 2023.
Please contact purchasing manager Houcine Chraïbi or purchasing assistant Bradee Watson with any questions at (817) 408-4087.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS:
To all persons interested in the Estate of JOEL EMERY SMITH, Cause No. P10117, County Court, Hood County, Texas.

MARY ELIZABETH SMITH filed in the County Court of Hood County, Texas on the 10th day of July 2023, an APPLICATION FOR DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP to declare who are the heirs and only heirs of JOEL EMERY SMITH, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in this Estate. Said Application can be heard and acted on by said Court at 10 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the Hood County Courthouse in Granbury, Texas. All persons interested in said Estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such Application should they desire to do so. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL of said Court at office in Granbury, Texas, this the 10th day of July 2023.
Katie Lang
Hood County Clerk
By /s/CHRISTINE LEDERMANN, Deputy Clerk

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Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JONATHAN MARK STICKLAND, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. PI0005, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: JONATHAN SPENCE STICKLAND.

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 28th day of June, 2023.
Attorney for Jonathan Spence Stickland
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LYNELLE MARTIN CLAXTON, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. PI 0050, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: DEBRA ROYALL.

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 28th day of June, 2023.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Debra Royall
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of WILLIAM DEAN HAGAN, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. P10048, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: GRETCHEN RAE KING.

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 28th day of June, 2023.
Steven G. Kuban
Attorney for Gretchen Rae King
State Bar No.: 24078807
107 E. Pearl St.
Granbury, Texas 76048
Telephone: (817) 573-8872
Facsimile: (817) 579-1651
E-mail: skuban@kubanfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard Jack Briscoe, Deceased, were granted on May 10, 2023, in Cause No. PI 0039, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Cathey B. Briscoe.

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

DATED the 10th day of May 2023.
The Reid Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Cathey B. Briscoe
By: /s/ Samuel I. Reid
Steven J. Reid
State Bar No.: 16747900
Samuel I. Reid
State Bar No.: 24105702
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
Telephone: (817) 573-3718
Facsimile: (817) 573-9732
E-mail: steve@reidfirm.com
samuel@reidfirm.com

Request for Qualifications
The City of Granbury is requesting Statements of Qualification (SOQ) from professional firms for the purpose of providing Sewer Collection System Smoke Testing Services. Submission is due by 2:00pm Central Standard Time on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at the following address:
City of Granbury Municipal Service Center
Attn: Purchasing Department/ Christy Russell
"RFP NO. 22-23-18 sewer Collection System Smoke Testing Services"
401 N. Park Street
Granbury, TX 76048
Inquiries regarding this RFQ should be directed to Purchasing Manager, at 817-570-7030 or crussell@granbury.org. The documents may be obtained from the City of Granbury website or by emailing the purchasing department at purchasing@granbury.org starting on Monday July 17, 2023, at 1:00pm.

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 11:00 A.M. on July 25, 2023. 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: Jonathan Davis- totes, luggage

Contact Guardbox Storage-Granbury
817-573-2416

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Public Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Richard C. Dickerson, Deceased, were granted on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. P 10077, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Ashley Gomez and Cody Dickerson.

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: Samuel I. Reid
Attorney at Law
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
DATED the 29th day of June 2023.
The Reid Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Ashley Gomez and Cody Dickerson
By: /s/ Samuel I. Reid
Steven J. Reid
State Bar No.: 16747900
Samuel I. Reid
State Bar No.: 24105702
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
Telephone: (817) 573-3718
Facsimile: (817) 573-9732
E-mail: steve@reidfirm.com
samuel@reidfirm.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Clarence M. Garland, Deceased, were granted on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. P 10083, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Guy Garland.

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: Samuel I. Reid
Attorney at Law
1840 Acton Highway
Granbury, TX 76049
DATED the 29th day of June 2023.
The Reid Firm, P.C.
Attorneys for Guy Garland
By: /s/ Samuel I. Reid
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
for setting Certain Salaries by 355th Judicial District Judge: Hon. Bryan Bufkin, 355th Judicial District Court Judge, will hold a public hearing at 8:30 am, Wednesday, August 2, 2023 in the 355th District Courtroom of the Hood County Justice Center, 1200 W. Pearl Street, Granbury TX 76048, for Setting Salaries of the Hood County Auditor and Assistant Auditors, the Bailiff and Court Reporter for the 355th Judicial District Court, and the Court Coordinator and Assistant Court Coordinator for the 355th Judicial District Court, for the 2024 fiscal year. (ref: Local Government Code 152.905; Government Code 53.009; and Government Code 74.104).

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Pamela Kay Emeigh, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. P10068, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Darlene Desroches.

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: E. Mark Piland
Attorney at Law
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
DATED the 12 day of July, 2023.
/s/ E. Mark Piland
E. Mark Piland
Attorney for Darlene Desroches
State Bar No.: 16008870
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
Telephone: (817) 579-0207
Facsimile: (866) 406-4629
E-mail: markpiland@pilandlaw.com

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Harold Lee Russell, Deceased, were issued on June 28, 2023, in Cause No. P10065, pending in the County Court of Hood County, Texas, to: Patsy Russell.

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: E. Mark Piland
Attorney at Law
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
DATED the 12 day of July, 2023.
/s/ E. Mark Piland
E. Mark Piland
Attorney for Patsy Russell
State Bar No.: 16008870
1107 W. Pearl St, Ste 101
Granbury, TX 76048
Telephone: (817) 579-0207
Facsimile: (866) 406-4629
E-mail: markpiland@pilandlaw.com

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Granbury 76048

Garage Sales 76048

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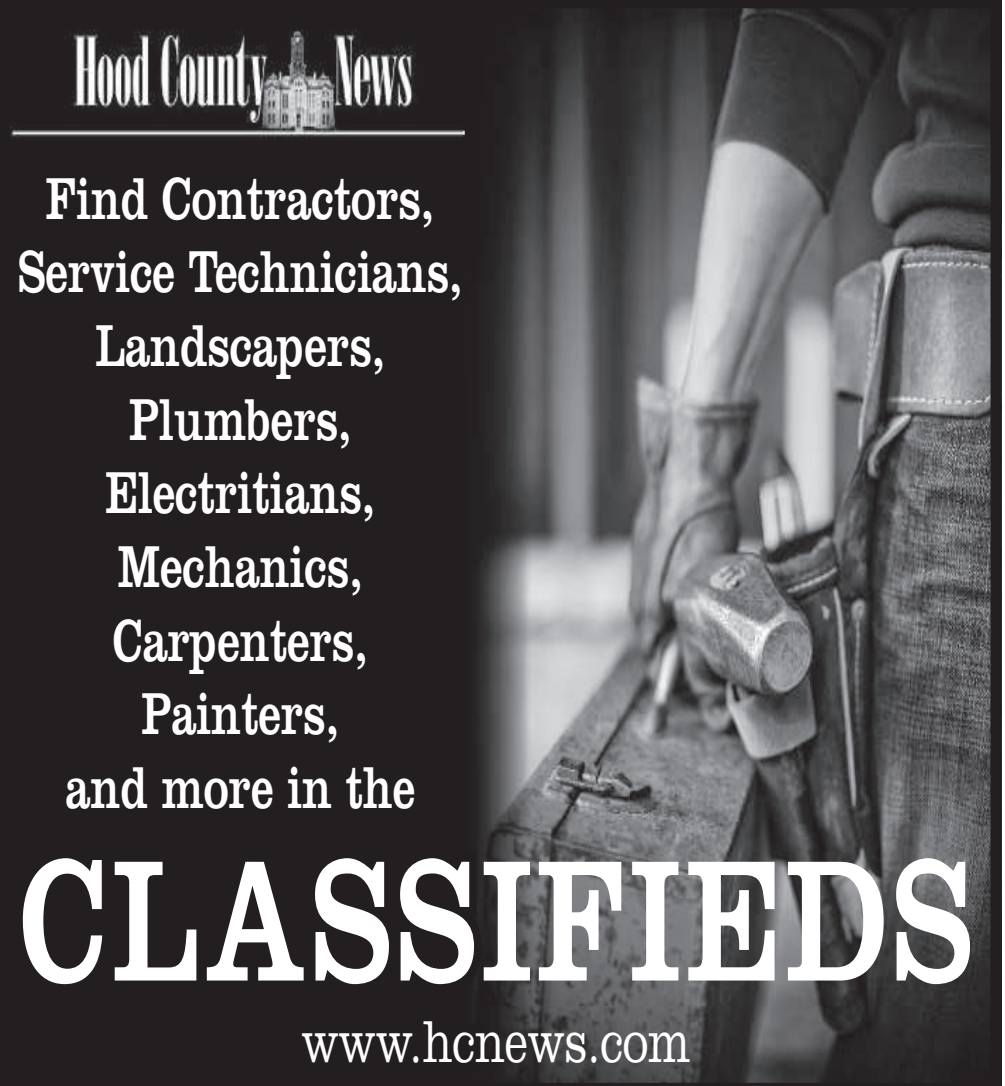
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Sat. 10am - 4pm
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Granbury 76049

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ESTATE SALE X 2 BY CARING TRANSITIONS: DECORDOVA 4207 & 4301 Cimmaron Trail- NEXT WEEKEND, 7/20-22. Heywood Wakefield, Lane Acclaim, John Deere toys, La-Z-Boy, Kimball Piano, Silvestri accordion, Roseville, Goebel, Pickard & Furnivals china, Craftsman tools. Photos at estatesales.net. 12p-5p THR 9a-4p FRI 9a-1p SAT



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EVENTS

NARO – National Association of Royalty Owners Convention, July 26-29, San Antonio, Learn How To Better Manage Your Minerals. Over 19 sessions: ‘Mineral Law 101’, ‘How To Read Surveys & Plats’, ‘Property Transfers & Estate Planning’, ‘Operators: Friends or Enemies?’ Register online: WWW.NARO-US.ORG/EVENT-5151387. Call to register: (918) 794-1660.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

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● Mission Granbury's Food Pantry provides supplemental groceries for approximately 200 individuals of which 30% are children.

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Cruise on thru for vehicle registration

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

A drive-thru vehicle registration is now up and running in Granbury.

The opening of the window took place on June 26.

Services offered at the drive-thru include not only vehicle registration, but also plate and sticker replacements and handicap placards.

"We are extremely excited about the new drive through window; we are still trying to get the word out to the public about it being open. Every customer that has utilized it has expressed that they are thrilled that it is available," Andrea Ferguson Hood County Tax Assessor-Collector said.

On May 24, 2022, the Hood County

Commissioners Court approved the new window for the Tax Assessor-Collector's office.

The window is located between Annex 1 located at 1410 W. Pearl St and Annex 3 at 1414 W. Pearl St. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with an hour close from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

70th Wedding Anniversary



COURTESY PHOTOS

Pictured from left are Wanda and Loyd Nail.

Submitted item

Loyd and Wanda Nail celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary recently.

They met at Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie. Little did they realize the journey God had planned for them, but both of them were vigorous and ready for life.

Wanda transferred from S.A.G.V. to Texas Wesleyan University in Ft. Worth. After earning her Bachelor of Science degree, she took a job in Ft. Worth ISD as a 5th grade teacher. She taught for 30 years at Meadowbrook and Eastern Hills Elementary Schools.

Loyd earned a degree in theology from S.A.G.V. He then transferred to Texas Wesleyan. After graduation he too got a job with the Ft. Worth ISD at Riverside Middle School. He spent his entire teaching career there.

During the late 50s, Loyd

and Wanda taught school, pastored a church near Mineral Wells and worked on their master's degree. At this same time, they were working toward building a church in east Ft. Worth. When it was completed, they gave up the pastorate of the church near Mineral Wells.

Loyd built on to the house they had bought, and they adopted a precious baby girl, Wanda Beth. She has given them two wonderful grandchildren. Michaela Beth Jackson and Spencer Henderson. Beth earned her bachelor's degree, you

guessed it, from Texas Wesleyan University. She and her children are the joy of their lives.

After building two more homes in Ft. Worth, they decided to retire from teaching. Wanda had served as delegate to the Texas State Teachers Association Convention, advisor to three colleges and representative of the Ft. Worth teachers.

After retirement Wanda took a teaching position at Tarrant County College (NE) campus. This was one of the most fulfilling experiences. She taught in the adult education department. Some of the most interesting people are there. One was a cruise ship captain. He took her class two times.

Wanda served as secretary of the Adult Education Department but gave it up when she and Loyd moved to Granbury.

Since moving to Granbury in 1995, she has taught in three different churches. Loyd was right in there and retired when Wanda did. He started looking for a place to build in Granbury. He had pastored five years and served as associate pastor at Grace Temple in south Ft. Worth for 11 years. Now was retirement time. Their home in Granbury was their last one. They've lived there 28 years.

They now drive to Tolar to be part of Elm Grove Assemblies of God Church. You guessed it, he is associate pastor for this loving group of people. Only recently did he and Wanda give up their teaching positions.

Wanda says it makes her dizzy to think back over their married life, and just think they managed to visit over 80 countries while they were busy with all this!



Pictured from left are Wanda and Loyd Nail.

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

Brookshire's sells pharmacy business to Walgreens



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictures is one of the many Brookshire Grocery Co. storefronts.

From Staff Reports

A big change is coming for Brookshire Grocery Co. (BGC). The Texas-based grocery retailer announced on Tuesday that Walgreens will soon acquire all of BGC's 120 pharmacies in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, which includes pharmacy customer prescription files and related pharmacy inventory. Most of these locations will be converted to Walgreens pharmacies that will operate inside BGC's stores.

"We are excited to take this next step with Walgreens to strengthen our pharmacies and further our commitment to our employee-partners and customers that make up our BGC family," said Brad Brookshire, chairman and CEO of Brookshire Grocery Co. "The pharmacy industry has become increasingly complex over the past few years, and it was important to us to find a business leader that has the capabilities to focus

on providing exceptional pharmacy services and value to our customers."

Eligible BGC pharmacy employees are being offered employment opportunities with Walgreens. In addition, pharmacy customers do not need to take any action for their prescriptions to be transferred over, as customers' prescriptions will transfer to Walgreens automatically. Customers will also receive a notification in the mail along with details

about their prescriptions.

"Walgreens has a long history of serving communities throughout the U.S., and we look forward to providing BGC's customers with greater access to a wide range of trusted pharmacy and healthcare services," said Brad Ulrich, vice president of pharmacy and retail operations for Walgreens. "Our pharmacists are playing a critical role in healthcare today, and we truly value the importance of the pharma-

cist-patient relationship. As part of our commitment to ensuring a seamless transition, we're excited to also be providing employment opportunities for BGC's existing pharmacy staff."

As part of the agreement, a select few pharmacy locations will close, and those patient files will transfer to either another in-store pharmacy at BGC's or a

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OBITUARIES

Janie Lee Walker

September 12, 1949 - July 5, 2023

Janie Lee Walker, 73, of Granbury, Texas, passed away on July 5, 2023, at home with family by her side.

Janie was born on September 12, 1949, to Guy Settimio and Dorothy Mae Hayworth in Amarillo, Texas. From a young age, Janie was a dedicated disciple of Christ, never missing the opportunity to attend church services, with her younger sister in tow. After graduating from Rantoul Township High School in Rantoul, Illinois in 1967, Janie worked for various employers as a secretary while devoting her life to family and the service of her faith community.

Many in the community will remember Janie for her tireless service with Celebrate Recovery, the Jail Ministry, Woman's Workforce Center, Bible Readings on the Square, and many other outreach services. In addition, Janie helped organize the Paluxy Baptist Association (PBA) annual Women's Gathering and was the Director of the Woman's Missionary Union for PBA. She answered the call to the mission field in South America.

In 2015, after 15 years of service, Janie retired from employment as the Ministry Assistant with the PBA in Granbury to spend time with her children and grandchildren. But she continued her life's work, serving her Lord and Savior, until the end. Janie is remembered and loved by



countless individuals who were touched by her prayers.

Janie was predeceased by her father, Guy Settimio. She is survived by daughter Rebekah Legan and husband James, son Joshua Walker and wife Leighann, sons Jeff Walker and Cody Walker, grandchildren Kayman, Jayda, Luke, Kymber, Brooklyn, Allison, and Lincoln, mother Dorothy Boynton, sister Kathy Carey, niece Valerie Hesters and husband Bryan and their daughter Felicity, nephew Taylor Carey, and many cousins and extended family members. Janie was a cherished mother, daughter, sister, and aunt.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at Mambrino Baptist Church, 1625 Mambrino Highway, on July 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the mission family of Aron and Camille Landis through giving.lovefortheeast.org, a cause Janie herself supported and felt strongly about.

Wesley Gilbert

June 13, 1936 - July 5, 2023

Wesley Gilbert, 87, passed away on July 5, 2023, in Granbury, TX.

Wes was born on June 13, 1936 in Fort Worth, to Herman Gilbert and Faye Walker. He served in the Coast Guard from 1954-1958 and was stationed in Mobile, Alabama. During that time he met Barbara, and in June 1957, they married. The couple had four boys, Tony, Steve, Chuck and Jody.

When they returned to Fort Worth, Wes went to work for Lennox HVAC. He then went on to be the Special Events Manager for the Dr. Pepper Bottling Company for 17 years. With his outgoing personality and love of talking and telling stories, Wes was in his element, working all of the rodeos, Shriner circuses, and other events at the Will Rogers Coliseum.

In 1975, Wes and Barbara moved the family to Granbury and bought the Peppermint House Day-care. They are still loved and remembered by hundreds of kids that grew up there, many of whom had their own children attend the Peppermint House too. Whether it was Peppermint House Kids, or the numer-



ous friends of their four boys, their home was always filled with life, food and laughter.

In retirement, Wes and Barbara enjoyed spending their time traveling in an RV and selling western goods at rodeos and flea markets.

Always one to work and provide, Wes later worked with his son Jody at Dealer Products in the metroplex.

Wes is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, and their sons Tony Gilbert, Steve Gilbert, Chuck Gilbert and wife Cindy, and Jody Gilbert and wife Jennifer.

His legacy also includes being a wonderful Papa to nine grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

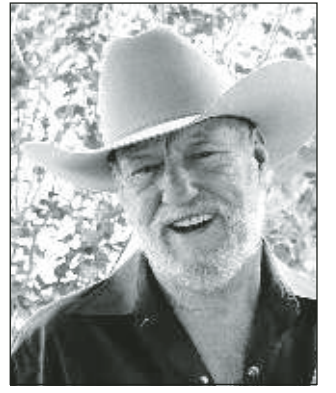
Charles Wayne Sims

December 10, 1958 - July 7, 2023

Graveside service for Charles Wayne Sims, 64, of Granbury was conducted at 10:00 a.m., Friday, July 14, 2023 in Baker-Lain Cemetery. Visitation was held 6-8:00 p.m., Thursday, July 13, 2023 at the funeral home. Pallbearers were Jered Sims, Casey Mathis, Brian West, Wayland Sims, Jaxen Johnson and James Solley.

Charles passed away Friday, July 7, 2023 in Granbury. He was born December 10, 1958 in Fort Worth to Wayland Carlis and Laura Mozelle (Hutton) Sims. He married Eileen Muth on October 1, 1988 in Fort Worth. Charles was an avid gardener who loved music and to ride his Harley. He loved his family dearly. Charles will be greatly missed.

Charles is survived by his wife, Eileen Sims; daughter, Rachelle Johnson and husband, Lonnie;



grandchildren, Sabra Solley and husband, James, Madelyn Sims and Jaxen Johnson; sisters, Sherrie West and husband, Ray, Darlene Mathis and husband, Charlie; brother, Wendell Sims; brother in law, Doug Lain and a whole list of nephews and nieces, and other family and friends that he dearly loved.

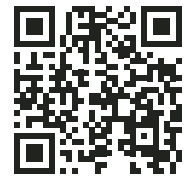
Charles is preceded in death by his parents; his only son, Cody Dylan Sims and sister, Reta Lain.

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. Monday for the Wednesday paper, and 10 a.m. Wednesday for the Saturday paper. Deadlines are subject to change during holidays.



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ACROSS

- album by Texas group "ZZ Top": "Hombres"
- sharpen
- TXism: "___ bien" (good)
- TX Sam Rayburn was a 24-___ congressman
- this Moe was TCU basketball coach (1987-94)
- pamper place
- Panna ____, Texas
- "masticates," if you wanna get fancy
- Ector County seat in Hidalgo County on highway 107
- TXism: "___ a junkyard dog"
- "foun__ _" wrote years ago
- you can ___ free 72-ounce steak at the "Big Texan"
- this Carter founded the "Fort Worth Star-Telegram"
- Morton Salt is doing this in Grand Saline, Texas
- TXism: "got tumbledweed blood in his veins"
- "don't ___" (don't annoy)
- TXism: "high ___" (costly)
- TXism: "___ your lip" (___ up)
- San Saba, TX: "The ___ of this county"
- TXism: "___ Catholic?" (yes)
- natural skill, aptitude
- Mule ____, Texas
- do the butterfly or backstroke
- can order it sweet in Texas cafes (2 wds.)
- oil or gas additive
- Vice President, TX John, said his job "___ worth a bucket of warm spit"
- TX Mary Kay ___ of a cosmetics empire
- dad's mate
- TXism: "short as ___ memory"
- 500 sheets of paper
- "there ___ such thing as a free lunch"
- TXism: "tough ___ old boot"
- Texas has 14 of these appellate courts (abbr.)
- TXism: "old ___ sin"
- morning time (abbr.)
- pen tip
- TXism: "mosey ___ to the trough" (join in)
- foolish or gullible people
- TXism: "can't make this on a boat ___ ear"
- in Collin County on U.S. 75
- a rope is tied to this on a boat
- TXism for "relatives"
- ___ Colony, Texas
- ___ Jo, Texas (abbr.)
- hires
- sole apiary regulator in Texas (abbr.)
- Livingston is the seat of this county

DOWN

- Texas-connected Jimmy Webb wrote "By ___ Phoenix"
- in Falls County on U.S. 77
- front door, e.g.
- where two pieces of fabric are sewn
- TXism: "hobble your lip" (___ up)
- San Saba, TX: "The ___ of this county"
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- hires
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- Livingston is the seat of this county

Retired? Consider benefits of part-time work

TAYLOR MOBLY
Edward Jones
Financial Adviser

After spending decades in the workforce, you might look forward to the day you retire. But if you decide, for one reason or another, that you'd like to redefine "retirement" to include part-time work or consulting, you could enjoy exercising your skills and meeting new people. But you can also receive some key financial benefits.

Specifically, bringing in some paychecks in your retirement can help you in these areas:

- CONTRIBUTE MORE TO YOUR IRA**
During your working years, you may have contributed regularly to an IRA, but once you retired, you might have thought those days were over. But there's no age limit - if you have any earned income, you can contribute to an IRA and boost the financial resources you have available for retirement.
- LOWER YOUR WITHDRAWAL RATE**
Once you're retired, you will likely need to rely on

CONTRIBUTE MORE TO YOUR IRA
During your working years, you may have contributed regularly to an IRA, but once you retired, you might have thought those days were over. But there's no age limit - if you have any earned income, you can contribute to an IRA and boost the financial resources you have available for retirement.

LOWER YOUR WITHDRAWAL RATE
Once you're retired, you will likely need to rely on

your investment portfolio to provide you with some - or maybe most - of your income. Consequently, you'll need to establish an appropriate withdrawal rate - a percentage of your portfolio that you can take out each year without running the risk of potentially outliving your money. Income from part-time work or consulting may lower your dependency on investment income, thereby reducing your annual withdrawal rate and extending the overall longevity of your investment portfolio.

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When you invest in a 529

education savings plan, the earnings and withdrawals are federally tax-free, provided the money is used for qualified education expenses. As a grandparent, you can contribute to a 529 plan with your grandchildren as beneficiaries. And a 529 plan can be used for more than college - it can fund some programs at trade schools and K-12 expenses in some states. So, by putting some of your earned income to work in a 529 plan, you can help improve your grandchildren's prospects.

REDUCE YOUR DEBTS
By the time you reach retirement, you may or may not

have retired your mortgage, but you might have other debts on your books. If you can apply some of your earned income to these debts, you can improve your cash flow and possibly avoid dipping into your retirement accounts for short-term needs.

Of course, you'll also have to consider some issues if you end up working in retirement, particularly if you bring in a sizable amount of money. For example, if you're earning income and collecting Social Security before you reach your "full" retirement age - which is likely between 66 and 67 - your monthly benefits will be reduced. (However, these

"lost" benefits will be restored once you do reach your full retirement age.) Also, the added income could push you into a higher tax bracket or even cause you to pay the Medicare premium surcharge or the 3.8% surtax on net investment income if your income reaches certain levels. So, before embarking on any employment that may yield a large additional income, consult with your tax advisor.

Overall, though, the financial benefits of part-time employment income during your retirement years may be worth it - so give some thought to "unretiring."

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

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 Hwy, Granbury.

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

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

EVERY SUNDAY
STARTING A New Life is a grief support group for those who have lost a loved one through death. This includes the loss of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, or close friend. For the past 26 years this group has helped people work through their grief process. If you, or someone

you know, is suffering from the loss of a loved one, come or bring them to our next session that began March 19, 2023. We are Christian based, nondenominational, and welcome all who are suffering. We meet 3-5 p.m. on Sundays in the Parish Hall of St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church. For more information, call Ben Bradley at: 575.706.5703 or Sherry Bingham 817.657.0822

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

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

GRIEF SHARE 14-WEEK seminar Sept 13 - Dec. 13, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Presented by StoneWater Church, Granbury, this program is a support group designed to help rebuild lives. Book for course, \$20, "Finding hope after the loss of a loved one." Register: GriefShare.StoneWaterChurch.com or call 817-579-9175.

AMATEUR RADIO Weekly Social Hour Net. All licensed Amateur Radio Operators welcome. 7:00 pm, on the 147.240 MHz Repeater, +600 offset, PL 162.2.

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.

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

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

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 SATURDAY
GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 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.

WAMS (WESTERN Area Modeling Society) radio control club meets at 6:30 p.m. at Spring Creek BBQ, 317 W US Hwy 377. R/C aircraft, cars,

boats, gliders, helicopters, etc. Details: 817-475-2194

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 and their families wanting to understand more about this disease. Details: 817-999-1470.

FOURTH SATURDAY
GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 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.



COURTESY PHOTO

Pictured is the inside of a Brookshire Grocery Co. pharmacy.

BROOKSHIRE'S

FROM PAGE A12
 nearby Walgreens retail pharmacy. Customers of these closing locations will be notified, and prescription files will transfer automatically in the coming weeks to nearby

Walgreens or BGC in-store pharmacy locations. BGC and Walgreens are also committed to finding employment opportunities for substantially all eligible pharmacy employee-partners in other BGC or Walgreens locations. BGC will continue to operate and

invest in its retail grocery business in its more than 205 stores located across Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Together with its dedicated employee-partners, BGC will remain focused on its vision of being the premier regional grocery retailer in the markets it serves. "My grandfather laid the founda-

tion for our core values in 1928 which continue to be supported by our team providing excellent service, showing integrity and doing our best every day," Brookshire added. "With this next step, we will remain focused on creating and delivering exceptional value to our customers."

HERO

FROM PAGE A5

in late June headed with his wife Jayma to an engagement near San Antonio, with plans to be back at work in the county the following day. Wilson is scheduled to return to the San Antonio area in September.

Later this month, he is scheduled to be in Lebanon, Tennessee, near Nashville, to speak twice at a Faith Based Security Network event. He'll be going back to Nashville in August for a three-day event.

"And then I do quite a few locally, off and on," he said, referring to requests by leaders of churches in Hood County.

Should anyone question whether Wilson is shirking his duties as a commissioner, they would likely receive a quick and pointed reply.

"I've already been on the phone with county business today, twice, since I left," he told the Hood County News by phone while driving to San Antonio. "And I will continue to do so because that's the job I signed up (for)."

Wilson stated, "Bottom line is, even though I may not be physically at the office, I can assure you that I'm working for the citizens of the county. If anybody wants to throw that stone, that's fine, but I'll match my hours with anybody on the court any day of the week. I don't have a problem with that."

The first-term commissioner said he accepts requests for help because security at churches is "something that is necessary" in today's society.

He stated, "The one good thing that came out of my shooting event is, all across this country it woke people up to the fact that they need security teams at churches."

kcruz@hcnews.com / 817-579-1886

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HOME IN ON MORE BUYERS

Filing period to open for November elections

BY KATHY CRUZ
Senior Staff Writer

The filing period for November local elections opens next Saturday, on July 22. It will close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 21.

City and school elections are scheduled for Granbury and Tolar. If incumbents seek new terms and draw no challengers, elections could be cancelled, but that won't

be the case with the city of Granbury.

Mayor Pro Tem Trish Reiner of Place 4 recently announced in a Facebook post that she will not seek a third term.

"With great respect for the citizens of the City of Granbury, I am officially announcing that I will not seek re-election to Granbury City Council," the post stated.

"My six years on council have been challenging and amazing, and I am proud of many accomplishments. I have worked to represent the city with honor and integrity, and it has been my distinct pleasure to serve the community. Thank you for your support all these years."

The Place 6 seat on the council, currently held by Greg Corrigan, is also

scheduled to be on the ballot. Corrigan told the Hood County News Thursday morning that he will seek a third term out of a desire to see some projects completed. However, he added that, as a believer in term limits, if he is elected to a third term, it will be his last.

"And then someone else can pick up the mantle and run with it," he said.

Two terms will also expire on the Granbury School Board of Trustees, those for Places 1 and 2. Place 1's Mike Moore and Place 2's Barbara Herrington, who is currently the school board president, told the HCN that they will seek re-election.

On the Tolar City Council, terms will end for Places 1, 2 and 3 currently held by Craig Davis, Sally Grimes and Chip

Foster, respectively.

Two seats on the Tolar School Board will be on the ballot unless Place 1's Brooks Goodson and Place 2's Josh Swaim seek re-election and draw no challengers.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 7.

kcruz@hcnews.com / 817-579-1886

Remember, animals get hot too

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

With temperatures topping the century mark more often than Stephen King writes another horror novel, the annual summer heatwaves that regularly hit North Texas can get pretty scary.

And now folks in the area find themselves right smack dab in the middle of another one. Crowding in front of the air conditioning vent with a freezing bottle of water (or whatever beverage of choice) is the norm for this time of year.

But it's not only humans who are battling the intense heat and its accompanying index. Animals are also facing the proverbial fire - so to speak - and most of the time are dependent of humans to keep them safe as temperatures soar.

According to Kelly McNabb, Hood County Animal Control Sergeant, the No. 1 danger to animals in hot weather is heat exhaustion, mostly from not providing them with adequate shelter and fresh cool water.

Even if you provide water for animals, being tied up out in the heat can still be grueling if not done properly. The sun beating down incessantly can become literal torture, which is partly why Texas

has animal restraint laws that help protect the safety of the animal's well-being.

"We recommend keeping your dog inside vs. keeping him/her tethered outside," McNabb said. "If you do decide to tether your dog, make sure he/she has a proper shelter and water, and you are following the restraint laws."

And yes, sadly, there are folks who leave dogs (and cats) in the car while they run into a place despite all the warnings. McNabb said most of these calls come from within the city due to the majority of the businesses being in town.

The same goes for dogs in the back of pickups. That metal bed can become unbearably hot quickly - plus, it's just not a safe practice, no matter the weather, McNabb said.

"Absolutely under no circumstances should you have your dog in the back of a pickup in this heat or at any time," she said.

Ditto for walking animals on hot sidewalks.

"We would not recommend walking your dogs on sidewalks or hot pavement. Try staying on a softer terrain," McNabb said. "Hot surfaces can and will burn your pet's paws."

McNabb said one of the best and safest ways to cool off an overheated animal is to take the animal into a cooler area or into the shade, applying cool (not cold) water to their paws and ears, and allow them to drink small amounts of cool water.

"We recommend contacting a veterinarian for further assistance," she said.

Signs to look for connected to an animal being too hot include heavy panting, excessive drooling, disorientation, vomiting, diarrhea, and even collapsing, McNabb said.

McNabb also issued a reminder that due to the high temperatures and continued risk of heat stress for wildlife and other animals, trapping is not allowed when temperatures are in excess of 80 degrees.

"For example, if the forecasted temperature for the following day is in excess of 80 degrees, do not set your trap," she said.

For more, contact Hood County Animal Control at 817-573-4277.



COURTESY OF RICK MAUCH

One of the best and safest ways to cool off an overheated animal is to take the animal into a cooler area or into the shade, applying cool (not cold) water to their paws and ears, and allow them to drink small amounts of cool water. pictured here, Milo enjoying some pool time.

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KNIEPER REAL ESTATE

Facts about closing costs for buyers



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.

Last week's article detailed closing costs for home sellers with a promise to follow up with information for the Buyer's side. So here we go. While a lot of the "Contract Closing Costs" are negotiable between buyer and seller, it is the cost of borrowing money that will most significantly impact the costs for a buyer.

The lender will charge a fee for checking your credit, document preparation, underwriting, and a Loan Origination fee which ranges between 0.5%-1% of the loan amount. If you are getting a VA Loan, a Funding Fee, rather than origination fee, is required. For regular military borrowers with no down payment, the funding fee is 2.3%. The fee increases to 3.6% for borrowers with previous VA loans. For those with a down payment of 5% to 9%, the funding fee is 1.65%. Any loans with a down payment of 10% or higher will include a funding fee of 1.4%. The good news is this can sometimes be rolled into the loan.

The Owner's Title Insurance (OTI), a negotiable item, is typically paid for by the seller in our area. However, your lender will require a "Lender's Title Policy", and that will cost you approximately \$250.00 - \$300.00. The OTI is an insurance policy that guarantees buyers get clear title to the property. The Lender's Policy does the same for the Mortgage Company or Bank.

Expect your lender to require one year's worth of homeowners insurance paid in full prior to or at closing. While technically called a "pre-paid" item rather than a closing cost, it is cash you will need to close. And unless you

plan on a down payment of 20% or more you can expect to be required to make an up-front deposit into an escrow account maintained by the lender. This is for taxes and insurance, so when those bills come due each year your lender pays them on your behalf. Typically, 2-3 months' worth of taxes and insurance premiums are collected at closing, with the balance prorated and added to your monthly payments.

As a rule of thumb, Home Buyers (Borrower's) can expect to pay between 2.5% -5% of the loan amount in closing costs, plus the down payment, but there are alternatives. Most lenders will let the seller pay some, if not all, of the buyer's closing costs as part of the transaction. This enables the buyer to basically finance their closing costs and can be a very helpful tool for borrowers with good credit but little cash.

When beginning the home buying process the best advice I can give you is talk to your lender. Get an estimate of how much cash you are going to need. That way there won't be any nasty surprises the day before closing when you get that "Cash to Close" amount. If you are a cash buyer, congratulations, you have it made, and in most instances, can expect to pay less than \$1,000 in closing costs. In either case if you have questions, please give us a call at 817-219-0456 or visit us online at www.WeSellGranbury.com. We would love to hear from you.

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Texas State Parks recognized among the nation's best



COURTESY OF TPWD.TEXAS.GOV

The NRPA along with the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration have selected Texas State Parks as a finalist for the 2023 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

From Staff Reports

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) along with the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration have selected Texas State Parks as a finalist for the 2023 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management.

"I'm proud to have the hard work of our Texas State Park staff recognized for building one of the best state park systems in the country," Rodney Franklin, director of Texas State Parks said. "It is an honor for Texas State Parks to be nationally recognized for our efforts to welcome all Texans and preserve the gems of Texas for all generations."

Texas State Parks is com-

peting against three other state park systems for the top award: Missouri State Parks, Ohio State Parks and Watercraft; and Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites and Trails. The winner will be announced in October at the NRPA conference in Dallas.

Founded in 1965, the Gold Medal Awards program honors communities in the United States that demonstrate excellence in parks and recreation through long-range planning, resource management, volunteerism, environmental stewardship, program development, professional development and agency recognition. Applications are separated into seven classes, with five classes based on population, one class for armed forces recreation and one

class, awarded on odd numbered years, for state park systems.

Agencies are judged on their ability to address the needs of those they serve through the collective energies of community members, staff and elected officials. Four finalists in each class are chosen to compete for grand honors each year. For more information concerning the Gold Medal Award program, visit <https://aapra.org/National-Gold-Medal-Award>.

"We are especially thrilled to receive this recognition during our Centennial year," Franklin said. "The fact that we were named a finalist among peer institutions across the country really highlights the progress we have made over the past century to fulfill then-Gov.

Pat Neff's vision of a Texas dotted with state parks 'to be held in sacred trust by the State for the public good, now and forever.'"

Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation is partnering with TPWD and H-E-B to celebrate 100 years of Texas State Parks. H-E-B, the presenting sponsor of the celebration, has donated \$1 million to help Texas State Parks engage all Texans in discovering and enjoying their state parks throughout the yearlong celebration.

For more information on the Centennial Celebration, including community events, the history of Texas State Parks and how to make a day visit or overnight reservation, visit the Texas State Parks 100 Years website at TexasStateParks.org/100years.

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'God led me to it' Local educator to open Christian private school in fall

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

Throughout all her years of teaching, Teresa Mick had never planned on opening her own private school in Granbury.

But one day, she received a calling from God that she just couldn't ignore.

"It's been on my mind for about a year or so, but really heavily towards the end of this school year," she said. "I just really felt like God led me to do it, that (he said) 'This is what I want you to do.'"

For the past 30 years, Mick has been teaching in some shape or form — from operating a preschool and daycare out of her home to serving as a teacher for local homeschool co-ops.

With a total of 45,000 hours in childcare, training, and management, teaching is both a passion and career that Mick said she feels is ingrained in her for life.

"Since I was 12 years old, I've always found some way to teach kids," she said. "I tried to get out of it and bought a store on the square, but I just paid attention to the kids that came in. You just see the light and life in them, and the excitement that they wrote their name. You can get excited with them. Teaching is just in my soul."

This past year, Mick said she felt that there was a need for more Christian-oriented schools in Hood County — so she took matters into her own hands.

THE TRINITY SCHOOL

On Tuesday, Aug. 15, The Trinity School will officially open its doors at 983 Whitehead Dr. (one block south of Sonic off Highway 377).

The Trinity School is a part-time Christian-based private school that will serve children in pre-K through eighth grade.

Unlike a public school, The Trinity School will operate on a three-day schedule from Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"They can opt for work on Monday and Fridays — not at school, but at home — and I'll give them assignments to do at home," Mick explained. "Or they can use that time to do their own field trips, or just be at home. It depends on what grade level they're in."

There will also be an extended one-hour option from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily for childcare or homework help as needed.

"Two days a week, we will offer basic gymnastics, and basic theater from that 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. hour, as well, for an additional extracurricular option," Mick said. "They can still do 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. for childcare, but if they want to do theater or gymnastics, that's extra from their tuition."

DAY IN THE LIFE

Mick said The Trinity School will operate just like a regular school, except with Bible study and a chapel.

"They'll come to school, have all-school chapel, and then they'll break into their grade levels," she explained. "Then, each grade level will have a designated Bible class time that we'll go back and pick up from what that base chapel was. In the younger grades, history will be part of their Bible study, because they'll start from the beginning and talk about God's creation, so that's part of history."

SUBJECTS

According to the website, the goal at The Trinity School is for each child to have an educational experience that's uniquely tailored and aligned to ensure student success at every level.

The following lists how each subject will be taught at The Trinity School, as pulled from thetrinityschool.net website.

Writing: Students develop writing skills through multi-sensory, play-based instruction. Students move,

PLEASE SEE **SCHOOL** | B3



Pictured far left back row is Jordan Reid, Jenni Settle, and Joshua Reid. Second row seated are Joel Reid, Jana Reid, toddler Elliot Reid, Daniel Reid, and Shelbi Reid.

COURTESY OF JANA REID

Forty years in teaching with no sign of slowing down

BY EDEN DUNCAN GILBREATH
Special to the Hood County News

Write about Jana Reid? Oh, yes please! An assignment I gladly accept but face with a bit of fear and trepidation. Jana Reid. Sure, she's mere human - flesh and blood. But she also is entering her 40th-year teaching. That's right. Four-zero. Fortieth. She's practically a legend in this town. Reid taught my own daughter. And oh, I will be writing about a seasoned, upper-level advanced placement English teacher. English. Gulp.

I contacted Reid and we decide on a coffee date at Paradise Bistro. If we are fortunate the large armchairs at the front of the restaurant will be available. I arrive first and happily observe the empty armchairs lit by streams of sunshine coming through the window.

Reid cheerily breezes in like springtime wearing a vivid white and blue dress with a sparkling smile. She seems

much younger than her years of teaching would imply. She greets me with a hug, a warm beginning to our time together. She sits and I go to the counter to bring her a sweet tea and me an iced coffee.

I am anxious to hear her views on teaching, education, parenthood, and young people in general. We settle in the comfy chairs and begin. Who is this Jana Reid anyway? The fearsome furer of local lore

or empathetic educator? Are they one and the same?

Reid's father was in the oil-field and her family moved a lot growing up. Born in Starkville Mississippi, her family moved from there when she was two months old. Next was Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Columbus (Mississippi) then all over Michigan, then Fort Worth, back to Michigan and finally Stephenville when she was a sophomore in high school. That's when her dad retired, the first time.

"I guess that's where I get my work ethic from. My dad. He retired but went on to have three jobs after retirement. He was 83 and working for a nursery in the Woodlands. As my mom handed him his eggs for breakfast, he had a stroke. He lived a few more days before passing away," shares Reid.

Reid began teaching around the same time she got married. Her mother would bring

meals to the newlyweds to show them love. They didn't even possess chairs at first. Teachers were paid monthly, and Reid received her first check the day of her two-month wedding anniversary. Two months without a paycheck as a newlywed.

Her first two years as a teacher were spent in Weatherford, and from the beginning it was committee work, newspaper sponsor, yearbook sponsor and the like. Soon it was on to Granbury where she and husband Dan would raise their three children son Joshua, daughter Jordan and son Joel near family already living here. All three children would enter Granbury public schools and later "survive" their mother's high school Advanced Placement (AP) English class. Now all three Reid children are adults and Reid is a grandmother twice over.

PLEASE SEE **REID** | B4

Cresson Wrench to host free teacher swap meet July 29

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

One teacher's trash is another teacher's treasure — and what better way to exchange unwanted school supplies with fresh learning materials than with a teacher swap meet?

The Cresson Wrench at 9501 Lancaster St., is hosting its first ever Teacher Prep Rally from 12-8 p.m. on Saturday, July 29.

"Our oldest daughter, London Durant, is a teacher in Eastland ISD, and we see firsthand how much of themselves teachers put into their classroom and students," said Bambi Bridges, owner of The Cresson Wrench. "I thought it would be really cool to have a free swap meet for teachers, because I imagine almost all of them have leftover goodies that somebody else can use, and they can just swap."

The event will allow teachers who are retiring, changing course, or

simply decluttering to bring any unwanted or unused classroom items, supplies, and decorations to the event and trade them with another local teacher who might need them.

As The Cresson Wrench is centrally located between Fort Worth ISD, Granbury ISD, Weatherford ISD, and Cleburne ISD, teachers from all four districts can come to the event to swap their school supplies.

"Teachers are such an undervalued resource, and we want to offer a way for them to come together and share the load," Bridges said. "There are so many families who are unable to send supplies to school with their children and the teachers are the ones who reach into their own pockets to make it happen."

The steps for the event are simple — simply load up your trunk with unneeded supplies, drive to The Cresson Wrench, open your trunk, and trade away.

Door prizes will be given away hourly, and teachers will receive vendor discounts all day long during the event.

"We're also going to have vendors out like we do every third Saturday, except this time, there is no booth fee," Bridges said. "We're just asking that since they're not paying a booth fee that they give our teachers a 20% discount on anything that they want to buy, whether it's school-related stuff, or a candle."

The event will also feature live music and public speakers, like Weatherford College Education Instructor Carolyn Boggs.

"She's going to talk about culture in the classroom and she's very well versed with this," Bridges said, on Boggs. "She's gotten many, many teachers in this area ready to teach."

The Hood County Bookmobile will also be on hand from 12-3 p.m., helping students sign up for library cards and check books out.

THE TEXAS PLYTHIAN HOME

"Aside from that, we've coordinated with The Texas Pythian Home, Inc., in Weatherford where we'll have a big Back to School Bash," Bridges added. "We will be having a Fill the Trailer Supply Drive, so hopefully we just get bombarded with goodies so we can donate them to the Pythian."

According to pythianhome.org, The Texas Pythian Home opened on March 1, 1909, as a home for widows and orphans of Knights of Pythias members. Today, The Texas Pythian Home, Inc. provides a safe, stable environment for children to grow physically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually to become responsible, independent adults.

"It's kind of near and dear to us because London's husband, our son in law, his mother grew up there, and when London first started teaching, she taught in Weatherford ISD, and she taught at an elementary school that was

directly across the street from the Pythian Home," Bridges explained. "This has kind of just all turned into one thing that wove into another, so the teachers and the orphanage and everything has tied itself together for us."

Donations needed for The Texas Pythian Home can range anywhere from school supplies like Ziplock bags, glue sticks, and index cards to kitchen and bathroom supplies like toilet paper, laundry soap, and cotton swabs.

For those who are not teachers, Bridges said they are welcome to donate other basic supply items for teachers like paper, pens, markers, extra paint, or any other supplies that are lying around the house.

"I'm just hoping that it's such a big deal," Bridges added. "I hope that it's a really big deal for teachers and I hope that it's a really big deal for the Pythian Home."

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Kid's summer reading ideas

TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

The B-word has shown its ugly face in your house a time or two this summer. Not birds or bats, not babies or bunnies. No, this B-word tells you that it's time to give your kids something new to do. No more boredom when you've got books, and these great books will keep your kids entertained.

For young readers ages 3-5, "Sam and the Incredible African and American Food Fight" by Shannon Gibney, illustrated by Charly Palmer (University of Minnesota Press, \$17.95) is a fun book about a boy who's just plain hungry, but cultures clash in his kitchen and his stomach's growling! Will dinner ever be finished? This book is yummy.

Kids who love comic books will want to read and re-read "Like Lava in My Veins" by Derrick Barnes, art by Shawn Martinbrough with Adriano Lucas (Penguin, \$18.99). It's a comic-book-like story of a young man with superpowers but good luck getting a teacher who can understand him. When he changes classes, everything else changes, too, and your 7-to-10-year-old will love knowing about it.

Your 6-to-10-year-old dinosaur lover will roar over "How to Survive in the Age of Dinosaurs" by Stephanie Warren Drimmer (National Geographic Kids, \$9.99). Filled with lots of full-color illustrations, plenty of "Hey, listen to this" sidebars and stories, and all kinds of stats, your child will become a dino expert in short order. Heads up: it's a great take-it-on-vacation read, too.

The kid who got a pup-

py this summer, or who wants to learn more about what dogs will beg for "A First Guide to Dogs: Understanding Your Very Best Friend" by Dr. John Bradshaw, illustrated by Clare Elsom (Penguin, \$7.99). Part chapter book with a fictional story, part instruction, it'll make any dog-loving 7-to-11-year-old happy and quite knowledgeable. Woof!

Your future doctor or nurse will very much enjoy "Why? The Human Body" by Page Towler (National Geographic Kids \$12.99). Why can't you stare at the sun? Why do you breathe air? Why does a tasty ice cream cone sometimes hurt your teeth? This is a book that answers all kinds of questions about how we move, think, and experience the world in our human bodies, and your 9-to-14-year-old will devour it.

And finally, don't be surprised if you want to borrow back "The National Geographic Kids Almanac 2024" (National Geographic Kids, \$15.99 paperback / \$25.90 hardcover). There's a little something for everybody ages 11-and-up here: jokes, quizzes, cartoons, chapters on food, mythology, weather, science, history, and more. Dip in here and learn about



BOOKS FOR A KID'S SUMMER
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Amelia Earhart, turn the page over there to find out about ways to be an ecology hero, flip again and read about animals. This book is truly a browser's delight. If these great books don't

quite fill your child's summertime wish list, then be sure to check with your favorite bookseller or librarian. They'll know exactly what will hold your young reader's interest, no matter

how old the child. They'll know how to keep away the B word (bored) and replace it with these B words: beautiful books!



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alzheimer's association

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'We miss our kiddos'



COURTESY OF MAGGIE WALTON

Acton Elementary School students prepare for the showing of *Hotel Transylvania 2* during an AES Summer Connect event on July 11.

AES creates summer connect events for students, families

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

A three-month break from school is always an exciting time for students as they head into the summer. But for teachers and staff, the phrase "three-month break" sometimes invokes a different connotation — sadness.

"Summer lasts a long time, and we miss our kiddos," said Acton Elementary School Principal Maggie Walton. To allow students and teachers to spend time together over the summer, Walton came up with the idea to host a few campus-wide Summer Connect events. "We were brainstorming and it was just something I came up with," Walton said. "One of our big goals for this last year is to connect and engage with our families more, so we wanted to throw a few different opportunities to engage during the summer too. It was an idea that I had randomly, and we wanted it to be inexpensive for our families, as well." The first Summer Connect event was held at the

DeCordova Bend Estates pickleball court on June 15, bringing about 50 students in attendance. "I was surprised that we had quite a few who came who didn't live (at DeCordova)," Walton said. "We let parents drop off, but some parents stayed and I loved that just as much. The parents were able to engage with one another and engage with us." The second Summer Connect event was held at Cinergy Cinemas on July 11, for a \$2 private screening of "Hotel Transylvania 2." "So many kiddos and families, they opened up a third theater for us," Walton said. "It was so good seeing so many of our precious students."

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, from 6:30-7:30 p.m., another AES Summer Connect event called Popsicles with the Principal will be held at the school, allowing students to spend some time at the playground and enjoy a frozen treat. "We advertise Popsicles with Principals to new incoming kindergarteners or families who have moved here and are new to Acton," Walton said. "It gives them an opportunity to meet up and socialize, and it gives them a first really good encounter before August when they're new students at the school." Walton said an additional Summer Connect event is also in the works for the end of July at the Granbury City Beach Park, but the plans are currently still being discussed. "We've had a lot of really good feedback on (these) so far," Walton said. "For us, summer is a long time to go without seeing the kids, so it's just our way of staying connected as much as we possibly can with our families."

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Chamber to present 200 'welcome bags' to new Hood County teachers

BY ASHLEY INGE
Staff Writer

New Hood County teachers will soon be given a warm welcome from the Granbury Chamber of Commerce when they're presented with their very own bag of goodies. As the name suggests, the "New Teacher Welcome Bags," are bags filled with necessary school supplies for the upcoming year that are then given to new teachers at Granbury ISD, Tolar ISD, and Lipan ISD. "We have done this in the past, where we provide bags with items from as many of our members that are willing to donate items as possible, and we drop them off prior to their new teacher orientation," said Brian Bondy, Granbury Chamber of Commerce president. "We've also dropped them off at some of the private schools that are members of the chamber." Items like the Granbury Chamber of Commerce Area Guide, Granbury and Hood County maps, notepads, pens, pencils, watches, and thermal lunch boxes have been donated to the welcome bags in the past. "Most of these teachers are coming from other communities and they don't know Granbury, so this is a terrific way for these people to be welcomed by the busi-

ness community," Bondy said. "Whether they're in Granbury, Tolar, or Lipan, they know that there's a good strong business community in Hood County, and this kind of gives them that welcome mat." A total of 200 bags will be stuffed with items and donated to new local teachers in the area. If anyone would like to donate items for the welcome bags, they can bring them to the Granbury Chamber of Commerce office at 3408 E. U.S. Highway 377 by July 26.

ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

Prioritizing a good night's rest and mental health for upcoming school year

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

With August just around the corner, those school bells are about to be ringing. Getting back into the school routine can be challenging for both students and parents of all ages. Here are some two important tips on how to prepare for the 2023-24 school year. One of the most important areas of being successful in school is getting plenty of sleep. The recommended amount of sleep for six to 12-year-olds is nine to 12 hours per 24 hours, and eight to 10 hours per 24 hours for 13 to 18-year-olds. In preparation for getting back into the swing of a bedtime routine, "Start backing up bedtime by 15 minutes starting Aug 1 to get back into a sleep pattern," Melissa Shipp, Principal of STEAM Academy at Mambrino said. According to the CDC, students should get the proper amount of sleep at night to help stay focused, improve concentration, and improve academic performance. Christal Hollinger, Tolar

Elementary Principal said, "Remember that the first day and week of school are hard. Show extra patience with tired kiddos." Mental health is also an important area of focus for children and teenagers and can have a direct impact on students' academic success. Mental health includes one's emotional, psychological and social well-being. Our mental health affects how we feel, think and act. It is important to check in on your children regularly and monitor any changes in behavior. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children and adolescents experience a mental health problem during their school years. Examples include stress, anxiety, bullying, family problems, depression, learning disability, and alcohol and substance abuse. "Knowledge about mental health and the effects in a child's education is vital. If we ignore factors like lack of sleep or nutrition, then it will spiral like a rolling snowball and just get to become bigger and bigger

problems in the long run... Once they are able to fix their sleep schedule, they get a better start to their day and have more clarity to regulate their emotions," Jena Pickett Tolar High School Counselor said. It is important to let your children know what resources they have available to them. Whether that be you as a parent, or a school counselor. "Humans don't want to feel alone especially when they are struggling. Making a connection with someone, especially a trained counselor, can make all the difference in the world. Having access to counseling should be a priority if we truly want to make a difference for those with mental health challenges. I have witnessed firsthand the benefits counseling can have on mental health," Karman Chandler, Nettie Baccus Elementary School Counselor said. With this upcoming school year almost underway, prioritize good sleep and make sure to monitor your child's mental health and support them in any way you can.

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE B1
touch, feel, and manipulate real objects as they learn correct habits and skills essential for fluid writing. Reading: Reading begins with phonemic awareness activities, phonics, sight words, and vocabulary development. The curriculum combines grammar, spelling, vocabulary, writing, and handwriting instruction. Science/STEM: Experiments will be brought to life with hands on engagements that ignite a student's passion for Science/STEM. Math: The math curriculum is a complete, skill-based, multi-sensory mastery curriculum for grades K-12. As grades are added, students

will continue building on the skills they have already mastered. History/Bible: History curriculum for beginning grades coincides with the Bible. These two subjects will be combined and will start at the beginning. "All of our curriculum is Bible-infused," Mick explained. "I think what's going to set (The Trinity School) apart is that it is Christian-infused. It's a true Christian school — not just a name." She said that another unique aspect of the school is its focus on hands-on learning and small group instruction. "The teacher will do the lesson, and then they'll do a lot of hands-on themselves," Mick explained. "You might

be working on single digit addition, but then you might have a group of three kids over here playing this game where they have to do addition too, rather than a worksheet. I always try to find fun ways for them to learn things and games to play where they don't feel like they're at school, but they're still learning something. That's my goal — to make it a fun learning experience, where they are still learning, growing, and meeting their needs, but yet, they're having a good time." **ENROLLMENT** The Trinity School will have open enrollment all year for kids ages three to eighth grade, with a cap of 10 students per grade level to continue the school's goal of

small group instruction. Originally, Mick was only going to offer enrollment for children ages three to third grade. However, with a growing interest and need from the community, she has decided to expand the school's coverage area to include an eighth-grade cutoff. "When we started out, we were going to do pre-K, three-year-olds, up until the third grade because third grade is a good breaking point," she explained. "But then, we've had people inquire about 'Well, I have a first grader and a fifth grader,' and we're like, 'Well, we could go up through sixth grade; that's another good breaking point,' but then we started getting all these people that have an eighth grad-

er. I don't want to cut people off that need a school for their children when we can provide that, so for now, we are capping it at eighth grade, so we may, at some point, go from ninth grade to 12." **OPEN HOUSES** The Trinity School will host three open houses to try to accommodate everyone's availability: Sunday, July 16 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 17 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, July 17 from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. "We'll have it all set up," Mick said. "We'll have our classes set up, we'll have the curriculum setup where they can see what curriculum their student will be using, and then the facility will be ready

for them to see what a (regular) day would look like." Meet the Teacher will be held on Monday, Aug. 14, while the doors will officially open for The Trinity School on Tuesday, Aug. 15. "I just love meeting all the kids," Mick added. "They'll all be so excited, and it's going to be fun to see them. Some of them will be a little scared, but it's going to be fun to talk to them and reassure them." To register for The Trinity School, visit thetrinityschool.net online. For more information, call 682-804-8127 or email trinitygranbury@gmail.com. ashley@hcnews.com | 817-573-1243

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Solution for the puzzle on July 15 (Puzzle 38).

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

Puzzle by websudoku.com

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

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COURTESY OF JANA REID

Reid hugs a student at their graduation ceremony.

REID
FROM PAGE B1

Reid reveals that she just now in July began her summer break. The previous weeks were spent on scoring AP exams, writing curriculum, strategic planning, interview meetings and attending the Texas Christian University AP Conference that she has attended almost every year since 1994. "I was the first to teach an AP class," Reid reflected, "I didn't really know what it was initially. TCU had just started their conference. It's an excellent conference. I always come back with something new. It's grueling but excellent."

I note Reid's continued enthusiasm for the art of teaching. "If it ceases being new and fun and different then it's probably time to move on. Teachers are like milk - all of a sudden, it's gone sour," Reid said. "You sniff it one day, it's fine, the next day, it's fine. Then you sniff it the following day and it's gone bad. I have made a deal with a few fellow teachers. They are supposed to tell me if I go sour."

That is not to imply that Reid is a push-over or doesn't have high expectations. Nicknaming Reid over the years is a sport for the students with monikers ranging from Reidzilla to Atilla the Reid and many more. "You want to reach every one of them. Some like me and some hate me. Some say, 'Hello Mrs. Reid!'"

every day," she said. "I come on really strong early on, and once you have done that you don't have to do that anymore. Some tell me, 'I expected you to be mean Mrs. Reid, but you're really nice.'"

We discuss how education has changed in the years since she began. "When I began teaching in 1984 teaching was so much about a set of knowledge. 'Macbeth', 'Romeo and Juliet' and so forth," she said. "As we have developed as an information society, they don't need that as much (access to the information) but the question becomes can they look at the information and see what truth is?"

Reid bemoans the polarization of our culture. Some topics are just too difficult for some students to use as an editorial subject. They feel so passionate about the subject they can't listen to or weigh another viewpoint. Reid has to steer those students to a different topic.

A serious shift has occurred in public education in the past four decades, Reid said.

"There is less accountability on the student today," Reid begins, "A student was

going to fail my first- or second-year teaching. And she did fail, she didn't walk. Not graduating is not an option anymore. Everyone is trying to make sure that a child graduates on time. If they get to the point that they aren't going to pass, we address that. There is a lot of heat from TEA, parents and the school board all expecting the student to graduate. We use every available avenue, every resource."

"Also, the tests are hard. The English STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) is very challenging," Reid explained. "The English STAAR test is just a couple of notches down from AP tests. They require the student to find the inference. This is a high-level thinking skill for a fourteen- to fifteen-year-old. Everything has writing on it, from third and fourth grade on. The expectations are rough."

She does mention that foul language has increased exponentially, but to use the milk analogy Reid doesn't seem to think youth have gone bad.

"Granbury has amazing kids," Reid smiles, "I don't know why everyone thinks they are awful. I don't know where they are getting their information. We have amaz-

ing, good-hearted students here. What concerns me is their struggle with anxiety." Reid shares articles and studies she has read about the mental health of middle and high school students. "Risky behavior deaths that has always a top cause of death in teens has plummeted, but suicide has doubled in a 10-year span. Everyone says it's because of Covid, and that did exacerbate things, but this goes way before Covid," Reid said. "Teens are suffering a loss of connection with other teens. We used to have more independence and that grows confidence. We bubble wrap kids today. They don't ride their bikes miles away like we did as kids. Then they don't learn to drive. They don't have enough face-to-face time; they use their phones instead of going to see each other. I tell my students they are afraid of people with skin."

This lack of confidence plays out in the classroom. Accommodations are made to encourage student success. "One thing we do to meet the needs of kids today is small group discussion. Kids can't handle large group discussion. We start them off with something silly to get them warmed up, who likes popcorn the most, whatever," she said. "This gives everyone a chance to be involved and for more subjects to be covered. I had a student who had to go the restroom (to avoid discussion) every time we had discussion. She got used to the process and finally became more comfortable."

Nerves are high for these interviews, but they provide valuable practice for students. Many use that same resume to apply to colleges and scholarships. Some tell Reid years later they have just honed that same resume over the years. Others comment on how the process helped them gain confidence as they learn not just how to format a paper but how to interact and how to work with a mentor.

In her dual credit British Literature class, students are amazed Reid can recite so much of the material. "The sonnets of Shakespeare are songs and if they heard the same songs over and over every year, they could recite them too. It helps that I understand the language the sonnets are written in," she said.

Despite the challenges of teaching today Reid doesn't seem to think retirement will come anytime soon. "Ten more years is my standard answer but if you had asked me 10 years ago, I would have said the same. I can't imagine sitting at home," she said. "And there is always something new. I began teaching sophomores again which is always fun. Sophomores grow up so much that year but like all high school students they are really just tall toddlers. Meaning they get excited when they learn something new. The only difference is they don't want you to know it."

The only thing that would hasten her retirement is if the politics become too unbearable. Reid laments that of all the struggles that is by far the hardest. "It's not even all the paperwork or all the pressure to get everyone through (the school system) or the grading expectations - the hardest thing is the demonization of teachers. Most

"When I began teaching in 1984 teaching was so much about a set of knowledge. 'Macbeth', 'Romeo and Juliet' and so forth. As we have developed as an information society, they don't need that as much (access to the information) but the question becomes can they look at the information and see what truth is?"

JANA REID

PLEASE SEE REID | B7



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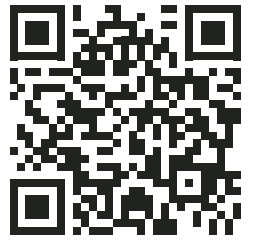


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SPORTS Roundup

Rattlers preseason No. 5 in state

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

The Bible of football in Texas has hit newsstands and it seems the folks at Dave Campbell's Texas Football like the Tolar Rattlers.

But then, what's not to like? The team returns a good amount of talent from a 13-1 state quarterfinalist that featured one of the nation's best running backs and a stingy defense. In fact, it was the best in Tolar football history.

DCTF has the Rattlers preseason ranked No. 5 in Class 2A Division I. Ahead of them are last season's state runner-up Refugio (14-2), state semifinalist Timpson (14-1), defending state champion Hawley (16-0) and Beckville (10-2).

"High School football rankings are fun conversational pieces for sure. Unfortunately, they don't spot you any points on Friday nights based on your rankings," Tolar coach Jeremy Mullins said. "I do think it is nice to be recognized as having the potential to be one of the top teams in the state."

"I assumed after the season we had and with the guys we have returning that we would receive some preseason recognition. I don't think there's any question that there is a target on our back. It's our goal in Tolar to always be the one with the target on the back. That means you're doing something right and you're at or near the top."

The most notable returner for the Rattlers is junior running back Peyton Brown, one of the nation's most prolific players. His 2,777 yards led all of 2A Division I and was third overall in all state classifications and 21st in the entire nation.

In addition, he scored 49 touchdowns (first in Texas, 10th in nation) and scored

296 points (first in Texas, 11th in nation).

In two varsity seasons, Brown has rushed for 4,191 yards and 77 touchdowns. He gained 100-plus in all 14 games in 2022.

Brown is a preseason all-state selection and the preseason offensive MVP in District 5-2A Division I.

The Tolar defense was led by linebacker Isaac Blessing, who looks to move to the starting quarterback this season after being the backup last season to the now graduated Jackson LeCluyse. Blessing posted a team-leading 135 tackles.

Junior defensive lineman Cash Clark posted 72 tackles with three sacks and senior defensive back Clayton Stenbridge is back after collecting 62 tackles and tying for the team lead with three of the Rattlers' 18 interceptions.

In all, Tolar returns five offensive and five defensive starters.

The Rattlers are 23-4 over the past two seasons under head coach Jeremy Mullins. Moreso, under his leadership, since starting the 2020 season 0-4 they have gone 28-7 with a second round playoff appearance, a third round, and, of course, last season's fourth round.

The Rattlers averaged 48.6 points per game, scoring 681 all season. On defense, they surrendered an average of 7.8 and 109 total.

The offense scored 45 or more points 11 times, including 60 or more four times. Defensively, they posted four shutouts (all consecutive) and held opponents to a touchdown or less nine times.

The Rattlers, while the overwhelming favorite in district again, could have a pair of solid challengers in Coleman, preseason No. 23 in the state, and No. 25 Hamilton. They open district at Hamilton on Sept. 29 and host Coleman in the second league game on Oct. 6.

Mullins noted that while the ranking is indeed something of which to be proud, it's not a topic of discussion among the team.

"As far as rankings giving any sort of motivation to our guys, I'm not sure. The only time I mention rankings to our guys is in reminding them the only rankings that truly matter are the ones at the end of the season," he said. "I do know this, we want to be No. 1 come the end of the season and we are getting ready to take that journey one day at a time."

PIRATES LOOKING TO SURPRISE

With a new head coach and plenty of returning starters, the Granbury Pirates are looking to prove the prognosticators at Dave Campbell's wrong. The magazine has them picked to finish seventh out of the nine teams in District 4-5A Division I.

Sonny Galindo is expected to take over as head coach this season on an interim basis following the resignation of Chad Zschiesche to pursue other career opportunities. He inherits a team that returns seven offensive and six defensive starters from a 4-6 season.

Senior running back Jadon Rogers (695 yards, 5 TD rushing; 167 yards, 2 TD receiving) is back as a top offensive weapon, along with a large supply of receivers, including senior wide receiver Halston Main (12 catches, 119 yards, 3 TD) and senior tight end Carter Riley (8 catches, 84 yards, 3 TD), who tied for the team lead in receiving touchdowns.

On defense, the Pirates had four underclassmen post 20 or more tackles last season, led by junior (this season) Ethan Hernandez with 48.

The Pirates compete in one of the state's toughest district, which featured four teams with at least eight victories. Entering this season two of those teams are ranked in the state's top 25, No. 19 Lake Belton (8-3) and No. 22 Killeen Shoemaker (8-3).

MORRISON ON SUPER ELITE TEAM

Senior second baseman Keaton Morrison of the Tolar Rattlers has been named to the Class 2A Super Elite Baseball Team by the Texas High School Coaches Association (THSCA).

Morrison batted .363 with 14 runs batted in. He also scored 21 runs and stole a team-high 17 bases in 20 attempts.

ALFORD REGIONAL COACH OF YEAR

Tolar baseball coach Lance Alford has been named the Region 3 Class 2A Head Coach of the Year by the THSCA. Alford led the Rattlers to their best season ever. They finished 25-10-2 and advanced to the Class 2A Region 2 final.

Along the way they also knocked off defending state champion and second-ranked Valley Mills in a best-of-three series, two games to one.

SUMMER TRACK

Seven runners from Granbury, led by last year's national champion in the Boys 13-14 division, Gannon Dolan, qualified from the USA Track and Field local association meet in Arlington to the Region 12 Meet in Fort Worth.

Dolan, now competing in the Boys 15-16 division, won a national championship and set a national record in



COURTESY OF RICK MAUCH

This year's copy of Dave Campbell's Texas Football has the Tolar Rattlers pre season ranked No. 5 in the state in Class 2A.

winning the 3000 meter run at nationals with a time of 8 minutes, 59 seconds. He took the first step in perhaps winning at the next level by capturing the championship of 1500 and 3000 at the association meet. His winning time in the 1500 was 4:12.82 and he clocked a 9:18.90 in the 3000.

Joining him at regionals is his younger brother, Malachi Dolan, in the Boys 8-Under category. Malachi won the 1500 in his division with a time of 6:13.55, as well as the 800 in 3:03.75.

Also qualifying for regionals were sisters Josefina and Karolina Berry in the Girls 17-18 division. Josefina was fourth in the 1500 with a time of 5:52.19 and Karolina was seventh with a 6:08.29. Josefina also took eighth in the 800, posting a 2:37.50.

Natalia Fabian qualified among Girls 17-18 with an eighth-place finish in the 1500, clocking 6:47.71.

Among Boys 15-16, Aiden Lemens was seventh in the 3000 with a time of 10:29.54,

while Jacob Wolfe was eighth among Boys 17-18 in the same event with a time of 11:01.66.

From regionals the top eight finishers in each event will advance to the Junior Olympics in Eugene, Oregon the final week of July.

SUMMER GOLF

Area high school golfers continue to enjoy success on the Northern Texas PGA Junior Golf Tour.

Recently, Jack Smith of Lipan tied for fourth in a tournament in Fort Worth in the Boys 13-14 age group. He shot an 84.

Several players from Granbury had solid performances also recently. Drake Montoya placed eighth in Burleson in the Boys 15-18 division, shooting 88, while in the same division Braxton Pugh shot 100 for 13th.

Landon Womack shot 93 to place ninth in Azle in the Boys 15-18 division. Also, Quinn Bradley, playing in the 15-18 category, shot 88 to tie for 15th in Burleson.

HOOD OUTDOORS

Aggressive summer hybrid striped bass



BY MICHAEL ACOSTA

As a licensed professional fishing guide, Michael Acosta shows you how to find them. A Granbury resident of more than 35 years, he has been fishing all of his life, and has been a licensed guide since 1998.

When the hottest part of the summer starts showing its face like it is right now, the hybrid striped bass which is more tolerant of the heat may be a good option.

The hybrid striped bass is a manmade species that is made by crossing a male white bass with a female striped bass. This essentially makes a voracious species that is not quite as big as a striper, but a lot bigger than a white bass. The Texas State record of 19.02 lbs comes from Ray Hubbard near Dallas. The white bass part of the hybrid striped bass makes this species more tolerant of the Texas heat.

Granbury has a few hy-

brids by accident. I am told they are escapees from the Hatchery below Possum Kingdom or they may have come from Lake Graham through Possum Kingdom to Granbury.

When the striped bass are slow to feed, the hybrid will keep on feeding. Hybrid striped bass are stocked in numerous lakes in North Texas. Some of the lakes within a couple of hours of Granbury include Graham, Bridgeport, Proctor, Brownwood, Lewisville,



COURTESY OF MIKE ACOSTA

Dowling Family outing in Granbury (Dowling lives in Waters Edge). Caught huge striped bass to over 10 pounds this last weekend. Pictured from left are Todd Hartsook, John Dowling (granpa), Silas Brawley (grandson), Bobby Bruno, Zach Smith and Brennan Christal.

Ray Hubbard, Richland Chambers, and Cedar Creek.

These hot summer days will put the hybrid striped bass in fairly predictable locations and patterns. It can be extremely hot out there

in the middle of the day, but that is soon forgotten when this species starts to feed. Pound for pound, they may be the hardest fighting freshwater fish to catch.

It is still a good idea to

get on the water early for all species. In the summer you do not want to miss the early bite as it may be all you get on some days. This last weekend the quarter moon was out supporting the

morning and evening bite. The areas in the summer that hold fish are typically the same areas year to year

PLEASE SEE **OUTDOORS** | B7

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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY™

Tarleton's 2023 volleyball schedule announced

Texans begin season with annual Texan Invitational Tournament

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas - Tarleton State Volleyball is getting set for success with the announcement of their schedule for the 2023 season.

On Monday, Tarleton State announced their campaign that begins on Aug. 25 in Stephenville at the annual Texan Invitational Tournament.

This season, the Texans will play 16 conference games, eight of those set to take place on the Tarleton campus in Wisdom Volleyball Gym. In addition to conference play, the Texans will compete in four tournaments to kick off the season and will travel to Prairie View A&M for some pre-conference action. The 2023 schedule has the Texans in a pattern set to play at home for two games then on the road for two for the duration of the season.

Tarleton State Volleyball will start off the season at home on Aug. 25 at the Texan Invitational Tournament. The Texans will then travel to San Antonio, Texas, for two days of tournament play at the UTSA

Tournament on Sept. 1-2.

The following week-end, Sept. 8-9, the Texans will hit the road for a two-day tournament at UAB in Birmingham, Alabama. On Sept. 12 the Texans will play their lone non-conference match that is not included in a tournament, as they'll travel to Prairie View A&M to take on the Panthers at 6 p.m. CT. Tarleton will play in their final tournament back in Stephenville, beginning Sept. 15 at the Dr. Pam Littleton Classic.

Tarleton will begin conference play on Sept. 21 at 6 p.m. CT at home in Wisdom Volleyball Gym against Utah Valley. On Sept. 23 the Texans will remain at home to take on the Seattle U Redhawks for a midday battle at 1 p.m. CT.

Following their long stretch at home, the Texans will head to the west coast to face the Lancers at California Baptist on Sept. 28 at 9 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

This season, the Texans will play 16 conference games, eight of those set to take place on the Tarleton campus in Wisdom Volleyball Gym. In addition to conference play, the Texans will compete in four tournaments to kick off the season and will travel to Prairie View A&M for some pre-conference action.

CT. Next, the Texans will make their way to Arizona and go head-to-head with Grand Canyon on Sept. 30 at 5 p.m. CT.

On Oct. 5, Tarleton will resume home play at 6 p.m. CT against Utah Tech. The Texans will remain at home Oct. 7 to take on Southern Utah at 1 p.m. CT.

Stephen F. Austin will host the Texans Oct. 12 at 6 p.m.

CT, then Tarleton will head to Arlington to play UTA at noon CT on Oct. 14.

Tarleton will host UTRGV Oct. 21 at 1 p.m. CT and will continue their run in Wisdom Volleyball Gym against Abilene Christian on Oct. 23 at 6 p.m. CT.

On Oct. 26, the Texans will hit the road to take on Seattle U at 8 p.m. CT before heading south to play Utah

Valley at 2 p.m. CT on Oct. 28.

The Texans and the GCU Lopes will meet again, this time in Stephenville, on Nov. 2 at 6 p.m. CT. Tarleton will host California Baptist for their final home game of the season on Nov. 4 at 1 p.m. CT.

Tarleton State's final two regular season matches will be at UTRGV (Nov. 9 at 6:30

p.m. CT) and at ACU (Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. CT) ahead of the 2023 WAC Volleyball Tournament

The full schedule is below and can be found <https://tarletonsports.com/sports/womens-volleyball/schedule>. Full tournament schedules will be announced at a later date.

Smith makes first addition to staff, tabs R.D. Spiehs as pitching coach

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas - Tarleton State baseball head coach Fuller Smith has made the first addition to his staff, announcing today the hiring of R.D. Spiehs as assistant coach, overseeing the pitching. Spiehs comes to Stephenville after serving as an assistant coach at Illinois State the past two seasons.

"I am extremely happy to add someone of R.D.'s caliber to this coaching staff," said Smith. "R.D. has extensive experience guiding and teaching young men at this level of college baseball and has been nothing short of successful everywhere he has been. I cannot wait to get to work with him."

"My wife and I are honored that Fuller Smith and the Tarleton State administration extended this opportunity to us," Spiehs said. "We are excited to get back to the Western Athletic Conference and to Texas where my coaching career began. I look forward to working with this coaching staff and the student-athletes at Tarleton State."

Spiehs has an extensive resume as a collegiate baseball coach. He spent the previous two seasons with the Redbirds and prior to that has had stints as an assistant coach at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock,



PHOTO COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

R.D. Spiehs has an extensive resume as a collegiate baseball coach. He spent the previous two seasons with the Redbirds and prior to that has had stints as an assistant coach at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Northern Colorado and Grayson College.

Northern Colorado and Grayson College.

Spiehs enjoyed a seven-year professional playing stint as a pitcher, throwing in the San Francisco Giants, San Diego Padres and Seattle Mariners organizations. He also enjoyed a three-year stint as a starting pitcher for the Nebraska Cornhuskers where he made a start in the College World Series in 2001, Nebraska's first ever appearance.

Spiehs spent the 2022 and 2023 seasons at Illinois State as an assistant coach. He guided starting pitcher Jared

Hart to an MVC best 2.45 ERA this past season. He also coached starting pitcher Derek Salata as he held an 88 strikeout to 27 walks ratio and a 4.08 ERA in 2023. Two different pitchers were named honorable mention All-MVC in 2022.

From 2019-2021 Spiehs spent time at Little Rock as the Trojans pitching coach.

2021 saw the Trojans finish with a 4.79 ERA and hold opponents to a .256 batting average. Spiehs coached Hayden Arnold to the 2021 Sun Belt Pitcher of the Year award as he held a league-

best 1.54 ERA while Aaron Barkley, a reliever, picked up first team All-SBC honors.

2020 was shaping up to be an impressive season for the Trojans on the mound as they were on pace to break a number of program records before the season was canceled due to covid-19.

In Spiehs' first season in Little Rock, the pitching staff finished with a 4.92 ERA, good for third in the Sun Belt. The Trojans held the lowest in conference ERA in the Sun Belt. Two Little Rock pitchers won SBC pitcher of the week honors that season.

Under Spiehs' tutelage, Chandler Fidel earned first team All-Sun Belt Conference honors, ranking fifth in the SBC in ERA (3.65) and third in strikeouts (101), leading the league in innings pitched (101.0). He was one of two Trojan pitchers selected in the 2019 MLB Draft, being selected in the 23rd round by the Cleveland Indians and being joined by McKinley Moore (14th round - Chicago White Sox).

Spiehs spent seven seasons at Northern Colorado. He joined the staff in 2011 as an assistant coach and was promoted to associate head coach in 2015. Spiehs helped the Bears to the 2013 Great West Conference title before helping UNC transition to Division 1 and the WAC.

The Bears team ERA was lowered by nearly two runs a game from 2011 to 2013 and was improved every season from 2014 to 2018.

Spiehs coached the WAC Pitcher of the Year in 2015 as Jensen Park took home the award. Nick Tanner in 2016 and Troy Watson, a 15th-round MLB draft pick in 2018 both earned first team All-WAC honors. Northern Colorado's pitching staff routinely ranked among the top half in the WAC during Spiehs' tenure.

Spiehs has some Texas experience to his name as he spent 2009-2011 at Grayson

College in Denison, Texas. While at Denison, he helped four players to MLB Draft selections and improved the team ERA from 7.77 in 2009 to 3.85 in 2011. The Vikings advanced to the NJCAA World Series in 2022.

Spiehs began his coaching career at his alma mater, the University of Nebraska in 2008.

Spiehs was a three-year starter for Nebraska and held a 21-6 career record, which at the time ranked eighth all time for wins. He held a 3.14 ERA in 2000 on a staff that had the lowest ERA in the nation. Spiehs was Nebraska's starting pitcher for the team's first appearance in the College World Series in 2001.

He spent seven seasons pitching professionally in the San Francisco Giants, San Diego Padres and Seattle Mariners organizations. Spiehs pitched for both the Portland Beavers and Fresno Grizzlies of the Triple A Pacific Coast League in 2005, as well as spending time at both the Double A and Independent levels.

He is married to the former Jennifer Benson, who was a first team All-American in soccer at Nebraska and was a member of the U.S. National Team. The couple welcomed their first son, Sam, in May of 2019.

Three Tarleton State women's golfers tabbed WGCA All-American Scholars

Tarleton State University

STEPHENVILLE, Texas - Three members of the Tarleton State Women's Golf team were selected to the WGCA All-American Scholar Team as announced by the WGCA on Thursday.

The prestigious honor was bestowed upon Rebeca

Fernandez, Mathilde Brogens and Sofia Rodriguez.

Both Fernandez and Rodriguez are back-to-back recipients of the honor earning the recognition for the 2021-22 season as well.

In order to qualify for this recognition from WGCA, each student-athlete had to record a cumulative GPA of

at least 3.50, maintain amateur status while remaining on team's roster through the duration of the season and participate in at least 50 percent of the team's matches throughout the year.

The WGCA honored 1,401 women's collegiate golfers across 378 programs who met all of the qualifications.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TARLETON SPORTS INFORMATION

Pictured from left are Rebeca Fernandez, Mathilde Brogens and Sofia Rodriguez.

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COURTESY OF MIKE ACOSTA

Golden Family outing on Lake Granbury (Indian Harbor). This family also caught huge striped bass on Granbury this last weekend. Pictured from left are Brent Golden, Daniel Hensen, and Tracy.

OUTDOORS

FROM PAGE B5

for those hybrid lakes. Fish are generally on the main lake typically near a hump or ridge or flat adjacent to deeper water. Any sandbass activity in open water or near structure will have these fish looking for an easy meal under the sandies. Many times, however, you might just have to sit on a particular location and wait for them to feed.

Another condition to deal with in the summer is the thermocline as I have discussed recently. You can generally locate the thermocline with your graph if you turn up the sensitivity. The thermocline looks like a darker area at a certain depth on your graph. If you are fishing with live bait and you happen to notice each time you check your bait it is dead, you are probably putting your bait too deep. Keep trying different depths until you find a depth where the baitfish will stay alive.

Patience is needed as always with fishing. Patience in the hot sun may be a little tougher. Typically, most guides will set up where they know fish are located. After the morning bite, you typically will set up and wait for them to bite. If the fish are below you, you may be able to chum and thrash the water and get them to feed. I typically use cut up shad for the chum.

If you are to be out in the sun, make sure you have plenty of fluids to drink. If you can get some shade in the boat that is always a good option too. If not, keep that hat on and bring plenty of sunscreen.

HOOD COUNTY FISHING REPORT

Granbury water temperatures are in the upper 80s to low 90s. Granbury water levels are now full thanks to an abundance of water at Possum Kingdom. Water flows through Granbury are occurring, impacting the thermocline and fishing patterns. Look for fish to stage on

current breaks when Granbury is releasing water. Some floating debris is on the lake so be careful navigating. Big Striped bass to 12lbs plus continue to be caught on the lower ends on live bait and downrigging jigs. Largemouth bass to 8lbs are possible near creek entrances and under shaded docks. Sandbass are schooling on the surface near Indian Harbor and near Decordova subdivision. Crappie catches continue to be good near deeper structures (timber and bridge pilings). Blue catfish action continues to be good at night on cut shad near creek channels.

On other reservoirs, Whitney striped bass limits continue on live and cut bait fished in 25 to 30 feet of water near channel breaks from Mccown to Cedar Creek. Possum Kingdom large striped bass continue to be good on the lower ends on downrigging jigs and live bait. Proctor sandbass are good in numbers near the island.

michael.acosta@att.net | 254-396-4855

REID

FROM PAGE B4

people feel a calling to teach. People automatically assume that I got in here to do harm or to indoctrinate, groom or other pejorative words," Reid adds. "That is not my purpose, my students know that I am a Christian, I am not proselytizing, but I have felt called (to a life of service) since I was fifteen years old. I knew that God was calling me into service, and I always thought it would be vocational service. I pray that I have had a positive impact on kids, many of them not kids any more. Some are senior adults."

This sense of purpose, using every drop of the gifts you have been trusted with is a core belief for Reid. Marsha Grissom, now Principal of Premier High School in Granbury, formerly she was a Granbury High School Principal praises Reid.

"Jana Reid is truly an educational force. She has guided, pulled, dragged, and built meaningful relationships with many students throughout her career through their English courses. She has been mentored by many teachers and has been a mentor for many teachers," Grissom said. "Teaching is truly in her heart and her soul. Her contributions for students in Granbury High School have been extraordinary. She has been an advocate for her students while holding each responsible for their performance level in her classes. Excellence has been her mission. I would say she has achieved her 40-year mission. Carry on!"

So, what does Reid see in her future? Time spent in her dearest role: the role of wife, mother, and grandmother.

"I love to travel. My husband and I love to travel, there are so many places I would love to see. We have summer and Christmas break for travel, Reid said. "I walk early every morning to stay active. I want to be able to get on the floor with my grandchildren, take them to museums and all of that, all the fun things I did with my children."

She looks forward to one day reading more for pleasure instead of just reading essays. She is currently working to edit a book, the second of her students to ask her to do so.

And for now, Reid sees more teaching in her future. As long as the milk is not sour.

Reid smiles, "I received the book 'My Granny is a Pirate' from a friend to read to my granddaughter and it really is so true! My youngest says, 'You could retire. You don't want to retire.' and that is true as well."

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Junior

Horses are magnificent and gentle creatures that have been our companions for a very long time. They have strong and powerful bodies, covered in soft fur or hair. Horses are known for their long, flowing manes and tails. They have hooves instead of feet, which help them run fast and jump high. People ride horses for fun or use them to pull carts or carry things. Horses are really good at understanding humans and can become our friends. They communicate with us through sounds like neighs and body movements. Taking care of a horse requires love, patience, and responsibility, but it can also be a wonderful and rewarding experience to have a horse as a friend.

National

I LOVE HORSES

DAY

JULY 15

What's the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A

B

Answers: 1. Missing stump right side 2. Black horse has white on chest 3. Brown horse has longer mane 4. No hole in tree on left

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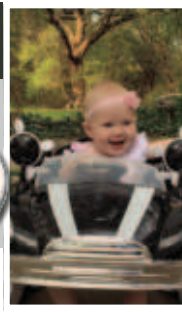
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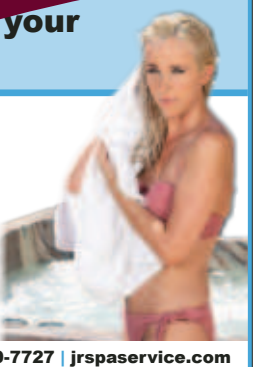
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In moment of greatest honor, Botsko remembers greatest love



RICK MAUCH | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Ron Botsko stands in front of his bookcase, which displays his many books and memorabilia.



COURTESY OF MELANIE FERGUSON

Ron Botsko enjoyed 28 years of marriage to his beloved wife Billie before she passed away from pulmonary fibrosis late last year.

BY RICK MAUCH
Special to the Hood County News

Sometimes fate is both kind and cruel at the same time.

No one knows this more than Ron Botsko. Even as the biggest moment of his professional career was happening, the worst possible thing that could happen to him personally was occurring.

Ron, 85, was the recipient of the Philip D. Johnson Honorary Member Award from the American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT) this past November. However, he did not attend the awards ceremony in Nashville because it coincided with the passing of his beloved wife Billie to pulmo-

nary fibrosis.

“The highest honor in my society in the world and I was losing her. It was bittersweet,” Ron said. “I miss Billie so much. I still at night can almost feel her as if she’s still here.”

“I got the honor about a week or so before she passed away. I went in and

told her, but she didn’t understand what I was saying.”

Without question she would have been proud of him then and is even now as she looks down on him. Ron’s career in nondestructive testing saved countless lives.

WHAT IS NONDESTRUCTIVE TESTING?

Nondestructive testing, or NDT, involves a wide group of analysis techniques used in science and technology industry to evaluate the properties of a material, component or system without causing damage. Because NDT does not permanently alter the article being inspected, it is

a highly valuable technique that can save both money and time in product evaluation, troubleshooting, and research.

NDT is commonly used in forensic engineering, mechanical engineering, petroleum engineering, electrical engineering, civil engineering, systems engineering, aeronautical engineering, medicine, and even art.

NDT allows the investigator to carry out examinations without invading the integrity of the engineering specimen under observation while providing an elaborate view of the surface and structural discontinuities and obstructions.

PLEASE SEE **BOTSKO** | C2

“The highest honor in my society in the world and I was losing her. It was bittersweet. I miss Billie so much. I still at night can almost feel her as if she’s still here.”

RON BOTSKO

ASNT Philip D. Johnson Honorary Member Award recipient

Hood County Library to host ‘Heroes and Helpers’ event July 22

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

The Hood County Library will be hosting “Heroes and Helpers”, a program to let kids get firsthand experience meeting community

members of all sorts.

The event — set for Tuesday, July 22 from 10 a.m. through 12 p.m. at the Hood County Library — will let kids be part of an interactive experience where they will get to go into all sorts of vehicles including po-

lice cars, firetrucks, an ambulance, a rescue boat, and more.

This is all part of the summer reading program with this year’s theme being “All Together Now”, where the program focuses on kindness all while encouraging

reading.

“I’m trying to get across the idea that it takes a whole community working together to really be effective and help the community,” Diana “Cookie” Haun, youth librarian and assistant director at the

Hood County Library said.

The summer reading program started at the end of May and will end July 26.



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BOTSKO

FROM PAGE C1

For example, Ron described a scenario concerning an airplane.

"Say a landing gear broke. We have the technology to find problems before the wheel breaks off," he said. "The whole objective was the safety of people. You build products, they should be safe. You should want them safe."

CAREER/ACCOLADES

Ron graduated from the Case Institute of Technology (now Case Western Reserve University) in Cleveland and immediately went to work as a metallurgical development engineer at the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company. In 1962, he joined the Los Angeles Aerospace Division of North American Aviation as a titanium development engineer.

He changed positions to a nondestructive testing research and development engineer in 1963 and his career took off.

In 1971, Ron founded NDT Instruments, Inc. in Newport Beach, California, where he served as President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board until he sold the company in 1988 to Dupont. Ron remained on as a consultant for several years, but now watches from afar as his creation continues to blossom.

"The group told me they still work off my management format and technical format," he said. "They said, 'You set the foundation and we're going to give you the highest honor."

"I guess I did something right. The company is still cookin'."

His previous ASNT honors include the Robert C. McMaster Gold Medal Award (1983) - he was the youngest recipient ever - Fellow of ASNT (1974), and 50 Year Member Recognition (2021).

Ron noted that perhaps the most prestigious part of his most recent honor is that it isn't handed out every year. If there is no one deemed worthy, there is simply no recipient that year.

"It definitely makes it more special knowing that they don't have to present it every year. If someone qualifies, they get in, plain and simple," he said.

How dependable was the technology Ron's company specialized in? On his office wall is a plaque containing some heat shield particles from an Apollo spacecraft after its return flight from the moon.

"NASA used our equipment extensively," he said. "Anything they made they used our equipment to test it - even today."



Ron Botsko has a lot of memorabilia in his office, such as that show in and on this trophy case display.

RICK MAUCH | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

"She'd have been so happy for me when I was honored. I wish we could have shared that together. She certainly would have been smiling then."

RON BOTSKO

ASNT Philip D. Johnson Honorary Member Award recipient

COOL MEMORABILIA/STORIES

A look around Ron's home office reveals a host of memorabilia and memories through the years.

There are some antique baseball cleats made of kangaroo hide. "They came from Australia. They're collector's items," Ron explained.

Next to them are his old football cleats, and they too have a special story. Ron quit the team when forced to make a decision on playing in a road game or staying at school and taking a test that would be critical to his career.

"I think I definitely made the right choice," he said.

An avid skier, Ron won three bronze medals with the National Amateur Ski Racing Association. He also loved to go fly fishing in the high sierra, and still has some antique gear on top of a cabinet in his office.

Ron was a talented baseball player, a pitcher, to be exact. He was invited to try out with the Milwaukee Braves when they held try-outs in Youngstown, Ohio, his hometown. Prior to that he received some round-about advice from a baseball legend.

Ron's uncle had served in the military with Warren Spahn in World War II. Though Ron never met Spahn himself, his uncle passed along some advice from the Hall of Fame



COURTESY OF MELANIE FERGUSON

As much as he loved his career—and what a career it was, saving countless lives—nothing replaced Billie in Ron's life.

pitcher.

"He said, 'Teach him to throw over a matchbox for precision,'" Ron recalled. "I walked two batters my senior year. Thanks Warren Spahn!"

And then there was the time he met another great. While Ron was having lunch in Long Beach, who came into the restaurant but NFL Hall of Fame quarterback Joe Namath, who grew up in mining country (Pennsylvania) just like Ron.

"I said, 'Been catching any fish in the Beaver River lately?'" Ron said.

That was all the outgoing Namath needed to start a conversation. As a result, he and Ron became acquaintances.

And by the way, don't ask Ron if he's a Pittsburgh Steelers or Cleveland Browns fan. He cheers for both, though he neglected to say who he cheers for when they play each other.

"We grew up with a good mixture of fans of both in town," he said.

Ron is also a regional master at bridge through the North American Bridge Championships, which in-

cludes Texas and neighboring states.

Ask him how he accomplished this and his simple answer, with a smile, is "Win a lot of tournaments."

MEETING BILLIE

As much as he loved his career - and what a career it was, saving countless lives - nothing replaced Billie in Ron's life. He'd trade this honor and the many others he's received in life to have her back for one more day.

Ron and Billie were married 28 years. They met while he was still a con-

sultant for his former company.

"I met her by pure accident. She was a supervisor for Dupont and traveled around the country," he reminisced. "One day I was in Long Beach having lunch with our management staff. A friend sat down and started looking down the aisle. He said, 'There's another Dupont down there.'"

Not realizing he was meeting his future bride and she was meeting her future groom; she joined the group and she and Ron hit it off. Still, it wasn't an immediate romance.

"I'd see her now and then," he said, recalling a moment when they both realized there was something special between them.

"She came down from Alaska to Seattle (where Ron was now living) and called me. We had a really nice dinner. It was still business, but something clicked," he said. "Over time it developed into something special - love."

"We never argued or scrapped. It was a perfect marriage."

Ron and Billie made their way to Granbury in 2003, after her daughter Melanie and her family came to the area.

"They kept gnawing at us until we moved here," Ron said with a smile. "You know what kept us here? People. Billie loved people - and they loved her."

LIFE TODAY

As his loyal pet, a Bichon Frise dog named Nicky lays on the desk next to him - her favorite place to relax - Ron swivels in his chair, quiet for a moment as he ponders life today. Though Melanie has moved away, she is currently in town with his grandchildren, always a highlight for him.

His son-in-law's mother still lives across the way and comes over to visit. And, of course, he has friends who check in on him regularly, both locally and across the land.

He lives on a golf course with a beautiful view, though he doesn't play anymore because the medicine he took from his 2016 bout with prostate cancer has weakened his arms.

"I haven't played in a while. I'd like to get back out there," he said. "I've never had a hole-in-one. I've gotten close (holds hands about four inches apart)."

While he can find ways to stay busy, life still doesn't move very fast for Ron these days.

"The sadness of missing Billie slows me down immensely," he said. "She had the biggest smile you could ever imagine."

"She'd have been so happy for me when I was honored. I wish we could have shared that together. She certainly would have been smiling then."

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Hood County News

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PETS OF THE WEEK

Buddy is a male Doberman mix. He is approximately 5-6 years old and weighs about 55 pounds. Buddy is playful and very social. Special adoption fee of \$25! The adoption fee includes sterilization, rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

Sammy is a neutered male domestic shorthair cat. He is approximately 8 years old. Sammy is friendly and thrives on attention. His adoption fee is \$25. The adoption fee includes his rabies vaccination, the first round of vaccines, pyrantel dewormer, and a HomeAgain microchip.

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THE IDLE AMERICAN

A good deed gone wrong...



BY DON NEWBURY

Dr. Don Newbury is a longtime public speaker and former university president who writes weekly.

As productivity lessens in later life, one is sometimes guilty of over-analysis, probing the depths of understanding too far.

Been there lately? If not, maybe you're not old enough, or perhaps you've learned to downplay interest in the "I-wonder-whys" of life.

This week, my route to productive missions was sidetracked by a proverb dating back 900 years and a Portuguese custom which faded from practice some 300 years ago.

I will deal with each topic forthwith, hopeful that you'll choose other pursuits if neither of them piques your interest.

First, the proverb: "No good deed goes unpunished."

Second, the long-abandoned practice in a monastery near Lisbon, Portugal. In the 1700s, monks and nuns there used egg whites to starch their cassocks, clerical collars, robes, and habits.

I confess that my mind goes into "tilt mode" when confronting some words and

phrases. I can never remember if there is a difference in "flammable" and "inflammable." When trying to remember the difference in "imply" and "infer," my mind scrambles. (Don't try to make me understand. Experts have tried, concluding that my corral of understanding is-in reality--the size of a pig pen, with big gaps in the fence.)

On the "good deeds" thing, I think I have a current example that helps me to understand the meaning of the phrase--one which seems to be a mishmash of Biblical references.

Here goes: My wife and I--living in the first of 10 homes built on our cul-de-sac some 20 years ago--are beneficiaries of generous neighbors who suit us to a "T." The "T" is a perfect alphabetical choice; they truly are Trophy neighbors.

Soon after moving in, the man next door--claiming

to desire "more exercise and more sweat" --asked if I minded his mowing and edging our yard. Minded? During half of my professional years, yard care was provided. I immediately granted him permission; We don't even own a rake!

He was heaven-sent; I imagined hearing the rustle of angel wings as he spoke. He has mowed/edged dozens of times--methodically and punctually--the way perfectionists do.

That said, he has continued this good deed weekly in all growing seasons. We've offered "thank-you's," which seem minor indeed, and handed off some foodstuff from time to time. I'm sure, though, that he'd keep right on mowing without thought of reciprocation. He mentions regularly how much he enjoys these labors. (Good for him!)

Surely the "good deed" thing fits in because soon, he was punished!

He and his wife, planning a two-week vacation in Florida, asked if we'd keep an eye on things, pick up packages delivered to their front porch and arrange for someone to mow our yards.

I agreed, engaging a student to mow and edge at the end of week one. He was unavailable for the second

mowing, however. Others begged off, most with lame excuses. On mowing day, there was a cool breeze, with a temperature in the low 80s. I decided to mow their front yard, with rest stops, if needed. It was, at most, a 30-minute job. I was a bit flagged. But I proceeded non-stop, perhaps a bit short of "flying colors" and a flag that wasn't noticeably limp.

I plumb forgot that our neighbors have one of those "see all" security cameras. Moments into my mowing venture, they spotted me on their phone screens, almost a thousand miles away. My "good deed" could well have been punished. They sent texts to "cease and desist" mowing immediately. (I did, right after that last swath.)

They didn't call the sheriff, nor even initiate the conversation upon returning home. We apologized, of course, promising to be more specific about arrangements in the future which will NOT involve my participation.

Now, the egg-white starching.

Maybe real starch came along. Maybe they ran out of ways to use egg yolks.

Uh, maybe the "yolk's on us."

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CINERGY ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, 14 July 2023 - Thursday, 20 July 2023

Barbie (PG13)
Thurs: 3:45PM, 6:35PM, 9:25PM

Elemental (PG)
Fri: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 7:00PM, 9:40PM.
Sat: 2:10PM, 4:50PM, 7:30PM, 10:10PM.
Sun, Mon, Wed: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 7:00PM.
Tues: 1:05PM, 3:45PM, 6:25PM.
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:40PM, 6:00PM

Elemental - Sensory Friendly (PG)
Sat: 11:30AM

Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 12:25PM, 3:45PM, 7:10PM, 10:30PM.
Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:25PM, 3:45PM, 7:10PM.
Thurs: 10:35AM, 1:55PM, 5:20PM, 8:45PM

Insidious: The Red Door (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 12:40PM, 3:15PM, 5:50PM, 8:25PM, 11:00PM.
Sun, Mon, Tues, Wed: 12:15PM, 2:50PM, 5:25PM, 8:00PM.
Thurs: 1:05PM, 3:20PM, 9:40PM

Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part 1 (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM, 9:30PM, 10:30PM.
Sun, Mon, Wed: 11:00AM, 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:00PM, 7:00PM.
Tues: 10:20AM, 12:30PM, 1:50PM, 4:00PM, 5:20PM, 7:30PM.
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:40PM, 1:30PM, 5:00PM, 8:30PM

Oppenheimer (R)
Thurs: 5:00PM, 8:50PM

Puss in Boots: The Last Wish - Kids' Summer Series (PG)
Tues, Thurs: 10:00AM

Sound of Freedom (PG13)
Fri, Sat: 11:00AM, 2:00PM, 5:00PM, 8:00PM, 11:00PM.
Sun, Mon, Wed: 11:00AM, 2:00PM, 5:00PM, 8:00PM.
Tues: 12:30PM, 3:30PM, 6:30PM.
Thurs: 10:00AM, 12:40PM, 3:40PM, 6:40PM, 8:40PM

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MONDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes. 9 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. Tai Chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise; 11:15 a.m. chair yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

GRANBURY BRIDGE Club, ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge game, noon at Texas Cottage, 5920 Henslee Court. \$8, earn Masterpoints. Details: 817-480-4472.

SONS OF the American Legion Post 491 of Granbury Burger Night. 5 - 7 p.m. American Legion Post, 3409 Davis Road. Funds raised are used to support veteran and community youth programs. Open to members and guests. Details: 515-554-6498.

GRANBURY CIVIC Chorus rehearsals, 7 p.m. at Acton United Methodist Church, 3433 Fall Creek Highway. Details: granburycivicchorus2001@gmail.com.

TUESDAYS

LINE DANCING 2 p.m. Healthy Connections, 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.

BEGINNERS' CHAIR Yoga 45-minute Class. Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. - Donations for Local Charities are accepted. Class will take place at Emmanuel Lutheran Church located at 2301 Fall Creek Hwy, 76049. For more information call 817-326-2201

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's hosted by the Hood County YMCA will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at 1475 James Road. The program is led by a certified group fitness instructor and consists of a pre- and post-

fitness evaluation, and 45 minute spin/cycling session. Program will last 12 weeks For more information call 817-624-9791 or e-mail communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

WEDNESDAYS

HAND AND Foot game day. 10 a.m. Healthy Connections, 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

GRANBURY BRIDGE Club offers a "fun duplicate" bridge game at noon at the Texas Cottage, 5920 Henslee Court. \$4. Details: 817-480-4472.

THURSDAYS

HEALTHY CONNECTIONS exercise classes. 9 a.m. exercise; 10 a.m. tai chi; 10:30 a.m. exercise; 11:15 a.m. chair yoga. 1321 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 1001. Details: 817-579-2979.

CHESS CLUB, 5-9 p.m. at YMCA, 1475 James Road. U.S. Chess Affiliate, all ages and skill levels, children 10 and under must be accompanied by adult. Y membership not required. Details: HoodCountyChess.com.

GENERAL TRIVIA, 7-9 p.m. at Brew Drinkery, 206 E. Pearl Street. Prizes and fun. Use your phone to play. Free.

THE GRANBURY Disc Golf Club has Mini tournaments every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. at 600 W. Moore St. Welcoming all levels of disc golfers. Show up at least 15 minutes early to pay the \$12 entry fee and warm up.

PEDALING FOR Parkinson's hosted by the Hood County YMCA will be from 1 to 2 p.m. at 1475 James Road. The program is led by a certified group fitness instructor and consists of a pre- and post-fitness evaluation, and 45 minute spin/cycling session. Program will last 12 weeks For more information

call 817-624-9791 or e-mail communityhealth@ymcafw.org.

SATURDAYS

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

SUNDAYS

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

FIRST MONDAYS

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

LOVE KNOTS Prayer Shawl Ministry. The ministry is in need of 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.

FIRST TUESDAYS

GRANBURY DOLL Club meeting, 2 p.m. Granbury Doll House Museum, 421 E Bridge St. All doll appreciators are welcome!

SECOND TUESDAYS

GRANBURY KNITTING Guild meets to knit, learn and share knitting tips each month at First Presbyterian Church Annex, 303 W. Bridge St. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. and

meeting from 10-11:30 a.m.

FOURTH TUESDAYS

HOOD COUNTY Historical Society meets the 4th Tuesday each month (except November and December) at 7 p.m. at the Historic Granbury Railroad Depot, 109 E. Ewell St. Contact Karen Nace 817-279-2995 for additional details.

FIRST THURSDAYS

BRAZOS RIVER Corvette Club meets on 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 SATURDAYS

2ND SATURDAY Showoff at Fuzzy's Taco Shop, 115 W. Pearl St. Car show, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

GRIEF SUPPORT breakfast for anyone grieving the loss of someone they love at 10 a.m., Fuzzy's off the Square. Details: Amy or Danny Dwight. 817-894-2449 or 817-219-9833

THIRD MONDAYS

GRANBURY QUILTERS Guild meets on the third Monday each month at United Coop Electric, 320 Fall Creek Highway, 6 p.m. Details: 817-296-8186.

LOVE KNOTS Prayer Shawl Ministry. The ministry is in need of 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.

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 Ho Play listings to calendar@hcnews.com and include the day, date, time and location - including street address.

“TO PROTECT AND SERVE”



EMILY NAVA | HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Officers from the Granbury Police Department bow their heads during the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Ceremony on July 7, 2023.

Honoring fallen law enforcement officers

BY EMILY NAVA
Staff Writer

A service was held to honor and remember those who have served in law enforcement and lost their lives in the line of duty at Memorial Lane in Granbury on July 7.

The service included words from those around the community, a glowstick vigil as well as wreath and flag ceremonies.

“I’d like to remember that none of us would be here tonight if it wasn’t for our law enforcement. We would not have a county. We would not have a state. We would not have a nation. These guys risk their lives each and every day to bring safety to all of us. And to the families that have lost a loved one in the line of duty that we never forget our heroes,” Hood County Judge Ron Massingill said.

The service was hosted by Friends of Memorial Lane, a community organization in Granbury that honors all who have served. The group has been holding this ceremony annually since 2017.

“It fills your heart to know that they have given the ultimate sacrifice for us and

then it gives us a chance to say thank you back to the families so it’s pretty humbling,” Julia Pannell of Friends of Memorial Lane said.

On Tuesday, July 5 during the weekly Granbury City Council’s meeting, an official city proclamation of Granbury was announced recognizing July 7 as Fallen Law Enforcement Day.

Part of the proclamation read as follows, “Whereas July 7th is the anniversary of an ambush style attack that took the lives of five Dallas officers in 2016. This was the deadliest attack on US law enforcement since September 11th, 2001. And whereas our officers put their lives on the line every day to ensure our safety and wellbeing, we must stand in support of these brave men and women and the sacrifices must be remembered.”



A wreath that reads “Never Forget” is placed at Memorial Lane in honor of those who have lost their lives in the line of duty during the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Ceremony on July 7, 2023.

“I’d like to remember that none of us would be here tonight if it wasn’t for our law enforcement. We would not have a county. We would not have a state. We would not have a nation. These guys risk their lives each and every day to bring safety to all of us. And to the families that have lost a loved one in the line of duty that we never forget our heroes.”

RON MASSINGILL
Hood County judge



The sun sets over Memorial Lane in Granbury as the Fallen Law Enforcement Officer Ceremony takes place on July 7, 2023.



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GAME ON

The cake is a lie

If you like original puzzles with an insane narrator, the Portal series is for you



BY JENNIFER HARRISON

My opinions on computer gaming and some of my favorite games. I've been playing games on the home computer since the days of the Trash 80. I love indie, open-world, unique, puzzle, and resource games. The cake is a lie.

The game "Portal" has been around since 2007. So long that you've probably seen the memes, even if you've never played the game - a red circle with a Christmas tree halfway through it, a blue circle with the other half of the Christmas tree. It was based on a 2005 puzzle platform game, "Narbacular Drop," designed by Nuclear Monkey Software, a group of students from DigiPen Institute of Techology. Valve saw their work and immediately hired the group.

It's a great game that uses a simple device -the portal maker - to solve problems. At first, you're simply getting around a corner with a carefully placed portal, or putting a portal where you want an object to drop. Eventually you'll be asked to solve more complex problems, like increasing the velocity of your fall by adding a portal to your drop, so that when you finally hit the springboard you're launched into the next area. That's all I'll say about game play, because if you've never played it, you should.

I'm not embarrassed to admit that I didn't know about "Portal" until its sequel came out. I played the sequel first because I apparently don't care about continuity. Then I played through the original game, which has been updated with higher resolution textures.

One of the utterly charming things about the original "Portal" game is the apparently sociopathic artificial intelligence that's running

the game. You're trapped in a testing arena with a computer that's constantly testing your limits and isn't too concerned about your safety. Every once in a while, GLaDOS (the artificial intelligence) will taunt you with your incompetence, your lack of suitability for this task, even promise you cake, only to reward you with yet more testing.

Eventually you will complete the testing, defeat GLaDOS, and escape from the lab, only to be dragged back to the lab in a brief cutscene at the end of the game and put into suspended animation.

Portal 2
"Portal 2" was released in 2011. This sequel keeps the same ingenious puzzle construction as the first game, but combines it with better graphics and smoother gameplay. And no mention of cake. Game designer Erik Wolpaw was wanting something new and avoided referring to cake in Portal 2 (except for one subtle refer-



COURTESY PHOTO

Cubes are common testing elements throughout the Portal series.

ence.) "If you thought you were sick of the memes, I was sick of it way ahead of you."

The look and feel of "Portal 2" was inspired by photo galleries of abandoned architecture, industrial buildings that have fallen into disuse, and old buildings from the Soviet Space program.

In "Portal 2," you're awakened from a long slumber by Wheatley, just in time for the facility to be demolished. Wheatley, voiced by Stephen Merchant, is a personality core, originally used to control GLaDOS. Wheatley guides you through the old testing chambers while trying to help you escape, and accidentally revives GLaDOS.

"Portal 2" uses the portal gun that we all know and love from the first game. As you progress, you'll en-

counter more experimental materials from the Aperture Science facility, like gels that allow you to bounce higher or go faster, lasers (Thermal Discouragement Beams) that can be used to activate switches, tractor beams (Excursion Funnels) and Hard Light Bridges. These can be combined with the portals to solve the increasingly more difficult puzzles.

Through short audio recordings made by Cave Johnson (voiced by the actor J.K. Simmons) we learn that Aperture Science Laboratory has fallen on hard times. Johnson's experiments on moon dust have made him fatally ill, and his final act is to put the brain of his assistant, Caroline, into a computer, creating GLaDOS.

"Portal 2" isn't more difficult than "Portal 1." If

there's a difference, the play time is a little longer - it's more cinematic. It looks better, includes some really impressive renderings, and there's more 'story.' Stephen Merchant makes the character of Wheatley really unlikeable. Some of his performances were improv, which keeps it spontaneous and funny. J.K. Simmons as the voice of Cave Johnson was perfectly cast, and his performance made it a better game.

It's also playable as a 2-player cooperative mode, with participation required from both players to solve the puzzles.

I won't spoil the ending of the game for you, but it's challenging, the ending is satisfying, and Wheatley gets what's coming to him. "Portal 2" has won several

awards, including Ultimate Game of the Year at the 2011 Golden Joystick Awards, and six BAFTA video game award categories, including Best Game, Best Story, and Best Design.

"Portal" and its sequel, "Portal 2" were built using the Half-Life engine. Originally this was done because of a lack of art resources; eventually Valve tied in Portal and Portal 2 to the Half-Life game universe. "Portal" happens between "Half Life" and "Half Life 2". Portal characters have appeared in other games, including "Lego Dimensions," "Dota 2," "Cyberpunk 2077," "Rocket League," "Minecraft," and more.

Available on SteamOS for PC and Macintosh.

GARDEN PATCH

Celebrate Milkweed!



BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER

Phyllis Webster earned a degree in journalism before embarking on a long career in public relations and marketing. A Granbury resident since 1998, she has been deeply involved in the community. She is an award-winning writer and photographer, as well as a Master Gardener. She has authored Garden Patch since 2001.

Mayor Jim Jarratt declared July as Milkweed Month in Granbury, which reinforced the city's commitment to aid monarch butterflies as they migrate through Texas. In 2016, Lake Granbury Master Gardeners (LGMG) successfully urged city officials to sign the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, which was the first of many actions taken in support of the threatened butterfly. In 2017, LGMG launched their annual Romancing the Monarch Butterfly Festival.

Why July? It's a good time to remind the public that they can make a difference. Many pollinators, particularly monarch butterflies, depend on milkweed for their survival. Pollinators

are necessary for producing the food that humans depend upon. Monarchs travel thousands of miles between Mexico and Canada pollinating food crops along the way. Planting milkweed in area gardens and landscapes is akin to putting out a welcome mat for migrating monarchs.

Sadly, monarchs are disappearing. The National Wildlife Federation claims the monarch population declined 80-90% over 20 years. Exposure to pesticides and herbicides, along with habitat loss, affects their numbers. Fortunately, communities such as Granbury are acting to protect pollinators, urging Texas residents to plant milkweed and nectar-



COURTESY PHOTO BY PHYLLIS WEBSTER

Planting milkweed supports hundreds of beneficial insects including bees, moths and butterflies. Monarch butterflies depend on milkweed during their entire life cycle.

producing plants while minimizing pesticide/herbicide use.

Although milkweed is often seen as a pesky weed, it has more value than most landscape ornamentals. For example, milkweed is the sole host plant (food source) for the monarch butterfly's caterpillars and the only

plant upon which the female monarch will lay her eggs. What's more, the plants' co-

pinous nectar attracts a broad range of moths and butterflies including skippers and eastern tiger swallowtails. And birds make use of milkweed as nesting material.

Common milkweed, *Asclepias syriaca*, includes more than 100 North American species. It grows along roadsides and in fields among wildflowers, but it can be cultivated in home gardens. Native milkweed is nature's perfect food source for more than 450 insects that feed on its nectar, leaves, sap, and flowers. It supports helpful species, such as bees, caterpillars, butterflies, beetles, and ants. And by attracting beneficial insects, such as parasitic wasps, carnivorous flies and other predatory bugs, native milkweed helps to control garden pests including aphids, leafhoppers, stink bugs and thrips.

Natives suitable to North Central Texas include

common, antelope horn, whorled, showy and butterfly milkweeds. Plant native milkweed from a reliable seed source, covering seeds with 1/2" soil. Choose a well-drained, full-sun site. Buy tropical milkweed transplants in area garden centers but grow them with caution. You must cut them close to the ground in November despite their continued bloom. Their late flowers disrupt the monarchs' life cycle by halting their journey south. Late season tropicals also harbor a harmful parasite.

Watch for news about this fall's Romancing the Monarch Butterfly Festival, including a new billboard on Hwy. 377. Plant milkweed and bring on the pollinators!

For answers to your horticulture questions, please call the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Hood County at 817-579-3280 or go online to visit lakegranburymastergardeners.org.

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For I, the LORD your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, 'Fear not, I am the one who helps you.'
 Isaiah 41:13



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 Proverbs 3:5-6




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When I thought, "My foot slips," Your steadfast love, O LORD, helped me up. When the cares of my heart are many, Your consolations cheer my soul.
 Psalm 94:18-19



So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
 Isaiah 41:10



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And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.
 Romans 8:28



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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.
 Jeremiah 29:11



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PECAN PLANTATION BITS

Auxiliary golf tournament scores a win for Pecan emergency personnel

BY DIANE LONG



A Mississippi native who has been a Texas transplant for 29 years, Diane Long is a wife, mother, and former English teacher who has written Pecan Plantation Bits for 16 years cumulatively. She spends her time both gathering neighborhood news and collecting new books to read.

When describing last weekend's Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary's golf tournament fundraiser, Lana Robinson, Auxiliary Publicist, reports, "What a day it was! Hot, but full of excitement!"

Lana continues by saying that in addition to golf tournament play, many patrons purchased raffle tickets to support fundraising efforts. Final figures from the day are currently being tallied, and every penny earned goes to support Pecan's emergency volunteers.

Despite the summer heat, 144 golfers participated in the tournament thus contributing to the day's success. Auxiliary members were in full force the entire day, serving the Pecan community by executing the event and fulfilling the Auxiliary's mission, to support and raise money for the wonderful volunteers in our neighborhood's emergency response departments.

ART EVENT

Pecaners enjoyed the first day of the Pecan Plantation Art Guild's Fine Art Show last night, and the event continues today, Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Pecan clubhouse ballroom. The PPAG boasts a wealth of talent, and the show will provide neighbors an opportunity to admire the work of guild members.

In addition, the PPAG's Gallery Night 2023 is on the calendar for Friday, September 29 when folks may tour artists' home galleries of fine art. More details are forthcoming as the date draws closer.

THEATER ACCOMPLISHMENT

The Missoula Children's Theater held a successful week of rehearsals that culminated in two performances of "Cinderella" last weekend at the PAC. Thank you to everyone who helped make this annual summer event so fantastic.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Pecan's Fourth of July parade, party, and street dance helped neighbors celebrate our country's birthday in great style. Congratulations to the parade competition winners, cheers to parade grand marshals Claudette and Monty Lewis, and much gratitude to the clubhouse staff and community volunteers who made the event happen.

A poolside disk jockey added to the evening's ambience as did the music of the Who's Oscar band. A flyover, food and beverages, games, and a bounce house completed the party.

MARINA MUSIC

The Pit Grill at Pecan's marina recently hosted "Marina Music Trio" to entertain diners. Country, rock, bluegrass, jazz, and folk tunes were all on the play list for neighbors to enjoy while sitting on the marina patio.

ROAD WORK

Due to unforeseen circum-



COURTESY PHOTO BY KAREN GOMEZ

The Pecan Plantation Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service Auxiliary volunteers turned out in strength to serve the Pecan community by planning and executing a successful golf tournament fundraiser last weekend. Pictured are some of the folks on hand facilitating the day.

stances, the road work set to begin in June now holds a tentative commencement date of mid-July. Pecaners will receive additional updates as they are available.

SUMMER FUN

The final session of summer swim lessons began last week at the PAC pool with age divided classes, and the second session of golf, tennis, and swim camp for participants ages 6 and older is also underway. The summer season has held and continues to provide many activities for the young residents of our community.

BLOOD DRIVE

Carter Blood Care will be in Pecan on Monday, July 24 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for a blood drive. Joi Keahey at the PAC is the contact person for the event: joi@ppoaweb.com.

BREAKFAST CLUB

Pecan's Breakfast Club met last week and heard from Tammy Dooley, director of the Granbury Convention and

Visitors Bureau, and Kristen Gibson, assistant director of Visit Granbury, who presented "Explore Granbury" and helped attendees learn more about USA Today's "Best Historic Small Town in America."

The next Breakfast Club gathering is on the calendar for Wednesday, July 26 with breakfast service beginning at 8 a.m. and the program following at 9 a.m.

LUNCH BUNCH

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club enjoyed its first daytime "Chit Chat" luncheon of the summer as the ladies welcomed Diane Hedges and Debby Gordon who presented information about the Historical Granbury Merchant Association as well as a history of the Granbury square and description of its upcoming events. Many thanks go to Shelly Brandenberger, Betty Milburn, and Cherry Redwine (Chit Chat Committee members) for organizing the day, as well as to the clubhouse staff for

displaying a fantastic job of set up and service. The next Chit Chat event will happen on Thursday, July 20.

EVENING EVENT

The Pecan Plantation Woman's Club's most recent evening "Chit Chat" event occurred last week in the Terrace Room of the Pecan clubhouse. Dinner was served, and the ladies enjoyed receiving an introduction to line dancing.

HONORS GIVEN

Pecan's Volunteer Fire Department/Emergency Medical Service recently held its badge pinning ceremony for firefighters, and receiving recognition were Mike Barrett, Doug Caughley, Mat Morgan, and Lt. Bill Wimberly. Congratulations to these emergency responders. Thanks also go to Donna Bullis and the VFD/EMS Auxiliary for dinner, set up, and decorations, all of which added to the festive evening.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to the family of Darrell Wesley, who passed away May 28; to the family of Margaret Harber, who passed away June 5; to the family of Michael McGovern, who passed away June 12; to the family of Dorethea Steele, who passed away June 26; to the family of Doug Ward, who passed away June 29; to the family of Dianne Scalise, who passed away July 3; and to the family of Bill Austin, who passed away July 6.

APOLOGY

I totally goofed when submitting Pecan Plantation Bits for July 1, and I apologize for the erroneous information, great confusion, and lack of accuracy my mistake produced. In addition, the July 8 column was unintentionally omitted from the paper. Hopefully, today's column gets everyone caught up.

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Business Directory

<p>Clear Choice Hearing Center Dr. Bhaloo</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">682-936-4081</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Shower Experts Backsplashes Porches Floors Tub Surrounds</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">CARPET TILE WOOD VINYL PLANK LAMINATE</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; color: red;">Located in the Home Source Showroom Center</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">817-910-2213 5353 Acton Hwy, Suite B Granbury</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: blue;">Building Creative pools in Granbury since 1996</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">817-326-1468 • celebritypools.com</p>
<p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">GENERAL CONTRACTING Your Roof Restoration Specialists</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">ROOFING * GUTTERS * SIDING</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">817-964-7620</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; color: white;">5412 SEMINOLE CT., GRANBURY WWW.FIRSTTEXAS.ORG DOUG WEAVER - OWNER</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">Retreat Center for creative people to come together &</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sew ➤ Scrapbook ➤ Make Jewelry ➤ Create a craft <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">6495 Smoky Hill Ct. Acton (Granbury), TX 76049</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">3 bedrooms with ensuites We sleep 12 people, no minimum Self catered kitchen - Two night minimum</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">817-326-3287 * www.PattisLastResort.com *</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">MAMA'S PIZZA</p> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">Join Mama's mobile COUPON CLUB</div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: red;">Text mamas to 21333 for specials and information</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">817-964-3333</p>
<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">ATTENTION, ALL WHO HAVE MEDICARE PARTS A AND B</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: green;">FOR \$0 MONTHLY PREMIUM</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Now you can get \$125.00 added back to your social security check!!!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: green;">Also, \$20,000 in Dental Benefits!!! AND MUCH MORE!!!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">FIND OUT HOW!!!</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em; color: white;">Carl Craig Bloomquist, LUTCF 682-551-4121</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: orange;">RUMNEY HOME IMPROVEMENTS</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">817-559-9802</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: white;">Ron Rumney Lake Granbury</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All home improvements • Lake rental property maintenance & repair • Handyman services • Visit my website <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: white;">rumneyhomeimprovements.com Ronrumney@hotmail.com</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> </div> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; font-weight: bold;">Register for Classes</p> <p style="font-size: 0.7em;">403 Temple Hall Hwy Granbury</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; color: red;">682-600-5734</p>

Karen Chandler

817-573-7066 ext. 232 / karen@hcnews.com

Heidi Gebhardt

817-573-7066 ext. 235 / heidi@hcnews.com

Madison Lazaro

817-573-7066 ext. 236 / madison@hcnews.com

DIRECTORY DISPLAY RATES

3 Months: \$40/week | 6 Months: \$35/week
12 Months: \$30/week



Celebration CAPITAL OF TEXAS

GRANBURY, TX

Being proclaimed “The Celebration Capital of Texas” is so exciting! Such an accomplishment is possible when our community and officials work together to accomplish a fantastic goal.

I would like to personally thank Rep. Shelby Slawson and Sen. Brian Birdwell for moving the resolution through the legislative process and having it placed on the Governor’s desk to be signed.

I am so appreciative of the support from our City Manager Chris Coffman, our mayor Jim Jarrett, and the entire city council and entire city staff for supporting Visit Granbury’s tourism efforts with funding, time, event safety, logistics’ and motivation for us to be successful.

I am thankful for the outstanding team at Visit Granbury and Lake Granbury Conference Center who go above and beyond to make sure our community and visitors know how exciting it is to be a part of Granbury’s story. This team is the best and works tirelessly to promote existing events, bring new events and more visitors to Granbury.

Lastly, I want to thank the community of Granbury for your support, encouragement, and willingness to volunteer, attend and support the many events which happen in our community. You are our best promoters!

It is now official! Granbury is the “Celebration Capital of Texas” – Congratulations to all...let the celebrations begin!

Tammy Dooley
Director of Visit Granbury



www.visitgranbury.com