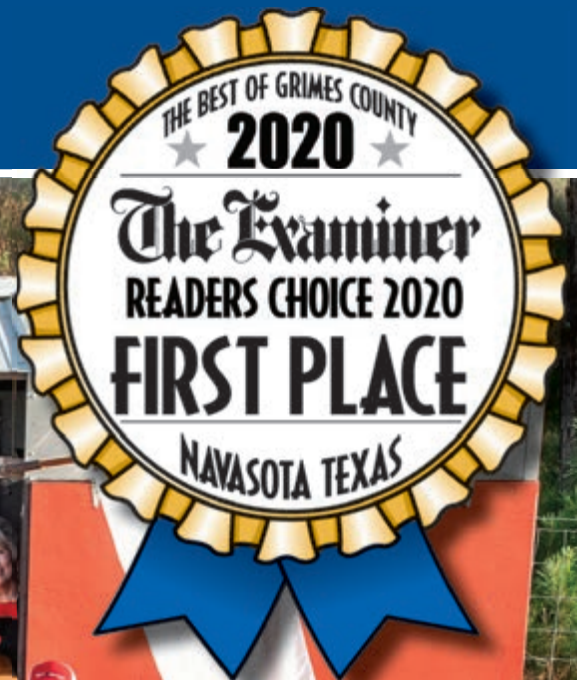


THE BEST OF GRIMES COUNTY

Chad McMillan
2020 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



SPECIAL
EDITION

The Examiner

2020



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BEST COACH CASEY DACUS

Place of business and how long?
Navasota ISD for 2 years

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was surprised and humbled. Lots of good coaches in our county.

What is your favorite way to relax?

I like to be with my family when I can. I also like to binge watch shows on Netflix, Amazon Prime, etc.

One thing you still want to learn to do?

I want to learn how to fly planes and have a pilot license.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

When our family travels, we will usually stop at College Football stadiums and attempt to tour the facilities. So far, several SEC stadiums have been our favorites.



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Taking a huge leap into a new venture and leaving behind security isn't something Alan Shoalmire took lightly and if it weren't for "cosmic" timing, he may still be waiting to chase his dream and may have never become the "Grill Sergeant."

Before attending Hot Dog University in Chicago in 2010, Shoalmire was a teacher. He taught fifth-grade math and Texas History for Navasota Independent School District. Additionally, he served in the United States Army.

Shoalmire believes everyone is entitled to several versions of themselves and he has always dreamt of owning a food truck. Unfortunately, the \$80-90K price tag was out of reach for him. Refusing to give up on his dream, Shoalmire researched and discovered owning a hotdog cart was the least expensive way to

get his foot in the door of the food industry.

The only formal training Shoalmire could find was at Hot Dog University in Chicago. In the weeklong course he learned the "art of the cart." He was taught various things from how to price hotdogs, health regulations, which products to use and which to avoid, how to manage inventory and much more. He even got to tour the Vienna Beef Hot Dog Factory. "Despite the horror stories you hear, I can assure you there aren't any lips, tongues or any other weird items in their hotdogs. They are pure beef cut from around the ribs and brisket area of the cow," explained Shoalmire.

After Shoalmire graduated from the University, a lot of time passed. He wrestled with the idea of leaving a job with benefits until he attended Living History Weekend at the Mu-

seum of the American GI. "A hotdog vendor was set up at the event and he was rolling in the cash," said Shoalmire. When business let up, he approached the vendor and mentioned that he was interested in getting in the hotdog business. "He just froze." What he said changed Shoalmire's life. "He said he had an extra cart he was needing to sell." Shoalmire drove to Waco and purchased the cart.

After 31-years in the military and an extensive teaching career, Shoalmire retired and began the hotdog business. The first day, on May 14, 2018, was "nerve-wrecking." The logo for his cart showed up with five-minutes to spare before the ribbon-cutting, and he was terrified no one would show up to eat.

Since that time Shoalmire has sold a countless number of hotdogs, and his array of menu items keeps customers returning for more. "I have one elderly couple that follows me everywhere. One time they even showed up to my house to see where I would be the following day," said Shoalmire. "I bet they have eaten 100 hotdogs."

The Grill Sergeant features hotdogs inspired by others. Shoalmire's favorite hotdog to make is the "Full Metal Jacket," named by his friend Dale. It's a jumbo hotdog with homemade chili, cheese, onions, relish, jalapeños and sau-

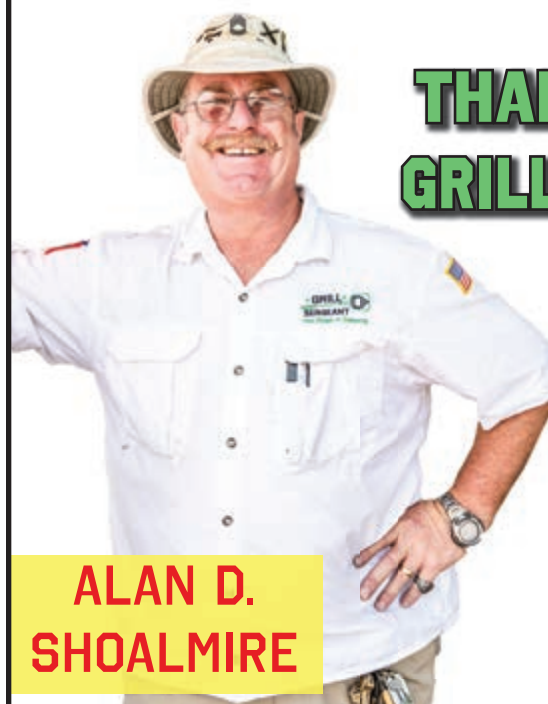
erkraut. He also has a hotdog inspired by local radio personality Kenny Graves called the "Willy," which is sausage topped with sautéed onions and bell peppers. Sometimes there are specialty items on the menu such as the bacon mac and cheese dog.

Shoalmire has learned, "don't get happy or sad too quick." He said, "tomorrow is another day and it's going to be different. I've gotten caught in the moment and anticipated every day to be great only to struggle the next day. There are other days that are slow, and it seems like they won't ever pick back up."

When not serving up the best hotdogs in Grimes County, Shoalmire enjoys writing a column in The Examiner, cleverly title "Off the Grill." He also is active at First Presbyterian Church where he and his wife sing in the choir.

One day Shoalmire would like to upgrade to a larger cart or food truck, and possibly be able to hire an employee. Regardless of what the future holds, he is where he wants to be and can't imagine being an employee again. "Owning my own business came at a perfect time in my life and was one of the best things I've ever done."

Grill Sergeant has one word of advice for anyone wanting to feast on the best hotdog in Grimes County, "Come on down an GETCHU-SOME!"



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Best
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Best**BEST DAYCARE
CREATIVE MINDS
CHILDCARE**

**110 Brewer Street
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Brenda Meekins' passion and love for children inspired her and her daughter Krysten to pursue a business within the community that mirrored their passion for children and would give them a platform to make a difference within the community.

The childcare community quickly made an impact on the future business the mom and daughter were planning. Brenda said when other childcare facilities heard about her and her daughters' interest in opening an additional childcare center within Navasota, those centers rallied around the idea. "The childcare industry within our community was very receptive and extended a helping hand. They ensured us, if we needed anything, they were only a phone

call away," explained Brenda.

Brenda said they expressed the need for another childcare facility in the area because many of the current daycares were filled to capacity and had to turn children away. The overwhelming support they received was one of many confirmations Brenda said they needed that opening Creative Minds Childcare was truly their calling.

Further validation was the potential location of the facility. In the 1960s, a building was constructed at 110 Brewer Street that would serve the community for decades as the Navasota Public Library. The fact that they wanted to teach children and serve the community, the same reason the building was initially built, made the site a perfect choice. "It coincided with what we wanted to do and the timing of the building being available was further confirmation of the calling," stated Brenda.

The love of children was evident, the building was in place and the childcare facility received community backing. There was only one thing needed to bridge the gap to opening the facility – someone that knew how to run the daycare. "I had no idea what establishing a daycare entailed," said Brenda. "All I knew was I love children. I love helping, nurturing and teaching them." As far as the rules and regulations and all that goes into the business, Brenda said she didn't have all that knowledge.

Brenda knew someone that had the necessary knowledge and experience to operate a daycare, her classmate Felisa Randle. She reached out to Felisa hoping she could point her in the direction of a good childcare director, not expecting to hear that Felisa herself was available. That was one more confirmation of the calling as Felisa accepted the job and bridged the gap the daycare needed. "My part was easy – just building the daycare," explained Brenda. "It's like the quote from the movie Field of Dreams; if you build it, they will come."

The daycare currently has 34 children and they are all special to Brenda and her staff, but a story shared by one of the parents touched her heart immensely. One of the parents attended school and gradu-

ated with Brenda's daughter Krysten, however Brenda said she never knew her until she registered her children at daycare. "She told me when she heard I was opening a daycare she immediately knew that is where her children were going to be enrolled," said Brenda. One evening the parent opened up to Brenda and explained how she knew her children would be enrolled at the daycare.

Brenda recalls the conversation, "She said I remember you from when I was in kindergarten. I remember you attending every single activity Krysten had. You were very involved in the school and I always remember you being there. I remembered thinking one day when I am a mommy, I want to be just like you." Brenda said when she heard that, she knew it was another affirmation of her calling. "I can't thank her enough for sharing that story with me. I never knew what I did could have such an impact on someone."

The daycare celebrates its one-year anniversary Sept. 16 and has experienced great times such as a visit from the local fire department, but they have also experienced trying times in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. "If I could have predicted this pandemic, I may have delayed the opening for years if I decided to open at all," said Brenda. She said if it weren't for Felisa being the backbone through these times she is not sure if Creative Minds would still be open today.

Being named "Best Childcare Facility in Grimes County" is not something the daycare takes lightly. "I was absolutely flabbergasted by the announcement and was in total shock. We thank our community for supporting us through this difficult and trying time," said Brenda.

Despite earning the award in their first year, Felisa said they have their eyes set on becoming a "Texas Rising Star" daycare. Part of the recognition is opening the daycare to state-paid subsidies that helps less fortunate children attend the daycare. "One of the things Navasota Mayor Bert Miller challenged us to do when we announced we were opening a daycare is to obtain the Texas Rising Star distinction," said Felisa. In year two the daycare aims to move toward that goal.

BEST DAY CARE CENTER

*Thank you, Grimes County, for voting us #1!
It truly is an honor to be recognized by our community.*

**CREATIVE MINDS CHILDCARE!**

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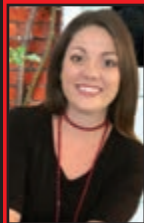
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BEST ATTORNEY

JON C. FULTZ

Place of business and how long?

Fultz & Fultz, PLLC (20+ years)
Grimes County (15+ years)

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I felt honored and excited to see the Examiner staff. They are the best.

What is your favorite way to relax?

Hanging out in the Blackjacks

One thing you still want to learn to do?

To speak Spanish fluently

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I'm not a fan of social media, I drive a '96 Chevy Z71 with 300,000+ miles on it (thanks Ray Drews), and I still use a flip phone (but I also have a smartphone). These things may just mean that I'm old, not unique.



Thank You

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HEATING REPAIR
GESSNER HEATING &
AIR CONDITIONING****104 S. 10th Street,
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As the outdoor temperatures continue to climb in the Texas' heat, the indoors can remain comfortable courtesy of Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning, LLC.

Owner Michael Gessner and his team have been providing year-round comfort to Grimes County and surrounding areas since opening the doors in October 2010.

"I'm in this business because I love to help people, and that's what I feel we do when someone calls," said Gessner. "I am proud to say that everyone in the company feels the same way."

Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning, LLC has a dedicated and trained workforce that always puts the needs of the customer first. That attention to detail and superior customer ser-

vice has not gone unnoticed, as the company has been named the Best A/C Heating Repair Company in Grimes County for the last nine years.

Gessner originally began Alamo Heating and Air with his younger brother, Matthew, but the demand in Grimes County quickly necessitated a separate company.

"We began picking up more and more business in the area and we decided to go different directions," said Gessner.

Gessner was familiar with the area, being a 1986 Navasota High School graduate, who spent time in the United States Air Force as a jet engine mechanic, before returning to Texas A&M University to pursue a degree in Finance. As the premiere heating and cooling specialists in the region, Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning has blossomed from a two-man show to a multi-technician company.

"We've been successful because of our steady customer base," said Gessner. "We know that HVAC repair and replacement is not always pleasant and that is why we strive to make the customer experience as unique and comfortable as possible."

Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning ser-

vices residential and commercial properties and offers numerous product lines for customers. From Trane to Lennox, there is something for every need and size of building.

"We are also moving into the mini-splits or ductless systems because of the high need for systems of that nature," said Gessner.

According to Gessner, the mini-splits are great for residential, but also have applications in small commercial settings and the company offers four different lines. People spend the majority of their lives inside homes and buildings and air quality and comfort are incredibly important. Which is why Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning also offers indoor air quality products and services, including detection for carbon monoxide and air decontaminating UV lamps.

If the Texas summer heat and your home's central air system is making your blood boil, call Gessner Heating and Air Conditioning for the best service and repair in the area. The office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, but someone is standing by for emergency service 24 hours a day and seven days a week.

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Best Elected Official



PHILLIP COX

Grimes County Commissioner Pct. 4



BEST BARBER BRIAN WILLIAMS

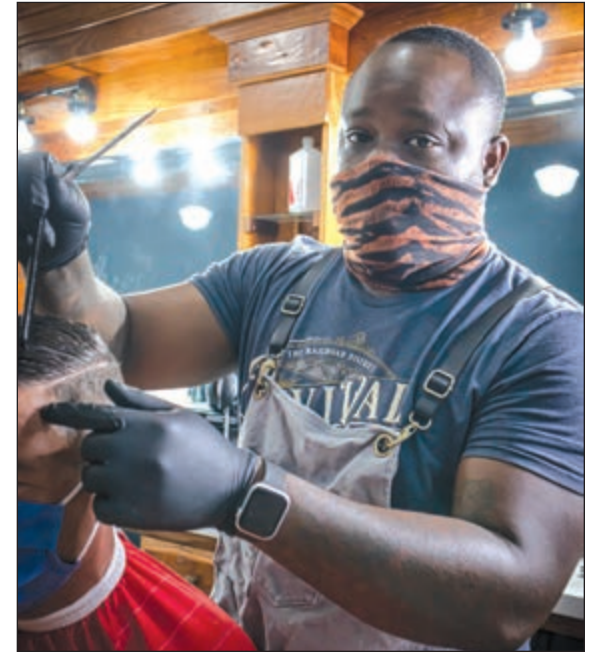
Place of business and how long?
Navasota Revival Shop for one year.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?
It was such a blessing to be considered.

What is your favorite way to relax?
Fishing!!!

One thing you still want to learn to do?
Women's hair

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?
I don't have full function in my dominant hand.



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Best
of the
Best**BEST FAMILY
PHYSICIAN
KATIE BLALOCK**

**1905 Dove Crossing Lane, Ste. A,
Navasota, TX 77868 • (936) 825-0755**

As many medical practices moved towards a co-op approach to medicine, with multiple doctors in multiple clinics, Dr. Katie Blalock of Texas A&M Physicians in Navasota embraced the small-town doctor persona.

"I go to church with my patients, we see each other at the football games on Friday nights and that closeness is actually helpful because it builds a trust that is key," said Blalock.

Born and raised in Navasota, Blalock is a 2003 Rattler graduate who applied to medical school as a high school senior before attending undergrad, medical school and residency through Texas A&M University.

"I knew that I just wanted to do everything and that really is the key to family

medicine," Blalock said. "I always like to say 'I do newborns to nursing homes,' I like all age groups and I am always doing something different and I never know what is going to walk in the door."

According to Blalock, her studies in rural medicine have given her the tools she needs to treat a variety of conditions. She has enjoyed coming home to a small town where she can not only develop a rapport with people but also treat illnesses that may fall to the hands of specialists in other atmospheres.

"I think the beauty of a good family medicine physician is that you really can take care of the whole person," Blalock said. "It is essential that you have someone steering the ship; I have seen too often in this day and age that people will have a specialist for everything but they do not have that one person that actually communicates with everybody else and when they don't things get missed. Dealing with your own healthcare is challenging and you may forget something."

The trust that Blalock has developed with her patients allows her to know when it is time to call in an extra set of eyes and why she was named Best Family Physician and Best Medical Clinic for the last 3 years.

"When I get to the point where they need a specialist I will bring one in and I don't have a problem with that," said Blalock. "There are many things I can take care of and in this community, even though Bryan and College Station are 15 or 20 minutes away, some patients just do not want to leave town and I have to be the cardiologist or gastroenterologist and fulfill those roles and, frankly, my training allows me to do that."

To better assist Grimes County patients with their medical needs, Texas A&M Physicians offers obstetric services through the addition of Dr. Amanda Bray and Dr. Jill Cotter.

Blalock has noticed that an aging population, not just in Grimes County but throughout the country, is requiring more and more medical intervention. It is just this population that she has returned to treat, either within her office or in the local nursing homes.

"I have people who come to me from an hour or an hour and a half

away just to see the doctor; the longer people live the higher the chance of developing a chronic illness," said Blalock, as she noted that early medical intervention is key. "In general, family medicine can take care of most things, I am able to follow them from my clinic to the hospital and who knows them better than I, the one who has been taking care of them the whole time and that continuity of care is essential."

In addition to obstetrics and geriatric care, Blalock and her staff provide routine physical exams, women's health, sports medicine and their office is one of the only in the area to offer Department of Transportation medical exams and commercial motor vehicle certification.

When discussing the boundaries that are normally built between doctor and patient, she said that her patients are adept at building those boundaries on their own, allowing Blalock to enjoy living and working in her hometown.

"When they are here in my office, I am Dr. Blalock and when I am seen out in town or we are in church, then I am Katie," said Blalock. "Sometimes they call me Dr. Katie, because they say I have earned it but I always tell them if you have known me since before I was born, please, just call me Katie."

As the choir director for her local church, Blalock can often be found attending services or even playing off-season music in her office, such as Easter hymns during the Thanksgiving week. She said that being able to interact with her patients on a multitude of levels has allowed her to be a doctor in the office but just a community member elsewhere.

"I have been told as we are going through the line for Wednesday night dinner at church, 'Now, Doc, don't judge.' I always tell them there are no calories at church and I will only judge when the cholesterol numbers come back but in general I want to be a regular part of the community," said Blalock. "Being able to interact with my patients, there is a trust that gets built. It allows me to better care for my patients so they are not hiding anything from me, that doesn't help anyone, but being outside of this office and not being a doctor for a little bit is good for me, and it is good for them too."

**BEST FAMILY PHYSICIAN****KATIE BLALOCK, MD****BEST MEDICAL CLINIC****Texas A&M Physicians, NAVASOTA****Thank you, Grimes County!****TEXAS A&M PHYSICIANS**
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BEST BANK TELLER ASHLEY WEAVER

Place of business and how long?
First National Bank of Anderson for 7 years

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?
Wow! I'm glad my customers love me!

What is your favorite way to relax?
Watching forensic files with my dog mama

One thing you still want to learn to do?
How to keep my house clean with kids

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?
I'm a girl mom to four beautiful girls



BEST FUNERAL HOME

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Best
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Best**BEST TIRE SHOP
JARVIS TIRE PROS****1120 N. LaSalle St., Navasota, TX 77868 • (936) 870-5492**

Jarvis Tire Pros in Navasota began in 2009 with consistent growth spurts that show no chance of slowing. The family-owned business with 14 current employees has earned the Best of Grimes County Tire Shop award by Examiner readers, for the fifth year in a row.

Associated with Tire Pros, an elite family of independent tire dealers across the country, Jarvis Tire is

committed to the local community. The company is active in various nonprofit organizations in Navasota and Grimes County, including being a faithful sponsor of the Grimes County Fair.

Owners and brothers Jody Jarvis and Jed Jarvis decided to become part of the Tire Pros network so that their company could offer Grimes County all of the benefits of a franchise, but still maintain the



independence of a small-town business. The association among dealers allows for Jarvis Tire Pros to offer the rebates and exclusive offers that may not be available to independent tire merchants.

"As part of the franchise tag, we are able to offer nationwide road hazard and separate nationwide roadside assistance," said Jarvis. "There are over 30,000 locations that honor the Tire Pros road hazard."

Jarvis Tire Pros are dealers for Bridgestone-Firestone, Michelin and Goodyear. In addition, they are the exclusive Hercules Tire dealer in the area.

"We are the only shop in the area that can offer the Laser Hawk tire alignment machine and road force balancing services," said Jarvis.

Jarvis Tire moved to their current location at 1120 North LaSalle St. in Navasota in 2011, but their needs have already begun to outstrip their size. The company purchased the 17 acres behind the building and hopes to hire more employees and witness more

growth in the coming months and years.

"Expansion is key," said Jarvis. "We have had tremendous growth in just the past 8 to 9 years; one day we hope to have new locations spread across Texas."

For now, the professionals at Jarvis Tire Pros will continue to offer monthly specials to their local customers.

"We try to have a different special each month," said Jarvis. Jarvis Tire Pros has also become well known for their spur of the moment specials, including a \$9 tire sale and a promotion for law enforcement officers to receive \$300 off a full set of tires.

The small-town camaraderie and large Tire Pros network allows Jarvis to offer the "latest and greatest equipment and services" to their customers, whether they are in the market for lawn mower tires, vehicle tires or large farm equipment tires.

For more information on the range of services and products available from Jarvis Tire Pros, go online to www.jarvistireandwheel.com or call 936-870-5492.

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Jarvis TIRE PROS

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BEST BOSS RICHARD HEREFORD

Place of business and how long?
The First National Bank of
Anderson, Anderson Tx for 40+
years.

**What was your reaction upon
hearing you won Best of the
Best?**
Surprised and very pleased!

**What is your favorite way to
relax?**
Watch a good movie

**One thing you still want to
learn to do?**
Nothing comes to mind

**What is something about you
that nobody else knows, or that
makes you unique?**
I'm a private person



BEST ANTIQUE STORE BLUEBONNET VINTAGE



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would like to THANK Grimes County for voting us

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CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

CHAD MCMILLAN

Place of business and how long?

I have served as the Founder/President of Momentum Missions (an evangelistic and pastor training ministry in Zambia and Zimbabwe, Africa) since 2014 and have served as the Pastor of Students, Evangelism and Missions at First Baptist Church of Navasota since January of this year.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was in shock, disbelief, and happiness... kind of like the time I was taking a break fishing for trout on the Cochetopa Creek in Colorado. While sitting on the ground eating lunch, my Panther Martin spinner bait was dangling in a six-inch wide rivulent when a gorgeous rainbow suddenly grabbed my lure, unexpectedly yanking it under the water, and making it onto my stringer. I did not know the fish was there and was not trying to catch it, but so happy we met.

What is your favorite way to relax?

I love to smoke meat and feed hungry people, making them full and happy.

One thing you still want to learn to do?

I want to learn to read music and sing harmony. I play piano by ear only and couldn't find the harmony notes of a song with a metal detector attached to a truffle pig monitored by Doppler Radar.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I love to write poetry and often will reply to emails or write Facebook birthday posts with a little rhyme. I wrote my first poem in first grade... would you like to hear it?

There once was a leaf which fell to the ground.

Now this was not any old leaf

It was red, yellow and brown

I felt good to see that it looked at me

Somehow I think if it could...

It would have talked to me



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BEST ELECTED OFFICIAL PHILLIP COX

Place of business and how long?

I have been the Grimes County Precinct 4 Commissioner since April 2018.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was pleasantly surprised to have been selected.

What is your favorite way to relax?

My favorite ways to relax are socializing with family, friends and being in the outdoors.

One thing you still want to learn to do?

Someday, I want to learn how to build custom fishing rods.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I have a fear of flying.



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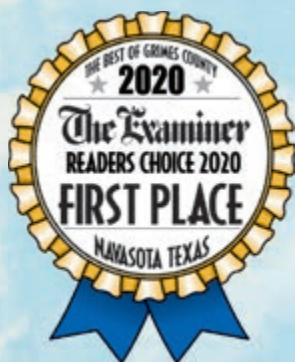
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BEST DRESSED BUSINESSMAN JOHNNY MCNALLY

Place of business and how long?

I've been the Executive Director at the Navasota Grimes County Chamber of Commerce for the past five years.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I nearly flipped my dickey and immediately texted my wife.

What is your favorite way to relax?

I like to walk on the beach in my Birkenstocks, a pair of Brooks Brothers summer shorts and a button-down shirt with sleeves rolled up.

One thing you still want to learn to do?

Tie a bowtie without YouTube's assistance.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

My motto, which is to dress for the job that my more-successful friend has.



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BEST PAINTER NIKKI SULLIVAN

Place of business and how long?

My place of business is anywhere and everywhere – all the time! I guess the best way to describe my “place of business” is just to simply say “it’s all in my head.” With a creative mind, you never really get to control your working environment or your hours- it’s ALWAYS working- part time, full-time and usually over-time, all at the same time. It doesn’t stop when you put your paint brushes down- or even when you fall asleep! Sometimes, I might be painting at home- at 3:30 in the morning, in my husband, Matt’s recliner (don’t tell him if you see a little paint drip on it somewhere) or sometimes I may be pulled over on the side of the road taking photos of the sunset, or a lonely tree, or more than likely yelling at Talli, over her Airpods, “hurry!!! get your phone out and take a pic of that for me- no questions. Just do it!” as I’m driving past who knows what at 75 mph. She actually took this photo of me, so she’s great at it!! But, I’ve been this way

since I was her age, drawing pictures in the mud at my grandmother’s house on Nolan Street, so the best thing about painting and art is that it’s more just a part of me than it is a job! Hopefully, one day, it will be the same for her.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was totally shocked! There are SO many amazing artists in our area -whether they paint or draw or sculpt or whatever else- I’m still not even sure how my name came up, but it sure is an honor and definitely means more than I could ever put into words.

What is your favorite way to relax?

I know most people say painting is a good way to relax, but for me, it’s the opposite! I get so excited and get so many crazy ideas bouncing around in my head that everything just snowballs into this giant thing, less like rolling a head for the neighborhood



snowman than like riding a bull as it somersaults down the side of Mount Everest. But what I can tell you, with 100% certainty, is that for me, TOTAL relaxation is only achieved listening to the waters wave and splash on a private pier under the shade of a palm tree- fishing pole in hand.

One thing you still want to learn to do?
Well, I guess the only thing that could make those waving waters even more relaxing is if I learned how to swim.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?




I’m an open book so most people already know WAY MORE about me than they’d like to! As for being unique, it’s not my strawberry blonde hair or even the way my “angry baby face” knees don’t tan (they stay super white- no matter how tan or sunburned I get- like little baby ghost faces-it’s freaky). It’s just this “thing” I have that lets me see this world with extra color and extra emotion. It’s the thing that makes me feel deeply sad when I experience true happiness, but it’s also the thing that also shows me the humor in that! It’s the thing that helps me find something amazing hidden everywhere I look, and it’s the same thing that reveals the beauty in the darkest of places I’ve been. Maybe it’s in my DNA, or maybe just from all the different crazy things I’ve experienced in my lifetime, or maybe I’m just -can you say ‘bat**** crazy’ in the local paper these days? whatever it is, I’m so thankful to God for it – even if it is the crazy bat thing!

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BEST PRINCIPAL BRIAN FOWLER

Place of business and how long?
Iola ISD one year at Iola Secondary

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was shocked and incredibly honored to be supported by my district and community in such a manner. I'm very proud to be on Iola Bulldog.

What is your favorite way to relax?
Spending time with my beautiful family.

One thing you still want to learn to do?
Having the privilege of being surrounded by amazing educators, I'm always seeking new ways to inspire and motivate others to reach and fulfill their maximum potential.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?
I have a strong interest and fascination with space exploration along with archaeology and historical events.



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BEST DRESSED BUSINESSWOMAN MELANIE NIXON

Place of business and how long?
Brewer Eyeington, Patout & Co., LLP for 3 years.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?
Surprised & grateful!

What is your favorite way to relax?
Sitting in my pool with my family and dogs.

One thing you still want to learn to do?
I want to learn how to shoot sporting clays competitively.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?
While my family has roots in Grimes County, I was born and raised in Houston, but moved here as soon as I could!



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COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER BRITTANY BAY

Place of business and how long?

Faithful Investments – 4 years

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was super excited, proud, and surprised! It's always an honor to be recognized by others for doing something positive, especially when you think no one is looking.

What is your favorite way to relax?

Spending time with my sweet family!

One thing you still want to learn to do?

Drive a RACECAR!! The NASCAR Experience is definitely on my bucket list!

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I think my heart is what makes me unique. It is the driving force behind everything I do, both personally and professionally.



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Place of business and how long?
Navasota fire department.

What was your reaction upon
hearing you won Best of the
Best?

Surprised.

What is your favorite way to
relax?

Spend time with my wife and son.

One thing you still want to learn
to do?

I would like to get my TCOLE
and become a fire investigator.

What is something about you
that nobody else knows, or that
makes you unique?

I'm a fourth-generation fire
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BEST LOCAL ARTIST BOB GOLDSTEIN

Place of business and how long?
Retired and freelance artist.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?
Surprised, because I think there a lot better artists in this area than me.

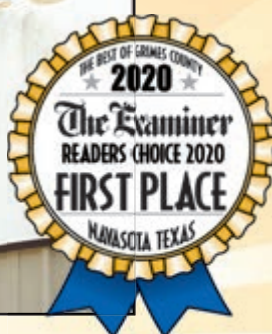
What is your favorite way to relax?
Art. I like to read, and I listen to classical music all the time. I also like to go down to my gazebo with my Bible.

One thing you still want to learn to do?
There are a lot of things – learn conversational Spanish, restudy Tai-Chi, go back to the outer islands of New Zealand.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?
After many years in law enforcement, I was involved in Boy Scouts of America as a scout-master for 11 years and responsible for 12 Eagle Scouts, served as advancement chairman for the Sam Houston Area Council, on the national advancement council and as council commissioner for handicap scouting. I presided over more than 200 Eagle Boards of Review as advancement chairman.



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BEST TEACHER KRISTY HAMILTON

Place of business and how long?

My name is Kristy Hamilton. I teach 2nd grade math, science, and social studies at Iola ISD, and I'm going into my third year of teaching.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was so surprised to win but also thankful! I know there are so many deserving, hard-working teachers that also love their students and professions, so getting to win this year is such an honor!

What is your favorite way to relax?

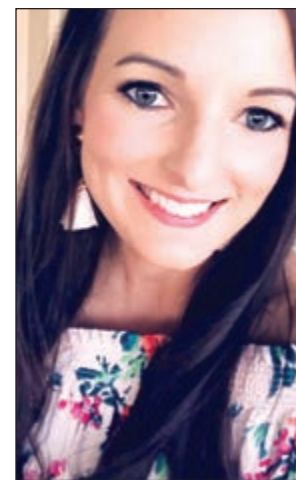
I love to relax by being out at the pool with my family. I'm also always up for getting a nice relaxing pedicure!

One thing you still want to learn to do?

I always enjoy learning new methods of teaching, and I would also love to learn how to play the piano one day!

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I told my kindergarten teacher I would be a teacher one day! My plans never changed. I graduated high school from Iola, earned my degree at Texas A&M University, then I was a stay-at-home mom for nine years before officially becoming a teacher. Being a mom and teacher are both such rewarding jobs!



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BEST OFFICER DAVID ELLISON

Place of business and how long?
Navasota Police Department for
21 years.

What was your reaction upon
hearing you won Best of the Best?
Excited and humbled.

What is your favorite way to
relax?
Yard work - Tv.

One thing you still want to learn
to do?
Play bass guitar and woodwork-
ing.

What is something about you
that nobody else knows, or that
makes you unique?
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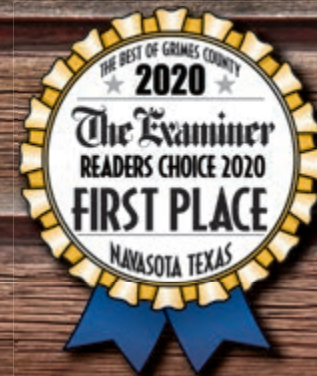
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BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT SHIRLEY CURTISS

Place of business and how long?

Real Estate Unlimited – Navasota & Grimes County. I've been in Real Estate for the last 40+ years.

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

Total surprise. It was an overwhelming feeling. I couldn't imagine that "I" was selected. I am very blessed and blessed to have the business and friends in Navasota & Grimes County.

What is your favorite way to relax?

Enjoy time and play with my great grandchildren.

One thing you still want to learn to do?

I love the mountains and the snow, and I would love to snow ski.



What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I love assisting anyone that is trying to buy a home or grow. Bringing new people to Navasota or Grimes County has always been a goal of mine. Mainly to help the local vendors enhance their business and just see Navasota grow into a property town.



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BEST WAITRESS MACY MEEKINS

Place of business and how long?

The Western Steakhouse and Dancehall.
I've been here for almost 4 years now!

What was your reaction upon hearing you won Best of the Best?

I was very surprised! I wasn't expecting that at all! It made me day!

What is your favorite way to relax?

Being near the water or vacation out of town!

One thing you still want to learn to do?

It says one, but, play the piano and be fluent in another language.

What is something about you that nobody else knows, or that makes you unique?

I'm trying to visit every continent by the time I'm 30, minus Antarctica.



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Rattlers' Den Cafe
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 Mallett Brothers Barbeque & Grill

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Taqueria La Potosina
Runner-up
 Annie's Country Store

BEST BRISKET

Mallett Brothers Barbeque & Grill
Runner-up
 Rattlers' Den Cafe

BEST BUFFET

Las Fuentes Steak & Grill
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Runner-up
 Big Mo's

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The Western Steakhouse & Dancehall
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 Taqueria El Pichon

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& Installation, Inc.

BEST FLOORING CENTER

Thank You for voting for us, Grimes County!

414 Farquhar St. • Navasota • 936-825-0231

Independently & Locally Owned

BEST LIQUOR STORE

Stoneham Liquor
Runner-up
 Zipps Liquor

BEST LUNCH AT A CONVENIENCE STORE

Annie's Country Store
Runner-up
 Hi Ho Store & Cafe

BEST MARGARITA

Las Fuentes Steak & Grill
Runner-up
 Herrera's Mexican Restaurant

BEST MEAT MARKET

K&C Meat Processing
Runner-up
 Castaneda's Meat Market

BEST MEXICAN FOOD

La Casita Mexican Restaurant
Runner-up
 Herrera's Mexican Restaurant

**BEST PIZZA**

Pizza Hut
Runner-up
 Hunt's Brothers (Shell)

BEST RIBS

Mallett Brothers Barbeque & Grill
Runner-up
 Rattlers' Den Cafe

BEST SALAD BAR

Las Fuentes Steak & Grill
Runner-up
 Cow Talk Steak House

BEST SANDWICH

Café M Bloomers
Runner-up
 4141 Coffeehouse

BEST SEAFOOD

Big Mo's
Runner-up
 M-Beaux's Crawfish & Cajun Seafood

BEST SERVICE AT A RESTAURANT

Herrera's Mexican Restaurant
Runner-up
 Classic Rock Coffee Co. & Kitchen

BEST STEAK

The Western Steakhouse & Dancehall
Runner-up
 Las Fuentes Steak & Grill

BEST SWEET TEA

Sonic Drive-In
Runner-up
 Subway

BEST WINGS

Wings Locas
Runner-up
 Las Fuentes Steak & Grill

BEST ROAD SERVICE



Thank you,
 Grimes County!



24/7 Roadside Service

within 100 miles of Navasota

FULL SERVICE MOBILE TIRE SHOP

18-wheeler tires, Tractor tires, gas deliveries,
 lock out services, and jump starts

936-419-3576 - Martin Solis

BEST ACCESSORIES STORE

P. Nemir

Runner-up

Bless Up Boutique

BEST A/C, HEATING REPAIR

Gessner Heating & AC

Runner-up

Don Jarvis AC & Heating

BEST ANTIQUE STORE

Bluebonnet Vintage Collectibles

Runner-up

Circle P Antiques

BEST APARTMENT COMPLEX

42 Place

Runner-up

Navasota Landing Apartments

BEST APPLIANCE STORE

Turner, Pierce & Fultz

**BEST ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY**

Seasons Assisted Living

Runner-up

Golden Creek Healthcare and Rehabilitation

BEST AUTO BODY SHOP

Guarantee Body & Paint

Runner-up

Ray Drews Garage

BEST AUTO DEALERSHIP

Team Ford

Runner-up

Sterling Auto Group

BEST AUTO PARTS STORE

NAPA Auto Parts

Runner-up

O'Reilly Auto Parts

BEST AUTO REPAIR SHOP

Ray Drews Garage

Runner-up

Frank's Towing & Repair

BEST BANK

Citizens State Bank

Runner-up

Prosperity Bank

BEST BEAUTY SALON

Gina's Cut & Dye

Runner-up

Lizzy Boutique & Salon

BEST BED & BREAKFAST

Red Velvet Inn Bed & Breakfast

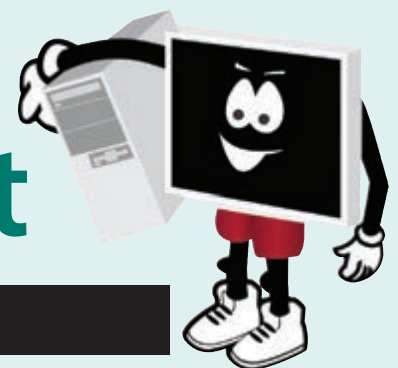
Runner-up

Bedias Bungalow



Voted Best Computer Specialist

10 YEARS IN A ROW!



Thank You Grimes County!

The Computer Specialist

For All Your Computer Needs

(936) 825-1963

212 E. Washington Ave. • Navasota • Texas

Owner: Steve Austin Locally Owned & Operated since 1996



BEST BOUTIQUE

Lizzy Boutique Salon

Runner-up

Pink Champagne

BEST CAR WASH

Angel's Car Wash

Runner-up

Exxon

BEST CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

Paris Pink & Cowboy Blue

Runner-up

Walmart

BEST CHIROPRACTOR

Short Family Chiropractic

Runner-up

Navasota Massage

BEST COMPUTER SERVICE

The Computer Specialist

Runner-up

Grimes County Computer

**BEST CONSTRUCTION COMPANY**

Glenn Fuqua, Inc.

Runner-up

KB Construction

BEST CONVENIENCE STORE

Annie's Country Store

Runner-up

Stripes (Exxon)

BEST DAY CARE CENTER

Creative Minds Childcare

Runner-up

A Bright Beginning

BEST DENTIST

Dr. Wilkes

Runner-up

Aspen Dental

BEST DRY CLEANERS

One Stop Cleaners

Runner-up

Hallmark Cleaners

BEST EMERGENCY CARE FACILITY

CHI St. Joseph

Runner-up

Caprock 24 HR Emergency

BEST EVENT FACILITY

Omaha Ranch

Runner-up

7D Ranch

BEST FAMILY PHYSICIAN

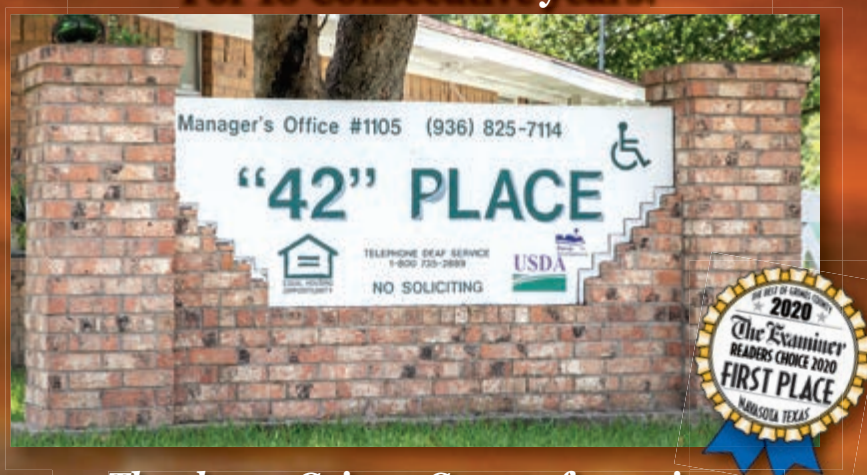
Dr. Katie Blalock

Runner-up

Dr. C.H. Prihoda

BEST APARTMENT COMPLEX

For 10 Consecutive years!



Thank you Grimes County for voting
Forty-Two Place Best Apartment Complex!

Forty-Two Place, Inc.

SENIOR HOUSING LIVING

SARAH BYRD, MANAGER

1105 Center Street • Navasota, TX 77868 • (936) 825-7114 TDD #1-800-735-2889
THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER

Thank you, Grimes County, for voting us the
Best Donut Shop



Donuts, Kolaches, Croissants, Biscuits, Tacos

Snowflake

DONUTS

Kosal San
936-825-2973

306 S. LaSalle St.
Navasota, TX 77868

BEST FEED/AG STORE

The Feed Barn
Runner-up
 Shiro Feed & Fertilizer

BEST FLOORING CENTER

Lonestar Floors

BEST FLORIST

Yaya's Florist & Catering
Runner-up
 Sparkling Creations

FRIENDLIEST SERVICE

Muddy Water Bookstore
Runner-up
 4141 Coffeehouse

BEST FUNERAL HOME

Nobles Funeral Home
Runner-up
 Lindley Robertson Holt

BEST GARDEN/NURSERY

Junebug Nursery
Runner-up
 Martha's Bloomers

BEST GIFT SHOP

Vintage 105 (Cotton + Oak)
Runner-up
 Pink Champagne

BEST GROCERY STORE

Brookshire Brothers
Runner-up
 Arlan's Market

BEST GUN STORE

B&T Tactical Sales
Runner-up
 Circle Star Firearms

BEST HOME BUILDER

Rodriguez Construction
Runner-up
 Leon Kimich Construction

**BEST HOME IMPROVEMENT STORE**

Baylor Lumber & Building Co, Inc.
Runner-up
 Turner, Pierce & Fultz

BEST HOTEL/MOTEL

Best Western Inn of Navasota
Runner-up
 Navasota Inn

BEST INDUSTRIAL

NOV Grant Prideco
Runner-up
 Ellwood Texas Forge of Navasota

BEST INSURANCE COMPANY

State Farm
Runner-up
 Miller Insurance Agency

BEST LUMBER COMPANY

Baylor Lumber & Building Co, Inc.
Runner-up
 Turner, Pierce & Fultz

BEST MEDICAL CLINIC

Texas A&M Physicians
Runner-up
 B.I.S. Community Clinic

BEST METAL SUPPLIER

Hilco Metal Supply
Runner-up
 Turner, Pierce & Fultz

BEST MIRROR/GLASS SHOP

Navasota Mirror & Glass
Runner-up
 Baylor Lumber & Building Co, Inc.

BEST NAIL SALON

Gina's Cut & Dye
Runner-up
 Q Nails

BEST NON-PROFIT AGENCY

Helping Hands of Grimes County
Runner-up
 Navasota Grimes County Chamber of Commerce

BEST OIL CHANGE

Frank's Towing & Repair
Runner-up
 Ray Drews Garage

BEST PEST CONTROL

Ger-Nay Pest Control
Runner-up
 JT Services

BEST PET BOARDING

South Central Veterinary Services
Runner-up
 Beard Navasota Veterinary

BEST PET GROOMING

Dewberry Hill Veterinary Hospital
Runner-up
 South Central Veterinary – Dr. Walla

BEST PETROLEUM COMPANY

Navasota Oil Company
Runner-up
 Kolchorst Petroleum

BEST PHARMACY

Brookshire Brothers
Runner-up
 Walmart

BEST PHYSICIAN

Dr. C.H. Prihoda
Runner-up
 Dr. Katie Blalock

BEST PRINTING SERVICE

Creative Signs & Graphics
Runner-up
 Navasota Examiner

BEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY

Prescott Properties
Runner-up
 Real Estate Unlimited

BEST REHABILITATION FACILITY

Golden Creek Healthcare & Rehab
Runner-up
 CHI St. Joseph

BEST RENTAL EQUIPMENT

Only 1 Rentals
Runner-up
 Events to Remember

BEST RESALE SHOP

Pretty Things
Runner-up
 Navasota Emporium

BEST ROAD SERVICE

NRoute Road Service
Runner-up
 Harris Tire

BEST ROOFING COMPANY

Lone-Star Roof Systems
Runner-up
 Hilco Metal Supply

BEST STORAGE FACILITY

Roans Prairie Self Storage
Runner-up
 Loop Self Storage

BEST TANNING SALON

Madison's Avenue Salon
Runner-up
 Bella's Beauty Salon

BEST TAX SERVICE

H&R Block
Runner-up
 Brevis Lingua

BEST TIRE SHOP

Jarvis Tire Pros
Runner-up
 Davis Tire Shop

BEST TITLE COMPANY

Navasota Abstract
Runner-up
 Guaranty Title Company

BEST TRACTOR/FARM EQUIPMENT

WC Tractor
Runner-up
 J5 Tractor

BEST TRAVEL AGENT

Kelley Austin — Cruise Planners

**BEST VETERINARIAN**

John Walla – South
 Central Veterinary
Runner-up
 Blane Eschberger -
 Beard Navasota Veterinary

BEST WASTE/DISPOSAL CO.

Brazos Valley Recycling (BVR)
Runner-up
 Republic Services

BEST WATER WELL SERVICE

Kashwer Water Well Services
Runner-up
 A&I Water Well Service

**BEST WEDDING/
RECEPTION PLACE**

Omaha Ranch
Runner-up
 The Gin at Hidalgo Falls

BEST WOMEN'S CLOTHING STORE

Off the Map 219
Runner-up
 Lizzy Boutique

BEST WORKOUT FACILITY

Camp Gladiator of Navasota
Runner-up
 Snap Fitness

BEST WRECKER SERVICE

Frank's Towing & Repair
Runner-up
 Raska Towing & Recovery



Thank you **GRIMES COUNTY**
 for voting us BEST for 8 consecutive years in a row!



VOTED BEST TRACTOR/FARM EQUIPMENT STORE




10044 State Highway 6 • Navasota, TX • 77868 • 936.825.7577
www.WCTRactor.com

BEST ACCOUNTANT

Jared Patout
Runner-up
 Dianne Phillips

BEST ATTORNEY

Jon C. Fultz – Fultz & Fultz
Runner-up
 Ashley Falco – Falco & Falco

BEST AUTO SALESPERSON

Jacoby Stokes –
 Sterling Auto Group
Runner-up
 Terrance Henry – Team Ford

BEST BAIL BONDSMAN

Capps Bail Bonds
Runner-up
 Gage Gandy Bail Bonds

BEST BANK TELLER

Ashley Weaver –
 FNB Anderson
Runner-up
 Daisy Mata –
 Prosperity Bank

BEST BANKER

Mike Harris –
 FNB Anderson
Runner-up
 Eddie Bosse –
 Citizens State Bank

BEST BARBER

Brian Williams – Revival
 Barber Shop
Runner-up
 Kevin Baker – KB Kutz

BEST BARISTA

Sebastian Penalzoa –
 Classic Rock Coffee
Runner-up
 Eric Linder –
 4141 Coffeehouse

**BEST BARTENDER**

Tracee Weigand Bewley –
 Dizzy Llama
Runner-up

Emilio Munoz – The Western
 Steakhouse & Dancehall

BEST BOOKKEEPER

Kate Miller – Brevis Lingua
Runner-up
 Sonya Bobo – The Navasota
 Examiner

BEST BOSS

Richard Hereford –
 FNB of Anderson
Runner-up
 Brad Stafford –
 City of Navasota

BEST BUTCHER

Kent Fisher – K&C Meat
 Processing
Runner-up
 Simon Castaneda –
 Castaneda's Meat Market

BEST CARPENTER

Leroy Nobles
Runner-up
 Camerino Rodriguez

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Chad McMillan
Runner-up
 Charlie Diggs

BEST COACH

Casey Dacus - NISD
Runner-up
 Ian Day - NISD

BEST COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Brittany Bay
Runner-up
 Ana Cosino

BEST DELIVERY SERVICE

Roy Sanders – One Stop Cleaners
Runner-up
 Javier Saenz –
 Taqueria La Escondida

BEST DRESSED BUSINESSMAN

Johnny McNally
Runner-up
 Kelly Curtis

BEST DRESSED BUSINESSWOMAN

Melanie Nixon
Runner-up
 Ashley Falco

BEST ELECTED OFFICIAL

Phillip Cox
Runner-up
 Blake Jarvis

BEST ELECTRICIAN

Gritex Electric
Runner-up
 Meekins Electric

**BEST EMERGENCY MEDICAL
FIRST RESPONDER**

Jolene Long
Runner-up
 Kristin Newsome

BEST FINANCIAL PLANNER

Loy Coffey
Runner-up
 DJ Haferkamp

BEST FIREFIGHTER

Bobby Harris – Navasota Fire
 Department
Runner-up
 Cassandra Malone –
 Todd Mission VFD

BEST GOLF COURSE

Pecan Lakes

BEST HAIRSTYLIST

Tress Flores – Gina's Cut & Dye
Runner-up
 Elizabeth Borski –
 Lizzy Boutique Salon

BEST INSURANCE AGENT

Bert Miller – Miller Agency
Runner-up
 Doris Eickenhorst – Miller Agency

BEST LANDSCAPER

Duckworth Landscaping
Runner-up
 Zuki Orozco – Navasota Landscape

BEST LAW OFFICER

David Ellison – Navasota PD
Runner-up
 Ethan Tyler - Navasota PD

BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE

The Gallery Downtown
Runner-up
 The Western Steakhouse &
 Dancehall

BEST ANNUAL LOCAL EVENT

Texas Birthday Bash
Runner-up
 Red, Wheats & Blues

BEST LOCAL ARTIST

Robert Goldstein
Runner-up
 Pattie Pederson

BEST LOCAL BAND

Bill Mock & Highway 105
Runner-up
 Randy Pavlock

BEST LOCAL WEBSITE

www.offthemap219.com
Runner-up
 www.navasotaexaminer.com

BEST MANICURIST

Vickie Haynie
Runner-up
 Ben

BEST MASSAGE THERAPIST

Ricke Weinkauff

BEST MUSEUM

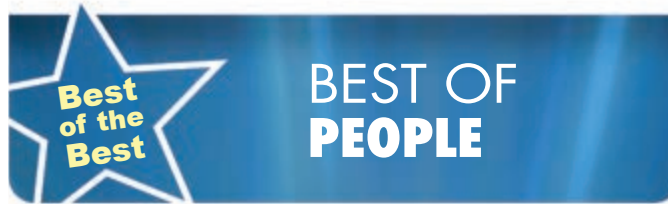
Horlock House
Runner-up
 Washington on the Brazos

BEST PAINTER

Nikki Keith Sullivan
Runner-up
 Leon Collins

BEST PARK

Ketchum Park



Runner-up
 Washington on the
 Brazos State Park

BEST PHOTOGRAPHER

Kristi Bracewell Photography
Runner-up
 Jillian Burzysnki Photography

BEST PLUMBER

Serres & Son Plumbing
Runner-up
 Berger Plumbing

BEST PRINCIPAL

Brian Fowler – Iola High School
Runner-up
 Marcy Pavlock –
 Anderson-Shiro CISD

BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT

Shirley Curtiss –
 Real Estate Unlimited
Runner-up
 Ron Clary –
 Prescott Properties

BEST SCHOOL TEACHER

Kristy Hamilton – Iola ISD
Runner-up
 Crystal Sechelski –
 Anderson-Shiro CISD

BEST TIRE DEALER

Harris Tire
Runner-up
 Jarvis Tire Pros

BEST WAITER/WAITRESS

Macy Meekins – The Western
 Steakhouse & Dancehall
Runner-up
 Mary Gross – The Western
 Steakhouse & Dancehall

BEST INDUSTRIAL PLANT

*Thank you, Grimes County, for voting NOV
 the Best Industrial Plant.*

One Company... Unlimited Solutions

World's largest supplier of drill pipe
 and drill stem accessories

Grant Prideco | NOV Wellbore Technologies

9475 FM 1227, Navasota, TX 77868
 936-825-7070 • www.nov.com

Drilling Products and Services





Citizens
State Bank

BEST 2020 GRIMES COUNTY BANK

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to our loyal customers for voting CSB "Best Bank" for the 10th consecutive year in Grimes County. We are proud and honored to receive this prestigious award.



MEMBER
FDIC

csbtx.bank



Somerville . Deanville . Caldwell . Brenham . Snook . Navasota