

Dripping Springs Century News



Kapchinski Kids Kudos

Kudos to the Kapchinski family on their Kwest of Knowledge. Kaleb (9, 4th grade), Kennadee (4, pre-K), and Karlee (7, 2nd grade) were excited for their first day of school at Dripping Springs Elementary school. They are the children of Kyle Kapchinski and mom, Meredith Kapchinski of Dripping Springs. **PHOTO KAPCHINSKI FAMILY**



Residents of the Gateway Estates mobile home community meeting with Hays County Judge Ruben Becerra August 12. Residents were told by the park's owner Gateway Development LLC, that their leases are terminated and they must move by October: Gateway for Hope, a coalition of local non-profits groups, is stepping in to help them with the relocation and working with the property owner on the transition. **PHOTO: CARRIE NAPIORKOWSKI**

Gateway for Hope coalition assisting soon-to-be displaced Gateway Estates residents

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

renewed. They were given 60 days to vacate their lots.

The news came as a shock to many residents, who immediately reached out to the City of Dripping Springs, pleading for more time to find a new place to relocate their mobile homes. Residents and advocates spoke at the Dripping Springs City Council meeting on Aug. 6, seeking assistance, but city officials indicated there was little they could do to stop the eviction.

Gateway Estates is home to a diverse group of residents, including...

SEE **HOPE** PAGE 4

Hays County Commissioners Court approve asking voters to approve \$440 million bond package in November

Shannon West
San Marcos Daily Record

The Hays County Commissioners Court unanimously approved a road bond for the upcoming election in an effort to ensure that the roads evolve alongside...

With the rapidly growing population in Hays County, so too is the ever expansion of infrastructure.

SEE **BOND** PAGE 8

Dripping Springs Community Library hosts Brews & Books event



Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

The Dripping Springs Community Library (DSCL) hosted its first Brews & Books event at Fitzhugh Brewing Saturday August 24. The community gathering featured local children's book authors Debbie Derbyshire, Steve Reutiman, Bonnie Tribbett Rosario, and Matt Marchant, who read to audiences and signed copies of...

SEE **LIBRARY** PAGE 6

YouRestored marks first year with ribbon cutting



Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

YouRestored held its ribbon-cutting ceremony on Aug. 20, celebrating one year of serving the Dripping Springs community. Launched in June 2023, YouRestored is a collaboration among three healthcare professionals, offering aesthetic and wellness services with a compassionate, respectful, and welcoming approach.

The philosophy of YouRestored focuses on embracing natural beauty, utilizing rejuvenation, and helping clients return to their best selves.

The practice provides guided medical plans for weight loss, including the use of semaglutide and tirzepatide, aesthetic treatments for body and skin enhancement, and rejuvenation therapies, as well as wellness products.

YouRestored emphasizes client safety by ensuring a dedicated doctor and trained professionals lead all services.

The practice is led by Medical Director Dr. Michael "Ryan" Esmay, who moved to Dripping Springs from Arizona.

"I love the Dripping Springs area and feel privileged to be part of this amazing community," Esmay said.

Dr. Esmay is a board-certified family medicine physician with experience in urgent care and hospital-based emergency rooms.

"I became interested in the aging process and reversing the clock as I began getting older myself. My goal for my clients is to provide them with excellent care and even better results," Esmay said. "I want to help my clients look and feel better about themselves while maintaining a natural, well-rested appearance."

Jennifer "Jen" Stierwald, a mom, wife, and registered nurse with more than 20 years of experience, is another key member of the team. Stierwald has spent most of her career in the surgical suite, specializing in plastic surgery and orthopedics.

"My experience in plastic surgery inspired me to go back to school and become a Registered Nurse First Assistant (RNFA),"

SEE **YOURESTORED** PAGE 2



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Five-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High: 95 Low: 73 20% Chance of Rain	High: 95 Low: 73 20% Chance of Rain	High: 92 Low: 73 40% Chance of Rain	High: 91 Low: 72 50% Chance of T-Storm	High: 90 Low: 71 50% Chance of T-Storm

Obituaries

Andrew Morgan Powell



Andrew Powell

Samuel Andrew Morgan Powell, “Drew”, 61, beloved Husband, Father, and Brother, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, August 14, 2024. He was born in Alexandria,

Virginia, on January 9, 1963. Memorial services will be held on Saturday, August 31, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, 301 Hays Country Acres Rd, Dripping Springs, TX 78620; telephone: (512) 858-4924. A private graveside service and interment will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to the Texas Peace Officers Memorial, c/o Texas State Preservation Board, P.O. Box 13286, Austin, Texas 78711.

YOU'RE STORED FROM PG. 1

Stierwald said. “This advanced degree required me to complete 200 hours in complex cosmetic surgical procedures with some of the most renowned plastic surgeons in the country. I still work as an assistant at times. I enjoy both the partnership with the surgeon and being able to use my special skill set to make an incision beautiful.”

Paula Esmay, Dr. Esmay’s wife, is a certified body contour specialist with a Master of Science in Molecular Biology and 10 years of experience in cancer research.

“As someone who has struggled with my own body shape throughout my entire life, I fully understand that what you see in the mirror can deeply affect how you see yourself,” Paula Esmay said. “For many of us, a healthy lifestyle and exercise aren’t enough. It’s amazing to be able to offer a non-surgical option that specifically targets problem areas. Each treatment is tailored to your own needs and goals.”

Services at YouRestored are available by appointment only, with time slots from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, visit YouRestoredAustin.com.



DR. MICHAEL “RYAN” ESMAY



JENNIFER STIERWALD



PAULA ESMAY

Christmas on Mercer Set for Dec. 7

Christmas on Mercer, one of Dripping Springs’ most beloved traditions, will celebrate its 20th year on Dec. 7. New this year is a new logo and a new tree.

Hosted by the Dripping Springs Lions Club and the City of Dripping Springs, the downtown festival will feature an old-fashioned holiday celebration on Mercer Street from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event will include live music and entertainment, arts and crafts booths, children’s activities, and photos with Santa Claus.

There will also be a festive selection of food and drinks.

This year’s festivities kick off with the annual Lighting of the Tree, on Saturday November 30 at Veterans Memorial Park in downtown Dripping Springs. The Lions

Club and the City of Dripping Springs will unveil a new tree during the event. The tree will be lit at dusk.

In celebration of its 20th year, Christmas on Mercer has introduced a vibrant and whimsical new logo. This rebranding reflects the event’s continued commitment to bringing holiday spirit to the Dripping Springs community, marking a significant milestone as it prepares for its most magical season yet.

Vendors interested in participating in the one-day festival can find an application at christmason-mercer.com. Booths are available for \$120 for a 10x10 space. The deadline for vendor applications is Oct. 7.

The festival relies heavily on community sponsorships to keep the event free to the public. Sponsorships



are available at various levels of support, with all funds raised going toward the event or being reinvested in the community through various Lions Club programs.

“We invite potential sponsors to join us in making this year’s celebration the most memorable yet,” said Sharon Goss of the Lions Club. “The rebranding provides a unique chance to engage with

our audience and showcase your support for this cherished community event.”

The sponsorship application form can be found at cityofdripping-springs.com or christmasonmercer.com. Sponsorship forms should be submitted soon to receive maximum publicity. For specific questions, contact the Lions Club at dslionsclub@gmail.com.

TxDOT is teaming up with local law enforcement to prevent drunk driving

Staff Reports

Thousands of residents in neighborhoods served by the West Travis County Public Utility Agency (WTCPUA) are now under Stage 2 watering restrictions, effective immediately.

In North Hays county, many neighborhoods east of the Dripping Springs city limit along the HWY 290 corridor, including Belterra, are within the WTCPUA district affected by the order.

Although lake levels remain above the Lower Colorado River Authority’s (LCRA) Stage 2 criteria, the WTCPUA follows its own guidelines for implementing Stage 2 restrictions, based on water demand and the

agency’s water production capacity.

“The [water storage] tanks are just not refilling fast enough due to the irrigation demand,” said WTCPUA spokeswoman Jenny Hoff. The agency had hoped the tanks would refill by Friday morning, but when they checked, water levels in the tanks were still dropping.

Hoff noted that recent high temperatures have exacerbated evaporation, and property owners are drawing more water to maintain their plants and lawns. Additionally, a construction crew working in the Falconhead subdivision last week accidentally struck a water line, further adding to the water loss.

Low levels in the district’s water tanks have resulted in low water pressure, with some residents experiencing little or no water pressure.

Stage 2 restrictions limit irrigation to once per week, between 6-10 a.m. and 7-10 p.m. Property owners are asked not to water overnight.

Residents should follow the watering schedule below for irrigation:

- Addresses ending in 1 & 3: Monday
 - Addresses ending in 2 & 4: Tuesday
 - Addresses ending in 5 & 7: Wednesday
 - Addresses ending in 6 & 8: Thursday
 - Addresses ending in 9 & 0: Friday
- Commercial properties and HOAs: Saturday

Your watering schedule may differ depending on your location. For example, Belterra has a different schedule from the WTCPUA. Residents there should visit the WCID website (hayswcid.org) to confirm their designated watering day.

Violations of irrigation restrictions are monitored by the WTCPUA and may result in fines.

The WTCPUA is governed by a board of directors. The board will continue to monitor water use and tank recovery rates and updates or keep water restrictions as necessary. To learn more about the WTCPUA and to see the map and learn if you are in its service area visit: wtcgua.org.

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The Dripping Springs Century News (USPS 18035 ISSN Number 1047-0301), is published weekly on Thursdays in Hays County by San Marcos Publishing L.P., 101 FM 3237, Suite A, Wimberley, Texas 78676. Periodicals Postage Paid at Wimberley, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: PO Box 732, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.

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The Mindset of an Adventurous Artist – How I Have Fun

Allison Buckner
Artist & DSAL Member

You know that iceberg that’s currently spinning in circles in the Southern ocean? That’s me in my endless loop of indulging my creative side: Browse-Learn-Make. Others prefer to take a deep dive in one particular craft or art form. For me, staying on the surface, engaging in all the variety, creates a bigger “splash.”

BROWSE: As an introverted type, I typically find inspiration on social media rather than museums or galleries. Ranging from data visualization to fiber arts, I follow creators from all over the world. And it’s all free!! When something new appears, especially if there’s a low bar to entry, I know it’s time to learn.

LEARN: Once I learn just enough through classes and play, but no more so I don’t get conditioned or lose my own creativity, that’s the end of the learning phase and I’m ready to make.

MAKE: As an impulsive person, I always start making before I fully understand the ABC’s of my new pas-

sion. And I make a LOT. Making bad stuff is part of the fun and engaging my hands in something naturally gets the ideas flowing! Of course, the “garbage” results often get saved, because you never know when it’ll come in handy.

This Browse-Learn-Make cycle is not just a stand-alone project but provides me the opportunity to mesh my learnings together to make unique creations. As an example, I saw gelli printing in my social media feed a few years ago. After I made a few hundred of those, I took an on-line class about embroidery on photography—just because it looked neat. I don’t have photographs lying around. However, what I do have are gelli prints! I soon found this to be another fun way to spend hours of my time. And the story continues...

Book art has been a long-time interest of mine, so I learned to make hardcover sketchbooks. That’s when those piles of “garbage” gelli prints came in handy as beautiful book covers. It’s funny that a so-so print can look super as a book cover. Hmmmm. But the story doesn’t end there. I decided to



ALLISON BUCKNER

purchase a most unusual book intended for designers. I discovered that working with just a sheet of paper opens the door to so much more! There’s more than origami...there’s crumpling and shaping and folding architectural patterns! Next thing you know I was littering the house with strangely crumpled papers. And then it hit me, what if I crumple my gelli prints?! And that’s when the massive pile of “garbage” prints suddenly became perfect input for my new passion, crumpled gelli prints! As an aside, I also adore the flora and fauna of our area. Even the snakes, spiders, and scorpions! I keep dead scorpions and glue or embroider them to my art, because it just seems cool (by the way, a scorpion might seem drowned and dead, but it may reanimate several days later – bizarre!).

In that vein, after seeing a woman from Australia make botanical prints, I immediately took her on-line class to learn this art. Central Texas has so many native plants, especially wildflowers, that are super cool to experiment with in this way. Turns out Mexican Hats and Texas

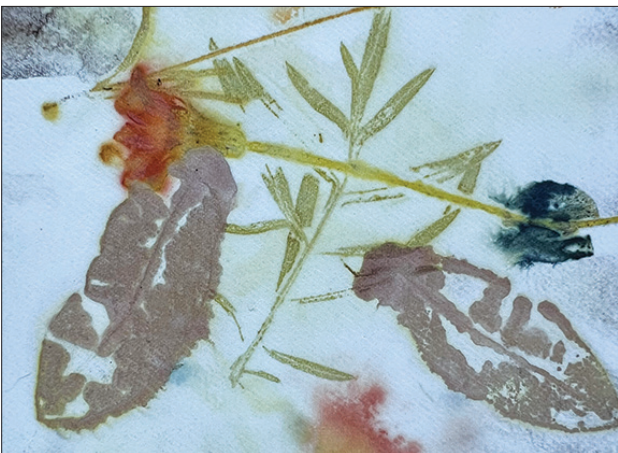
Dandelions are superstars—creating gorgeous prints.

You see, I often get amusement thinking—has anyone EVER done this before? Like when I lunch on a hodgepodge of leftovers, “I bet no one has eaten caprese salad, bibimbap, and cornbread at the same meal before!” I use the same approach with my art! When my Browse-Learn-Make cycle overlaps, the potential for mixing media becomes more exciting and the final products even more creative and unique. This is how I have fun.

ART BEAT spotlights local artists, techniques, and upcoming Art League events. In the meantime, we invite you to discover your Dripping Springs Art League and how you can make art a greater part of your creative journey. To learn more, visit: our website: artindripping.com.



Scorpion on Art. PHOTO BY ALLISON BUCKNER



Botanical Print.



Gelli Print with Embroidery.

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THIS WEEK’S FEATURED LISTINGS



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For Lease - \$1.25 + NNN**
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For Lease - \$1.22 + NNN**
2,640 square feet of Warehouse/Office space situated in thriving Business Park within close proximity to both Dripping Springs and Austin!



**133 Glosson Ranch Rd
Dripping Springs, TX 78620
For Lease - \$1.00 + NNN**
5,000sqft of HVAC Warehouse space, includes 750sqft of climate controlled office space with private bathroom. Loading dock and regular drive in loading through 4 large roll up doors!

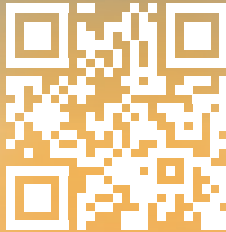


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Capital Highlights

Power grid again reaches record demand



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

The dog-day heat wave has sent power demands to new records, the Austin American-Statesman reported. With much of the state enduring an excessive heat warning, power demand peaked at 85,559 megawatts last week, breaking a record set last August.

While searing outside temperatures certainly boost demand, other factors are in play as well — the state's growing population and increased expansion by large-scale industrial users such as data centers and cryptocurrency miners.

Texas is the only state that operates its own power grid. In June, the Electricity Reliability Council of Texas predicted the grid would face challenges this month and increased likelihood for emergency alerts during peak times of the day.

"Reserve shortage risks are the highest during the evening

hours ... when daily loads are typically near their highest levels and solar production is ramping down," the report from June says. While power throughout the state remained largely untouched, around 8,500 customers in Harris County last week experienced outages believed to be related to demand.

CENTERPOINT TO PUSH BERYL DAMAGE COSTS TO RATEPAYERS

CenterPoint plans to pass costs for electricity infrastructure damages caused by Hurricane Beryl on to its customers. It plans to pass bonds that will ultimately be paid through rate increases, the Texas Standard reported. The company testified last week before the Public Utility Commission.

In its latest quarterly report to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the company estimated recovery costs related to Beryl and an earlier May windstorm — a derecho — will approach \$2 billion for both events. As is customary, ratepayers will be on the hook.

"In my almost 35 years of experience in this utility business, the customers end up paying. They always end up paying," said

energy consultant Karl Rábago, who served on the PUC under Governors Ann Richards and George W. Bush.

"That's because electricity is essential for modern life, and you can't just go around bankrupting or allowing utilities to go bankrupt by forcing shareholders to bear what some people might say is the fair consequences of mismanagement."

TRANSGENDER TEXANS CAN'T CHANGE SEX ON DL

Texans will no longer be allowed to change the gender on their driver's license even if they have obtained a court order, the Houston Chronicle reported. In a statement, the Texas Department of Public Safety said that as of Aug. 20, the agency will no longer comply with court orders mandating a change to a driver's license. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton has raised questions about the validity of such court orders.

The department said that was because "neither DPS nor other government agencies are parties to the proceedings and because officials have questions about the legal basis for courts to issue the orders."

Brad Pritchett, in-

terim CEO of the advocacy group Equality Texas, said the new policy "denies trans people the minimum respect of having a state ID that reflects their identity" and will hurt more than 92,000 transgender adults in Texas.

BUSING OF MIGRANTS IS IN IDLE MODE

After sending thousands of migrants to northern cities run by Democrats, Gov. Greg Abbott's bus trips have largely ended after the number of migrants apprehended at the border plunged, The Texas Tribune reported.

The state has not sent any buses north since late June, according to a report in The New York Times.

"Texas has decreased illegal crossings into the state by over 85% thanks to our historic border mission," Abbott spokesperson Andrew Mahaleris said in a statement.

Abbott plans to continue the busing program, which only takes migrants who voluntarily get on board.

An executive order by President Joe Biden in June effectively stopped granting asylum to migrants. In the first month the order was in place, 32% fewer migrants were

apprehended, a sharp drop that continued into July.

Since the busing program began in 2022, nearly 120,000 migrants have been transported to other states, according to Abbott's office.

PEAK OF HURRICANE SEASON ARRIVES

As the peak of the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season arrives, forecasters have their eyes on four tropical waves with the potential to turn into something more menacing, the Statesman reported. All four systems are moving westward across the Atlantic.

We have entered the traditional peak of hurricane season, with the most activity occurring between now and mid-October, according to the National Hurricane Center. To date, five named hurricanes have been noted this season.

Hurricane season ends officially on Nov. 30.

TEAMING UP TO PREVENT DWIS

With the Labor Day holiday coming up, the Texas Department of Transportation is teaming up with law enforcement officers to remind motorists about the dangers of drunk driving. The

"Drive Sober. No Regrets" campaign reminds motorists of the consequences of driving drunk.

"Every drunk driving fatality is preventable, plain and simple," said TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams. "If you plan to celebrate Labor Day by drinking, make sure you arrange a sober ride using a ride share, taxi, public transit or a designated driver."

In 2023, there were 334 DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes over the Labor Day holiday weekend, resulting in 14 fatalities and 35 serious injuries. TxDOT is working with law enforcement agencies across Texas to identify and arrest drunk drivers through the Labor Day holiday, ending Sept. 2.

The state continues to work to end the streak of daily traffic deaths, now approaching 24 years. The last deathless day on Texas roadways was Nov. 7, 2000.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches, Lufkin and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com

The Lone Star Gourd Festival moves to Dripping Springs

The 29th annual Lone Star Gourd Festival, attracting some of the best gourd artists, will take place Oct. 4-5, 2024, at Ranch Park Event Center. The festival is sponsored by the Texas Gourd Society.

Gourd art involves using hard-shell gourds as a medium for creating works of art. The gourd surfaces may be carved, painted, sanded, burned, dyed, and polished. Typically, a harvested gourd is left to dry for

several months before the woody surface is suitable for decorating.

It's the artists' imagination that transforms these gourds into art. From whimsical to incredible, these hollow vessels are turned

into artistic conversation pieces and decor and jewelry.

This year's festival features 22 vendors, a juried artists' competition, and classes. An "Imagination Station" will be available for attendees to find inspi-

ration for the hobby. Artists will also offer their creations for sale, just in time for the holiday season. Artists and the curious can sign up for classes taught by gourd artists specializing in this technique. Classes are

offered October 5, 6 and 7.

Six art pieces, donated by award-winning artists, will be raffled.

For more information about the festival, including classes, visit texasgourdsociety.org.

HOPE FROM PG. 1

ing working families, retirees, and individuals with disabilities. Many have lived in the 36-unit mobile home park, located at 900 Hays Country Acres Road just east of the Dripping Springs city limits, for more than 20 years. The cost of relocating a mobile home, often thousands

of dollars, is a financial burden most residents cannot afford.

The timing of the eviction is particularly troubling for the 60 children living in Gateway Estates who attend Dripping Springs ISD schools. The move threatens to disrupt their education, as they may be

forced to adjust to a new school or city just as the fall semester begins and the holiday season approaches.

With affordable housing options scarce in this part of Hays County, local housing advocates have stepped in to help. Dripping Springs resident Carrie Napiorkowski is one of the advocates leading the charge. She, along with several local nonprofits, has organized to represent the residents and find solutions to their plight.

Last week, representatives from Hometown Missions, The Friends Foundation, Helping Hands, Project Connect, the Warburton Foundation, and Rev. Evan Hierholzer from the pastoral council met to formulate a plan of action.

Napiorkowski, who represents the Warburton Foundation, invited Hays County Judge Ruben Becerra to meet with the residents and hear their concerns. On Aug. 12, Becerra, along with his chief of staff, Alex Villalobos, met with the community just outside the mobile home park.

Becerra acknowledged that Gateway Development was within its legal rights under Texas law to issue the eviction notice. However, he appealed to the property owner to work with residents on a humanitarian basis. According to Napiorkowski, the owner agreed to waive rent payments on a case-by-case basis for residents who are actively searching for and documenting a new place to move.

A spokesman for Gateway Development confirmed the offer to assist residents with moving, noting that it is in the developer's best interest to vacate the lots to proceed with development plans.

As of Friday, 33 of the 36 Gateway Estates residents had agreed to let Gateway for Hope represent them in negotiations with Gateway Development. Gateway for Hope is now reaching out to other local nonprofits and the community for financial support to help residents relocate.

"Many of these families cannot afford to

move their homes or come up with a deposit for an apartment," Napiorkowski said. Some are considering moving to mobile home communities in Kyle or New Braunfels, where they can afford to live.

Funds collected by Gateway for Hope will be deposited into an account managed by Project Connect, which will serve as a transparent financial steward for the donations. The next step is determining how to distribute those funds based on the residents' needs.

"We formed a small group of representatives from the participating nonprofit organizations to figure out, on a case-by-case basis, where the money would be best allocated," Napiorkowski said. Financial aid needs will vary. The cost of relocating a mobile home is often up to \$20,000. Other residents require deposit assistance to secure rental housing in Dripping Springs or nearby communities.

Napiorkowski has created a GoFundMe

page for online donations, with all funds managed by Project Connect. Since Project Connect is a 501(c)(3) charity, all donations are tax-deductible. So far, more than \$13,000 has been raised toward the \$100,000 goal.

In addition to raising funds, Gateway for Hope is serving as the main conduit of communication between residents and the property owner. They will also help residents make informed decisions for their upcoming move by assisting with understanding the costs of moving and guiding them through the details of new leases.

Gateway for Hope will recruit community volunteers to help residents with the physical move, prepare their homes and belongings before the move, and clean up their lots as they exit the park.

To donate to the Gateway for Hope initiative, visit gofund.me/55b1ac3e. Donations can also be made directly to Project Connect at project-connectds.org/gateway-for-hope.



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PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE
By order of the Hays County Commissioners Court, notice is hereby given that on September 17 th , 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Hays County Courthouse, 111 E. San Antonio Street, San Marcos, Texas, the Hays County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing to consider: DEER RUN ESTATES, LOTS 17 & 22, REPLAT	By order of the Hays County Commissioners Court, notice is hereby given that on September 17 th , 2024, at 9 a.m. in the Hays County Courthouse, 111 E. San Antonio Street, San Marcos, Texas, the Hays County Commissioners Court will hold a public hearing to consider: Mountain View Estates, Lots 2A & 3, Replat

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS	NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING (CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT)
Public hearing will be held at the City of Dripping City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 17, 2024 at Dripping Springs City Hall, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas, to consider amendments to the Building Code Ordinance, Chapter 24 Building Regulations, Article 24.02 including changes to facilitate the acceptance of design engineer inspections for engineered foundation systems and adopting the updated National Electrical Code. To view the Ordinances please go to www.cityofdrippingsprings.com or email spevehouse@cityofdrippingsprings.com for a copy. Written comments regarding this project may be emailed to spevehouse@cityofdrippingsprings.com or mailed to PO Box 384, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Comments received by September 13, 2024, will be included in agenda packets for the meetings. For more information call City Hall at (512) 858-4725.	Notice is hereby given that the Planning & Zoning Commission of the City of Wimberley will hold a public hearing at the Wimberley City Hall on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. to consider the following: CUP-24-006 – an application for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the operation of a Short-Term Rental 2 (vacation rental) at 42 La Buena Vista, Wimberley, TX (HaysCAD # R52764). Upon recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, the City Council will also hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Comments on this request from any member of the public may be made in person at City Hall, by mail (221 Stillwater, Wimberley, TX), or email (nglaiser@cityofwimberley.com) prior to the hearing. The public will be granted an opportunity to speak at the hearings. Additional information concerning the proposed action is available for review at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas, 78676.

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Legal Notice

Legal Notice

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a winery permit by Fall Creek Vineyards, LLC d/b/a Fall Creek Vineyards located at 18059 FM 1826 A, Driftwood, Hays County, Texas 78619. Managers are Susan Auler and Charles Auler.

Make everyday EARTH Day

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
TO CONSIDER PROPOSED
ASSESSMENTS TO BE LEVIED
AGAINST PROPERTY IN
IMPROVEMENT AREA #2 OF THE
HERITAGE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT

Notice is given that the City Council of Dripping Springs, Texas will conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, during the regular City Council meeting beginning at 6:00 P.M. Information about how to participate in the public hearing is provided below. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear and pass on any objections to the assessments proposed to be levied against assessable property located within Improvement Area #2 (“Improvement Area #2”) of the Heritage Public Improvement District (the “District”) pursuant to Chapter 372 of the Texas Local Government Code. Written and oral objections will be considered at the hearing.

1. General Nature of Improvements – The public improvements for the District (the “Authorized Improvements”) may consist of one or more of the public improvements included in Section 372.003(b) of the Act. The general nature of the Authorized Improvements are: (i) the establishment of parks and open space, and the design and construction of ancillary structures, features, or amenities such as trails, pavilions, irrigation, walkways, lighting, benches, trash receptacles and other similar items; (ii) landscaping; (iii) acquisition, construction, and improvement of water (if any of the water infrastructure serving the property becomes eligible to be a public improvement because the water service provider becomes a governmental entity), wastewater and drainage, detention and water quality facilities; (iv) acquisition, construction, and improvement of streets, roadways, rights-of-way, signalization and related facilities; (v) entry monumentation and features; (vi) signage; (vii) projects similar to those listed in subsections (i)-(vi) above; and (viii) payment of costs associated with constructing and financing the public improvements listed in subparagraphs (i)-(vii) above, including costs of establishing, administering, and operating the District.

The property within the District is expected to be developed in multiple phases, with certain improvements that will benefit and serve all of the property within the District, and certain improvements that will benefit and serve only the property within each phase (an “Improvement Area”). Improvement Area #2 is anticipated to include (i) acquisition, construction, and/or improvement of streets, roadways, rights-of-way and related facilities; (ii) acquisition, construction, and/or improvement of wastewater and drainage facilities; (iii) landscaping improvements, including plantings, parks and open space, fencing and signage; and (iv) the payment of costs associated with the public improvements described herein (collectively, the “Improvement Area #2 Improvements”). Assessments are only presently proposed for Improvement Area #2, and no assessments will be considered at the public hearing for future Improvements Areas.

2. Estimated Costs of the Improvement Area #2 Improvements – The estimated costs of the proposed Improvement Area #2 Improvements are approximately \$10,800,000 (including issuance and other financing costs). The exact amount will be provided in the approved Service and Assessment Plan.

3. Proposed Estimated Assessments – The proposed estimated assessments on property within Improvement Area #2 of the District is approximately the amount of \$6,873,000.

4. Boundaries of the District. The District includes approximately 188.943 acres of land generally located west of Ranch Road 12, northeast of Sportsplex Drive and approximately one mile north of Highway 290. Improvement Area #2, comprised of approximately 75.57 acres and is located within the boundaries of the District as shown below.

5. How to Participate in the Public Hearing – The public hearing will be held during the regular City Council meeting on the date and commencing at the time stated above, at the City Council Chambers, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620. The agenda for the City Council meeting and information regarding how to participate in the public hearing is available at <https://www.cityofdrippingsprings.com/site-home/pages/minutes-and-agendas> or by calling the City Secretary’s Office at 512-858-4725. The proposed Service and Assessment Plan and Assessment Roll are available for public inspection at the Office of the City Secretary, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620, and online by selecting the agenda item for this matter from the link provided above. During the public hearing, any interested person may raise objections to the assessments proposed to be levied against assessable property located in the District.

TEACHERS
ARE
Heroes

LIBRARY FROM PG. 1

their books. Friends of the DSCL sold used books donated by the community to support library programs. The event also offered a variety of activities for children, along with food and drinks for families to enjoy. Hundreds attended the all-day event, which was sponsored by the Dripping Springs Community Library and Fitzhugh Brewing. The event aimed to raise funds and community awareness for the capital campaign underway to build a larger, more modern

library. Campaign manager Sarah Rose and her team were present to talk to visitors about the library campaign. The community library is a nonprofit organization. It is not funded by the city or county. In 1999, voters approved the creation of a library district, which receives a quarter of one cent from local sales tax generated in district borders to support the library. As the population has grown, so has demand for library services, leading to a space shortage at the current library on Sportsplex

Drive. “Currently, we have no more shelf space. If we need to add a book, another book has to leave to make room,” Rose said. The new library building, planned as a state-of-the-art facility, will be a proud addition to the Dripping Springs community and a testament to its commitment to lifelong learning. To learn more about how to donate to the capital campaign for a new library visit: dscl.org/future/donate. You can also follow the campaign on social media @DSBeyondBooks.



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pet of the week

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Lizzy's Animal Hospice
Warren
Male
13 years old
Doxie

Hi there! I'm Warren! I have a very distinguished gray face and I'm all about getting some good attention, but I'm not pushy about it. At 20 lbs with a long back, I'm not a fan of being picked up, though I'll happily snuggle up beside you. I walk great on a leash, I'm house trained, and I get along well with other dogs. I'm still figuring out how I feel about cats. I've had a dental procedure and now feel much better with just my two bottom canines left, and I can chow down on some tasty wet food! I'm neutered, fully vaccinated, and ready to bring you lots of love! Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.



Lizzy's Animal Hospice
Tater
Female
3 years old
Boston/Chi

Hiya, I'm Miss Tater! I'm the sweetest and happiest little girl you'll ever meet! I love going for walks and am great with other dogs, though I'd really prefer to be by your side. I ride well in the car and am always so joyful and love looking at cars and people going past. I'm a big lap girl and I love being held and will shower you with kisses. I'm a very smart lady and like to follow you around like a little shadow. All in all, I'm a very loving little potato! Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.



How to Foster/Adopt a Lizzy's Animal Hospice Pup

Lizzy's desperately needs foster families and forever families for their sweet pups. Lizzy's is a 501c3 non-profit elder care / hospice for dogs 10+ years, large and small - most of which are healthy. Lizzy's also has healthy pups under 10 years. Please go to lizzyshospice.com/adopt-or-foster and click on the Apply Here button to submit an application. Lizzy's is quick to process applications and to respond to emails. Email lizzyshospice@gmail.com with any questions.

BUY LOCAL BUY DRIPPIN'



DRIPPING SPRINGS
Century-News

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Universal Crossword

08/25/24

Themeless Sunday 99 By Brian Callahan

ACROSS

1 Some social media accounts, casually

7 Certain diaper caddy carrier

13 Washington, D.C.'s river

15 Beethoven's Third

16 "You made your point!"

18 Operates a loom

19 Loud noise

20 Birdlike Dr. Seuss creatures

22 Yemen's capital

25 Deck featuring the Fool

26 Peaty place

28 Car dealership promotion

30 "The Wizard of Oz" author

31 Home to Lions and Tigers, but not Bears

32 Big name in mattresses

33 Says "You've got to be forking kidding me," say

35 Inauthentic type

38 Less tasteful

40 Booze on the briny

41 Balding

43 Suffix with "Power" or "Gator"

44 Spanish museum home to "The Garden of Earthly Delights"

45 English : to be :: Spanish ::

47 !#\$% or @&*^

50 Fuchsia or teal

51 Optics crew, casually

52 Document where one might keep unorganized crossword ideas

55 Look for advice from

56 Like tiramisu

57 James who played Ultron

58 Occasions to treat yourself

DOWN

1 Some MP3 players

2 Some flip phones

3 Was an obsessive fan of

4 Plaything

5 "Te ____" (Spanish for "I love you")

6 Fifth Avenue store

7 Cookie with a fig variety

8 Vertical

9 "Dood, you blew my mind!"

10 Establishment unlikely to have a cocktail menu

11 Defeats handily

12 "____ Capital" (Karl Marx work)

14 Words of resignation

17 "You heard me!"

21 Work with raw material?

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

N	E	W	T	A	M	B	I	P	A	S	T	A		
O	N	I	O	N	T	A	R	T	R	E	L	A	X	
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A	M	E	N	D		M	E	A	D		C	L	E	O

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www.upuzzles.com

23 Brewery barrel

24 Change

27 Michael Strahan's a.m. show

29 "Am I so out of touch? No, it's the children who ____ wrong!" ("The Simpsons" line)

30 Sires

32 Book title location, typically

34 Bout ender, in brief

35 WM Phoenix Open's org.

36 Diner kitchen

shout

37 Wildly over-the-top, in slang

39 Investment vehicle with a "backdoor" option

41 Slight shake

42 Jane of "CBS News Sunday Morning"

44 Item on a dish rack

46 Oboes, e.g.

48 Remain undecided

49 Midterm, for one

51 Score units: Abbr.

53 "Ready Player One" actor Sheridan

54 Word following "breast" or "bottle"

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12
13						14		15				
16							17		18			
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43				44					45			46
	47		48					49		50		
51							52		53	54		
55								56				
57								58				

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by PETER MARINACCI

"Wombania is about a family of Wombies who move in with their human relative and take over his home and his life. An all-ages comic, Wombania is a unique look at life, relationships, food, and technology, and how we struggle to cope with the fast-paced, ever-changing world in which we live."

Community Calendar

- Goat Walk**
August 30
7 p.m.

Take a guided goat walk with a real live goat herder. You will get to walk around the farm with a herd of 75 Nigerian Dwarf goats and immerse yourself in the beauty of holistic grazing and regenerative agriculture practices. Tickets \$15. More info at: jesterkingbrewery.com • Jester King Brewery • 13187 Fitzhugh Rd. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.
- Wine Class**
Wine & Movies
August 31
4 - 5 p.m.

Join us in the tasting room and learn all about sweet wines. Class is \$20 and includes four tastings. Tickets must be purchased at hamiltonpoolvineyards.com in advance. Hamilton Pool Vineyards • 25711 Hamilton Pool Rd. • Dripping Springs, TX 78663.
- Brushes & Brews**
Watercolor Pet Portrait Workshop
August 31
Noon - 1:30 p.m.

In this hands-on class, Carlie will guide you through the process of painting your pet using watercolor techniques. Pre-class instructions. \$55 includes supplies and a beverage. For more information about this event and others this weekend, visit: vistabrewingtx.com/calendar. Vista Brewery • 13551 FM 150 • Driftwood, TX 78620

- Mini VIBE Market**
September 1
Noon - 5 p.m.

Enjoy a day of shopping LOCAL artists, makers & creatives with Vibe Artisan Markets at the Deep Eddy Tasting Room in Dripping Springs. 20 local artists, creatives and makers. Food, music & drink. Free admission. Deep Eddy Vodka • 2205 E HWY 290 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620
- Labor Day Lobster Boil**
September 1
4 - 7 p.m.

Garbo's will host a Labor Day Lobster Boil at their Dripping Springs location. The dinner includes a whole lobster, Skip's clams, shrimp, corn, and potatoes, paired with a glass of wine or a pint of beer. Tickets \$125/\$50. Visit garboslobsteratx.com for more information or to purchase tickets. Garbo's of Dripping Springs • 136 Drifting Wind Run, Suite 101 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.
- Dripping Springs Farmers Market**
September 4
Wednesdays
9 a.m. - Noon

Local producers offer produce, meats, and artisanal foods for purchase along with flowers, plants and hand-made crafts. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

- Art Crawl First Thursdays**
September 5
5 - 9 p.m.

The Wimberley Valley Arts and Cultural Alliance presents First Thursday Art Crawl. Galleries on and around the Square will be open later than normal with special events, food, entertainment and more. Galleries and participating businesses will feature guest artists along with other activities. Wimberley Square • 329 Wimberley Square • Wimberley, TX 78676
- Back to School Rotary Rodeo**
September 7
Noon - 6 p.m.

Family event featuring stick horse races, cold plunge pools, live music, vendor shopping, and BBQ. Activities include spin art, a fishing camp game, and chair massages. Proceeds support scholarships for DSHS seniors and community service projects. Admission is free and open to the public. Dripping Springs Distilling • 5330 Bell Springs Rd • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

- LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION**

City of Dripping Springs Public Meetings

The City of Dripping Springs welcomes residents and others doing business with the city to attend any of the public meetings below. Streaming option and meeting packets at: cityofdrippingsprings.com. Meetings are held at City Hall Council Chambers • 511 Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.
- September 3 • 6 p.m.**

City Council & Board of Adjustment Meeting
- September 5 • 6 p.m.**

Historic Preservation Commission Meeting

- Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting**
September 3 • 9 a.m.

This is a regular meeting of the Hays County Commissioners Court, the governing body of the county. This group of elected officials and staff oversees the functions and budget for all county-related business. Hays County Historic Courthouse • 111 E. San Antonio St. • San Marcos, Texas. Streaming option available at hayscountytexas.com
- DRIPPING SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

DSISD Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting
September 23 • 6 p.m.

Live meeting of the DSISD Board of Trustees which sets policy, agenda and strategic planning for the Dripping Springs school district. Agendas and live streaming option available at dsisdtexas.com. Live meeting at the Center for Learning & Leadership • 300 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

North Hays road bond projects total nearly \$108 million

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

On Nov. 5, North Hays County residents will be asked to approve a transportation bond issuance totaling nearly \$440 million. In Precinct 4, which includes the Dripping Springs, Driftwood, and Buda communities, nearly a quarter of the total—\$107.7 million—will fund local projects.

Hays County Precinct 4 Commissioner Walt Smith, along with the rest of the Commissioners Court, voted to send the bond package to voters.

"Transportation, mobility, and the ability of our residents to traverse the county safely is one of the highest priorities of

the county," Smith said. "Given the massive growth in Hays County, and specifically in the Buda and Dripping Springs areas, the county must constantly identify needed improvements and changes, and the projects proposed in this bond have been well identified to provide for the safe movement of our residents throughout the county."

Here are some of the key projects included in the bond package:

Darden Hill Road/CR 162 (East of Sawyer Ranch Road to RM 1826): This project involves constructing a four-lane divided roadway on Darden Hill Road, from RM 1826 to the roundabout at Sawyer Ranch Road. The design was funded

in 2016, and this bond will cover the construction. The estimated cost is \$51.793 million.

Darden Hill Road Extension (RM 150 West of Springwood Road to West of Sawyer Ranch Road): This project includes the design of a 4.8-mile, four-lane roadway, providing easier access from RM 150 to the Sawyer Ranch Road roundabout and Springwood Road. The estimated cost is \$8.034 million.

RM 150 and RM 12 Intersection Improvements (RM 150 at RM 12): This project will construct a roundabout at the intersection of RM 150 and RM 12, south of the existing T-intersection. The construction is based on a design funded by the 2016 road bond.

The estimated cost is \$8.424 million.

Fitzhugh Road/CR 101 (RM 12 to Travis County Line): This project includes the design and construction of interim safety improvements and a corridor study for Fitzhugh Road from RM 12 to the Travis County line. Travis County may partner on this project. The estimated cost is \$5 million.

Dripping Springs Southwest Connection (Precinct 4 Boundary to RM 12): This regional connectivity project involves the design and construction of a 2.4-mile, four-lane divided roadway. The estimated cost is \$5.742 million.

Sawyer Ranch Road Pedestrian Walkway (Meadow Creek Drive

to Darden Hill Road): This project will construct an ADA-compliant 10-foot shared path to allow Dripping Springs ISD students to safely travel to and from school. The project spans 1.3 miles and has an estimated cost of \$3.432 million.

Sawyer Ranch Road (U.S. 290 to Darden Hill Road): This project involves the design and right-of-way acquisition for a four-lane divided roadway, improving access from Darden Hill Road to U.S. 290. The estimated cost is \$13.9 million.

SH 45 Southwest Extension (FM 1626 to I-35): Part of a regional mobility plan, this project aims to extend SH 45 from FM 1626 in Buda to I-35. The estimated cost is

\$7.095 million for the Hays County portion of the project, which includes designing a new 1.9-mile, four-lane highway.

Old San Antonio Road Study (Main Street to Travis County Line): This project involves a road study of Old San Antonio Road from Main Street in Buda to the Travis County line. The estimated cost is \$25,000.

The county plans to host informational open houses throughout the county to inform residents about the 2024 Road Bond before Election Day. Details of these events will be announced soon.

The 2024 Road Bond will be decided by voters in the Nov. 5 election.

Wine Enthusiast magazine names local wine expert among top 40 educators in the nation

SUBMITTED

Kelsey Kramer, Director of Education at the Hill Country Wine Academy was named to Wine Enthusiast magazine's Future 40 Tastemakers list.

Kramer, a resident of Stonewall, was chosen as one of the best talents in the country for her innovative approach to wine education and her dedication to broadening the awareness and understanding of Texas wines on a national scale.

Kramer is the founder of the Hill

Country Wine Academy, which offers a Texas-specific ambassador certification. In addition, Kramer is the co-founder of Grafted, an organization that helps elevate women in the Texas wine business.

"Being recognized for what you do is great, but loving it is better," says Kramer. "Last year, I spent time with a group of colleagues, and we shared moments of feeling burnt out on wine and the industry as a whole. That conversation now serves as the pivotal point in rekindling my love

of wine. I'm grateful to share daily that renewed passion with students and lovers of wine. Being a Future 40 honoree lights a fire in me to continue innovating, educating and empowering others with Texas wine."

Kelsey Kramer is the Director of Education at William Chris Wine Company, an award winning winery in Hye, Texas.

Wine Enthusiast's Future 40 Tastemakers list, formerly 40 Under 40, recognizes a diverse set of tastemakers bringing the drinks business into the future, including

winemakers, educators, sommeliers and other trailblazers in the wine industry, including William Chris Wine Company Co-Founder/Winemaker Chris Brundrett, who was named to the list in 2020.

Kramer's efforts in developing the unique wine education programming across all of William Chris Wine Company's vineyards and brands have significantly contributed to putting Texas Hill Country in front of a national audience, establishing her as one of the industry's top influences.



Kelsey Kramer, Director of Education at the Hill Country Wine Academy was named to Wine Enthusiast magazine's Future 40 Tastemakers list. PHOTO WILLIAMS CHRIS WINE COMPANY



Tiger Cry Yearbook Earns Honors

The Dripping Springs High School Tiger Cry yearbook staff earned four marks of distinction (essentials, coverage, design and photography) from the National Student Press Association (NSPA) for their 2024 yearbook! The staff also received the highest NSPA honor with an All-American rating. Congratulations! PHOTO DSISD



Pet Resource Center partners with Neighbors by Ring

Staff Reports

The Hays County Pet Resource Center (Hays PRC) is now a part of Neighbors by Ring, a public safety mobile app to share hyperlocal updates with Ring camera users in Hays County.

Ring aims to connect residents with public safety agencies through the Neighbors App to create safer, more informed communities.

"Utilizing this additional tool allows us to share focused information such as educational materials, event announcements, and local resources with the community to

reach a wider audience of pet owners in Hays County," said Lee Ann Shenefiel, Executive Advisor and Project Coordinator for the Hays PRC. Lost and found pet information is an important feature of the app where neighbors can help neighbors reunite pets with their owners, and get safely back home, all without entering the shelter system. The Neighbors app integrates with Petco Love Lost, Petco Love's free national database.

Ring's Pet Profiles is another step to simplify the pet reunification process. The integration allows customers to share images of their pet via a Neighbors

Pet Profile or lost pet post with Petco Love Lost. From there, the database's pet image technology will check all affiliated shelters and private found-pet reports to see if there are any pets matching the images provided through Neighbors, helping pets make it safely home where they belong.

With most lost pets being less than 1 mile from home, swift action and community effort are critical in reuniting pets with their loved ones. This is possible by leveraging modern technology, and sharing lost pets to the Neighbors by Ring app to make the community safer.

The Wimberley View and Dripping Springs Century News offices will be closed Monday, September 2 for Labor Day. Deadline for ads and notices is Friday, August 30 at 2 p.m. for the September 5 publication. Thank you.

SPORTS

Sports Roundup

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Crosscountry Competes At Vista Ridge

The Dripping Springs crosscountry team got their season started by taking on the 24+ teams at the Vista Ridge Invitational. The way scoring works in CC is the top five placers from a team add their finishes together to give a team its total. The boys Gold team placed 17th with 461. Boys Silver team 14th (375). Girls varsity 6th (198) and JV girls 5th(150).

Girls varsity results: 17. Lucy Fredenburg 20.10.2; 28. Sofia Vences 20.31.2; 33. Callie Schumacher 20.40.1; 48. Alexa Velasco 21.15.6; 74. Lauren Velasco 21.57.9; 87. Laurel Hoskovec 22.09.3; 92. Mia Thomasen 22.15.7.

Boys Gold: 67. 18.01.7; 81. Abel Silverman 18.15.0; 94. Gus Caddell 18.33.5; 118. Landon Andrews 18.52.2; 175. Rocco Gillespie 19.49.2; 176. Zachary Adams 19.50.0.

Boys Silver: 36. Philip Rhode 20.24.9; 89. Drew Clarno 21.28.4; 95. Christopher Higdon 21.32.0; 103. Connor Kurpiewski

21.40.6; 124. Jacob Henderson 22.05.6; 167. Austin Hungerford 23.16.3; 176. Alex Hipolito 23.20.6.

JV Girls: 20. Bella Rose 23.22.9; 33. Reese Langle 24.11.6; 35. Ella Castillo 24.19.8; 42. Luci Gomez 24.43.3; 47. Heather Shoumaker 24.49.7; 55. Townes Fougerat 25.13.4; 58. Lucy Clarno 25.19.1.

Volleyball Team Unstoppable

The Lady Tigers pushed their season record to 22-0 enroute to winning the New Braunfels Fraulein Volleyfest tournament. In a regular game, they blanked SA Reagan. Prior to finishing up their tourney season at the Rouse Volley-Palooza Invitational Dripping Springs' will take on Arizona Casteel. All-tourney players at the Pearland tourney were Henley Anderson, Callie Krueger and Christa Wilburn.

Game result: SA Reagan 25-16, 25-5, 25-17. Tourney results: Round Rock 25-15, 25-19; Leander 25-12, 25-20; Johnson 27-25, 25-22; NB Canyon 25-14, 25-15; SA Clark 25-17, 25-20; Flour Bluff 25-18, 25-11; Johnson 26-24, 25-14; Reagan 25-22, 25-19; Franklin (finals) 25-20, 25-13.

This Friday, help the Tigers win the Peanut Butter challenge

PEANUT BUTTER BOWL

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WAYS TO DONATE

- Drop off jar(s) of peanut butter to the Athletics Office at Tiger Stadium or the Dripping Springs High School front office
- Donate online at peanutbutterbowl.com
- Donation deadline is Friday, August 30



BEFORE TIGER FOOTBALL AND VANDEGRIFT FACE OFF ON THE FOOTBALL FIELD ON AUGUST 30, THE TWO SCHOOLS ARE BATTLING IN THE 2024 PEANUT BUTTER BOWL! HERE'S HOW TO HELP THE TIGERS WIN: 1) DROP OFF JAR(S) OF PEANUT BUTTER TO THE ATHLETICS OFFICE AT TIGER STADIUM OR THE DSHS FRONT OFFICE; 2) DONATE ONLINE AT [PEANUTBUTTERBOWL.COM](https://peanutbutterbowl.com)

TOP 5 DIV 6-A TEXAS VOLLEYBALL TEAMS

1. Dripping Springs 22-0
2. Byron Nelson 16-1
3. Fort Bend Clements 15-1
4. Austin High 20-1
5. Pearland 15-2

SOURCE: TEXAS GIRLS COACHS ASSN.

DSHS Tigers Sports Calendar

Dripping Springs HS Varsity Sports	Team Tennis 8/29 Bowie HS (Home)
Football 8/30 Tigers vs Vandergrift (Away)	9/3 Anderson HS (Away)
Volleyball 9/3 Hays HS (Home)	9/4 Bowie HS (Away)
	Cross Country 8/31 SA Patriots FEAST Invitational San Antonio (Away)

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The _____ Hays County Municipal Utility District No. 4 _____ will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year _____ 2024 _____ on _____ September 18, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. _____ at _____ Belterra Centre, 151 Trinity Hills Drive, Austin, Texas _____. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

FOR the proposal: _____ Craig McColloch, Meredith Tucker and Michael Tomasz _____

AGAINST the proposal: _____ None _____

PRESENT and not voting: _____ None _____

ABSENT: _____ Dilipkumar B. Patel and Toby Fariss _____

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	Last Year	This Year
	0.85 /\$100 Adopted	0.8989 /\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$ +0.0489	/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	+5.75	%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$ 520,603	\$ 531,652
General homestead exemptions available		
(excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$ N/A	\$ N/A
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$ 520,603	\$ 531,652
Tax on average residence homestead	\$ 4,425.13	\$ 4,779.02
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if		
proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$ 353.89	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	7.99	%

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate the _____ Hays County Municipal Utility District No. 4 _____ proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of _____ district operations and payment of debt service obligations _____.

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The Dripping Springs Municipal Utility District No. 1 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 12:00 noon at the offices of Doucet & Associates, Inc., 7401B Highway 71 West, Suite 160, Austin, Texas 78735. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

(Names of all board members and how each voted on the proposed tax rate)

FOR the proposal: Directors Lombard, Arnold, Hubbard, and Carrasquillo

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: None

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	Last Year	This year
	\$0.7600/\$100 Adopted	\$0.7600/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$0.00/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)	0.00%	
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$0	\$0
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$0	\$0
Tax on average residence homestead	\$0	\$0
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		
	\$0.00	0.00%

NOTICE OF TAXPAYERS' RIGHT TO ELECTION TO REDUCE TAX RATE

If the District adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than eight percent, the qualified voters of the district by petition may require that an election be held to determine whether to reduce the operation and maintenance tax rate to the voter-approval tax rate under Section 49.23603, Water Code.

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



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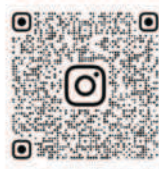


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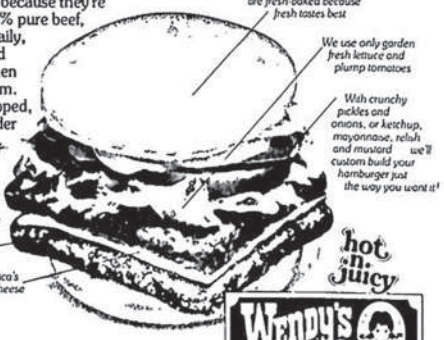


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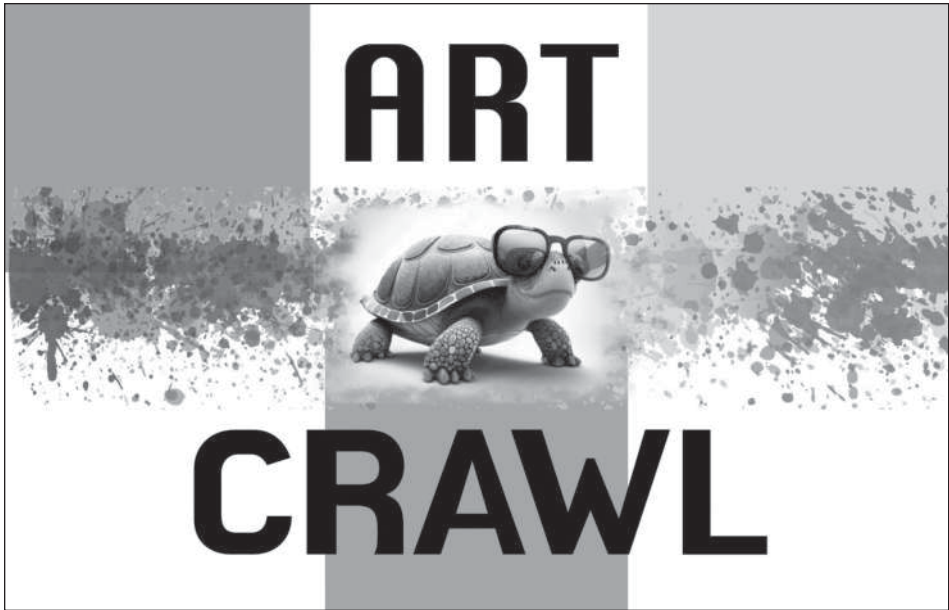
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Wimberley launches Art Crawl for first Thursdays of each month

Staff Reports

With cooler temperatures around the corner, the art community in Wimberley invites you to the first Art Crawl on Thursday, September 5 from 5 - 9 p.m. The Art Crawl is a chance to visit Wimberley's art galleries, which will stay open late for the event. The Art Crawl will return to Wimberley the first Thursday of each month.

The Art Crawl connects art lovers and enthusiasts and participating galleries for an evening of art events, food and entertainment. The event is the latest program initiative from WimberleyArts.org, attracting art lovers from near and far to enjoy Wimberley's diverse gallery scene every month.

Participating galleries include: Wildflower

Art Gallery, Art on 12, Pitzer's Fine Art Gallery, Rodney Bursiel Gallery, 220 Fine Art Gallery, Hill Country Collectables, Wimberley Valley Art League Gallery, projectArt ARTSPACE, and Silo Gallery and the Glass Studio.

Casa Turquesa, My Happy Place, Shelter, Ceremony and Mission Day Spa will also keep late hours in support of the Art Crawl.

According to Art Crawl committee chair Nancy Elliott, "After months of planning we're so excited to be launching Art Crawl in September! Visitors can expect different attractions at each gallery or business, including guest artists, special displays, demonstrations, and refreshments."

The turtle flag will be displayed at all galleries and businesses and there will be some directional signs around

town as well as transport to help folks get around.

Art Crawl maps and Passport Cards will be available at each venue and each venue will have its own distinctive stamp and stamp the cards to show you were there. Once you get five stamps you can enter the monthly drawing to win some terrific prizes by leaving your card at any of the participating locations.

After the kick off on September 5th, the Art Crawl will return each first Thursday of the month; featuring a different theme. Future Art Crawl dates are October 3 (Plein Aire Everywhere), November 7 (Literary Night); and December 5 (Signature Cocktails and Live Music).

For future dates and themes, and a location map, visit wimberley-arts.org/programs/art-crawl.

Stage 2 water restrictions called for thousands of residents in North Hays

Thousands of residents in neighborhoods served by the West Travis County Public Utility Agency (WTCPUA) are now under Stage 2 watering restrictions, effective immediately.

In North Hays county, many neighborhoods east of the Dripping Springs city limit along the HWY 290 corridor, including Belterra, are within the WTCPUA district affected by the order.

Although lake levels remain above the Lower Colorado River Authority's (LCRA) Stage 2 criteria, the WTCPUA follows its own guidelines for implementing Stage 2 restrictions, based on water demand and the agency's water production capacity.

"The [water storage] tanks are just not refilling fast enough due to the irrigation demand," said WTCPUA spokeswoman Jenny Hoff. The agency had hoped the tanks would refill by Friday morning, but

when they checked, water levels in the tanks were still dropping.

Hoff noted that recent high temperatures have exacerbated evaporation, and property owners are drawing more water to maintain their plants and lawns. Additionally, a construction crew working in the Falconhead subdivision last week accidentally struck a water line, further adding to the water loss.

Low levels in the district's water tanks have resulted in low water pressure, with some residents experiencing little or no water pressure.

Stage 2 restrictions limit irrigation to once per week, between 6-10 a.m. and 7-10 p.m. Property owners are asked not to water overnight.

Residents should follow the watering schedule below for irrigation:

Addresses ending in 1 & 3: Monday
Addresses ending in 2 & 4: Tuesday

Addresses ending in 5 & 7: Wednesday
Addresses ending in 6 & 8: Thursday
Addresses ending in 9 & 0: Friday

Commercial properties and HOAs: Saturday

Your watering schedule may differ depending on your location. For example, Belterra has a different schedule from the WTCPUA. Residents there should visit the WCID website (hays.wcid.org) to confirm their designated watering day.

Violations of irrigation restrictions are monitored by the WTCPUA and may result in fines.

The WTCPUA is governed by a board of directors. The board will continue to monitor water water use and tank recovery rates and updates or keep water restrictions as necessary. To learn more about the WTCPUA and to see the map and learn if you are in its service area visit: wtcpua.org.

The Official Newspaper of Dripping Springs

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX INCREASE

This notice only applies to a taxing unit other than a special taxing unit or municipality with a population of less than 30,000, regardless of whether it is a special taxing unit.

PROPOSED TAX RATE: \$0.1794 per \$100
NO-NEW-REVENUE TAX RATE: \$0.1702 per \$100
VOTER-APPROVAL TAX RATE: \$0.1794 per \$100

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

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

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

A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE WILL BE HELD ON 09/04/2024 06:00 PM (CT) at City Hall, 511 Mercer St., Dripping Springs, TX

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

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

Property tax amount = (tax rate) x (taxable value of your property) / 100
(List names of all members of the governing body below, showing how each voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase or, if one or more were absent, indicating absences.)

FOR the proposal: Taline Manassian, Wade King, Geoffrey Tahuahua, Travis Crow, Sherrie Parks
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: None

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

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

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

	2023	2024	Change
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.1718	\$0.1794	4.42% increase
Average homestead taxable value	\$679,291	\$617,653	9.07% decrease
Tax on average homestead	\$1,167	\$1,108	5.05% decrease
Total tax levy on all properties	\$3,343,346	\$3,236,279	3.2% decrease

For assistance with tax calculations, please contact the tax assessor for City of Dripping Springs at (512) 393-5545 or jenifer.okane@co.hays.tx.us, or visit <http://www.hayscountytexas.com/taxoffice> for more information

WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON TAX RATE

The Hays County Municipal Utility District No. 5 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2024 on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. at the offices of LJA Engineering, Inc., 7500 Rialto Blvd. Building II, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78735. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

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

(Names of all board members and how each voted on the proposed tax rate)

FOR the proposal: Directors Holcomb, Greenway, Hubble, and Morgan
AGAINST the proposal: None
PRESENT and not voting: None
ABSENT: Director Little

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.4025/\$100 Adopted	\$0.3968/\$100 Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value		(\$0.0057)/\$100
Percentage increase/decrease in rates (+/-)		-1.41%
Average appraised residence homestead value	\$655,936	\$779,931
General homestead exemptions available (excluding 65 years of age or older or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average residence homestead taxable value	\$655,936	\$688,487
Tax on average residence homestead	\$2,640.14	\$2,731.92
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-) and percentage of increase (+/-)		\$91.78 3.47%

If the proposed combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate requires or authorizes an election to approve or reduce the tax rate, as applicable, the Board of Directors of the District proposes to use the tax increase for the purpose of district operations.

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the District adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance, and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code. An election is not required if the adopted tax rate is less than or equal to the voter-approval tax rate.

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

BOND FROM PG. 1

the influx of people at the regularly-scheduled meeting Tuesday. Many people spoke in public comment against the specifics of the bond.

After direction from the court at the previous meeting, the road improvement projects are now categorized by city or area rather than the precinct number — San Marcos area project, Kyle area project, etc. Now listed under San Marcos area projects are the Leah Avenue Mobility Project and the Centerpoint Road Safety Project. Buda area projects are SH 45 Southwest Extension Regional Connectivity Project, Old San Antonio Road Safety Project, Hillside Terrace Mobility Project and FM 2001 Gap Safety Project. Dripping Springs Area Projects are Darden Hill Extension Mobility Project, RR12/ FM 150 Intersection Safety Improvements Safety Project and Dripping Springs Southwest Connection Regional Connectivity Project. Eastern County Projects are Cotton Gin Road Safety Project, Dairy Road Safety Project, William Pettus Road Extension Mobility Project and Old Bastrop Highway Safety Project. Kyle Area Projects are Windy Hill Interim Mobility Project, Windy Hill Roundabout Mobility Project, Windy Hill Ultimate Mobility Project, Go-forth Road Regional Connectivity Project, RM 150 East Mobil-

ity Project, Yarrington Road Extension - Segment 1 and Segment 2 Regional Connectivity Project and Bunton Lane/Heidenreich Lane/ Grist Mill Road Safety/ Mobility Project. Uhland Area Projects are FM 2001 East Safety / Mobility Project and High Road Mobility Project. Western County Projects are Darden Hill Phase 2 Safety / Mobility Project, Sawyer Ranch Road Pedestrian Walkway Safety Project, Sawyer Ranch Road Widening Mobility Project and Fitzhugh Road Mobility Project. The only Wimberley Area Project is the Old Kyle Road Safety Project.

At a meeting on July 7, Dan Wegmiller, Specialized Public Finance vice president, said the bonds would be issued separately across four to five years and would not hit Hays County's debt profile immediately. Wegmiller said that growth estimates were used to calculate the impacts of the bond on an individual's property taxes.

"For someone that has a \$400,000 taxable value, 2 cents would be an \$80 annual increase," Wegmiller said. "If it's a \$500,000 home, it's a \$100 increase roughly."

Julie Houston, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe Hays County bond council, said the principal amount has been adjusted with the latest figures to be \$439,634,000.

Les Karnes, a Hays County resident, said more funds should be dedicated to the east side of town as the roads are far worse than those on the west side.

"It's unconscionable that you have a fastest growing population on the east side getting handed crumbs basically, \$222 million out of this package, when it's blowing up out there," Karnes said. "In conclusion, consider directing more of the funds out there where it's needed."

Hays County Commissioner Michelle Cohen said she was glad to see that there are actually projects slated for the east side of town.

"I've lived in this county for 40 plus years, and a lot of our roads on the east side look exactly as they did at that time," Cohen said. "For me to see the number of projects

that are at full construction or even at design, it makes me happy, as a long time resident of Hays County, to finally see real work being done to an area that has been severely disregarded and underserved."

Hays County Commissioner Debbie Ingalsbe said she represents mainly the east side of I-35 where there is a great need.

"Those roads have been neglected for such a long time, and we need improvements on the east side," Ingalsbe said. "It is extremely important that we look at those needs. ... I just feel that it is important that we strongly consider ... allowing the voters to decide if this is something that they want to approve because of the great need on the east side of I-35."

Virginia Parker, the San Marcos River Foundation director, said she had many concerns about the road bond.

"We all know how this county is growing. We know that one of your responsibilities is infrastructure, but several of the road projects listed that you all will be voting on today seriously threaten the very things that draw people to our county and why many of us leave here today," Parker said. "Several of these roads would open up major development across very sensitive recharge land that feeds our aquifers, springs and rivers. Think about how adversely that could impact our county."

Hays County Commissioner Lon Shell said he understands the concerns of citizens particularly when it comes to the environment, especially water.

"I don't think we can

say that that keeps us from being able to fix transportation with the growth that we already have," Shell said. "We are probably behind the growth. It's hard sometimes to get ahead of things when you're growing this fast, but I think most of these are at the point of needing improvements."

Hays County Judge Ruben Becerra said he felt the majority of public comment focused on "Pct. 4 concerns, and Fitzhugh specifically," and that he wanted "to give Commissioner [Walt] Smith a chance to comment."

Smith said he felt that there was a lack of understanding of "where the budget lies."

"Whenever we look at the Master Transportation Plan that was developed in 2021, it was an extension of the Master Transportation Plan that was developed in 2016 that both included Fitzhugh road as a four-lane roadway. I didn't come up with that concept. It's been on the books since well before I was elected. That's because looking at the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization on how much growth there would be in that area," Smith said. "The first thing I requested was a true safety audit of Fitzhugh Road, and that safety audit is all but complete. At this point, we've gotten recommendations from that engineering firm as to what interim safety improvements that we can have along Fitzhugh Road to try to make an impact. And within our current budget process, I'm trying to identify how just those improvements are going to cost the county just over \$3 million for

those interim improvements."

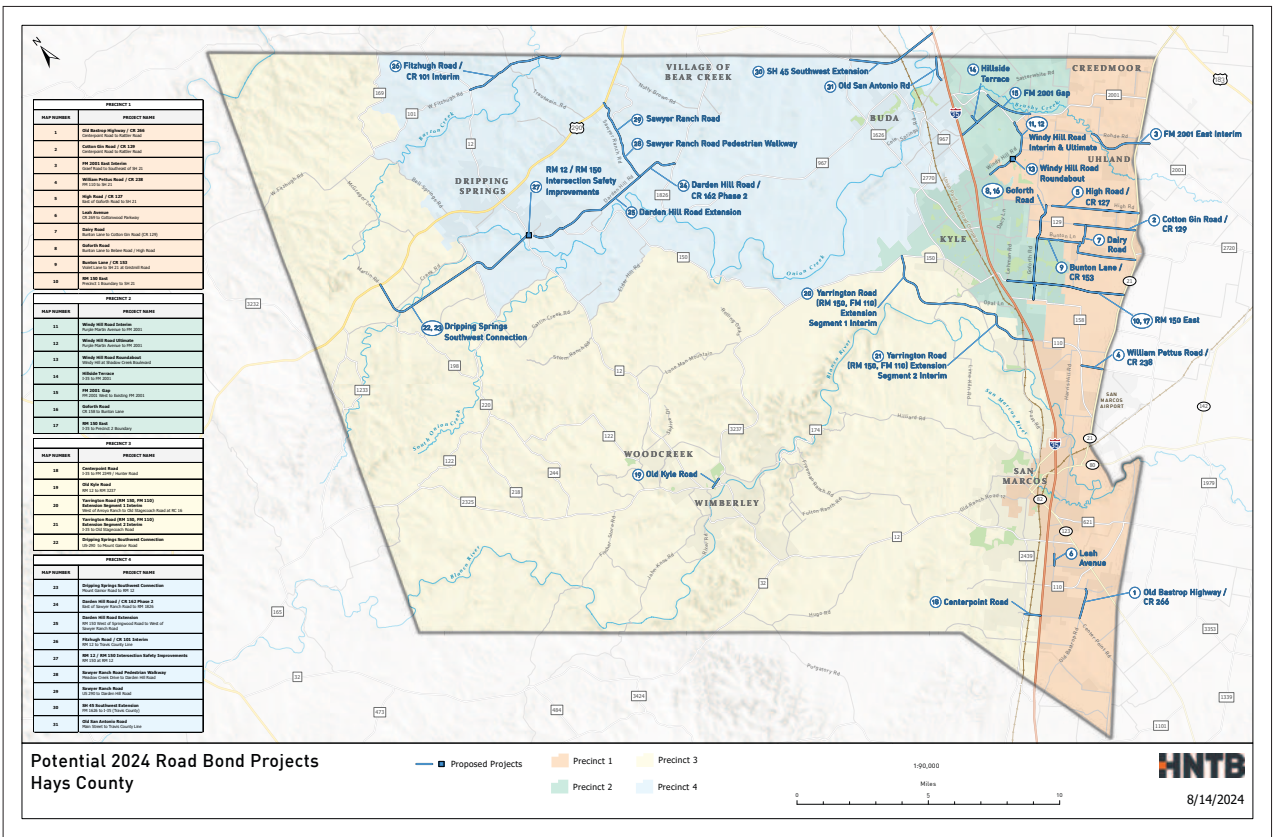
Smith said the bond actually is set to fund the environmental studies "that have been requested here today." He said he was unaware whether Fitzhugh road would ultimately be a four-lane road, because the county has not "taken those steps yet." He added the Transportation Safety Audit is showing that some parts of Fitzhugh road need to be straightened for safety reasons "only when necessary," but he would still like to keep the hill country character in the area.

"We're at a point where we have dropped our tax rate so low here in Hays County in comparison to other counties, that we can't afford to physically fund those on an annualized basis," Smith said. "Because of that, we have to do general transportation bonds every so often just to come back and get those projects that have been planned for and that have gone through the environmental clearance."

Upon direction from Smith, Houston revised the language of the Fitzhugh Road project to be reduced to \$5 million with the additional \$1.148 million to be placed in the pot for discretionary in Pct. 4. The language was also changed from a Mobility Project to Safety Audit and Corridor Study.

"So the focus will not be to move cars through there but to make it safe," Becerra added.

Additional bond information may be found in the agenda packet at hayscountytx.newswagit.com/videos/312213 starting on page 165.



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