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Dripping Springs Century News

33rd Year No. 37

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Pretty in Pink

Ramey Golod and Claire Horsey, ambassadors from the Head to Toe Dance studio, were at the Dripping Springs Rotary Club's Back to School Rodeo held at Dripping Springs Distilling on September 7. The family-friendly event featured stick horse races, cold plunge pools, BBQ, live music, and an in-door Trading Post. The event raised money to support the Rotarians scholarships for DSHS seniors and community service projects. **PHOTO KEN VARGAS**

Local author and former beauty queen launches her memoir this Sunday at Patriots' Hall

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

Author Jane Little Botkin, will launch her newest book, "The Pink Dress, A Memoir of a Reluctant Beauty Queen," this Sunday at Patriots' Hall in Dripping Springs. In it she tells her story of being a beauty queen in El Paso, Texas. Botkin, was one of the early "GuyRex girls," products of a juggernaut that changed the way beauty queens were prepared and presented in the world of competitive beauty contests. She became Miss El Paso in 1971. Her story is a personal memoir of that experience and also a

SEE **MEMOIR** PAGE 4



Hays County 4-H hosting information night September 16 in Wimberley



Dripping Springs 4-H club members Elisabeth Cates, Brooklyn Barnett and Everly Shumway won first place in the Duds to Dazzle sewing competition for District 10. **PHOTO LINDSEY SHUMWAY**

Staff Reports

Hays County 4-H will host a 4-H 101 Night on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, from 6 to 7:45 p.m. at the Wimberley Public Library. Families are invited to attend and learn how 4-H can help children develop life and leadership skills. The event is designed to introduce families to the wide

SEE **4-H** PAGE 10

Hays Mental Health Court celebrates third graduating class



The Hays County Mental Health Court celebrated its third graduating class at the Hays County Election Center on Aug 26. Above, Alex S. receives a Mental Health Court graduation certificate from Judge Elaine Brown. **PHOTO SHANNON WEST**

Staff Reports

The Mental Health Speciality Court, headed by Hays County Court at Law #3 Judge Elaine Brown, takes those suffering from addiction or mental health disorders that have committed a crime and diverts them from the traditional court

SEE **GRADUATION** PAGE 2



Dr. David Z. Gay was joined by his family and ambassadors from the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 5 to celebrate the opening of Texas Eye Aesthetics in Dripping Springs. Dr. Gay is a board-certified ophthalmologist and oculofacial plastic surgeon, specializing in eyelid, orbit, tear duct system, and facial cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. **PHOTO KEN VARGAS**

Texas Eye Aesthetics opens practice in Dripping Springs

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

Ambassadors from the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce joined Dr. David Z. Gay and his family for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Sept. 5 to celebrate the opening of Texas Eye Aesthetics in

Dripping Springs. Dr. Gay, a board-certified ophthalmologist and oculofacial plastic surgeon, specializes in eyelid, orbit, tear duct system, and facial cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. With over 10,000 surgeries performed, he combines a passion for patient care with his love of precision work. His practice also offers non-surgical procedures to improve the appearance and health of skin around the eyes and face, including dermal fillers and laser treatments. Dr. Gay earned his medical degree from the Medical College

SEE **TEXAS EYE** PAGE 10

Five-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High: 90 Low: 68 Sunny	High: 94 Low: 71 Sunny	High: 94 Low: 71 Sunny	High: 93 Low: 70 20% chance of rain	High: 91 Low: 68 20% chance of rain

DSHS students earn College Board honors

Staff Reports

This year, more than 40 Dripping Springs High School juniors and seniors have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Program for their performance on the PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and/or AP® Exams.

In 2023, Dripping Springs HS had more than 90 students who earned College Board honors.

A majority of DSHS students earned National Rural and Small Town Recognition, while students also received the National African American Recognition, the National First-Generation Recognition, the National Hispanic Recognition and the National Indigenous Recognition. Students can qualify

- for multiple recognition programs.
- Below are the Dripping Springs HS students who are recognized for this year's honors:
- National African American Recognition**
Kalle Thomas
 - National First-Generation Recognition**
Ryan Tingle
Sofia Vences
 - National Hispanic Recognition**
Kaden Beard
Vegas Borrelli
Allison Gorchs
Brooke Holmes
Jackson McClure
Alexa Miyamoto
Sloan Rodriguez
Noah Samaniego
Elijah Slater
Sofia Vences
Kamiiily Visser

- National Indigenous Recognition**
Macy Bargaen
Quinn Foley
- National Rural and Small Town Recognition**
David Adair
Grace Alexander
Kaden Beard
Vegas Borrelli
Kirby Brandon
Dayton Daniel
Kolby Dennison
Isabel Derouen
Hadden Evans
Capri Fry
Allison Gorchs
Elodie Griffin
Akshad Jha
Kyle Kelly
Elliott Kling
Abir Kulkarni
James Lamb
Crispin Lovelace
Fletcher Lovelace
Alexa Miyamoto
Stone Patterson
Annie Reale
Sloan Rodriguez
Cooper Rummel
Sahitya Sajjala
Eben Sebastian

- Madeleine Sheppard
Elijah Slater
Kylie Spence
Sanvi Surapaneni
Kalle Thomas
Deval Vazir
Kamiiily Visser
Marshall Wyler
- These students qualified for this recognition by earning an GPA of 3.3 or higher; and scoring in the top 10 percent of PSAT/NMSQT or PSAT 10 assessment takers in Texas or by earning a score of 3 or higher on 2 or more AP Exams by the end of 10th grade.
- Students also received recognition in the categories of rural area or small town school attendance, or as identifying as: African American/Black; Hispanic American/Latino; Indigenous/Native American; or as a first-generation college-bound student.

Dripping Springs ISD to host Taxpayer Tuesdays

Taxpayer Tuesdays is an opportunity for parents and community members to tour DSISD campuses and facilities and learn about district operations and finances, student programs and successes, and ask questions of district leaders. At each event, taxpayers tour a campus and learn about a topic relevant to our fast-growing district.

For the 2024-25 school year, there will be three events in the fall semester and three in the spring that stakeholders can attend. Each event is held from 9:30-11:00 a.m. Attendees are asked to arrive about 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting with a government-issued photo ID to get a visitor's badge.

For more information and to register for any of the sessions, visit: dsisdtx.us/taxpayer-tuesdays.

- Center for Learning & Leadership
Engaging Communities: The School Board's Role in DSISD
- October 8, 2024
Dripping Springs Elementary School
From Pennies to Programs: Navigating School Finances
- November 12, 2024
Dripping Springs High School
Engage, Inspire, Empower: Creating Student-Centered Programs
- January 14, 2025
Sycamore Springs Elementary
Revenue Realities: Understanding Recapture in School Finance

- February 11, 2025
Center for Learning & Leadership
Policy Pulse: Staying Ahead with Legislative Updates
- April 8, 2025
Rooster Springs Elementary
Bond Update

GRADUATION FROM PG. 1

system while giving them resources that are needed to thrive in the community all the while checking in with them along the way. The court recently celebrated its third graduating class at the Hays County Elections Center. The graduating class consisted of Ava W., Alex S., Richard C., Ryan J. and Tre S.

Adam Holt, Outsiders Anonymous executive director, was a guest speaker at the event and said that rehabilitation can be hard work.

"To have some-

thing like this, the Hays County Mental Health Court, is astonishing, so all of the partners that have come together to make a real difference in our community and in the lives of these graduates and current participants, thank you. It's really worth the effort," Holt said. "There were people that didn't give up on me, and now I run an organization, Outsiders Anonymous, that serves our community. It wouldn't have been possible if I had been given up on. So to the friends and

family members who are here today and never gave up on their loved ones, trust me when I say that your support is invaluable. They would not be sitting where they are today without you behind them loving them and encouraging them."

Holt added that the graduates have taken the first steps toward true freedom.

"You've proven something to yourselves, to your family and to this court and everyone that has been a part of this journey. That's a big deal," Holt said. "You are capable. You all are deserving of a better life."

Kaimi Mattila,

Mental Health Court administrator, wanted to acknowledge the graduates' hard work and commitment.

"I know this program is not an easy program. I know it's pretty rigorous in terms of your commitment to attending appointments, attending treatment and just prioritizing your mental health and your wellness. I just want to acknowledge and let you know that the Mental Health Court and the community and your friends and family also see your commitment," Mattila said. "Moving forward in the future, I encourage you to reflect on what you learned throughout

this program."

Richard was awarded Most Outstanding Graduate and said the program has given him strength.

"I've learned I am stronger than I thought I was. I am stronger than I was before," Richard said. "I was living underneath the bridge. I didn't have anything. I didn't know where I was going to go. I didn't know how I was going to put down that bottle of alcohol, and slowly through this Mental Health Court, I broke free of all of those chains.

I'm not on alcohol anymore. I'm not on drugs anymore. I've got a house. I've got a life."

Ava said the court has taught her resilience, which has been particularly helpful with motherhood since it provides new challenges daily.

"I've learned that I can actually get through things," she said. "Before, I would just stop."

The Mental Health Court has provided Alex with positive coping skills.

"I've gained better reactions to certain things like learning to regulate anger and frustration, improving communication, engaging in positive hobbies and advocating for my needs," Alex said.

Ryan now has an increased trust in the judicial system in addition to learning about his own resolve.

"I learned how resilient I am in the face of not-so good circumstances," he said.

Tre has learned the tides quickly change.

"I've realized that hard things don't last forever," Tre said. "I've made it through a very difficult period in my life. I'm very proud of myself for doing that."

Learn more about the Mental Health Court at: hayscountytexas.gov/mental-health-court.



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ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League



Dripping Springs
Art League
ART | COMMUNITY | CONNECTION

A Parent's Call to Action: Why your kids need more Art time

Do your kids get enough art in their day? Research shows that children benefit in many ways from time spent creating art, yet most students receive less than an hour of art class per week during their elementary years. The Dripping Springs Art League (DSAL) is stepping up to help parents fill that gap by offering local art programs that can make a big impact on a child's development—and future success.

Benefits of Art for Children

Studies show that students who participate in more art activities experience significant gains in:

Cognitive Development

Art encourages creative thinking and problem-solving.

Emotional & Social Growth

It provides a safe space for kids to express emotions, reduce stress, and develop social skills through collaboration.

Motor Skills

Activities like drawing and sculpting enhance hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills.

Cultural Awareness

Art introduces students to diverse perspectives and fosters inclusivity.

Creativity & Innovation

Art fuels imagination, essential for innovation and risk-taking.

Resilience & Self-Esteem

Completing art projects builds confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

Parents often see these benefits firsthand, recognizing how creativity nurtures their children. Beyond the classroom, art's influence stretches into academic success, social interactions, and future careers.

However, with art programs frequently facing budget cuts, many students don't get the time or resources they need to explore their artistic potential.

What Can Parents Do?

- Advocate for more funding for the arts by contacting your state representatives and school board.
- Encourage your child to take art electives that foster self-confidence and a unique perspective.
- Incorporate art into your child's life with after-school programs, weekend museum visits, or home art centers.

In response to parents seeking more art opportunities for their children, the Dripping Springs Art League now offers two monthly programs.

Family Art @ Appamada

Once a month, an artist leads a Saturday morning class for kids ages 5-14 at Appamada School. The first session featured an acrylic beach scene project, but children were encouraged to freelance. Upcoming classes will include ceramics, watercolors, and more. The cost is \$15 for DSAL members, \$20 for non-members,

covering venue and supplies. Register at artindripping.com/teenworkshops.

Teen Workshops @ the Library

High school students can attend free workshops at the Dripping Springs Community Library, held monthly on Wednesdays. Upcoming classes include Zine-making on Sept. 25 and bullet journaling on Oct. 23. All local high schoolers are welcome. Register at dscl.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/zine-workshop.

Teens can also join other DSAL programs like clubs for painting, sculpture, and jewelry-making, or display their work at the Art Markets in the Triangle in October.

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: artin-dripping.com.

New law eliminates vehicle safety inspections for Hays county in 2025

Staff Reports

Beginning January 1, 2025, Texas vehicle owners will no longer be required to obtain a safety inspection prior to vehicle registration. House Bill 3297, passed during the 88th Legislature in 2023, abolishes the vehicle safety inspection program for non-commercial vehicles. The new law maintains the annual \$7.50 safety inspection fee under a new name: Inspection Program Replacement Fee. The state will collect the fee at the time of vehicle registration. Owners registering a new vehicle will pay a \$16.75 Inspection Program Replacement Fee to cover the first two years.

Rep. Cody Harris, of Palestine, TX is a co-sponsor of the bill to eliminate the current state inspection system, called inspections as a 'waste of time' for the millions of Texas vehicle owners who had to annually renew their state inspection stickers

or risk fines for non-compliance. He also said the new measure protects motorists from falling victim to unrepentable auto shops who use inspection visits to upsell motorists on unnecessary repairs.

In Hays county, drivers whose vehicles are registered in Hays will no longer be required to take their vehicles in for an annual inspection. However, State law will still require vehicle emissions inspections in the following 17 counties prior to vehicle registration:

- Brazoria County
- Collin County
- Dallas County
- Denton County
- El Paso County
- Ellis County
- Fort Bend County
- Galveston County
- Harris County
- Johnson County
- Kaufman County
- Montgomery County
- Parker County
- Rockwall County
- Tarrant County
- Travis County
- Williamson County



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Capital Highlights

Eliminating property taxes would require massive funding



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Eliminating the state's property taxes is high on the wish list of some Republican lawmakers. They received a reality check last week when state budget officials said doing so would require the state to produce \$81 billion each year to cover the costs of public schools, as well as the revenue now received by cities, counties and special taxing districts through property taxes.

The Texas Tribune reported that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick directed the Legislative Budget Board to tally the costs of replacing property tax revenue, which funds teacher salaries, law enforcement and many other government functions. Eliminating the tax likely would require a massive increase in sales tax rates – something that appears highly unlikely.

State Sen. Paul Bettencourt, R-Houston, is Patrick's chief lieutenant on property taxes. He noted \$81.5 billion is "a huge amount of money to be able to replicate."

Lawmakers have

worked to lower property tax bills the past few sessions by raising the homestead exemption and limiting how much school districts and local governments can collect. But without a state income tax, lawmakers are limited in how to completely replace property taxes with another form of revenue.

NEW TEXAS LAWS NOW IN EFFECT

It took some time, but a set of new laws and rules passed by the Texas Legislature in 2023 went into effect on Sept. 1, the Houston Chronicle reported. Prominent among these are the SCOPE Act, or Securing Children Online Through Parental Empowerment Act, which tightens restrictions for online users younger than 18.

Under the SCOPE Act, users must register their age on social media and other websites. Minors are prohibited from making purchases from those sites, which are also required to filter and block certain material. Examples include content that promotes suicide or bullying, as well as trafficking and other forms of exploitation.

Violators could be fined up to \$10,000 per incident.

One of the bill's co-authors defended its intent.

"Testimony from parents and children in committee gave

graphic examples underscoring how desperately we need to better protect kids online," state Rep. Shelby Slawson, R-Granbury, wrote. "The SCOPE Act will do just that."

Others don't agree. The nonprofit Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression sued the state on Aug. 16, challenging the government restrictions.

"While these efforts to protect young people are well-intentioned, they lack perspective," the lawsuit states.

Another measure that took effect Sept. 1 updates qualifications for family violence shelters that provide lodging and care for domestic abuse victims in order to receive state funding. Criteria now includes providing direct services, establishing a referral service for victims, and having been in operation at least a year.

PERRY JOINS PHELAN'S TEAM AS ADVISER

Former Gov. Rick Perry has joined House Speaker Dade Phelan's office as a senior adviser, the Texas Standard reported. The embattled speaker, who survived a tough runoff race, now faces at least three Republican challengers to his speakership.

"[Gov. Perry] understands every facet of the legislative process, and that will be a tre-

mendous asset as we work to strengthen our state's economy, improve education and ensure every member's voice is heard in the Texas House this session," Phelan said in a statement.

Phelan has been under fire for backing an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to impeach Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and for being perceived as not conservative enough by some of his Republican colleagues.

Perry will serve as a volunteer adviser until the 89th Legislature begins in January.

SCHOOLS HIRING MORE UNCERTIFIED TEACHERS

Critical teaching shortages in Texas are compelling school districts to hire more teachers who have not received formal classroom training, The Texas Tribune reported.

The number of uncertified teachers in the state's public schools has risen dramatically since the COVID-19 pandemic, which prompted many longtime educators to leave the profession for various reasons – health concerns, lack of resources, and feeling burned out. As a result, uncertified teachers, many of whom work in rural school districts, accounted for about 38% of newly hired instructors last year.

Since 2015, school

districts under the District of Innovation law have been able to hire people with different professional experience who then would work on getting certified through alternative certification programs. The last legislative session ended with no significant base funding increases, leaving many school districts with budget shortfalls, and making it even harder to fill teacher vacancies.

"When you have a state where their coffers are full and local school districts where their coffers are empty, or in the process of being empty, you're going to have to have some state help to make sure that we're funding these types of programs," said Mark Henry, who served as Cy-Fair ISD's superintendent for more than a decade.

According to the Texas Education Agency, the attrition rate among Texas teachers has increased since the start of the pandemic from 9% to 12%. Texas ranks 30th in the nation for average teacher pay — \$8,828 less than the national average, according to the National Education Association.

PAXTON SUING BEXAR COUNTY OVER MAIL VOTER PLAN

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton is suing Bexar County over its plan to mail voter registration forms to

unregistered residents en masse, the Austin American-Statesman reported. The Bexar County Commissioners Court approved the voter registration plan last week, defying Paxton's warning that he would take them to court.

Paxton's suit argues that mail applications could entice felons and other ineligible people to register to vote. Commissioner Justin Rodriguez defended the plan.

"From our perspective, this was never a Democrat or Republican endeavor," Rodriguez told the Statesman. "It was making sure we used the resources within the elections office to be innovative, to be proactive when it came to registering voters, and we felt pretty strongly that we're doing everything (as it is) allowed by the Elections Code."

Paxton has warned repeatedly of potential voter fraud in November's general election. However, he has not provided evidence of widespread voter fraud in Texas, the Statesman reported.

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: gborder@texaspress.com

MEMOIR FROM PG. 1

first-hand account of the social and political backdrop of El Paso during the emergence of Guy Rex, the dynamic duo composed of Richard Guy and Rex Holt, who revolutionized the beauty pageant world in the 1970s and 1980s.

Known as the "Kings of Beauty," GuyRex were instrumental in transforming pageantry from a relatively straightforward contest into a glamorous, high-stakes spectacle. Their innovative approach emphasized not just beauty, but also poise, style, and the ability to

project confidence in front of an audience. Together, they elevated the expectations for contestants, introducing a more polished and professional approach to the art of competition.

Richard Guy and Rex Holt were known for their meticulous attention to detail and their personal involvement with their protégées. They worked tirelessly with contestants to perfect every aspect of their presentation, from wardrobe to stage presence. Under their tutelage, beauty queens didn't just walk

across the stage—they performed, exuding a poised sophistication that was previously uncommon in these competitions. This heightened sense of performance dramatically raised the bar for pageants and solidified the importance of preparation and coaching.

Their influence extended beyond their 'girls', shaping the industry as a whole. Many of the techniques and strategies they pioneered became standard practice in beauty pageants across the country. As a result, contestants who worked with Guy Rex often dominated the competition, taking more than 30 Miss Texas and 9 Miss USA titles.

Botkin's story is also a reflection of the relationship between a daughter and her mother who seemed to relish the title of Miss El Paso more than Jane. It is a fascinating story.

The story follows a typical path many beauty queens experience. Controlling mothers who live their dreams through their daughters.

"When my mother passed away in 2018, I finally had the freedom to tell this story. I'm not just telling my story. It's my brother's story. We have a sister who disowned my mother — a sister who

doesn't even speak to anybody, this how fractured the family became," Botkin said.

The scars of that life affected her whole family and is a reality behind the facade of being a perfectly poised and confident beauty pageant contestant and the ambassador of being Miss El Paso.

"I actually had a marriage that lasted just a year, and it was an escape. I didn't realize that what I did was very typical. I tried several things trying to run away from all of this. But when all of that happened, Guy and Rex were there to pick up the pieces. They saved me," Botkin said.

How 18-year old Jane Little at the time she became Miss El Paso in 1971 is worth the read.

It includes a plot twist, but you'll have to read the book for that part of the story.

Botkin splits her time now between the Hill Country she called home for 34 years and her writer's retreat in Ruidoso, New Mexico. She stays in Wimberley when she is not at her home in the White Mountains of New Mexico.

In college she dreamt of being a writer, but was also pragmatic and became an English teacher. She taught English in middle school in El Paso and

in Dripping Springs where she had a home for many years. Here she guided her students in researching and writing a series of local histories that are now part of the historical records of Hays county.

Now retired, she can indulge her full attention to writing. The Pink Dress is her third published book.

She is working on completing the story of early Texas pioneer Molly Goodnight, the wife of Charles Goodnight. Goodnight was a pioneering Texas rancher and one of the most famous cattlemen of the American West. Often referred to as the "Father of the Texas Panhandle," he played a pivotal role in the development of the cattle industry in Texas and beyond.

Molly Goodnight is a fascinating figure in her own right, who worked to preserve the American bison.

Botkin's books have won numerous awards in biography, western historical nonfiction, and women's studies, including two Spur Awards, two Caroline Bancroft History Prizes, the Barbara Sudler Award for best book about the American West by a woman, Women Writing the West's Willa Literary Award biography finalist, High Plains Nonfiction Book Award Finalist, Foreword In-

dies Bronze Award in women's studies, Sarton Book Award finalist in women's studies, and Independent Publisher Book Awards' Bronze Medal for Best Regional Nonfiction.

Botkin published her first nonfiction book, "Frank Little and the IWW: The Blood That Stained an American Family" in 2017. In it she chronicles the story of her great-granduncle Frank H. Little (1878-1917) and his connection to the history of American labor and the first Red Scare.

In 2022, she published "The Girl Who Dared to Defy : Jane Street and the Rebel Maids of Denver." Setting Jane Street's story within the wider context of early twentieth century class struggles and the women's suffrage movement, The Girl Who Dared to Defy paints a fascinating-and ultimately heartbreaking-portrait of one woman's courageous fight for equality.

She will be in Dripping Springs Sunday September 15 from 3 - 4:30 to launch the "Pink Dress," at Patriots' Hall located at 231 Patriots Hall Blvd. On October 25, she will have an author's presentation and book signing at the Wimberley Village Library at 11 a.m. Botkin also shares other interesting essays on her website janelittlebotkin.com.



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Dripping Springs CLASSIFIEDS

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**Public
Notice**

WISD PROPOSAL REQUEST

The Wimberley Independent School District is requesting proposals for Safety Fencing and Gates (RFP#2024-09) until Wednesday, October 10, 2024 at 12 pm. To obtain copies of the RFP go to WISD's website at www.wimberleyisd.net, select Departments, Business Support Services, Bids and Proposals, Current Bids and Proposals.

**CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
FOR A VARIANCE
APPLICATION
CASE #: VAR2023-0008
HILL COUNTRY
SENIOR CITIZENS
ACTIVITY CENTER**

Public hearings will be held at the City of Dripping Springs Planning & Zoning Commission at 6:00 p.m. on September 24, 2024 and the City of Dripping Springs City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 1, 2024, at Dripping Springs City Hall, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas, to consider a Variance Application to allow a building within the setback, for a 2.34-acre tract located at 1310 W HWY 290, Dripping Springs, TX 78620, Legal Description: R J RAGLAND DRIPPING SPRINGS LOTS 6-7-20A GEO#90403361, R J RAGLAND-DRIPPING SPRINGS LOT 19 GEO#90403368 (EXEMPT % 08/12/10), and R J RAGLAND DRIPPING SPRINGS LOTS 5 & 20B GEO#90403370.

When Development Services is open, the proposed application is available for viewing at the Dripping Springs Development Services office, located at 661 West Highway 290, during regular business hours:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If closed to visitors during this period, you can request a review of any documents by emailing planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com. If City Hall is closed to visitors on the day of the meeting, or the meeting is virtual for another reason, the City will post this information on its website at www.cityofdrippingsprings.com so that the public may have access to the meeting.

Comments regarding this project may be emailed to:

planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com or mailed to PO Box 384, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Comments received by the Friday before each meeting will be included in agenda packets for the meetings. For more information call City Hall at (512) 858-4725.

**NOTICE OF ENACTMENT
CITY OF WIMBERLEY
RESOLUTION NO. 11-2024**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WIMBERLEY, TEXAS ADOPTING THE CITY OF WIMBERLEY BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2024. Budget can be viewed at:

www.cityofwimberley.com

**Legal
Notice**

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit (MB Permit) by Meat & Drink LLC, dba Meat & Drink to be located at 13904 Ranch Rd 12 Suite 4, Wimberley, TX 78676, Hays County, Texas. Managing Members of said company are Mat Ball and Harlan Scott, members.

**Legal
Notice**

**Public
Notice**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Gayle S. Ramsey, Deceased, were issued on August 28, 2024, under Docket No. 24-0332-P pending in the County Court at Law Number 3 of Hays County, Texas, to Theron Dossey.

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented as follows:

Representative,

Estate of Gayle S. Ramsey, Deceased,

Attn: Theron Dossey

c/o: Kathleen A Mendoza

Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza,

173 FM 3237, Unit B,

Wimberley, Texas 78676

Email: kathleen@lawkam.com
Voice and Text: (512) 722-3337

Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza, PLLC

/ss/

Kathleen A Mendoza

Attorney for Independent Executor

State Bar No. 24055962

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Dripping Springs, Texas, is soliciting Statements of Qualifications for "CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AUDIO- VISUAL RENOVATION".

Sealed Statements of Qualifications must be submitted in one (1) original, one (1) copy, and one (1) electronic copy in PDF format on a flash drive and shall be delivered to: City of Dripping Springs, Texas Attn: Jason Weinstock, IT Director, 511 Mercer Street or P.O. Box 384 Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

Proposals must be submitted by 4:00 PM on October 18, 2024, at which time the proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after the opening date and time will not be considered.

An optional pre-submittal conference will be held on: September 20, 2024, at City Hall, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, TX 78620 at 11 a.m. This meeting is strongly encouraged, but optional. If interested in participating in the pre-proposal meeting please email: jweinstock@cityofdrippingsprings.com by September 19, 2024, to receive the meeting invite.

If additional information is requested, please email questions to Jason Weinstock, IT Director, at: jweinstock@cityofdrippingsprings.com with "CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AUDIO-VISUAL RENOVATION" in the subject line. All questions are due in writing no later than October 1, 2024. RFPs may be viewed online at the City's website at:

<https://www.cityofdrippingsprings.com/requestforbids>

**TEACHERS
ARE
Heroes**

**Public
Notice**

**CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
FOR A VARIANCE
APPLICATION
CASE #: VAR2024-007
PALOMA EVENTS**

Public hearings will be held at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m. on September 24, 2024, and at the City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 1, 2024, at Dripping Springs City Hall, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas, to consider a Variance Application for an approximately 2.56-acre tract located at 235 Sports Park Road, Dripping Springs, TX 78620, Legal Description: MAGIC GREENS SUBD, LOT 1, ACRES 2.56. This variance application requests to allow a structure in a building setback.

When Development Services is open, the proposed application is available for viewing at the Dripping Springs Development Services office, located at 661 West Highway 290, during regular business hours:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If closed to visitors during this period, you can request a review of any documents by emailing:

planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com. If City Hall is closed to visitors on the day of the meeting, or the meeting is virtual for another reason, the City will post this information on its website at:

www.cityofdrippingsprings.com so that the public may have access to the meeting.

Comments regarding this project may be emailed to planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com or mailed to PO Box 384, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Comments received by the Friday before each meeting will be included in agenda packets for the meetings. For more information call City Hall at (512) 858-4725.

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**Public
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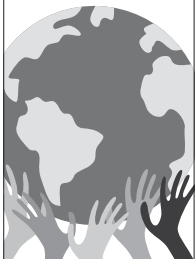
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**Public
Notice**

Notice of Public Hearing

Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (HTGCD) will hold a Public Hearing at 5:00 pm Thursday, October 3, 2024, on the proposed 2025 HTGCD Budget. The Hearing will be held at Sunset Canyon Baptist Church, 4000 US-290 West, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Hearing items are available on the District website at: <https://haysgroundwater.com/agendaminutes-overview> and at the District office. Oral comments may be made at the Hearing and require submitting a Public Participation Form to the Board before the Hearing begins. The forms are available at the Hearing and on the website with the Agenda. The District will accept written comments until 4:00 pm, Wednesday, October 2, 2024, via email to: staff3@haysgroundwater.com or by mail to PO Box 1648, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Contact the office at (512) 858-9253 with questions.

**Public
Notice**

**CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
FOR A ZONING AMENDMENT
APPLICATION CASE
#: ZA2024-004
109 BONNIE DRIVE**

Public hearings will be held at the City of Dripping Springs Planning & Zoning Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m., September 24, 2024, Dripping Springs City Hall, 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas, and at the City Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m., October 15, 2024, Dripping Springs ISD Center for Learning & Leadership Board Room, 300 Sportsplex Dr., Dripping Springs, Texas, to consider Zoning Amendment for an approximately 0.77-acre tract located at 109 Bonnie Drive, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Legal Description: DRIPPING SPRINGS HEIGHTS, BLOCK B, LOT 15. The applicant is requesting a zoning change from Single Family Residential (1 acre) to Local Retail.

When Development Services is open, the proposed application is available for viewing at the Dripping Springs Development Services office, located at 661 West Highway 290, during regular business hours:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. If closed to visitors during this period, you can request a review of any documents by emailing: planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com. If City Hall is closed to visitors on the day of the meeting, or the meeting is virtual for another reason, the City will post this information on its website at www.cityofdrippingsprings.com so that the public may have access to the meeting.

Comments regarding this project may be emailed to: planning@cityofdrippingsprings.com or mailed to PO Box 384, Dripping Springs, TX 78620. Comments received by the Friday before each meeting will be included in agenda packets for the meetings. For more information call City Hall at (512) 858-4725.



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Lizzy's Animal Hospice
Aggie
Female
6 years old
Boxer



Hello, I'm Aggie. I'm so excited to meet you! Whenever people see me they say I've got the sweetest little face ever, and I like to think it matches my personality. I love everyone I meet, whether they're human or furry and I like to think I'd fit right in with any family. I'm a pro at lounging on the couch and I'm a really good snacker who can eat cheese really fast. I'm both house and crate trained and as quiet as a Boxer sized mouse. I pretty much just need my own family and I'll be all set! 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
Monty
Male
10 years old
Terrier mix



Howdy! I'm Monty. I could very well be your next love bug! I walk nicely on a leash and know all the basic commands, last I checked. I absolutely love meeting other dogs, especially playful puppies, but cats weird me out a little bit and I don't like them. Car rides are one of my favorite things, and I'm happy to settle next to you and relax after a good walk. I'm neutered, fully vaccinated, house and crate trained. I might need a crate when you're not around because I'm a bit of a mischief maker and can get carried away exploring absolutely everything. I'm excited to find my forever family or foster home where I can get all the love and attention I deserve. Can't wait to meet you!

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.

Universal Crossword

09/08

THEMELESS SUNDAY 100 by Adrian Johnson

ACROSS

- 1 Scheming group
6 Matcha latte tapping
10 Headed for the hills
14 Addis ____, Ethiopia
15 Muppet who says "balsamic vinegar" is a big word for him
16 Aisha's "Archer" character
17 "No way this ends badly for me," perhaps
20 Of the ear
21 "Just how I like it!"
22 Country star McBride
24 Enigma
25 Butt muscles, informally
26 Cut dramatically at a salon
28 Stale
29 Dance in a pit
30 "Futurama" protagonist ____ J. Fry
32 "Wow! That was awful!"
37 DJ called the "Godfather of EDM"
38 Not at home
40 People or Time, for short
43 Parts of basketball hoops
44 Micro ____ (chip for a Nintendo Switch)
46 Code name for TV's Perry the Platypus
48 Babysitters' interviewers
49 Personal foul that happens after the whistle

DOWN

- 51 Put into law
52 "I can't make any promises, buuut ..."
56 "Moonstruck" star
57 Low-ranking board member?
58 "My Cherie ____" (Stevie Wonder hit)
59 Devours
60 Bit of DNA
61 Taters
1 Half-____ (coffee order)
2 Legal org.
3 Annual Southern sorority event that's trendy on social media
4 "Funny you mention it ..."
5 "Lady Bird" actress Metcalf
6 Guy
7 Suffix for pay- or Cray-
8 "I ____ lost!"
9 Razr phone company
10 "The hippest of the hip" Muppet musician
11 City on the Rio Grande
12 Ultimate objective
13 Like this line: - - -
18 ____ serif
19 Roller derby flick starring Elliot Page, or a Devo song
22 Palindromic film studio
23 Very much
26 IOUs
27 Chipper greeting
30 "Hey! Listen up!"
31 Nonviolent protest similar to a vigil
33 They're smaller than eighths
34 "Watch what you're saying around the kids!"
35 Phrase often seen with a portrait of Uncle Sam
36 Lip-puckering
39 Gridiron gains: Abbr.
40 Ill will
41 "Queen of Crime" Christie
42 "On your marks, ____, go!"
44 Performed like Prince
45 "Degrassi" and "Dawson's Creek," e.g.
47 Draws closer to
48 Tubular pasta
50 ____ Young, NBA point guard
53 Possess
54 Sign of spring
55 Triage sites, for short

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

H	E	Y	D	O	N	T	L	O	O	K	A	T	M	E
I	N	E	E	D	A	V	O	L	U	N	T	E	E	R
T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E	T	I	T	A	N	S
A	R	T	S		S	E	W		S	T	A	B		
T	O	E		M	A	T		A	M	S	C	R	A	Y
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C	L	I	C	K	I	T	O	R	T	I	C	K	E	T
O	A	K		S	T	O	N	E		R	O	S	S	
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I	R	A	N	I	A	N	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	N
S	O	I	T	S	C	O	M	E	T	O	T	H	I	S
A	N	D	Y	E	T	H	E	R	E	W	E	A	R	E

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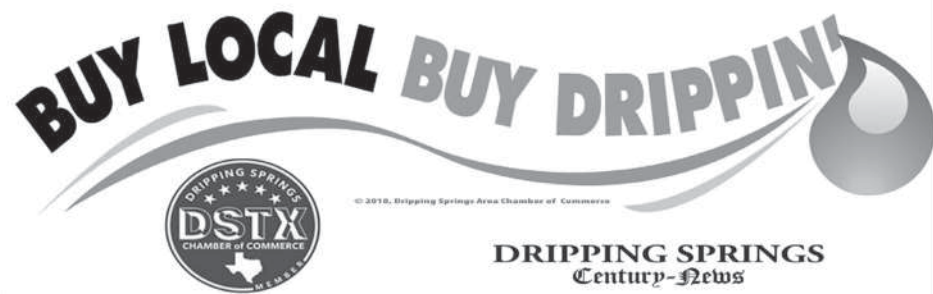
WOMBANIA

by PETER MARINACCI

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Community Calendar

Dripping Springs Farmers Market
September 18
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

Buda Arts Festival Market
Sep 19 - 21

Annual Buda Arts Festival hosted by Inspired Minds Art Center. 20 vendors and live music on Main Street in downtown Buda. 200 S. Main St. • Buda TX 78610. Several events are scheduled each day. To see a complete schedule and map visit: inspiredminds.art/bud-artsfestival.

Rockin' in the Springs
Sep 21

6 - 8:30 p.m.
A musical evening of food, fun and live music to raise funds for the YMCA. Taco Buffet Bar. Music by Hill Country Honey and the Midnight Flyer Band Adults \$35, Children \$15.

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Dripping Springs Methodist Church
Women in Mission
Artisan Market & Bake Sale
Sep 28 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sep 29 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

An annual fundraising event that supports local and area charitable organizations. In addition to delicious baked goods, items for sale include jarred jams and veggies, jewelry, soaps, throw pillows, and many other items. Fellowship Hall • 28900 RR12 • 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 17 • 6 p.m.
City Council Meeting

September 18 • 6 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting

September 19 • 12 p.m.
Emergency Management
Committee Meeting

September 19 • 4 p.m.
Utility Commission Meeting

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting
September 17 • 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 hayscountytx.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 dsisdtx.us. Live meeting at the Center for Learning & Leadership • 300 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

WIMBERLEY

Wimberley Art Crawl First Thursdays
Oct 3
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



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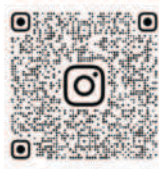




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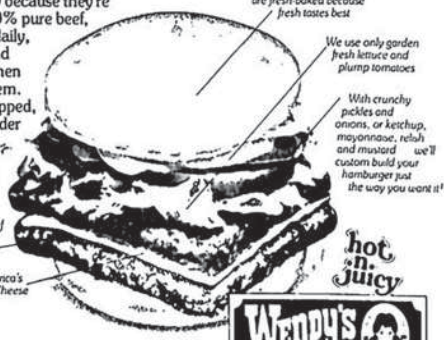


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Sat: 10am - 3pm

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SPORTS

Tigers take home opener



Cooper Reid, snags a catch against a Wagner HS defender in Friday night's home game opener. The Tigers improved their season record to 1-1 with a 35-6 win over the Thunderbirds from San Antonio. The Tigers travel to Harker Heights in Killeen this Friday as they look for another win. Kickoff will be at 7:30pm. **PHOTOS RONNIE ADAIR**

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

When a team does not get that many touches, they must resolve to do more with them. This was the case in the Tigers 35-6 win over the Wagner Thunderbirds. Wagner lived and died by the run and nursed the play clock to shorten the game. Wagner held a 64-40 advantage in plays and that gap would have been greater had they not committed three turnovers.

The Tigers kicked off and finally stopped Wagner's ground attack. Maddox Maher soon showed he was going to be on as he hit Cooper Reid in full stride resulting in a 67 TD. Aidan Burgess converted the EP. 7-0. No one guessed the Tigers would only touch the ball twice more in the half as Wagner controlled the ball and had a chance to tie the game on the last play when the Tiger D stuffed the runner at the one. Three turnovers early in the second half

by Wagner provided the Tigers with the opportunity to blow the game out of reach. The Tigers had the ball to start the second half and after Jack Tyndall broke for a 35 gain, Maher lofted a 24 pass to Reid. Burgess made it 14-0. The pooch KO was not handled by Wagner and Austin Olivas gobbled it up. J. Tyndall powered it in from the five after Maher got it there on a 23 run. 21-0. Wagner effort flickered with a 4 run. 21-6 after three. In the fourth Maher hit TD passes of 23 to

Merrick Bloomgren and 17 to Nick Tyndall for the final score. The Tiger D only had to deal with a one-dimensional run game and was able to lay back their ears and lower the boom on the runners. Most of the plays were between the tackles and few of the outside options available were even tried to keep the defense honest. Friday night the Tigers will travel to Harker Heights (Killeen ISD) to garner their second win. Kickoff will be at 7:30pm.

Game stats (DS first): First downs 12-11; Rushing 19-153, 54-209; Passing 194-16; Passes 10-16, 4-5; Penalties 3-10, 5-15; Turnovers 1-3. Tiger stats: Rushing: J. Tyndall 11-95 TD; Jaceton Gotta 4-34. Passing: Maher 9-14-199 4TD. Receiving: Reid 3-106 TD, N. Tyndall 3-65 TD, Bloomgren 2-30 TD. Tackling: Clive Wahl 6-8, Chris Gustafson 3-10, Major Bettridge 3-3, Dylan Brasher 2-5, Gavin Badger 3-2, Miles Kennedy 1-8, Cash Brunson 1-5.



Dripping Springs high school cheerleaders rev up the crowd at Friday night's home-game opener at Tiger Stadium. The Tigers beat the visiting Thunderbirds from San Antonio's Wagner HS 35-6 to improve their season record to 1-1.

Lady Tigers ready for district play

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

After a grueling 34-game, three-week stretch, the Dripping Springs volleyball team has carved out a 33-1 record including two tourney championships and a runner up. One more match with perennial toughie, SA Cornerstone Christian Friday night and it is on to district play. Next Tuesday they will open with Bowie, followed by Westlake on Friday and Lake Travis the following Tuesday. The Lady Tigers got back into a regular schedule as they blanked the Hays Hawks 25-13, 25-18, 25-15. Here are the leading stat getters for the Hays game. Kills (39): Henley Anderson 10, Riley Certain 7, Christa Wilburn 7; Aces (12): Anderson 4, Callie Krueger 3, Chloe White 3. Blks (4): Lourdes Frontera, Ava Lyle, Rihanna Rogers, Eloise Roffers. Assists (37): Frontera 24, Katie Newman 8. Digs (35): Anderson 11, Frontera 5, Wilburn 4. New Braunfels tourney all-tourney selections: MVP: Anderson; MVP Libero: Krueger; MVP Hitter: Wilburn; MVP Blocker: Ashley Euston; Sydney Lund, Roffers. Leander all-tourney: MVP Hitter: Anderson; MVP Blocker: Euston; Libero: Krueger; Outside hitter: Wilburn.

Dripping Springs Elite Real Estate Professionals donates \$1,000 to Patriots' Hall



Members of the Dripping Springs Elite Real Estate Professionals consortium donated \$1,000 to Patriots' Hall of Dripping Springs, supporting the organization's mission to serve veterans and their families. **PHOTO ELITE REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**

Submitted

Members of the Dripping Springs Elite Real Estate Professionals consortium donated \$1,000 to Patriots' Hall of Dripping Springs, supporting the organization's mission to serve veterans and their families. The contribution reflects Dripping Springs Elite's ongoing commitment to giving back and strengthening ties with local organizations that make a positive impact. Patriots' Hall, a 10-acre retreat, supports veterans through programs, events, and initiatives promoting heal-

ing, community, and empowerment. The \$1,000 donation will help Patriots' Hall expand its services, which include support groups, workshops, and social events aimed at fostering veterans' well-being and connection. "We believe deeply in Patriots' Hall's mission to honor and support our veterans," said Kristen Rummel, charitable giving committee chair for Dripping Springs Elite. "This donation is a small way for us to show our appreciation for the service and sacrifices made by the brave men and women who reside in and around our community. We are proud

to support this incredible organization and look forward to seeing the continued positive impact they will have." Patriots' Hall of Dripping Springs, which officially opened on Sept. 5, is a gathering place where veterans from Central Texas can access resources, build meaningful relationships, and participate in educational and social activities. Kathryn Chandler, Patriots' Hall founding board member, and Marty Markgraf, administrative manager, accepted the donation at Dripping Springs Elite's monthly meeting, held Sept. 5 at The Salt Lick BBQ.

"We are incredibly grateful for this donation from Dripping Springs Elite Real Estate Professionals," Chandler said. "Their contribution will help us advance our efforts to serve veterans of all ages in our community and provide them with the programs and opportunities they de-

serve." For more information on how to get involved with Patriots' Hall of Dripping Springs or to make a donation, visit patriotshall.org. Dripping Springs Elite Real Estate Professionals is a consortium of top real estate agents from various brokerages.



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Team Tennis Results

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Anytime one plays an outdoor sport, in-climate weather usually enters the picture at some time during the season. It happened to the tennis team as they played Austin Anderson. Just after the completion of doubles matches, rains washed away most of the singles matches and the mixed doubles. The Tigers were leading the match 6-2 at the time. Boys doubles: Wes Anderson/Trey Pickens W6-2, 6-4; Wyatt Clark/ Grover Bendall W6-2, 4-6, 10-7; Grey Pickens/Isaiah Jackson L4-6, 2-6; Milton Lynn/Dayton Daniel W8-1. Girls doubles: Mia Pleasant/Isadora Barnes W6-3, 6-2; Addie Clark/Maggie Menard W6-1, 6-1; Olivia Eggleston/Vivian Kelly L2-6, 2-6; Kathleen Evans/Julie Stankov L4-8. Girls singles: Menard W8-3; Eggleston W8-3; Stankov L1-6.

New EMS Station 75 holds open house

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

Officials from the North Hays County Emergency Services District 1 officially opened EMS Station 75 Saturday before an audience of about 40 guests.

Members of the Dripping Springs HS band played the national anthem after the colors were posted by the color guard from Boy Scout Troop 280. After brief remarks by Travis county commissioner for precinct 4 Walt Smith and ESD1 vice president Dan O'Brien, guests got a rare opportunity to see the inside layout of the building, which now that the building is operational, is not open to the public.

Bob Luddy is the administrator of the North Hays County EMS district.

The oversight for the entire district is managed by an appointed commission.

In addition to Dan O'Brien, other ESD1 commissioners are Staci Dement, Cristina Nelson, Darrell Debish and Grant Tait.

Commissioners are volunteers and serve for two-year terms. Commissioners are appointed by the county

commissioners court and must live in the district they serve.

North Hays County EMS is the emergency medical services provider for the northern portion of Hays County, including Dripping Springs, Driftwood and Henly, with a service area covering some 244 square miles.

The newly built Station 75, located at 31331 Ranch Road 12 and its sister station No. 74 on Heritage Oaks Drive have identical floor plans and their construction was completed this year.

Station 74 will have an open house later this fall. That campus also houses a separate administrative office building.

The two new locations will improve response times, helping to preserve human life, allowing Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics to provide the critical and timely care needed and if necessary, transport patients to medical facilities," according to Bob Luddy, district administrator for the North Hays County EMS.

EMS stations 74 and 75 are architectural twins and designed to house up to three crews of two EMTs/



(L-R) North Hays County Emergency Services District 1 commissioners Grant Tait, Cristina Nelson, Staci Dement, Dan O'Brien and Darrell Debish perform the honor of cutting the ceremonial ribbon to officially open EMS station 75 on September 7. The station held an open house to celebrate the completion and official start of operations for the new building. PHOTO KEN VARGAS

paramedics and ambulance rigs. The stations have living and sleeping quarters for three crews who provide emergency medical service readiness 24 hours, every day.

For now, each station will house one ambulance each and

its two-person crews over three shifts. Station number 74, on Heritage Oaks Drive also has a building for administrative offices.

The stations are part of the district's long-range plan to strategically serve the residents of North Hays county.

As that population explodes the work to keep up with the increase in calls will also expand. The district is already looking at new station plans to support the growth in Driftwood.

The stations offer private sleeping bed-

rooms for emergency medical responders and a spacious living room and kitchen that feel more like a home than a government building. There is an indoor gym for staff to keep fit and a breezy outdoor patio for times EMTs can relax.

4-H FROM PG. 1



Everly Shumway with her prize-winning Reserve Grand Crossbred Gilt earned her a \$10,000 scholarship at San Antonio Livestock Show. PHOTOS LINDSEY SHUMWAY

range of opportunities within 4-H, with a focus on this year's theme, "Grow with 4-H."

The four H's in 4-H stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. As one of the largest youth development organizations in the U.S., 4-H provides hands-on learning experiences to empower young people for a lifetime. The organization focuses on leadership, citizenship, and life skills for children ages 8-18, offering local clubs, camps, and after-school programs.

The event will feature a Project Fair from

6 to 7 p.m., where families can explore different 4-H project areas and meet current members and leaders. A 4-H Orientation will follow from 7 to 7:45 p.m., during which 4-H staff will present resources, important dates, contest opportunities, and validation information. Club managers and officers will also be introduced.

Traditionally known for agricultural projects, 4-H today also emphasizes science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), as well as healthy living and

community engagement. Members can explore a variety of interests, from raising livestock to building robots, cooking, photography, and public speaking.

The Dripping Springs 4-H Club meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., from September through May, at Dripping Springs Ranch Park Event Center, located at 1042 Event Center Drive.

For more information about the Dripping Springs 4-H Club, visit dripping-springs4h.com.



Mastery of cooking brisket is a skill all Texans should know. Here, local 4-H students learn how to prepare their briskets from members of the Knights of Columbus.

TEXAS EYE FROM PG. 1

of Virginia and completed a residency and fellowship in ophthalmology and reconstructive surgery. He is also involved in humanitarian work, having participated in medical missions abroad.

"I fell in love with oculofacial plastic surgery. It combined my love of fixing

things with being able to help people," Gay said.

Dr. Gay has traveled to Haiti on two volunteer surgical missions to perform surgeries on patients at the Brenda Stratford Institute and has plans to travel to Guyana in 2025.

He and his wife, Ashley, live in Austin

with their two sons. In his spare time, Dr. Gay enjoys baking, repairing cars, and outdoor activities like mountain biking and snowboarding.

Texas Eye Aesthetics is located at 13830 Sawyer Ranch Road, Suite 201 in Dripping Springs. For more information, visit tea-surgery.com.

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