



CELEBRATING THE
POWER OF ART
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Dripping Springs Century News

33rd Year No. 46

November 14, 2024

drippingspringsnews.com

75 cents



Whiskey Ridge opens in Driftwood

New restaurant offers Texas cuisine, Gulf Coast seafood and rare whiskeys to Hays County

Submitted

Whiskey Ridge, the new restaurant concept from the team behind Austin favorites Cover 2 and Cover 3, opened its doors to the public on Monday, Nov. 11., in Driftwood. The restaurant brings together the best elements of Texas

dining: locally sourced ingredients, time-honored cooking traditions and true hospitality, all served against the backdrop of stunning Hill Country views. The restaurant is located in Driftwood, at the corner of FM 150 and FM 3237, across from the Hays City Store. "We're thrilled to finally welcome guests

to Whiskey Ridge," said owner Doug Young. "We've created a space that celebrates everything we love about Texas, from the food and spirits to the warm hospitality and gorgeous Hill Country terrain. Our team has poured their heart into making this a special destination for both locals and visitors." The 6,000-square-

foot restaurant will serve as a destination for elevated Texas cuisine, Gulf Coast seafood and an extensive collection of rare and small-batch whiskeys. Chef Steve Warner is heading up the culinary program, bringing his experience from notable restaurants, including ATX

SEE WHISKEY RIDGE PAGE 12



A raw water pump station at Lake Texoma on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2013. The station was bisected by the state line between Texas and Oklahoma.
PHOTO LAURA BUCKMAN FOR THE TEXAS TRIBUNE

How zebra mussels and a Lake Texoma pump station spurred Texas to redraw its border with Oklahoma

Kayla Guo
The Texas Tribune

Texas just altered its border with Oklahoma. Well, a small sliver of it, anyway. And, no, Texas didn't become any bigger. After years of dispute over how the boundary between Texas and Oklahoma should be drawn at the Red River, the two states reached an agreement last month that shifted Texas' northern border just slightly, Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham an-

nounced on Thursday. The problem began in 2009 when the North Texas Municipal Water District, which provides water to several Dallas-area cities, learned about invasive zebra mussels in Lake Texoma, where it was operating a water pump station. That raised the question of whether the pump station was in Texas, or in Oklahoma. Federal law prohibits transporting zebra mussels across state

SEE BORDER PAGE 3



City launches Hometown Holiday campaign

Staff Reports

The City of Dripping Springs has launched its inaugural "Hometown Holidays" campaign, a season-long celebration designed to bring the community together for the holidays. Kicking off in November and running through the New Year, Hometown Holidays weaves together all the city's favorite holiday traditions and events under one banner, offering something for

everyone. The campaign aims to celebrate the warmth and togetherness that make Dripping Springs special, especially during the holiday season. By combining festive events, the city hopes to inspire a sense of hometown pride and holiday spirit. With a lineup of activities, Dripping Springs invites residents and visitors alike to experience the magic of the season

SEE HOLIDAY PAGE 12

From shelters to service: How Texas dogs are transforming lives

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

Service Dogs, Inc., a nonprofit organization based in Dripping Springs, has been transforming the lives of individuals with disabilities since its inception in 1988. Founded by attorney Sheri Soltes, the organization is dedicated to enhancing independence and quality of life through partnerships with custom-trained assistance dogs, provided free of charge to Texas clients. Unlike many service dog programs that rely on breeding, Service Dogs, Inc. adopts young adult dogs from shelters and rescue organizations, focusing on those with temperaments suited for service work. This approach not only provides a second chance for these animals but also addresses the needs of clients requiring assistance. The organization employs

positive reinforcement training methodologies, ensuring that the dogs are well-prepared to support their future partners. "We get our dogs from animal shelters throughout Texas. On average, we pull one dog from every third shelter we go to. Sometimes we'll get multiple dogs. The process starts with just a general walkthrough. We see dogs that are kind of more composed amongst the rambunctious ones. And then we take those dogs if they match our age requirements and health requirements, and then we'll cross reference behavior reports with the shelter staff. And so we usually look at anywhere from one to about five dogs in a yard itself, where we then go into what their instincts are and see if it's something we can mold into service. Service dog training is a lengthy process. So the dogs that come here are very special," Soltes



After losing his beloved wife Betty to cancer four years ago, U.S. Marine veteran Rhea Hambricht found life on the family farm to be challenging. Daily tasks were nearly impossible for this Veteran to do on his own. He was lonely, frustrated and for the first time in his life, didn't know how to fix things. A friend suggested Rhea get a Service Dog. Then everything changed.

PHOTO SDI

said. The range of services offered by Service Dogs, Inc. includes training hearing dogs for individuals with hearing loss, service

dogs for those with mobility challenges, and facility dogs that assist professionals in settings such as court-

SEE SERVICE PAGE 4



Five-Day Forecast

Thursday

High: 73
Low: 45
Sunny



Friday

High: 75
Low: 53
Sunny



Saturday

High: 78
Low: 63
Sunny



Sunday

High: 82
Low: 63
30% chance
of showers



Monday

High: 80
Low: 63
30% chance
of showers





ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League

A Night to Inspire: Celebrating the Power of Art in Dripping

Steve Friedman

What a Night!

A full house of local artists and supporters gathered at Duchman Family Winery November 7th to celebrate the power of art in Dripping.

A little over a year ago we gathered with the community to collect input on what an art league could look like. We never imagined that a year later we'd have over 135 members, 50 classes, workshops, socials, markets and more plus dozens of club meetings sprinkling our 2024 calendar, not to mention a celebration gala, yet here we are.

The DSAL Mission – Art | Community | Connection – which emanates from our initial community meeting continues to drive our programming and our vision. And this evening would not have been possible without the creativity and dedication of over a dozen members of our 'Night' Planning Committee who assembled inspirational speakers and moving

videos and slideshows to highlight our year, along with two bands (Pop It! ATX and Alexandria Selene), and our fantastic local comedians, Dr. Matt Evans. Our entertaining emcees, Michelle Lewis and Steve Mallett and the great food and wine from our hosts at Duchman rounded out the evening. We are humbled by the participation, sponsorship, and generosity of so many local establishments and artists at our 'Night to Inspire.'

The donations gathered during the evening will support DSAL's plans in 2025 for a 'West of Weird Art Tour' in the spring, along with showcases involving regional talent and our various club artists. We're also thrilled that the DSAL Art Lounge will be returning to Songwriters in 2025 and the Stars of Dripping Springs Art Project that will be revealed on December 4th is preparing for a second round of Stars to be awarded, created, and installed in Dripping in the spring. The Art League will also be awarding an art scholarship to a local high

school graduate preparing to go into the arts.

The Dripping Springs Art League strives to make all programs low cost or free. Everyone who wants to explore art should be provided the opportunity. 'Night to Inspire' contributions support this goal while also expanding our programming to serve the community.

The DSAL extends its heartfelt gratitude to our auction and dessert donors and to our sponsors for the evening, Broadway Bank, Madrone Springs Ranch, Wall Fire Studios, Pride of Dripping Springs, Plumb Projects, The Driskill Hotel, Rollo Insurance, Art Direct, Merritt Hill Country Senior Village, Grapevine Printing, and Brenham House Collection. Each of these organizations believes in the power of art in Dripping! Please visit them and share your thanks.

The local art community is alive and well thanks to everyone's energy, passion, and generosity. We thank you all. Stay tuned for



an even more exciting 2025!

The Dripping Springs Art League offers a wide variety of programs for all artists, regardless of your level of experience, age, or ambitions. Check out upcoming events and consider a 12-month membership for only \$35 at www.artindripping.com.

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.



Art Market debuts in Veterans Park

The Dripping Springs Art League successfully added another great event to the fall calendar with its first Art Market in the Triangle on Saturday Nov. 8. The market brought in local artists who displayed and sold their art on a day in which the weather finally felt like fall. With live music in the background visitors strolled the park, located on the "triangle" of land between Mercer Street, RR 12 and Hwy 290. The market returns to Veterans Park on December 14. The Art Market is sponsored by the City of Dripping Springs and the Dripping Springs Art League.

PHOTOS KEN VARGAS

Capital Highlights

GOP win raises stakes for Cornyn’s leadership bid



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

With Republicans regaining majority control of the Senate, U.S. Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, is making his bid to become that chamber’s majority leader. U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, had previously announced he would step down as party leader. Republicans will hold at least a 53-45 edge in January, with Senate races in two states still undecided as of Friday morning.

According to The Dallas Morning News, Cornyn said voters rejected Democrats’ “years of disastrous border policies, reckless spending, and failed management that has caused the Senate to lurch from one avoidable crisis to the next.”

Cornyn faces competition from Senate Minority Whip John Thune of South Dakota and Sen. Rick Scott of Florida. Senate Republicans plan to hold their leadership elections this week by secret ballot. If elected

leader, Cornyn vowed to improve transparency with GOP senators. “There will be no more backroom deals or forced votes on bills without adequate time for review, debate, and amendment,” he said.

REPUBLICANS LARGELY FLIP RIO GRANDE VALLEY FROM BLUE TO RED

More counties in the Rio Grande Valley and surrounding areas went Republican this election, continuing what GOP leaders are calling the culmination of a years-long strategy. The party has managed to flip 16 counties since the 2016 presidential election, according to the Texas Standard.

The economy clearly was a major issue among voters in this election between former president Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris.

“A lot of the rural parts of Texas are shifting red because the economy is less good,” said Brandon Rottinghaus, a University of Houston political scientist. “And the threats to the oil and gas industry that people perceive are coming from Democrats are driving the communities to vote Republican.”

For example, in Starr County, Biden beat Trump by five points in 2020, but four years later voters there chose

the former president over Harris by 16 points.

ELECTION DAY RUNS SMOOTHLY ACROSS STATE

Voting in Texas went fairly smoothly in Texas with no major disruptions reported, according to The Texas Tribune. Roughly half of the state’s 18.6 million registered voters cast ballots in person either in person or by mail, and another two million went to the polls on Election Day. That is slightly under the 11.3 million who voted in 2020, thus far, with counting of provisional ballots nearly complete.

There was only one violent incident reported at the polls, when a man punched an election worker in Bexar County after being asked to remove his Trump hat. Wearing clothing backing a candidate or proposition inside a Texas polling location is illegal. After the assault, the man was charged with a felony.

In another case, a Tarrant County man claimed a voting machine flipped his ballot from Trump to Harris, but election officials say he made a mistake while filling out his ballot. That ballot was discarded, and he was allowed to cast another ballot, prompting Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick to note that machines

were not flipping votes.

“In Tarrant County, we have only had one person say their vote was flipped out of 591,885 votes cast to date,” he said.

STATE POPULATION ESTIMATES RELEASED BY DEMOGRAPHIC CENTER

The Texas Demographic Center has released its population estimates for July 1, 2023, and Jan. 1, 2024. Final population estimates are available for counties and places by age, sex, and race/ethnicity at demographic.texas.gov. Information for the estimates is collected through five surveys taken from October to February, gleaned information from counties, cities, and educational institutions.

The state’s estimated population rose from 29,145,505 in 2020 to 30,749,924 on Jan. 1, 2024 – an increase of 5.5%. Counties showing the largest percentage increase in that time period were Kaufman (26.7%); Rockwall (25%); Kendall (22.2%); and Liberty (20.3%).

The U.S. Census Bureau also makes annual population estimates, and TDC says differences in input data and methodologies lead to slight variations between the two.

DFW AREA PREDICTED TO BE HOTTEST REAL ESTATE MARKET IN 2025

A real estate trends study reported by the Texas Standard predicts the Dallas-Fort Worth area will be the hottest real estate market in the nation for investment and development next year. The study compiled data from more than 2,000 industry experts.

“Obviously, it’s the really strong post-pandemic recovery. It’s also size,” Nick Wooten, real estate reporter for The Dallas Morning News, said. “We’ve seen the metro top 8 million people in the latest census estimates,” he said. “And there’s just continued demographic growth. Those are the three big factors that these experts cited.”

Both sales and home prices are fairly flat in 2024, with supply reaching levels not seen in a dozen years, Wooten said.

“You’re not seeing sales change a lot,” he said. “I think a lot of people are still sitting on the sidelines trying to figure out what’s going to happen in 2025.”

RECORD NUMBER OF TEXAS HORNED LIZARDS RELEASED TO THE WILD

The state reptile, the Texas horned lizard, has been listed as

a threatened species since 1977. The Houston Chronicle reports that thanks to captive breeding efforts to populate the wild with the iconic critter, more than 600 hatchlings were recently released to the Mason Mountain Wildlife Management Area in Central Texas in cooperation with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The lizards are popularly referred to as horny toads. Their population decline is blamed on the pet trade, wild habitat loss, and the spread of invasive fire ants. The Texas horned lizard was designated as the state reptile in 1993. Their range takes them across the state’s borders to northern Mexico and throughout much of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and New Mexico. The hatchlings, about three-fourths of an inch in length, can reach as much as 7 inches in length at maturity.

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: gbor- ders@texaspress.com

WHISKEY RIDGE FROM PG. 1



Cocina, Bulevar and J Carvers. Signature menu items include a Chicken Fried Ribeye made with hand-cut aged R-C Ranch wagyu and topped with scratch-made gravy; Braised Beef Short Rib with jalapeño cheese grits finished with a molasses guajillo glaze; and a Double Trouble Wagyu Burger with double wagyu patties, American cheese, applewood smoked bacon, sweet onion, bread & butter pickles and a horseradish dijonaise. For those seeking lighter fare, the restaurant will offer fresh salads and an impressive selection of Gulf Coast seafood dishes, including broiled oysters and various chilled and raw bar items like Yellowfin Tuna Tartare Tostadas and Jumbo Gulf Shrimp Cocktail.

The restaurant’s extensive beverage program, led by industry veteran Jimmy Joe Zumwalt who brings over 35 years of experience

to the role, features rare bourbons, small-batch whiskeys and creative cocktails highlighting Texas spirits such as a Frozen Old Fashioned (Still Austin bourbon, Angostura bitters, black cherry) and the Ridge Over Troubled Waters (High West double rye whiskey, Grand Mariner, Avera Amaro, Foro Rosso Vermouth, Di Torino, bitters, coffee). Other Texas-centric cocktails sure to become favorites include the Hill Country Hospitality with Socorro Reposado tequila, prickly pear, Jalisco 1562 Orange Liqueur, pineapple and lime, and the refreshing Front Porch Spritz with Aperol, 21 Seeds Valencia Orange Tequila, orange juice and prosecco.

The restaurant’s design embraces its Hill Country setting with an open-concept layout that seamlessly blends indoor and outdoor spaces. Local ma-

terials, including Texas limestone and custom Swift River pecan wood tables, complement the space’s Texas-centric artwork and hand-painted murals. A sweeping covered porch offers panoramic views of the surrounding landscape, creating an ideal setting for sunset dining.

Private dining options include The Ranger Room, which accommodates up to 40 guests for a seated dinner, and up to 70 guests for a cocktail-style reception, perfect for special occasions and corporate gatherings.

Whiskey Ridge will be open for dinner service from 3 PM to 11 PM seven days a week. They will be announcing lunch and weekend brunch hours soon. For more information about Whiskey Ridge, please visit whiskeyridgetx.com or follow them on social media @WhiskeyRidgeDriftwood.

SERVICE FROM PG. 1

houses and trauma response units. Each dog undergoes extensive training to perform tasks tailored to the specific needs of their handler, such as alerting to sounds, retrieving items, or providing physical support.

Prospective clients must be Texas residents and are required to attend training sessions at the organization’s Dripping Springs campus. While Service Dogs, Inc. covers the cost of the dogs and lifetime follow-up services, clients are responsible for travel and lodging expenses during the training period, as well as ongoing care costs for their service dog.

Changing human lives for the better

After losing his beloved wife, Betty, to cancer four years ago, U.S. Marine veteran Rhea Hambright found life on his family farm to be challenging. Daily tasks were nearly impossible to do on his own. He was lonely, frustrated and for the first time in his life, didn’t know how to fix things. A friend suggested Rhea get a Service Dog. Then everything changed.

Rhea got in touch with SDI and applied for a dog. SDI accepted him. A few months later, Rhea traveled to the SDI campus to meet several potential dog matches. The first dog he met was Bea-

trice. The connection was intense and instantaneous. Rhea calls it one of the greatest moments of his life.

Now, with Beatrice at his side, Rhea is back in the driver’s seat in life. Beatrice fetches bottled water from the fridge, helps with laundry, opens doors, picks up dropped items, retrieves medication, and helps Rhea to tug off clothing at night.

But the biggest thing Rhea has found with Beatrice? The company. Beatrice is his best friend, a constant presence, and provides joy when things are tough. She has motivated Rhea to start traveling again, visiting new places and seeing old friends, plus to make new ones when strangers approach to compliment Rhea on his beautiful Service Dog.

Although Rhea and Beatrice have been inseparable for a year, one of the most amazing parts of their story happened at the very beginning. “When I first got Beatrice, I mentioned to one of the trainers that Beatrice is a long name for a dog. She replied, ‘We don’t call her Beatrice, we call her Bea.’ My eyes welled up and I was moved very deeply. My wife had just passed and her name was Betty. Three guesses as to what I used to call her? That’s right - Bea,” Hambright said.

Service Dogs, Inc. is accredited by As-

sistance Dogs International, adhering to high standards in training and client services. The organization’s commitment to excellence has garnered recognition, including awards for its founder, Sheri Soltes, who has been instrumental in advancing the field of assistance dog training and advocacy.

The training process involves basic commands and specific tasks based on the dog’s role, such as hearing alerts or mobility assistance. Dogs are sourced from shelters, with a selective process to ensure suitability. The organization employs positive reinforcement and has a team of four trainers and 11 support staff. They currently have 16 dogs in training, with plans to expand to 23. The dogs are trained to work in various public settings and are matched with clients based on compatibility. The organization also supports first responders and veterans with facility dogs.

Tailer O’Neill is SDI’s Director of Training.

“It typically takes about a year for us to start the matching process with the dog. With the way that we’re going, we’re looking to shorten that over time. But as of right now, the aver-

Kyle Police Department launches real-time crime center program

Staff Reports

The Kyle Police Department has launched a new Real-Time Crime Center to enhance public safety and expedite criminal investigations. Powered by Fusus, this initiative includes a voluntary camera registry, allowing residents and businesses to register their security cameras to assist in crime-solving.

By registering, camera owners can help reduce the need for door-to-door canvassing currently conducted by patrol officers and detectives. This system enables police to quickly identify potential video evidence and contact owners if footage is needed.

All registrant information remains confidential and is used

solely for criminal investigations. “Building a partnership between our residents and police is key to public safety,” said Jeff Barnett, chief of police in Kyle. “We encourage all security camera owners to participate.” Additionally, residents can upgrade their systems to share live video feeds with the police during emergencies, enhancing safety while preserving privacy.

The platform also includes a multimedia tips option for reporting suspicious activity. To register your camera or upload video, visit connectkyle.org. The Kyle Police Department is located in the Public Safety Center at 1700 Kohlers Crossing. For more information, please visit cityofkyle.com/police.

Mark Anthony Briones given life sentence of murder of infant in 2022

Staff Reports

Hays County Criminal District Attorney Kelly Higgins announced Nov. 7, that 34-year-old Mark Anthony Briones of Kyle was convicted of Capital Murder for the June 2022 murder of infant Annalyne Fridley Benavides.

Judge Bruce Boyer then sentenced Briones to prison for life without parole.

On June 20, 2022, Mark Anthony Briones was babysitting Annalyne Fridley Benavides, his roommate’s seven month old infant. This was not the first time he had cared for her. Around 5:01 p.m. that day, Annalyne

was rushed to Seton Hospital because she wasn’t breathing and had no pulse.

Doctors observed severe bruising all over her body. She was then life flighted to Dell Children’s hospital where she was later pronounced brain dead. The defendant stated that Annalyne had been acting normal until she fell off his 12 inch trundle bed and became lifeless.

His story wasn’t consistent with the copious amounts of medical evidence that showed she had detached retinas, anoxic brain injury, and subdural & subarachnoid hemorrhages. Several medical experts testified that her



MARK ANTHONY BRIONES

injuries along with the bruising all over her body are consistent with being beaten to death.

The jury was also shown a photograph of Annalyne taken the morning before her death in which the infant appeared to be healthy and had no signs of bruising.

This case was investigated by Kyle Police Department Sgt. Tim

Owens and Det. Pedro Carrasco, and prosecuted by Assistant Criminal District Attorneys Katie Arnold and Rebecca Lopez.

“I’d like to thank the witnesses that testified in this case, and the jury for their verdict. It was an honor to fight for that sweet baby girl and to get to tell her story to the jury. We are very grateful for the verdict and we know Annalyne would have been proud” said Katie Arnold. “We hope in some way that her family can have some closure knowing that her murderer will be spending the rest of his life in prison.”

November 1, 2024 would have been Annalyne’s third birthday.

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick names private school vouchers as his top legislative priority

James Barragán
The Texas Tribune

Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick on Friday declared private school voucher legislation his number one issue for the legislative session beginning in January and called on Gov. Greg Abbott to declare it an emergency item.

“School choice is my top policy priority,” Patrick said in a statement. “Thirty-two states, both Republican and Democrat, have enacted some form of school choice legislation. There is absolutely no reason why Texas children and parents should be left behind.”

Patrick, who presides over the Texas Senate and exerts considerable influence over the legislative process, has reserved Senate Bill 2 for the yet-to-be-authored proposal, emphasizing the importance he’s placing on the mea-

sure. Senate Bill 1, he said, will be the state budget, the only bill the Legislature is legally required to pass every session.

“Texans across the political spectrum agree that parents must have options to choose the school that best fits the needs of their child to ensure their success,” Patrick added. “Voters have spoken clearly during the primary and general elections; the time for school choice in Texas is long overdue.”

School choice is a term frequently used to describe school vouchers, programs that use taxpayer money to help pay for students’ private schooling. During last year’s session, supporters pushed for a voucher-like program called education savings accounts, which would give public funds directly to families who opt out of the



LT. GOV. DAN PATRICK

state’s public education system so they can pay for private school tuition and other education-related expenses.

Patrick called on Abbott to declare school vouchers an emergency item to allow lawmakers to get a head start on pushing the bill through the Legislature. By law, the Legislature cannot pass any bills within the first 60 days of the session unless the governor has deemed them emergency items.

“If Gov. Abbott names school choice an emergency item, the Senate will take up and

pass school choice in the early weeks of session, instead of having to wait 60 days until March,” Patrick said.

Abbott has made school vouchers his top priority in the last two years and went to war with fellow Republicans in the House who joined Democrats to block school voucher legislation last session. He successfully ousted many of them and replaced them with Republicans who support the idea of using public funds to pay for education at private schools. Abbott now believes he has 79 “hardcore school choice proponents,” more than the simple majority required to pass a bill in the 150-member chamber.

Abbott’s office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Patrick also had pointed words for the

Texas House, which has repeatedly blocked school voucher bills in the last decade. Those efforts often have been spearheaded by Democrats, who largely oppose the use of public funds to pay for private school educations, and rural Republicans, who say the diversion of funds would harm their public schools, which are some of their districts’ top employers.

“Since 2015, the Senate has passed school choice five times,” Patrick wrote. “It died in a Republican-controlled House each time. That is unacceptable and inexcusable.”

Embattled House Speaker Dade Phelan, a fellow Republican, has been criticized by the right wing of his party—including Patrick—for not pushing harder for school vouchers. A group of 47 GOP House lawmakers and

elected candidates have signed on to support a different Republican, Rep. David Cook of Mansfield, for House speaker, partly in response to the failure to pass school vouchers.

Since last year’s session, Phelan has revamped his senior management team and tried to make amends with Abbott, who supported him in the general election. Phelan has indicated an openness to school voucher legislation but has not provided details about what kind of bill he would back. Phelan’s office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Patrick’s announcement Friday puts added pressure on Abbott and Phelan to expedite the passage of school voucher legislation. It also adds another wrinkle to Phelan’s ongoing battle to keep the speaker’s gavel.

Honoring Our Veterans

Fourteen veterans featured below were left out of the Salute to Our Veterans section published on Sunday, November 10th. They are included here as a continuation of our efforts to honor local veterans.



Andres G Pico, US Navy June 1974 - Nov 1994, Vietnam Era, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Fall of the Berlin Wall - Fall of the Soviet Union, and Cold War



Eric A. Mutschlechner, US Air Force 22 ½ years, Operation Iraqi Freedom & Operation Enduring Freedom, Master Sergeant



Gary D Gooch, Air Force 1958 - 1960, Cold War (considered a Korean Vet), Captain



John (Jack) Hugman, US Navy 1945-1947, Pacific Theater/ Occupied Japan, Seaman First Class



Lewis R. Stover, US Navy 1950 - 1954, Korea, Aviation Boatswain’s Mate Petty Officer



Miguel Navarro Jr., US Marines 1966 - 1968, Vietnam, Sergeant



Patrick G. Rehmet, Army 2 ½ years, Vietnam, Captain,



Raymond C. Mendez, U.S. Army 1953-1955, Korean Conflict, Corporal



Robert (Bob) Tracy, U.S. Army Security Agency 1955 - 1958, Kagnew Station, Asmara, Eritrea, E-5



Robert M. Ruiz, United States Army 30 years, Master Sergeant



Ruben M. Ruiz, U.S. Air Force 4 years, Staff Sergeant



Thomas W. Soltau, U.S. Army 1972 - 1974, Vietnam, Spec 4



Tom Talcott, US Air Force 23 years, Cold War, Lt Colonel



Travis Brown, Deputy Constable - Hays County Constable Pct. 3, United States Marine Corps 1998 - 2004, Sergeant



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Public Notice

Public Notice

NO. 24-0466-P

IN THE ESTATE OF

FRANCES BEVERLEY VANN,

DECEASED

\$

IN COUNTY COURT AT LAW

OF

HAYS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Frances Beverley Vann, Deceased, were issued on November 4, 2024, in Cause No.

24-0466-P, pending in the County Court at Law of Hays County, Texas, to: William Sion Robson IV.

All persons having claims against this

Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Joseph J. Malone

Attorney at Law

Stevens & Malone, PLLC

P.O. Box 727

Wimberley, Texas 78676

DATED the 8th day of November 2024.

/s/Joseph J. Malone

Joseph J. Malone

State Bar No.: 24050982

STEVENS & MALONE, PLLC

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Wimberley, Texas 78676

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E-mail: service@stevensmalone.law.com

CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS
PUBLIC NOTICE OF ORDINANCE 2024-37
AMENDING THE PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES MASTER FEE SCHEDULE

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING APPENDIX A: ARTICLE A1.000 (GENERAL PROVISIONS) OF THE DRIPPING SPRINGS CODE OF ORDINANCES; AMENDING THE DRIPPING SPRINGS FEE SCHEDULE SECTION 9: PARKS & RECREATION; SECTION 15: FARMERS MARKET; SECTION 17: DRIPPING SPRINGS RANCH PARK FEES; SECTION 18: FEE DISCOUNTS AND WAIVERS; REPEALER, SEVERABILITY; PUBLICATION; EFFECTIVE DATE; AND PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.



Public Notice

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS,
TEXAS TREE SERVICES
PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of Dripping Springs is soliciting Bids for Tree Maintenance and Removal Services.

REQUEST FOR BIDS: "Tree Services"

Contractor shall provide all necessary labor, material, and equipment to provide tree maintenance and removal services for the City of Dripping Springs starting on or about December 6, 2024, and ending on or about September 30, 2025, and subsequent renewal periods in strict accordance with the terms, conditions, and provisions of this solicitation.

Sealed bids addressed to the City of Dripping Springs, 661 West Highway 290, Dripping Springs, Texas, 78620, will be received from Contractors interested in providing tree maintenance and removal services as specified by the City of Dripping Springs, Texas for a NON-EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT DURATION OF ONE (1) YEAR, WITH THE OPTION TO RENEW FOR TWO (2) ADDITIONAL ONE (1) YEAR PERIODS.

THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE A NON-TRANSFERABLE AGREEMENT.

Contract awards for the tree maintenance and removal services will be made to the lowest, responsive, responsible bidder. The lowest and best value bids are those, which result in the lowest cost to the City of Dripping Springs for the complete tree maintenance and removal services program to be performed by a qualified bidder. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any and all irregularities.

NO PRE-SUBMITTAL CONFERENCE: A pre-submittal conference will not be held.

Sealed Bids, must be submitted in one (1) original, (2) copies, and one (1) electronic copy (in PDF format) on flash drive and shall be delivered to:

City of Dripping Springs

City Administrator

661 West Highway 290

Dripping Springs TX 78620

Bids must be submitted by 10:00 AM on Friday, November 22, 2024, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Bids received after the opening date and time will not be considered.

Requests for Proposal Packet is available at <https://www.cityofdrippingssprings.com/requestforbids>.

Should this solicitation fail to contain sufficient information in order for interested contractors to obtain a clear understanding of the services required by the City, or should it appear that the instructions outlined in the solicitation are not clear or are contradictory, any interested contractor may in writing request clarification from Michelle Fischer, City Administrator, no later than November 18, 2024 prior to the required time and date for sealed bid proposal submission. The interested contractor shall email a copy of the written clarification request to the City Administrator, Michelle Fischer, at mfischer@cityofdrippingssprings.com. Written requests from interested firms and

Public Notice

Public Notice

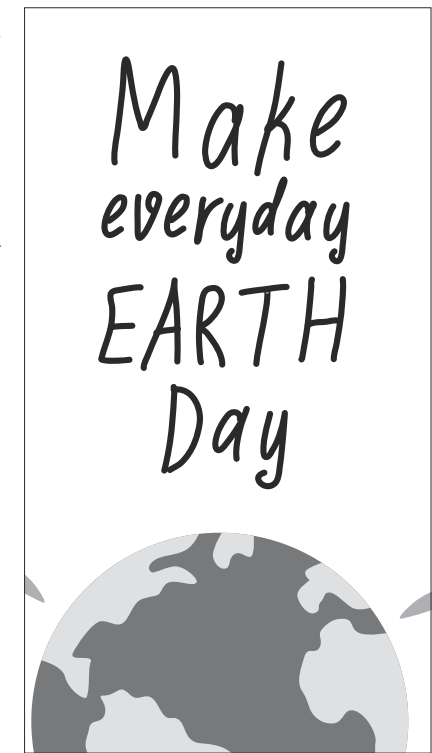
written responses by the City will be provided to all Applicants. This is the only permissible contact with the City regarding this bid process until the bids are opened and the Applicant is contacted by the City.

Legal Notice

Legal Notice

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A MIXED BEVERAGE PERMIT BY I DO BBQ LLC DBA PIG PEN BBQ TO BE LOCATED AT 300 W MAIN STREET, JOHNSON CITY, BLANCO COUNTY, TEXAS. OFFICERS OF SAID CORPORATION ARE WILLIAM WARREN AND MICHELLE MATTHEWS.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a winery permit by Graveyard Vineyards, Inc. dba Graveyard Vineyards – Texas located at 3700 Bell Springs Rd, Suite 200, Dripping Springs, Hays County, Texas 78620. Robert Taylor – President; Paula Taylor – Secretary/Director.





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Adopt a shelter pet today!

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Air & Heating Services	Air & Heating Services	Help Wanted	Help Wanted	Tree Services	Tree Services	Landscaping Services	Landscaping Services
Air & Heating There's a new sheriff in town! Louis Nesby Air & Heat COMMERCIAL Local Independent & Insured TACL817073E 26/23 512-945-0616  RESIDENTIAL Sales Service & Installation louaustex@aol.com louisnesbyairandheat.com	HIRING: TRADES Dripping Springs ISD is hiring: Licensed Plumber Licensed HVAC Tech Maintenance 12 PTO Days, Holidays, & Benefits! APPLY TODAY!  Visit: dsisdtx.us/jobs or Call 512-858-3054	Ogden's Tree Service  • Consult • Prune • Remove • Fertilize • Selective Land Clearing • Insured ISA Certified Arborist TX0111 Texas Master Naturalist Jon Ogden, 512.452.3987 Ogdenstreeservice.com	O'Kane Lawn & Landscape "settin' roots in our community" Time for Fall & Winter Tree Trimming • Tree Trimming • Irrigation Repair • Landscaping • Fertilizing • Lawn Maintenance LI 00021868 FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED 512.738.2185 okanelawnscapes@gmail.com member  Voted Best of Hays Again! Ben O'Kane Owner/Operator				
Electrical Services	Electrical Services	Electrical Services	Electrical Services	Tree Services	Tree Services	Windows & Painting	Windows & Painting
Veteran Owned & Operated Employs Veterans  No problems, only solutions Personal attention and professional service 512-557-5605 wimberleyelectricians.com TECL# 29302	Red Grizzly Electric • Breaker Replacement • GFCI's • Light Fixture Replacement  • Hot Tubs • Ceiling Fans • Switch Replacement • Electrical Panel Repair Scott Weaver • Licensed & Insured TECL #23403 P.O. Box 2155 512-771-1764 Wimberley, TX 78676 redgrizzlyelectric.com	EYE SORES TREE AND HAULING SERVICE NEED HELP WITH: BRUSH/TRASH REMOVAL • DEMOLITION • FENCING & GATES • HOME REPAIR • PORTABLE BUILDING • CAR HAULING • BOBCAT/DIRT WORK • MOWING • LOT & ACREAGE CLEARING • TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL 7 DAYS A WEEK DAVID BROWN 512-312-1227 • 512-689-3415/cell 	KLEEN WINDOWS  Hill Country Painting "Windows are a pane so call the professionals" (512-554-1401) Pressure Washing • Exterior Painting Deck Restoration www.kleenwindows99.com VISA FREE ESTIMATES				
Roofing & Solar	Roofing & Solar	Service Directory Put your ad in the Service Directory. Call for deadlines and availabilty! For only \$100/Month! (512) 847-2202					
FATHER-DAUGHTER OWNED & OPERATED  GOOD NEWS ROOFING & SOLAR SINCE 2009 512-630-1440 \$250 OFF ALL ROOF REPLACEMENTS WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AD 							

SERVICE FROM PG. 4



Tailer O'Neill and Jeep. Tailer is the director of training for Service Dogs Inc. Jeep was rescued by SDI from a shelter after being found as a stray. With the perfect temperament, and his training underway, Jeep was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2023 and instead of placing him with a client, he was promoted to Mascot and Demonstration Dog for SDI. He enjoys a purposeful and comfortable life with his adoptive parent, Tailer.

PHOTO SDI

age time on campus is a year once the dog is matched, and we do the kind of interface of the client's training with the dog. The dog will then move in with the client. We visit them weekly for three to four months, and then we still see them yearly after that, so we keep up with not only the dog campus, all of our graduates still are in that transition," O'Neill said.

Even when all the ingredients come together to find a dog with the right temperament, intelligence and trainability, followed by hours, days and months of training, life can sometimes throw the perfect plan a curve ball.

That is what hap-

pened to Jeep who after making tremendous progress in SDI's training program, was diagnosed in Dec. 2023, with kidney disease as a result of an untreated infection from his former life as a stray. With a prognosis of just 2 to 3 more years, so rather than place Jeep for a short time with a client, Tailer adopted him. Now, he lives a comfortable and purposeful life, working as a demonstration training dog with SDI.

O'Neill joined the nonprofit in 2023 and describes it as his 'dream job,' and his body language lights up when he talks about the work SDI does. His love of training dogs inspired him to apprentice with an animal behaviorist and he strongly adheres to the positive reinforcement approach to training. His passion for animal advocacy and helping people is why he does this work, overseeing the campus training program, shelter dog evaluations and associate trainer development.

SDI also provides trained dogs to help first responders.

"Our first responder dogs have gone to work alongside a peer counselor with an organization called Bluebonnet Trails Community Services. They do services for veterans and law enforcement in eight underserved counties in Texas. So they will either speak to a class of police officers or have one-on-one counseling with a vet who's having a really tough time, whether it's two in the morning or meeting for coffee on a park bench. And the dog has really helped folks open up and a lot of these stories they don't tell because they're very personal to the patient in themselves, but the dogs that are with

some of these folks have also gone when they've had another community's had a catastrophic event, like a mass shooting. Our dogs and those teams have gone to El Paso, to Uvalde, to Allen, Texas, where there have been a lot of first responders from different organizations working together, and the dogs have helped facilitate that too, and it's very rewarding to see that," Soltes said.

When asked how the public can help, Soltes said "For one, donations. Two, we really welcome people that would like to be a foster family for a dog. It helps if they don't currently have a dog, but if they love dogs, so they could just dip their toe in and take a dog home for a weekend, be the fun uncle or aunt, and then bring the dog back on Monday morning, and you can fill out that foster application on our website under the volunteer tab."

Volunteers can assist at the training center or serve as weekend fosters for service dogs in training, providing essential socialization and care. Additionally, Service Dogs, Inc. hosts events such as the annual Mighty Texas Dog Walk, the organization's key fundraiser that brings together dog enthusiasts to support the organization's mission.

Soltes also said dog lovers can join SDI this Saturday in their premier fundraising event at Camp Mabry.

Mighty Texas Dog Walk & Expo

Service Dog Inc.'s largest annual fundraiser, the Mighty Texas Dog Walk & Expo, is set for this Saturday, Nov. 16, at Camp Mabry in Austin.

Founder Sheri Soltes hopes this year's dog walk will set a new world record for the

largest pajama party with dogs. "IKEA just set a new record with 2,052 employees in pajamas," Soltes said. "But that wasn't with dogs. Austin is the No. 1 dog-friendly city in the country, and we're going to prove it — again!"

She invites all dog lovers to support SDI's mission by rolling out of bed, leashing up their dogs, and heading to Camp Mabry. After a 1-mile stroll, attendees and their dogs can enjoy treats, giveaways from family-friendly sponsors, canine agility and "sniffari" courses, and the chance to compete for a giant gold trophy in the costume contest.

Proceeds benefit Service Dog Inc., which adopts dogs from Texas shelters and trains them as service dogs free of charge.

"A service dog can be life-changing," said Austin Meredith, an SDI client. "My service dog, Peaches, motivated me to move out on my own after I was injured, go to college, and this past May, I started my dream job at NASA. SDI provided my service dog free of charge, which made all the difference."

The Mighty Texas Dog Walk has previously set records for most dogs walked, biggest cake for dogs, biggest fur ball, and last year's largest dog bowl.

Soltes encourages all to join the fun. The expo grounds open at 9 a.m., with the walk starting at 10 a.m. The event continues until 5 p.m., featuring vendors, exhibits, and live music. For more information, visit mighty-texasdogwalk.org.

Those who cannot attend can still support SDI's mission to provide service dogs for Texans in need. To donate or learn more, visit servicedogs.org.



Sheri Soltes and Daisy. Soltes founded Service Dogs, Inc. in 1988 on the concept of using dogs rescued from animal shelters. An honors graduate from both the University of Texas School of Law and the University of Texas Plan II Honors undergraduate program, she left her law practice to devote her full time to building Service Dogs, Inc. Under her guidance, Service Dogs, Inc. has led the industry in combining the use of all rescue dogs with positive reinforcement training methodology.

PHOTO SDI

Sales Manager

KWVH Community Radio Station, Wimberley, TX
110 Old Kyle Rd, Wimberley, Texas 78676 512-722-3266
\$50,000=80,000 Annually. Full time position.
Salary plus Commission. In-Office and Remote.

Description:

KWVH 94.3 is a LPFM (low-power) non-profit community radio station airing on 94.3 FM and streaming on KWVH.ORG. We are entering our tenth year of on-air broadcasting in 2025. As a Sales Manager, you will represent the station to a community of potential corporate sponsors, advertisers, and small-business underwriters. You will have an opportunity to connect with business owners in Wimberley and surrounding communities like San Marcos, Kyle, Dripping Springs, Buda, and South Austin who want to promote their products and services to residents in those areas.

The broadcast signal of KWVH reaches up to 100,000 households via its FM signal, and additionally reaches hundreds of thousands more via our streaming signal and App.

The programming mix of KWVH is primarily Americana music with a Texas flair, featuring local artists and stars in various show segments covering music across rock n' roll, country, classic rock, alternative, and jazz. KWVH also has extensive sports programming, representing the Wimberley Independent School District, home of the Championship Texans, with live broadcasts of football, volleyball, soccer, basketball, and softball teams.

You will be responsible for creating and selling packages for local business underwriters, regional and national advertisers, event sponsorships, and studio time for podcasters.

You will be compensated with a salary plus commission plan commensurate with your performance.

You will be expected to engage and interact with the community, get to know the programming mix and the on-air personalities, and knock on doors of local and regional businesses.

Are you an organized sales professional capable of managing a book of business?

Are you a natural connector, capable of building and establishing relationships?

Are you fearless, capable of picking up the phone and knocking on doors?

If so, you will be rewarded by being a vital part of a highly sought-after Texas community—Wimberley, Texas.

Please apply with your qualifications via email to
gm@wimberleyvalleyradio.org



Izzy Harris working with Jeep in the training room at Service Dogs Inc. Trainers like Izzy use positive reinforcement and real-world scenarios to train a service dog. Once dogs are comfortable with their task expectations, the training moves to activities off campus. It is not uncommon to see an SDI trainer and their trainee in a store around Dripping Springs.

PHOTO KEN VARGAS

PETS OF THE WEEK

Diva
Age: 10 mos.
Female
Retriever mix

Meet Diva! This 10-month-old sweetheart is a Retriever and Chesapeake Bay mix (we think!) weighing about 43 lbs. She's a total lovebug and natural snuggler who's sure to steal your heart. Give her a few scratches and belly rubs, and she'll melt right into your lap! Diva is playful and loves the outdoors—she's a pro at fetch, enjoys a good run, and never misses a chance to splash in the water. She gets along well with other dogs and has experience living with them, especially those who love to play as much as she does! On leash, she's a great walking companion, staying right by your side. Highly intelligent and food-motivated, Diva makes training a breeze. Whether she's learning a new trick or just hanging out, she loves being close to her people, always curious to see what you're up to. Diva would make a wonderful addition to any family ready for an active, affectionate, and smart companion. Come meet this sweet girl and see if she's the perfect match for you! Diva is awaiting her adoption at the PAWS animal shelter in Hays county. To adopt Diva or another dog looking for adoption, visit pawsshelter.org/adopt.



Jezzi
11 years old
Female
Maltese mix

Hi! I'm Jezzi, and I absolutely love my name! It suits my sparkly personality perfectly. I'm a happy 11 year young lady, and I've just had a fabulous groom that makes me feel amazing. I may have lost my last few teeth during a dental visit, but I feel so much better now and can snack down on canned food very fast! I'm looking for my forever family, preferably one with other small dogs. I love hanging out with them, even if I'm not the playful type. I'm not sure how to walk on a leash yet, but I'd love to learn. It sounds fun, and I'm pretty good at picking up new things and I like a challenge. While I might not be a cuddle pup, I do have a lot of love to give, and I'll definitely let you know when I have something important to say! If you're looking for a sweet, confident companion, I'm your girl! Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.



Looloo
12 years old
Female
Dachshund

Hi, I'm a shy but sweet girl who warms up fast once I get to know you. I get along with other dogs, but I like to eat by myself so I don't have to share my food. It makes me happy to have my meals in peace. I love treats, and I'm very gentle taking them even when other pups are nearby. I enjoy following my people around and I feel safest when I'm being held and cuddled. I also love when you talk to me. It makes me feel special when I get to enjoy an intimate connection. I'm great on a leash and I'm a fantastic co-pilot in the car. I'm looking for a patient family who can help me gain confidence and feel secure again. If you have kids, they should be over 10, as younger ones make me nervous. I'm fully vaccinated and spayed, and I can't wait to meet you! 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.

Universal Crossword

11/10

THEMELESS SUNDAY 109 by David Steinberg

ACROSS

- 1 Empty spaces
5 ICU attendants
8 Arm, e.g.
12 Volumes you can hear?
15 "Got it"
16 "It's not for me, but enjoy"
18 December 24 or 31
19 Discount German grocer
20 Use as a bed
21 Operates, as a booth
23 A solitaire window may be minimized when one walks by
25 Dope, say
26 Casual tops
28 ____ de plume
30 Tried to avoid a tag,

perhaps

- 32 U.S. territory whose capital is Hagatna
33 Temple text
35 No longer damp
36 Drop-off location for many ships?
39 Feasted
40 Highest score from a single dart throw
41 Sextet on the feet of 27-Down
42 Like, a huge amount
44 Uninspiring
45 ____-up frustration
46 Altar pronouncements
48 Blood bank fluids
50 Fairy-tale beast
53 Jazz pianist Bill
55 Period in office

57 Acorn, one day

- 58 "Paying attention?"
61 5,280 feet
62 They aren't generic
63 War vet's condition, perhaps
64 ____-friendly (like some hotels)
65 Waffle brand

DOWN

- 1 Tropical fruit
2 "Don Quixote" and "The Hobbit," for two
3 Slapstick projectile
4 Guest's crash pad
5 Musical piece that's an anagram of

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	T	E	M	C	E	L	L		V	E	S	P	A
C	O	M	E	A	G	A	I	N	A	X	L	E	S
A	R	I	S	T	O	T	L	E		T	E	E	T
L	I	L	A	C		T	O	S	S		S	E	P
D	I	Y		A	T	E		T	A	N		P	E
			A	F	L		D	E	C	A	F	T	E
	M	I	X	E	D	B	A	G		H	E	A	V
W	A	N	E		R	I	D	G	E		A	L	E
A	N	K	L	E		G	A	S		M	A	S	K
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K	I	N	D	A		H	Y	P	E	T	R	A	I
A	S	S	E	T		S	E	X	S	E	L	L	S

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"donor"

- 6 "Can we talk about this later?!"
7 Glide downhill like Corinne Suter
8 Soda bottle units
9 "Time for me to leave"
10 Movie whose antagonists wear pink on Wednesdays
11 Racetrack transaction
12 (Clears throat)
13 Light fixture inserts
14 Mo. city whose MLS team debuted in 2023
17 Found a spot while a seeker counted
22 Line on pants
24 "My bad ..."
27 Flightless birds with green eggs
29 R&B singer Ella
31 Skittle's color source
32 "Oh, quit your complaining!"

- 33 April payments
34 Not fancy at all?
36 Mammal with a vampire variety
37 Take a ____ view of
38 Toddler's taboo
43 Moved side to side
45 Second Medicare section
47 ____-Caps (candy)
49 Change back to zero
51 Total stranger, informally
52 Heart readings, for short
54 Domain of the Incan god Inti or the Greek god Helios
56 Trifling
58 Electric bassist's booster
59 Track meet unit
60 Remind and remind

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

WOMBANIA™

by PETER MARINACCI

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www.wombania.com

"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

Dripping Springs
Farmers Market

November 13 & 20
Wednesdays
3 - 6 p.m.

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 Market at the Triangle
December 14

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Local artists selling a variety of art on Mercer Street. Sponsored by the Dripping Springs Art League and the Dripping Springs Parks & Community Services. Veterans Park • 140 E. Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Pound House Farmstead
Community Mondays

November 18

8 - 11 a.m.

Every Monday Sept. 16-Nov. 18, 2024, from 8am until 11am, Come walk, sit, play, read and just enjoy the peaceful and beautiful historic farmstead grounds. Tours are not available during this time. It's a great place for friends and family. Pound House Farmstead • 419B Founders Park Road • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Dripping Springs
Women's Club
Sip & Shop Holiday
Art Market

November 20

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Come enjoy lunch and shop for the holidays with our 28 vendors. Ticketed event. \$27 for members; \$32 for guests. Visit dswomensclub.com/event to order by Nov. 17 • Dripping Springs Distilling • 5330 Bell Springs Rd • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Holiday Art Market
November 23

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Holiday Art Market with great vendors, good music and drink. Jester King Brewery • 13126 Fitzhugh Rd. • Austin, TX 78736

Kids Fun Fall Fest
November 24

Noon - 7 p.m.

Our biggest event of the year for kids is right around the corner! Grab the family and join us out at Dreamland for our Fun Fall Fest! Petting Zoo, Face Painting, Pony Rides, Bounce House and live music. Tickets: \$20.eventbrite.com/e/kids-fun-fall-fest-tickets-1077623734599. Dreamland USA • 2770 E HWY 290 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Vintage Market
December 6-8

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Vintage market is a shopping experience in time for your holiday gift-giving season. Live music, and food and drinks. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

Caliterra Hill Country
Holiday Bazaar

December 14-15

11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Grab your friends and shopping lists for this fun shopping experience. Local artists and vendors, live music, food & drink. Caliterra Community Hall • 505 Wynnpage Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620. (Next to LeMuse coffee shop)

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: cityofdripping-springs.com. Meetings are held at City Hall Council Chambers • 511 Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

November 13 • 11 a.m.

DSRP Board of Directors Meeting (meets at Ranch Park Event Center)

November 18 • 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Committee Meeting

November 19 • 6 p.m.

City Council Regular Meeting

Hays County
Commissioners Court
Regular Meeting

November 19 • 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

Dripping Springs
Board of Trustees

Monthly Meeting

November 18 • 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.



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Hot 'n Juicy Explained



At Wendy's our hamburgers are Hot 'n Juicy because they're made from 100% pure beef, pattied fresh daily, never frozen and cooked just when you order them. Never pre-wrapped, never held under lights, they're freshly made, just for you!

Our hamburger buns are fresh baked because fresh tastes best

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Only 100% USDA beef goes into a Hot 'n Juicy Hamburger

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Dripping Springs Century News

Phone: 512 - 858 - 4163
<https://www.drippingspringsnews.com>

BUSINESS

Business Calendar of Events

Community Day for Nonprofits
November 13
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dripping Springs Community Day is a full day of speakers sharing their expertise on nonprofit topics that affect your organization's growth, finances and governance. Designed exclusively for nonprofit board members, staff and volunteers. \$50 fee if registered by Nov 8. \$60 after that deadline. Contact the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce at 512-858-7000 or email info@dstxchamber.com.
Deep Eddy Vodka Tasting Room • 2250 E. HWY 290 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Franchise Expo
November 14 & 15
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Meet with 125 of the hottest franchise brands at every investment level and industry. Several workshops and seminars offered. FREE admission. Go to franchiseexpo.com/austin for more information and to register. Austin Hotel • 9721 Arboretum Blvd. • Austin, TX 78759

Texas Hills Financial Group Ribbon Cutting
November 15 • Noon
Join us for a ribbon cutting and grand opening of the new office for our friends at Texas Hills Financial Group. Come on out and help us welcome them into the community. 12400 HWY 290, Bldg. 5 Ste 410 • Austin, TX 78737

Rotary Club of Dripping Springs Regular Meeting
November 20 • Noon
From the earliest days of the organization Rotarians have been concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives and serving the community. Come visit to learn more.
Flores Mexican Restaurant • 2440 E HWY 290 • Dripping Springs TX 78620

Chamber of Commerce Monthly Luncheon
November 20 • 11:30 a.m.
Monthly luncheon meeting of the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce. This month is the Holiday Door Prize Palooza! Chamber Members: Bring a door prize item and when it's time to draw for your prize, you'll have time to speak about your business). \$30/\$40 (Member/Guest) paid by 11/15 at 4 p.m. \$35/\$45 (Member/Guest) paid after 11/15 or at the door if available. Deep Eddy Vodka Tasting Room • 2250 E. HWY 290 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Have a business networking meeting or event to share? Send your listing in 50 words or less to dscenturynews@gmail.com using the subject line "Business Calendar Notice" at least 10 days before your event date.



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Monkee's, a women's fashion boutique, held its grand opening Friday, Nov. 8. Ambassadors and friends joined store owner Elona Appleby and her mom Lilly Kulla for a ribbon cutting ceremony. The store is located at 136 Drifting Way Run in the same shopping center as Garbo's restaurant and Drip Dental.

PHOTOS KEN VARGAS

Monkee's, a fashion boutique, opens new store in Dripping Springs

Ken Vargas
Managing Editor

On Friday, Nov. 8, ambassadors from the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce joined Monkee's of Dripping Springs for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the boutique's grand opening. Afterward, visitors sipped champagne, shopped, and chatted with store owner Elona Appleby.

Monkee's of Dripping Springs is a high-end women's boutique, is owned and operated by Appleby, with her mother, Lilly Kulla, assisting as a buyer and helping manage inventory. The mother-daughter team has curated a distinctive selection of women's clothing, shoes, bags, and accessories.

Appleby has been in the fashion industry for a very long time and has been a wholesaler of my own brand for the past 10 years. "Monkee's differs from everything else in the area. We are a high end boutique carrying some of the top quality brands on the market, she said.

Though Monkee's is a franchise, each store has the freedom to source its own selection of fashion items to



Custom Western hats by hatter Derek Welborn, of Dripping Springs, are one of the lines that makes Monkee's unique and local.

sell to its clients.

"When I go to the showrooms and markets to curate for the shop I focus on small boutique brands with a few of the bigger favorite brands. I shop for all the ladies in our community, from the high school girl headed to prom, to the young mom, to the more mature ladies, Appleby said.

At the event, Derek Welborn operated a pop-up hatter's station near the front of the

store, showcasing his collection of custom-made Western hats. Appleby said finding unique and local creators is one of the advantages of a curated boutique. While Welborn won't be at the store except for special events, his custom hats and selection of bands will be.

"Being a big time supporter of local artists, I reached out to Derek after I saw his work and appreciated the fact that he makes



Lilly Kulla and Elona Appleby are the mother-daughter duo that brings their fashion sense to the merchandise offered at Monkee's

his hats from scratch. I wanted to bring him in and share this opportunity of exposure with him and let the community see him in action," Appleby said.

"I have had the privilege of calling Dripping Springs home for the past five years. I have seen it go from a quiet little town to a thriving community. When I started @exploredstx as a way to promote local businesses I realized what was truly lacking was a nice store for

women like myself to go shopping at, to be able to find a nice gift for your mother, sister, friend, without having to drive 45 minutes away," Elona added.

Monkee's is located at 136 Drifting Wind Run, Ste. 121, in the same shopping center as Garbo's and Drip Dental. Store hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, visit monkeesofdrippingsprings.com.



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SPORTS

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

The final regular season game for the Dripping Springs Tigers was against the district champion Westlake Chaparrals. Both teams had clinched playoff berths but a Tiger win would give them a share of the title. It was pretty well known that hill would be a steep climb.

Anytime you are up against those odds, the team would have to perform at a high rate of efficiency. Unfortunately, they were not able to keep away from the turnover early in the game when it would really count. On top of that the huge and talented athletes concentrated on blowing up the running game and making the passing attack play under a harassing atmosphere all night. From the offensive side Westlake was satisfied to grind out time-consuming long drives to eat up the clock and not let the Tigers have the ball. They were even confident enough to go for it on fourth down numerous times to keep the drive alive. The Tigers battled long and hard all night.

Westlake took the ball from the 25 after the opening kickoff by the Tigers and demonstrated how it would be most of the night. They drove the

Tigers fall to Westlake 35-14



Tigers wide receiver Merrik Bloomgren (Jr.) swarmed after catching a pass in Dripping Springs' big game against Westlake Friday. The Chaparrals won the game 35-14 to clinch the district title. Both teams advanced to the Bi-District playoffs. The Tigers will host McNeil HS this Friday at Tiger Stadium. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

PHOTO RONNIE ADAIR

ball 75 yards in 17 plays to score from the four and use up 7 minutes of play. The Tigers took the ball from their 25 and had a promising drive until a fumble stopped it at the 48. The Tigers avoided another score when the defense held at the 30 and took the punt at the 12.

On the first play of the second quarter the DS QB tried to throw the ball away amid a huge rush and it found its way into Chaparral hands at the 21. The Tiger defense stiffened again at the one and

Westlake faked a field goal and scored from the three. 14-0. Undaunted, the Tigers set off on their own 75 drive in nine plays to score on a Maddox Maher 10 pass to Merrik Bloomgren. Aidan Burgess toed the EP. Back in the game. 7-14.

Westlake returned the KO 33 yards to set themselves up at the DS 47. Ten plays later they would score from the one with 1.11 remaining. The Tigers made a good effort to score but ran out of time. 21-7 at half.

Westlake moved the ball 89 yards in nine plays for the only score in the third. The Tigers would get the ball on the three following a punt and nine plays later scored from the 24 on a Maher to Cooper Reid pass. 14-28. Back are the Chaps with a 9 play, 70 drive for the final score with 7.26 remaining.

Now for the playoffs. In the last two weeks of play there was a beneficial turn of events in the playoffs. When Austin High defeated Bowie it kicked Westlake up to D1 and

prevented the Tigers having to open play at Vandegrift.

Round Rock's McNeil HS qualified in 25-6A making Vista Ridge move up to D1 and leaving the Tigers playing McNeil. As the higher seed, the Tigers will host the McNeil Mavericks Friday night. Kickoff is 7:30.

Game stats (DS first): First downs 15-22; Rushing 22-38, 51-205; Passing 209-178; Passes 20-34-1, 17-20-0; Punts 4-35.7, 2-27.5; Penalties 9-71, 7-77; Turnovers 2-0.

Tiger stats: Rush-

ing: Jack Tyndall 15-23; Maher 1-13; Jace-ton Gotta 4-3, Nick Tyndall 1-2. Passing: Maher 19-32-198-1-2TD; Mateo Perez 1-2-11. Receiving: 8-96 TD, N. Tyndall 5-24, Bloomgren 3-27 TD, J. Tyndall 2-50, Liam Lawson 1-11, Bobby Wilkinson 1-1.

DS tacklers: Clive Wahl 8-3, Chris Gustafson 4-7, Kyle Daniel 4-5, Cash Brunson 4-5, Dylan Brasher 3-3, Case Hubbard 3-2, Austin Olivas 3-1, Malakai Igharo 2-1.

Lady Tigers stunned: Playoff loss ends season

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

It was a most unexpected occurrence for the Dripping Springs Lady Tigers volleyball team. Ranked No. 1 in the state and carrying a 46-2 record into the Area game with San Antonio Harlan and having beaten this team before, it appeared like another easy win with a first set 25-12 recorded. However, the Harlan team, who had stopped the Lady Tigers at regionals last year had

other ideas. When the scoring format was changed to best of five and someone gets a point each serve good teams are seldom out of the running in each set. Harlan would come back to take the next three 15-25, 23-25, 22-25. Also, one understands that polls are worthless, only the final finish counts. Although extremely disappointing, it is a given the program will produce another top-notch team to compete strongly for all the marbles next year.

In the Bi-district matchup with Vista Ridge, the Lady Tigers took care of business by easily outscoring them in three 25-23, 25-15, 25-13.

VR game stats: Kills (40): Henley Anderson 16, Christa Wilburn 14; Aces (8): Chloe White 2, Callie Krueger 2; Blks (6): Anderson 2, Eloise Roffers 2; Digs (46): Krueger 12, Riley Certain 8, Lourdes Frontera 8; Assts (39): Frontera 19, Sydney Lund 16; Receiving (45): Krueger 18, Anderson 12.

HOLIDAY FROM PG. 1

through family-friendly entertainment. From the iconic tree lighting and winter markets to ice skating, music, holiday lights, and more, Hometown Holidays promises unforgettable memories for all.

Highlights of Dripping Springs' Hometown Holidays include:

Western Wonderland – Nov. 29-Jan. 5 at Dripping Springs Ranch Park: Now in its second year, this attraction features events and activities, a Trail of Lights, and more. At the center is the largest outdoor ice-skating rink in Central Texas, perfect for skating under twinkling lights. The rink is covered, so

weather is never an issue.

Dripping Springs Tree Lighting – Nov. 30 at dusk, Veterans Memorial Park: The tree lighting will take place the Saturday after Thanksgiving to kick off the holiday season. A new tree, lights, and ornaments will be unveiled by the City of Dripping Springs in partnership with the Dripping Springs Lions Club.

Movie in the Park – Nov. 30 at Veterans Memorial Park: After the tree lighting at dusk, attendees can enjoy a showing of Elf.

Stroll the Stars – Dec. 4 at 4 p.m., Mercer Street: The city and the Dripping Springs Art League will unveil

six giant star sculptures painted by local artists. Each sculpture reflects themes of the night sky, Dripping Springs, and Hill Country beauty.

Christmas on Mercer – Dec. 7, Downtown Dripping Springs: The 20th anniversary of this beloved event, hosted by the Lions Club, will feature shopping, food vendors, Santa Claus, and more.

Community Events: The city has a Hometown Holidays Calendar of Events where local businesses, organizations, and venues can post holiday happenings. For details, visit destinationdrippingsprings.com/holidays.

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FARM AND RANCH SALE	
25909 Hamilton Pool Rd, Round Mountain: 53 acres. Beautiful 3,283sf home with custom-built pool that includes both a waterfall and waterslide. 2,000sf four stall horse barn with tack room. 1,250sf workshop. Abundant Oaks, +-7-acre paddock	\$4,850,500 MLS: 9609854
RESIDENTIAL / LAND SALE	
370 Brady Pass, Dripping Springs: Beautiful 26.84-acre homestead nestled deep in the heart of the hill country while also being a short 15 minutes from Austin. Features local wildlife, a variety of different trees, as well as a picturesque creek that runs through the property, creating a park-like setting.	\$5,995,000 MLS: 8884586
1451 Springlake Dr, Dripping Springs: 8.05-acre tract, right outside of Dripping Springs off RR 12 and just 30 minutes from Austin. Potential to be subdivided into smaller lots for single-family homes with City Water available.	\$725,000 MLS: 9227456
100 Dario Dr, Dripping Springs: Beautiful 17.73-acre lot in coveted Creek Road Ranch with access to City water. Ready for Home Building and ample space to have horses or other animals. Gorgeous Hill Country views, native grass pastures, Hardwoods, and Blue Creek that borders the property.	\$1,382,940 MLS: 8575956
COMMERCIAL SALE	
133 Glosson Ranch Rd #C, Dripping Springs: Exceptional commercial property, featuring an expansive 5,000 square foot fully HVAC warehouse and a fully air-conditioned 750 square foot office space fitted with a kitchen and bathroom.	\$1,125,000 MLS: 5101731
133 Glosson Ranch Rd #A, Dripping Springs: 14,000 square feet across two versatile buildings with no zoning restrictions, featuring 6 grade level garage doors and utilities in place, with power, septic, and water connected, move in ready!	\$1,799,000 MLS: 5352313
13127 Fitzhugh Rd, Austin: Unique 4.79-acre unrestricted tract right outside Dripping Springs. Features 4,900+- square feet of improvements which includes 21 beds across three houses, two cabins, and a commercial-grade kitchen/pavilion.	\$1,900,000 MLS: 3926230
720 US 290, Dripping Springs: 2.556-acre development opportunity in the heart of Dripping Springs, Zoned CS. Sold together: 1 Lot - 1.5 Ac. Hwy frontage, 1 Lot - 1.05 Ac. On Sportsplex Drive	\$2,550,000 MLS: 1026523
22601 Ranch Road 12, Dripping Springs: 7.1-acre tract, with 1 6,000+sf Building being built. This property, boasting a prominent frontage on Ranch Road 12, is not only Ag Exempt but also fully entitled and permitted for a massive 42,000 sq.ft. of flex commercial space, primed and ready for construction.	\$2,485,000 MLS: 3298824
COMMERCIAL LEASE	
249 Sportsplex Drive #D, Dripping Springs: 1,795 square foot white box space, the plaza is ready to accommodate your custom build-out with an additional \$25psf tenant improvement allowance. City Utilities and High-Speed Internet available.	\$3,590 MLS: 7929442
249 Sportsplex Drive #E, Dripping Springs: 3,000 square foot shell space, the plaza is ready to accommodate your custom build-out with an additional \$50psf tenant improvement allowance. City Utilities and High-Speed Internet available.	\$6,750 MLS: 1039890
2201 Hwy 290 W Unit B, Dripping Springs: Historical homestead from the 1800's all renovated office/retail/hospitality space. Total leasable square footage includes the +/- 2175/SF farmhouse as well as a +/- 400/SF Garage conversion with HVAC	\$5,150 MLS: 3067282
22601 Ranch Road 12, Dripping Springs: 6,256 square foot warehouse in shell condition, ready for your custom build-out. Water, electricity, and sewer connections are readily available, with tenant improvement allowances negotiable.	\$7,196 MLS: 1814090
Rippy's Warehouse, Dripping Springs: 6,000sqft open warehouse space located behind the old feedstore in downtown Dripping Springs on Wallace Street. Currently in shell space, perfect location for office, retail, or storage space.	\$7,500 MLS: 7385266

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