

Dripping Springs Century News

DSISD Trustee Appointed to Texas School Safety Center Board

Dripping Springs Independent School District Trustee Rob McClelland has been appointed to the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) Board of Directors by Governor Greg Abbott. McClelland will join 16 other members on the board, which meets at least four times annually to oversee the TxSSC's budget and provide recommendations to state leadership on school safety and security. The board reports directly to the governor, the legislature, the State Board of Education, and the Texas Education Agency. In addition to his role as a DSISD trustee, McClelland is the board liaison for the



ROB MCCLELLAN

district's Safety and Security Committee and serves on the Hays County Sheriff's Office Training Advisory Board. Professionally, he works as Director of Business Development at Bauerle Partners, Inc. McClelland brings a wealth of experience to the board, including a 12-year tenure as an Army

SEE MCCLELLAN PAGE 6

City reports 83,200-gallon wastewater spill

Staff Reports

The city of Dripping Springs reported a spill of approximately 83,200 gallons of un-

treated wastewater at the Hays Street Lift Station, located at the south end of Haydon Lane. The incident, discovered on January 3 at 7 a.m., was attributed

to a pump failure in the city's South Regional Wastewater Collection System. The city confirmed that the spill did not impact any waters of

the state and said immediate containment and remediation measures were taken. The pump has been repaired

SEE SPILL PAGE 2

DSHS alum earns National All-America soccer honors

Staff Reports

Dripping Springs High School alum Enrique Alvarez has been named a United Soccer Coaches Second Team All-American following an impressive sophomore season with the Dallas College Richland Thunderducks men's soccer team. Alvarez, a midfielder, played a pivotal role in the Thunderducks' success, tallying seven goals and nine assists for a total of 23 points. His standout performances included a goal and at least one assist in five games, as well as scoring in three consecutive postseason matches. Alvarez also recorded two-assist games twice during the season, showcasing his ability to both score and create opportunities for his teammates. His efforts helped propel the Thunderducks to the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship game. In addition to his



ENRIQUE ALVAREZ

United Soccer Coaches All-America honor, Alvarez was recognized as an NJCAA Division III Second Team All-American and was named to the First Team All-Dallas Athletic Conference. His accolades also include being selected for the United Soccer Coaches All-East Region Team. The United Soccer Coaches organization, founded in 1941 and based in Kansas City, Mo., is the world's largest soccer coaches' association. The group's mission is to inspire and support coaches at all levels of the game, fostering a love for soccer that benefits players and communities alike.

SEE ALVAREZ PAGE 6



Texas Representative Carrie Isaac administers the oath of office to Pct. 4 Constable Dave Graham.

PHOTO BY JANICE ENGLEHART

Graham sworn in as new Pct 4 Constable

John Pacheco Special to the News

Precinct 4 Constable Dave Graham was sworn into office on Wednesday, January 1st, at the Roger Hanks Parkway Pct 4 Offices by the Honorable Carrie Isaac, TX Representative for House District 73.

Also sworn in as Precinct 4 peace officers were- Sergeant Jimmy Zuehlke, Corporal Charles Williams, and Deputies Blaine Ham-

ilton, Juan Zesati, John Pozuc, Zachary Miller, and Tate Puryear. "The Hays County Constable Precinct 4 Office promises to serve all our citizens and visitors with professional law enforcement and integrity," Graham said. "We are committed to making our Dripping Springs communities a safe place to live, raise a family, work and visit. We will accomplish this through community-oriented policing and crime prevention initiatives to ensure the

protection of life and property. I look forward to serving as your next Constable." As officiating official, Isaac said, "What a privilege it was to serve as officiant on New Year's Day at the swearing-in ceremony for Constable Dave Graham and the Deputy Constables of Hays County. I enjoyed meeting with community members and discussing the important role our law enforcement officers play in keeping Hays County

safe. These dedicated public servants have made a solemn commitment to protect and serve, and I'm honored to have been part of this meaningful ceremony. Congratulations to all of them and I thank them for their dedication to our community!" Also present at the ceremony was Dripping Springs City Council Member Geoffrey Tahuahua. In a statement to the Cen-

SEE CONSTABLE PAGE 2



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Five-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High: 36 Low: 30 90% Chance of Precipitation	High: 42 Low: 26 Mostly Cloudy	High: 54 Low: 33 Sunny	High: 55 Low: 32 Mostly Sunny	High: 50 Low: 30 Partly Sunny

PEC shares tips to prepare for cold snap and prevent high bills

Here's what you need to know

With cold temperatures and potential inclement weather in the forecast this week, Pedernales Electric Cooperative has been busy preparing. PEC continues to monitor weather reports closely and is ready to respond. At the same time, PEC is also encouraging members to stay in contact and prepare the following tasks now:

- Sign up for PEC emergency alerts and keep your contact information up to date by calling us at 888-554-4732. Agents are available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

- Prepare your home. Use weather-stripping and caulking to tightly seal windows and doors, especially in any areas where air can enter your home. Keep your faucets on a slow drip to keep pipes from freezing. Catch the dripping water in a clean container, sink, or tub to use if your water system is impacted. If your pipes freeze, turn off the main water supply to prevent further damage.

- Keep your PEC account number handy. You must know this number to report an outage.

- Know how to report an outage. Text the word "outage" to 25022 from the mobile number associated

with your PEC account or call our outage reporting line at 888-883-3379.

- Keep cell phones charged and ready. Remember to also charge portable phone battery banks.

- Build an emergency kit. Be sure to include items like flashlights, batteries, bottled water, non-perishable foods, and blankets. Visit mypec.com/weather-preparation for a complete list of items.

- Develop an emergency plan, including what to do in case of an extended outage. PEC will share information about city and area warming centers if/when they are opened. PEC cannot guarantee uninterrupted or continuous power and strongly encourages all members to have an emergency plan, including backup generation if needed.

To help mitigate high bills this season, PEC also recommends following these tips, especially during the coldest days.

- Set your thermostat to 68 degrees or lower, or as close to 68 degrees as you can tolerate comfortably. Once you establish a temperature, keep your thermostat set there and only increase the setting by one or two degrees at a time, if necessary.

- Avoid auxiliary (AUX) and emergency (EM) heat. These settings use a substantial amount of energy, increasing your energy use and your electric bill.

- Change your air filters monthly and have a certified technician complete yearly maintenance on your system. A faulty HVAC can increase your energy use. Your system needs to breathe so keep all vents open, make sure vents are free from any obstructions like furniture, and keep interior doors open throughout your home.

- Analyze Your Energy Use. Know how much electricity you're using each day with the robust analysis tool on your online account. This dashboard on the Usage Explorer gives you an in-depth look at monthly, daily, and hourly use.

- Understand Your Bill. Each month's bill reflects your usage during the previous month. Even if it seems like the current month's weather has been mild, last month's weather and events will be reflected on this month's bill.

- Explore Our Alternative Rates. We understand no two members are alike, and neither is their energy use. If you can shift when you use energy, you may be able to save with our Time-of-Use Rate. Visit myPEC.com/time-of-use to learn more.

- Schedule an Over-the-Phone Energy Assessment. PEC's energy advisors can help you maximize savings with an over-the-phone energy assessment. Call us at 888-554-4732 to schedule an appointment.

- Find more savings tips at myPEC.com/savings.

CONSTABLE FROM PG. 1



Carrie Isaac also swore in the Precinct 4 peace officers.

PHOTO BY JASON ISAAC



The Graham oath of office at the Pct 4 offices was well attended, and the ceremony was followed by a reception for all those present.

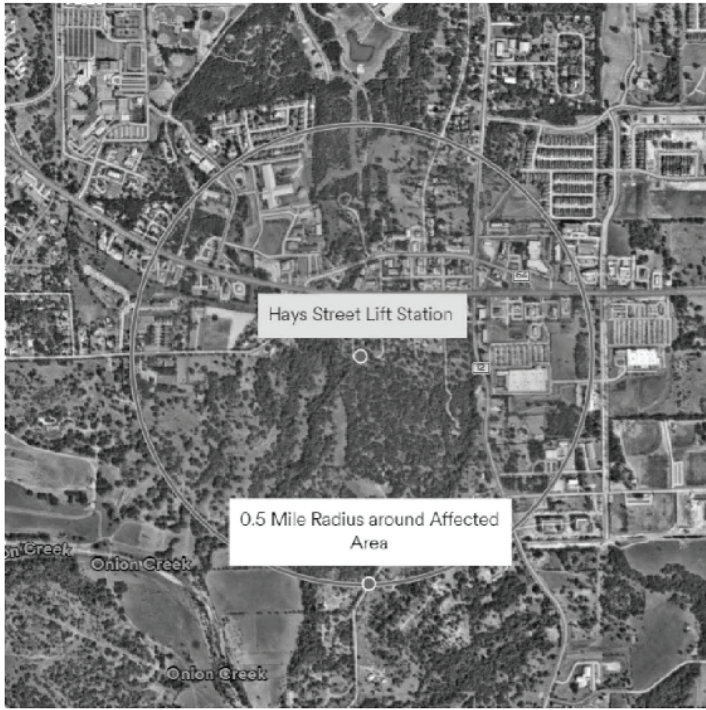
PHOTO BY JANICE ENGLEHART

tury News, Tahuahua said, "The Dripping Springs community is incredibly fortunate to have Dave Graham's leadership and expertise to carry forward the legacy of Ron Hood. I have full confidence that Constable Graham will serve our community with dedication and integrity, and I look forward to

working alongside him to further enhance the safety and well-being of Dripping Springs." The ceremony was followed by a reception for all those present.

SPILL FROM PG. 1

Private drinking wells may be affected within the ½ mile area of the Hays Street Lift Station as denoted in the shaded blue area of the map below:



Dripping Springs is committed to protecting public health and the environment and is working to prevent future occurrences. For media inquiries or for more information on this press release, please contact the Communications Department at communications@cityofdrippingsprings.com. If you believe you are within a half-mile of the site (see map area below), please contact Ginger Faught at 512-619-0072..

and is now operating normally.

Residents within a half-mile radius of the overflow site who use private drinking water wells were advised to boil water or use distilled water for all personal uses including drinking, cooking, bathing and

brushing teeth. The city also recommended that private well users within the half mile radius have their water tested and disinfected if necessary before discontinuing these precautions.

For more information, contact the city of Dripping Springs.

Dripping Springs Century News

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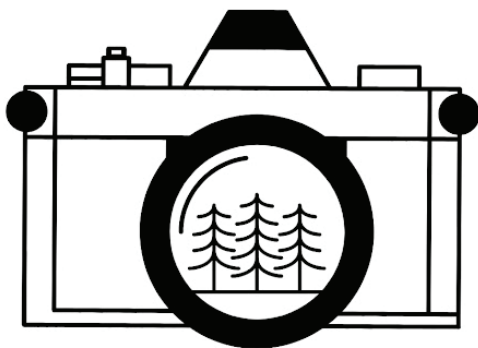
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Finding Your Artistic Inspiration

Joe Christenson
Dripping Springs Art League

The maturation of the art community in Dripping Springs has been remarkable in recent years. Along the way, the commitment of many art gallery operators along with the Dripping Springs Art League have been driving forces for that evolution. In the process, they have also helped to nurture a supportive environment for emerging artists like me where we can discover and develop our artistic inspiration.

As a part time artist, I have always enjoyed discussing my artistic journey with friends or professional acquaintances. I also find it interesting that in those conversations, I frequently hear others enthusiastically proclaim their lack of creative skills or inspiration. “Oh, I don’t have an artistic bone in my body...” But when I think about it, I find it surprising that otherwise capable and talented individuals would so easily dismiss their ability.

That used to describe me; that is, until it didn't.

Creative inspiration, even for those who don’t think they have it in them, is not just possible, it’s probable, if you open yourself up to it and are willing to take a first step. More in a moment about my own experience in taking that first artistic plunge.

The Prodigies

Admittedly, some artists are simply born and presumably were raised in environments that recognized and nurtured their natural abilities from an early age. I think of these artists as the Prodigies. That label is not to imply that their artistic talent is greater or more advanced than all others; only that their ability was evident early on in life and they were able to do something with it. By nature, children are drawn to experimentation, and these creative



minded children were allowed or encouraged to create.

History is chocked full of them in every creative discipline; Picasso, Beethoven to name just a couple of well-known examples. I had the chance years ago at Cleveland’s rock-n-roll hall of fame to read some 2nd grade writings of Jim Morrison, the rock icon of the 60’s. Even at an early age, his creative genius was striking.

The Achievers

Many other creators, while not naturally gifted at birth, per se, advance their artistic skills and talent by simply working hard at it. Through practice, formal education (schools), informal training (apprenticeships) or trial and error, so many artists have found success both commercially and personally out of pure dedication to the work. I like to call these creators the Achievers.

The Experimenters

I fall into a group which I label the Experimenters; meaning artists who happened upon their vocation simply because they tried something. I was in my mid-forties and had just emerged from a long and difficult period for my family. I can recall the moment very clearly. I was at work, not focused whatsoever on my job, when the idea of learn-

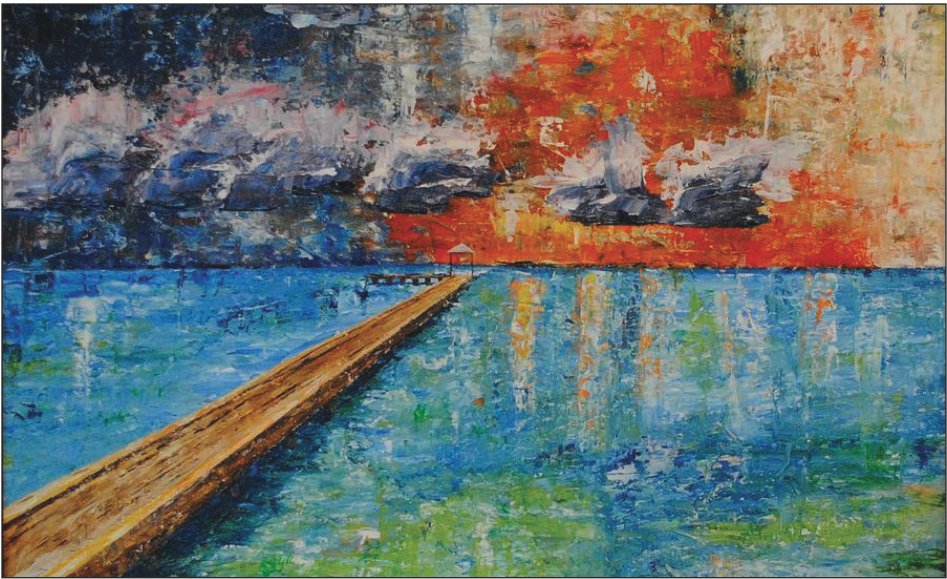
ing to oil paint just popped into my head. Prior to that, I had scarcely ever picked up a brush aside from home improvement projects.

A quick internet search turned up a beginner community education class the following week and I’ve never looked back. Twenty years later, I’m what you might call a Sunday painter, devoting time to art when my work and other commitments allow. The punch line here is that I’m proof that artistic inspiration, on some level, is present in anyone if you are open to it.

Over the past two decades, even with my limited available time for art, I’ve zeroed in on the types of painting projects that both stretch my creative boundaries and bring satisfaction in creating them.

My Message to You

The message for those who have considered pursuing the arts in any discipline but for whatever reason, have dismissed the idea, is to just start! Find a class, as I did, or talk to artists about their experience. Most importantly, don’t allow yourself to get caught thinking about whether your work will meet expectations. Your personal reward won’t be in just the outcome, but as you’ll discover, more so in your own act of creation.



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Public Notice

**WIMBERLEY PARKS &
RECREATION DEPARTMENT
CONCERT & SPECIAL EVENT
PRODUCTION REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS**

The City of Wimberley is requesting proposals for a large concert/special event to be held on May 24, 2025.

A full description of the Request for Proposals (RFPs) and submission requirements can be found on the City's website www.cityofwimberley.com. Deadline for submittal is Monday, January 27, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. RFPs received after this date and time will not be considered. RFPs must be submitted to Richard Shaver, Parks Director by mail or delivered to:

**City of Wimberley
ATTN: Richard Shaver,
Parks Director
221 Stillwater
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Re: Concert & Special Event
Production Proposal**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please email Parks Director, Richard Shaver (rshaver@cityofwimberley.com).

**CITY OF WIMBERLEY
GENERAL ELECTION
SET FOR MAY 2025**

Deadlines, Qualifications and Resources for Candidates Available Online and In Person.

Candidates for the 2025 City of Wimberley General Election may file an application for a place on the ballot starting Wednesday, January 15, 2025. The deadline to file is Friday, February 14, 2025, 5 p.m. Election Day is Saturday, May 3, 2025.

The following positions will be filled in the upcoming general election:

City Council Place One (Rebecca Minnick, Current Office Holder)

City Council Place Three (Chris Sheffield, Current Office Holder)

City Council Place Five (David Cohen, Current Office Holder)

Candidates should note the qualifications for office per Type A, General Law City (Local Government Code, Section 22.032)

Mayor:

Residence - 1 year in state prior to the filing deadline; 1 year in city prior to election day; Age - 18; Must be a registered voter in the county elected from by the filing deadline.

Alderman/City Council Member:

Residence - 1 year in state prior to filing deadline; 6 months in the city prior to filing deadline; Age - 18; Must be a registered voter in the county elected from by the filing deadline.

Election resources, deadlines and forms are available at <https://www.cityofwimberley.com/457/2025-General-Election>

Filers may also get information and documents in person at Wimberley City Hall, 221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas 78676.

Please contact Tammy Heller, City Secretary, at theller@cityofwimberley.com or call 512-648-2403, for more information.

Lost Cat



Missing
black/white
tuxedo cat
named Jude
(chipped)
Missing since
11/27/24
from Howard
Ranch Addi-
tion, Drift-
wood.
\$200 reward
Contact Laura
McEwen (432)
268-3414



Lost Cat

Lost Cat



When local governments make decisions they are required to publish a newspaper notice to let you know. But that could change.

Local governmental entities across the state want to bury their public notices on little seen, rarely visited government websites.

What you don't know will affect you personally!

If it is not in the newspaper, you won't know about it.







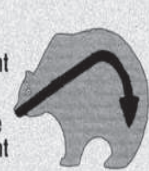
Brad Paisley

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Dripping Springs Century News

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Capital Highlights

Vehicle inspections no longer required



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Drivers will no longer be required to get annual safety inspections beginning Jan. 1, the Texas Standard reported. However, drivers in the state's 17 most populous counties will still be required to get an emissions test in order to register their vehicles.

While mandatory vehicle inspections are going the way of the pay phone and video cassette recorders, drivers will still end up paying a \$7.50 "inspection replacement fee" when registering their vehicle and getting a new windshield sticker.

The emissions test required in urban counties consists of an engine and exhaust test to ensure a vehicle isn't exceeding the state's legal limits on emitting pollutants.

The counties that require emissions test in order to register a vehicle are Brazoria, Collin, Dallas, Ellis, El Paso, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Johnson, Kaufman, Montgomery, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, Travis and Williamson.

Vehicle owners are urged to keep up with maintenance.

"We urge people to still take care of their vehicles, still check your tires, make sure your brakes are working, headlights, tail lights and mirrors are still safe before you drive," Sgt. Billy Ray with the Texas Department of Public Safety said.

LONG-TERM CARE ADVOCATES SAY MORE FUNDING NEEDED

The state's lead ombudsman for residents in long-term care facilities, such as nursing homes, is calling for lawmakers to fund more full-time and part-time positions and make other reforms to a long-term care system that ranks 42nd in the nation for safety and quality, The Texas Tribune reported.

Patty Ducayet, the state ombudsman, works independently from the Texas Health and Human Services Department, which oversees these facilities. She and others

are also urging more volunteers to advocate for residents as well as more state funding to hire additional ombudsman.

"We would be lost in the long-term care community without them (volunteers), but they definitely need more support across the board," said Andrea Earl, the associate state director of advocacy and research for the AARP.

In 2024, the state ombudsman had its highest turnover rate at 255. Ducayet said ideally the state would have one staff member for every 2,000 licensed care facility beds. Right now, the ratio is one person for every 2,514 beds, which would require hiring 22 more full-time employees as well as increasing the volunteer base.

WASTEWATER LEAKS FROM OIL WELLS POSE DANGER

The water that comes up as a by-product of oil and gas fracking is becoming a bigger headache for the state's energy operators and those who regulate them, the Houston Chronicle reported. Most of the "produced" water is injected into disposal wells that carry it into geologic formations for containment.

The extremely salty water — nine times saltier than the ocean — also contains a number of carcinogenic chemicals, such as benzene. The practice of wastewater injection is believed to have caused earthquakes across the state and several environmentally damaging and costly blowouts.

One barrel of Permian crude can also produce as many as eight barrels of tainted water. The industry is working to create a new technology to desalinate the water so it doesn't have to be injected underground and possibly could be reused.

POSTAL SERVICE WARNS OF TEXTING SCAM

Christmas is over, but that doesn't mean scammers have taken a holiday. Officials with the U.S. Postal Service are warning about a scam being sent by text messages, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The scam consists of text messages being sent to cell phone owners that claims a USPS package can't be delivered because of missing information.

A link is included in the message. Clicking on the link can expose the user's personal information.

"The criminals want to receive personally identifiable information such as: account usernames and passwords, Social Security Number, date of birth, credit and debit card numbers, personal identification numbers, or other sensitive information," the news release says.

Postal customers are urged to go to the official USPS page to determine the status of a package: usps.com/sms-tracking.

TEXAS NOW HOME TO MORE THAN 31 MILLION

The Lone Star State added nearly 563,000 residents in the last year, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The Tribune reported the state's growth has slowed, though the 1.8 percent growth rate is still the third highest in the country, behind Florida and the District of Columbia.

Roughly 40% of the state's new residents came from net international migration, with 319,569 new residents from abroad, the Census Bureau said. Texas still led the country in migration from other states, adding 85,267 people in the last year who moved here from another state.

The slowing of domestic migration means Texas will likely rely on international migration to meet the labor needs of a booming state economy, according to Lloyd Potter, the state demographer.

"With a growing economy, we have a growing demand for labor," Potter said. "And if we're seeing a decline in domestic migration, well, that labor probably is going to need to come from immigrants."

TAKE A HIKE IN STATE PARK TO KICK OFF NEW YEAR

The state park system is once again hosting First Day hikes on New Year's Day, Texas Parks & Wildlife reported. Last year, Texas state parks hosted 177 events in which 8,729 people hiked, biked, swam and paddled a record 17,284 miles, according to TPWD.

"One of the many reasons that I love Texas is the nice weather that we can have even in the winter, and there is no better way to spend a beautiful winter day than walking with friends and family at a Texas State Park," said Rodney Franklin, director of Texas State Parks.

The agency strongly encourages anyone planning to visit a Texas state park to reserve a day pass in advance, since some parks could reach capacity. You can do so at <https://texas-stateparks.reserveamerica.com/> at 512-389-8900.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS ON JAN. 14

The 89th Texas legislative session begins on Jan. 14 with a still-unresolved race for speaker of the Texas House of Representatives.

State Reps. David Cook, R-Mansfield and Dustin Burrows, R-Lubbock, are considered the frontrunners for speaker, but speculation continues as to whether other candidates will throw their hats into the ring.

The Republican caucus is split between those who oppose appointing any Democrat to chair a House committee and those who contend it's essential to work across the aisle to get the state's business done in a biennial five-month session. Historically, a few chairmanships have gone to members of the minority party.

In the wake of the November elections, the makeup of the 150-member Texas House is 87 Republicans and 63 Democrats.

School vouchers will again be on the legislative plate since they are a top priority for Gov. Greg Abbott. His efforts to pass what are also called Education Savings Accounts failed numerous attempts in 2023, including several special sessions.

Legislative watchers predict more bills aimed at property tax relief but geared more toward business owners, since those passed in the 2023 session were primarily aimed at homeowners.

Another issue that Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has prioritized is banning the sale of all THC products in Texas. Since the state legalized the growth of hemp, some stores have begun selling products containing previously illegal levels of THC, the compound that gives marijuana its "high."

GOP BILLS SEEK TO REGULATE WIND, SOLAR AND BATTERY POWER PROJECTS

Several Republican lawmakers have filed bills to increase government oversight over renewable energy projects, The Dallas Morning News reported. Proposals include requiring property buffers be-

tween the projects and neighboring properties. Another bill would require environmental fees and studies for any new renewable projects.

The News reported that wind, solar and batteries account for about 46% of electric generation capacity for the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which controls nearly all of the state's power grid.

"Currently, renewable energy facilities do not have statewide guidelines for permitting and decommissioning, leading to variations in how the installations are installed," said state Rep. Jared Patterson, R-Frisco and sponsor of one of the bills.

FBI PROBES REPORTED THREATS AGAINST SPACEX

The FBI is investigating reported threats made against SpaceX's Starbase Facility near Brownsville, the San Antonio Express-News reported. The bureau's San Antonio office confirmed that it is investigating "possible bomb threats in South Texas in recent weeks."

"While we are working to carefully vet and investigate the information we have received, we want to reiterate that the safety and security of the American people is the FBI's highest concern," the bureau said in a statement late last week.

A frequent camper near the launch site reported five male passengers in a vehicle talked of blowing up a SpaceX space vehicle.

The probe comes as the company is working toward a planned test flight on Jan. 10 of its second-generation Starship.

The company has come under fire in recent months for its environmental record. Several Rio Grande Valley groups have sued the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for allowing SpaceX to discharge wastewater from its launch platform without a permit.

TEXAS LOSING ITS CLOUT IN CONGRESS THIS SESSION

There are fewer Texans in leadership in Congress in the session that just began, largely because of retirements of several GOP members, the Houston Chronicle reported.

U.S. Rep. Kay Granger, R-Fort Worth, who led the powerful Appropriations Committee, and U.S. Rep. Michael Burgess, R-Pilot Point, who led the Rules Committee and was the second-ranked Republican on the Commerce Committee, both retired from Congress this year.

Eighteen of the 25 Texas Republicans in the House have been there for three full terms or fewer. Another incumbent, Michael McCaul, R-Austin, is no longer heading the House Foreign Affairs Committee because of term limits.

STATE STARTS 2025 WITH 2.9 MILLION BUSINESS ENTITIES

Texas rang in the New Year with more than 2.9 million business entities actively registered with the secretary of state's office to conduct business here. That is up more than 125,000 from a year ago, according to Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson.

"The economic climate in Texas continues to be strong as entrepreneurs grow and create businesses in our state and more out-of-state entities want to expand to Texas," Nelson said.

That number includes both businesses incorporated in Texas and out-of-state companies conducting business here.

STATE'S CITRUS INDUSTRY ON THE BRINK OF DISASTER

The state's citrus industry is reeling after a pair of natural disasters — the deadly winter storm of February 2021 and a severe drought, The Texas Tribune reported. Nearly four years after that winter storm, production levels have not recovered.

The state's citrus industry is located entirely in the Valley and has an economic impact of more than \$300 million annually.

"We are not a large physical footprint anymore, but we still pack enough economic punch," said Dale Murden, president of Texas Citrus Mutual, a non-profit trade association that represents the interests of commercial citrus growers.

Farmers in the Valley largely depend on surface water from the Rio Grande. A mature citrus tree needs between 40 and 50 inches of water a year, according to the Texas A&M Agrilife Research Center. About half of that amount must be supplied by irrigation. Drought conditions and Mexico falling behind on delivering water under a 1944 treaty are blamed for the drop in citrus production.

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

MCCLELLAN FROM PG. 1

officer, during which he earned the Bronze Star, the Combat Action Badge, and the Presidential Service Badge.

His appointment

reflects his ongoing commitment to enhancing school safety in Dripping Springs and across the state.

ALVAREZ FROM PG. 1

Alvarez's achievements reflect his dedication to the sport and his continued growth as an athlete, bring-

ing pride to Dripping Springs and serving as an inspiration for young soccer players in the area.



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PETS OF THE WEEK

Featuring local furry friends eligible for adoption & looking for loving homes!

Andi • Male
12 years old
Lhasa Apso mix



People say I'm a pretty chill dog who loves relaxing on the couch next to you, especially if there's a small set of stairs for me to use. I'm not into being picked up, but I'm super good at walking on a leash and would be perfect for apartment living. I get along with other dogs by just doing my own thing. One of my favorite things is going for car rides. I love watching the world zoom past. I might not be the dog for someone who wants a lap pet, but if you need a buddy for lounging and enjoying life, I'm your guy. I do have this one little quirk where I get super excited for dinner time - it's the highlight of my day! If you're looking for a cool, independent dog like me, I'm ready to be your foster or forever friend.

Baxter • Male
3 years old
Rat Terrier mix



I'm a super happy boy who loves people and gets along great with most other pups, though I'm a little shy around bigger dogs I don't know. I adore my humans, always craving their attention and love to tag along wherever they go. I'm house-trained, good in cars, and enjoy gentle walks to keep my legs strong - they're a bit wobbly, so I'm not your typical energetic young dog. I'm all vaccinated and heartworm-free, ready for a forever home with maybe just one or two small dog friends. I'd be perfect for a first-time dog owner or in an apartment, promising lots of love and loyalty. Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.

Jameson • Male
11 Months
Cattle Dog



After being dumped at just a few months old, Jameson made his way to the PAWs Dripping Springs campus. Despite being super sweet, it was clear that he was under socialized and very shy. Since coming to PAWs, the staff and volunteers have worked with him, helping to build his trust. And although he still remains very shy, he has made progress. Jameson is currently in a foster home enjoying a litter shelter break. Here is what his foster has to say about this good boy: Fully potty trained and knows how to use the doggy door. Not a fan of fireworks. Very smart! Knows sit, lay down and place. Treat motivated making him easy to train. Does great with other dogs! Another dog in the home would do wonders for his confidence! Older children preferred (younger kiddos may not understand and be a bit too rowdy for him). Can live with cats (he does not approach them!). Does well when people sit and let him come to them as he likes his space respected. His ideal home would be one that understands and loves him for who he is. One that understands his timidity and can be patient with him, giving him the time he needs to come out of his shell. Jameson has been with us for almost 200 days now and is almost 11 months old. He has practically grown up in the shelter and we would love to see him find his loving home before his first birthday! Adopt him today: pawshelter.org.

Universal Crossword

1/5

THEMELESS SUNDAY 116 by Amie Walker

ACROSS

- 1 "Forgot 2 mention ..."
4 "No Scrubs" group
7 Apt anagram of "silent"
13 " ____ we cool?"
14 "Quiet!"
15 Make possible
16 Get along (with)
17 "No regrets on my end"
19 Skip, as a syllable
21 Old AOL correspondences
22 Sephora rival
23 One of two at some weddings
24 Sign of healing
25 Weird ____ Yankovic (punny beer name)

- 26 "Award" a parent might sarcastically give herself after a mishap
29 Winter coat material
30 Lip balm brand or dawn deity
31 River hidden in "clover honey"
34 "Rugrats" dad
35 "Just ____ us, do you remember it all too well?" (Taylor Swift lyric)
37 "I'll take that as ____"
39 Ship's rear
41 Clean Air Act org.
42 Iowa State's city
43 Outdoor fans?
46 Wednesday Addams'

- cousin
48 "Understood"
49 Outback canine
50 Disney villain who sings "Be Prepared"
51 President pro ____
52 Time for self-care
53 Cabs can come out of them
56 Melinda Gates' deg.
58 Sea bordering Greece
59 What statisticians study
60 Organ with a lobe
61 Secret meetings
62 Chapter in history
63 ____ Lanka

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

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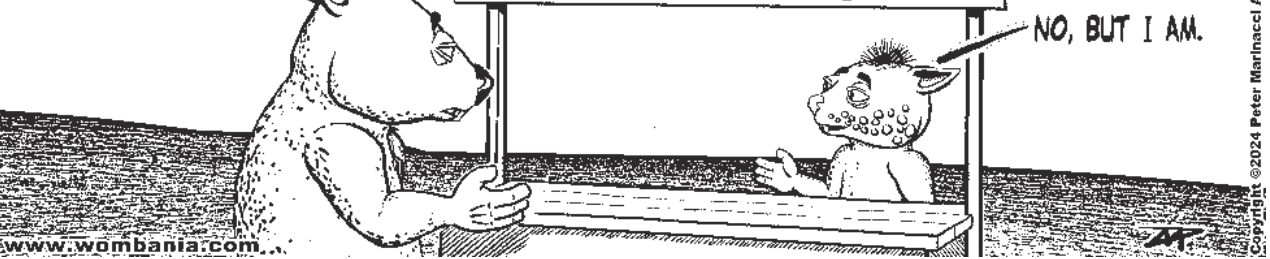
DOWN

- 1 M&M's package
2 Underground network?
3 "And that's my cue to leave"
4 Sass, informally
5 Trippy drug
6 "Yep ... that definitely just happened"
7 "Please don't sugarcoat it"
8 Chef Garten
9 Cactus on an Arizona license plate
10 Little League precursor
11 First-rate
12 "99 Luftballons" band
14 HDTV part, for short?
18 "Still deciding"
20 Personal hero

- 23 Fancy German cars
24 Attempt
27 Animated superhero series
28 "Agatha All Along" star Ali
32 Be a snitch
33 Common hiking snack
35 Nursing ____
36 Olympic sword
38 Bone, in Italian
40 Main courses
42 Enthusiastic
44 Consumer
45 Ukrainian port city
46 More frosty
47 Like some kombucha
50 Hit, as a fly
52 Self-referential
54 Animal with a righting reflex
55 Not even close!
57 "Wicked" star Grande, to fans

WOMBANIA™

I GAVE YOU ALL MY MONEY LAST WEEK, BUT I'M STILL NOT ANY WEALTHIER.



"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
Jan 8 & 15 •

3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Dripping Springs Farmer's Market will be held at Dripping Springs Ranch Park on Wednesday, Jan 8 and 15. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Chamber Coffee Connector

Jan 8 • 8:15 a.m.

Morning Business Networking for Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce members! Please bring plenty of business cards to share. Non-member guests may attend with a current member in good standing once before joining. Email info@dstxchamber.com for more information. Sponsored by Next Level Urgent Care. Hosted by Garbo's. 136 Drifting Wind Run Ste. 101 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Big Tex Gun Show

Jan 11 & 12 •

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Big Tex Gun Show will take place on Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. If you are under the age of 21 you must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This is a family event- appropriate attire is required. No profanity on clothing. We reserve the right to refuse entry to anyone. \$10 dollar per person. Free admission for uniformed officers and children under 12. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping

Springs, TX 78620

Hays County Livestock Horse Show
Jan 11 • 8:45 a.m.

The Hays County Livestock Show kicks off with the presentation of the Queen's Court, ambassadors and scholarships at 8:45 a.m. on Jan. 11 followed at 9 a.m. by the Horse Show. There will be English, Western, Stock Horse and Speed competitions. For more information, visit hayscountylivestockshow.org. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Kids Book Swap & Free Coffee/Tea for Adults

Jan 11 • 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Green Sprout Hub is hosting a fun-filled day of swapping old books for new adventures. Kids can bring gently used books to trade with others while adults can enjoy complimentary coffee as they brows. For more information, visit greensprouthub.com. 14735 Fitzhugh Road • Austin, TX 78736

Pound House Farmstead Open Hours

Jan 13 •

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The historic farmstead offers tours on Mondays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Groups larger than 10, please call ahead. Suggested donation of \$5 per person • 419-B Founders Park Rd • Dripping Springs, TX 78620 • phf-museum.org

Parks & Rec Open Space Master Plan Open House

Jan 16 • 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The city of Dripping Springs Parks and Recreation Department is hosting an open house to recieve input on the Parks, Recreation & Opens Space Master Plan on the future of the city's park system. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Drip Skateboarding Skate Night

Skate Night will be held at DSRP Vendor Hall on Jan. 16 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • 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 options and meeting packets at: cityofdrippingsprings.com. Meetings are held at City Hall Council Chambers • 511 Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

Dec. 13 • 4 p.m.
TIRZ No. 1 & No. 2 Board

Dec. 13 • 6:30 p.m.
Founders Day Commission

Dec. 15 • 6 p.m.
Parks & Recreation Commission

Dec. 16 • 10 a.m.
Farmers Market Committee

Dec. 16 • 12 p.m.
Emergency Management Committee

Dec. 15 • 4 p.m.
Utility Commission

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting
January 21 • 9 a.m.

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

DRIPPING SPRINGS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dripping Springs Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting
January 21 • 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.

SPORTS

Tigers are taking charge in district basketball

Carl Waits
Sports Writer

The holidays treated the Tigers very well in basketball. After a 5-day UIL mandated non-practice period Dripping Springs managed to play in a tourney and two district games. Early going in district shows the opponents to be weaker than normal. After three games only the Tigers and Westlake are undefeated. Otherwise there will be a big battle for the rest of the playoff berths.

For instance, for the past decades Lake Travis has been a painful thorn in our sides with mostly close losses. Presently they are 0-3 in district. The Tigers are playing well, getting solid play from their entire squad. Judson Loe and Rushton Budge have been the stable scorers and others coming as the supporting cast. The Tigers traveled to LT and got what they expected. A close game with the bonus of a 59-54 victory.

A couple of nights later DS hosted the Del Valle Cardinals. DV had a few acrobatic athletes but could not turn them into scores. There are no beauty points in basketball. The Tigers kept the pressure throughout



Rushton Budge scored 16 points against Del Valley.

PHOTO BY RONNIE ADAIR

the game and took a 10 -point early only and did not let it get much closer. It was 20-10 after one. A dry second quarter left it 25-20 at the half. After three it was 44-35 and ended 60-44. The big one will be Friday night when the Tigers host Westlake at Tiger Gym. It should reveal the dog in fight. The Tigers are 15-9 and Westlake 16-6 with nine games left.

During the holidays the Tigers entered the Hays Classic which has been a staple for many years. The Tigers lost to Antonian Prep 67-48 and Veteran Memorial 52-47 before rebounding to win versus Deer Park 61-50 and Hays High 56-31.

Scoring vs LT: Budge 22, Loe 18, Grant Reagan 7, Stone Patterson 7, Brady Coleman 2, Brayden Spencer 3.

Vs DV: Loe 26, Budge 16, Spencer 6, Reagan 5, Patterson 4, Grant Gillum 2, Coleman 2.

Vs AP: Loe 11, Budge 7, Reagan 6, Coleman 5, Spencer 5, David Adair 3, Ryan Shinn 3, Isaac Terry 3, Brandon Froidcoeur 2,Liam Lawson 2, Gil-lum 1.

Vs VM: Loe 27, Spencer 6, Budge 5, Reagan 5, Patterson 4.

Vs DP: Reagan 18, Budge 17, Loe 17, Pat-erson 4, Coleman 4.

Vs Hays: Loe 29, Budge 9, Lawson 6, Spencer 4, Terry 3, Reagan 3, Patterson 2.

Lady Tigers still playing hard

Carl Waits
Sports Writer

When a team is not coming out on top of the win-loss battle one can usually see the team begin to lose interest. Not the Lady Tigers. Despite a 1-4 district record, they have continued to give it their all. They just need to have a couple of consistent scorers to go with Rain Col-lins and a few more wins could be com-ing their way. Oth-erwise Coach Batson has the team giving great energy and play-ing hard to the end of the games. The Lady Tigers took on Bowie scoring enough points to win many games but instead fell short in a 63-57 loss. They found Lake Travis to have a full stable of tall and athletic play-ers. They just were not at the same level of tal-ent and lost it 56-19.

Scoring vs Bowie: Collins 23, Ainsley Coleman 9, Harper Teague 7, Abigail Rob-inson 6, Bailey Rogers 6, Caitlyn Lightfoot



Rain Collins head the way versus Bowie scoring 23 points.

PHOTO BY RONNIE ADAIR

3, Ella Beatty 2. Coleman 5, Beatty 4,
Vs LT: Collins 8, Katie Newman 2.

DS Wrestlers shine at Iron Tigers meet

Carl Waits
Sports Writer

The Dripping Springs wrestling team hosted their own special tourney in mid-December. It had a slightly dif-ferent format in the boys division. Instead, the varsity held a dual tourney which meant school vs school in all divisions. The girls competed in a regu-lar bracket method in their individual weight division.Both boys and girls won their tourna-ments.

Boys results: DS defeated every school they matched up with. Lake Travis #2 76-6;

Westlake 81-0; Ander-son 84-0; Keller 56-18; Vandegrift 51-12.

DS boys results: 106: Wesley Hatcher 2-3; 117: Isaac Queve-da 4-1; 120: Jackson Shipley 5-0; 126: Cole Sides 5-0; 132: Charlie Lundin 5-0; 138: Abel Silverman 5-0; 144: Tucker Lundin 5-0; 150: Drew Clarno 4-1; 157: Gabe Morelas 5-0; 165: Noah Wil-liams 5-0; 175: Caleb Collins 5-0; 190: Dan-iel Krauss 5-0; 215: Mikkel Bushee 5-0; 285: Davis Tejada 3-2.

Girls results: DS 137, Georgetown 122, Killeen Ellison 79, Comal Canyon 78, Temple 75.5.

DS Girls results:

107: Evelina Cardinal 3-2 5th; 107: Makay-la Cothron 2-2 9th; 107: Leah Legorreta 2-2 4th; 114 Yessica Fuentes-Martinez 0-3; 120: Brandilynne Lo-bash 4-1 3rd; 120: Elsa Dulaney 3-2 2nd; 120: Audrey Nielson; 126: Lucy Clarno 4-0 1st; 126: Jayden Sanchez 2-2 3rd; 132: Grace-lyn Prehar 0-4 5th; 138: Leslie Flores 1-3 4th; 138: Estrella Rios Galindo 3-1 3rd; 138: Ella Cruz 2-3 6th; 138: Audrey Orr 3-2 2nd; 138: Hania Yeargan 2-2 5th; 145: Rasanie Ly 3-2 4th; 165: Amy Ellis 2-2 3rd; 185: Kinsey Bllote 1-1 2nd; 285: Layla Drum-mond 1st.

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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	\$3,950,500 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.	\$6,000 MLS: 7385266

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