



UNLEASH YOUR
CREATIVITY IN
2025
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DRIP
SKATEBOARDING
SKATE NIGHT
PAGE 3



LADY TIGERS
TRIUMPH OVER
AKINS 73-27
PAGE 8

Dripping Springs Century News

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Economic Outlook shows local economy still strong



Luis Torres, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas - San Antonio senior business economist, discussed the Texas economy, saying that it is slowing down from last year but still strong.
CENTURY NEWS PHOTO BY SHANNON WEST

Shannon West
San Marcos Daily Record

Though Texas and local economies have slowed a bit from a year ago, they are still booming. The Hays Caldwell Economic Development Partnership hosted its annual Economic Outlook to

bring together local leaders to discuss the factors at play and ways to bolster local industries. Texas State University President Kelly Damphousse gave the opening remarks, and the keynote speaker for the evening was Luis Torres, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas - San Antonio senior busi-

ness economist. There was a panel discussion moderated by Mike Kamerlander, HCEDP president and CEO, that included Aaron Demerson, the Texas Economic Development Corporation president and CEO, Gabriela Perdichizzi, the Texas Association of Business govern-

ment and external relations vice president, and Tony Bennett, Texas Association of Manufacturers president and CEO.

Damphousse said the Economic Outlook gets at the heart of exactly what TXST aims to do — shape the re-

SEE ECONOMY PAGE 5

DSHS theater ready to tear up this town with its production of ‘Footloose’ musical

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

After this week’s cold snap, there will be a sizzle in the air as Dripping Springs High School ignites the stage with their production of the musical “Footloose.” The show, based on the iconic 1984 movie, opens Thursday, Jan. 23 and runs through Monday, Jan. 27. It features plenty of dancing and singing, but it also tackles some darker themes, such as grief and domestic violence. It fol-



During rehearsal, junior Dylan Daniels (as Ren McCormack) leads the cast in the dance to the musical’s title song, “Footloose.”
CENTURY NEWS PHOTOS BY LAURIE ANDERSON

Open house gives residents a voice on parks master plan

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

Community members got a chance to provide input on the new Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan for Dripping Springs at an open house on Jan. 17. The event, which was held at Dripping

Springs Ranch Park, featured large charts outlining various potential features for the current park properties. Participants were asked to place stickers in the grids to indicate their preferences for improvements. “I’m glad to see the city inviting residents

SEE PARKS PAGE 5



Dripping Springs woke up to a bit of snow on Tuesday. While snowfall totals weren’t available as of the time of press, it appears half an inch to an inch of snow fell overnight across the area.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Jacob’s Well before severe drought, high summer temperatures and increased groundwater pumping from the Trinity Aquifer dried it up.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION.

Critical Jacob’s Well recharge zone secured

Teresa Kendrick
Wimberley View

David Baker, The Watershed Association executive director, confirmed on Monday that Hays County has purchased the Karst Canyon Preserve through the county’s Parks and Open Space Bond. Due to finalize this week, the purchase more than doubles the size of the Jacob’s Well Natural Area. A conservation easement to be held by The Nature Conservancy further protects the area.

“This is a crucial investment in our region’s water future through an innovative public-private partnership,” Baker wrote in a recent announcement. “With Hays County’s population projected to grow by 464% by 2050, and through the combined efforts of Hays County’s purchase, The Nature Conservancy’s oversight and our continued management, we can ensure these critical recharge zones remain protected for generations to come.”

SEE WELL PAGE 8



6 0 4 8 7 9 1 4 0 4 2 6 2

Four-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High: 52 Low: 28 Sunny	High: 58 Low: 39 Sunny	High: 63 Low: 49 Mostly Cloudy	High: 65 Low: 42 Mostly Cloudy

Capital Highlights

Water board deems Marvin Nichols Reservoir ‘feasible’



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

The Texas Water Development Board recently reported to Gov. Greg Abbott that a controversial reservoir project in Northeast Texas could be finished and operating within the next 25 years, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The Marvin Nichols Reservoir has been on the drawing board for decades to be built in the Sulphur River Basin, which includes parts of Franklin, Red River and Titus counties. The water would go to 213 water user groups in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Landowners in the affected areas have long opposed the reservoir's construction since they would lose valuable farm and timber land. The reservoir has pitted two regional water groups against each other. Region C, which

represents the Metroplex area, is in favor of its construction while Region D officials, representing the reservoir's proposed site,, as well as more than a dozen environmental groups oppose the reservoir.

The News reported that the official recommendation of a reservoir project in no way guarantees its construction. The permitting process at the state and federal levels likely will take decades. Cost to build the 66,000-acre lake is now estimated at more than \$7 billion.

Abbott floats notion of buying water from Houston for West Texas

Abbott and Houston Mayor John Whitmire reportedly have been in initial talks to sell the city's "excess" water to West Texas, the Houston Chronicle reported.

Whitmire, a longtime state senator before being elected mayor, told the Chronicle that he was open to the idea if it means the city can get much-needed infrastructure funding, calling it potentially a "win-win."

Cities and businesses operating in the Permian Basin are calling for more access to water as their aquifers

run low after decades of unrestricted drilling. However, a recent State Water Plan predicts the 15-county region that includes Houston could itself run short of water for municipal needs by 2030.

Whitmire said the city could build new reservoirs to hold water sold to the state in exchange for funding to fix its crumbling infrastructure.

The city needs about \$15 billion just to fix its water pipes and build a new water purification plant. Houston has lost 36 billion gallons of water in the past two years — enough to supply the entire city of Fort Worth, with 900,000 people, with water for a year.

HEGAR RELEASES BIENNIAL REVENUE FORECAST

The Texas Legislature begins its work creating a state budget for the next two years with slightly less revenue available than it had during the previous biennium.

Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar projects lawmakers will have \$194.6 billion available during the 2026-27 budget cycle, down 1.1%. Hegar said the decrease is because the state is starting with a beginning balance that is nearly \$16 billion less compared to 2024-25.

He noted the state is in good financial shape and predicts revenue

collections will continue to rise in the upcoming biennium.

"Thoughtful consideration of spending decisions, as always, will be crucial to ensure new and existing investments can be funded in the future — and that these investments focus on improving the lives of Texans," Hegar said.

Sales tax collections continue to make up the state's largest source of general fund revenue at 61%, followed distantly by oil and gas tax collections.

INVESTOR TIED TO PAXTON IMPEACHMENT PLEADS GUILTY

Austin real estate investor Nate Paul pleaded guilty last week to a single federal count of making false statements to a financial institution, the Austin American-Statesman reported. All other charges were dropped. Paul faces up to six months in prison under the plea deal.

Paul, a major contributor to Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton's campaigns, was the focus of a federal investigation. Allegations that Paxton improperly used his office to help Paul thwart the probes led to the attorney general's impeachment in the House in 2023 on 20 counts of improperly accepting gifts and favors from the developer. Paxton was acquitted in the Texas Senate.

Investigators said Paul underreported his total

debt and overreported his cash on hand in order to obtain loans to buy commercial properties.

FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURY REPORT RELEASED

A total of 564 workers died on the job in 2023, according to the Texas Department of Insurance's annual report, down slightly from the previous year. Most of the fatalities occurred in the private sector — 93%.

The trade, transportation, and utilities industry, both private and public sector, reported the most fatalities at 183. During the same period 126 construction workers died on the job.

The number of worker fatalities has not changed markedly in the past five years, according to TDI.

TEXAS FIREFIGHTERS DEPLOYED TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Texas Division of Emergency Management and Texas A&M Forest Service have deployed firefighters, emergency management and medical personnel, fire engines, and equipment to assist with wildfire response efforts in California.

More than 135 firefighters and other emergency personnel, as well as more than 45 fire engines, ambulances, command vehicles, and equipment, have been sent to California.

"I thank all the brave firefighters and first responders who are answering the call to help Californians in need as

these fires continue to burn," Abbott said.

AIR IN 12 COUNTIES EXCEEDED FEDERAL SOOT STANDARDS

A dozen Texas counties have recently exceeded federal air quality standards for particulate matter, also called soot, The Texas Tribune reported.

However, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is recommending that eight of those counties be excluded from stricter federal pollution rules because of either faulty air monitoring data or "exceptional events," such as wildfires and dust storms.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency last year cut the permitted level of particulate matter from 12 to 9 micrograms per cubic meter annually. It is considered the deadliest form of air pollution.

TCEQ has proposed that four counties — Dallas, Harris, Tarrant, and Bowie — be declared out of attainment. The other eight counties that exceed the new limit would be allowed to avoid the tougher standards. Those are Travis, Montgomery, Kleberg, Harrison, Ellis, Webb, Hidalgo and Cameron counties.

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: gbborders@texaspress.com

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ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY IN 2025

Steve Friedman
Special to the News

Art is such an integral part of our lives:

- Art beautifies the normal.
- Art sparks our creativity.
- Art provides a reflective space for day-dreaming and problem-solving.
- Art provides connection to our hometown and fellow artists.

The Dripping Springs Art League is excited to share our new 2025 art program. We hope you will join over 150 of your friends and neighbors to explore your art interests, find new friends with similar interests and perhaps share your art with the community through exhibits and markets in 2025.

Adult Socials & Family Art

Our bedrock monthly programs return, including Member Socials, Create & Connects, and Family & Teen Art. Each is free to members and provides adults and kids with the opportunity to meet, share, and create!

Community Art

2025 will also include the return of our Art Lounge at Dripping Springs' October Songwriters Festival and another round of



The DSAL Leadership Team (L-R): Celeste Smith, Steve Friedman, Starlia Phillips, Amy Nelipovich, Jenny Swannack, Allison Buckner, Gretchen Edelman, Tiffany Sierras, Jennifer Friedman, Alison Cairns.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



DSAL's Monthly Member Social.



Art Market at the Triangle.

vibrant, inspiring Stars created by our members and permanently displayed around town.

New in 2025

We are excited to highlight four premier events:

- Lamp Post Banners on Mercer Street: Artist designs will hail from the Mercer Street lamp posts throughout May, celebrating Dripping

Springs' summer fun spots.

- Art Scholarship Gallery & Awards: The DSAL is proud to award a college scholarship to a graduating high school senior pursuing the arts.
- Art Tank: DSAL will host a Shark Tank-style event on April 10th in which artists and clubs will pitch for funds to support



Erin Hounsels presenting her star at the Stroll the Stars event.



DSAL's Songwriters Festival Committee.



DSAL's Woo Woo Club Workshop.

their journey—classes, supplies, equipment, residency and more. Thousands of dollars will be awarded that evening.

- West of Weird Art Tour: DSAL is coordinating a local gallery and home studio tour for the weekend of May 17-18. What a fabulous way to peruse beautiful art and visit with the artists who create them.

Markets & Exhibits

The Art League hosted five art markets in 2024. Over half of the booths included first-time marketers. All enjoyed the interaction with the public and all sold hundreds of dollars at each event. So we heard the plea for more markets in 2025. In addition to three markets at local breweries, we are also

partnering with the City to host the Art Market at the Triangle (290 & RR12) on the second Saturday of each month (March-May and October-December). Join us with a booth (tips and training available) or just mark your calendar for a fun day out.

The DSAL will also present art exhibits and receptions at the Dripping Springs Chamber, Art Direct's Cedar Park Gallery and lots more.

Join Us!

The Dripping Springs Art League is dedicated to providing an abundance of programs free to our members. You can learn more and subscribe to our newsletter of events on our website, artindripping.com.

Everyone is welcome to meet fellow artists and learn more about the DSAL at our upcoming monthly Member Socials, January 22nd at 9am and February 19th at 6pm. Register on our website.

Twelve-month membership remains one of Drippings' best bargains—only \$35 for individuals or \$65 for families and businesses in 2025.

We want to support your own art journey. We hope to see you in 2025!

Drip Skateboarding Skate Night



Dennis Baldwin, one of the leaders of Drip Skateboarding, joins in the fun at Skate Night. The group is focused on building community through skateboarding. Even though they have finally reached their goal of opening the Dorian Zev Kwellier Memorial Skatepark, the group still likes to keep up the tradition of their weekly skate nights at Dripping Springs Ranch Park, which have been ongoing since 2018.

PHOTO BY GRAM BENDALL, DSHS FRESHMAN



At the Drip Skateboarding Skate Night on Jan. 17, Zain Khan, sophomore at Austin Community College, executes a jump.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON



Texas State sophomore Olivia Doran practices a trick.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

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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
791 Cattle Trail Dr, Dripping Springs: Stunning 6.76-acre residential tract in the Texas Hill Country offers the perfect balance of privacy and convenience, located just 15 minutes from Austin. Breathtaking hilltop views and wet weather creek below.	\$1,495,000 MLS: 4565989
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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Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mark Christopher Wood, Deceased, were issued on January 13, 2025 in Cause No. 24-0465-P pending in the County Court at Law of Hays County, Texas to Melinda Sasarak and Rachel Baker, as Independent Executor of said Estate. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them to said Executor by sending notice to Melinda Sasarak and Rachel Baker, in care of Patrick G. Rehmet, P.O. Box 1916, Wimberley, Texas 78676 within the time and in the manner prescribed by Law.

Dated the 14th day of January 2025

Patrick G. Rehmet, Attorney for Melinda Sasarak and Rachel Baker

State Bar No: 16738800
P.O. Box 1916
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Tele: 512-395-7320
E-mail: "prehmet@austin.rr.com"

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CITY OF WOODCREEK, TEXAS**

The City of Woodcreek plans to apply for Regional Mitigation Program Council of Governments Method of Distribution (COG-MOD) Resilient Community Program (RCP) from the Texas General Land Office (GLO) and is soliciting proposals to provide administration and/or planning services for CDBG contract(s), if awarded please electronically submit your proposal in .pdf format via email to Jeff Rasco, Mayor at jeff.rasco@woodcreektx.gov. Proposals must be received by the City no later than 4:00p.m. on February 28, 2025 to be considered. The City reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit proposals and may award one or more contracts to one or more service provider(s). Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area firms are encouraged to submit proposals. The City of Woodcreek is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer. Servicios de traducción están disponibles por petición.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SCOPE OF WORK: The City of Dripping Springs, Texas will accept competitive sealed proposals for construction of the City of Dripping Springs South Regional Wastewater System Howard Ranch Treated Effluent Fill Station. The Project will include installing a 2" CLA-VAL altitude control valve, pipe reducer, and concrete utility vault into existing 2" and 4" treated effluent lines; and the installation of a 2" irrigation meter in a concrete utility vault. The Work to be performed includes furnishing all necessary supervision, machinery, insurance, materials, equipment, tools, and labor necessary for the design, fabrication, material delivery, erection and construction, painting, inspection, and testing to complete the Work.

RECEIPT OF BIDS: Sealed bids in envelopes are due at the Office of the Engineer: Burgess & Niple, Inc. located at 235 Ledge Stone Drive, Austin, Texas 78737, (512) 432-1000 no later than 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 13th, 2025, at which time the bids for the Project Contract will be opened and read aloud. The OWNER reserves the right to waive all informalities and irregularities, and determine which Bids are most advantageous to the Project, and to award the Contract on this basis.

INFORMATION AND BIDDING DOCUMENTS: Hard copies and/or electronic copies of Bid Documents and Plans may be obtained from Burgess & Niple, Inc. by contacting Juhmanie Alexander at juhmanie.alexander@burgessniple.com or at 512-432-1000, during regular business hours: 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Fridays.

BONDS: Performance, payment, and warranty bonds shall each be issued in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract Amount as security for all the CONTRACTOR's obligations under the Contract Documents.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: Bidders shall maintain insurance in the types and amounts indicated the Contract Documents.

Public Notice

BID GUARANTY: All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid security made payable to Owner in an amount of five percent (5%) of Bidder's maximum Bid price and in the form of a cashier's check made payable to the City of Dripping Springs, or a Bid Bond issued by a surety.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE: No pre-bid conference will be held.

CONTRACT SCHEDULE: The Work shall be substantially complete no later than 120 calendar days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run as provided in the General Conditions, and completed and ready for final payment in accordance with the General Conditions no later than 150 calendar days after the date when the Contract Times commence to run.

Substantially complete shall mean completing the improvements, and testing so that the planned improvements are in operation.

Legal Notice

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE COMMISSION FOR A WINE AND MALT BEVERAGE ON-PREMISE PERMIT (BG) BY THREESOMM WINE MERCHANTS LLC, DBA WINEHOUSE, TO BE LOCATED AT 501 OLD FITZHUGH ROAD, DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS 78620 BY MANAGING MEMBER JERRY GRAY.

Legal Notice

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Public Notice

PUBLIC HEARING WITHOUT VARIANCE OR SPECIAL EXCEPTION

The City of Woodcreek has received an application to allow the Replat of Lots 11 and 12, Corrected Plat of Woodcreek, Section 6-C, as recorded in Volume 1, Page 301 of the Plat Records of Hays County, Establishing Lot 11A, Woodcreek, Section 6-C for the purpose of combining two lots into one lot.

The new subdivision name is Replat of Lots 11 and 12, Corrected Plat of Woodcreek, Section 6-C, Establishing Lot 11A, Woodcreek, Section 6-C, City of Woodcreek, Hays County, Texas.

This is the written notice of a public hearing the City sends to all property owners within 200' of the boundary of the plat.

The Woodcreek City Council will hold a public meeting and public hearing on the replat. The City Council is the legislative body authorized to review and render decisions on subdivision applications and requests. The meeting at which this item will be considered is listed below.

City Council Meeting Information:
Wednesday, February 12, 2025, beginning at 5:30PM
Woodcreek City Hall, Council Chambers
41 Champion Cir, Woodcreek, TX 78676

Members of the public may make comments about the proposed project by attending the meeting at City Council Chambers listed above. The meeting may also be viewed online, for instructions on how to view the meeting online, please check the City calendar for agenda and login information at www.woodcreektx.gov/calendar.

You may also submit comments to: manager@woodcreektx.gov



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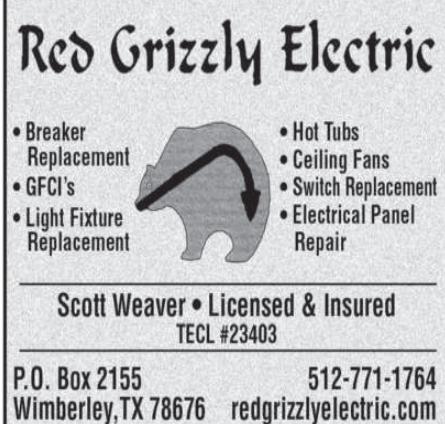
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ECONOMY FROM PG. 1

gion through workforce development and quality education.

“We take great pride in partnering with you on that,” Damphousse said. “The I-35 corridor between San Antonio and Austin is projected to double by 2025, surpassing Houston and the DFW Metroplex combined. This next great American Metroplex inspires us to rise to the challenge. Texas State is at the heart of this growth in our San Marcos campus, between the seventh and tenth largest U.S. cities, and our Round Rock Campus is strategically bookending Austin as well. We’re preparing graduates to meet the evolving workforce demands while building a research enterprise that fuels innovation and keeps Texas competitive globally.”

Torres said that the Texas economy is “slowing down” compared to where it was a year ago.

“The good news is that also inflation is coming down, [but it is] still not at the target level,” Torres said. “The other good news is the strength of the economy. I think what surprised us all, and is still surprising us all right, is how resilient and strong the economy has been. Yes, we’re slowing down, but still [there is an] overall positive, strong U.S. economy, Texas economy and local economies in the state of Texas.”

“The other thing [is that the] unemployment rate right now continues to be low, around 4.2%, [which is the] same unemployment rate here in Texas.”

Bennett said there

are items in the current Texas legislative session, which was upcoming at the time of the event, that will be critical to the advancement of the manufacturing and other industries in Texas.

“As far as the Texas Association of manufacturing is concerned, probably the top economic development bill is going to be the research and development tax incentive,” Bennett said. “To quickly advance manufacturing in the state, you have to have research and development going on. And we do ... but other states have incentives that are far and way better than ours. In this particular area, R and D is critical. It is the gateway to manufacturing investment. With artificial intelligence coming in faster and

faster and becoming more of a part of the manufacturing process — from the supply chain to warehousing to production to quality control — AI is going to be throughout all of those segments of manufacturing process and every service industry as well.”

Perdichizzi agreed the next legislative session would be an opportunity to “make great strides” in maintaining and advancing Texas’ position of economic leadership.

“I think it’s really important that the business community, the local communities, really stay engaged this session. There’s a lot on the table. The things that Tony mentioned, we are also going to be strongly engaged in those R and D tax credits,” Perdichizzi said. “Tony and I are in a group called Tex-

ans for Innovation. We’ve been working behind the scenes on this effort for the last year. We have a really great study that we’re looking forward to releasing soon. It’s going to have some great economic impact numbers that [we] can really take to the legislature to advocate for. ... The water fund is also very important. Water is infrastructure, and infrastructure is economic development. We need water. We need more of it in our communities but also for industries. We need to be able to be a place that industries can rely on to have a reliable water supply, and we also need to make sure our communities have the water that they need in order to thrive and support the people coming to their communities.”

Demerson under-

scored the importance of the business community advocating for its needs with elected officials.

“[Elected Officials] really listen to what our employers are wanting and what our employers need, so if they don’t hear about it, then we can’t do much about it. So I can’t overstate the ... [importance] of getting involved, letting these individuals know what’s on the mind, because ... they want to do the right thing,” Demerson said. “They’re here for six months most of the time. Sometimes there’s special sessions, but six months is what we do to make it happen.”

Watch the full 2025 Economic Outlook at [youtube.com/watch?v=mWKj9Rs4Csk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWKj9Rs4Csk).

PARKS FROM PG. 1

out to weigh in on the development plans,” resident Justin Allen said. “This is a nice setup.”

He said one of the options he was interested in was the option for new mountain bike trails. Lori McGuire Allen said she saw a few other ideas that appealed to her.

“I’m excited about the stargazing areas and the photography,” she said.

The master plan is intended as a guide for policy decisions. It will help the city prioritize and balance different demands and opportunities. It could be used to evaluate future land acquisitions, park improvements, and other expenditures of public funds.



Harmony Bingham and Michael Abels look over the displays.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

plan. The city wants to make sure that the vision continues to be community-driven, and that it provides strong support for parks, recreation, the arts and environmental education. One of the biggest ways the city is aiming to achieve that is by getting as many residents as possible to complete a survey.

“The survey is being mailed to all residents in city limits here in the next week or so,” Andrew Binz, Director Parks & Community Services, said. “That same survey is also available online.”

The survey, which takes about 15-20 minutes, is open to anyone in the greater Dripping Springs area. Everyone who completes it will be entered into drawing for a \$500 Visa gift card. The survey can be found online at <https://dripping-springssurvey.org> and will be available for a couple of weeks.

At the open house, friends Andrea Cain, Harmony Bingham and Michael Abels showed up with pickleball paddles in hand, ready to rally for their cause. Abels noted that there are no pickleball courts for public use in Dripping Springs or in the ETJ, and it would be a great benefit to the community to

have them. Bingham agreed.

“I want to say that pickleball has been life changing,” Bingham said. “It can attract all ages, young, old and everyone in between. It’s fulfilling not only physically but also mentally and socially. We need pickleball courts!”

Cain said that the number of people who came out to ask for pickleball courts shows how the game can bring everyone together.

“We like to work together and get things done. It brings a good positive vibe to everybody,” Cain said. “That’s how I met all my friends when I moved here. We gotta keep it going.”

Residents Jan Weson and Mary Beth Alsdorf came to the open house mostly to see the plans for Dripping Springs Ranch Park.

“We want to make sure that it continues to be used for horses predominantly,” Weson said. “For instance, the trails. I would like to see them go back to just being horse or pedestrian. Then hopefully the bikes go to the new parks that they’ve made, because it’s a problem to have the two together.”

Alsdorf said she did



Considering where to place their stickers, Greg Baglia, Linda Baglia, Ewan Mctiernan and Isaac Duhaney look over the options for conservation, nature and ecology. The city provided large posters that allowed open house participants to vote for the ideas they liked best.

like the concept of having benches, water fountains and shade structures along the paths in the parks.

“I also like all the ideas about learning about conservation

and water conservation,” Alsdorf said. “And I liked maybe having some kind of classes about beekeeping, or wildlife and birds.”

The Parks & Com-

munity Services Department will have a booth at Founder’s Day with more information about the master plan, and they will also be having another open house on May 8.

You’re Invited to San Marcos Academy

OPEN HOUSE

Start your Academy Experience!

- ~ CONNECT with our staff and tour our campus
- ~ LEARN about our programs and classes
- ~ EXPERIENCE a school family where faith is lived out with academic excellence

January 22, 2025 / 9am-12:30pm

PreK3 – 12th Grade
Day and Boarding Options Available

Register by January 20 by scanning the QR code

San Marcos Academy
Excellence in Christian Education Since 1907
512-753-8000
smabears.org
Admissions@smabears.org

Applications due for NRCS Conservation Stewardship Program

Staff Reports

Applications for the Conservation Stewardship Program administered by The U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service are due

to the local NRCS field office by Jan. 24. CSP provides support to agricultural and forest producers to enhance their conservation practices, offering both technical and financial assistance to help them implement more

comprehensive conservation strategies. By participating in the program, producers may receive compensation for adopting additional conservation activities while maintaining their existing conservation efforts.

The USDA increased the minimum annual payment for agricultural producers participating in CSP from \$1,500 to \$4,000 starting in fiscal year 2024. The increase addresses challenges faced by small scale,

underserved and urban producers and improves equity in the program by making participation more financially beneficial for smaller operations. The new minimum payment is available for new and renewed

CSP contracts. Applications received after Jan. 24, will be considered during future CSP application sign ups. For more information about assistance available, contact your local USDA Service Center.



DSHS sophomore Isabella Eleazar was named to TMEA's All-State Mixed Choir as second chair Alto I. She'll perform with the choir in February.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DSHS sophomore wins spot in All-State Mixed Choir

Dripping Springs High School sophomore Isabella Eleazar has been named to the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) All-State Mixed Choir after earning second chair (Alto 1) at the Area E auditions on Satur-

day, Jan. 11 at Reagan High School in San Antonio. Other area qualifiers representing Dripping Springs High School included Megan Aldridge, Emiliano Arroyo Corona, Ava Azua, Teresa Grant, Taylor Heen-

an, Preston LeBas, Cody Ritchey, Charles Schubert and Luke Voss. Eleazar will perform with the all-state choir in a concert at the TMEA Convention on Saturday, Feb 15 in San Antonio.

COMMUNITY FROM PG. 1

lows the story of Ren McCormack, who moves from Chicago to the small town of Bomont, where dancing has been banned. "Ren is definitely a very complex character," junior Dylan Daniels, who plays Ren, said. "His dad just died and he and his mom just moved to a new town. He feels like an outsider because everybody judges him without actually getting to know him. But throughout the story he learns to love and he learns to open people's minds to the possibilities that can happen."

More than 60 students are involved in the production. The director is Coy Branscum, who graduated from DSHS in 2011 and is in his second year as the theater director at the school. Branscum said he expects the show's performances will sell out all 650 seats. Tickets are available at www.ds theatre.org for \$25 for adults and \$15 for students.

Senior Emily Molleur, who plays Ariel Moore, the preacher's daughter, said the cast and crew have worked very hard to bring the piece to life, and she's really excited to share it with the community.

"It's such a complex show. It has so much more to offer than just dancing," Molleur said. "I feel like people are always quick to judge, which we see with everyone's reaction to the new kid and his ideas. So I think when people see that and see how it affects him as a person throughout the show, it will give the audience the opportunity to self-reflect."

In addition to the production, audience members will be treated to a carnival in the courtyard outside the theater before each show. Students and theater boosters will offer a petting zoo, carnival games, cotton candy, live music and a silent auction.

Another star of the show is the 1976 Chevy C10 Bonanza truck, which was purchased by the Dripping Springs Theatre Booster Club to be-



Bad boy Chuck Cranston (Joey Martinez) and his friend (Evan Bergeron) hang out drinking in the back of the Chevy right before the musical number for "The Girl Gets Around."

CENTURY NEWS PHOTOS BY LAURIE ANDERSON



Ren and Ariel (Dylan Daniels and Emily Molleur) take a spin as they discuss the idea of a school dance.

come a moving prop for Footloose. Students in the Technical Theatre class, joined by Welding class students, got the vehicle ready for the stage. Sophomore Christian Patterson, who is part of the run crew, said he enjoyed the experience.

"I got to learn to weld and how to work on trucks and cars," Patterson said. "It was great moving the truck on stage the first time."

Branscum said the theatre department is lucky to have a community of professionals who will come in to guide the students. In this case, that was Becky Sagen, a carpenter, welder, and sculptor with 20 years of experience as a props artisan.

"It's rare to see a full truck on a Broadway stage - on a high school stage, it's pretty much unheard of," Branscum said. "But that's what we like to do at Dripping Springs High School, we push the boundaries and explore the impossible."

Freshman Davis



In one of the early scenes, Reverend Moore (Eben Sebastian) preaches to his congregation, joined by his daughter Ariel (Emily Molleur) and wife Vi (Aubrey Hall).

Keyser is also part of the run crew, which means he helps move things on and off the stage - everything from small items like a book to set pieces like the Moore's house. He said it was pretty cool handling the truck, because he had never moved anything of that caliber.

"I'm excited to see my mom's reaction to the show, because she's always loved Footloose and she actually pushed me to join crew," Keyser said.

While the crew were working on the

set, sound and lighting, the actors were also putting in lots of hard work to get ready for the show. Molleur started taking voice lessons last summer, and she also took dance. But bringing her character to the stage was more than that.

"I'd say the hardest part for me is definitely the character work," Molleur said. "Trying to figure out what makes Ariel tick, and why does she does the things that she does. She's the preacher's daughter so she feels



During rehearsal, stage manager Niko Upton, senior, reads lines with the cast for one of the actors who was out sick.



Welding student Nicholas Culbertson works on the 1976 Chevy C10 Bonanza truck. He and other welding and technical theater students got the vehicle ready by removing the engine, draining the radiator, creating new tires, and splitting the truck bed into two parts so students can sit in and stand on the truck as it rolls onto the stage. Photo by Melinda Hooks.



In the booth at the back of the auditorium, Adrian Fisher fine tunes the lighting during a rehearsal.

a lot of pressure to be perfect. She kind of goes on a little rebellious arc throughout the show but eventually finds herself by the end."

Daniels also did vocal and dance lessons, and he added tumbling and weight lifting to help prepare his body for the physical challenge of the role.

"For the cast, I think the dance was definitely a hard thing to tackle, because it is such a dance heavy show," Daniels said. "It has multiple intense dance sequences

with crazy lifts and fights and all the crazy things that musical theater has to offer."

Costumes are another key part of the play. Dresser Caitlin Heller helps with putting together the outfits and with quick changes backstage. She enjoys being a part of these big shows because she learns so much.

"I love everyone here," Heller said. "And I'm just excited for friends and family to see everything that we have all worked so hard on."



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



Roscoe • Male Hound

Hounds are known for being fun to be around, with a silly side that keeps you laughing at their antics. Which may be why Roscoe is a fan favorite at PAWS in Dripping Springs.

This one-and-half year old hound has been with us since July and we would love to find someone who loves him as much as we do. This handsome guy is known for his easy-going personality. He has polite leash manners, and is famous for his chill swagger on the trails. He does follow his nose (like most hounds!) and counter surfs, but does well with correction.

He has had good interactions with kids and also with other dogs. And he's potty-trained.

With his gentle demeanor and kind spirit, Roscoe would thrive in just about any home environment. We absolutely love this sweet boy, and know his people are out there!

Find Roscoe at www.pawsshelter.org

1/19

THEMELESS SUNDAY 118 by Hannah Slovut-Einertson

ACROSS

1 Hoppy brew letters

4 Design deet

8 Small dog with a Welsh name

13 "What'd I say ..."

15 Moisturizer brand

17 "You were right"

19 Bottoms named for their length

20 ____ list (gamer's ranking system)

21 Understand

22 Common degree requirement

24 Feature of many sweatshirts

26 Speaker's spot

29 Fencing sword

30 Sweet potatoes

31 Quaint hotel

32 Floral necklaces

33 Slices or dices

35 Docs

36 Possess

37 Nail head?

39 "This is the life"

40 Does the crawl, perhaps

42 Gunk

43 Coldest phase of water

44 "The Mother" actress Falco

45 This and ____

46 Born and ____

47 Drivers shouldn't run them

48 Bird or plane

50 I.M. who lived to age

102

51 Be unsuccessful

53 Pair of World Cup cheers

57 "My decision is final"

60 Have an influence on

61 Go-to guy

62 Doglike animals with over 20 distinct calls

63 One of two characters in "Six"

64 Tofu base

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

F	L	A	S	H		P	C	S			A	P	T	S
A	U	D	I	O	B	O	O	K	S		O	H	I	
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www.upuzzles.com

DOWN

1 "That's true"

2 Fancy-schmancy

3 Second-highest voice in a four-part chorus

4 ____-pop (genre of "Take On Me")

5 Thai dish with flat noodles

6 Key part of an exit strategy?

7 Kid's germs

8 Give a darn

9 Not living up to lofty expectations

10 ____ center (community space)

11 Take a break outside

12 Request to take a break from a relationship

14 Target hitters

16 Love poem?

18 Move up

23 Reframe favorably

25 Apt word found in "aboard"

26 Makes less bright

27 "Our adventure has begun!"

28 Nonpublic knowledge

32 Becomes less respected

34 Backyard structure

37 "It's a ____!" (warning)

38 Not just competing for fun

41 Just OK, in slang

42 Fried tortilla topped with salsa, cheese and lettuce

45 Class of sin?

46 "Shrinking" co-creator Goldstein

49 Group protecting a QB

50 Holding hands in a park, e.g., briefly

52 The "A" of STEAM

54 Units of resistance

55 "Hahaha," in a text

56 Itsy

58 ____-Mex

59 A billion years

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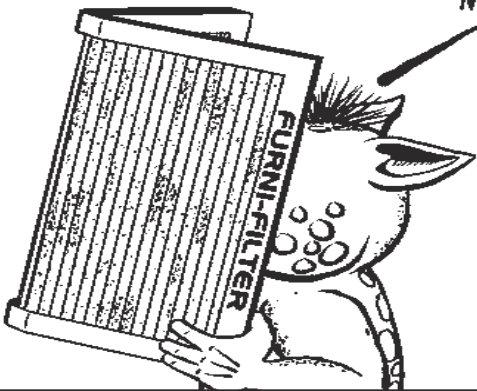
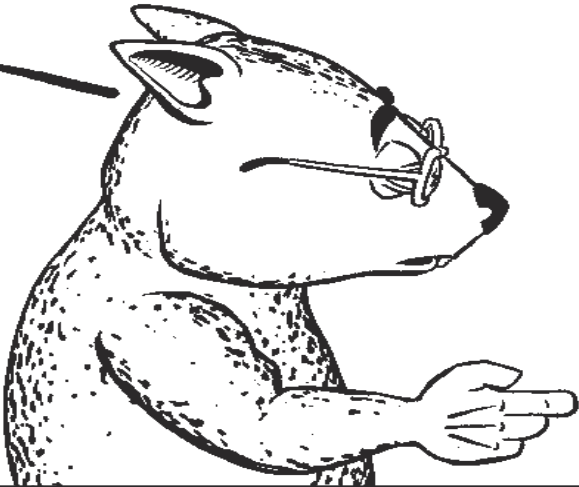
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WOMBANIA™

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DID YOU TAKE THAT FROM THE FURNACE?

CHRIS SAID MY MOUTH NEEDED A FILTER.



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

Master Gardeners on the Porch
Jan 23 & Jan 30
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Every Thursday, the Master Gardener crew gathers on the outside porch at the Dripping Springs Community Library. They are there to lend a hand with any gardening questions you have.
Dripping Springs Community Library
• 501 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX, 78620

Dripping Springs Farmers Market
Jan 29 & Feb 5
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
The Dripping Springs Farmer's Market will be held at Dripping Springs Ranch Park on Wednesday, Jan 29 and Feb 5. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Hays County Livestock Show
Jan 18 through 26
The Hays County Livestock Expo Show kicks into high gear on Saturday, Jan. 18 with the Buyer's Gala from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The livestock show has various events every day through Jan. 26 including showing projects for Ag mechanics and Homeskills and showing rabbits, goats, lambs, sheep, swine cattle and poultry. More information at hayscountylivestockshow.org Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Driftwood Wellness Fair
Jan 25 • Noon to 5 p.m.
The Driftwood Wellness Fair will be held at Vista Brewing on Jan 25. Explore Vista's 21 acre ranch and

brewery and visit local wellness businesses. Vista Brewing • 13551 FM 150 W • Driftwood, TX 78619

Film Screening & Panel Discussion 'Common Ground'
Jan 25 • 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
The film Common Ground from the filmmakers Kiss the Ground (Netflix) will be screened at Vista Brewing on Jan. 25 with a panel discussion on regenerative agriculture in Central Texas following. Also on hand for the discussion will be the Driftwood Historical Conservation Society, Elder Hill Farms and Songland Farms. Doors open at 5 p.m., movie begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5. Vista Brewing • 13551 FM 150 W • Driftwood, TX 78619

Beerburg Market Day
Jan 25 • 12-7 p.m.
Vendors on-site for shopping from 3-7 p.m. Serving beer, bites, ice cream, and N/A options. Beerburg • 13476 Fitzhugh Rd • Austin, TX 78736

Wedding Capital of Texas Winter Showcase
Jan 26 • 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Dripping Springs is the Wedding Capital of Texas and the Winter Showcase offers couples a chance to meet vendor and plan their weddings all in-person at Allegro Wedding & Event Venue. This wedding Showcase is a different twist on a traditional bridal extravaganza and is open to wedding industry vendors located in and around Dripping Springs. Free to attend by RSVP is requested. Allegro Weddings and Events Venue • 5001 McGregor Ln • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Jazz with Lonnie and the Mixers
Jan 29 • 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Lonnie Atkinson and his fellow talented and noteworthy bandmates will be playing at the Dripping Springs Community Library. Lonnie, singer-songwriter, has played with Tanya Tucker, David Allan Coe, Marcia Ball, and many others. It's been said that he's one of the best pickers out there. Joining him will be Larry Eisenberg, bassist and pianist, guest keyboardist Jim Haber AKA "Floyd Domino," Kevin Hall and Steven Vague. The event is free, but registration is required. Children's Area • Dripping Springs Community Library • 501 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX, 78620

Dripping Springs Star Party
Jan 31
8:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.
The city of Dripping Springs is hosting a free star party at the lower field of Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Learn about the universe from local astronomy experts and enthusiasts. Throughout the night participants can gaze at the constellations above, and even view galaxies far far away through telescopes. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Ghost Note Brewing 4th Anniversary Party
Feb 1 • 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
The community is invited to celebrate Ghost Note Brewing's 4th anniversary with new beer, good eats, shopping and live music. Food will be available from Frida's Cocina, Epic Jerk and Pranom Popup. Visionary Endeavors will be hosting a market from 12-6, and the Wyatt Weaver

Band will play from 2-5. Ghost Note Brewing • 23663 Ranch Road 12 • Dripping Springs, TX

Chamber Coffee Connector
Feb 5 • 8:15 a.m.
The Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce is hosting its morning business networking coffee for members. Please bring plenty of business cards to share. Non-member guests may attend once before joining. Please email us at info@dstxchamber.com for more information. Acopon Brewing • 211 W Mercer St. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION

Dripping Springs Community Library
The Dripping Springs Community Library hosts multiple events every week day. Events include Toddler Story Time, Homeschool Chess Club, Legos @ the Library, Mah-Jongg, Master Gardeners on the Porch, Everyday Yoga, Graphic Lit Lounge and many more. For library events, visit dscl.org/event-calendar.

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 traditionally held at City Hall Council Chambers. However, a remodel has many meetings at Ranch Park or Dripping Springs ISD Center for Learning & Leadership. See cityofdrippingsprings.com for more information.

Jan 27 • 3:30 p.m.
Transportation Committee Meeting

Jan 27 • 6:30 p.m.
Founder's Day Commission Meeting

Jan 28 • 4 p.m.
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting

Feb 4 • 6 p.m.
City Council Meeting

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting
February 11 • 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 27 • 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

Lady Tigers triumph over Akins 73-27

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Wins have been slow to pile up in district play for Lady Tigers basketball. So far Akins has been the only team win in district. The game started slowly for both teams as baskets were hard to come by. After one DS held a slim 13-10 advantage.

After that, the Lady Tigers started clicking in all phases. They played a brand of ball rarely seen and it was refreshing. They were diving for loose balls, fighting for rebounds, running hard to head off a dribbler, driving hard to the basket and putting up good shots, getting fouled and shooting free throws.



Driving for the basket, junior Caitlyn Lightfoot (23) pushes past her Akins Eagles opponent.

PHOTOS BY RONNIE ADAIR/WWW.ADAIR.SMUGMUG.COM

Everyone was contributing with strong efforts. They just seem to be so close. Thirteen players made the scoring col-



Sophomore Carys Lloyd (2) fights for possession of the ball against her Akins Eagles opponent.

umn. At the half it was 35-16. That was bumped up to 53-24 after three. Another milestone was passed during the game. On her last basket of the night, Rain Collins attained the 1000 point career mark, joining 21 other Lady Tigers that have accomplished this in the history of Dripping Springs basketball.

Scoring for the Lady Tigers were Collins 19, Ella Beatty 11, Bailey Rogers 9, Carys Lloyd 7, Caitlyn Lightfoot 6, Layne Fields 4, Harper Teague 4, Abigail Robinson 3, Katie Newman 2, Sloan Geck 2, Ainsley Coleman 2, Chloe Lightfoot 2, Veronica Johnson 2.

Austin High stalls Tigers district hopes 42-27

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

The Tigers were only one game out of first place and expected to have an easy win with winless Austin High. The weather forecast called for deep freezes ahead in the next few days but it did not call for how frigid it would be in the DS gym when it came to shooting accuracy.

It has been rare for the Tigers basketball team to completely have problems making baskets. They only made nine during the game. Meanwhile, Austin was controlling the ball and the boards and producing enough points to never lose the lead. The Tigers got within two (21-23) before faltering again. It was 8-13 after one and 12-23 at the half. After three it was 21-30. The Maroons played keep away the final three minutes.

Previously, the Tigers took on Westlake for the district lead. It was an effort that warranted extra time. Regulation time would find the score tied at 48. After OT the undefeated Chaps had survived 54-50. The Tigers got back in the win column with a 51-40 victory over Austin Akins.

Scoring vs Westlake: Rushton Budge 22, Judson Loe 19, Brady Coleman 6, Stone Patterson 3.

Vs Akins: Loe 16, Budge 15, Brayden Spencer 9, Patterson 6, Grant Reagan 5.

Vs Austin: Loe 15, Budge 10, Patterson 2.

Wrestling teams compete in Lake Travis Cavalier Classic



Lucas Kaczmarek pins his opponent at the Lake Travis Cavalier Classic.

PHOTOS BY RONNIE ADAIR/WWW.ADAIR.SMUGMUG.COM

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

The Dripping Springs wrestling teams competed in the Lake Travis meet and did very well overall. The girls finished third and the boys fourth. District coming up soon.

Girls top five teams: Harker Heights 142, Comal Pieper 140, DS 122, SA Churchill 89, Hutto 88.5.

DS results: 107: Evelina Cardinal 3-0 1st; 107: Makayla Cothron 4-2 4th; 114: Brandilynn Lobash 4-1 3rd; 120: Elsa Delaney 5-1 3rd; 120: Audrey Nielson 2-2; 126: Jayden Sanchez 2-2; 132: Audrey Orr 2-2; 132: Gracelyn Prehar 1-2; 138: Rasanie Ly 2-2; 145: Hania Yeargan 2-2; 165: Audrina Flores 5-1 3rd; 185: Kinsey Belote 2-2.

Boys top five teams: Lake Travis 188.5, SA Churchill 164, Vista Ridge 159.5, DS 155, Pieper 144.

DS results: 106: Wesley Hatcher 1-2; 113: Jackson Shipley 2-2; 120: Wyatt Metcalf 2-2; 132: Joseph Austin 3-2 4th; 138: Keeshawn Wilson 3-2; 144: Isaiah Ellis 3-1 4th; 150: Drew Clarno 3-2; 157: Gabe Morales 3-1 2nd; 165: Jaden Patterson 3-2; 175: Caleb Collins 4-0 1st; 190: Daniel Krauss 2-2; 215: Mikkel Bush-ee 4-0 1st; 285: Case Crow 3-2 4th.

Lady Tigers soccer had a busy week

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

It did not take long for the Lady Tigers soccer team to hit the ground playing despite some horrible weather conditions. Their first action was in the Georgetown Governor's Cup Elite Showcase. The first day was played in solid rain all day and despite it all, they played Bridgeland to a 0-0 tie. The Lady Tigers controlled the game but it was almost impossible to score.

On a much better weather day, they played a very spirited game with Georgetown to a 2-2 tie. Carson Thompson scored the first goal with an assist by Bailey Stephenson. The final goal was scored by Alysia Creekmore on an unassisted banger.

The first win of the season came on a 3-1 victory over McKinney Boyd. It was the best total game played so far. The better weather motivated the team. Thompson scored an early goal with an assist from Shea Sisson. Boyd

tied it up. Stephenson scored the second goal and the final was produced by Emerson Barefoot with an assist by Lily Ruff. Rachel Darilek was named the tourney MVP.

In a regular game, DS shutout Leander 5-0. Stephenson had a penalty kick goal, followed by Barefoot and Stephenson assisted by Barefoot to make it 3-0 at half. In the second half Ella Castillo and Addie Novosad scored with an assist by Castillo.

WELL FROM PG. 1

According to scientists, The Karst Canyon Preserve is extraordinarily efficient at capturing rainfall and replenishing the Middle Trinity Aquifer. While most Hill Country land only allows 3 to 5% of rainfall to reach the aquifer, Karst Canyon Preserve's unique geology enables up to 30% of rainfall to be captured and filtered into the groundwater system that feeds Jacob's well.

Known previously as Coleman's Canyon, the preserve was purchased by The Watershed Association in 2019 from a developer planning to build 1600 high-density residential lots within the Jacob's Well critical recharge zone.

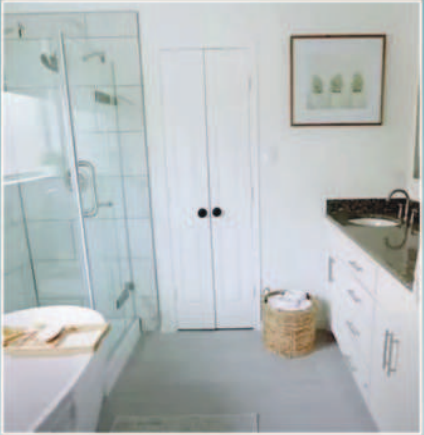
"We're thrilled. We've been working on this for a decade," said Baker in a conversation with the Wimberley View. "It is truly an extraordinary development, a historic deal. We heard in November that Hays County Commissioners approved the purchase."

In 2020, Hays County residents voted for the Parks and Open Spaces Bond, known then on the ballot as Proposition A, which called for the issuance of \$75 million in gener-

al bonds to fund parks, open spaces, conservation lands and other recreational opportunities over the next several years. Their advisory committee, known by their acronym POSAC, ranked the purchase of the Karst Canyon Preserve as their number one priority.

The preserve is also home to Mexican Free-tail Bats, the endangered golden-cheeked warbler and the Cypress Creek tributary of the Blanco River. Once the Jacob's Well trails are linked with those of the preserve, roughly six miles of trails will be available for hikers.





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