



CELEBRATING YOUNG ARTISTS
PAGE 6



DSHS STUDENTS BRING HOME STATE
PAGE 7



LADY TIGERS SOFTBALL EARNS STATE SPOT
PAGE 10

Dripping Springs Century News

34rd Year No. 21

May 22, 2025

drippingspringsnews.com

75 cents

Community Calendar

Dripping Springs Fair & Rodeo
May 23 - 25
Vendors and food trucks will be open all weekend. Tickets are required for the evening rodeo performances at 7:30pm on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Performance includes Bull Riding, Bronc Riding, Tie Down and Breakaway Roping, Barrel Racing, Steer Wrestling, and more, including performance by World Famous Rodeo Clown, Leon Coffey. For full schedule visit www.drippingspringsranchpark.com. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Dripping Springs High School Graduation
May 23 • 8 p.m.
The Class of 2025 from Dripping Springs High School will be graduating at Tiger Stadium. 940 US-290 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Dripping Springs Farmers Market
May 28 • 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
The Dripping Springs Farmer's Market is held on Wednesdays at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Visitors can gather and shop for fresh agricultural and related products. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



Thank you veterans for your service!

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE OF THE DAY:

WHOEVER PURSUES RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOVE FINDS LIFE, PROSPERITY AND HONOR.

- PROVERBS 21:21



Nurse impersonators arrested for theft from elderly persons

Staff Reports

In March, the Hays County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) began investigating a series of thefts from residents of a senior living community in Buda, Hays County, TX. The various reports involved a variation of a common theme: a female in scrubs represented herself as a nurse or health attendant to

various seniors at their homes, then distracted the victims with a health evaluation. After the unexpected visit, the victims discovered their wallets, along with the various identifying and financial documents within, were missing. Some victims only became aware of the theft when their banks inquired about suspicious financial activity. The cases were as-



GINA HERNANDEZ

signed to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID), where



ELSA VASQUEZ

detectives were able to identify two suspects: Gina Hernandez, 32,

and Elsa Vasquez, 30, both out of Austin. Through the course of the investigation, it was learned Hernandez and Vasquez attempted to use the victims' bank cards at Austin area restaurants and businesses to purchase televisions, smart watches, and other miscellaneous items. The investigation confirmed that Hernandez

SEE ARREST PAGE 7



Volunteers work to put the finishing touches on the McGovern home.

PHOTOS BY LAURIE ANDERSON

A HEARTFELT MISSION

Nonprofit helps local residents secure safe housing

Laurie Anderson
Interim Editor

The scent of fresh paint still lingers in the air, and sunlight glints off brand-new windows as the final touches are made on the modest house on Harmon Hills Road. After weeks of sawing, hammering and painting, construction is nearly complete. Soon, Connie and Denis McGovern will walk through the door into their new home - thanks to the mission of a local nonprofit and the efforts of nearly 150 volunteers.

Hometown Missions will be holding a house blessing and dedication for the McGoverns on Saturday, May 24 at 1 p.m. The community is invited to attend, along with the supporters, volunteers, and local leaders who made this project a reality.

This is the third Home in a Month project of the year for Hometown Missions - a record for the small community nonprofit, which started 15 years ago in a rather unexpected way. Chuck Lemmond, who was involved with an outreach group at his church, was sent to go look at a frozen pipe for a neighbor. What he discovered was a house that needed a lot more than some plumbing work.

"She was a single mom with five children, recently widowed. And her home was unlivable," Lemmond said. "She asked



Founder Chuck Lemmond talks to members of his team about the project.



Volunteer Marylou Brunetta paints the porch.

me if I could help her fix it, and I said no, but I'll get you a new house, how about that? And as those words came out of my mouth, I was like, okay, who's saying that?"

Lemmond went back to his truck, where his

7 year old daughter was waiting.

"I got back in and I said, I think I promised that lady a house," Lemmond said.

At first, he told himself that there was no

Voting begins for election of PEC Board of Directors

Staff Reports

Voting started on Wednesday for the Pedernales Electric Cooperative's 2025 Board of Directors Election. This year, eight members are running for two director positions in districts 4 and 5. District 4 includes Dripping Springs and parts of Hays County.

The following candidates are listed in the order in which they will appear on the ballot.

- District 4:
- Michael Trentel
 - Travis Cox
 - John Barksdale
 - Dan Strack
 - Todd H. Votteler
- District 5:
- Alice Price
 - Douglas A. Vandiford II
 - Milton Scott Powell

These candidates met the eligibility requirements in the Cooperative's bylaws, collected the required 50-member petition signatures from within their voting district, and completed all

other official documentation necessary for entry onto the ballot. Directors must reside in the district for which they are seeking to be elected. This year, members from districts 4 and 5 are eligible to vote.

Voting began May 21 and runs through June 13 at 5 p.m. Members may vote online, via PEC SmartHub on a computer or mobile device, by mail, by email link, or in a PEC office. Members can also use a unique QR code found on their ballot to access the voting portal. By voting, members have the chance to win drawings for \$400, \$100, or \$75 bill credits. Prize winners will be announced June 20 at PEC's Annual Meeting, but do not need to be present to win.

PEC is owned and governed by its members. Any PEC member who meets the qualifications written in the Cooperative's

SEE VOTING PAGE 7

TxDOT's Click It or Ticket campaign now underway

Staff Reports

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is working with law enforcement to remind Texas drivers to wear their seat belt every ride, every time. TxDOT's annual Click It or Ticket campaign started May 19 and runs through June 1. It aims to save lives by getting drivers and passengers to wear their seat belts 100% of the time.

This includes focusing efforts on ticketing drivers who fail to buckle up or secure their kids in car seats. Texas law requires everyone in a vehicle to buckle up or face fines and court costs up to \$200. Children younger than 8 years old must be in a child

safety seat or booster seat unless they're taller than 4 feet 9 inches. If they aren't properly restrained, the driver faces fines up to \$250 plus court costs.

Most Texans buckle up, yet too many crashes turn deadly because someone wasn't wearing a seat belt. In 2024, 1,069 people who died in collisions on Texas roads were not buckled up. Nearly 60% of these fatalities occurred at night.

"We all think a crash will never happen to us, but it can happen any time we get in a vehicle," TxDOT Executive Director Marc Williams said. "A seat belt can save your life or prevent a serious injury, but only if you're wearing it. Take those quick seconds to

SEE HOUSING PAGE 8

SEE TXDOT PAGE 7

Capital Highlights

Lawmakers agree on \$8 billion school funding package



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Leaders from the Texas House and Senate have agreed on an \$8 billion school funding package, which is being called the largest in state history, The Dallas Morning News reported.

The latest version of House Bill 2 was unveiled at a Senate hearing Thursday. It would give the state major discretion in deciding how the funds are spent, from teacher pay raises to special education to school safety.

House Democrats reportedly are unhappy with major changes to the original bill, first passed in mid-April. That version gave local schools more discretion on how to spend state dollars. The new version cuts the proposed per-student funding increase from \$395 to \$55 but also includes \$7.2 billion in new funding, with more than half of that dedicated to teacher pay raises.

State Sen. Brandon Creighton, R-Conroe, said critics should concentrate on the total number of funding being ap-

propriated.

“It seems to be lost in narratives right now as we talk about this historic money, knowing that every district in Texas wins,” Creighton said.

An administrator testifying at the Senate hearing said lawmakers should put more trust in local school districts.

“We hear a lot about [how] we need to be a small government, and yet I see a lot of the bodies talking about things that will put a lot of restrictions on the local independent school districts,” said Philip Morgan, the Plano ISD fine arts director. “Let those local ISDs make those decisions.”

ABBOTT MOVES TO BLOCK USE OF FOOD STAMPS FOR SODA, CANDY

Gov. Greg Abbott last week formally requested a waiver from the Trump administration to block the purchase of “unhealthy, highly processed food” with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits. The SNAP program serves more than 3.2 million Texans with more than \$7 billion in taxpayer funding, Abbott wrote in a letter to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins, according to the San Antonio Express-News.

“SNAP was created to increase access to

nutritious food; however, many SNAP purchases are for food with little to no nutritious value,” Abbott wrote.

A bill to ban SNAP recipients from using benefits to buy “sweetened soft drinks” has passed the Senate and is up for a vote in the House.

SNAP recipients receive an average of \$187 a month, according to the latest USDA figures.

BILLS POSE RISKS TO EXISTING WIND, SOLAR FARMS

Two companion bills pose existential threats to the state’s renewable energy boom, according to the clean energy industry, the Houston Chronicle reported. House Bill 3356 and Senate Bill 715 would “require nearly every solar and wind farm in the state to back up their electricity output with natural gas power plants or a fleet of batteries.”

If an existing renewable project doesn’t have backup power, its owner would have to either stop operating or pay a steep fine. Clean industry leaders say such a requirement would be cost-prohibitive.

“I cannot recall legislation as damaging to our industry and to the energy market as House Bill 3356 and Senate Bill 715 being considered in both chambers this late in session,” said Mark

Stover, executive director of Texas Solar and Storage Association, a trade group.

The bill’s sponsor, state Rep. Jared Patterson, R-Frisco, said his goal is to “level the playing field” against what he called a highly subsidized renewable energy industry, so more natural gas power plants can be built in the state.

POWER GRID WEATHERS AN EARLY HEAT WAVE

Temperatures soared near or above the 100-degree mark last week, setting records in several cities while power usage came close to reaching an all-time high, the Chronicle reported. Demand hit 81 gigawatts, an all-time high for May according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, but no power shortages were reported.

The ERCOT grid has added more solar power to cushion the grid during the hottest hours and more battery storage to help meet the load when solar power is unavailable, according to energy analyst Rob Allerman.

ERCOT CEO Pablo Vegas attributes a growing fleet of renewable energy facilities as one reason the power grid operator should be able to get through the summer without resorting to rotating outages this summer. “We’re really

continuing to see the benefit of increased resources from the solar and battery perspective. That made a very significant difference last summer. I think that we’ll see the benefit of that this summer,” Vegas said.

NORTH TEXAS HOME TO FIVE OF NATION’S FASTEST-GROWING CITIES

Newly released U.S. Census data indicates that five cities in the Dallas-Fort Worth area are among the 15 fastest-growing cities in the country, The Dallas Morning News reported. Topping the list is Princeton in Collin County, whose population grew by 30.6% between July 2023 and July 2024. Its population has more than doubled from 17,000 in 2020 to an estimated 37,000 today.

“We went from a small farming town to — I wouldn’t say the city level yet — but a lot of new faces, lots of traffic in a short period of time,” said Princeton Mayor Eugene Escobar Jr. “We knew the growth was coming.”

Three other Collin County cities cracked the top 15 — Celina (parts of which are in Denton County), Anna and Melissa.

Texas cities took seven of the top 15 spots, with Fulshear, near Houston, and Hutto, near Austin, also on the list.

HOUSE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS DEI BAN IN K-12 SCHOOLS

A Texas House panel is considering a bill to ban diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives in hiring and training in public schools — similar to a law passed in 2023 targeting DEI efforts in higher education. The Austin American-Statesman reported state Rep. Jeff Leach, R-Plano, is handling the bill in that chamber. It has already passed the Senate.

“This is about performance and achievement and instruction, and very strongly stands against and prohibits discriminatory practices,” Leach said.

Ash Hall, a policy strategist with ACLU of Texas, said the bill could lead to classroom censorship.

“This bill creates red tape and compliance burdens that distract schools from teaching and learning,” Hall said. “It is not about improving education. It is about controlling it.”

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



Serving the community since 1929



Serving Dripping Springs and the area for over 80 years and counting

120 Hwy 290 W.
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

(512) 894-4114
(512) 858-4252

Dripping Springs Century News

STAFF

MANDY FARROW — Publisher/Group Operations Manager
mfarrow@mosercommmedia.com

DALTON SWEAT — Regional Editor
dscenturynews@gmail.com

SHANNON WEST — Staff Reporter
swest@sanmarcosrecord.com

JAMES JONES — Regional Advertising Director
jjones@sanmarcosrecord.com

TERESA KENDRICK — Contributor
tkendrick@wimberleyview.com

KARITTA LOVE FITTS — Advertising
klove@wimberleyview.com

JONATHAN LIMA — Design

CONTACT

(512) 858-4163 • dscenturynews@gmail.com
P.O. Box 732, Dripping Springs, TX 78620

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

The Dripping Spring Century News and drippingspringsnews.com, as well as any reasonable derivative of these names, are trademarks of San Marcos Publishing, LP and use of these trademarks without the express written consent of San Marcos Publishing, LP is strictly prohibited. The entire contents of each issue of the Dripping Springs Century News and drippingspringsnews.com are protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue will not be permitted without the express permission of San Marcos Publishing, LP.

DSES teacher receives PEC spotlight award

Staff Reports

As Teacher Appreciation Week wrapped up, Pedernales Electric Cooperative announced its Teacher Spotlight Award winners by delivering gift baskets filled with “wish list” items and learning materials to support classroom learning. The program recognizes educators across the co-op’s service area for going above and beyond, and for making a difference in their students’ lives.

“One of the neatest things we get to do as a Cooperative is to come together and support our teachers who are helping to improve the future of our communities,” said Kevyn Packer, PEC Community Outreach Specialist. “We couldn’t be more excited to surprise them and show how grateful we are for their hard work and dedication.”

Ten teachers from pre-K through high school were recognized in this round of awards. Each winner received a personalized basket stocked with their favorite treats, school supplies, educational games, and other helpful learning ma-



ELENA GONZALES

terials they requested.

Dripping Springs Elementary School Principal Kellie Raymond was thrilled to learn one of her teachers, Elena Gonzales, had been named a winner.

“It is truly an honor to see one of our own recognized for the impact she makes each day,” Raymond said. “Ms. Gonzales exemplifies what it means to teach with heart, purpose, and passion. We are incredibly proud and grateful to have such an out-

standing educator on our campus!”

Kelsey Valdez, first grade teacher at Rancho Sienna Elementary School thanked PEC for taking the time to recognize her and others.

“I teach because I love to make an impact on the lives of little ones, however, this recognition is appreciated more than you know,” Valdez said.

PEC’s 2025 Teacher Spotlight Award Winners are listed below.

Jessica Aguilar, pre-

K teacher at Highland Lakes Elementary School — Marble Falls ISD

Christine Gonzales, English teacher at New Hope High School — Leander ISD

Elena Gonzales, fourth grade math/science teacher at Dripping Springs Elementary School — Dripping Springs ISD

Diane Hudson, art teacher at LBJ Middle and High School — Johnson City ISD

Rebecca Johnson, essential academics teacher at Rahe Bulverde Elementary School — Comal ISD

Amanda Rachuig, second grade English/language arts and social studies teacher at San Gabriel Elementary School — Georgetown ISD

Nancy Reed, third grade math/science teacher at Winkley Elementary School — Leander ISD

Kaycie Sullivan, high school science teacher at Junction High School — Junction ISD

Jeremy Thoman, sixth grade math teacher at Chapa Middle School — Hays CISD

Kelsey Valdez, first grade teacher at Rancho Sienna Elementary — Liberty Hill ISD

Cycle and soak

Split the time you run your irrigation system into two cycles to prevent runoff and promote deeper roots and healthier plants. Every drop counts toward preserving our water supply – lakes Travis and Buchanan.

Learn more at www.lcra.org/drought



STANBERRY REALTORS® STANBERRY.COM
512.894.3488
DRIPPING SPRINGS



KAY JEANES REALTOR® 830.385.6863 kjeanes@stanberry.com



Belterra

Beautiful Belterra lot with views! Almost a half acre lot ready for your builder! Lot has been cleared and prepared for building! Across the street from one of the beautiful neighborhood parks! **NEW PRICE! \$239,900**

Kay Jeanes
REALTOR®

JOHN ROSSHIRT REALTOR® 512.517.1080 john@stanberry.com



Perched on Hillside Drive, this home delivers long range views both in the house and outside on the patio, all while being just minutes from downtown Dripping Springs! Nestled on a unique .5-acre corner lot. Great floor plan and features! ML# 8512391 **Only \$750,000.**



TANNER DAVES REALTOR® 512.658.1055 tanner@stanberry.com



Born and raised in Dripping Spring, I have recently stepped into the Real Estate world alongside my Dad, who has 20+ years of experience helping clients buy and sell property in the local and surrounding areas. Combining experience and wisdom with energy and enthusiasm, the Daves Commercial Group was born, a one-stop shop for all your Real Estate needs!



LES BOLTON REALTOR® 512.627.5804 lesbolton@stanberry.com

JUST LISTED



Lot 8 B Broadwing Cove SW Austin 78737

1+ acre corner lot in the New Custom Home Gated Development of Hawkridge just minutes to Austin in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. This lot features mature oaks, views, excellent building sites in the acclaimed DISD and City Water. **Priced at \$479,990**



Odell Excavation and Equipment

ROY ODELL 512.923.8608 roygodell@gmail.com

ROADS • DRIVEWAYS • SITE PADS • LAND CLEARING
ON-SITE SEWAGE FACILITIES • LICENSED INSTALLER

DRIPPING TX
SPRINGS



Founders Day Festival is Administered by a Commission of Volunteers and the City of Dripping Springs

2025 COMMISSIONERS

Chair - Jeff Shindler
Vice-Chair - Clint Holtzendorf

Sharon Goss
Susan Warwick
Thomas Toms
Jordyn Searle
Mark Handley
Eric Strang

Michael Ward
Lisa Garza
Justin Cornett
Scott Phillips
Jerome Borges
Kimberly Rutherford

CITY STAFF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Johnna Krantz - Community Events Coordinator
Emily Nelson - Parks & Community Services Assistant Director
Stephanie Hartnett - Content Marketing Specialist
Sherrie Parks - City Council Member, Place 5

THANK YOU 2025!

VOLUNTEERS & FRIENDS OF FOUNDERS DAY

Riley Sublett
Noe Maldonado
Manny Espinosa
Robert Hudson
Andrew Thompson
Sonny Garza
John Hill
Sam Fadhli
Andrew Binz
Drew Hughes
Charlie Reed
Madyson Sanchez
Katey Ewton
Lily Sellers
Patrick Baglietto
Fletcher Engstrom
Sheri Kapanka
Harrison Ladue
Melanie Engels
Anthony Cortez
Lisa Sullivan
Hannah Naylor
Pam King
Heysel Zepeda
Diana Boone
Molly Handley
Michael Monaghan
Darrell Debish

Wyatt Gray
Stephen Marines
Emily Marines
Jason Booth
Jay Roman
Valania Alvarado
Desiree Alvarez
Precilla Hauer
Blaze Jenschke
Skip King
Preston Budziszewski
Brent Smith
Jordan Gregory
Ryan Morris
Ryan Smith
Brittany Smith
D'Andre Bonner
Alyssa Cornett
Grace Alexander
Carter Balsdon
Kelly Bezuidenhout
Hudson Bills
Amelia Cervantes
Harman Dhaliwal
Lauren Diaz-Reyes
Chelsea Garnett
Cole Hemmelgarn
Charlie Julian

Morgan Kethley
Stelios Pappas
Isaac Quevedo
Fernando Rembao
Michael Rutherford
DSISD
Slice Street Pizza
Scouts Troop 280
DS Rotary Club
Texas Regional Bank
Prosperity Bank
Martin Wellness DS Pharmacy
Lone Star Capital Bank
Sunflower Bank
South Star Bank
Dripping Springs Lions Club
Residents & Business Owners on Mercer, Bluff, Wallace, North San Marcos, and North College Streets
Knights of Columbus
Dripping Springs Cook Off Club
Canyon Church
Dripping Springs First Baptist Church
Dripping Springs Presbyterian Church

THANK YOU 2025 SPONSORS!



MAIN STAGE



PARADE

DIAMOND

PLATINUM

GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE LEVEL: Anytime Fitness • Texas Physical Therapy • Sonic Drive-In • Desert Door Texas Sotol • Club Pilates Belterra • SpawGlass • TDI Engineering • SouthStar Bank • Green Knight Metal Roofing • Supreme Hardwood Floors • Dentists of Belterra & Orthodontics • Sutton Roofing • Suds Monkey • Twisted X Brewing • Jester King Brewery • Vista Brewing • Ally Medical ER

IN-KIND: Wells Fargo • Roxie's • Rambo Lodge • Dripping Springs Rental Center



Dripping Springs

CLASSIFIEDS

P.O. Box 732 Dripping Springs, TX 78620 512-858-4163

Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice	Public Notice
---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Eva Maria Pritchett, Deceased, were issued on October 2, 2024, under Docket No. 24-0014-P pending in the County Court at Law Number 3 of Hays County, Texas, to Judy Christian, aka Judith Elaine Christian.

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

Claims may be presented as follows:

Representative,
Estate of Eva Maria Pritchett, Deceased,
Attn: Judy Christian
c/o: Kathleen A Mendoza
Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza,
173 FM 3237, Unit B
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Email: kathleen@lawkam.com
Voice and Text: (512) 722-3337
Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza, PLLC

/s/
Kathleen A Mendoza
Attorney for Independent Executor
State Bar No. 24055962

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Woodcreek City Council and The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold Public Hearings on June 11th 2025. Planning & Zoning will meet at 5:00 PM at City Hall, 41 Champions Circle, and City Council will meet at 5:30 PM. The purpose is to consider a proposed re-zoning of “The Triangle”, Hays County Property ID R202190, located at the intersection of Woodcreek Drive and Brookhollow Drive, from a City Right-of-Way to a City Park (P-1).

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Dripping Springs ISD is requesting for proposals for **RFP #24-25-009 Charter Bus Services. Proposals will be accepted electronically through our eBid system IONWAVE until 06-11-2025 at 2:00 p.m. local time. Awards will be made to multiple vendors.** Specifications are available in the DSISD Purchasing Office (512-858-3039) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Proposal responses completed by paper must be returned to the DSISD Purchasing Department, Attn: Valerie Littrell, 300 Sportsplex Dr, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620, by the date and time indicated above. No faxed or emailed submissions will be accepted. Late bids will be returned unopened. Dripping Springs ISD reserves the right to reject any/or all submissions and waive all formalities in the bid process.

NOTICE OF ENACTMENT
CITY OF WIMBERLEY
ORDINANCE NO 2025-15

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WIMBERLEY, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 9.03, DIVISION 5, SECTION 9.03.181 OF THE CITY OF WIMBERLEY CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS WITHIN THE CITY CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF WIMBERLEY CODE OF ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS OF FACT, SAVINGS, SEVERABILITY, REPEALERS, EFFECTIVE DATE, AND PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR
PECAN GROVE PARK POND
MAINTENANCE
IMPROVEMENTS
HAYS COUNTY WATER
CONTROL & IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT NO. 1

SCOPE OF WORK: Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 will accept sealed bids for the maintenance improvements of the Pecan Grove Park Pond. The work to be performed includes furnishing all materials, equipment, tools, and labor necessary for the removal of sediment to obtain original grade, installation of two gabion walls, installation on one gabion wall, refurbishing gabion mattress, 8” culverts and a trash rack. The maintenance improvements will also include installing two sedimentation markers and re-grading the pond’s influent channel and lining it with a turf reinforcement mat. The pond is in Pecan Grove Park which is located between Longmont Ln and Aspen Dr. The work shall also include installation, maintenance and removal of erosion and sedimentation controls in accordance with the contract documents, and all local, state, and federal requirements.

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 Tuesday, June 10, 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: Copies of Bid Documents and Plans may be obtained by emailing the Office of the Engineer, during regular business hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Fridays. Bidding Documents and Plans will be distributed electronically, please email juhmanie.alexander@burgessniple.com for a copy of the documents. No partial sets of Bidding Documents and Plans will be issued nor accepted.

BONDS: Performance, payment, and warranty bonds shall each be issued in an amount equal to 100% of the Contract Amounts 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.

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 Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1, or a Bid Bond issued by a surety.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE: A non-mandatory pre-bid conference will be held at the Office of the Engineer at **2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 3, 2025**. Representatives of the Engineer will be present to discuss the PROJECT.

BIDDER REQUIREMENTS: Bidders and subcontractors shall have completed at least three (3) similar projects in nature within the last five (5) years. All Work shall be guaranteed against defective workmanship and materials for a period of two (2) years from the date of final acceptance by the OWNER.

HAYS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1
HAYS COUNTY WATER CONTROL AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF AMENDED RULES AND REGULATIONS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of the Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (“District 1”) at a meeting held on May 8, 2025, and the Board of Directors of the Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 2 (“District 2”) at a meeting held on April 17, 2025, have each adopted amended rules and regulations (as to each District, the “Rules”). District 1 and District 2 are each referred to individually as a “District” and collectively as the “Districts” in this notice. For each District, the purposes of the Rules are to: (1) govern the affairs of the District to perform its purposes; (2) secure and maintain safe, sanitary and adequate plumbing installations, connections and appurtenances; (3) preserve the sanitary condition of water controlled by the District; (4) prevent waste or the unauthorized use of water controlled by the District; (5) regulate privileges on land and easements of the District, including District parks; (6) provide and regulate a safe and adequate freshwater distribution system; (7) provide for the supply, use, distribution and payment for water; and (8) establish reasonable fines or civil penalties for breach of the Rules.

The Rules were adopted for the purposes of safeguarding and improving the efficiency of the District’s waterworks system, preventing overloading of wastewater treatment plants, preventing increased plumbing and wastewater treatment costs, preventing line failures and service disruptions, setting forth connection and modification parameters for the joint 210 irrigation system, minimizing future maintenance and operation costs, controlling erosion and trash removal, and protecting and regulating privileges on District property, including District parks, trails, open space and other recreational facilities.

The Rules establish standards for the water and wastewater facilities, adopt a plumbing code, set forth types of pipe and fitting materials approved for the installation of water taps, describe prohibited connections, set out plumbing material prohibitions, proper installation procedures, a customer service inspection certification process, backflow prevention assembly installation and testing requirements, swimming pool installation requirements and customer service agreements, incorporate the District’s Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan, set out requirements related to sanitary sewer line installation, sanitary service line materials allowed, size and grade of sanitary sewer service lines, connection of building sewer outlets, fittings and cleanouts, prohibited flow and waste, and connections and modifications to the reclaimed water system, establish rules and regulate privileges as to District parks, trails, open space and recreational areas, provide for protection of District property and systems, set out platting requirements and other requirements for development and construction within the District, including regulations for erosion control and trash removal, establish a process for enforcement of the Rules.

Failure to adhere to said Rules may result in the disconnection of water service, disconnection and sealing of sanitary sewer connection, and imposition of fines or civil penalties for violation of any rule or regulation of the District in an amount to be determined by the Board of the District or as set forth in a schedule of fines adopted by the Board, such fine being in addition to any other penalty provided by the laws of this State. In addition, a customer found in violation of the Rules shall be liable to the District for all expenses borne by the District including laboratory fees, legal fees, engineering fees and other costs incurred by the District in establishing the violation and resolving the cause of the violation. In addition, a customer found in violation of the Rules who causes or contributes to a violation of applicable wastewater collection system effluent parameters shall be liable to the District for all expenses borne by the District, including legal and engineering fees related to any lawsuit filed by federal, state or local authorities regarding violations by the District of effluent parameters applicable to the District’s wastewater collection system. In connection with violations of rules related to erosion and sedimentation control (Section 7.06), failure to adhere to such requirements will result in a fine of \$500 for the first violation and \$750 for the second and subsequent violations per lot per day to be paid by the developer, builder, corporation or other entity or individual who violates said Rules. In connection with violations of rules related to unauthorized entry or use of District greenbelt property (Section 2.01), failure to adhere to such requirements will result in a fine of \$5,000 for the violation and \$1,000 per day for continuing violations. Other fines are as set forth in the “Schedule of Fines” adopted by each District. In addition to any civil penalties, the Districts may also invoice a person or entity in violation of the Rules for the costs incurred by the District in curing or abating such violation, plus a 15% administrative fee, and all costs necessary to restore any District facilities or other property of the District damaged as a result of a violation.

A full copy of the Rules for each District is on file at the Districts’ office outside the District, 600 W. 5th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, with the District Manager at 151 Trinity Hills Drive, Austin, Texas 78737, and will be available on the Districts’ joint website at www.hayswcid.org.

These Rules are and shall continue to be in full force and effect.

By: /s/ Bill Dally, President
Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1

By: /s/ Samantha Bethke, President
Hays County Water Control and Improvement District No. 2



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD’S BEEN REZONED
OR HADN’T YOU HEARD?



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.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of Robert Edward Pritchett, Deceased, were issued on October 2, 2024, under Docket No. 24-0007-P pending in the County Court at Law Number 3 of Hays County, Texas, to Judy Christian, aka Judith Elaine Christian.

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

Claims may be presented as follows:

Representative,
Estate of Robert Edward Pritchett, Deceased,
Attn: Judy Christian
c/o: Kathleen A Mendoza
Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza,
173 FM 3237, Unit B
Wimberley, Texas 78676
Email: kathleen@lawkam.com
Voice and Text: (512) 722-3337
Law Office of Kathleen A Mendoza, PLLC

/ss/
Kathleen A Mendoza
Attorney for Independent Executor
State Bar No. 24055962

Public Notice

For Rent

2/2 very CLEAN!!

Wimberley, on Deerfield St, well maintained, large fenced yard, full kitchen. Avail May or June move-in, lease \$1600 w \$1000 deposit, Pet Nego. Incl W/D and paid water. Looking for clean, responsible tenant. 850-855-5438 Steven 512-858-9999 Bob



TEACHERS
ARE
Heroes



SERVICE DIRECTORY

Tree Services Ogden's Tree Service • Consult • Prune • Remove • Fertilize • Selective Land Clearing • Insured ISA Certified Arborist TX0111 Texas Master Naturalist Jon Ogden, 512.452.3987 Ogdenstreeservice.com	Landscaping Services O'Kane Lawn & Landscape "settin' roots in our community" Time for Fall & Winter Tree Trimming • Tree Trimming • Irrigation Repair • Landscaping • Fertilizing • Lawn Maintenance LI 00021868 FREE ESTIMATES FULLY INSURED 512.738.2185 okanetawnscapes@gmail.com member Voted Best of Hays Again Ben O'Kane Owner/Operator	Electrical Services Red Grizzly Electric • Breaker Replacement • GFCI's • Light Fixture Replacement • Hot Tubs • Ceiling Fans • Switch Replacement • Electrical Panel Repair Scott Weaver • Licensed & Insured TECL #23403 P.O. Box 2155 512-771-1764 Wimberley, TX 78676 redgrizzylelectric.com	Home Renovation PINNACLE HOME RENOVATIONS The quest ends here... ▷ Commercial ▷ Residential ▷ New Construction ▷ Additions ▷ Painting ▷ Decks ▷ Carpentry ▷ Ranch Services BRAD JONES • 512-804-6500 bsjphr@gmail.com • 30 years of practice
Electrical Services AJA Electric Veteran Owned & Operated Employs Veterans No problems, only solutions Personal attention and professional service 512-557-5605 wimberleyelectricians.com TECL# 29302	Landscaping Services KLEEN WINDOWS Hill Country Painting "Windows are a pane so call the professionals" (512-554-1401) Pressure Washing • Exterior Painting Deck Restoration www.kleenwindows99.com FREE ESTIMATES	Handyman Services Reliable Handyman David Hall - Owner • Remodel • Repairs • Decks/fencing • Painting • Drywall • Powerwashing 512-210-9592 dhall99691972@gmail.com	Painting Services Texas Painting Unlimited LLC Painting the Texas Hill Country for Over 40 Years. Interior & Exterior Painting Drywall Installation & Repair Cabinet Painting & Staining Services Quality You Can Trust! Free estimates! Serving Wimberley and surrounding areas CALL (512-557-4371) NOW Texaspaintingunlimited.com

Renovations & Repairs

Decks by Bob Remodels by Bob

Complete interior & exterior renovations & repairs
photos on Facebook/Bobby Nombrana
Serving San Marcos & Tri County area
Locally owned 25+ years
512 757 7201

Service Directory

Put your ad in the Service Directory.
Call for deadlines and availability!
(512) 847-2202



ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League



Pictured with their artwork (L-R): Melissa Richardson, Kyndall Womack, Harper Herde, Jamison Malcom, and London Farris

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

CELEBRATING YOUNG ARTISTS

Steve Friedman
Dripping Springs Art League

On May 6th, the City of Dripping Springs proclaimed May as Art Month in Dripping! What a fabulous recognition of the many creative events, alluring galleries and studios, and talented artists throughout our community.

The Dripping Springs Art League hosted its inaugural Art Scholarship Reception on May 13th at Camp David Retreat. Two talented high school seniors pursuing the arts as their college career begins this fall were celebrated by the community.

Jamison Malcom, graduating senior at Dripping Springs High won a \$500 scholarship and runner-up Harper Herde, senior at Apamada School, secured a \$100 scholarship as well. Both clearly have a passion for the arts and a vision of their future.

JAMISON MALCOM

Jamison discovered his love for photography through several classes at DSHS. He has an affinity for landscape and animal photography.

My favorite picture is of a mountain in Kenmore, Canada. I woke up one morning and ... it was a beautiful sunrise. The way the light was reflecting on the mountains, I

[felt like I had] to take a picture of this. It was beautiful, absolutely beautiful lighting, like the way the sunrise hit the mountain is really nice."

Jamison will be attending Texas State in San Marcos in the fall. At this point, his "dream job... has to be working for National Geographic...doing earth photography."

We are excited to cheer Jamison on as he pursues his dream.

HARPER HERDE

Harper's creativity was spawned by her creative and supportive parents. She says, "Art is something I've been doing since I was a kid."

"Art has kind of always been my outlet. It's always come natural to me and never really bores me. The shows and the music especially that are coming out today, really inspire me to keep creating and keep adding a piece of myself to art that I already appreciate."

"Acrylic paints and collage are kind of the combination I'm into right now. I appreciate all sorts of 2D mediums." Harper is especially interested in doing more community murals with her art.

"I just want to meet people in the art scene and learn as much as I can, and I think I'll meet people like that at UT. I guess not going to a traditional art school [which] means I'll meet

so many different kinds of people." It will feel like I'm in a big city, even though I'm kind of right at home."

We wish Harper the best of luck in applying her passion for art just up the road.

LOCAL ART IS FLOURISHING

Three amazing local post-college artists - Kyndall Womack, London Farris, Melissa Richardson - shared their journey and inspiration at the Reception. Each went off to school and upon returning is making a remarkable impact on the art scene of Dripping. Their tips for young artists include always creating, trying new things, seeking out opportunities through networking, learning the business and marketing side of the business, traveling the world for inspiration, building confidence through small steps, and dreaming big!

FREE ART FOR KIDS

If your family is looking to explore more art, the DSAL has several FREE options:

Art Across the Ages (5-95): our new program at LedgeStone Senior Living is an intergenerational art program meeting one Saturday morning each month in the fall. DSAL will provide all supplies and Linda and her fabulous team of teachers will lead acrylics, watercolor, collage projects and more throughout the year. Fall workshops start in September but the program premieres on June 16th at 10am. Register at artindripping.com/familyart!

Teen Art at the DS Community Library (13-18): Allison and other teachers will present a wide variety of art projects one weekday after school each month. Learn more at artindripping.com/teenworkshops!

Club Hub (16+): teens 16+ are welcome to join our Clubs for a fun, safe way to share art, learn from others, and collaborate on various art projects throughout the year. Explore Club Hub options at artindripping.com/memberclubs.



Harper Herde (L) and Jamison Malcom (R) with their favorite pieces

LUNA

ENVIRONMENTAL

lunaenvironmental.com

Your Spring Cleaning Starts Below Ground

Year-round Septic Maintenance

\$30/Month or \$325/Year

Get Started Today ↓

(855) 580-0591

so many different kinds of people." It will feel like I'm in a big city, even though I'm kind of right at home."

We wish Harper the best of luck in applying her passion for art just up the road.

DSHS students bring home state championship in theatrical design

Staff Reports

Dripping Springs High School students Leela Bertram, Adrian Fisher, Hannah Salazar and Elise Turner captured the Group Design state championship at the UIL 6A Theatrical Design State Meet on Saturday, May 17, at the Austin ISD Performing Arts Center.

This marks only the second state title in Theatrical Design

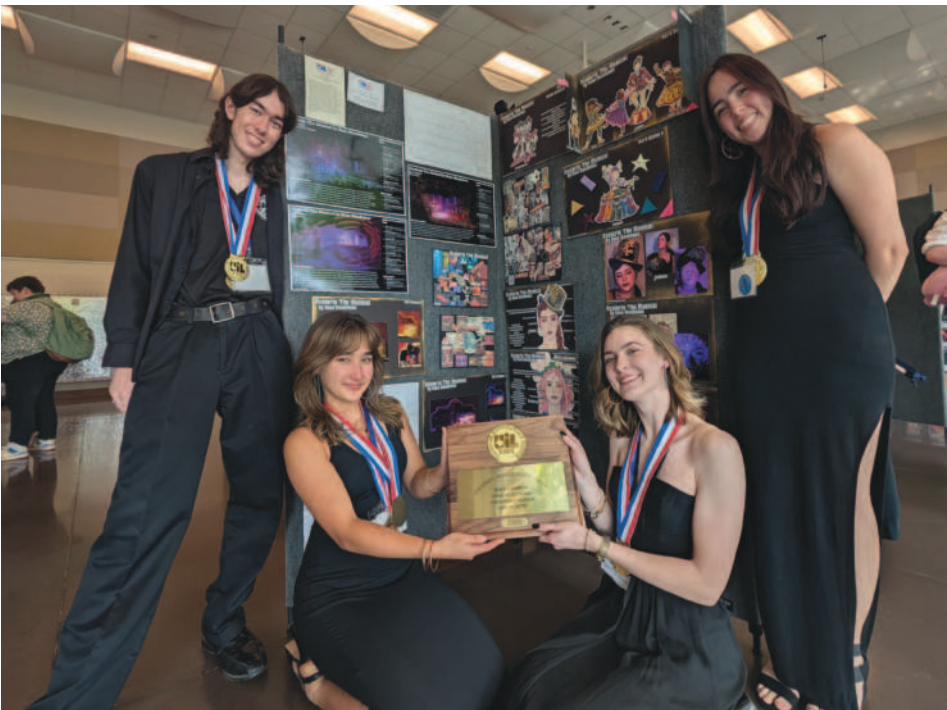
for Dripping Springs High School — following Natasha Newton’s win in Set Design in 2023 — and the school’s first-ever championship in Group Design.

The DSHS team was one of six entries rated “exemplary” and selected to present at the state meet, which was themed “Axoloris The Musical.” Competitors were challenged to draw inspiration from an artist or art movement and

develop an original design concept that incorporated innovative technology.

In addition to the group’s success, Bertram and Fisher also placed in the Individual Set Design category. Bertram earned fourth place for the second consecutive year, while Fisher placed fifth.

Molly Gretzinger also represented Dripping Springs as a state qualifier in Hair & Makeup Design.



Adrian Fisher, Leela Bertram, Elise Turner and Hannah Salazar took home the state championship for Theatrical Design.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hays County Jail introduces Narcan vending machine to combat opioid overdose crisis

Staff Reports

As part of its ongoing commitment to addressing the opioid overdose crisis and supporting community harm reduction efforts, the Hays County Jail has installed a Narcan vending machine on its premises.

Naloxone, commonly known as Narcan, is a life-saving medication that can reverse the potentially fatal effects of opioid overdoses, including those caused by heroin, fentanyl, and prescription painkillers. By making Narcan easily accessible, the Hays County Jail joins a growing number of correctional facilities across the country that are proactively tackling the opioid epidemic.

The vending machine will be available to the public and discharged inmates, ensuring timely access to this critical intervention for themselves or their loved ones in the event of an overdose.

This initiative was made possible through



Hays County Jail has installed a Narcan vending machine on its premises.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

a partnership between the Hays County Sheriff’s Office, the Behavioral Health Program of the Hays County Health Department, and the Texas Integrated Community Opioid Network (ICON). This collaboration highlights the shared commitment to improving public health and safety across Hays County.

“It’s a privilege to work with individuals who are genuinely ded-

icated to the health and well-being of all Hays County residents,” said Chief Deputy Brett Bailey. “This is a significant proactive step toward saving lives, and I’m extremely grateful for our partnership with the Hays County Health Department and ICON.”

Lt. Monica Shaffer also expressed her appreciation

“It was a true honor to work alongside the Hays County

Health Department and ICON,” Shaffer said. “This career is a calling for me, and to witness the county’s progress in becoming more innovative and supportive of the community without judgment makes me proud to serve at the Sheriff’s Office.”

The Behavioral Health Program of the Hays County Health Department will also provide educational materials and resources near the vending machine. These resources will ensure that individuals not only have access to naloxone but also receive vital guidance and support for addressing substance use disorders. In addition, the Health Department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Texas Health Science Center to strengthen collaboration on community infrastructure initiatives related to drug use and mental health. This formalized partnership paves the way for future efforts like this one.

Morales promoted to head coach for DSHS cross country program

Staff Reports

Stephen Morales has been promoted to Head Cross Country Coach at Dripping Springs High School. For the past two years, Morales has served as the Tigers’ assistant cross country coach, helping lead the girls’ team to a state appearance in 2023.

Prior to Dripping Springs, Morales was hired as Cedar Creek High School’s first cross country coach when the campus opened in 2010. Over his nine-year tenure with the Eagles, he led the team to a district championship in 2014 and multiple appearances at the regional meet.

In addition to his



STEPHEN MORALES

new role, Morales will continue to serve as an assistant coach for the track and field program. He has also been a part of the DSHS math department since 2019.

A San Antonio native, Morales holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from the University of Texas at Austin.

New cheer coach joins DSHS staff

Staff Reports

Dripping Springs ISD has announced that Kade Schrader will be the new head coach of the DSHS cheer program.

A native of Burnet, Schrader was a three-year member of the co-ed cheer team at the University of Texas at Austin, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology.

Since 2019, Schrader has worked as a staff instructor for the Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) and has choreographed five championship-winning routines at both UIL and national competitions. With a decade of cheerleading experience, he also



KADE SCHRADER

serves as a competition judge.

Schrader steps into a Dripping Springs program that has advanced to the UIL State Finals for four consecutive years, including a program-best 13th-place finish in 2025.

In addition to coaching, Schrader will join the faculty at Dripping Springs High School as an English teacher.

VOTING FROM PG. 1

bylaws may run for a seat on the board. PEC’s Qualifications and Elections Committee, a member-led

group, verifies candidates meet the bylaw requirements to run and an independent, third-party handles

the ballot processing and counts.

Election results will be released June 17 and newly elected di-

rectors will be seated June 20. For complete PEC election information, visit pec.coop/election.

ARREST FROM PG. 1

and Vasquez were not licensed nurses with the Texas Board of Nursing.

Hernandez and Vasquez are believed to have operated in the Central Texas region between Georgetown and Kyle, targeting elderly individuals; both had multiple outstanding warrants for similar offenses from area agencies.

HCSO CID obtained warrants on Hernandez and

Vasquez for the following:

- Credit/Debit Card Abuse of the Elderly, third-degree felony (12 counts each)
- Theft from an Elderly individual, third-degree felony (Hernandez: 3 counts; Vasquez 4 counts)
- Exploitation of the Elderly, third-degree felony (3 counts each)
- Impersonating a Nurse, class A misdemeanor (3 counts each)

On May 8, Hernandez and Vasquez were arrested by the Austin Police Department and booked into the Travis County Jail where the Hays County warrants were served. Hernandez remains in Travis County’s custody on a total bond of \$214,000 for the charges filed by HCSO. Vasquez was released on a total bond of \$22,000 for the charges filed by HCSO.

Residents are encouraged to be mindful of visits from unknown persons and may request a patrol deputy’s response to suspicious persons or activity by calling (512) 393-7896. There may be additional victims who have not yet come forward. Additional victims or anyone with information related to this case may contact Detective Jessica Barkley at jessica.barkley@hayscountytx.gov.

TXDOT FROM PG. 1

buckle your seat belt every time, day and night.”

Polk County Sheriff’s Deputy Caleb Boyer learned that lesson the hard way in May 2023. He rushed to the scene of an emergency without pausing to buckle his seat belt. He swerved to avoid hitting a pickup truck pulling an unlit trailer and that’s

when his car went off the highway, going airborne and rolling over twice. Not buckled in, he was ejected several feet from his patrol vehicle. He lost his left leg and almost lost his life.

“This experience has definitely changed my perspective. No one is invincible,” Boyer said. “Now, every time I get in any

vehicle, I always make sure to buckle up. And I’ve taught my 9-year-old son to do the same.”

No one wants to be pulled over, but the objective is to save lives and prevent injuries. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that the Click It or Ticket initiative in Texas has saved

more than 8,200 lives, prevented 148,000 serious injuries and resulted in \$33 billion in economic savings since its inception in 2002.

The Click It or Ticket campaign is an important part of TxDOT’s “Drive like a Texan: Kind. Courteous. Safe.” initiative. Learn more at DriveLikeATexan.com.

CALL US TODAY! (512) 877-0515

EARLY SUMMER COOLING TUNE UP PROMOTION

\$89 PER SYSTEM

Includes:

- ✓ Clean condenser coil
- ✓ Inspect contactor and capacitors
- ✓ Check refrigerant levels
- ✓ Inspect evaporator coil
- ✓ Clear condensate drain line

* Labor includes inspection and basic maintenance only. Any additional repairs or parts identified during the service will be quoted by the technician. Additional charges will apply if repairs are approved by the customer. Promotion valid through June 30, 2025.

Corridor Services, LLC

Residential HVAC Services

(512) 877-0515

15210 Fitzhugh Rd, Suite 1000 Austin, TX 78736

HOUSING FROM PG. 1



Volunteers get ready to secure a wall.



A crew lays the foundation.



A team carries a wall into place.

way he could do that, and he didn't know what had overcome him. But after a couple days, he still couldn't unsee what he had seen. He called a bunch of people together and they met one night at the Methodist Church. Within three months, the group had raised \$25,000. Through a connection with Alan Graham of Mobile Loaves and Fishes, they were able to buy a new three bedroom, one bathroom mobile home for the family.

"We tore down her home, brought in a new home, completely redid porches, decks, electric service, in three months," Lemmond said. "And the same thing that you see here today [at the McGovern project] happened then. The community came out and came together and did that - gave money, gave their time, gave their effort - and it was a miracle."

Lemmond is currently the vice chair of the Hometown Missions board, and said that he and the others are still friends with that mom today.

"We have helped her on her journey in life," Lemmond said. "And that's the big part of what Hometown Missions is. It's more than just the house. The house is the starting point. It provides dignity, it provides a safe place to live. But there's always more."

As Lemmond soon discovered, there were also more people who needed help. Initially, he thought it was a one-time deal. But soon the group heard about another couple who were living in a similar situation, only worse.

There was a nun in residence at the local Catholic Church who also knew the couple, and who was retiring. She wanted to donate her mobile home to them. So once again, the group demolished the old home, and moved the nun's mobile home across town. They provided new furniture, new kitchen wares and everything.

"That man only lived about another year. He had cancer and he passed away," Lemmond said. "But I went to see him about two weeks before he died. He was in an easy chair, in air conditioning, and he had dignity that he never had before."

Lemmond said some of the families that ask for help from Hometowns Missions have more problems than just housing. The organization aims to help them in many aspects, either directly or by connecting them with other services.

"When we get involved with someone, we're all in 100%. So whatever reveals itself over time, we're there," Lemmond said. "We're not just like, hey, here's your house, good luck."

PHOTOS BY DAVE WILSON

Chris Kelker-Newlan, who came on board as the organization's operations manager three years ago, echoed that sentiment.

"We will never give a home to a family that would then become a burden. We don't want to do that. And we would never do that," Kelker-Newlan said. "Before we make that gift we get to know the families really, really well. As it should be."

Hometown Missions works to understand what's going on with the family, and how they can best help. They provide financial counseling for the family and make sure they can handle any additional tax burden. Older mobile homes are sometimes replaced with gently used homes that just need a little TLC, and sometimes with brand new versions. Occasionally they tear down a home and replace it with a foundation frame home. The McGovern house is the third such project.

"Connie and Dennis have lived in this community for a very long time. They've raised two boys in this community," Kelker-Newlan said. "Where this house is now, this was her mom and dad's home. It was just decaying around them. And they just did not have the means any more to keep it up or to replace it."

So almost two years ago, Connie reached out to Hometown Missions and asked for some help.

"It's important to understand that these neighbors in need in our community, they work hard. They work in our stores, they work in our shops, they work in our school district," Kelker-Newlan said. "The community is just growing by leaps and bounds around them."

Hometown Mission works to help those families stay in the community and with their families.

"Connie has grandchildren now, and that old home, it was not safe for the little wee grandchildren to come over," Kelker-Newlan said. "So they can come over now, and she's so excited about that."

Kelker-Newlan said they've had six more families reach out and ask for help since the beginning of the year. He said the group may not be able to help them all, but they will be able to help most of them. It just takes time, resources and planning.

"When we share our

story, this community, Dripping Springs, they answer the call," Kelker-Newlan said. "Volunteers, funding, in kind donations - the roof on this house, completely free, the electrical, completely free - because people are kind and compassionate and they want to love their neighbors."

One of those volunteers is Marylou Brunetta, who moved to Dripping Springs from Florida a year ago. She started volunteering in March, towards the end of the previous project, after learning about Hometown Missions on Facebook.

"I have a decorating and interior design background, and I thought, wow, this is perfect. I felt like it was a sign from God," Brunetta said. "I love making homes look beautiful and helping out in the community as well, so this was right up my alley."

For the McGovern home, she wanted to follow the project all the way through. She helped with clean out prior to demolition day, and has been involved all along the way.

"It's very rewarding. It's such a communal thing," Brunetta said. "I just feel so blessed that I came across it. I can't say enough good about it, honestly."

There are also businesses whose employees volunteer together. Brandy Mendez came out with a team from Corridor Title.

"I love giving back to the community, and Corridor Title is really big on community support, so there's a lot of opportunities to get involved," Mendez said.

She volunteered with Hometown Missions last year as well.

"I was just super impressed by all of the people that came out to volunteer - seeing everybody being willing to offer and lend a hand," Mendez said.

She said she also appreciates that Hometown Mission provides the backstory and shares a little bit about the family who is receiving the home.

"Just being able to hear that and get a better, deeper understanding of why we were doing what we were doing and who we were serving was just really sweet and rewarding."

Janice Englehart is a longtime volunteer who now serves on the board of Hometown Missions.

"I actually started volunteering about 10 years ago with my two boys. I was on the board of Young Men's Service League and we adopted Hometown Missions as one of our service projects," Englehart said.

Then, about two years ago, she was asked to consider joining the board. At first, she declined due to her other commitments.

"Then I met with the board and God just put on my heart, okay, yes, I can do this," Englehart said. "So I came on board and it's just been such a blessing to me. I have just loved getting to know the families that we serve on a deeper level than I ever did as a volunteer."

Englehart said there



The McGoverns and the Hometown Missions team watch the house come down on demolition day.



A volunteer installs the front door hardware.



Chris Kelker-Newlan, operations manager, works with volunteers as they paint the final touches.

are always opportunities to get involved with the group.

"We don't build houses in the summer because it's too hot, but we're fixing stairs, making home repairs," Englehart said. "We work all year round. We're always on the call, we're always doing stuff."

She said there is a lot of joy in seeing the little things that the group can do for people that make a huge difference in their lives.

"Everybody who comes here makes a difference, whether they pick up a paintbrush or whether they pick up tree limbs," Englehart said. "Every small act of kindness makes a difference that we don't even see, but it ripples. The circle keeps getting bigger."

Kellan di Donato, who recently joined Hometown Missions as a part-time project site coordinator, said the group can always use more volunteers.

"If it sounds like something that someone is interested in, they should check us out online and see how they can hop in," di Donato said. "There's a lot of things where we need people with some sort of construction background, but there's a lot of other things where if you've got a

set of hands, we can use them."

Di Donato is only the second employee the group has had. Chuck Lemmond said he's proud of how much the organization has grown. While he's thought several times of hanging up his hammer, so far he can't do it.

"I have found in my life that God won't let me quit, and that's the honest truth," Lemmond said. "I'm not evangelical or anything, but what I am is obedient. The gifts and talents that I've been given play perfectly into being able to build and organize something like this."

Lemmond said that even after 15 years, it's still a joy and a privilege to work with Hometown Missions.

"What we have now is the strongest, most committed group of individuals I think that we could find in this town. It's tremendous," Lemmond said. "A tremendous blessing."

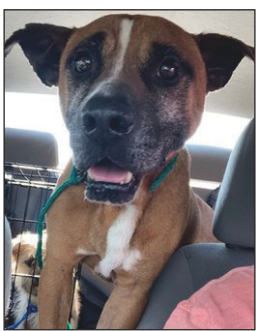
To find out more about the organization and the home dedication, visit www.hometownmissions.org.

To see more photos of the McGovern Home in a Month project, visit www.davewilson.smugmug.com/Home-in-a-Month-2025.



Euliss • Male
8 years old
Terrier mix

Everyone who meets me says I'm a cheerful boy who loves life. I enjoy car rides and walk well on a leash, so I'm great for apartments because I'm quiet and well-behaved. I can get a little excited around small dogs, but I calm down quickly and I love meeting new friends. I'm smart and really good at learning new tricks, so I'm a pretty fun friend to have. I'm neutered, vaccinated, house-trained, and hoping to find a loving foster or forever family who will love me and care for me. Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.



Tater • Female
3 years old
Boston/Chi

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



Daisy Mae • Female
6 years old • Great Dane

Meet Daisy Mae, a big, lovable female dog who is ready to find her forever home! Daisy Mae comes with experience living harmoniously with both dogs and cats, making her an adaptable addition to a multi-pet household. She shows signs of being potty trained, which is a plus for any new adopter. With her gentle demeanor, Daisy Mae has wonderful interactions with children, making her an ideal family companion. Plus, she walks beautifully on a leash, allowing for pleasant walks around the neighborhood or trips to the park. Daisy Mae's playful spirit shines through her love for water; whether it's a splash in a kiddie pool or a romp by the lake, she's always up for some fun! Despite her size, this affectionate girl is a true lap lover who enjoys snuggling up to her favorite humans after a day of play. If you're looking for a big-hearted dog who combines playfulness with sweetness, Daisy Mae might be the perfect match for you. Visit www.pawsshelter.org for details.



Universal Crossword

5/18

Themeless Sunday 134 by Adrian Johnson

ACROSS

- 1 Quaint mountain stopover
6 Select
10 Its "M" stands for "Motoren"
13 "Baby" oak
14 Revlon rival
15 "Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi" speaker
16 Confused passenger's inquiry
19 Chorus of dissent
20 Opposite of trans
21 Modern hieroglyphs, of sorts
22 Spicy, fruity tequila chaser
25 Quickly examine
26 Prone to flattering others
29 Unexpected trouble

- 31 Arab country with a khanjar on its flag
32 Rx allotment
34 Test for college srs.
35 Pic that might feature a Champagne bottle and a cap
39 Turner who led an anti-slavery rebellion
40 Test for high school jrs.
41 Animation stills
42 Beauty store chain
44 Charity account?
47 "Super Monkey Ball" company
49 Classic examples
52 Work hard (for)
54 Enemy
55 A dog may lick it

- 56 Event to help restock a soup kitchen
60 Extremely eager
61 "____, So Confusing" (Charli XCX song)
62 Did laps, perhaps
63 In mint condition
64 Old flames
65 Gold-medal sprinter Owens

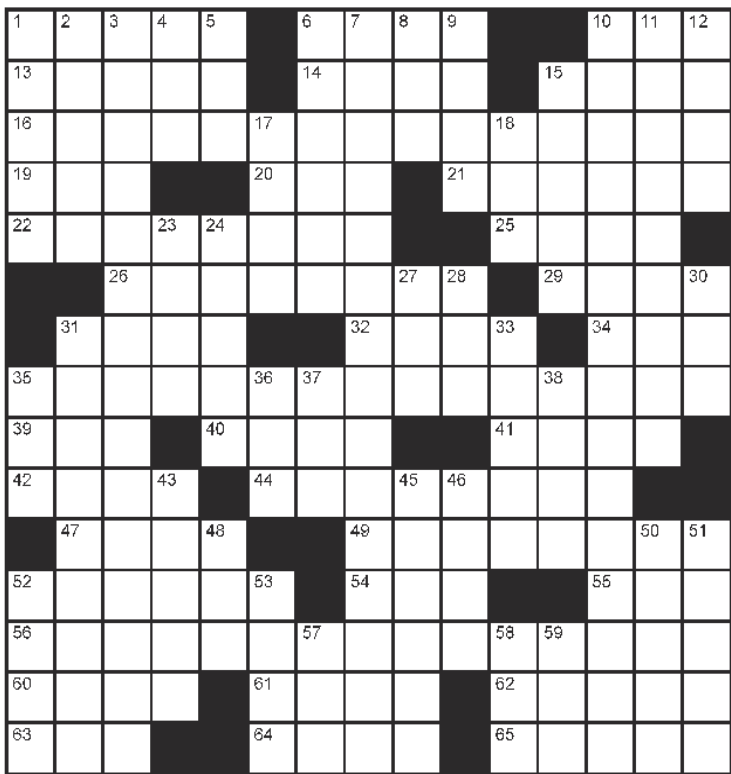
DOWN

- 1 Areas to mow
2 Astronaut Ellen
3 "It's not important anymore"
4 (Go away, you evil mailman!)
5 Dir. from Tripoli to Athens
6 Equality

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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

© 2023 Andrews McMeel Syndication
www.upuzzles.com



- 7 "At the risk of repeating myself ..."
8 Sacred Hindu animal
9 Location of the ACL and MCL
10 Sporting event of 2008 and 2022
11 Convenient stops
12 Tail motions of an eager dog
15 "If ____ could kill ..."
17 Low-pH substance
18 Chess pros, for short
23 Provoke
24 Climbed quickly
27 Phillipa of the original "Hamilton" cast
28 TV channel hidden backward in "open shop"
30 Earth: Prefix
31 Freud's first phase
- of fixation
33 Spaceship Earth's locale
35 Serengeti antelope
36 Stubborn beast
37 "Way," to Lao-tzu
38 Villain's nemesis
43 Getting older
45 Thread holders
46 Like the 2022 World Cup Final, after regular and extra time
48 1 of 17 on a U.S. Monopoly board: Abbr.
50 Roof overhangs
51 Neighbor of a Norwegian
52 Quickly examine
53 Falling-off point
57 Repair
58 NBA Hall of Famer Erving, familiarly
59 Singer Carly ____ Jepsen

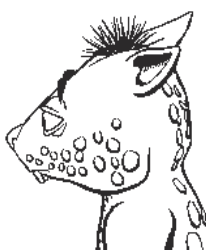
Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

WOMBANIA™

by PETER MARINACCI

Copyright ©2023 Peter Marinacci All Rights Reserved.

BINKY TOLD ME
MY LOGIC WAS
INFALLIBLE!



I SAID
INFANTILE!



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."

CALENDAR FROM PG. 1

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: cityofdrippingssprings.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 [\[drippingssprings.com\]\(http://drippingssprings.com\) for more information.](http://cityof-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

May 27 • 6 p.m.
Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting

June 3 • 6 p.m.
City Council Regular Meeting

June 5 • 4 p.m.
Historic Preservation Commission Regular Meeting

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular

Meeting June 10 • 9 a.m.

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

Dripping Springs Independent School District

Dripping Springs Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting

June 23 • 6 p.m.
Live meeting of the DSISD Board of Trustees which sets policy, agenda and strategic planning for the Dripping Springs school district. Agendas and live streaming option available at dsisdtx.us. Live meeting at the Center for Learning & Leadership • 300 Sportsplex Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@DSCENTURYNEWS



@DSCENTURYNEWS



@DRIPPINGSPRINGSNEWS

SPORTS

Lady Tigers softball earns state spot; Tigers baseball close on their heels

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

The Lady Tigers softball team took two of three from Round Rock Cedar Ridge to catapult them to the State Div 2 tourney. They will open with Kingswood (32-4-1). This will be the sixth appearance at the big show for the Lady Tigers (1995, 2006, 2008, 2011, 2017). Although the results well could have been the same, the new state format of dividing the championships into large school, small school enrollment certainly provided a more level playing field for many.

The Tigers baseball team (26-9) are cruising through the play-offs as well and need one more series win to put them in the State Div 2 tourney. This would be their fourth appearance (1984, 1996, 1998). This past week in the Regional semis, the Tigers used their strong pitching staff and defense against Laredo Alexander and shut them out both times (2-0, 5-0). The wins pit them against Pharr-San Juan-Alamo (31-3-1) in the Regional finals. PSJA reached the finals by taking two wins over our district rivals, Westlake, 11-4, 3-1. For the Lady Tigers series with Cedar Ridge, ironically the home team won every game. So it was a good thing Dripping Springs was the home team twice. In the first



Elianna Amato connects with the ball.



Sadie Bradford sends one to the plate.

game it took 8 innings to subdue CR 4-3. Cedar Ridge turned around and took the second game 6-1. The strain got to be too much for CR as the Lady Tigers jumped on them early and late for the 8-1 clincher. Vs CR1: Dripping Springs would take a 1-0 lead after one and that would do until the fifth when CR pushed across two. DS tied it

in the sixth and CR took a 3-2 lead in the top of the eighth. Undaunted as usual, the Lady Tigers crossed the plate twice to take the 4-3 victory even though being outhit 12-5. Elianna Amato and Tatum Green led the attack with two hits each. Sadie Bradford had the other and a RBI. Jai-Lynn Flores added 2 RBIs. Morgan Riley, McKenna Riley

and Emma Phillips had the runs. Bradford took the mound and tossed a complete game for the win, 8IP, 12H, 3R, 2ER, 1W, 2K. Vs CR2: In this game, the Lady Tigers would finally get their run in the sixth. In the meantime CR would get all of theirs in fourth. Again CR would outhit DS 8-5. Green would again get



Jai-Lynn Flores celebrates a play.



The softball team gets in the spirit before a game.

two hits, plus a run. Others were Taylor Crain, Lillian Wearden and Lorelei Gamble (RBI). Green would also take the rubber with 6IP, 8H, 6R, 3ER, 1W, 0K. Vs CR3: After CR had a solo homerun in their top of the first, the clincher was all Lady Tigers in all areas. They would outhit them 10-3, have a single run in the first, 2 in the second and fifth and topped it off with three in the sixth. Gamble, for the most part in the play-offs, has had to wait patiently for an at-bat that did not include an intentional walk. And with good reason. She

has 22 homeruns and 13 triples on the season. One can understand that putting her on base is still like getting a single but better than her long ball abilities being in play. In this game they decided to pitch to her and she responded with three hits, including a double and triple and one RBI. Others contributing with the bat were Crain with 2 and a run, Lauren Byrnes, a hit and a run, Phillips 1H, 2R, Bradford 1H, 1 RBI, Green, 1H, 1R, Flores, 2B, 2 RBI. Bradford had another masterful game on the mound with 7IP, 3H, 1R, 1ER, 3W, 3K.



JORDAN LEDBETTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Swimmer signs letter of intent

Staff Reports

DSHS senior swimmer Jordan Ledbetter signed his National Letter of Intent to continue his athletic and academic career at Montclair State University (New Jersey). Ledbetter joins 33 other DSHS senior student-athletes who have signed to compete at the next level

this school year. Ledbetter is a 13-time regional qualifier and school record holder for the Tiger swim program. As a junior and senior, he qualified for regionals in the 100-yard breaststroke, 200-yard IM, 200-yard medley relay and the 400-yard freestyle relay. In 2025, Ledbetter captured the district title in the 100 breast-

stroke for the second consecutive year with a time of 59.30 to help the squad to a second-place finish, the team's highest district finish as a 6A program. As a senior, he was also part of the 400 freestyle relay that set a new school record with a time of 3:09.29. He is the son of Lonnie and Scott Ledbetter and was coached by Michael Hoskovec.



STANDARD COOPERAGE

NOW HIRING IN BLANCO, TEXAS!

JOIN THE 1ST AND ONLY COOPERAGE IN TEXAS, ARTISAN BARREL BUILDERS OF WHITE OAK FOR BOURBON AND WINE AGING BARRELS



OUR FULL-TIME POSITIONS

- Cooper Apprentices (Learn from a Master Cooper- No experience needed)
- Saw Mill Operators
- Delivery Driver (No CDL Required)
- Maintenance Technician



WHY WORK WITH US?

- 40-Hour Work Week
- Competitive Pay
- Great Medical Benefits
- Paid Vacation

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD MAY 26-JUNE 6
JOBS BEGIN IN JULY

Call or text 512-826-1836 to schedule your interview today
Visit standardcooperage.com to learn more