

Early Voting To Begin Monday For Nov. Election

Early voting in local elections and on statewide constitutional amendment proposals will begin Monday, October 20. It will wrap up Friday, October 31, before the Tuesday, November 4, election date.

Those planning elections locally include the City of Itasca and Itasca ISD, Hubbard ISD, Aquilla ISD, Hill County Emergency Services District (ESD) 1 and the City of West. Other local entities normally hold elections in May, or they did not have contested races this cycle.

Voters will see issues pertaining to their address on their ballot, along with the proposed amendments.

City of Itasca

The City of Itasca has three council seats available this election cycle, and five candidates are seeking a position. Doug White, Patty Miller and Don Griffin all filed to keep their seats, and others challenging them for a spot are Courtney Phillips and Cory Pennington.

Itasca ISD

Itasca ISD has three school board seats and an unexpired term available. Incumbents Willie Jackson and Matthew Dugan each filed to keep their seats, and Jeff Mashburn, Chris Slagle and Brandon Kelley will also run for a spot. Only one candidate, Kelly Strona, filed for the unexpired

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Former Hubbard City Employee Sentenced

A former Hubbard city court clerk was sentenced to eight years in prison last week after she pleaded guilty to a charge of theft of property by a public servant.

Chrissa Spigener, 36, was indicted by a Hill County grand jury in May after she was accused of stealing between \$150,000 and \$300,000 from the City of Hubbard from January 2019 through March 2024 while she was a city employee.

She entered a guilty plea in August, and sentencing was set for Tuesday, October 7, with District Attorney Mark Pratt as prosecutor and District Judge Justin Lewis

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HOMECOMING ROYALTY. Hillsboro High School crowned the 2025 homecoming king and queen Friday night, October 10. Seniors Edward Ramirez and Kaliyah Patterson were recognized at halftime as the Eagles defeated Venus 56-8 in front of a homecoming crowd.

HISD Updates Vape Policy To Comply With State Law

The Hillsboro Independent School District Board of Trustees met in regular session Monday, October 6, and updated the code of conduct related to vaping to comply with state law.

Executive Director of Curriculum and Compliance Angela Boyd said that the HISD code of conduct needed to be amended to align with current state law regarding electronic cigarette violations. For a first-time e-cigarette offense, students will be assigned to in-school suspension (ISS) for a minimum of 10 days.

Campuses will enforce the mandatory 10-day ISS placement consistently for all first-time e-cigarette (vape) possession or use offenders.

The district had previously modified its code of conduct related to vaping with graduated sanctions for violations. At that time, the district said that the flexibility to utilize a more tailored approach effectively

addressed vaping challenges while maintaining fairness.

Students received three days of ISS, a warning and a "stop vaping plan" under the previous code for a first offense, with penalties increasing for subsequent offenses.

Measures in House Bill 6 forced the district to comply with a more rigid vaping policy.

Executive Director of Human Resources Christa Miller gave a presentation on the Teacher Incentive Allotment (TIA) program, outlining the steps the district must take to take advantage of the program. The program is designed to attract quality teachers, reward high performers and retain teachers primarily in underserved rural districts. Miller said that TIA is funded through the state and recipients are determined through a series of data points.

In executive reports, Boyd

See HISD...Page 3

Feral Hog Bounty Meeting Scheduled For October 28

The Hill County AgriLife Extension Office will host an educational program related to feral hog abatement and control options Tuesday, October 28, at 6 p.m. The program is open to all interested and is required for those who wish to participate in the county's Bucks For Bacon feral hog bounty program.

This workshop will be presented by Hill County Extension Agent for Agriculture & Natural Resources Zach Davis.

Feral hogs have become perhaps the largest pest to agriculture producers and landowners in Texas. With a conservatively estimated population to be over 2.6 million in the state and 99% of all Texas counties having

feral hog populations.

Not only are feral hogs destructive to most crops grown in the county, but they also pose a major threat to water quality, native ecology, native wildlife and livestock. These hogs can also aid in the spread and transmission of several diseases to our domesticated livestock.

Many may think of feral hogs as native wildlife or game, but Extension agents say that they are actually an invasive species that destroys the natural resources that native wildlife utilize.

Interested participants will receive training on feral hog biology, reproduction, safety and control methods. They will also receive in-

See Hog...Page 3

City Holds Public Hearing On Water Rate Increase

The Hillsboro City Council held a public hearing Tuesday, October 7, on a proposal to increase water rates to address rising costs and water system improvements.

City Manager Megan Henderson said that the city does not want to impose another rate increase on residents, but a 20% increase is the bare minimum that will address these needs.

Aquilla Water Supply District, which provides the city's water, initially proposed increasing Hillsboro's bill by \$1 million this year as it works to update its infrastructure. The city requested that the full increase be spread over two years, allowing half of that amount to be spent on city water line replacements this year to reduce water loss and improve reliability.

"The number one complaint that I get from people isn't that

the water costs too much, it's that we turn it off all the time," Henderson said, adding that the reliability of the system affects both residents and businesses.

She said that Hillsboro has so far been unable to receive outside grant funding for this work despite multiple attempts, but work continues to apply for both large and small sources of funding.

The city increased water rates in July and November of last year to address a \$1 million deficit in the water and sewer fund. Those increases were expected to bring in about \$2.5 million, but preliminary numbers at the end of the fiscal year show that revenues only increased about \$1 million after the rate change. That additional revenue is not enough to meet the previous and current needs.

The city also recently re-

ceived a letter of noncompliance from the Texas Water Development Board related to previous funding it received to build the industrial water tower. The city was required to keep rates at a level that would maintain surplus revenues in the water and sewer fund as part of the agreement, and those conditions have not been met.

Facing all of these expenses, the city manager said that the increase is necessary. "We can't not do this," said Henderson. "We do not want to raise water rates."

Most households using average amounts of water will see their bills increase less than \$18 per month under the proposal, although businesses using more water could see higher increases.

The council will vote on the proposal Tuesday, October 21, See Council...Page 3

Smith Foundation Announces 2025 Grants

The George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation has announced its grant awards for 2025. The foundation is committing \$110,000 to eight organizations across Hill County, including Hillsboro, Hubbard, Itasca and Whitney.

This year's grants were awarded to a variety of educational, community service,

recreational and social service organizations for projects consistent with the foundation's mission to enrich the lives of Hill County citizens. Grant amounts ranged from \$2,000 to \$29,000.

In the 31 years of its existence, the foundation has awarded over \$3,100,000 to area organizations that serve

the community.

Individuals or organizations seeking information about how to contribute to the foundation may write to the George G. and Alva Hudson Smith Foundation, P.O. Box 1245, Hillsboro, TX 76645.

Grants went to projects across Hill County as listed below:

Grantee	Amount	Purpose
Hillsboro Main Street	\$29,000	Install permanent, programmable, dark-sky friendly, LED fixtures on buildings surrounding the courthouse square.
Hillsboro Lions Club	\$25,000	Build a shade structure over the ADA-accessible playground at the Hillsboro City Park.
Boys and Girls Club of Hill County	\$17,000	Fund partial operations and program costs and expenses.
Itasca ISD	\$15,000	Replace the decking of the Itasca Depot Museum.
Lake Whitney Chamber of Commerce	\$11,500	Repair the roof and provide for remodeling to the Lake Whitney Chamber of Commerce building.
Hill County Paw Pals	\$6,500	Upgrade and enhance the small dog kennel area.
Hill County Kids	\$4,000	Purchase shelving, hand trucks, food storage totes and a computer laptop and printer.
Hubbard Garden Club	\$2,000	Revitalize the Veteran Memorial Plaza in the City of Hubbard.



AUTUMNFEST DRAWS CROWD TO DOWNTOWN HILLSBORO. Hillsboro Main Street hosted another successful AutumnFest Saturday, October 11, drawing a crowd of visitors and residents to downtown Hillsboro. Entertainment, vendors, food and games were available throughout the day, culminating in a performance by headliner Rick Trevino, pictured above, Saturday night.

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New Arrivals at Hill Regional Hospital

Jazlynn Polega

Jazlynn Polega, the daughter of Kristin Hernandez and Sebastine Polega, was born at Hill Regional Hospital Monday, September 29, 2025. The baby girl was delivered by Dr. Jason Bauerschlag.



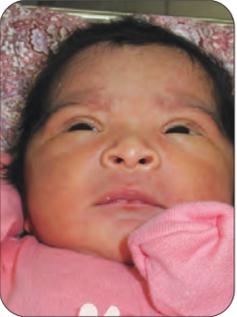
Stanley Drake Maddox

Stanley Drake Maddox, the son of Juanita and Shannon Maddox, was born at Hill Regional Hospital Friday, September 26, 2025. The baby boy was delivered by Dr. Jason Bauerschlag.



Amanda Maria Illu Lopez

Amanda Maria Illu Lopez, the daughter of Yessica Lopez Hernandez de Illu and Leonardo Illu Sofo, was born at Hill Regional Hospital Thursday, September 25, 2025. The baby girl was delivered by Dr. Jonathan Seale.



Eagles Get 56-8 Homecoming Win

The Hillsboro High School varsity football team pleased the homecoming crowd at John P. Erwin Stadium Friday, October 10, beating Venus 56-8.

Hillsboro picked up its first score of the night when quarterback Josi Lopez found Jaylon Fennell for a touchdown pass. The Eagles elected to go for two points as Tyrin Washington crossed the goal line. With 7:55 remaining in the first quarter, the score was 8-0 Hillsboro.

The Eagles' defense forced a punt that gave the ball back to Hillsboro at its own 42-yard line. Hillsboro responded by working down the field on the legs of Braylen Benson and Lopez. Benson capped off the drive with a touchdown run that made the score 16-0, after a two-point conversion by Lopez.

The Hillsboro defense got the ball back after a three-and-out by the Venus offense. Benson rewarded the effort with his second touchdown run of the night. The two-point conversion was good with a run by Benson, and the score was 24-0 with just over a minute left in the first quarter.

The Eagles' defense struck again as Dylan Barker recovered a fumble near midfield. Hillsboro capitalized with a 48-yard drive that ended with another touchdown run by Benson. The two-point con-

version made the score 32-0 with 8:33 left in the second quarter.

At halftime, Hillsboro announced the 2025 homecoming king and queen. Kalayah Patterson was crowned queen, and Edward Ramirez was crowned king.

The second half could not have started much better for the Eagles. Venus started the half off with the ball at its own 30-yard line. On first down and 10, Venus dropped back to pass, but it was intercepted by Fennell and returned for a touchdown.

Kaden Grimm and Edward Ramirez added touchdowns in the second half as Hillsboro rolled to a 56-8 victory.

Benson led the rushing attack with 142 yards on 14 carries and three scores. Grimm also had a productive night, rushing for 126 yards and two touchdowns. Lopez was 3-of-5 passing for 55 yards and a score. He also rushed for 30 yards on the night.

Ramirez led the defense with 16 tackles, including three for a loss. Eli Carmona was in on 14 tackles, and Dominiq Ybarra had 12 tackles.

Hillsboro will test its 1-0 District 4-4A record against Glen Rose Friday, October 17, in Hillsboro. The game will be featured as the 1560am KHBR game of the week. Pre-game is slated for 6:30 p.m., with kickoff set for 7 p.m.



EAGLES RUN THROUGH VENUS FOR HOMECOMING. The Hillsboro Eagles kicked off District 4-4A play with a homecoming win over Venus 56-8, Friday, October 10. Braylen Benson (pictured) rushed for 142 yards and three touchdowns. The Eagles will continue the district schedule this week as the Glen Rose Tigers come to town. See accompanying story for more information.

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HILLSBORO EAGLES VS GLEN ROSE TIGERS

9th Grade /JV FOOTBALL				DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	HILLSBORO	OPPONENT
Aug. 28	McGregor	Home	5:30PM(9th)/ 7PM (JV)	Aug. 29	MCGREGOR	AWAY	7:30PM	58	56
Sept. 4	Troy	Home	5:30PM(9th)/ 7PM (JV)	Sept. 5	TROY	AWAY	7:30PM	30	55
Sept. 11	Whitney	Away	5:30PM(9th)/ 7PM (JV)	Sept. 12	WHITNEY	HOME	7:30PM	44	70
Sept. 18	Dallas A+West	Home	5:30PM(9th)/ 7PM (JV)	Sept. 19	WEST	AWAY	7:30PM	0	34
Sept. 25	Robinson	Away	5:30PM(9th)/7PM(JV)	Sept. 26	ROBINSON	HOME	7:30PM	22	70
Oct. 9	Venus*	Away	5PM(JV)	Oct. 10	VENUS*	HOME	7:00PM	56	8
Oct. 16	Glen Rose*	Away	5PM(9th)/6:30PM(JV)	Oct. 17	GLEN ROSE*	HOME	7:00PM		
Oct. 23	FW Benbrook*	Home	5:30PM(9th)/6:30PM(JV)	Oct. 24	BENBROOK*	AWAY	7:00PM		
Oct. 30	FW Dunbar*	Away	5PM(9th)/7PM(JV)	Oct. 31	FW DENBAR*	HOME	7:00PM		
Nov. 6	Godley*	Home	5:30PM(9th)/6:30PM(JV)	Nov. 7	GODLEY*	AWAY	7:00PM		

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Hill County Sheriff's Log

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 10:50 p.m. Sunday, October 5.

According to reports, authorities took a 39-year-old Whitney man into custody at the intersection of Elm Branch and Farm Road 2604 in Whitney for failure to appear on a charge of failure to pay child support.

Deputy Jose Solis booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 6:35 a.m. Monday, October 6.

Reports indicate that a 55-year-old Whitney woman turned herself in to authorities at the sheriff's office on a charge of theft of property between \$100 and \$750.

Deputy Jerry Chitwood booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office took a subject into custody at 11:50 a.m. Monday, October 6.

According to reports, authorities took 46-year-old Joanne Upton of Bynum into custody at the Community Supervision and Corrections Department for violation of court-ordered supervision on a charge of possession of a controlled substance under one gram.

Bonds totaling \$40,000 were set on Upton. Deputy John Aucoin booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 8:50 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

Reports indicate that authorities took 38-year-old Kristin Austin of Itasca into custody on a violation of court-ordered supervision for possession of a controlled substance under one gram.

Bonds totaling \$15,000 were set on Austin. Deputy John Aucoin booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 11 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

According to reports, authorities took 46-year-old

April Diaz Martinez of Whitney into custody for insufficient bond on a charge of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

Bonds totaling \$200,000 were set on Diaz Martinez. Deputy Alberto Sanchez booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 9:10 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

Reports indicate that authorities took 46-year-old Michael Jones into custody on two out-of-county warrants for failure to appear and bond forfeiture on charges of driving while intoxicated, as well as a warrant out of Erath County for driving while intoxicated, third offense or more if at trial.

Jones is being held without bond. Deputy Mike Knight booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 11:20 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

According to reports, authorities took 41-year-old Joshua Kinser of Dawson into custody for violation of court-ordered supervision on a charge of unlawful possession of a firearm by a felon.

Kinser is being held without bond. Deputy Mike Knight booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 10:37 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

Reports indicate that authorities took a 67-year-old Hillsboro man into custody for bail jumping and failure to appear on a charge of driving while license invalid, with previous conviction.

Deputy Marcos Castillo booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 11:20 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

According to reports, authorities took 79-year-old Marvis Box of Dallas into custody on a charge of posses-

sion of a controlled substance between one and four grams.

Bonds totaling \$75,000 were set on Box. Deputy Mike Knight booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 8:42 p.m. Tuesday, October 7.

Reports indicate that authorities took 38-year-old Alicia Ryder of Mertens into custody on motions to revoke probation out of Comal County for burglary of a habitation and possession of a controlled substance under one gram.

Bonds totaling \$5,000 were set on Ryder. Deputy Tyler Dunlap booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 10:20 a.m. Wednesday, October 8.

According to reports, authorities took 25-year-old Tyric Crosby of Waco into custody for insufficient bond on a charge of evading arrest or detention with a vehicle.

Bonds totaling \$50,000 were set on Crosby. Deputy Robert Young booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Hill County Sheriff's Office at 1:08 p.m. Wednesday, October 8.

Reports indicate that authorities took a 26-year-old Blum man into custody on a charge of reckless or excessive speed of a water vessel.

Deputy John Aucoin booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Hill County Sheriff's Office made an arrest at 3:45 p.m. Friday, October 10.

According to reports, authorities took 27-year-old Chandler Hawhee of Whitney into custody on a motion to adjudicate guilt for possession of a controlled substance under one gram, as well as a charge of driving while intoxicated, second offense.

Deputy John Aucoin booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

Council Continued From Page 1

after a second public hearing.

In other action, the council awarded a contract to All-Tex Utilities, the lone bidder, for the installation of 1,600 feet of 10-inch water line between the Hill College water tower and the outlet mall property. The project cost is \$146,900. The line is a significant area of water loss and is considered relatively easy to address, as it is not along a street and has few connections.

The council also voted to deny Oncor's proposed rate increase. The rate increase would be about \$7 for a residential customer using 1,000

kWh per month. As part of the Alliance of Oncor Cities, the city is denying the rate change after the alliance's preliminary assessment found that the increase is not warranted. The denial will maintain current rates until the Public Utility Commission of Texas issues its final order regarding the rate increase request.

The council voted to sell or exchange city-owned properties. They include the former clinic property on Craig Street, two lots at the north end of Williamson Street, 414 South Church Street, 213 South Covington Street, and the City Records Building on

South Waco Street.

The council also authorized an outside audit and an engagement letter with Pattillo, Brown & Hill, renewed an agreement with the Heart of Texas Council of Governments for 9-1-1 answering point services and voted to apply for grant funding from the Economic Development Administration.

The council convened in closed session for economic development discussions. When open session resumed, council members voted to approve a Chapter 380 economic development agreement with Chick-fil-A.

Hog Continued From Page 1

formation on the continued Hill County feral hog bounty program and learn how they can participate.

The Bucks for Bacon Feral Hog Bounty Program began operation in October 2014 and has tracked the harvest of over 11,000 hogs across Hill County.

Individuals interested in participating in the bounty program, including those previously registered, will need

HISD Continued From Page 1

told the board that Vernon Independent School District representatives recently visited HISD to observe operations.

Boyd said that after receiving a D rating, VISD reached out to learn more about the steps HISD took to become an A-rated district.

Boyd said that VISD toured campuses, spoke with teachers and met with administrators.

The board approved the 2025-2026 District Improve-

ment Plan that included revisions to the vaping policy.

Board members also approved a library materials challenge form. Superintendent Dr. Darrell Brown said

"Our goal is to have as many

citizens as possible throughout the county participating in this program," said Davis. "The only way for us to make a significant reduction in feral hog damage is to systematically reduce the population. This can only be accomplished through a coordinated, widespread, multifaceted control effort."

Call 254-582-4022 with questions or to participate. The office is located at 213 Stadium Drive in Hillsboro.

Sentence

Continued From Page 1

pronouncing the sentence.

In addition to the prison sentence, Spigener was ordered to pay the City of Hubbard restitution in the amount of \$235,501.

After the sentence, Spigener was booked into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center awaiting transfer to a Texas Department of Criminal Justice prison unit.

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY OF BIROME WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Pursuant to Texas Water Code, §13.2502, Birome Water Supply Corporation hereby gives notice that any person who subdivides land by dividing any lot, tract, or parcel of land, within the service area of Birome Water Supply Corporation, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 10013 in Hill, Limestone and McLennan County, Texas, into two or more lots or sites for the purpose of sale or development, whether immediate or future, including re-subdivision of land for which a plat has been filed or recorded or request more than two water service connections on a single contiguous tract of land must comply with Developer, Subdivision and Non-Standard Service Requirements ("the Subdivision policy") contained in Birome Water Supply Corporation's Tariff. BIROME WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO EXTEND RETAIL WATER SERVICE TO A SERVICE APPLICANT IN A SUBDIVISION WHERE THE DEVELOPER OF THE SUBDIVISION HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION POLICY.

APPLICABLE ELEMENTS OF THE SUBDIVISION POLICY INCLUDE:

1. Evaluation by Birome Water Supply Corporation of the impact a proposed subdivision service extension will make on Birome Water Supply Corporation's water supply service system and payment of the costs for this evaluation.
2. Payment of reasonable costs or fees by the developer for providing water service capacity.
3. Payment of fees for reserving water supply service capacity.
4. Forfeiture of reserved water supply service capacity for failure to pay applicable fees.
5. Payment of costs of any improvements to Birome Water Supply Corporation's system that are necessary to provide the water service.
6. Construction according to design approved by Birome Water Supply Corporation and dedication by the developer of the water facilities within the subdivision following the inspection.
7. The payment by developer of all costs associated with the design and construction of the water service extension.

Birome Water Supply Corporation's tariff and a map showing its service area may be reviewed at 1131 FM 339, Mount Calm, Texas 76673. The policy and service area map are also filed of record at the Public Utility Commission of the State of Texas in Austin, Texas.

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Return your entry to: KHBR/The Reporter at 335 Country Club Rd. or Mail to Pigskin Predictions, P.O. Box 569, Hillsboro, TX 76645. Entries must be received by 6 p.m. on Friday or must be postmarked by Oct. 17. In case of tie, winner will be determined by drawing. Winner receives dinner for 2 (two) at Buffalo Creek BBQ on I-35 service rd. in Hillsboro. Right after winner will be determined by drawing. One winner per household during the contest period. KHBR reserves the right to issue a certificate to the second place holder, to ensure more winners. We invite you to attend "The Fighting' Eagles Football Show" featuring Hillsboro High School Football Coach Steve Almuete broadcast live from : First National Bank Of Central Texas Community Room

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Bethlehem Cemetery Assn. To Meet Oct. 18

The Bethlehem Cemetery Association of Whitney will hold its semi-annual meeting Saturday, October 18, at 10 a.m. Friends and family of Bethlehem Cemetery are strongly encouraged to attend.

The business and information meeting will be at the historical Bethlehem Cemetery. The cemetery is located on HCR 1245 off of Highway 22 in Whitney.

Attendees are reminded to bring a lawn chair.

For more information, visit bethlehemwhitney.com.

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Church Activities

Line Street Methodist Church will hold its Lord's Acre Saturday, October 18.

Serving will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with meals of roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert and tea available for \$10, dine in or carry out.

A bake sale will begin at 10 a.m., offering a variety of baked goods.

The church is located at 300 Line Street in Hillsboro.

West Brethren Church will host Praise Fest Saturday, October 25, at 5 p.m. The event will be held outside on the church property at 901 North Marable Street in West.

Live worship music will be provided by West Brethren Church, Salt & Light Church and Whitney Fellowship. Everyone is welcome to

bring a lawn chair and attend an evening of worship, fellowship and games. There will be a bounce house and hot dogs.

Hillsboro's First Presbyterian Church will hold its annual hamburger supper from 4:30-7 p.m. Tuesday, October 21.

The public's support allows the church to provide a coat to any child in the Hill County area who needs one to be warm this winter.

The menu will include hamburgers, chips and desserts for \$10.

The drive-thru meals will be served at the church, located at 103 Old Brandon Road.

Immaculate Heart of Mary's annual fried fish and chicken dinner will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, October 19, at the Parish Hall in Abbott.

The meal consists of fried fish, chicken, homemade potato salad, coleslaw, pinto beans, dessert and drink.

Dine-in and drive-thru plates are available at \$15 per plate.

The church is located at 601 West Houston Street in Abbott.

Covington United Methodist Church has set its Lord's Acre Festival for Saturday, November 8.

The day will get underway with a bake sale at 10 a.m.

A barbecue brisket lunch with beans, potato salad and all the trimmings will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The cost of the meal will be \$18 for adults with children 12 and under \$10.

A fundraising auction will begin at 12:30 p.m. Credit cards will be accepted.

The church is located at 115 South Douglas Street in Covington.

The public's support will be appreciated.

Believers Christian Cathedral of Hillsboro will collaborate with the Tarrant Area Food Bank to distribute food Saturday, October 18, from 9 a.m. until noon.

Food is available to area low-income residents and those receiving assistance from SNAP, TANF, SSI, the school lunch program or Medicaid.

Emergency assistance is available for six months to those needing help due to unexpected expenses, like home or vehicle repairs.

The food distributions are held every third Saturday of the month at the church, located at 220 Duncan Street

in Hillsboro.

Celebration Place is a tried and proven system of healing that helps children struggling with hurt from childhood experiences. It provides a safe environment for children to discover their own pathway to healing.

Children will embark on a journey of songs, games, videos, impactful experiences, friendships and conversations about Jesus.

Meetings are held every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at Central Baptist Church in Hillsboro.

Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-centered 12-step recovery program for adults, also meets every Thursday at the same time.

The church is located at 1100 Old Bynum Road in Hillsboro.

This Directory and Devotional are made possible by these businesses who encourage all of us to attend worship services.

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ABBOTT
ABBOTT BAPTIST - Levin Ainsworth, Pastor, SS 10a WS 11a, Wed.-RA, GA prayer & youth service - 7p
ABBOTT METHODIST - 102 N. Borden, meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday at 10:45a
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC - Rev. Thomas Jones, SAC, 601 W. Houston, 582-3092, Mass: Sat. 5p; Sun. 8a; Mon. 8a; Wed. 6p
SALT & LIGHT CHURCH - 399 I-35, Pastor Robert Hopson, 10:30a Sunday.

AQUILLA
CHURCH OF CHRIST - Glen MacDonald, Min. SS 9:30a, WS 10:30a
FIRST BAPTIST - Pastor Rev. Jesse Motley, SS 9:45a; WS 11a & 6p
JESUS NAME APOSTOLIC CHURCH - Rev. D.W. Noton, Pastor, 202 Richards, Aquilla, 254-694-3483, WS 10a & 6:30p Thurs. 7:30p
Blum
CHURCH OF CHRIST - William Pearson, Min. SS 10a; WS 11a & 6p, Wed., 6p
FIRST BAPTIST - Chuck Gilliland, Min. SS 10a; WS 11a & 6p, Wed. 6:30p
BLUM UNITED METHODIST - Jessica Roberts Min., WS 10:30a

BYNUM
FIRST BAPTIST - Edward Sumrall, Min. SS 10a, WS 11a

COVINGTON
CHURCH OF CHRIST - Hwy. 171, 817-854-2800; Barry Pritchard, Min., SS 9:30a; WS 10:30a & 6p; Tues. Ladies B C 10a; Wed. 7p
FIRST BAPTIST - 10549 SH 171, Pastor, Marc Burnett Sr., SS 9:30a; WS 11a & 6p, Wed. 6:30p
COVINGTON UNITED METHODIST - Jessica Roberts Min., WS 9a, fellowship follows; Bible Study Wed. 6p
NEW LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH - Hwy. 67 & CR 1414, Pastor: David Bristow, 254-854-2820, SS 9:45a, WS 11a & 7p, Wed. 7p
GERALD COMMUNITY
ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH - Jack McKinney, Min.-SS 11a

GHOLSON
UNITED METHODIST - Rev. Todd Pitt, 9:30a
HILLSBORO
BELIEVERS CHRISTIAN CATHEDRAL - 220 Duncan St. 582-5765 - Billy C. Clark, Min. SS 9:30a; WS 11a & 6:30p, Wed. 7:30p
BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH - 1717 Old Brandon Rd, Pastor Paul Shearin, Wed. 7p, Sun. 10:30a & 5p
CALVARY BAPTIST BIBLE MINISTRIES (IFBC)
INDEPENDENT FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST - 341 S. Church St., Pastor: Dr. Keith Kelly Sr. SS 9:15a; MW 11a, BS Wed. 6p
CENTRAL BAPTIST - 1100 Old Bynum Rd., Darrel Beggs, Pastor, 582-2370, SS 9:30a; WS 10:45a & 6p, Wed.; Discipleship/Prayer Ministry 6p
CHRIST LUTHERAN - 915 E. Hwy. 22, 582-5782, Pastor Rev. Michael C. Nemeck. SS 9a; WS 10:30a
CHURCH OF GOD EMANUEL TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD AND CHRIST - 212 Abney St., 582-9254, Sherman Daniels, Min., SS 10a; WS 11:30a & 7p, Wed. 7p
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE - E. of I-35 on Old Brandon Rd. Pastor Misael Alvarado, 582-3769, SS 9:30a; WS 10:50a & 6p; Wed., 6:30p
CHURCH ON THE HILL - Old Brandon Rd. between Hill College & College Hill Nursery, 582-9266, Michael McReynolds, Pastor: SW 10a, 6p; Wed. 7p
COVENANT BAPTIST CHURCH (SBC) - 106 Line St., Pastor Jim Cook; SS 9:45a; SWS 11a
FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - 401 N. Pleasant, Dr. Larry Hester, 936-328-7966, WS 10:50a & 5p.
FIRST BAPTIST - 300 E. Franklin, Pastor Daniel Tanguma 582-3418, SS 9:45 a.m.; WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 6p. www.hillsborofbc.org
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN - 301 Old Brandon Rd., Email office@fpcchillsborotexas.org 582-3473, SS 9:30a; WS 11a
FIRST METHODIST - 315 E. Elm- 582-2342, Pastor James Hoskins. In person & online Services 10am Sunday. Join us via Facebook!
FIRST UNITED PENTECOSTAL - 915 Park Dr.; 580-0802, 582-9009, SS 10a; WS 11a & 6:30p & Wed. 7:30p; Rev. Clay Strawn, Pastor

GOD'S HOUSE OF DELIVERANCE- 608.5 S. Gould St., Pastor Paul Green, SS 10a, WS 11a
GRACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH INTERNATIONAL - 617 Cliff St. at Hillsboro Housing Authority community building. Brother Eli, Ministry Coordinator, 254-205-6336, Minister Deshon Chambers, 254-221-3347. Services: Wed. Words of Wisdom 7p; youth night Fri 7p; Sat. children's church, noon; Sun.: 11a worship, 6p evangelical service.
HEAVEN-OR-HELL MINISTRIES #2 - 608 1/2 W. Gould St. Pastor Leroy O. Bell - 254-229-8592. Service start Sabbath morning at 10a
THE HEIGHTS CHURCH - 1945 Old Brandon Rd. Pastor Stephen McCoy; WS 10:45am
HILLSBORO CHURCH OF CHRIST - Corner Highland & Crestridge, Sun. 9a SS, 10a WA, Wed. 6:30p Bible class. 254-582-5669
HOUSE OF PRAYER - 124 PR 479, Hillsboro. 254-659-7169. Teacher Shirley Horrice. Sun. 11a; Thurs. Bible Study 6-7p.
KINGDOM BUILDERS MINISTRIES - First Sun. of the month 11am at Hampton Inn, 102 Dynasty Dr.
LAKENON BAPTIST - 254-205-0860, Stephen Burnett-Min.
LINE STREET METHODIST - 300 Line St., Rev. Darrel Phillips, Min., SS 10a; WS 11a
LITTLE ZION MISSIONARY BIBLE BAPTIST - 301 Sweeney St., 582-7117, Dev. Per. 9:45a MW 10a, SS to follow immediately after the 10a service, Dr. Charles E. Boston, Pastor, Rev. Sandra Boston
MACEDONIA COMMUNITY BAPTIST- 301 Matthew St., 469-478-5338, Michael Burks, Min., SS 10a; WS 11:15a, Wed. 6:30p
MCDONALD & PINE ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST - 212 McDonald St., 582-5139, Bro. Willie Williams, Min., SS 9:15a, WS 10a, EWS 5p, Wed. Bible Study 5:30p
MOUNT PISGAH BAPTIST - 431 Matthew St., 582-3750, SS 10a, MWS 11a, Wed. Bible Study & Prayer Devotion 6p, Rev. Howard McLean Jr. Pastor
MT. MORIAH MISSIONARY - 233 S. Church, 582-9684, Arthur Mozon, Min.; SS 9:30a; WS 11a & 7p, Wed. 7p
MT. OLIVE SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST - Pine & Francis Streets. Malcom Phipps, Pastor. SS 9:30a; WS 11a; Wed. night prayer meeting & Bible class 7p
NEW SPIRIT BAPTIST - 131 E. Elm St., Pastor Frederick Amerson, SS 11am, Wed. 6p
IGLESIA BAUTISTA NUEVA VIDA - 409 W. Elm St., Tony Miranda, Pastor, SS 9:45p; WS 11a; Eve 6p; Wed 6p
OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH - 107 Crestridge; 582-5640, Fr. Nghia Nguyen, Mass: Sat. 4:30p, Sun. 8:30a in English, 11a in Spanish
RISEN CHURCH- 505 Gould St., Sun. WS Spanish 9a & English 11a. BS Spanish Mon. 7p, English Wed. 7p
RIVERS OF PRAISE CHURCH IGLESIA RIOS DE ALBANZA - 120 FM 309 Hillsboro, Pastor Juan Abrego, Services Wed. 7p, Sun. 11a; Church 254-582-5021, Pastor 254-694-6899
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST - Coke & Park, 582-5076, Pastor Pat Gregg, Sat. Sabbath Sch. 9:30a; WS 11a
SOUL SAVING MINISTRIES - Minister DeShon Chambers, Young People BS Tues. 7-8p, 127 S. Church St. 580-1184
ST. JOHN BAPTIST CHURCH - Corsicana Hwy. at Abbott St., 582-2287, Rev. George Abston, SS 9:30a; WS 11a Bible Study 2nd & 4th Wed. at 5pm
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, OF THE CHURCH OF NORTH TEXAS 1323 Park Dr. Service 11am Sunday. 254-205-7800.
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH THE DIOCESE OF FT. WORTH - 200 N. Abbott, 582-2683; Father Michael Heidt; Sun. 9a Holy Communion
TEMPLE APOSTOLICO CHURCH OF THE FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST - 308 Clark St, Alfredo Adela Montes, Sun. 3p Thur., 7p, 254-266-2511
TEMPLO CRISTO DE PODER DEL 7 DIA - 421 Church S. Church St. 582-3573, Pastor Agapito Compean, Horario de Servicios, Lunes, Miercoles & Viernes 7p, Sabado 10a & 5p
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS - 1024 Old Bynum Rd., Sun. Meetings: Sacrament 11:50a; SS 11a; Priesthood/ Relief Society 10a; Wed. 6p youth meeting
THE "POTTER'S" HOUSE EXPERIENCE, CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST- 301 Matthew St. Pastor E.W. Whitfield; SS: 9:01a WS:10:31a & 6:31p; Wed. prayer 6:01p, Wed. BS-serv. 6:31p

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LAKELANDER
EST. 1988
PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY LANE WHITNEY

How To Pack A Shoebox For Operation Christmas Child

Submitted by Hillsboro's Operation Christmas Child Team

Operation Christmas Child's Collection Week is fast approaching. Packing a shoebox gift for Operation Christmas Child takes some time, but can be simple to do.

Donors may use a standard size cardboard shoebox or a 6-quart plastic shoebox. The plastic shoebox has the advantage of repeated use by the recipient. It is suggested that the cardboard boxes be decorated. If covered in wrapping paper, the cardboard box and its lid should be wrapped separately. A plastic shoebox may be decorated or lined with a bandana.

Determine whether your

gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the child's age category: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14. Mark the correct age category on a box label and tape the label to the top of your box.

For the FUN aspect, select a quality "WOW" item, such as doll, soccer ball with pump or a stuffed animal that can be seen by the child immediately upon opening.

Fill the box FULL with a variety of quality gifts that will bring delight to a child. Ideas include:

SCHOOL SUPPLIES - pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons or markers, writing pads, scissors, glue stick, ruler

TOYS - small cars, balls,

dolls, stuffed animals, harmonicas, jump ropes, beach balls

HYGIENE ITEMS - toothbrush with case, comb, brush, nail clippers and file, adhesive bandages

OTHER - plain t-shirts, socks, sunglasses, hair clips and headbands, hats, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), simple watch, solar calculator, sewing kit or fishing kit

A personalized note of encouragement or photo of you and your family may also be placed in the box. Interpreters will be available to translate the notes. These notes are very well received by the children and are encouraged as a personal touch. The most important thing you can add to a shoebox gift is prayer. As you pack each shoebox, pray for the child who will receive it.

Be sure to pack quality, durable items, as this may be the only gift the child receives. Do not include used items, war-related items, food, liquids or lotions, vitamins or breakable items, or aerosol cans.

Soap, toothpaste and candy/gum should no longer be included in the shoeboxes. Officials in many countries will not allow these items through customs.

It is requested that no tape or string be used to secure the box and that a strong rubber band be placed around any shoeboxes that are overly stuffed.

Samaritan's Purse requests that you donate \$10 for each shoebox that you drop off to help cover collection, shipping, training and distribution costs. The donation also provides ministry materials such as "The Greatest Gift" booklet each child receives alongside their shoebox gift. The \$10 is very important, as the organization often comes up short when donors do not pay the requested shipping amount.

The shipping charge may be paid online by using the "Follow Your Box Donation" option (<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box>) or by check to Samaritan's Purse (note OCC on memo line) placed on top of

the gift items inside your box. Donations for more than one shoebox may be combined in one payment and placed in one of the shoeboxes.

If you chose to pay online with the "Follow your Box donation" option, you will receive a special label with a barcode connected to your e-mail address. This label should be printed and attached to the shoebox it covers; it should not be covered with tape as it may affect the scanning. Sometime later, you will receive an e-mail telling you the destination country of your gift.

For those individuals not able to shop or with insufficient time, there is an option. The website www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline offers participants an opportunity to "pack" a shoebox with selected toys and gifts and a letter of encouragement.

The cost is \$30, including shipping. New this year, this website also offers a "Give for Others to Build" feature, enabling you to gift others with the experience of building a shoebox online.

Churches or other groups

that wish to keep up with the number of shoeboxes built online by their members may do so by creating a custom webpage at <https://build-a-shoebox.samaritanspurse.org/goal>. Project leaders can create a group goal and track progress.

Shoeboxes may be dropped off at First Baptist Church, Hillsboro, East Elm Street entrance, during the following operating hours: Monday, November 17, from 10 a.m. to noon; Tuesday, November 18, from 10 a.m. to noon; Wednesday, November 19, from 10 a.m. to noon; Thursday, November 20, from 4 to 6 p.m.; Friday, November 21, from 10 a.m. to noon; Saturday, November 22, from 10 a.m. to noon; Sunday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Monday, November 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse with the mission of demonstrating God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.



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HILLSBORO**

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Bible Study 9:45 a.m. 300 E Franklin, Hillsboro
Worship 11:00 a.m. 254-582-3418
Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. www.hillsborofbc.org

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THE SANCTUARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP - 6378 Hwy. 171, (1 mi. E. of I-35 on Hwy 22) 580-1127 SS 9a, Worship 10a. Wed. BS 7p

TRAIL TO THE CROSS COWBOY CHURCH - 226 Stadium Rd., Pastor Kenny Kennedy, 254-266-6479, 10a Sun.; Youth class after P&W music, Wed. BS dinner 6:15p, study 7p

WADE CHAPEL AME - 301 S. Church, 582-3162, Rev. Norman R. Baker, Min. SS 9a; WS 10a, BS Wed. 6:30p

WALNUT STREET BAPTIST - Corsicana Hwy. & Walnut Hill Ave. SS 10a; WS 11a - 6p, Wed. 7p Pastor Paul Clark

HUBBARD

CHURCH OF CHRIST - 105 N. 6th St. Schedule: SUN Bible Class 9:30a WS 10:30a Evening W 7p, Tues. Ladies Bible Class 10a Wed. 7p

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN - 404 Magnolia; Charles Nelson, Minister SS 10a; WS 11a

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 501 North Magnolia

HUBBARD METHODIST CHURCH - 208 N. 2nd W., Pastor, Ross Harris SS 9:45a, WS 10:50a

HUBBARD COWBOY CHURCH - 875 Slate Hwy. 171 S., Pastor Butch Boatright 855-3843, Sunday Music 9:45a, Service 10a; Wed. Prayer 6-6:30p, Adult BS 6:30-7:30p hubbardcowboychurch.org

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - 307 N. 5th St. W Fr. Bill Bloodgood, Vicar, Holy Comm. 1st thru 4th Sun. 11:30a; Mom. Prayer, 5th Sun. 11:30a

ST. PAUL'S A.M.E CHURCH - Thomas Ates, Pastor SS 10a.; WS 11a

ITASCA

BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST - Rev. H.A. Diggs, Sr. Pastor; SS 9a; Children's Ch. 11a; WS 11a & 6p; Mon.-MS 6 p.m., TM 7p; Wed., PS 6p, ABS 7p

CENTRAL BAPTIST - 401 East Monroe, Matt Dugan, Pastor, SS 9a WS 10a, Wed. night Family dinner 6p & age-related studies 6:30p 254-687-2343 www.itscacabc.org

CHURCH OF CHRIST - 200 N. Aquilla 687-2774, Sun. Services 9:45a BS 10:45a, 5p Worship, Wed. Worship 7p

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ITASCA - 109 N. Wall St., WS 10a

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN - 106 N. Lamar, SS 9a; WS 11a

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH - 401 E. Main, Pastor Alex Howell, SS 9:45a; WS 11a

SECOND BAPTIST - 120 W. Marrion. George Demmeritte, Min. SS 9:45a; WS 11a; BS Tues.; 6p; Wed. 6p

LEBANON

LEBANON CHURCH - 373 HCR 2202 S at FM 2114, Jeremy Beggs, Pastor SS 9:45a; WS 10:45a

LOVEVIEW

BAPTIST CHURCH - FM 2959 off I-35 W. or E. Itasca-Hillsboro area, SS; 9:30, WS 11a; Interim Pastor Larry Harless

MALONE

CHATTON CHAPEL CHURCH OF GOD HOLINESS - Pastor Sherman McPhoun; WS 11a; for prayer call 254-283-3523

MALONE BAPTIST CHURCH - 306 W. Mesquite; SS 10a; WS 11a

PLEASANT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH - 300 Pear Pastor, Carl Oliver. WS 11a; Mobile 254-717-2678

ST. PETER LUTHERAN - 2 miles NE of Malone 254-707-2425; WS 10:30a

SALEM LUTHERAN - 2 mile N & 1 mile W of Malone, Rev. James D. Heiser, Pastor, SS 9:30a; WS 10:30a; Evening Suffrages 5:30p Wed.

PELHAM

BROWN CHAPEL AME CHURCH - 744 Pelham Rd., Pastor Dorothy Pate- 1st Sun.: SS 10a; Communion 11a; 3rd Sun: SS 10a; W 11a

PENELOPE

NATIVITY OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH - Rev. Thomas Jones, Mass Schedule: Sun. 10a, Thurs. 8a, Fri. 8a

PEORIA

PEORIA BAPTIST - Pastor Eddie Booth, SS 10a; WS 11a

VAUGHAN

VAUGHAN BAPTIST CHURCH - FM 310 W & FM 1947 S., Bro. Gary Kreder, WS 11a

WEST

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ASSUMPTION - 301 S. Harrison, Rev. Timothy V. Vaverak, Mass-Sun. 8am, 10am, Spanish noon, Vigil- Sat. 5:30p

CHURCH OF CHRIST - 311 Tokio Rd.

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD - Pastor, Rev. Scarlett & Billy Graves, 704 East Pine, 254-826-3608

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - 501 N. Marable Rev. John Crowder, Minister. SS 9a; WS 10:15a & 6p

FIRST UNITED CHURCH - 310 W. Pine, Gene Kotrla, Minister

FIRST UNITED METHODIST - 407 W. Pine, Rev. Todd Pitt, Minister, SS 9:30a

LOG CABIN FELLOWSHIP - 305 N. Washington, (located across from the War Memorial Depot in West) 254-826-5283 or 254-495-0293, Dennis R. Adair, Pastor, SS 10 a.m.

WEST BROTHERS CHURCH - Pastor Bro. Terry Crawford. 901 N. Marble, West, TX 826-3146 SS 9a; WS 10:15a. WESTBROTHERSCHURCH.COM

WHITNEY

ABIDING LIFE CHURCH - 1105 N. Brazos; David Holt, Pastor, WS 10:30a.; Sat., 6p abidinglifechurch.org

BETHEL BIBLE - FM 3050, 2 miles N. of Hwy. 22, Pastor Robert Wilkinson, SS 9:45a; WS 11a & 5p; Wed. 6p

CEDAR CREEK BAPTIST (HURON) - 6 mi. N of Whitney on FM 933, Ricky Gobert, Pastor, SS 9:30a; WS 10:45a; S Eve 5p; Overcomers 3p; Wed. BS & Prayer Youth Meet 6:30p; Church 254-221-0820, www.cedarcreeklife.net

CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN - Charles A. Hendershot, Pstr; SS 9:45a; WS 11a

CHURCH OF CHRIST - Bruce Martin, Minister, 694-2311, SS 9a; WS 10a & 5p, Wed. 7p

FIRST BAPTIST - 209 N. San Marcos, Sr. Pastor, Jay Morris; Worship Pastor Randy Hayes 694-2555, SS 9:30a; WS 10:50a; PM Worship and Prayer Meeting 4p

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE - FM 933 G. Johnson, Pastor 694-2949; SS 9:45a; WS 10:45a & 6p; Wed. 7p.; Choir Sun. 7p.; Ladies' Tues. 10a

FT. GRAHAM BAPTIST CHURCH - 5 mi. N. of Whitney on FM 933 & 2 mi. W of FM 2604, Allan Lane, Min. 694-5472; SS 9:45a; WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 7p

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST - George Malis, Minister, SS 9:45a, WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 7p

KING MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH 502 N. Colorado 694-2599, Rev. Denise Rogers, SWS 11a; Thrift Store open Tues. & Sat. 9a-1p

LAGUNA PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST - Just W. of Lake Whitney Dam, James McDonald, Minister; SS 10a; WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 7:30p

MISSIONARY BAPTIST - SS 10a; WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 7p

LAGUNA PARK FIRST BAPTIST - O. Dean Evans, Minister, SS 10a; WS 11a & 7p

OLIVE BRANCH CHURCH - Full Gospel- 907 E. Pick, Bland & Pat Baker, Pastors, SW 10:30a

OPEN RANGE COWBOY CHURCH - AFCC-BGCT - 582 FM 1713 Whitney, SS 8a and 10a, Children's Church 10:30a, Wed. night services 7p

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH - 1 mile S. of Whitney Hwy. 22, Rev. Phillip Woltrich, SS 9a.; WS 10a

PLEASANT HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST - SS 9:45a; WS 11a & 3p; Wed. 7p

PRAIRIE VALLEY BAPTIST - Rusty Penney, Minister, SS 10a; WS 11a & 6:15p; Wed. 7p

STEINER BAPTIST - 1772 F.M. 1713 four miles West of Katy Bridge, 254-205-9558; John Moore, Pastor, WS 10:45a; Eve 6p; Wed. 7p

TOWASH BAPTIST - Dr. R. Bruce Page, Pastor, SS 9:45a; WS 10:45a; Wed. Night 6p. 254-694-2730

TRIANGLE PARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST - Bill Mayfield, Minister, 694-3721, SS 10a; WS 11a & 6p; Wed. 7p

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Jolene Lehmann, Broker
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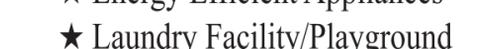
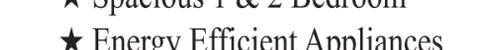
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CHAPTER 13 STORAGE Auction: 2228 SH 22, Whitney, TX. October 25, 2025, at 10 a.m. Stall #18 Maria Galvan, miscellaneous.

BIG GARAGE SALE: Thursday, Friday and Saturday 7 a.m.-5 p.m. 909 East Walnut. Lots of miscellaneous items, tools, etc.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine Only Package Store Permit by Casey's Marketing Company DBA Casey's #4710, 100 North Main, Covington, Hill County, Texas 76636. Officers: Samuel James, President, Brian Johnson, VP, Douglas Beech, Asst Secretary, Scott Faber, Secretary, Eric Larsen, Treasurer.

DONATE non-perishable food items or make a monetary donation to help feed the hungry in our community. Drop off donations at 214 East Elm Street in Hillsboro or mail them to P.O. Box 793, Hillsboro, TX 76645.

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Market Analysis for sale of 10/19/2025
Total Head: 1753

Packers - \$2 to \$3 lower; Pairs/Breds - \$100 lower; #1 stockers: Steady to \$5 lower; Plain Stockers - \$5 to \$15 lower; #1 feeders: Steady; Plainer - \$5 lower. Participating in this sale were 292 sellers and 95 buyers. Thank you!

High Yielding Slaughter Bulls \$190.00 \$214.00 per cwt.
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High Yielding Slaughter Cows \$150.00 \$165.00 per cwt.
Medium Yielding Slaughter Cows \$130.00 \$150.00 per cwt.
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6-8 Yr Old Cows w/ Light Cakes at Side \$2,500.00 \$3,000.00 per pair
Good Preg. Tested Cows \$2,800.00 \$3,525.00 per head
Good Preg. Tested Cows 6-7 Yr \$1,500.00 \$2,750.00 per head

1 Type Steers:
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300# - 400# \$375.00 \$530.00 per cwt.
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500# - 600# \$325.00 \$407.00 per cwt.
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700#-800# \$280.00 \$349.00 per cwt.

Type Heifers:
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300# - 400# \$350.00 \$435.00 per cwt.
400# - 500# \$335.00 \$415.00 per cwt.
500# - 600# \$300.00 \$368.00 per cwt.
600# - 700# \$285.00 \$317.00 per cwt.
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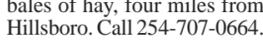
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TEXT: 254-722-9066

EMAIL: CZECH.STOP@YAHOO.COM

APPLY IN PERSON AT: WEST CZECH STOP, INC. 1-35 / 353 EXIT (NEXT TO SONIC) WEST, TX 76691 254-826-4170

PAW PALS PET ADOPTION Center. 1500 South Abbott Avenue. Open Saturdays and Sundays from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. or by appointment. Closed on major holiday weekends. Call 254-580-0679 for info or check out our website to see our animals up for adoption at hcpawpals.org.

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION
 CV185-25DC

THE STATE OF TEXAS
 County of Hill

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days after the date this citation was issued, a default judgment may be taken against you.

To: BETTY BROOKS & JOSEPH MESA-HEIRS AT LAW OF KENNETH E MCKENZIE, DECEASED

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the 66th Judicial District Court of Hill County, Texas in the Courthouse in the City of Hillsboro, Texas at or before 10 a.m. Monday, the 17TH day of NOVEMBER, 2025, being the Monday next after the expiration of forty-two days after this citation is issued, and you are hereby required then and there to appear and file written answer to the Petition, filed in said Court on April 11, 2025, in suit numbered CV185-25DC on the docket of said court, wherein PNC Bank, National Association, Plaintiff, v Kenneth E McKenzie and The Heirs at Law of Kenneth E McKenzie, Deceased, Defendants.

The Petition seeks an order to foreclose the lien on the property and assert a claim to the property located at 304 Northwest 4Th Street, Hubbard, TX 76648 and legally described as: All That Certain Lot, Tract Or Parcel Of Land Situated In Hill County, Texas And Being The West 60 Feet Of Lot 6, Block 12 Of The Onstott Addition To The Town Of Hubbard, According To The Plat Recorded In Volume 49, Page 252 Of The Hill County Deed Records.

Given Under My Hand And Seal Of Said Court at Hillsboro, Texas this 29th day of September, 2025.

Issued at the request of: Ronny George
 Address: 13105 Northwest Freeway, Suite 960, Houston, TX 77040
 (Clerk info)

Marchel Eubank
 District Clerk
 Hill County, Texas
 By: Brenda Bartlett
 Deputy

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Hill County Kids, a local nonprofit, is seeking the public's help to buy food for children who may not be able to receive adequate nutrition over the weekend when school is not in session.

Anyone who can help is asked to contribute to: Hill County Kids, P.O. Box 773, Hillsboro, TX 76645, or visit hillcountykids.org.



Thank You!

Hillsboro Low-Cost Spay & Neuter Clinic

Hill County Paw Pals' Adoption Center
 1500 S. Abbott Ave.

Tuesday, Nov. 4

Also....Low-Cost Vaccination Clinic

Call 940-566-5551 for appointment



LEGAL NOTICE
 Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retailer's On-Premise Permit (BG) by Frenkie's Pasta & Pizza LLC DBA Frenkie's Pasta & Pizza LLC, located at 100 East Elm Street, Hillsboro, Hill County, Texas 76645. Owner and manager of said corporation is Ardi Paci.

The Reporter USPS 607-000
 is published Thursdays by Publisher Roger Galle
 335 Country Club Drive, Hillsboro TX 76645.

Business and Editorial Offices:
 335 Country Club Drive, Hillsboro, TX 76645

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Darold Loyd Fisher, Deceased, were issued on October 1, 2025, in Cause No. PR15795, pending in the County Court of Hill County, Texas, to: Jackelyn M. Allred.

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

c/o: Jackelyn M. Allred
 135 Chisolm Pass
 Whitney, TX 76692
 Dated the 7th day of October, 2025.

Anthony E. Silas P.C.
 Attorney for Jackelyn M. Allred
 State Bar No.: 00794633
 P.O. Box 2200
 211 North Brazos
 Whitney, TX 76692
 Telephone: 254-694-8663
 Facsimile: 800-520-1799
 Email: anthony@silaslaw.com



October 9, 2025
Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services
PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Hillsboro and the Hillsboro Economic Development Corporation (HEDC) plan to apply for the FY 2025 Economic Development Administration (EDA) Disaster Supplemental Grant Program under the Economic Development and Recovery category. Accordingly, the City and HEDC are seeking to contract with a qualified Engineering firm to prepare all preliminary and final design plans and specifications, and to conduct all necessary interim and final inspections. These services are being solicited to assist in its application preparation and project implementation of an EDA contract, if awarded, to support the following: city street improvements and utility extensions.

Full qualification packets, which includes specific requirements and evaluation criteria may be obtained by sending a written request to: Megan Henderson, City Manager, PO Box 568, Hillsboro, TX 76645 or emailing jtrew@hillsborotx.org.

Please submit your qualification of services and a statement of qualifications for the proposed services to the address below:
 Megan Henderson
 City Manager
 PO Box 568
 Hillsboro TX 76645

Qualifications shall be received no later than 2:00 PM on October 30, 2025. The City/HEDC reserves the right to negotiate with any and all individuals or firms that submit qualifications, as per the Texas Professional Services Procurement Act and the Uniform Grant and Contract Management Standards, Section 3 Residents and Business Concerns, Minority Business Enterprises, Small Business Enterprises and Women Business Enterprises are encouraged to submit qualifications.

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 Danna Guille 254.292.3425
 Debbie Vanek 469.360.5895
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- OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 11AM-1PM**
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 - 424 Stoneridge Drive in Hillsboro- 3BD, 2BA, 1,456 Sqft. Located in one of the best Neighborhoods in town. \$255,000
 - 440 HCR 1248 in Whitney- 3BD, 3.5BA, 2,242 Sqft. On 4 acres w/ mother-in-law suite. Near Lake Whitney. \$570,000
 - 104 Oak Hill Loop in Whitney- 3BD, 2BA, 2,077 Sqft. 0.5 acres large living room & outdoor basketball court! \$299,900
 - TBD Hill Creek Lane in Hillsboro- Build at Hill Creek Ranch, cleared & ready for you. Water & electricity in place. \$80,000
 - 117 Bogey Drive in Whitney- 4BD, 2BA, 1,520 Sqft. Room for personalized touches. \$199,999
 - 181 Bob White Drive in Whitney- 2BD, 2BA, 1,513 Sqft. Extra flex room. 2 storage sheds, furniture, and appliances convey! \$199,000
 - TBD Tract 2HCR 2203 in Aquilla- 15.202 Acres, fenced w/ water meter installed. Paved entrance. \$300,000
 - 0HCR 3220 in Penelope- 10.7 Acre tract outside city limits. Fully fenced, water in place. No HOA. \$170,000
 - 190 Crowfoot Lane in Whitney- 3BD, 2BA, 1,976 Sqft. Bonus flex room. Open living space. Near Lake Whitney. \$224,900
 - 3057 Holy Road in Abbott- 4BD, 3BA, 2,773 Sqft. 29.9 Acres in McLennan & Hill County. 4,000 sf barn + 1,200 sf shop. \$1,299,000
 - 4376 FM 933 in Whitney- 24.559 acres outside of Whitney city limits. Water meter & age exemption in place. \$185,000
 - 212 South Hickory Street in Abbott- Over 6 acres w/ 8,351 Sqft restaurant building. Room to expand. \$1,200,000

If you, or someone you care about, are overwhelmed with emotions like sadness, depression or anxiety, or feel like you want to harm yourself or others, call 9-1-1 or the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Distress Helpline: 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746. (TTY 1-800-846-8517)

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CITY OF HILLSBORO OFFERS LAND FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

The City of Hillsboro will accept sealed bids for the following properties. Bids are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, November 21 and must be received, sealed and labeled "BID FOR PROPERTY - [PROPERTY ID]", at the City administrative building located at 214 East Elm Street in Hillsboro. A separate sealed bid must be submitted for each property. The bid may take the form of either an offered purchase price or an offer of exchange for other real property. The bid should also include contact information for the bidder and any other information required to clarify the offer. Prior to bidding, interested parties may contact Allyson Cliett at the City of Hillsboro, 254-582-3271 or aliciett@hillsborotx.org, to arrange access to the property.

The properties available for sale or exchange are:

- Craig Street Lot 40C, TBD Craig Street (Property I.D. 112155)
- Craig Street Lot 41, 217 Craig Street (Property I.D. 112156)
- Craig Street Lot 54B, TBD Smith Street (Property I.D. 112177)
- Hillsboro OT Block 4 Lot 8B, 115 South Waco Street (Property I.D. 113018)
- Williamson Block 2 Lot 4B, TBD Williamson Street (Property I.D. 241168)
- Williamson Block 3 Lots 4 and 5, TBD Williamson Street (Property I.D. 241167)
- McMullin Addition, Block 65 Lot C, 414 South Church Street (Property I.D. 107338)
- McMullin Addition, Block 49 Lot 3, 213 South Covington Street (Property I.D. 113974)

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Class 4A
District 4 - Division II

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
FW Benbrook	1	0	0	3	3	0
Hillsboro	1	0	0	2	4	0
Glen Rose	1	0	0	1	5	0
FW Dunbar	0	1	0	2	4	0
Godley	0	1	0	2	4	0
Venus	0	1	0	0	6	0

Class A
District 9 - Division I

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Milford	1	0	0	5	1	0
Blum	1	0	0	3	4	0
Avalon	0	0	0	6	0	0
Covington	0	1	0	1	6	0
Walnut Springs	0	1	0	0	7	0

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Class 3A
District 5 - Division I

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
West	1	0	0	5	1	0
Whitney	1	0	0	4	2	0
Mexia	1	0	0	1	5	0
Grandview	0	1	0	4	2	0
Groesbeck	0	1	0	2	4	0
Maypearl	0	1	0	2	4	0

Class A
District 11 - Division I

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Aquila	1	0	0	7	0	0
Penelope	1	0	0	1	6	0
Abbott	0	0	0	3	3	0
Coolidge	0	1	0	5	2	0
Gholson	0	1	0	1	5	0

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Class 2A
District 7 - Division I

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Axtell	2	0	0	5	1	0
Bosqueville	2	1	0	6	1	0
Dawson	2	1	0	3	4	0
Rio Vista*	1	0	0	4	1	0
Valley Mills	1	2	0	4	3	0
Italy	0	2	0	1	5	0
Itasca	0	2	0	0	6	0

Class A
District 12 - Division II

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Mount Calm	0	0	0	6	1	0
Trinidad	0	0	0	2	4	0
Oakwood	0	0	0	1	5	0
Bynum	0	0	0	1	6	0

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Class 2A
District 10 - Division II

SCHOOL	DISTRICT			SEASON		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Bremond	2	0	0	5	0	0
Chilton	2	0	0	5	0	0
Frost	2	0	0	5	0	0
Goldthwaite	1	1	0	3	2	0
Meridian	1	1	0	1	4	0
Hubbard	0	2	0	2	3	0
Mart	0	2	0	1	4	0
Wortham	0	2	0	0	5	0



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District 4-4A DIV I
Hillsboro 56, Venus 8
Glen Rose 56, Godley 21
Benbrook 28, Dunbar 22
District 5-3A DIV I
Whitney 34, Grandview 7
West 58, Maypearl 7
Mexia 32, Groesbeck 14
District 7-2A DIV I
Dawson 49, Itasca 0
Bosqueville 28, Valley Mills 27
Axtell at Rio Vista - canceled
Italy - bye
District 10-2A DIV II

Chilton 70, Hubbard 0
Goldthwaite 42, Frost 0
Bremond 53, Meridian 0
Mart 61, Wortham 8
District 9-A DIV I
Milford 49, Covington 0
Walnut Springs forfeits to Blum
Avalon - bye
District 11-A DIV I
Aquila 64, Coolidge 14
Penelope 32, Gholson 7
Abbott - bye
District 12-A DIV II
Lometa 56, Bynum 14
Mt Calm 88, Evant 54
Fruitvale 67, Trinidad 35
Oakwood - bye

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LADY EAGLES OUTLAST WAXAHACHIE LIFE. The Hillsboro High School varsity volleyball team beat Waxahachie Life in five sets (25-17, 22-25, 26-28, 25-17, 15-13) Tuesday, October 7, in Hillsboro. Hillsboro also recognized senior Charlee Mack for her 1,000 career kills as a Lady Eagle. Hillsboro will head to Ferris for a 4:30 p.m. start Friday, October 17. Pictured is Mack scoring from the back row.

Area Football Roundup

KHBR GOW Lives Up To Hype As Whitney Wins

The KHBR Game of the week Friday, October 10, was Grandview visiting the Whitney Wildcats. What was expected to be an offensive shootout turned into a defensive game until the Wildcats were able to put the game away late 34-7.

The Zebras came into the game averaging 37 points per game, while the Wildcats were averaging 52 going into the District 5-3A DIV I opener.

Kobe Haynes was pressed into quarterback duty after an injury during the week. He responded with 135 yards rushing and two touchdowns to go along with 158 yards passing. Jontae Johnson was equally impressive, with 174 yards rushing and two touchdowns on 24 carries. Johnson also returned a kickoff 65 yards for a score. K.J. O'Hearne caught five passes for 120 yards for the Wildcats.

Whitney will host Maypearl

(0-1) Friday, October 17, in a homecoming game, while Grandview will host Groesbeck (1-0).

Football Game Canceled Due To Reported Threat

The Friday, October 10, District 7-2A Division I match-up between Axtell and Rio Vista was canceled due to safety concerns. The game was scheduled to be played in Rio Vista, even though the Eagles were to forfeit the game to the Longhorns after a ruling last month that deemed Rio Vista ineligible for the playoffs.

Axtell and Rio Vista had agreed to play the game despite the postseason ban by the District Executive Committee (DEC), before the threat was reported.

McLennan County dispatchers received a phone call to report a concern, and the game was called to ensure the safety of players, staff and fans.

According to Dave Camp-

bell's Texas Football, "bad blood" has lingered following the decision by UIL to uphold that playoff ban, and Axtell is the DEC chair.

The State Executive Committee of the UIL also overturned a DEC ruling that would have allowed District 7-2A DIV I schools to skip Rio Vista on their schedules, meaning games were still required to be played versus the Eagles.

While Rio Vista was reportedly open to rescheduling the game against Axtell, no new discussions have been reported.

Homecoming Friday For Area Schools

Itasca, Whitney and Grandview high schools will celebrate homecoming this weekend.

Itasca will play the Italy Gladiators in a homecoming football game at Patton Field that begins at 7 p.m. Friday night, October 17.

The Wampus Cats will have an early release at 1 p.m. Friday ahead of a 3 p.m. homecoming parade in downtown Itasca. Lineup will be at 2:30 p.m. at the intersection of North King and East Monroe streets. A pep rally will immediately follow the parade at Lawless Park.

The Whitney Wildcats will take on Maypearl for homecoming at Wildcat Stadium, with kickoff at 7 p.m. The Wildcats celebrated with a bonfire and pep rally Wednesday night.

Grandview will play Groesbeck in a homecoming game at 7 p.m. Friday night, October 17, with kickoff at 7 p.m.



BURN BAN

The Hill County Commissioners Court enacted a 30-day burn ban Tuesday, October 14.

Citizens National Bank proudly presents the Saturday Morning Scoreboard WITH JACK FOLEY!

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Hill Co. Paw Pals To Hold Annual Golf Tournament

Hill County Paw Pals will hold its fifth annual Putts for Paws golf tournament Saturday, October 25. The event will take place at the Old Course at White Bluff Resort in Whitney.

Paw Pals is a non-profit, no-kill dog and cat shelter dedicated to saving abandoned pets, providing care as needed and working to rehome the animals. All proceeds from the tournament will benefit the organization's efforts.

The four-person scramble will get underway at 10 a.m.,

County Museum Meeting Oct. 25

The Hill County Cell Block Museum will hold its general membership meeting Saturday, October 25, at 2 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the historic Cumberland Presbyterian Church on the museum campus, at 120 North Waco Street in Hillsboro.

The meeting date will be the last day that the museum will be open for the 2025 season. The public is invited.

with trophies being awarded to first, second and third-place contestants.

An entry fee of \$80 is required to join the tournament, and businesses or individuals may sponsor a hole at a cost of \$100.

In return for their donation, entrants will receive 12 door-prize tickets. A 50/50 drawing will also be held at the end of the tournament.

To sign up to play, donate a door prize or sponsor a hole, call Betty Moodt at 254-681-2166 or email bmoodt@windstream.net.

ESD 2 Board To Hold October Meeting Tonight

The Hill County Emergency Services District (ESD) 2 Board of Commissioners will meet in a regular session Thursday, October 16, at 5:30 p.m.

The resignation of Commissioner Bob Stahl is on the agenda for the board's review, along with action to appoint an interim treasurer.

The board is also expected to discuss purchasing property in the Aquilla area.

Commissioners will also hear monthly reports, discuss district facilities, plan training and distribute compensation to fire departments for EMS calls.

The meeting will be held at the Hill County ESD 2 office, located at 201 South Outlet Drive in Hillsboro.

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NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY OF FILES VALLEY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Pursuant to Texas Water Code, §13.2502, Files Valley Water Supply Corporation hereby gives notice that any person who subdivides land by dividing any lot, tract, or parcel of land, within the service area of Files Valley Water Supply Corporation, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 10902 in Hill and Ellis County, Texas, into two or more lots or sites for the purpose of sale or development, whether immediate or future, including re-subdivision of land for which a plat has been filed or recorded or request more than two water service connections on a single contiguous tract of land must comply with Section F, Developer, Subdivision and Non-Standard Service Requirements ("the Subdivision policy") contained in Files Valley Water Supply Corporation's Tariff. FILES VALLEY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO EXTEND RETAIL WATER SERVICE TO A SERVICE APPLICANT IN A SUBDIVISION WHERE THE DEVELOPER OF THE SUBDIVISION HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION POLICY.

APPLICABLE ELEMENTS OF THE SUBDIVISION POLICY INCLUDE:

1. Evaluation by Files Valley Water Supply Corporation of the impact a proposed subdivision service extension will make on Files Valley Water Supply Corporation's water supply service system and payment of the costs for this evaluation.
2. Payment of reasonable costs or fees by the developer for providing water service capacity.
3. Payment of fees for reserving water supply service capacity.
4. Forfeiture of reserved water supply service capacity for failure to pay applicable fees.
5. Payment of costs of any improvements to Files Valley Water Supply Corporation's system that are necessary to provide the water service.
6. Construction according to design approved by Files Valley Water Supply Corporation and dedication by the developer of the water facilities within the subdivision following the inspection.
7. The payment by developer of all costs associated with the design and construction of the water service extension.

Files Valley Water Supply Corporation's tariff and a map showing its service area may be reviewed at the offices of HILCO Electric Co-op, 115 E. Main, Itasca, Texas 76055. The policy and service area map are also filed of record at the Public Utility Commission of the State of Texas in Austin, Texas.

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OBITUARIES

THOMAS DeBORDE



Services for Thomas "Tom" Duane DeBorde will be held Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Cedar Creek Baptist Church, 5643 Farm to Market Road 933, Whitney TX, 76692. He will then be laid to rest at DFW National Cemetery November 7, 2025, at 3 p.m. Honorary pallbearers include James "Bo" DeBorde, Brant Lunsford, Chris Norman, Aaron Norman, Calvin Bennett and Steve Copeland. Please join us for the church service to celebrate Tom's life.

Tom died in Fort Worth Monday, September 22, 2025, surrounded by his family. Tom was born May 18, 1947, in Roswell, New Mexico.

Tom spent many years in New Mexico mostly between Roswell, Artesia and Carlsbad. His parents moved to California for a short time, but Tom ended up finding his way back to New Mexico.

Tom joined the Air Force and proudly served his country. After the military, Tom was a crane operator for Navajo Refinery in Artesia, New Mexico for 28 years before retiring. Tom and his wife, Connie, then moved to Whitney, where they enjoyed their retirement.

Tom was always on the move. He didn't sit still long. He loved the Lord, his country and his family and friends. In his earlier days, Tom enjoyed the lake. You could often find him fishing,

boating or dragging his kids and grandkids around on skis and tubes flinging them across the lake.

Tom loved music. He loved his guitars and played for many years, including the time he spent with his church band.

He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather, and loved his family and friends. Tom was the first person to offer help when someone was in need.

Tom is preceded in death by his parents, Jim and Edith DeBorde; and nephew, Patrick Norman.

Tom is survived by his wife Connie DeBorde of Whitney; sister, Patty DeBorde of Carlsbad, New Mexico; daughter, Kathy Bryant and husband, Randy of Odessa; son, James "Bo" Deborde of Tallahassee, Florida; stepson, Brant Lunsford and wife, Kathy of Ponder; and stepdaughter, Blake Lunsford of Fort Worth.

His grandchildren include Treven DeBorde, Braylin Bryant, Paige Lunsford and Clay Moody, Kaitlyn and Trey Loera, Garrett Lunsford, Edrick Edwards-Lunsford, Xavion Edwards-Lunsford, Ayden Lunsford, Kai Lunsford; great-grandchildren, Aspen Matthews and Adley Rae Martinez; and nephews, Chris Norman and wife, Deborah and Arron Norman.

ROBERTA HELTON



Roberta Mason Helton, 89, of Hillsboro passed away Sunday, October 5, 2025. Funeral services were held Thursday, October 9, 2025, at First Methodist Church in Hillsboro. Burial followed at Hillcrest Garden of Memory Cemetery in Hillsboro.

Roberta was born to Abe and Bess Mason, October 28, 1935, in Irene. She first met Leon when they were young children and Leon's mom babysat her. They were friends from the start, then they began dating when Roberta was a teenager and dated for seven years before Leon asked her to marry him. They were married Thanksgiving Day in 1954, at her parent's house in Irene.

Roberta loved Leon. They went dancing every Saturday night at Geneva Hall. They were the first ones there and the last to leave.

You could often find Roberta in her sewing room at her house, working on a project while listening to and watching her Texas Rangers play. She took many trips with Leon to Louisiana, where she would sit beside him as he played.

Roberta worked for Bank of America and retired as bank president after 48 years. She retired when Leon turned 80. He said that was the best gift he ever received.

She spent many years serving the community in numerous ways, president of the Ladies Auxiliary for the fire department, or the Lions Club, or with the Chamber/Main Street.

After retirement, she spent her days with Leon, fixing him breakfast, watching Price Is Right, then watching their programs together and going to the pasture to check

on the cows and working in her sewing room.

Roberta leaves a beautiful legacy. She loved her kids and grandkids and would light up any time any one of them entered the room. Even at the end, she would still smile and nod when the kids showed up.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband, Leon Helton of 68 years; her parents, Abe and Bess Mason and Margaret Mason.

Roberta is survived by her sons, Dwaine and wife, Pam of Forney, Davey and his wife, Laura of Hillsboro; 13 grandchildren, Megan Thomas and husband, Todd, Heather Scoggins and husband, Derick, Nick Helton and wife, Stacey, Cody Lunsford and wife, Heather, Clay Lunsford and wife, Mallory, Glenna Wier and husband, Dave, and Sean Crain; 18 great-grandchildren, Lauren, Kade and wife, Kira, Brennen and wife, Lynden, Carson and fiancé, Logan, Colby, Mason, Olivia, Lincoln, Tryston, Caden, Easton, Lyvv, Karter, Brittney and husband, Tony, Kaili and Christopher; three great-great grandchildren, Kasen, Collins and Lyam; brother, Jim Mason and wife, Carol of Dallas; brother, Jeff Wolverton and wife, Angie; brother, John Wolverton and wife, Danette, Jack Wolverton, along with many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to say thank you to The Wesley House for their care and to Alpha Omega Hospice Care.

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HEATHER KRUEGER



Heather Nicole Krueger, loving daughter, sister, twin, aunt, granddaughter, niece, cousin, co-worker and friend to many, age 38, of Bynum unexpectedly passed away Thursday, October 2, 2025, at Ascension Providence Hospital in Waco.

Heather was born April 23, 1987, in Hillsboro to Eddie and Nancy (Kucera) Krueger. She was a member of Salem Lutheran Church in Malone. No services will be held.

She graduated from Bynum High School, attended Hill College and graduated from Texas A&M Commerce in Corsicana.

She worked at Dressbarn for 13 years and was currently employed by Primoris Services Corporation, where she was a billing supervisor. Heather was always willing to assist and help anyone, making numerous friends and never forgetting anyone.

Heather's true love was her family. Her twin brother, Heath, can confirm her selflessness and love they shared. Having no children of her own, nephews, Tristan Lane and David Joseph could always depend on their aunt Heather for special surprises, trips to the movies and bowling. Heather was dubbed the "Selfie Queen," never letting the opportunity for another picture and memory slip away. Holidays were never done until she got her nephews and great-cousins lined up for that special photo - and they all knew to smile or else it would be a redo. Her beautiful smile and great big heart were just a few of her wonderful qualities. Her last act of kindness, continuing to give to oth-

ers, Heather was an organ donor. She will truly be missed.

She is preceded in death by her "Papaw," Edwin Kucera and "Papa," Edward Krueger; aunt, Joyce Crumpton; uncle, Gary Baird; and uncle,

Kenneth Kucera.

Survivors include her parents, Eddie and Nancy Krueger; sister, Dana Miller and husband, David; twin brother, Heath; "Memaw" Margie Kucera; "Granny" Barbara Krueger; aunt, Pauline Wines and husband, Kirk; uncle, Ralph Crumpton; aunt, Teresa Baird; aunt, Karen Picha and husband, Greg; aunt, Laverne Krueger; nephews, Tristan Lane and David Joseph Miller; cousins, Brad and Sarah Wines, Pam and Bryan Hilpert, Jamie and John Jaska, Joshua and Rachel Crumpton, Timothy Kucera, Justin Picha, Michael and Heather Vrana, Tonya and Chris Tindell and Kevin and Michelle Neal; great-cousins, Brayden, Brianna, Ruby, Jaxon, Jady, Lily, Maddison, Macen, Jacob, Caroline and Anika; and countless co-workers and friends.

Memorials may be made to Bynum Ex-Students Association, c/o Jack Lowe, 216 Alamosa, Hewitt, Texas 76643 or a charity of choice.

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NOTICE OF ELECTION

In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, and 4 Tex. Admin. Code, Chapter 3, Subchapter A, the Texas Department of Agriculture (the Department) will conduct a board election in the Northern Blacklands Boll Weevil Eradication Zone, in order to select a representative of the above-referenced zone to serve on the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board of Directors. The board is charged with administering the boll weevil eradication program in Texas.

The Northern Blacklands Eradication Zone consists of all of Montague, Cooke, Grayson, Fannin, Lamar, Red River, Bowie, Cass, Morris, Titus, Franklin, Hopkins, Delta, Hunt, Rockwall, Collin, Denton, Wise, Jack, Parker, Tarrant, Dallas, Kaufman, Rains, Van Zandt, Henderson, Navarro, Ellis, Johnson, Hood, Somervell, Bosque, Hamilton, and Hill counties; and those parts of McLennan and Limestone counties north of State Highway 84.

Any cotton grower having planted cotton in the year 2024 within the zone defined above is eligible to vote, and, if he or she resides in the Northern Blacklands Eradication Zone and has at least seven years experience as a cotton grower, can have his or her name placed on the ballot as a candidate in the board member election. A cotton grower is defined as a person who grows cotton intended to be commercial cotton. The term includes an individual who, as owner, landlord, tenant or sharecropper, is entitled to share in the cotton grown and available for marketing from the farm, or share in the proceeds from the sale of the cotton from the farm or from an indemnity or other payment received from or related to the planting, growing, or failure of the cotton. Any person eligible to vote in the board member election that resides in the Northern Blacklands Eradication Zone and meets the seven-year experience requirement may place their name in nomination for election to the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation Board by written application to the Department, at the address provided below. Nomination forms are provided by the Department and must be signed by the nominee and at least ten other eligible voters. **The nomination form must be received by the Department at its office located in Austin by November 14, 2025, and must provide the legal residence of the applicant. A nomination form may be obtained by contacting the Department office or any Texas A&M AgriLife Extension office located in the voting area.**

The board election will be held by mail-in-balloting. If there is more than one candidate, ballots will be mailed to cotton growers following the nomination deadline. All ballots cast by mail must be postmarked no later than **December 19, 2025**, to be valid. If an election is uncontested, the sole nominee will be automatically instated as director, in lieu of a formal election taking place.

For more information regarding the referendum and election, or if you are a cotton grower in the above-referenced area and do not receive a ballot, please contact Patrick Dudley with the Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, Texas, 78711, call (512) 787-9966 or by e-mail at Patrick.Dudley@TexasAgriculture.gov.

Free Clinic Open Saturday

Mission Hillsboro Medical Clinic, located at 120 East Franklin Street in Hillsboro, will be open Saturday, October 18, for its third-Saturday clinic.

Registration begins at 6 a.m., and the clinic closes at noon. Residents of Hill County without medical insurance are eligible to be seen.

Patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis with proof of address. Leave a message at 254-479-1489 for more information or to make a dental appointment.

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HILLSBORO POLICE REPORTS

The Hillsboro Police Department made an arrest Friday, October 3.

According to reports, officer Emmanuel Ramos was patrolling in the 400 block of Sycamore Street when he was waved down by a 66-year-old female.

She reportedly stated to the officer that her credit or debit card had been stolen, searching through her bag while speaking with him.

After the woman consented to a search of her property, Ramos went through her bag and reportedly located a bag

of methamphetamine.

Mattie Crowder was arrested on a charge of possession of a controlled substance under one gram, receiving bonds totaling \$5,000.

An arrest was made by the Hillsboro Police Department Saturday, October 4.

Reports indicate that at approximately 3:38 p.m., Officer Lambert Jefferson noticed a silver Ford Expedition with a windshield tinted past the AS1 line while posted at mile marker 368 of Interstate 35.

Upon conducting a traffic stop, Jefferson smelled a strong odor of marijuana, which was confirmed upon a subsequent search of the subject's vehicle.

The driver, 46-year-old Kendrea Montez, was arrested on a charge of possession of marijuana between four ounces and five pounds. Bonds totaling \$5,000 were set on Montez.

The Hillsboro Police Department made an arrest Sunday, October 5.

According to reports, of-

ficer Chandler Gordon was dispatched to the 400 block of Corsicana Street for a vehicle crash. He made contact with the sole occupant of the vehicle, a 22-year-old woman, who the initial reporting party stated was intoxicated.

Reports indicate that the subject admitted that she had consumed alcohol, which was confirmed by her failure of field sobriety tests and a subsequent blood draw.

She was that booked into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY OF BRANDON IRENE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

Pursuant to Texas Water Code, §13.2502, Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation hereby gives notice that any person who subdivides land by dividing any lot, tract, or parcel of land, within the service area of Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation, Certificate of Convenience and Necessity No. 10745 in Hill and Navarro County, Texas, into two or more lots or sites for the purpose of sale or development, whether immediate or future, including re-subdivision of land for which a plat has been filed or recorded or request more than two water service connections on a single contiguous tract of land must comply with Section F, Developer, Subdivision and Non-Standard Service Requirements ("the Subdivision policy") contained in Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation's Tariff. BRANDON IRENE WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO EXTEND RETAIL WATER SERVICE TO A SERVICE APPLICANT IN A SUBDIVISION WHERE THE DEVELOPER OF THE SUBDIVISION HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE SUBDIVISION POLICY.

APPLICABLE ELEMENTS OF THE SUBDIVISION POLICY INCLUDE:

- Evaluation by Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation of the impact a proposed subdivision service extension will make on Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation's water supply service system and payment of the costs for this evaluation.
- Payment of reasonable costs or fees by the developer for providing water service capacity.
- Payment of fees for reserving water supply service capacity.
- Forfeiture of reserved water supply service capacity for failure to pay applicable fees.
- Payment of costs of any improvements to Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation's system that are necessary to provide the water service.
- Construction according to design approved by Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation and dedication by the developer of the water facilities within the subdivision following the inspection.
- The payment by developer of all costs associated with the design and construction of the water service extension.

Brandon Irene Water Supply Corporation's tariff and a map showing its service area may be reviewed at the offices of 7416 State Highway 22, Brandon, Texas 76628. The policy and service area map are also filed of record at the Public Utility Commission of the State of Texas in Austin, Texas.

Friends of Library Offering Tickets To Author Luncheon

The Friends of Hillsboro City Library invite the public to join them for their next author luncheon featuring Whitney resident and local author Lakeith Jones at noon Wednesday, October 22, at Hillsboro's Historic City Hall.

Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased in person at the library, located at 118 South Waco Street, via PayPal through the library's website or by contacting the library at 254-582-7385.

Jones will be discussing his book, "Best Barber Ever: Stories from the Chair," which includes stories from Jones' time as a barber on a military base. Reviewers describe the stories as uplifting and inspiring as Jones describes how his life was changed by the clients who sat in his chair.

"I gave my clients my best, with blood, sweat and tears," he said. "This book is full of stories of hope, weddings, funerals, promotions, laughter and tears."

Jones was born in Chicago and served in the Navy for six years. "It was only natural that I began my journey as a barber on a military base," he said. "It is still a mystery that someone

would trust a bald barber. I served as a barber for five years, and thus the stories from the chair were born."

Jones and his wife, Stephanie, reside in Whitney and have four children: Aidan, Avery, Joseph and Legend. He currently is employed at TSTC in Waco.

The Friends of Hillsboro City Library sponsor the Author Luncheon Speaker Series as a community outreach program, bringing noted authors to Hillsboro to discuss their works and the processes they undertook to find their stories.

Past authors include Clifton resident and best-selling national author Lisa Wingate, journalists Joe Holley and Ryan Ford, historians Kathryn Smith and Dr. Rose-Mary Rumbley, authors James Wade and Steven L. Davis, sportswriter Marjorie Herrera Lewis, artist George Boutwell, and former Hillsboro native and retired WFAA meteorologist Troy Dungan.

For more information about the Friends of the Library Author Luncheon or to become a Friends member, contact the library at 254-582-7385 or visit the library at 118 South Waco Street in downtown Hillsboro.

Comptroller Releases Oct. Sales Tax Allocations

Acting Texas Comptroller Kelly Hancock has announced he will send cities, counties, transit systems and special purpose districts \$1.1 billion in local sales tax allocations for October, 3.9% more than in October 2024.

Hillsboro's October payment totaled \$497,105, up 9.64% compared to last October. Year to date, the city's sales tax allocations have totaled \$5,062,368, a 9.37% increase over the first 10 months of last year.

Hill County's October allocation was \$393,070, down 8.85% compared to October 2024. The county's year-to-date payments total about the same as they did from January to October 2024, at \$4,015,711.

October allocations and changes from last October for other Hill County cities were: Abbott - \$14,132.86, up 21.62%; Aquilla -

\$1,033.25, down 18.18%; Blum - \$5,828.97, up 59.82%; Bynum - \$880.37, up 9.25%; Carl's Corner - \$5,498.28, up 6.35%; Covington - \$6,904.85, up 0.66%; Hubbard - \$28,180.90, up 11.91%; Itasca - \$27,370.87, down 10.85%; Malone - \$2,056.81, down 10.14%; Mertens - \$595.39, up 35%; Mount Calm - \$2,073.84, up 71.68%; Penelope - \$855.21, up 24.26%; Whitney - \$82,832.60, down 2.25%.

These allocations are based on sales made in August by businesses that report tax monthly.

Oktoberfest Celebration Set For Saturday

Ember Cigar Company's second annual Oktoberfest celebration will be held Saturday, October 18, at The Yard in downtown Hillsboro. This year, the event will be sponsored by RVS Texas Diesel.

The free-to-attend event will begin at 10 a.m. and run until 10 p.m. Among the festivities will be food trucks, a stein-holding contest, vendors, specialty German drinks and cigars.

Live music will be performed throughout the day, with Extended Warranty Band to perform at 5 p.m., followed by local musicians Barry Beavers and Jennifer Neal at 6 p.m., and headliners Ghosts of Hill County at 8 p.m.

At 11 a.m., Roadside America Museum will kick off a classic car cruise-in in conjunction with the event.

The Yard is located at 107 East Elm Street, directly next to Business Supply Center.

Whitney Man Sentenced To 50 Years

A Whitney man was sentenced to 50 years in prison for possession of child pornography Friday, October 10.

Nathan Andrew Cox, 37, had been scheduled for a jury trial in November but entered a guilty plea and was sentenced by District Judge Justin Lewis.

District Attorney Mark Pratt, who handled the prosecution, thanked Judge Lewis and stated, "A sentence of 50 years in prison for possessing child pornography sends a very strong message that Hill County will severely punish, by judge or jury, anyone who possesses such horrendous and disgusting material as was involved in this matter."

Area Arrest Reports

The Department of Public Safety made an arrest at 9:17 p.m. Tuesday, October 7.

According to reports, authorities took 19-year-old Eric Perez of Hillsboro into custody on charges of possession of a controlled substance under one gram and unlawful carrying of a weapon.

Bonds totaling \$9,000 were set on Perez. The subject was booked into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

The Itasca Police Department made an arrest at 11 a.m. Tuesday, October 7.

According to reports, authorities took 40-year-old Kevin DeVaughn of Itasca into custody on a warrant out of Ellis County for possession of a controlled substance under one gram.

DeVaughn is being held without bond. The subject was booked into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

An arrest was made by the Whitney Police Department at 5:53 p.m. Friday, October 10.

Reports indicate that authorities took 50-year-old Bobby Arriola Jr. of Whitney into custody on a charge of injury to a child, elderly or disabled person with intentional bodily injury.

Bonds totaling \$50,000 were set on Arriola. Officer Ronnie Agpalza booked the subject into the Hill County Law Enforcement Center.

Bynum Independent School District

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures & Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Exhibit C-3

Data Control Codes	10	60	ONMF	98
	General Fund	Capital Projects Fund	Other Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
5700 Local & Intermediate Sources	\$ 1,163,885	\$ 119,057	\$ 356,806	\$ 1,639,748
5800 State Program Revenues	1,927,857	-	215,154	2,143,011
5900 Federal Program Revenues	-	-	177,244	177,244
5020 Total Revenues	3,091,742	119,057	749,204	3,960,003
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
0011 Instruction	1,295,560	-	94,964	1,390,524
0012 Library & Instructional Resources	13,859	-	-	13,859
0013 Curriculum & Staff Development	9,066	-	-	9,066
0023 School Leadership	180,477	-	74	180,551
0031 Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	42,176	-	-	42,176
0033 Health Services	25,617	-	-	25,617
0034 Student Transportation	58,652	140,798	-	199,450
0035 Food Services	-	-	149,965	149,965
0036 Extracurricular Activities	146,820	-	26,786	173,606
0041 General Administration	379,684	-	-	379,684
0051 Plant Maintenance & Operations	426,926	-	-	426,926
0052 Security & Monitoring Services	27,426	-	177,663	205,089
0053 Data Processing Services	83,473	-	-	83,473
Debt Service:				
0071 Principal on Long-Term Debt	8,728	-	158,000	166,728
0072 Interest on Long-Term Debt	846	-	99,190	100,036
0073 Debt Service Fees	-	146,388	1,350	147,738
Capital Outlay:				
0081 Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	1,388,138	-	1,388,138
Intergovernmental:				
0093 Payments to Shared Services Arrangements	171,378	-	-	171,378
0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges	41,921	-	-	41,921
6030 Total Expenditures	2,912,609	1,675,324	707,992	5,295,925
1100 Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	179,133	(1,556,267)	41,212	(1,335,922)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
7911 Issuance of Bonds	-	3,410,000	-	3,410,000
7915 Transfers In	-	-	48,000	48,000
7916 Premium on Issuance of Bonds	-	261,388	-	261,388
8911 Transfers Out	(48,000)	-	-	(48,000)
7080 Total Other Financing Sources and (Uses)	(48,000)	3,671,388	48,000	3,671,388
1200 Net Change in Fund Balance	131,133	2,115,121	89,212	2,335,466
0100 Fund Balances, Beginning	2,919,358	-	231,063	3,150,421
3000 Fund Balances, Ending	\$ 3,050,491	\$ 2,115,121	\$ 320,275	\$ 5,485,887

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



Raley Seale

WHS Student Selected For Navy Parade

Whitney High School sophomore Raley Seale was one of 60 female cadets selected to lead the United States Navy's 250th Homecoming Parade Monday, October 13, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Seale is a member of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps and joined 200 total cadets who were selected for the honor of being a flag bearer.

Cadets carried flags representing the United States, all 50 states, the military branches, the Pentagon flag, the original American flags and a 9-11 memorial wreath.

The event ended with a Blue Angels flyover and is part of a week of events celebrating the birthday of the Navy and Marines. The parade was televised nationally on Disney+, Hulu, Fox and ABC.

County Line Cruisers Taking Toy Donations

The County Line Cruisers will host their 10th annual Santa's Rod Run this year, delivering presents to local children.

Toy donations will be accepted until Saturday, December 13, at Pat's Automotive, 4501 FM 933 in Whitney.

Collected toys will be distributed before Christmas to children in Whitney, Blum, Kopperl and Aquilla.

Anyone with questions in Hill County can contact Pat at 254-694-4728, or contact Michael in Bosque County at 214-850-1864.

For more information, find the County Line Cruisers on Facebook.



Hubbard Happenings

by Paulette Fulton

Gosh, the "dog days of summer" just continue with no rain in the forecast! I'm sure many of you need rain just like we do here at Fulton Hill!

Hubbard Garden Club Style Show & Afternoon Tea

Looking for something fun to do Sunday afternoon? If so, plan to attend the Hubbard Garden Club's Style Show and Afternoon Tea. It begins at 3 p.m. in the Savage Room at Historic Hubbard High School. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Poster Properties or from any Garden Club member.

Education Foundation Event

The 2nd Annual Hubbard ISD Education Foundation Cocktail Party will be held on Saturday, October 25, at 6 p.m. at Erler's Texas Tavern. It is a chance to keep supporting our amazing educators who inspire our students every day. The foundation has awarded more than \$40,000 in grants to Hubbard teachers and staff since its formation in 2024.

Trunk or Treat

The Hubbard Methodist Church parking lot, located at 208 NW Second Street, is the site for "Trunk or Treat" on Halloween, October 31, starting at 5:30 p.m. You are invited to bring your vehicle, decorate the trunk, and hand out candy to the young trick or treaters. This event promises a festive, safe and family friendly environment for all ages.

Pederson Named College Chief Of Staff

Hill College has named Lyndsey Pederson chief of staff, a new position for the college.

Pederson comes to Hill College from Hillsboro High School, where she served as an instructional facilitator for four years, collaborating with staff and assisting teachers in aligning instruction and student work as well as spearheading professional development and monitoring state accountability measures for the school.

Prior to her time at Hillsboro High School, she was the principal at Bynum Independent School District for seven years. There, she worked with teachers to improve STAAR scores, implemented an early literacy program, assisted with budgets and grants, helped create the district's Parent Teacher Association and was involved in the hiring and evaluation of teachers, among other tasks.

In this new position, Pederson will work closely with Hill College President Dr. Thomas Mills to advance institutional priorities and pursue institutional excellence in alignment with the college's mission and goals. She will play a central role in coordinating and supporting strategic initiatives, fostering collaboration across departments and serving as a key liaison between the Office of the President and faculty, staff and other stakeholders.

In addition to her professional background, Pederson is also heavily involved in the community. She is a member of the Christ Lutheran Church in Hillsboro, the Hill County A&M Club, both the Hillsboro and Abbott Ag and Athletic Booster Clubs, the Sesame Club, and the Hill County Gamma Delta Chapter.

She holds multiple educator certifications from the state, including vocational agriculture production, principal,



Lyndsey Pederson

science, special education and diagnostician.

"I am honored to serve Hill College in the role of chief of staff. Having strong ties to the Hill College area, I am excited to bring my background in K-12 education to this role," said Pederson. "I look forward to helping grow our local community college through professional development, strengthening community relations and working alongside our team on the Institutional Planning and Execution process. Together, we will continue promoting our vision of becoming a beacon of excellence."

Pederson holds a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Science from Texas A&M University and has a Master of Education in educational administration from Tarleton State University. She also completed an Educational Diagnostician Certification Program from Lamar University in 2020.

"We are absolutely elated to have Lyndsey Pederson join our executive team," said Dr. Mills. "She comes to us as a highly regarded educator and Hill County community member. Every person I have spoken to about her both before and after her hire has expressed positive remarks regarding both the quality of her work and character."

Area Students Eligible For Ag Youth Scholarships

Hill County area 4-H and FFA graduating high school seniors are eligible to apply for the Ag Youth of the Month Scholarship Program that AgTexas Farm Credit created 10 years ago.

So far, the program has awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships to students in the 43 counties that AgTexas serves. In addition to the \$20,000 awarded in \$1,000 scholarships to graduating high school seniors, AgTexas will present awards to a graduate student and a 4-H or FFA leader in each of the three regions that the ag cooperative serves.

The graduate scholarships will be presented to previous Ag Youth of the Month scholarship recipients in the amounts of \$2,000, \$3,000 and \$10,000. AgTexas will also provide a \$1,000 award for the outstanding 4-H or FFA leader in each region. Applications are due at noon on Friday, October 24.

In total, AgTexas will award \$38,000 to graduating high school seniors, graduate students and 4-H or FFA leaders. AgTexas is also supporting area FFA chapters competing at the National FFA convention with \$2,000 in travel expenses per chapter.

Applying students will submit an essay that describes:

- Their involvement with their local FFA Chapter and/or 4-H Club
- Their accomplishments, awards, and leadership positions
- Their participation in high school, including student activities, accomplishments, awards, and leadership positions
- Their volunteer work in their community
- Their vision for where they will be in five years

- Their commitment to agriculture

According to AgTexas President/CEO Kayla Robinson, "Providing recognition and scholarships for outstanding students interested in agriculture is one of the most effective ways to encourage our best and brightest youths to join our mission of helping feed and clothe the world."

Robinson continued, "We love the excitement of celebrating with energetic 4-H and FFA students because they bring such positivity into the room. Graduation season will be a special time in their lives, and we enjoy hearing about their hopes and dreams."

Students can access the Ag Youth of the Month Scholarship Program on the website at www.agtexas.com.

HHS Cross Country Teams Advance

The Hillsboro High School boys and girls varsity cross country teams recently competed in the District 12-4A championships and advanced to the regional meet. Fabiola Prieto took first place at the district meet for the second consecutive year. Prieto's time of 12:47 helped propel her team to a third-place overall finish, qualifying the team for regionals. The varsity Eagles were the district runner-up by one point, with Isai Cecilio earning third place and Anthony Ruiz taking sixth place. The regional meet will be held Monday and Tuesday, October 20 and 21, at the Harold Patterson Sports Complex in Arlington.



EAGLES VARSITY (l to r): Jose Carmona, Eduardo Chavez, Isai Cecilio, Anthony Ruiz, Coach Kyle Bodeker, Jesus Chavez, Owen Dansby and Damari Green.



LADY EAGLES VARSITY (l to r): Coach Tre Sanchez, Kinsley Monterrubio, Alaina Versluis, Claudia Carbajal, Coach Bodeker, Fabiola Prieto, Priscila Librado, Alexa Villegas and Betty Chen.

Noted Authors To Present Free Program At Library

The Hillsboro City Library will host a TEXAS WRITES program Saturday, October 18, at 10 a.m. Participants will hear from two writers who will discuss the art of writing and the publishing process.

Jeramey Kraatz will present "Crafting Dynamic Scenes," which will help writers learn tips and techniques for any genre, touching on essential craft components like plotting, conflict and dialogue.

Kraatz is the author of the Space Runners series, the Cloak Society series and the graphic novel "I Witnessed: The Lizzie Borden Story." He also writes English dub scripts for blockbuster anime titles like "My Hero Academia" and "Dragon Ball."

Diana Spechler will present "Writing Our Lives: The Art of the Personal Essay." She will discuss what makes a piece of writing compelling and how writers can elevate their anecdotes and experiences to fully formed personal essays.

Spechler is the author of novels "Who By Fire" and "Skinny," and the New York Times opinion series "Going

Off." She has written for multiple outlets, including The Guardian, GQ, Washington Post, Esquire, The Wall Street Journal, Texas Monthly and others. She has been featured on multiple programs and received numerous awards and honors.

The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided. Call the library at 254-582-7385 to register.

Native American Exhibit Reopens At Museum

The Hill County Cell Block Museum has announced that the Native American room has now reopened after the museum's recent renovation.

The exhibit is full of arrowheads and early tools used by indigenous people.

The museum is open Saturdays from April through October from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The museum will be open for the last day of the 2025 season Saturday, October 25.

For more information, visit www.hillcountymuseum.org.

Lions Peace Poster Contest Open To Youth

"Bringing peace to the world, through one child at a time" is the focus of the Lions Clubs International annual Peace Poster Contest.

The art contest is open to any child who will be 11, 12 or 13 years of age on November 15. Any eligible child, whether they are in public school, private school or home schooled, is invited to participate.

The 2025-26 theme is "Together as One." The deadline to enter a poster is Saturday, November 1. One grand prize winner and 23 merit winners are chosen each year.

Point of contact for Hillsboro Independent School District students is Justin Dyer at 254-582-7385.

For all other students, point of contact is Susan Keen at 903-641-1883 or keen6146@gmail.com.

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 Abbott Athletic Booster Club

Voting Continued From Page 1

term on the board.

Itasca ISD will also ask voters to consider a \$32 million bond proposal to address aging facilities, enhance its programs and upgrade security.

If the bond passes, the district projects a tax impact of \$0.2766 per \$100 valuation. The district reported that for the average home in the district valued at \$179,725, the impact would be \$9.16 a month.

Hubbard ISD

Hubbard ISD will hold a \$7.6 million bond election to improve facilities. The district says that the proposal will not increase the tax rate of \$1.24509 per \$100 valuation adopted in August. Assuming passage of the \$140,000 homestead exemption by Texas voters in November, school taxes on the average home in the district — valued at \$166,670 — would drop from about \$829 per year in 2024-25 to \$332 per year for the next two years.

Aquilla ISD

Aquilla ISD has three school board seats available. Incumbents Diane Montgomery and Courtney Lewis filed to keep their seats, and Gloria Moss and Brandon Haworth are also looking to fill a position.

ESD 1

Hill County ESD 1 has called an election to ask the public to raise its property tax ceiling from \$0.03 to \$0.08 and authorize the collection of sales

tax in areas where there is still room under the combined 8.25% state and local sales tax cap.

Voter approval of the new property tax ceiling would not result in an immediate tax increase, but it would give the district room to increase funding as the county grows. For context, ESD 1 taxes would be \$60 per year on a \$200,000 home at \$0.03, and they would be \$160 per year at \$0.08, although such a tax increase is not currently proposed.

City of West

In the City of West, Chris Nors was the only candidate to file for the mayor's position. Four candidates will seek two available council seats, with incumbent Cody Harris filing along with Trevor Beuerlein, Larry A. Luedke and Michael Zahirniak.

Constitutional Amendments

Proposition 1 - SJR 59: The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the permanent technical institution infrastructure fund and the available workforce education fund to support the capital needs of educational programs offered by the Texas State Technical College System.

Proposition 2 - SJR 18: The constitutional amendment prohibiting the imposition of a tax on the realized or unrealized capital gains of an individual, family, estate, or trust.

Proposition 3 - SJR 5: The constitutional amendment requiring the denial of bail under certain circumstances to persons accused of certain offenses punishable as a felony.

Proposition 4 - HJR 7: The constitutional amendment to dedicate a portion of the revenue derived from state sales and use taxes to the Texas water fund and to provide for the allocation and use of that revenue.

Proposition 5 - HJR 99: The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation tangible personal property consisting of animal feed held by the owner of the property for sale at retail.

Proposition 6 - HJR 4: The constitutional amendment prohibiting the legislature from enacting a law imposing an occupation tax on certain entities that enter into transactions conveying securities or imposing a tax on certain securities transactions.

Proposition 7 - HJR 133: The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a veteran who died as a result of a condition or disease that is presumed under federal law to have been service-connected.

Proposition 8 - HJR 2: The constitutional amendment to

prohibit the legislature from imposing death taxes applicable to a decedent's property or the transfer of an estate, inheritance, legacy, succession, or gift.

Proposition 9 - HJR 1: The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to exempt from ad valorem taxation a portion of the market value of tangible personal property a person owns that is held or used for the production of income.

Proposition 10 - SJR 84: The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for a temporary exemption from ad valorem taxation of the appraised value of an improvement to a residence homestead that is completely destroyed by a fire.

Proposition 11 - SJR 85: The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to increase the amount of the exemption from ad valorem taxation by a school district of the market value of the residence homestead of a person who is elderly or disabled.

Proposition 12 - SJR 27: The constitutional amendment regarding the membership of the State Commission on Judicial Conduct, the membership of the tribunal to review the commission's recommendations, and the authority of the commission, the tribunal, and the Texas Supreme Court to more effectively sanction judges and justices for judicial misconduct.

Proposition 13 - SJR 2: The constitutional amendment to increase the amount of the exemption of residence homesteads from ad valorem taxation by a school district from \$100,000 to \$140,000.

Proposition 14 - SJR 3: The constitutional amendment providing for the establishment of the Dementia Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, establishing the Dementia Prevention and Research Fund to provide money for research on and prevention and treatment of dementia, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and related disorders in this state, and transferring to that fund

\$3 billion from state general revenue.

Proposition 15 - SJR 34: The constitutional amendment affirming that parents are the primary decision makers for their children.

Proposition 16 - SJR 37: The constitutional amendment clarifying that a voter must be a United States citizen.

Proposition 17 - HJR 34: The constitutional amendment to authorize the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of the amount of the market value of real property located in a county that borders the United Mexican States that arises from the installation or construction on the property of border security infrastructure and related improvements.

Early Voting Locations

Hill County residents can vote at any of three early voting locations: the Hill County Covington Street Annex at 126 South Covington Street in Hillsboro; the Hill County Precinct 1 Annex, located at 5800 FM 933 in Whitney (Huron); and the Hubbard Civic Center, located at 300 North Magnolia in Hubbard.

Early voting locations will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays through the early voting period. The main early voting location in Hillsboro will have extended hours Thursday, October 30, and Friday, October 31, when it will be open until 8 p.m.

Early voting for West residents in McLennan County will be at five Waco area locations, including the McLennan County Elections Administration Office. See www.mclennan.gov/337/Elections for more details.

Ballot by Mail

Applications for ballots by mail must be received in the county elections office by Friday, October 24. Texas allows voting by mail for those who: will be 65 years of age or older on Election Day; are sick or disabled; are expecting to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day; will be absent from the county of registration during the early

voting period and on Election Day; are civilly committed under Chapter 841 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; or confined in jail, but otherwise eligible.

For more information, contact the Hill County Elections Administration Office at 254-582-4072.

Voter ID

Voters are reminded that under Texas law, those who possess one of the seven acceptable forms of photo identification must present that ID at the polls when voting in person. They include:

- Texas Driver License issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
- Texas Handgun License issued by DPS
- United States Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph
- United States Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States Passport (book or card)

With the exception of the U.S. Citizenship Certificate, which does not expire, for voters aged 18-69, the acceptable form of photo identification may be expired no more than four years before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

For voters aged 70 or older, the acceptable form of photo identification may be expired for any length of time if the identification is otherwise valid.

Voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven approved forms of photo ID may fill out a Reasonable Impediment Declaration at the polls and present an alternative form of ID, such as a utility bill, bank statement, government check or a voter registration certificate.

TextMyGov

Hill County also offers the "TextMyGov" service that allows quick access to frequently asked questions about voting. Simply text "Hi" to 254-266-6442 to get started.

Open

HOUSE

1033 E ELM ST
HILLSBORO, TEXAS
\$239,900

206 HUBBARD ST
HILLSBORO, TEXAS
\$278,000

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19TH 3 PM - 5 PM

LORD'S ACRE
AT
LINE STREET METHODIST CHURCH
300 LINE STREET, HILLSBORO
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
SERVING THE BEST MEAL DEAL
FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 1:00 P.M.

Meal will include:
 Pastor Darrel's Delicious Roast Beef
 Homemade Mashed Potatoes
 Green Beans
 Dessert Tea
ALL FOR ONLY \$10.00
 DINE IN OR CARRYOUT

OUR BAKE SALE IS BACK **BAKE SALE** WITH ALL KINDS OF BAKED GOODS

FROM THE BEST COOKS IN HILL COUNTY

BAKE SALE STARTS AT 10 A.M.

Breakfast of Champions
 Tuesday, October 28th
 7:30-9 am

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF HILL COUNTY, TEXAS

Bridging Generations in the AI Era

Join Future of Work expert, Luke Goetting to explore how leaders can harness the convergence of generational transition, human intelligence, and AI capabilities to become a catalyst for extraordinary success.

TABLE SPONSORSHIP: \$500 (6 TICKETS)
INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$75

Purchase online at: www.bgchillcounty.org/donate
Or by mail: BGC of Hill County
PO Box 554
Hillsboro, TX 76645

Please make purchases prior to Friday, October 25th. For any questions, please call the Sarah Young at 254-707-7337 or email sarah.young0527@gmail.com