



**WEST OF
WEIRD ART
TOUR
PAGE 3**



**SOUL
RETREAT SPA
OPENING
PAGE 6**



**POUND HOUSE
DEMONSTRATION
PAGE 6**

Dripping Springs Century News

35th Year, No. 4

February 19, 2026

drippingspringsnews.com

75 Cents

Community Calendar

Story Maker Fair: Featuring Local Authors & Rising Young Writers Feb 20 • 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

This event, sponsored by the Dripping Springs Community Library and hosted at Beerburg Events, will bring together local adult authors, illustrators, and creators alongside the next generation of young writers participating in the library's kids' creative writing & publishing program. The goal is to create a vibrant, welcoming space where the community can meet local storytellers, purchase signed books, enjoy scheduled readings, and celebrate the craft of writing. Beerburg Events • 13476 Fitzhugh Rd • Austin, TX 78736

Dripping Springs Wild Game Dinner Feb 21 • 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Come to the 36th Wild Game Dinner and be part of a community built on generosity, fellowship, and faith in action. This year, Sunrise Christian Schoolhouse is the Paddles Up recipient. Go to www.dswgd.com to buy tickets. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX

SEE **CALENDAR** ON PAGE 7



**THANK YOU
VETERANS
FOR YOUR
SERVICE**

Inspirational Quote of the Day

"MY LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IS 'I DON'T CARE.'"
- JAMES CAAN



DSISD seeks community input on name, mascot for second high school

Laurie Anderson
Editor

Dripping Springs ISD is seeking community input on the name and branding of the district's second high school.

To collect feedback, the district has created an online survey, which can be found at dsisdx.us/hs2survey. The survey is open until Thursday, March 5.

Community input will help the High School #2 Naming & Branding Committee

develop a recommendation for the DSISD Board of Trustees to consider, including the school's name, colors, and mascot.

The district is beginning the naming and branding process now so it can be incorporated into the design of the new campus. The comprehensive high school will serve approximately 2,500 students in grades 9-12 and will be located on Darden Hill Road, just east of Cypress

SEE **DSISD** ON PAGE 2

City council approves conditional site permit for DSISD High School #2

Laurie Anderson
Editor

At the Dripping Springs City Council meeting on Feb. 3, the council approved a request from the Dripping Springs Independent School District (DSISD) to delay payment of site development permit application fees for High School #2.

DSISD and the city are continuing to work on an interlocal agreement (ILA), and approving the conditional site permit will allow the district to

move forward while that process continues.

"This permit would include stipulations concerning deferred payment of fees, wastewater, and Darden Hill Road contingencies," DSISD Chief Operating Officer Scott Berry said. "This step allows us to avoid costly construction setbacks while we continue to collaboratively work on the final ILA."

After discussion, council member Geoffery Tahuahua motioned to approve

the request, and it passed unanimously upon vote.

Another major item of business at the meeting concerned the city's wastewater services. The council approved the engineering firm of Burgess & Niple, Inc. to assist the city with designing, constructing, planning, acquiring, extending, upgrading, renovating, rehabilitating, replacing and improving wastewater projects funded through the Texas Water Development Board.

STATE CHAMPION

Shipley repeats at State Wrestling Tournament



Jackson Shipley is named state champion.

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Dripping Springs faced tough competition in the 2026 6A state wrestling tourney. However, Jackson Shipley, held fast as the reigning champion in the 120 class. He finished the season 51-1. In addition to winning the title, he was able to defeat Oliver Pulliam of Allen in the semis, the only person to put a defeat on him and finished with a win over James Murray of Lake Travis. Lucy Clarno was not as fortunate in reclaiming her title finishing fourth. The Lady Tigers placed 41st with 16 points and the Tigers 15th with 32.5.

Boys results: 120: Shipley 4-0, (51-1); 138: Charlie Lundin 1-2 (23-11); 144: Joseph Austin 0-2 (31-19); 157: Tucker Lundin 0-2 (41-18); 165: Caleb Collins 1-2 (34-12); 190: Noah Williams 0-2 (23-12); 285: Daniel Killian 0-2 (18-15).

Girls results: 125: Lucy Clarno 3-2 (35-4); 135: Estrella Rios Galindo 0-2 (23-15); 145: Rasanie Ly 0-2 (11-8).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hays County launches countywide water study to plan for future needs

Staff Reports

The Hays County Commissioners Court recently approved a countywide water study that aims to better understand current water conditions and plan for long-term sustainability across the region. The study aims to support responsible water management amid rapid growth and

evolving environmental challenges.

"The last water study that we had done is from 2011," said Precinct 3 Commissioner Morgan Hammer, emphasizing the need for updated data that reflects current conditions.

Over the last decade, Hays County has experienced significant growth, increased de-

velopment pressure, and ongoing water challenges, particularly in West Hays County.

"There have always been challenges in West Hays County," Hammer said. "There are so many factors at play, and every part of the county is different, so this study will help us clearly see what's really going on."

SEE **COUNTY** ON PAGE 5

Meet the Commissioner candidates for Precinct 4

Shannon West
Staff Reporter

The March Primary Election will see two democratic candidates and two republican candidates on the ballot for Hays County Commissioner Pct. 4: Laurie Brown (Democrat), Travis Crow (Republican), Rob McClelland (Republican) and Angie Unger (Democrat). This seat

represents Drippings Springs on the Commissioners Court.

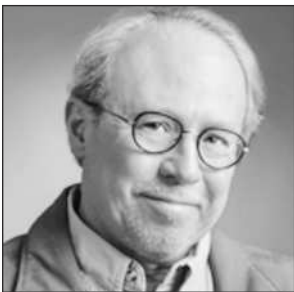
Laurie Brown (Democrat)

Brown decided to run when she began to feel that the State and Federal governments were heading in the "wrong direction," and since the current Pct. 4 Commissioner is a Re-

SEE **CANDIDATES** ON PAGE 5

Capital Highlights

Paxton, Crockett leading in primary polls



Gary Borders
Texas Press Association

Republican Attorney General Ken Paxton and Democratic U.S. Rep. Jasmine Crockett are leading their respective primary campaigns for U.S. Senate, according to a poll released last week by the University of Houston's Hobby School of Public Affairs, the Austin American-Statesman reported. Early voting began Feb. 17 and runs through Feb. 27.

Among Republicans, Paxton led incumbent U.S. Sen. John Cornyn 38% to 31%. U.S. Rep. Wesley Hunt polled at 17%, making it likely that race will go to a runoff in May if these margins hold. Among Democrats, Crockett led with 47% while state Rep. James Talarico was favored by 39% of respondents.

The margin of error for both parties was plus or minus 4 percentage points. The election is on March 3.

Roy leading in polls in attorney general's race

In the race to succeed Paxton as attorney general, U.S. Rep.

Chip Roy, with 33% in the latest poll leads a crowded GOP field by 10 percentage points, with state Sen. Mayes Middleton in second at 23%. The Texas Tribune reported state Sen. Joan Huffman polled at 13%, and Aaron Reitz, a former federal assistant attorney general, trailed at 6%.

However, 25% of those polled remain undecided in that race.

On the Democratic side, state Sen. Nathan Johnson led with 25% of the 550 people polled, followed by former Galveston mayor Joe Jaworski at 22%. Attorney and former FBI agent Tony Box held 13%. A majority of those polled said they didn't know enough about any of the candidates to express a preference. That poll was also conducted by the Hobby School of Public Affairs.

Fed predicts job growth in Texas in 2026

A new employment forecast by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas predicts the state will add jobs in 2026, after a flat 2025, The Dallas Morning News reported. The bank's forecast predicts Texas employment will grow by 1.1%, or about 155,000 jobs. That is about half of job growth the state has experienced in recent

years.

"We've run our models. We're going with the 1.1% growth, so that is a significant increase from zero, certainly," said Pia Orrenius, a senior economist at the Dallas Fed.

The slower-than-normal employment growth is partly attributable to the Trump administration's restrictive immigration policies and enforcement operations, according to some economists. In a report published by the Fed in October, the authors said the immigration policies were negatively affecting one in five Texas businesses.

"The stepped-up visibility and intensity of enforcement have produced a chilling effect," the authors wrote. "As fear spreads in immigrant communities, foreign-born individuals are more likely to miss work or school and less likely to venture out to shops and restaurants."

State, feds prepare to fight screwworm invasion

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins and Gov. Greg Abbott presided last week over the opening of new facility in Edinburg to produce sterile flies in order to combat a potential invasion of New World screwworms from Mexico that could threaten the na-

tion's leader in cattle production, The Tribune reported.

Cases of the screw-worm, which lays eggs in open wounds on cattle, have been detected in Mexico as close as 70 miles from the border.

"I don't want to underplay it because it is a big threat to our country, but I believe we're as prepared as we could possibly be, if that happens, to deal with it, to move toward eradication,"

Rollins said. Sterile flies were released last week in Northern Mexico and in Texas within 50 miles of the border as a precautionary measure.

Abbott has issued a disaster declaration to enable a newly formed response team to have adequate resources. The USDA plans to open its own production facility in Edinburg by the end of 2027. For now, the facility is using larvae produced in Panama and flown to Texas.

Abbott breaks with Trump over nationalizing elections

The governor has broken with Trump over the president's call to nationalize elections in some parts of the country, [kut.org](https://www.kut.org) reported. He was asked about Trump's suggestion at a recent campaign event.

"Listen, my understanding of the United

States Constitution, and that is elections for state positions are to be conducted by states, and I don't think we should deviate from that," Abbott said.

Legal experts and some Trump allies highlight that the Constitution grants states the primary authority over elections, making any effort to nationalize the process both legally complicated and logistically challenging.

High stakes for Abbott in comptroller's race

As the Houston Chronicle reported, while Abbott is widely expected to win his primary reelection bid, the governor has a lot on the line in the Texas comptroller's race. Acting comptroller Kelly Hancock, appointed when Glenn Hegar left to become chancellor of the Texas A&M University System, faces a serious challenge from one of the governor's biggest political foes, former state Sen. Don Huffines — who ran and lost to Abbott in 2022. Also on the GOP primary ballot is Railroad Commissioner Christi Craddick.

The winner of that race will oversee the state's new voucher program.

"Succession in Texas politics is on the ballot," said Brandon Rottinghaus, a politi-

cal scientist at the University of Houston. "There's a lot of jockeying for position for the future of the Republican Party in Texas."

Huffines spent heavily in 2022 in his unsuccessful bid to oust Abbott, calling him a "weak leader" and a "coward." Hancock has vowed to work closely with Abbott.

Galveston's Elissa sailing to New York for 250th celebration

The 1877 "tall ship" Elissa, docked in Galveston Bay, will sail to New York City for the Fourth of July, the Texas Standard reported. The Galveston Historical Foundation purchased the ship in 1979, and it normally serves as a museum. Will Wright, creative director of the foundation, said the ship is one of only two of its kind in the world that can still actively sail.

"Elissa is still traditionally sailed," Wright said. "We benefit from a lot of the technological advances, but at the end of the day, the ship is a sailing ship."

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

Jury sentences Kyle man to 65 years in domestic violence case

Staff Reports

A Hays County jury has sentenced Andy Wayne Carty to 65 years in prison for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, family violence, according to the office of Hays County Criminal District Attorney Kelly Higgins.

Carty was convicted in a case involving a violent attack on his girlfriend in front of their young children in Kyle.

The jury also found Carty guilty of continuous family violence, assault family violence — impeding breath/circulation, and violation of a protective order, each with a five-year prison

sentence. The sentences are concurrent, and Carty must serve 30 years before parole eligibility for the aggravated assault conviction.

Judge Joe Pool presided over the two-week trial, which began on Feb. 3. The convictions arose from assaults on two separate nights — Jan. 31, 2023, and Feb. 25, 2023 — involving an adult female victim and her two young daughters.

On Jan. 31, 2023, a verbal argument escalated when Carty slammed the woman's shoulder and head into a wall, resulting in significant injuries. The children witnessed the assault, and when one attempted to call 911, Carty took the phone. The mother and children escaped into the garage, barricaded themselves in a vehicle, called 911, and waited for police to arrive. Carty was arrested on misdemeanor assault

charges and bonded out the next day.

On Feb. 25, 2023, he entered the home between 2:30 a.m. and 3 a.m. by climbing through an unlocked window. His head was shaved, he was barefoot, and he wore only boxer shorts. He hid electronic devices that could be used to call for help as his family slept. Then, he strangled the woman in bed while whispering that he would kill her for sending him to jail. One of the children was sleeping beside her.

The assault escalated as the mother fought to escape. Carty choked her nearly unconscious and struck her in the head multiple times with a 10-pound dumbbell, causing significant injuries. He wielded a long hunting knife and attempted to duct-tape his family's mouths shut.

The struggle continued to the front door,



ANDY CARTY.

where Carty again attempted to strangle the woman as a child fought to pull him away. The children fled through the garage to a neighbor's home while their mother fought off their father and escaped to the neighbor's as well. Police and SWAT responded, and the woman was taken for medical care. Carty fled but was apprehended later that morning after a brief manhunt by the Kyle Police Department.

Assistant Criminal District Attorneys Jon English and Claudia Garcia of the Hays County Criminal District Attorney's Office in San Marcos prosecuted the case.

"The defendant was brought to justice because regular people did heroic things," English said. "The victim's strength, her children's courage, and the Kyle Police Department's dedication inspire us in our fight against domestic violence."

Garcia said the district attorney's office is committed to protecting victims and pursuing justice in domestic violence cases.

"The jury's sentence holds the offender accountable and warns that domestic violence will have serious consequences," Garcia said.

The prosecution team included Assistant Criminal District Attorneys Daniella Garcia, Abigail Whitaker and Harrison Watson; Victim Assistance Coordinators Annalise Brewer-Hall and Erin Dupalo; Legal Assistant Avery Slocum; Digital Media Evidence Assistant Mercedes Pena; and HCDAO Investigator Sgt. Rheanne Garcia.

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DSISD FROM PG. 1

Springs Elementary. It is projected to open in 2028.

Construction of High School #2 was included in DSISD's bond program approved by voters in

May 2025, with campus design funded through the 2023 bond.

For more information about High School #2, visit dsisdtx.us/bonds.



Dripping Springs
Art League
ART | COMMUNITY | CONNECTION

ART BEAT

Presented by the Dripping Springs Art League

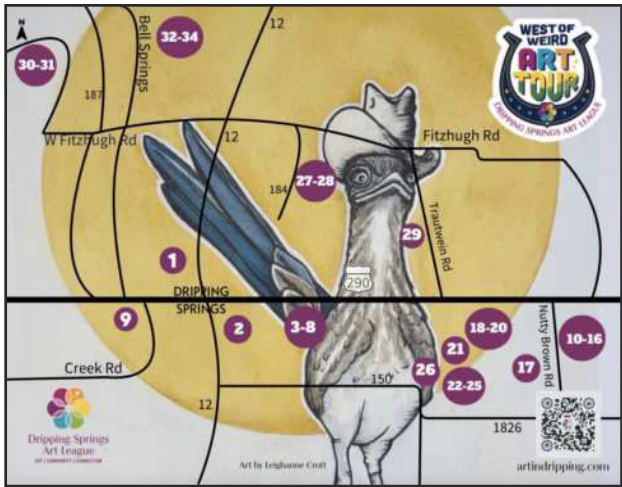
Make Your Plans for the Return of the West of Weird Art Tour

Steve Friedman

Mark your calendars for the return of the West of Weird Art Tour, happening February 28 – March 1, 2026. The Dripping Springs Art League is proud to present the second annual tour, now permanently scheduled for the last Saturday of February and the following Sunday.

This year's tour features 34 local artists and galleries across Dripping Springs, each open to the public from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

It's the perfect opportunity to experience an extraordinary range of art — from paintings and glass to fiber arts, metalwork,



photography, Japanese block prints, and more. Visitors can step inside working studios to see where the messy magic happens, meet the artists, and hear the stories and inspiration behind their creations.

All artwork will be available for purchase, and admission is completely free.

Whether you stop in between errands or dedicate an afternoon — or even the entire weekend — to exploring the tour, we would love to welcome you.

Plan your route with the official tour map at artindripping.com/wowtour-2026 for locations and details. You can also join us for our

THE WOW LIST

Dripping Springs Open Studio Art Tour

Sat 28th Feb - Sun 1st March
11-5pm

CENTRAL

- 1.Devon Austin -Winehouse
501 Old Fitzhugh Rd DS,78620
- 2.The Shops at Mars Beads
26550 Ranch Road 12 Unit 9 DS
- 3.Primal Gallery * HUB
246 American Way DS,78620
- 4.Kay Hughes*
- 5.Leighanne Croft*
- 6.Alexandria Selene Art*
- 7.Lorrie Anson*
- 8.Sandi Sabel Artwork*
- 9.Goat of Many Colors
210 Peabody Place DS, 78620

SOUTH EAST

- 10.Hand Made at Nutty Brown * HUB
12919 Nutty Brown Rd , 78737
- 11.Blue Sky Art on Wheels *
- 12.Orcutt Glass Designs *
- 13.Jenny Swannack & The Tiny Camper Art Gallery *
- 14.Troubling Visions
12919 Nutty Brown Rd , 78737
- 15.Bee Mary Designs
12919 Nutty Brown Rd 78737
- 16.On the Fence Arts
12919 Nutty Brown Rd 78737
- 17.Daryl Howard Studio
14100 Nutty Brown Road 78737

SOUTH

- 18.Jennuine Expressions * HUB
Jennnifer Friedman
210 Bolton Drive, 78737
- 19.TexiPam Art *
- 20.Michelle Rankin *
- 21.Vanessa Anderson
12368 Mesa Verde Dr 78737
- 22.Estudio Adalias * HUB
Maggie Weekley
501 Onion Creek RR, Driftwood
- 23.Kayla Koslow Art *
- 24.Christi Wilson Art / Makers & Magpies*
- 25.Molly McFee Rhodes*
- 26.Kara Shaw
903 S Creekwood Dr, Driftwood

NORTH

- 27.Brenham House Collection * HUB
12737 Silver Creek Rd DS 78620
- 28.Celeste Perez Smith *
- 29.Amanda Shay
130B Circle G Ranch Road 78737

NORTH WEST

- 30.Wild Persimmon Art Studio *HUB
Melissa Young
201 Valley Oak Drive DS 78620
- 31.Shelley Steinley *
- 32.Dead End Art Studio * HUB
Tom Beach & Amanda Walker
157 Darter Lane DS 78620
- 33.Alicia Whitfield *
- 34.Miller's Muddles *

“Welcome to WoW” Socials on February 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Belterra (address provided upon

RSVP at artindripping.com/wow-2026-socials).

Art is thriving in Dripping Springs, and our artists are ex-

cited to share their talents with the community. Come discover why creativity is truly alive West of Weird.

Infrastructure Summit to shine spotlight on transportation future of Central Texas

Staff Reports

The San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce and Hays Caldwell Economic Development Partnership (HCEDP) will host the 2026 Infrastructure Summit, presented by HNTB, on Wednesday, March 4, at the San Marcos Conference Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This year's summit will focus on transportation infrastructure, convening business, government, and community leaders for an in-depth conversation on the projects and policies shaping the region's mobility and economic future.

The Infrastructure Summit will deliver updates on major regional projects, funding priorities, and state and local partnership efforts that directly impact workforce mobility, development timelines, supply chains, and overall economic competitiveness.

The program will feature insights from senior transportation officials responsible for overseeing and implementing some of the most significant infrastructure projects in the state.

The keynote speaker will be Texas Transportation Commissioner Steve Alvis,

who brings decades of experience in large-scale infrastructure development and private-sector real estate investment. As commissioner, Alvis plays a key role in setting statewide priorities, approving major investments, and guiding long-range planning efforts that directly affect fast-growing regions like Central Texas.

Joining him for a panel discussion are Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Austin District Engineer Tucker Ferguson and TxDOT San Antonio District Engineer Charles Benavidez, two leaders

responsible for planning, delivering, and managing transportation projects across the Austin-San Antonio corridor. Together, their districts oversee some of the most complex and heavily traveled segments of I-35, along with critical safety and mobility improvements that support economic development in the region.

Designed for both business and public-sector leaders, the Infrastructure Summit offers an opportunity to hear directly from decision-makers and gain insight into how today's transportation strategies will shape

the region's long-term growth.

The discussion will be moderated by Will Conley, Principal with American StructurePoint, past Chair of CAMPO, and Hays County Commissioner.

“Our region is at a pivotal point for transportation development,” said Conley. “This summit brings agencies, communities, and the business sector together around shared priorities that support smart, fiscally sound investment strategies along I-35.”

Mike Kamerlander, President and CEO of the Hays Caldwell Economic Develop-

ment Partnership, said the summit will help business leaders prepare for what's ahead.

“Transportation decisions made today will influence where people live, how employees commute, and how goods move for decades,” Kamerlander said. “Connecting these conversations directly to the business community is essential for long-term economic vitality.”

For more information, visit bit.ly/InfrastructureSummit or email the San Marcos Area Chamber of Commerce at chamber@sanmarcos-texas.com.

Pound House Farmstead hosts demonstration on blacksmithing

Laurie Anderson
Editor

On Saturday, blacksmith Matt Schreiner was at the Pound House Farmstead & Museum to demonstrate how pioneers made simple, every day objects. Visitors could watch as he used the forge to heat the metal and pound it into shape.

“Blacksmiths used to make everything. Blacksmiths were considered the king of all trades,” Matt said. “If you were a barber and you needed scissors, you went to the blacksmith. If you were a carpenter and you needed hammer, nails or a saw, you went to the blacksmith. If you were a farmer and you needed a plow, you went to the blacksmith.”

Saturday's frigid weather put a damper on the demonstration, leaving it too cold to work the metal properly — or draw much of a crowd. But there will be more opportunities in the future.

The Pound House



Matt the Blacksmith gets the fire hot in his forge.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

Farmstead & Museum will have blacksmithing demonstrations during its Pioneer Day event on May 16, along with demonstrations on

quilt making, leather working, candle dipping and needlework. For more information, visit <https://phfmu-seum.org>.



Week at a Glance

Week of: Feb 23rd - 28th

MONDAY

- D&D – Homeschool MS
3:15–5:00 PM
- Rubiks Cube Club
5:15–6:00



TUESDAY

- Homeschool BLS Group
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Dungeons & Dragons (HS)
4:00 PM – 6:30 PM
- DSAL Kid Art Studio
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM



WEDNESDAY

- Wonder Time
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
- The Great Gatsby Trivia Night
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- Stitching the Year: Embroidery Circle
2:00 PM – 3:00 pm



THURSDAY

- Homeschool BLS Group
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Bilingual Book Club:
4:45 – 5:45 PM



FRIDAY

- Homeschool BLS Group
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- iHOLA Amigos! Spanish Story Time (Ages 3–6)
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM
- Floral Design Class: Wreath Making
10:30–12:00
- Pokémon 30th Anniversary Party
4:30 PM – 6:00 PM



SATURDAY

- Sanctuary Sketch Club
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM



RECURRING PROGRAMS

- Chair Yoga on Mondays at 9:00 AM

- Mah – Jongg every Tuesday

- Mah – Jongg for Beginners every other Friday

- Toddler Storytime every Tuesday and Wednesday at 9:30 AM

- Baby time Storytime at 10:30 AM every Wednesday

- Master Gardeners on the Porch every Thursday from 3:00 – 6:00 PM

- Read with Ruby the Therapy Dog on Saturdays at 10:30 AM



Register Now

at DSCL.ORG

Dripping Springs CLASSIFIEDS

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



Public Notice

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Public Notice

DRIPPING SPRINGS ISD

is requesting for proposals for RFP #25-26-13 Third-Party Benefits Administrator Services. Proposals will be accepted electronically through our eBid system IONWAVE until 03-04-2026 at 2:00 p.m. CST. Specifications are available in the DSISD Purchasing Office (512-858-3039) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Proposal responses must be returned to the DSISD Purchasing Department, Attn: Valerie Littrell, 300 Sportsplex Dr, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620, by the date and time indicated above. No faxed or emailed submissions will be accepted. Late bids will be returned unopened. Dripping Springs ISD reserves the right to reject any/or all submissions and waive all formalities in the bid process.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DRIPPING SPRINGS HS
RENOVATIONS PKG 02: ALL
TRADES**

American Constructors, as the Construction Manager-at-Risk, requests proposals for the Dripping Springs ISD High School Renovation project.

Proposals are due Wednesday, February 25, 2026 @ 2:00 PM (CST). Proposals may be emailed to estimating@americanconstructors.com or mailed/delivered to American Constructors at 11900 W Parmer Lane, Suite 200, Cedar Park, TX 78613, or submitted via fax to (512) 328-2520.

Documents are also available for downloading from our ftp site. Please visit www.americanconstructors.com for details. Please contact American Constructors at (512) 328-2026 for additional information on this project.

DRIPPING SPRINGS ISD

is requesting for proposals for RFP #25-26-14 Moving and De-commission Services. Proposals will be accepted electronically through our eBid system IONWAVE until 03-03-2026 at 2:00 p.m. CST. Specifications are available in the DSISD Purchasing Office (512-858-3039) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Proposal responses must be returned to the DSISD Purchasing Department, Attn: Valerie Littrell, 300 Sportsplex Dr, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620, by the date and time indicated above. No faxed or emailed submissions will be accepted. Late bids will be returned unopened. Dripping Springs ISD reserves the right to reject any/or all submissions and waive all formalities in the bid process.



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CANDIDATES FROM PG. 1

publican, she said people in the eastern part of the district have felt underserved.

Brown has lived in Hays County for five years and has been involved with promoting Democratic candidates, block walking and working the polls. She has a Master's Degree in Accounting and has been teaching Accounting at Texas State for 13 years. Prior to that, she worked in banking and in real estate.

"I feel like I've got the relevant business background to be a successful County Commissioner and to be the taxpayers' budget watchdog," Brown said.

Brown wants to be a good steward of Hays County taxes by promoting affordability for residents, while ensuring tax dollars are spent wisely on the priorities that are most important to the community.

Brown said the population is growing rapidly in Hays County, where the three-year drought has already made water scarce, particularly groundwater. If elected, Brown plans to balance growth with protecting the county's natural resources, both land and water.

She supports rain-water harvesting and a property tax exemption for those who utilize it. She would like to see landscaping restrictions for subdivisions requiring the use of native and drought-resistant plants and One Water concepts for commercial buildings, which involves recycling and reusing water.

Brown said there are data center developments being discussed in the county, and she wants to make sure the county is not providing any tax incentives or abatements to bring them here since they "use up a significant amount of water and electricity."

"Whatever happens, we need to make sure that data centers are not impacting the regular individual's utility rates," Brown said. "I certainly believe in development agreements that would make the developers, and in this case, data center developers, have to prove that they can satisfy the water requirements at full buildout, not at groundbreaking."

Brown also said she

would like to focus on improving traffic congestion, road safety and road planning.

"We just need to make sure that when we're building roads, we're building them and taking care of the traffic congestion in the right way," Brown said.

Brown wants to promote transparency and accountability by hosting frequent open meetings and town halls in order to receive input from both rural and urban residents.

Learn more at lauriebrownforhays.com.

Travis Crow (Republican)

Crow was born and raised in Hays County and works as a concrete contractor throughout Central Texas. He has served on the Dripping Springs City Council for eight years, where he said they've been able to maintain the lowest tax rate of all the cities in the county.

"I think we have water issues. We have transportation issues; the roads need to be improved, but there are excessive road bonds going on," Crow said. "I wasn't too pleased with the way the county was heading, so I decided to put my hat in the ring."

If elected, Crow plans to focus on affordability for all families by eliminating unnecessary bonds and other additional tax burdens. He said he is committed to using taxes and bonds responsibly and only when necessary with real benefits to the community.

Crow said he believes that the community's strength comes from its local businesses and residents, not from large corporations, so he plans to protect and empower them.

Crow has served on the Dripping Springs Water Supply Corporation Board of Directors for nine years, two to three years of which were spent as the vice president, where he has negotiated with the West Travis County Public Utility Agency and the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District for more water for Dripping Springs.

"I think we need to get more water in the Central Texas area for Hays County," Crow said.

Crow was the chair/head for the City of Dripping Springs Transportation Com-

mittee, working with the county, TxDOT and the school district on traffic issues in the area.

"I've spent four years building relationships with TxDOT and the county and seeing what is projected in the future and what's going on right now, so on traffic, I spent four years very involved in it on the local level," Crow said. "Traffic is always going to be an issue. We need to improve roads and bridges and work with TxDOT and local entities to try to keep the road infrastructure up."

Crow said he wants to be a voice for the community.

"I will always be accessible. I've got an open door policy. They can call me anytime, and I'll tell them the truth. I'd be glad to meet anybody anywhere," Crow said. "I have devoted the last 10 years of my life to public service for the citizens of Hays County, and I want to continue to do that, to be a voice for the citizens."

Learn more at traviscrow.com.

Rob McClelland (Republican)

McClelland moved to Hays County in 2017 when his time serving as a U.S. Army Officer in Washington D.C. was complete. McClelland currently works as the Director of Business Development for a construction firm that works out of the Central Texas area.

McClelland has served on the school board since 2022. He said that in that time, he has met people all over the county and learned that there are issues with taxes, water, wastewater, drainage, infrastructure and transportation.

"I'm here to move the needle on all those issues that people care about, that affect their daily lives," McClelland said.

He has been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to the Texas School Safety Center Board of Directors, which oversees public school safety for the entire state. He also works with Hays County Sheriff Anthony Hipolito on the Hays County Advisory Board, where he oversees training for the Sheriff's Office.

If elected, McClelland would focus on

infrastructure challenges. He said, due to the rapid county expansion, there is a need to be smart about that growth.

"The infrastructure needs to meet the demands of the growth," McClelland said. "Not the other way around."

McClelland wants to address infrastructure challenges without overburdening existing taxpayers "to where they are paying for new growth, instead of the other way around."

"I say that because it's doable. I've done it as a school board trustee," McClelland said. "Property taxes are a problem all over the state of Texas. ... So if we aren't fiscally responsible, and in my case, fiscally conservative, with the tax rate, citizens are going to get overburdened, and they already are. So that's a huge challenge."

McClelland said that as the county grows, so do the public safety requirements.

"We need to resource the sheriff's office, our constables and the county jail adequately to ensure that Hays County does not become Travis County, from a public safety perspective," McClelland said.

McClelland referenced the recent declaration by the Governor that water infrastructure has now reached a critical stage as the aquifers are not recharging fast enough to meet demand. He said the key to addressing this issue is cooperation with federal, state and local governments for a "solution that will solve this problem once and for all."

In addition to his military service and tenure on the school board, McClelland is an active church member and volunteer for local nonprofits.

Learn more at robfortexas.com.

Angie Unger (Democrat)

Unger is a real estate agent who has been involved in the community for more than a decade, creating bipartisan clubs, Democratic clubs, and book clubs, as well as volunteering in the Parent Teacher Association.

She has also done outreach for the library, the Hill Country Senior Center and her church.

"Over the years, I built trust, I've been vocal about school board candidates, about political candidates, about getting voters to go vote," Unger said. "I didn't want to run, but I had moms and neighbors throughout the years, they would say, 'You're bold, and you're a leader. And you should step up to run.'"

Unger believes her experience in real estate would lend itself to the Commissioner seat, as she said she works with land, infrastructure and water related issues, and she has to budget on a weekly, if not daily, basis.

Unger said she felt attention needs to be given to rural and other existing roads, rather than just prioritizing new roads, for safety reasons, among others.

"It feels like a lot of these roads and people have been forgotten," she said. State and federal funding should be used for roads to avoid raising taxes for residents, according to Unger.

Unger said she is committed to water conservation, which she plans to achieve through public outreach and bilingual education, as well as through responsible development.

"Most people are going to want to do the right thing," Unger said. "They care about the environment."

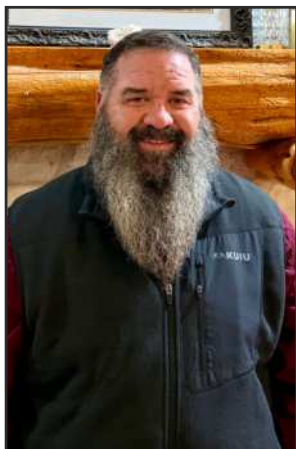
Unger criticized irresponsible growth that she said is outpacing water resources and proposed solutions like Citizen Advisory Committees composed of both rural and suburban residents and experts. She also supports incentives for water conservation, such as rainwater harvesting and the use of One Water systems, which recycle water, in Municipal buildings.

"You create these layers of solutions, and that is how we get to our goal of preserving our water, preserving our natural resources," Unger said.

Unger stressed the importance of afforda-



Laurie Brown (D)



Travis Crow (R)



Rob McClelland (R)



Angie Unger (D)

bility, advocating for state and federal funding to avoid tax burdens on residents.

"They cannot afford to live where they work, and many people are not even aware that we have state funds and these programs," Unger said.

Unger's campaign emphasizes unity among all Hays County residents.

"I want to be known as the Commissioner who made it so that all people, all families can afford to live here," Unger said. "I want to be known as a Commissioner that included all voices."

Learn more at ungerforhays.com.

COUNTY FROM PG. 1

Following a competitive selection process, HDR Engineering Inc. was chosen to conduct the study. HDR brings extensive experience in water resource planning and will work closely with county leadership throughout the process. The study will take approximately 11 months to complete, with a not-to-exceed cost of \$542,360.

The study will evalu-

ate water supply planning, wastewater effluent management, localized flood planning, and existing regulations that impact water use. The study will also include a flooding assessment for all four county precincts and a focused evaluation of centralized sewer options for the Hillside Terrace neighborhood, an older, higher-density area facing flooding and aging septic

system concerns.

Public stakeholder outreach will be a key component of the effort. County leaders anticipate that interval updates and opportunities for public engagement will be shared as the work progresses. Residents will have opportunities to learn more about the findings and how they may inform future planning and policy decisions.



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The Soul Retreat Spa celebrates its opening.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Soul Retreat Spa holds ribbon cutting ceremony

Staff Reports

Soul Retreat Spa recently celebrated their opening with a ribbon cutting on Feb. 5 with the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce.

Nestled in the scenic Texas Hill Country, Soul Retreat Spa offers a peaceful wellness sanctuary designed to help clients step away from the demands of daily life and reconnect with their mind, body, and spirit. Locally owned and operated by licensed mas-

sage therapist Jennifer Luo, the spa was founded with a mission to support the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of the community through personalized, results-driven wellness care.

Soul Retreat Spa specializes in therapeutic massage, head spa treatments, lymphatic therapy, and holistic wellness services. Each treatment is customized to address individual needs, whether clients are seeking pain relief, stress reduction,

improved circulation, or overall body balance.

Luo said she believes wellness should not be viewed as a luxury reserved for special occasions, but rather as an essential part of maintaining a balanced and healthy lifestyle. She emphasizes attentive care, client comfort, and treatment plans designed to support each guest's personal wellness goals.

Soul Retreat Spa serves individuals, couples, and families throughout Dripping

Springs and surrounding Hill Country communities. Whether guests are managing chronic tension, recovering from physical strain, or simply looking for a moment of peace, Luo said that Soul Retreat Spa provides a welcoming environment dedicated to helping clients feel their best.

They are located at 2400B U.S. 290, Suite 5 in Dripping Springs, next to El Rey Mexican Restaurant. Appointments can be made by calling 512-846-6888.

Vintage Oaks Farm honored by Hays County Crime Stoppers

Staff Reports

Vintage Oaks Farm, a locally owned Texas Hill Country wedding and event venue, has been recognized by Hays County Crime Stoppers with two honors: *Business Supporter of the Year* and the *Spirit of Crime Stoppers Award*.

The awards recognize individuals and organizations that actively support Crime Stoppers' mission of preventing crime through community involve-

ment, education, and partnerships with local law enforcement.

Vintage Oaks Farm has supported Crime Stoppers over the years through community engagement, awareness efforts, and local support initiatives.

"Receiving these awards is truly humbling," said Sissi Baskin, owner of Vintage Oaks Farm. "Crime Stoppers does incredibly important work behind the scenes, and we're grateful for the oppor-

tunity to support an organization that helps keep our community safe."

The *Business Supporter of the Year* award honors businesses that demonstrate ongoing commitment to Crime Stoppers' mission, while the *Spirit of Crime Stoppers Award* recognizes those who embody the organization's values of service, responsibility, and community involvement.

Crime Stoppers relies on community

partnerships to fund anonymous tip programs, educational outreach, and reward initiatives that assist law enforcement agencies throughout the county.

Vintage Oaks Farm is located in the Texas Hill Country and hosts weddings, celebrations, and community gatherings throughout the year. The venue emphasizes local partnerships and giving back as part of its ongoing commitment to the area it calls home.

Cathy (Haydon) Tomerlin

July 9, 1953 — 2/13/2026



Cathy (Haydon) Tomerlin

Cathy (Haydon) Tomerlin, 72, passed away on February 13, 2026, at Seton Medical Center in Austin, following complications from a stroke she suffered in October.

Born July 9, 1953, in Austin and raised in Dripping Springs, Cathy carried her Hill Country roots proudly throughout her life.

Cathy dedicated her professional career as an Executive Assistant with the Texas Animal Health Commission, where she was respected for her dedication, precision, and steady presence. After retiring early from the State of Texas, she spent time at the YMCA caring for children, a role that reflected her lifelong gift for nurturing others.

She shared 42 years of marriage with her beloved husband, Gary Tomerlin. Their love story began 50 years ago, marking the beginning of a lifetime together.

Above all else, Cathy was a devoted wife and a fiercely loving mother. Her daughter, Sarah, was her greatest pride and joy. But even more than that, they were best friends. They could sit together for hours talking about everything and nothing, a bond built on trust, laughter, and deep understanding. In the months following her stroke, when she was able to communicate, they often said to one another, "I love you more than you know", words that perfectly reflect the depth of their connection.

She cared deeply, loved fully, and would do absolutely anything for those she loved. Cathy had an extraordinary memory that amazed everyone, remembering names, stories, children, and details with remarkable accuracy. If you asked her to pray for someone, she wanted their exact

name so she could lift them up specifically and intentionally. A dedicated Christian and true prayer warrior, Cathy was a lifelong member of First Baptist Church Dripping Springs, where her faith was nurtured and shared with her community.

She was witty, stylish, and thoughtful in every detail. Her home was always pristine and beautifully put together. There was almost always something freshly baked in her kitchen, especially her famous oatmeal cookies, which became a favorite for many. She had a gift for making people feel instantly at home. Sarah and Jack's friends were treated as her own, and so many have shared how special, seen, and loved she made them feel.

Cathy cherished time spent on the lake with family and friends, creating joyful memories on the boat that will be treasured forever. She and Gary also enjoyed regular dinners out with Connie and Buster, as well as her cousin Eva and her husband, Mike — evenings filled with laughter, stories, two-stepping and the kind of comfortable companionship that marked so many of her relationships.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charlie and Betty Haydon.

She is survived by her husband, Gary Tomerlin; her devoted daughter, Sarah Tomerlin, and Sarah's longtime partner, Jack Moore; her brother, Barry Haydon and his wife, Kathie, and their son, Carter; her sister, Connie and her husband, Buster; her niece, Julie, and Julie's daughters, Kara and Taylor; Kara's son, Kip; and Buster's son, Michael; along with extended family and countless friends whose lives were made brighter by her precious soul and generous heart.

Visitation will be held Monday, February 23, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at First Baptist Church Dripping Springs.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, February 24, at 10:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church Dripping Springs, followed by a procession to Phillips Cemetery.

DSRP opens new outdoor arena



Dripping Springs Ranch Park manager Lily Sellers prepares to cut the ribbon at the new arena.

PHOTO BY LAURIE ANDERSON

Laurie Anderson
Editor

The City of Dripping Springs held a ribbon cutting ceremony on Feb. 11 for its new outdoor arena at Dripping Springs Ranch Park (DSRP). Mayor Bill Foulds, Jr. welcomed the crowd and thanked the contractors and city staff for their work on the project.

"Our parks maintenance staff, inspectors, they did a great job and really facilitated a lot of this work," Foulds said. "I really appreciate the work our city team did."

Foulds said that the new arena would be

an added amenity for the equestrian community, which already makes heavy use of DSRP.

"There are always horses or some type of activity going on, and that's what we were looking forward to with this place," Foulds said. "Local riders come here from Dripping Springs, but we get people... from everywhere around central Texas."

The ribbon cutting was attended by members of the Chamber of Commerce and the community, as well as by city staff and the contractors from SMD Construction Services.

pet of the week



Ida • Female
12 years old
Chihuahua

I'm a gorgeous little lady with the fluffiest coat you'll ever snuggle. I haven't always had the easiest life, but now I'm ready for all the love and adventures with a family of my own. I'm full of affection and can't wait to share it with you! I get along great with other dogs. I pretty much just ignore them and do my own thing. And cats? Most are bigger than me anyway, so we're totally cool. No drama here! What I love most is being held, talked to in that sweet voice you humans have, and curling up on your lap for cuddles. Whether you want to foster me or make me your forever fur-baby, I'll be the most loyal, loving companion you've ever had. Please visit LizzysHospice.com or email us at LizzysHospice@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to fill out an application.



Bastian • Male
10 years old
Bullmastiff

I'm a big ol' sweetheart! People call me a gentle giant, and I sure live up to that. I'm house trained, no need for a crate since I'm too big for one anyway. I'm dreaming of a foster family or a forever home to call my own. My legs aren't the strongest because of arthritis and muscle atrophy, so I don't need long walks, just a little stroll around the backyard to keep my joints happy. I love soaking up the sun outside when the weather's nice, but I'm definitely not an outdoor dog. Other dogs are great, though I might give a tiny nip when we first meet, just saying hello in my own way. I'm working hard in physical therapy to build up my leg muscles, and my bloodwork is all clear, so I'm healthy except for my legs. They say swimming might help me move better, and I'm willing to give it a splash. If you love big dogs, I'm your buddy. I'm super easygoing, perfect for chilling by your side, maybe drooling a bit while we watch movies or you tell me all about your day. Just let me snuggle close, and I'll be the best listener you ever had. Please visit LizzysHospice.com to fill out an application.

UNIVERSAL CROSSWORD

2-15

Themeless Sunday 172 by Rich Proulx

ACROSS

- 1 Sleazebag
- 10 Tip-top
- 14 "Brilliant!"
- 16 Opponents of "us"
- 17 Grooves on a vinyl record, basically
- 18 Pile
- 19 2008 Olympic women's gymnastics champion Liukin
- 20 Unfaithful
- 22 Fuel injector brand
- 24 Restless
- 25 Words after an awkward silence
- 29 Objectively true statements
- 33 Sneak a look

- 34 Explanation for a missing cookie
- 35 Mine material
- 36 Birds that lay large eggs
- 37 Statement of beliefs
- 38 Word with "bright" or "rough"
- 39 "I can neither confirm ____ deny ..."
- 40 Mogadishu resident
- 41 Fuel source from a bog
- 42 Charlamagne tha God or Lady Gaga
- 44 Face coverings
- 45 One who may

- fish with pots
- 46 Prez on a silver dollar
- 48 City or wind in Southern California
- 52 Open, as a present
- 57 Greek god of courage
- 58 They're full of tricks
- 60 Like this clue
- 61 Blowing-smoke rings?
- 62 U-turn from west
- 63 Automaker's safety trial
- DOWN
- 1 Stretch across
- 2 Sister of Aurora

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- 3 Seniors' \$\$\$ sources
- 4 Change states, in a way
- 5 Self-centered sort
- 6 Fathered, biblically
- 7 Back ____ forth
- 8 Untruthful person
- 9 Old stringed instrument
- 10 Greek goddess of handicrafts
- 11 Impatient gamers' aids
- 12 Cruel bent
- 13 What a full house lacks
- 15 Cul-de-____
- 21 "Life of Pi" boat
- 23 Med biz
- 25 Words spoken before making an entrance?
- 26 Middle of nowhere
- 27 AI models in-

- spired by the human brain
- 28 Approves
- 30 Starter set?
- 31 Walked unsteadily
- 32 "Where ____ go wrong?"
- 34 Something to click
- 38 Hoppy draft pick
- 40 Will be, in Barcelona
- 43 Implies
- 44 Good one?
- 47 Lowers one's head
- 49 Volume booster
- 50 DEA agent
- 51 Red algae product
- 53 "Can you repeat yourself?"
- 54 Actor's part
- 55 Hide punchers
- 56 Clandestine summons
- 59 Cookbook writer Garten

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CALENDAR FROM PG. 1

Dripping Springs Farmers Market
Feb 25 & Mar 4 • 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
The Dripping Springs Farmer's Market is held on Wednesdays at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Visitors can gather and shop for fresh agricultural and related products. Dripping Springs Ranch Park • 1042 Event Center Dr. • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

West of Weird Art Show
Feb 28 & Mar 1 • 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Over 40 artists will be throwing the doors open on their studios and welcoming visitors during the West of Weird Art Show, a Dripping Springs Art League (DSAL) event. Guests can plan their Hill Country drive and stop at the various locations along the way. The show features art of all kinds including oils, water, mixed media, fabric, ceramic, metal work and more. Download a list and map from the DSAL website at www.artindripping.com. Various locations.

Pouring Over Books
Mar 1 • 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Hosted by Friends of the Dripping Springs Community Library, the 15th Annual Pouring Over Books event is the group's biggest fundraiser. Texas Writer Award recipient Elizabeth Crook, author of "The Which Way Tree" and "Monday, Monday" will be the featured guest. Her latest work is "The Madstone," a riveting tale placed in the Texas Hill Country in the late 1800s. Guests will be offered complimentary fine wines, infused water and premium teas, as well as delicious bites. Live music will be provided by the Hot Texas Swing Band, and there will also be a silent auction. Meteorologist Kristen Currie of KXAN will moderate the discussion. Visit www.fodscl.org for additional information. Prospect House • 12745 Silver Creek Rd • Dripping Springs, TX

7th Annual Clay Shoot
March 7 • 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Hill Country Rally for Kids is holding its annual clay shoot

, and this year's beneficiary is Foster Village. Participants are invited to Hog Heaven Sporting Club for a day of connection, friendly competition, and meaningful impact - raising critical support for vulnerable kids in our community. For details, visit www.hcrally.com. Hog Heaven Sporting Club • 24905 Ranch Rd 12 • Dripping Springs, TX 78620

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND EDUCATION

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

City of Dripping Springs Public Meetings
The City of Dripping Springs welcomes residents and others doing business with the city to attend any of the public meetings below. City Council meetings are traditionally held at City Hall

Council Chambers, 511 W. Mercer St., Dripping Springs, TX 78620. See cityofdrippingsprings.com for streaming options and meeting agendas.

Farmers Market Committee Regular Meeting
Feb 19 * 10 a.m.
Emergency Management Committee Regular Meeting
Feb 19 • 12 p.m.

Utility Commission Regular Meeting
Feb 19 • 4 p.m.

Founders Day Committee Regular Meeting
Feb 23 • 6:30 p.m.

Transportation Committee Regular Meeting
Feb 23 • 3:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting
Feb 24 • 6 p.m.

City Council Workshop - Special Meeting
Feb 25 • 5:30 p.m.

City Council & Board of Adjustment Regular Meeting
Mar 3 • 6 p.m.

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

Hays County Commissioners Court Regular Meeting
Feb 24 • 9 a.m.
This is a regular meeting of the Hays County Commissioners Court, the governing body of the county. This group of elected officials and staff oversees the functions and budget for all county-related business. Hays County Historic Courthouse • 111 E. San Antonio St. • San Marcos, Texas. Streaming option available at hayscountytexas.com.

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

Lady Tigers drop final game

Carl Waits Sports Reporter

When you are playing the No. 1 basketball team in the state it is expected the climb will be steep. However, the Lady Tigers found it to be a sheer cliff. Their first five were insurmountable and the final was a one-sided 71-27. The Lady Tigers, as usual, gave it their all and never quit. It was just the talent gap being so wide. During the second half when the reserves were seeing action it was obvious the Lady Tigers could compete and closed the gap.

In the first half the Lady Chaps just controlled all the action.

Their ballhawking ability kept the Lady Tigers from getting the ball (26 turnovers) or a shot. Westlake, luckily were off on their three early but seldom missed layups and other shots from the paint. The first quarter ended 22-6. The second was a 21-0 shutout making it 43-6 at the break. It was 16-56 after three.

The Lady Tigers finished the season with a record of 19-12 and 4-8 in district. As the last home game, the seven seniors were honored along with their parents. It was a nice ceremony for a special group. As most know, the girls program has struggled since 2020.

This group of seniors were willing to hang in there during the tough times and with their senior leadership came through with a strong winning record. The foundation they formed will bode well for the program and the seven returnees. The seniors are Chaela Luelling, Sloan Geck, Ella Beatty, Chloe Lightfoot, Caitlin Lightfoot, Harper Teague and Bailey Rogers.

Vs Westlake: Scoring: Lily Aleshire 11, Camille Brown 5, Beatty 3, Avery Taylor 2, Luelling 2, Ch. Lightfoot 2, Teague 2. Reb: Rogers 3, Aleshire 3. Asst: Rogers 2, Geck 2. Stls: Avery Ames 3, Beatty 2, Brown 2.

Tigers fall to Westlake

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Coach Acker said despite the final score his Tiger basketball squad competed very well against a tough Westlake team. Westlake is tied for the district lead with Lake Travis with 10-1

records. The Tigers could not stay up as Westlake held an advantage in each quarter and lost the game 63-41. It was 16-11 after one and 33-21 at the half. The third ended 49-35

Scoring for the Tigers were Grant Gillum 10,

Rushton Budge 9,
Grant Reagan 5, A'my-
ron Hurst 4, Isaac Terry
4, Maddox Jacopo 4,
Harrison Hight 3, Liam
Lawson 2. Rebs: Budge
7, Lawson 4, Hight 3,
Terry 3. Assts: Budge 2,
Reagan 2, Solomon
Igharo 2.

Lady Tigers softball opens with a win

Carl Waits Sports Reporter

Dripping Springs took the field at Hays Johnson and did not take long to get into their strength. Winning. With a squad that had only one senior that played, everything started falling in place on

offense in the third. They overcame a 3-1 deficit in third with three runs, another three in the fourth and another pair in the fifth and seventh for an 11-3 triumph.

They outhit Johnson 12-6. Getting three hits were Lauren Byrnes and

Tatum Green. Lorelei Gamble added two (D,T), as did Alex Wiatrek (D) and Brooklynn Reiling. Byrnes and Wiatrek had 3 rbis each. Toeing the rubber for a complete game win was Sadie Bradford. She gave up 6H, 3R, 3ER, 3W, 3K, 1HR.e

Dripping Springs soccer roundup

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

The girls and boys soccer teams both came out victorious in their battles with Del Valle. The boys also took on St. Michaels and fell back into another close 0-1 loss. They both took on Westlake with the girls solidifying their hold on first with a 2-1 win, while the boys dropped a 3-0 decision.

Girls soccer: V vs DV: 6-0: Goals: Bailey Stephenson 3, Juanita Diaz Fajardo, Lily Ruff, Rachelle Darilek.

JV v DV: 8-0 (mercy rule): Kennedy

Schwalke 3, Gemma
Mazzantini 2, Maddie
Sulser, Chloe Sprockett,
Lily Webb.

9th v DV: 8-0 (mercy rule): Ryleigh Ramirez 3, Alexa Perez 2, Kinley Clark, Ainsley Arnold, Hadley Pavkov.

Vs Westlake: The Lady Chaps scored first with Darilek assisted by Stephenson tying it up immediately and three minutes later Ruff scored the winning point with assist from Lauren Velasco.

Boys soccer: V vs DV:
2-1: (G/A): Trip Dick-
ens/Tucker. Euston.

ens/ lucker Fuston;
Dickens/Trey Goncz-
ruk.

Track season opens with Tiger Relays

Carl Waits
Sports Reporter

Dripping Springs had the good fortune of great weather to hold a track meet which is not always the case. Dripping Springs had good representation in all four divisions and a good start on the season. The Lady Tigers scored 61 points to finish fourth behind champion SA Reagan. The Tigers finished sixth with 46 behind Round Rock. Isabel Crew also began her wheelchair season with good efforts.

Varsity Girls results:
3200: 6. Quinn Hendrickson 12.22.43;
400 relay: 4. DS 50.57;
800: 4. Morgan Riley 2.26.84; 100H: 7. Ta-

tum Green 17.49; 100: 5. Amara Moutin 13.08; 800R: 4. DS 1.47.12; 400: 3. Riley 1.02.38; 300H: 6. Green 49.75; 200: 3. Mouton 26.68; 1600R: 5. DS 4.25.02; PV: 1. Adeline Spies 11'6; HJ: 6. Avery Dixon 5'0.

Varsity boys: 3200:
3. Wes Anderson
9.47.43; 400R: 4. DS
43.64; 110H: 7. Trip
Wiese 16.70; 100: 4.
Miles Kennedy 11.48;
800R: 3. DS 1.32.06;
300H: 7. Wiese 43.65;
1600R: 5. DS 3.40.88;
LJ: 4. Kennedy 21'2;
TJ: 2. Kennedy 42.10;
5. Landon Upchurch
40'10; Disc: 7. Major
Bettridge 120'4; SP:
Bettridge 43'2.

Wheelchair: Crew: 1.07.52; 800: 2.46.68;
100: 19.71; 400: SP: 19'2.

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A group photo of the NestHaven Properties team, consisting of 18 people, posing in front of a building. The team is arranged in two rows, with some members standing and others sitting on a low stone wall. Above them is the NestHaven Properties logo, which includes a QR code and the company name in a stylized font. Below the photo, the text "We Appreciate Your Votes! Thank You, Dripping Springs!" is displayed in a large, bold, white font.

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FARM AND RANCH SALE	
25909 Hamilton Pool Rd, Round Mountain: 53 acres. Beautiful 3,283sf home with custom-built pool that includes both a waterfall and waterslide. 2,000sf four stall horse barn with tack room. 1,250sf workshop. Abundant Oaks, +-7-acre paddock	\$3,500,000 MLS: 9609854
RESIDENTIAL / LAND SALE	
16413 Fitzhugh Rd, Dripping Springs: 35-acre tract offering outstanding potential for residential development, family compound, or private estate/gentleman ranch, located just off RR 12 on Fitzhugh Road with frontage on two streets, allowing for easy ingress and egress.	\$2,850,000 MLS: 9315401
343 Pug Rippy Rd, Dripping Springs: Set on two serene acres in the heart of the Texas Hill Country, this exceptional Creek Road Ranch 3,611sqft estate offers refined luxury just minutes from Dripping Springs and within walking distance of Camp Lucy.	\$2,650,000 MLS: 4863591
251 Pioneer Trail, Dripping Springs: 20-acre tract that offers endless possibilities just minutes from Dripping Springs. With no restrictions, it's perfect for a gentleman's ranch, livestock and horses, or even commercial opportunities.	\$1,300,000 MLS: 1233686
COMMERCIAL SALE	
31858 Ranch Rd 12, Dripping Springs: 3.15-acre commercial lot with RR 12 frontage, just past Fitzhugh Rd. High-traffic location with excellent visibility for your vision, close proximity to Austin and Bee Cave.	\$997,500 MLS: 9860019
000 RR 12, Dripping Springs: Prime 1-acre commercial lot located along RR 12 North, just up from HWY 290 with high-visibility frontage and proximity to Austin. Zoned CS with 2 LUE's attached. Site Plan available.	\$875,000 MLS: 8284894
2550 Bell Springs Rd, Dripping Springs: 22.72-acre with substantial improvements and a gorgeous wedding venue in place, concept plans for luxury villas. Includes 10,000sf venue, 4,200sf chapel, 3,680sf house, and a 912sf casita.	\$7,500,000 Back on Market!
133 Glosson Ranch Rd #A, Dripping Springs: 14,000 square feet across two versatile buildings with no zoning restrictions, featuring 6 grade level garage doors and utilities in place, with power, septic, and water connected, move in ready!	LEASED!
14787 Fitzhugh Rd, Dripping Springs: Prime 2.72-acre unrestricted tract located along the thriving Fitzhugh Corridor, offering excellent visibility and easy access. Positioned outside of the ETJ with proximity to Austin and Dripping Springs.	\$1,700,000 MLS: 7220964
13100 Fitzhugh Rd, Austin: A rare opportunity to acquire a thriving RV park with approximately 90% occupancy and 35 RV Spots, ideally located just off Fitzhugh Road on +-7 Acres, with convenient access to Austin and Dripping Springs.	\$2,500,000 MLS: 7795607
13127 Fitzhugh Rd, Austin: Unique 4.79-acre unrestricted tract right outside Dripping Springs. Features 4,900+- square feet of improvements which includes 21 beds across three houses, two cabins, and a commercial-grade kitchen/pavilion.	\$1,500,000 MLS: 3926230
22601 Ranch Road 12, Dripping Springs: 7.1-acre tract, with one 6,000+sf Building being built. This property, boasting a prominent frontage on Ranch Road 12, is not only Ag Exempt but also fully entitled and permitted for a massive 42,000 sq.ft. of flex commercial space, primed and ready for construction.	LEASED!
000 HWY 290, Dripping Springs: 4-acre commercial property offers exceptional visibility and access with direct frontage on Hwy 290. Ideally located just down the road from the new H-E-B development, the site is positioned for high traffic exposure	\$3,500,000 MLS: 7269294
COMMERCIAL LEASE	
701 US 290 W #101, Dripping Springs: 1,200 square feet of office space located in the heart of Dripping Springs, just 30 minutes away from Austin. This property features a reception area, two private offices, a conference room, and bathroom.	\$2,304 MLS: 4123945
22601 Ranch Road 12, Dripping Springs: 6,256 square foot warehouse in shell condition, ready for your custom build-out. Water, electricity, and sewer connections are readily available, with tenant improvement allowances negotiable.	LEASED!
10020 Darden Hill Rd, Austin: 3,750-6,020sf of fully climate-controlled Warehouse/Office space right outside of Austin and close to Dripping Springs. Units can be leased separately or together!	\$8,850 MLS: 7676493



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