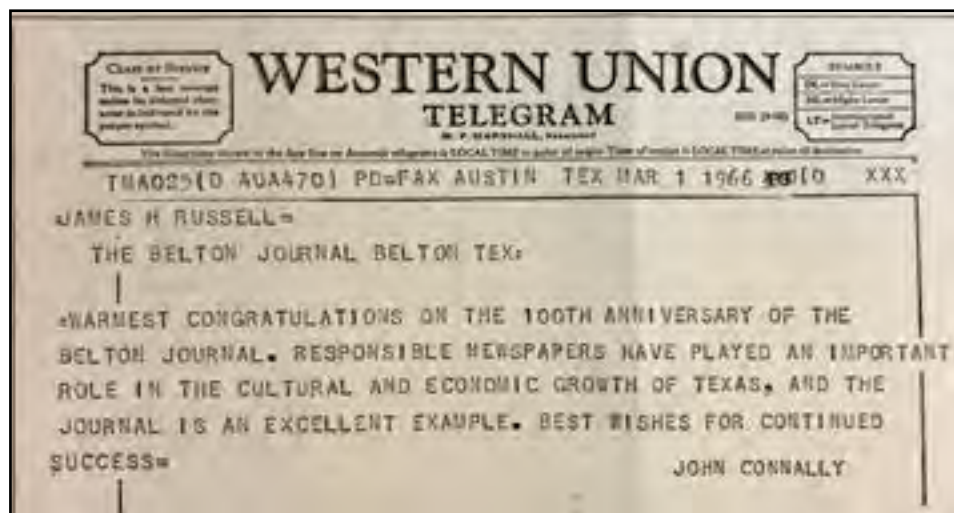


# The oldest business in Bell County, The Belton Journal turns 159



File Photos

Above: Governor John Connally sent a telegram of warmest congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of The Belton Journal. Above Right: The Journal-Reporter building can be seen behind the firefighters. The publication began in 1866 by Jouett Harbert Davenport, who bought out Longino.

By **Susan Kolodziejczyk & Michelle Rodriguez**  
*The Belton Journal*

On January 6, 1866, the first typeset and roll of ink was placed on paper and published for the residents of Belton and Bell County. The Belton Weekly Journal (1866), now The Belton Journal, is the oldest business on record in Belton and Bell County (established in 1850) and the second oldest continuously published weekly newspaper in Texas.

In the April 21, 1966 issue in an article titled Journal Observes 100 years of Continuous Publication, they recognized The Journal's 100th birthday and featured a warm congratulations Western Union Telegram from Texas Governor

John Connally.

The writer of the article said, "In the interest of honest reporting, the Journal must admit it was not the first newspaper in Belton - but it was the only surviving one, there having been, by the best count available, a total of 13 others, which gave this town an earned reputation as 'the graveyard of newspapers.'"

"The founder and first publisher of The Journal was James T. Longino, presumably of Italian extraction. His step-father Major Jouett Harber Davenport joined him in the business. The major soon bought the son out," the writer of the article said.

There's a story about him being the founding father of The Journal in the sesquicentennial edition in the article

The Founding Father of the Journal.

"He was a livestock raiser, newspaper publisher, lawyer, state senator, and Confederate military officer," Writer Matthew K. Hamilton said.

In the July 28, 2016, award-winning gold edition, in an article titled Publisher's Note, they observed the sesquicentennial which means 150 years.

"No person or corporation owns The Belton Journal. You own it. With your 50 cents you paid this week, you are a part owner of the newspaper. In 10 years, we may only be found online. Either in print or on your phone our job and the job of future publishers is to report what is going on in the community," Publisher David Tuma said. "I am lucky as a businessman to have spent the best years of

my life serving this community."

There have been numerous locations the paper has been run out of but has always been in the downtown area. The first location was in the John Henry Building, which still exists and is currently being restored to its once former business of the 1895 Belton Opera House on the corner of Main and Water Street.

Most issues of the Belton Journal can be found on the City of Belton's Lena Armstrong's Public Library website at beltontx.gov. It's a source for the history of Belton, obituaries, and genealogy.

The issues from 1866-1869 are not available online. There were fires in 1898 and 1914 that irretrievably destroyed any paper copies that existed.

## Bell County officials take oaths of office

By **Lynette Sowell**  
*The Belton Journal*

A number of Bell County officials rang in the new year just after midnight, January 1, 2025, as they took their oaths of office for new terms.

Bill Cooke took the oath of office as Bell County Sheriff. Cooke ran for office after Sheriff Eddy Lange announced his retirement. This is Cooke's first term as sheriff.

Judge Cliff Coleman administered the oath of office to Cooke.

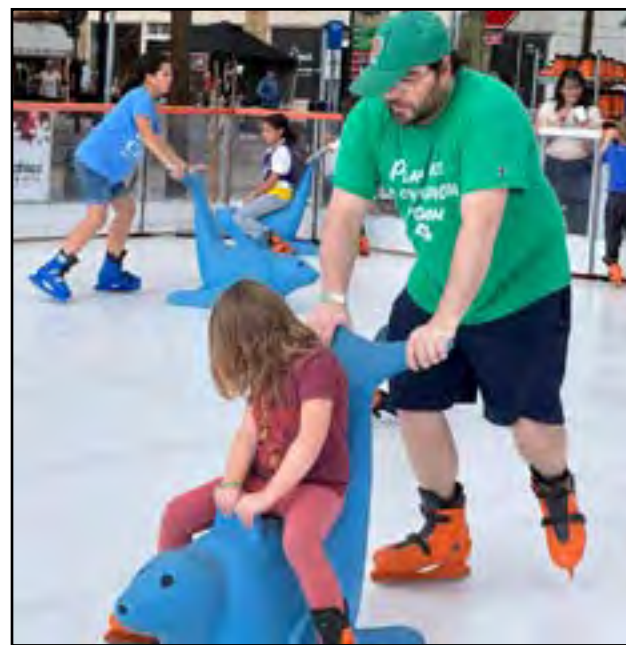
Other officials sworn in last Thursday morning included County Precinct 1 Constable Pat Duffield, Precinct 3 County Commissioner Greg Reynolds, Precinct 1 County Commissioner Russell Schneider, Precinct 2 Constable Chris Bazar, Precinct 3 Constable Devon Rosenthal, Precinct 4 Constable Martha Dominguez, County Attorney Jim

Nichols, County Tax Assessor Shay Luedeke, Justice of the Peace Precinct 3 Place 1 Rosanne Fisher, Justice of the Peace Precinct 4 Place 1 Gregory Johnson, 426th Judicial District Court Judge Steve Duskie, and 146th Judicial District Court Judge Mike Russell. Also sworn in after the new year were County District Attorney Stephanie Newell and 27th Judicial District Court Judge Debbie Garrett.



Courtesy photo

Bill Cooke is sworn in as Bell County's newest sheriff just after midnight on January 1, 2025. He replaces former sheriff Eddy Lange, who served as the head of the sheriff's department for 12 years.



Courtesy Photo

Families enjoy the free skating in downtown Belton over the Christmas holidays.

## Downtown ice skating sees turnout of thousands

By **David Tuma**  
*The Belton Journal*

The ice skating rink downtown this year was expanded to a larger size for the holiday season.

A total of 6,500 unique skaters used the rink, with more than 500 returning. The ice rink was used a total of 7,000 times.

"I can't express how thankful we are for the work of our Belton Parks & Recreation staff providing the skating rink in downtown Belton for our community during the holidays. Despite some weather challenges, these

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## World-record house of cards builder entertains at airport

By David Stone  
The Belton Journal

The fun was stacked high and mighty at this year's Last Night Gala fundraiser for the Ralph Wilson Youth Club.

That's because the entertainment was provided by Bryan Berg, a Guinness Book of World Records card stacker who holds the record for tallest card creation with a 26-foot-tall skyscraper.

The 10th annual gala was held in the McLane

Group Aviation Hangar at Draughon-Miller Airport.

Berg, who hails from Santa Fe, NM, stacked in the area for the first time, but he has performed his amazing skill throughout the world, creating monuments such as the Empire State Building, the Eiffel Tower and many others.

"The world's tallest house of cards was built for the State Fair of Texas," Berg said. "It's a very tall tower with many other buildings surrounding it. The tallest spire

required more than 1,000 decks of cards — about 140 pounds of cards for that one tower alone."

While he enjoys recreating famous and well-known buildings, Berg focused on tall with a dramatic "wow" factor.

"It just takes so much time to build something like the Texas State Capitol, the UT Tower or the Cotton Bowl," he said. "Those big projects take about a week. Obviously I didn't have a week for this gala."

Berg began building "something tall and crazy" the day before the Last Night Gala, then finished it during the event.

"At the end of the night, I'll get out my leaf blower and send cards flying," he said before the show. "I told the organizers: 'Just turn me loose and I'll create something people will find surprising.'"

Berg, an architect, started his card-stacking hobby when he was 8



Courtesy photo

Bryan Berg is dwarfed by the 26-foot-tower of cards he built to set a Guinness Book of World Records. Berg said he never uses glue or tape, and he never bends his cards

years old.

"I'm self-taught, but my grandfather got me started," Berg said. "He would build a house of cards between games. I was fascinated, and I started doing it. I was a senior in high school in 1992 when I set my first world record with a 14-

foot, 6-inch house. I've broken my own record many times."

His abilities went from being spread by word of mouth locally to a global audience after building his first website in the 1990s. After that, word was out, and offers came in for commercials

and exhibits at casinos.

"I live in Santa Fe, but I have my eye on a place in Las Vegas, NM, where I can exhibit my work and have a studio for folks to come in and see me stack," he said. "Las Vegas is on I-25 and about 10,000 cars a day pass through."

## Trujillo hired as Recreation Superintendent

By David Tuma  
The Belton Journal

Adam Trujillo has been hired as the Recreation Superintendent for the City of Belton's Parks Department.

"I am very excited to be here. I have only been here a month and it has been a great experience. My background is programming and special events," said Trujillo.

With more than a decade of experience in parks and recreation, Trujillo brings a strong background in program development, event coordination, and team leadership.

Before joining the team in Belton, Adam made significant contributions in Harker Heights, where he successfully expanded community events, enhanced outdoor education programming, and transformed the Activities Center into a vibrant community hub featuring a Maker Space.

Adam's journey in creativity began in high school when he founded an entertainment company he successfully managed until college graduation. His diverse experiences include roles ranging from staffing scout summer camps to working in HVAC,



Courtesy photo

Adam Trujillo has been named Recreation Superintendent for the City of Belton Parks Department.

contributing to his well-rounded skill set. Renowned for his ability to deliver innovative and engaging event experiences, Adam has a proven track record of designing community-focused events, such as the Harker Heights Arts Festival, which prioritize safety and inclusivity while ensuring meaningful experiences for attendees of all ages.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Adam is passionate about lifelong learning and outdoor exploration. He especially enjoys sharing his love for nature with his 12-year-old daughter, fostering a sense of adventure and appreciation for the great outdoors.

## Skating - From Page A1

hard-working folks spent many evening and weekend hours making memories for families during Christmas on the Chisholm Trail and beyond, as well as providing a big attraction to draw customers to our local businesses. We were the envy of neighboring communities as we captured the spirit of the holidays and made Belton THE place to be this Christmas season," said Randy Pittenger, President of the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce.

"We are also thankful for the amazing partnerships between the City of Belton, Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, Cochran Blair & Potts, Peerless Enterprises, CGI, DBBA, H-E-B, Grand Avenue Theater, and so many in our community. Providing the festive decorations and FREE family fun was a powerful generator for promoting commerce in Belton, bringing many visitors to our community to shop, dine, and play," he added. "It's a tradition to celebrate Christmas in a big way in Belton; a tradi-

tion that we must fight to maintain and grow. I can't wait to begin planning for how we can make it bigger, better, and more special for our community next year. I am proud of our community for many reasons, but this season was again a great reminder of how we work together for the benefit of our community."

The vendor market offered residents and visitors a chance to complete their last-minute Christmas shopping with unique creations from talented local artisans.

Downtown shops and restaurants were also buzzing with festive cheer and happy shoppers.

Penelope Street came alive with the dazzling parade, featuring beautifully lit floats that brought smiles to faces of all ages.

"A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful sponsors—Cochran, Blair & Potts, CGI, Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, and Peerless Enterprises—who ensured that the rink was open nightly for two weeks until Decem-



Courtesy Photo

The downtown ice skating provided plenty of free fun.

ber 21st. To round out our Christmas celebrations, we enjoyed a cozy showing of 'Arthur Christmas' and indulged in s'mores roasting—a perfect way to end the festivities," Charisse Bennett, Marketing Coordinator for the

Parks & Recreation Department. "The kids had a great time. It was simply a fantastic way to bring Christmas to downtown Belton. The different events created a Hallmark movie-type atmosphere."

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Any image, story or other unsolicited information sent to The Belton Journal is considered a community-contributed submission of material and falls under these guidelines.

You retain ownership of any submission that is your original work. Submissions sent from third parties should only be by permission of the organization or individual who owns it, who also must agree to this

submission policy.

You understand that submissions may or may not appear in the Belton Journal and its related forms of publication, now or in the future.

By contributing a submission, you are granting to the Belton Journal unrestricted, non-exclusive right to use it now and in the future. This includes modifying the original submission to fit print requirements.

Submissions used become a permanent part of the Belton Journal and its product offerings. By virtue

of appearance on the Belton Journal Web site, submissions may also become a permanent part of search engine caching libraries (such as google.com) and online archiving organizations (such as archive.org).

Submissions not immediately used become a permanent part of the Belton Journal's library, with rights for possible future use.

By contributing any submission, you are indicating you have read and understood this policy and agree to its terms.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

To be considered for inclusion in the Belton Journal, all submissions must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Monday of the week in question.

Opinions expressed (including Letters to the Editor) are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions held by the Belton Journal's management, staff or advertisers. Letters to the Editor should not exceed more than 350 words. Contact us at (254) 939-5754.

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# OBITUARIES



**Coleman**  
**Willie Mae Coleman**  
June 25, 1938 –  
December 28, 2024

Willie Mae Coleman (Granny) was born on June 25, 1938, in Somerville, Tx. to Lydia and Adolph Schwarze. She passed away peacefully on December 28, 2024. She was 86 years old.

She had four brothers and five sisters. They all preceded her in death.

Her husband, Floyd John Coleman, passed away on March 1, 1982. Her son, Floyd James Coleman, passed away February 22, 2024.

She is survived by her two daughters, that reside in Belton, TX, Shirley Youngblood (husband- Larry Youngblood), Charlotte Martin (husband-Victor Martin), and daughter-in-law, Kimberly Cates Coleman of Arkansas. Granny has 5 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

She is loved by many.

*Let all that you do be done in Love.*

*1 Corinthians 16:14*



**Curtis**  
**Danny Lee Curtis**  
November 11, 1948 –  
December 18, 2024

Danny Lee Curtis, of Eloy, Arizona, formerly of Temple, Texas passed away peacefully at his home on December 18, 2024, at the age of 76. Born on November 11, 1948, in Pasadena, Texas, Danny was the son of William Younce and Geraldine Curtis, and was adopted and raised by his grandparents, John Daniel Curtis and Annie Motley Curtis.

In 1965, Dan married his teenage sweetheart, Opal "Cindy" Curtis, with whom he shared nearly 51 wonderful years until her passing in 2016. Together, they raised two sons, Steve and Larry (known as Tommy), and were blessed with two grandchildren, Ashlee and Cody, and nine great-grandchildren: Easton, Kash, MJ, Collin, Hudson, Waylen, Keegan, Jaycee, and Landon.

Dan was a devoted family man and is remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and uncle. In 2018, he found love again with Jean Paschen, with whom he shared a deep bond and continued to cherish life until his passing.

A free spirit at heart, Dan was an entrepreneur and traveler, embodying the adventurous spirit of his fifth great-grandfather, the famed explorer Daniel Boone. He and Cindy owned a successful truck and heavy machinery business in the Houston area while also venturing into other entrepreneurial pursuits, in-

cluding opening Larry's Game Room, an arcade named after their son.

After relocating to Arizona, Dan and Cindy established an insurance company, a used car lot, and a pawn shop in Show Low called Show Low Music and Pawn, where Danny's passion for music flourished with the opening of a 50's and 60's music bar named Memory Lane.

Their journey took them to California, where they managed a grocery store and started a produce market. Later, after their sons had grown, they owned a gas station and operated the French Quarter Café in Temple, Texas. Dan even had the honor of serving a term as the mayor of Troy, TX, during their time there.

Dan loved to entertain; he often performed weekly with his band at the French Quarter Café, sharing his musical talent with friends and customers. Following Cindy's passing, Dan pursued their dream of opening a guest house for skydivers in Eloy, AZ, ultimately realizing this vision with the Roadrunner B&B.

Establishing the musical group "Papa Curtis and the Skyriders," Dan brought joy to the Eloy, Casa Grande, and Tucson communities through his performances. His bright smile and warm personality left a lasting impression on everyone he met.

Dan's final days were lovingly spent with Jean and caring support from his son Steve and daughter-in-law Sara. His wish to pass at home was fulfilled, surrounded by love.

Danny Lee Curtis will be deeply missed by all who knew him, remembered for his adventurous spirit, love for family, and passion for music.

Funeral services will be held at Hewett-Arney Funeral Home chapel on Friday, January 10, 2025 at 1 o'clock P.M. with a burial to follow at Prairie Hill Cemetery in Prairie Hill, Texas. The family will be accepting visitors at the funeral home one hour prior to the service.

Hewett-Arney Funeral Home of Temple, Texas is entrusted with these arrangements.



**Foster**  
**Gary Bruce Foster**  
January 27, 1953 –  
January 6, 2025

Gary Bruce Foster of Belton Texas passed away at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Texas on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Graveside services will be at 9 a.m., Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Killeen, Texas with Military Honors. He worked as a machinist after being discharged from the army. I believe he went into the army probably 1970 and was probably discharged in 74 or five. He was a MPO – General's driver while stationed in Colorado and also while being stationed in Germany and Korea. He enjoyed hunting riding motorcycles, collecting arrowheads and photography.

He is survived by his wife Gisela Foster, brothers Dale Foster Grant, Alabama Timothy Bo Foster Grant,

Alabama and Mike Booge Foster (Glenda Foster) Grant, Alabama and sister-in-law Barbara Foster Grant, Alabama. His mother-in-law Bonnie Solt Father-in-laws Lyle Clayton Meier and brother-in-law Loren Smith Atchley, Nine nieces and nephews, 14 great nieces and nephews and two great Great niece and nephew.

Gary was preceded in death by his father Hoyt Gene Foster and his mother Sue, Randolph Foster. His brother Ronald Foster, a great niece Abbigail Rose Hicks. And his Aunt Mary Rose Phillips.

**Schutrum**  
**Theresa Lynn Schutrum**  
September 19, 1975 –  
December 28, 2024

Theresa Lynn Schutrum, 49, born on September 19, 1975, in Cheverly, Maryland to Mr. Gregory Schutrum and Brenda (Magaha) Schutrum, passed away on Saturday, December 28, 2024, at a local hospital in Temple, Texas. She fought bravely against Colon Cancer, which she was diagnosed with in 2022. Her journey was marked by courage and resilience, traits that defined her life.

After completing her education at North Safford High School in 1993, Theresa enlisted in the military in 1994 as a Finance Specialist. Her dedicated service earned her the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and the Marksman Marksmanship qualification Badge with Rifle Bar. After her military service, she transitioned to a career in the Prison System in Gatesville, Texas, and later found her calling as a Medicare Enrollment Specialist until her illness compelled her to retire.

Known for her bubbly personality, Theresa brought joy and laughter to those around her. She had a delightful sense of humor, often laughing at her own jokes and creating a warm, inviting atmosphere for her friends and family. Her zest for life was evident in her many hobbies; she loved engaging in crossword puzzles, board games, and card games. Theresa was a vibrant member of her community, enjoying shopping and outdoor activities, especially swimming. She cherished spending time with loved ones during group sit-downs.

Theresa took great pride in her role as a mother, always encouraging her children, Travis and Makayla, to pursue education and uphold strong moral values. Her legacy will live on through her family, including her step-mother, Judith (Edney) Schutrum; two brothers, Christopher Sickmen and wife Anne, Greg Jr. Schutrum and wife Sarah; two sisters, Krystal (Holms) Reed, Tabathia Strack and husband Robert; and her beloved grandchild, Jahseh Thompson; and lifelong friends which she considered extended family, Marvin and Angela Wells and their family.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Brenda (Magaha) Holms. Theresa Lynn Schutrum's spirit and memories will be fondly remembered by all who knew and loved her, as she leaves behind an indelible mark on their hearts.

In Lieu of flowers please consider making a memorial donation to World Mission, In which she strongly believed, to the Potter's House located at 8838 S. Trimmer Killeen, TX 76542.

Memorial Service will be held at

See **OBITS**,  
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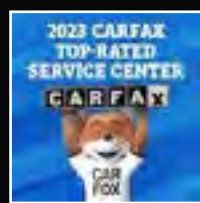
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Fact from Texas State Historical Association.

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## Belton Area Chamber of Commerce to hold annual awards banquet

Special to the Journal

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, January 23 at the Cadence Bank Center (formerly Bell County Expo).

Each year the Chamber Board of Directors selects individuals and businesses to honor for their leadership, service, and investment in the community.

The theme for this year's banquet is "Better Together" recognizing the legacy and importance of working together to build a better community.

Tickets and sponsorships are available by contacting the Chamber office or via the Chamber website.

Randy Pittenger, Chamber President/CEO said, "We are excited about recognizing outstanding servant leaders in our community at our awards banquet. This annual tradition of honoring and thanking those who step up and go the extra mile is important for our community. We encourage everyone to join us as we celebrate together."

In addition to recognizing outgoing and incoming board members, awards that will be announced at the banquet include the Beltonian Award, Citizen of The Year, Ambassador of the

Year, Business of the Year, Community Partner Awards, and some special award recognitions.

Outgoing board members David Tuma with the Belton Journal, Frank Minosky, Military Relations Chair, and Ike Shaw with T3 will be recognized.

Incoming board members Lucas Cali with West Temple Orthodontics, and Meredith Duke with Duke Realty will also be recognized.

Each year the board has a change in leadership recognized at the banquet, with Jordan Samfield with First Texas Bank, 2024 Chair, passing the gavel to Teri Champlin with Grandview Bank as the 2025 Board of Directors Chair.

The Beltonian Award is given annually in recognition of longtime achievement in volunteer service to the Belton community. That service could be for service in education, church, a service organization, youth programs, or any area that improves the quality of life in Belton.

Recent past recipients include Joe Shepperd, Don Al Ringle, Dan and Kandy Kirkley, Marion Grayson, Roscoe Harrison, and Andy Davis.

The Citizen of the Year award is given to the person who made a significant volunteer contribution to the Belton com-

munity through Chamber related activities during the previous year.

Recent past award winners include Terri Covington, DeShon Williams, Jordan Samfield, Misty Baker, Matt Bates, and Luke Potts.

The Ambassador of the Year is peer recognition award for the Ambassador who stands out as an example of exemplary service. Recent past recipients include Meredith Duke, Lorna Brockett, Sandy Smith, Jeanne Giangacomo, Tracy Conoley, and Emily Kirkpatrick.

Business of Year awards are given to businesses that have made a significant contribution to the community during the previous year. Criteria for selection include being an active Chamber member in good standing, a for-profit business, and demonstrated achievement in areas described in the Chamber mission and focus.

Community Partner Awards are given in recognition of those who have had a significant impact on our community through partnership with the Chamber.

For more information about the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, go to [www.beltonchamber.com](http://www.beltonchamber.com) or contact the Chamber at [info@beltonchamber.com](mailto:info@beltonchamber.com) or 254-939-3551.

## Obits - From Page A3

11:00 am on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the Potter's House in Killeen with Pastor James Rosario and Interment at 1:00 pm at Central Texas Veterans Cemetery.

Arrangements are in the care of comrade, Sabrina Young at Young's Daughters Funeral Home and Bereavement Center.

### Shed

Clinton "Clint" H. Shed, Jr.

May 12, 1959 –

December 27, 2024

A Celebration of Life for Clinton "Clint" H. Shed, Jr. 65, of Belton, was held at noon, Friday, January 3, 2025, at the family's home. Burial will be at a later date at Cedar Valley Cemetery in Salado.

Mr. Shed died Friday, December 27, 2024, at his home.

Mr. Shed was born May 12, 1959, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, the son of Clinton H. Shed Sr. and Peggy Sue Webster. He married Rebecca "Becky" Whitley, November 27, 1999, in Belton. He retired from Friend Tire.

Mr. Shed enjoyed playing Bingo. He also enjoyed yardwork, mostly mowing the lawn. Most of all he loved playing with his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Richard William Shed.

Survivors include his wife Rebecca "Becky" Shed, two sons Clifton William Jones and Trinity "Trent" Lee Shed; three daughters, Tina Renee Shed, Amanda Kaye Burch and Mickie Lee Collard; one sister Melissa Jane Shed; and four grandchildren.

Dossman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

### Meek

Donna Meek

October 28, 1959 –

December 27, 2024

Our beloved mother and grandmother Donna (Stacy) Meek passed on Friday, December 27, 2024, in her home surrounded by family.

A Memorial service for Donna Meek, 65, of Killeen, TX, was held at 2:00 PM, Friday, January 3, 2025, at Dossman Funeral Home Chapel in Belton, Texas with Pastor Rodney Garcia officiating.

Donna was born on October 28, 1959, in Morehead, KY to Bessie Jewel Stacy and Clayton Donald Stacy. She was a graduate of Rowan County Senior High School class of 1977.

She had three true passions in life: faith, family, and entrepreneurship.

Spiritually, Donna abided by the bible verse: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13. And she did. There was nothing she could not learn, overcome, or forgive. She sought the kingdom of God throughout her life, and rested in the comfort of the Holy Spirit daily.

As a mother and grandmother, Donna spread unconditional and unwavering love. Her family was blessed by her fun loving, over the top shows of affection. For loved ones and friends, she provided a safe haven during life's tribulations.

She was a natural entrepreneur who ran a wide range of businesses throughout her life in areas such as: real estate, barter exchange, and most recently YUMs Bakery. As a businesswoman, Donna was intelligent, hardworking, and enjoyed the challenge of mastering new skills.

The legacy she left behind for her family is one of faith and love. She will be dearly missed, but always loved, cherished, and re-

membered.

She is survived by her daughter Stacey Nichole Batchelor; son-in-law Thomas Carlton Batchelor; grandson Paul Thomas Batchelor; and sibling Diana Whitt. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Flowers or contributions to "the HIKE fund" (The Hearing Impaired Kids Endowment) are both welcome. <https://thehikefund.org/donate/>.

### Rathman

Anna Rathman

May 2, 1943 –

December 24, 2024

Anna (Ann) Wilhelmina (Jansen) Rathman, Belton, Texas, passed away December 24, 2024, at the age of 81 after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease.

Ann was born in Doetinchem, Netherlands on May 2, 1943, to Willem and Wilhelmina (Jo) Jansen.

When Ann was 13 her father answered an ad in the Orange City, IA paper looking for a wooden shoemaker (Klompemaker) for their annual Tulip Festival. On August 4, 1956, the family boarded a ship and made the 10-day trek to the United States, arriving at Ellis Island, NY. From there they took the train to Orange City, IA. She graduated from Maurice-Orange City high school in 1961. After high school Ann attended beauty school in LeMars, IA. This would be her career for 35 years, owning her own shop, The Charisma Salon of Beauty in Sioux City.

Ann married Henry W Punt on July 25, 1962, in Sioux Center, IA. From this union, two daughters were born, Tami Jo and Sandra Lee. Ann married her current husband, Jerry, on Dec 2, 1976. They lived in Sergeant Bluff, IA, until Ann was moved to Belton, TX to be cared for. Ann was a longtime member of Morningside Lutheran Church and participated in various church activities. Ann had a great love for dogs. She was an avid exerciser and loved her walks. She loved to knit, crochet, socialize and always enjoyed her "farming". The yard and flowers were always immaculate. Ann's favorite color was purple, which also happens to be the Alzheimer's Awareness Ribbon color.

Ann is survived by her husband, daughters; Tami (Brad) Bliven and Sandi Reynders, stepsons; Rick (Pam) Rathman, Randy (Kim) Rathman and stepdaughters; Robbe Clark and Kristi (Brian) Pingel, three grandsons; Jeffrey (Brittney) Sward, Jesse (Alyssa) Derrick, Jason (Emily) Reynders and one granddaughter; Jaimee Derrick. She also is survived by her only brother; John (Helen) Jansen, six step-grandsons, one step-granddaughter and nine great grandchildren. Ann was preceded in death by her parents.

A small memorial service will be held in Iowa at a later date.

### Paruzinski

Charlotte A. Paruzinski

November 19, 1955 –

December 24, 2024

Charlotte A. Paruzinski, 69 of Belton, passed from this life Tuesday, December 24, 2024, at Baylor Scott and White Hospital in Temple. Funeral Services were held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at Christ the King Catholic Church in Belton with Father Sang Quan officiating. Burial was in St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery in Cyclone, Texas following the Mass.

Charlotte was born on November 19, 1955, to Charles H. and Claire (Sonderegger) Bobo in Munich, Germany. She married

the love of her life John J. Paruzinski Jr. on December 23, 1975, on Ft. Hood and was blessed with two children, John and Elizabeth. Charlotte and John were happily married for 49 years.

She loved baking and cooking for family and friends. Her favorite hobby was crafting and making cards with her friends Sherry Lovern and Debbie Cassidy. She worked at Belton ISD in the special education department from 1994 until she retired. She was a loving, caring, and a strong-willed woman.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Claire Bobo; and sister, Christine Brock.

Those left to honor and cherish her memories are her husband John J. Paruzinski Jr.; son, John H. Paruzinski and wife, Rhonda Gatewood-Paruzinski; daughter, Elizabeth A. Paruzinski; grandchildren, Chasity and Harrison Paruzinski; sister,

### McCulloch III

Marvin Ray McCulloch III

December 11, 2024 –

December 18, 2024

Marvin Ray McCulloch III, lovingly known as "Baby Boy. MM3 and Trip," touched the lives of those around him during his brief time on Earth. Born at the Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Texas, on Wednesday, December 11, 2024, Marvin was a son whose presence was anticipated with great joy and love. His mother and father delighted in the beautiful surprise that he brought into their lives. Celebrations began as soon as the happy news was revealed, with family and friends gathering to launch powder cannons filled with baby blue—a beautiful symbol of his forthcoming arrival.

From the earliest moments of his existence, it was clear that Marvin was a spirited little one. His mother felt his lively movements throughout her pregnancy; he seemed to revel in the warmth of bath time and the affectionate sounds of his cousin Mercy. The joyous laughter of his mother would awaken him, and his father took great care to bond with him, often speaking lovingly to Marvin through his mother's belly. Born via emergency C-section, Marvin entered the world with a full head of long black hair, already displaying the tenacity that would characterize his brief life.

In his short week with his family, Marvin exhibited a fiery spirit, resisting touches from all but his devoted parents. They fondly recall his delightful little punches and kicks, his long toes, and the tiny hands they were fortunate to hold. He was not only their baby; he was a bundle of dreams, hopes, and love, even if the world felt a little too big for him.

The circumstances surrounding Marvin's death were heartbreaking. After a routine ultrasound, he was diagnosed with Trisomy 18—a condition that would ultimately leave an irreplaceable hole in the hearts of all who loved him. His journey was brief, yet it resonated deeply within the hearts of those who cherished him.

Marvin is survived by his loving great grandmas, Evelyn Wiley, Theresa Leader; grandparents, Jacquelyn and Blake Fieber, Chris Keefer; his devoted parents, Marvin Ray McCulloch II and Jady Taylor Rayeann Keefer; and his doting aunts and uncles, Emma Fieber, Kaci Holloway, Bailey Bryant, Miranda Reed, Christopher Keefer, Caleb Keefer, and Colby Keefer. Also surviving him are his two feline companions, Zeus, Zila and one dog, Bella.

He is preceded in death by his grandfathers, Marvin McCulloch Sr., and Jackie

Davis. Though his time was fleeting, the love that surrounded Marvin Ray McCulloch III will forever remain, and his memory will be carried on in the hearts of those blessed to have known him. As the Eagles fan family he was destined to be a part of grieves his passing, they hold tightly to the hope and love he brought, united in the tenderness that he inspired.

Arrangements are under the direction of Sabrina Young at Young's Daughters Funeral Home and Bereavement Center.

### DeCasas

Sally Ann DeCasas

March 15, 1964 –

January 4, 2025

Sally Ann DeCasas, 60, of Temple, passed away Saturday, January 4, 2025. Visitation was held on Wednesday, January 8, from 6-8pm.

Service is on Thursday, January 9, at 10am. Both will take place at Dossman Funeral Home. Sally was born March 15, 1964 to parents Tomas and Betty Luna, in Omaha, NE.

Sally was one of the most loving souls out there. Devoted daughter, wife, mother and grandmother. Her love didn't stay within blood boundaries. She took in a young teenage boy in need of a family and she became a god-sent mother to him and so many more after him. She took in various pets in need of home throughout the years and nurtured them. Her heart was larger than herself.

She is survived by her husband, Elias DeCasas; three sons, Juan Carlos DeCasas and wife Erika, Orlando Elias DeCasas and wife Celia, Omar Tomas DeCasas and wife Elida; one daughter, Marisa Rebecca Williams and husband Andrew; one brother, Gilbert Luna; six sisters, Cecilia Bernal, Aurora Anson, Alice Gomez, Linda Sillik, Sandra Luna, Rebecca Rojas; and eleven grandchildren, Destiny Mya(17), Lilianna Michelle(16), Ivan Angel(15), Tomas Andres(13), Lorenzo Omar(8), Liliana Renae(7), Ivy Rose(6), Ryker Grey(4), Ezekiel Kane(4), Harlow Grace(2), and Baby DeCasas.

She is preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Tomas Luna and Fransico Luna; and one sister, Lorrie Luna

Carolyn Rhew; and a host of nieces and nephews.

A time of visitation was held from 4-7 pm with a rosary recited at 6 pm Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at Harper-Talasek Funeral Home in Temple.

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# EDITORIAL

## Another Day Older and Wiser

Pleasant Ramblings • Mark Magnan

As we start a new year everyone will turn a year older at some point, except those that were born in the first week or two and this column didn't catch them early enough. As we get older we also get wiser, or at least that is the accepted thought. We all know someone that gets older but still hasn't learned any lessons, the same mistake, the same outcome, time and time again. However for most of us we do well, each year we find new things to make us happy and learn to turn away from other things that haven't done as well on the happiness front.

When we are young we rely on our parents to guide us, because at that point in our lives our parents were the smartest people on Earth. As we get older we question more, and we ask a lot of questions of our parents. Then as teenagers we don't think our parents have any sense at all.

When I was young I had the same outlook. My father was a genius, and it seemed to help that often he had the luck of being right

in a random experience that really impressed me. Of course he was truly smart when it came to math, a subject that puzzled me for a long time. It was actually that school was not teaching me the right way to make this work in my brain. My father helped me a lot by showing me how math made sense and how he made it work. I still use this technique today. Over my childhood I asked a lot of questions. For the most part my father was able to answer them, a few he just did not know and that was good enough for me. There were also things that I was curious about and was truly interested in, a lot were about life before I came along. I look back and think about a few of those topics. I wonder why some of those questions were important to me at the time. Several were probably just curiosity, others were me just really wanting to know about things that were bouncing around in my head. Looking back now I have never been asked some of those questions, and honestly I think a few had some validity to them.

The things that interested my father gave him a way to help me become better. If I showed a reasonable interest he would make sure I did well. That worked fine with math, I did a lot better after he helped me. Of course at the time I was not that interested in math, but the writing was on the wall, I would be the first fifth grade dropout in school history, so something had to happen. I didn't show as much interest in fishing, but I got everything that I needed to become a professional fisherman, well, except the nice boat. I did enjoy some of the fishing trips, however I was not the fanatic that my father was.

Now when it came to cooking, I got that from a few family members. I learned to cook at a young age, probably too young to be around fire. My father was an amazing cook, his gravies and sauces were world class as far as I am concerned. He taught me a lot about cooking, and excited something within me to keep going further and trying new things. My grandmother was a good cook, but not great,

however her food was always good and even though it was not perfect it did set the standard for which I judge dishes today. I will say that I have never had peanut butter cookies that were as good as the ones she made, and I try them as often as I can. She let me cook breakfast in an iron skillet over a gas stove that had to be lit with a match. I wonder if she was teaching me or just enjoying someone else cooking for her. I did master that morning meal, of course it was the same, everyday.

As I look back I realize that the geniuses in my life were just imparting the skills that I would need later in life, some of those people included some good teachers in school. Some of those silly questions that I had asked as I was growing up really needed to be answered to keep me from pondering on those mysteries of life, others were just ways to gauge my adult life compared to those in my early life.

I hope everyone has a good year, and happy birthday to the lucky ones that I didn't miss already.

## Dream big, think small

My Front Porch • Lynette Sowell

Once upon a time, there used to be grocery stores where they knew your name because you shopped there week after week.

You could even run up a "tab" and pay for your purchases all at once at the end of the month. Sometimes, employees would carry your bags out to your car and put them in the trunk for you.

But the little guy could only help you so much. They often couldn't buy in bulk and give you cheaper prices.

We consumers demanded more exotic products, more variety, more brands. So eventually, the little guy went away. Thinking big became the solution, supposedly. Here came the "big box" stores. Do you remember the first time you walked into one?

You name the product, the size, the color, it was there. No longer did you have to hunt from store to store to find the best deal because Big Box already had it covered. They read your mind and knew what you wanted. Supposedly their savings became your savings.

Friends of mine who are ex-pats return to the United States for a visit sometimes find themselves overwhelmed in the aisles of Big Box because there was "too much to choose

from."

We literally bought it all and bought into it—that bigger always meant better. We believed that we should always think big because, after all, it's what works. Big Box always assured us that savings was just around the corner, in every aisle, on every shelf. We needn't look anywhere else.

However, a curious thing began to happen.

We realized that people at Big Box didn't know us, nor did they care to.

(I could probably chalk that up to employees working at joyless positions, merely tolerating their time on the clock until they could go home.) Instead of being helpful, it was easier to say things like, "That's not my department." Pride in their work at Big Box went down the proverbial tubes.

Big Box headquarters, however, didn't see the value in thinking small. They controlled everything from the temperature of the store to how many employees ran the checkout lanes, all from their corporate offices.

What did the regular workers know about regulating store temperature and how many employees should be staffed during a shift? Their bottom line was their focus and while they trumpeted news of great deals, other prices increased. We

still fell for it. But what else could we do? Big Box forgot what it means to think on a local level.

One thing I hope that big box stores realize is the value of thinking small.

Why think small? Because the people who go through those doors and walk the aisles are fellow residents. They could be someone's teacher or coach, or the family doctor. Those shoppers are friends of a friend, or someone who lives down the street. This is our neighborhood, our town.

The majority of the employees, too, are "our" people, so we shoppers should consider that whoever is behind the counter might be connected to someone we know. Somehow, when you think about that, it makes a gigantic store feel smaller and more personal. There's nothing wrong with dreaming big, but thinking small can remind us of what's most important—the people around us.

Corporate policies and promotions mean little when the boots on the ground people are unmotivated, overwhelmed, or careless about what they're doing.

But, just think of how a company can shine when the everyday people bring pride to their work and a sense of caring.

# Invitation to Our Community



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**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Where: Harris Community Center**

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# LIFESTYLES

THE BELTON JOURNAL

## Scoop Sessions keeps yards free from poop

By David Stone  
The Belton Journal

Mary Beth and Nathan Farrell's business is really picking up.

The couple owns Scoop Sessions, a growing poop-scooping business, and you might say No. 2 is their top priority.

What started as a one-man show back in 2020 now has four employees — the search is about to start for a fifth scooper — and they clean more than 150 yards a week on a regular basis, plus several one-time gigs.

"Each employee cleans about 10 yards every day — they have regular routes — and I scoop on Saturdays and fill in when someone is out," said Nathan, who works weekdays as a behavior specialist at Belton ISD's alternative campus. "I also do one-time jobs."

Nathan said business has really boomed during the past two years.

"We've added a number of customers, and we've also expanded our routes," he said. "We serve all of Bell County, as well as Copperas Cove, Kempner and Jarrell."

"The past two years have provided us with experience and confidence," he added. "Mary Beth takes care of the books, and she has nailed down all aspects of running things."

Nathan said many of his customers have been with Scoop Sessions from the start.

"We appreciate the mutual trust and respect between them and our operation," he said. "This has allowed years of positive online reviews and word of mouth recommendations."

Farrell started the business after cleaning up after his own dogs during the coronavirus pandemic.

"I took a break from teaching during the pandemic," he said. "I was home with my daughter in 2020, and I was looking for a way to make extra money. I had four dogs, so I was scooping poop daily. It just sort of hit me: This is a service others might need."

"It allowed me to get out and about and take my daughter to work with me," he said. "My first thought was to start a lawn-care service, but the market has become saturated with those businesses. Besides, a lawn business requires expensive equipment and would be difficult to do as one person."

Nathan bought lots of gloves and trash bags, a dedicated poop container and basic scooping equipment.

"It didn't take long to realize I needed something bigger to put the



Courtesy photo

Nathan Farrell holds scooping equipment (and a little helper). Although he works as a behavior specialist for Belton Independent School District, he and his wife, Mary Beth, own Scoop Sessions.

poop in, so I went to Lowe's and bought an industrial-sized job site dustpan. Now I can make fewer trips to the trash can. Usually, I can scoop an entire yard before having to dump the pan."

Mary Beth isn't a scooper, but she is also involved in Scoop Sessions.

"I'm the communications director at the Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco, and I handle the business side of our business," she said.

"Business really took off, and we decided we better be more official and formal," she added.

According to Nathan,

Scoop Sessions offers "full-service poop scooping."

"We scoop and bag the waste, then haul it away," he said.

Apparently, Nathan's initial instinct was right on the nose — people need and want this service. Since the business

started, several other poop removal businesses have popped up. Despite the competition, business has thrived.

"I talked to some of my competitors, and we decided there is enough dog poop in Bell County for all of us," he said.

"Our customers have different needs," he said. "Some customers have disposable incomes and don't necessarily want to scoop poop. Some want to maximize their time with loved ones or work. Many of our clients are elderly, and they don't want to give up a pet because they can't keep up with the backyard maintenance."

Mary Beth said in addition to regular clients, Scoop Sessions also is popular with rental and real estate companies looking to clean up a property before putting it on the market.

"We also do one-time cleanups for people who are going to have a party or backyard event," she said.

There's a lot of dogs in Bell County, and if they keep pooping, the Farrells will be scooping for years to come.

"We feel like we're in a really good place going into 2025," Nathan said. "Our goal for this year is to focus on advertising to create even more density in our routes"

## Belton-based candy company is a Central Texas favorite

By David Stone  
The Belton Journal

Warren MacNelly was busy cooking, bagging and selling more than 1,000 bags of peanut brittle in the weeks leading up to Christmas, but now he has about a month to take it easy.

"This was the busiest Christmas season since I started making brittle back in 2015," MacNelly said this week. "I easily sold more than 1,000 bags — 3 ounces and half-pound bags — and I made my final delivery today."

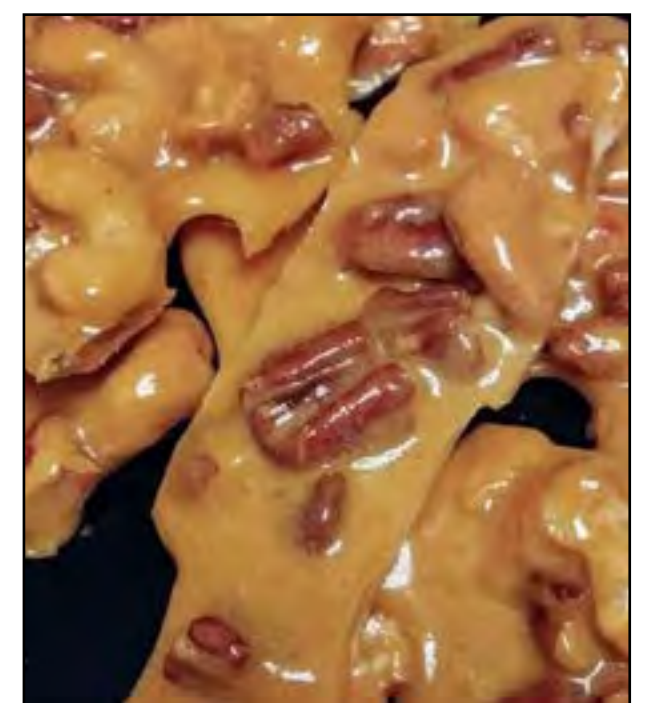
"My big markets are done for the year, and orders have slowed," he said. "I have until February before the markets start up again."

Warren and his family have been satisfying sweet cravings since 2015 and his business shows no signs of slowing down.

Mac's Brittle produces about 110 varieties of peanut brittle, including 55 varieties of both sugared and sugar free.

"Our brittle is made from a sixth-generation family recipe," MacNelly said. "My wife, kids and grandson help in the business, and we have three full set-ups so we can sell candy in multiple locations on the same day."

"We make candy under cottage law — we work from home and sell in markets," he said. "Under that



Courtesy photo

Mac's Brittle produces dozens of flavors of beloved candy, and the product is sold at markets through the Central Texas area.

law, we can sell at markets and on Facebook, but we can't sell online unless we sell to a previous customer."

MacNelly said his peanut brittle has been shipped all over the world to locations such as England, Japan and across Europe.

"We sell at markets across the area but our busiest days are just before Christmas," he said. "Every year we have at least one customer who wants a few ounces of every flavor. We pull that off every Christmas."

"Right now we are starting our slow season," he said. "There are slow

months, but we have regulars who buy all year. That keeps us going."

Mac's Brittle was originally produced in Brownsville, but MacNelly and his family moved to Belton in 2019. Within months, they had a big following.

"We hit markets in Temple, Belton, Lorena, Cedar Park and Round Rock," he said. "Cedar Park is always a good market for us."

A few of Mac's Brittle's most popular flavors are peanut, pecan, coconut pecan, cashew pecan, jalapeño peanut, caramel cashew and pumpkin seed.

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## Brunch begins the New Year right

The first official meal of 2025 should be memorable and flavorful. Chances are late night New Year's Eve revelry will make breakfast a nonstarter, but a New Year's Day brunch can hit the spot on January 1. When family members or guests rouse from their post-countdown slumbers, these brunch ideas and tips can kick off the new year with flavor.

**Skip the mimosas**

While it may be tempting to employ a little "hair of the dog" therapy to combat the ramifications of overindulgence from the evening prior, it is a better bet to skip any extra alcohol come the morning. Rather, serve plenty of hydrating refreshments, with water at the top of the list. For those who desire something with a little more zip, create a mocktail with fruit juice and sparkling water.

**Make-ahead meals**

Serving foods that can be made in advance cuts back on the amount of work that needs to be done in the late morning of New Year's Day. Breakfast casseroles can be the way to go, as they pair many ingredients together and can be reheated. Fruit salads as well as homemade granola parfaits can be made in advance and then served during the brunch.

**Consider bagels and breads**

A platter of bagels, croissants and cinnamon rolls are easy to serve and might be a welcome way to fill the stomach. Paired with lox, cheeses and cold cuts, these carbohydrates can help complete the meal.

**Sheet-pan options are easy**

Brunch hosts and hostesses who choose to whip up foods during the brunch itself can employ some tactics to make the work easier. Crack eggs onto cheese-coated slices of thick bread and put under the broiler for perfectly cooked batch results.

**Don't forget the sweets**

Muffins and sweet rolls can blur the lines between meal and dessert; otherwise, serve alternative make-ahead desserts that are relatively easy, such as pound cakes or cookies.

**Set up the coffee bar**

Chances are a little caffeine might be necessary to jump-start the day. Make coffee, tea, hot chocolate, and other warm beverages readily available with the accompanying creamers and flavorings so that brunch guests can customize their drinks.

New Year's Day brunch kicks off the new year with food, family and friends.



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We are so thankful and grateful for Collyns to finally be here, and for all the years of joy she will bring our lives as grandparents. Our family is changed forever for the better & we are so lucky God chose her for our family!

*LARRY & ANDI WILKEY OF TEMPLE*

Welcome to the world sweet Collyns!! Thank you, Lord, for a safe delivery for mom and baby. Watching these two go from a 2 person family to a 3 person family was like him fighting a fire and her curling hair. Seamless and priceless. Our world is a brighter place because of her.



## Broncos open 16-5A play with 50-37 over Tigers

By Tony Adams  
Belton Journal

The Belton Tigers and Lake Belton Broncos started their District 16-5A schedules last Friday afternoon as they faced off against one another at Bronco Gymnasium.

The Tigers had the advantage in the first quarter before the Broncos' tenacity on defense forced 19 turnovers as Lake Belton picked up a 50-37 win over Belton.

"We are hungry and take pride in our defense because we are really small," Lake Belton head coach Tiffney Barnes said. "We use our speed, and anticipate the next pass."

Both teams looked good early, having moved the ball around well. Layla King's offensive rebound and putback on Lake's first possession at the 7:03 mark was answered by back-to-back three-pointers by Isa Warner and Avelle Bonfoh to give the Tigers a 6-2 lead.

Gemma Pierce's drive to the hoop pulled the Broncos to within two points. Emma Harvey's free-throw pushed the Tigers' lead back to three points before Amara Sanchez hit a field goal and a free throw to tie the game with 2:48 in the quarter.

Layla King's three-pointer behind the right elbow of the arc gave Lake a 10-7 with a minute left, which gave the Broncos a lead they would not relinquish.

Madison Bowling's offensive rebound and putback basket 35 seconds into the second period was answered by a pair of Pierce free-throws 20 seconds later.

Ella Tucek's two free-throw conversions with 6:50 to go in the first half were the last Belton (10-14, 0-1 16-5A) points of the half, as Lake finished the half on a 7-0 run.

Mixed with steals from Natalie Maldonado, Alexis King, Jordan Carter, and Layla King, Layla King hit three field goals and Ariella Polley added a free throw in the stretch. The Broncos led the Tigers at the break, 19-11.

Lake Belton stretched the 7-0 run into a 19-0 run over the first 3:20 of the third quarter, which equated into a Tigers' scoreless stretch of 10:10. The King twins, Polley, and Alaysha Williams combined for the first 12 points of the quarter, as the Broncos stretched their lead out to 20, 31-11.

"We felt like we weren't playing our hardest, and we kept working to lift our game up," Alexa King said. "We came out and looked better."

"At halftime, we told the team to not let up," Barnes said. "You all want this."

Tucek's field goal with 4:40 left in the third quarter snapped the stretch.

The teams traded baskets and free-



throws through the final four minutes of the period, with Broncos having led after three quarters, 41-22.

Lake Belton (9-16, 1-0 16-5A) stretched their back to 20 before Bonfoh scored seven points in a 26-second stretch to pull the Tigers back to within 13 at the finish.

The Broncos were 8-of-10 from the free-throw line in the game.

Layla King led all scorers with 19 points, which included a trio of three-pointers. Alexa King added 13, and Pierce contributed seven points.

"We knew that we were going to have to be a more defensive team because of our size being on the smaller end," Maldonado said. "I said in the huddle that our defense was going to win this game, and it 100% did. I think this was a great matchup for us and it showed what we could do defensively."

The Tigers went 11-of-17 from the free-throw line in the contest.

Bonfoh led the Tigers with 12 points. Warner, Harvey, and Tucek all scored six points for Belton.

"At times, I think the girls need to worry a little more about what we are doing," Belton head coach Anne Marie Zuil-



hof said. "We are learning that, and we are seeing growth over the course of the season."

Despite the loss, Zuilhof continues to see growth in the Tigers.

"I still think that this game builds and instills confidence, and it is an indication of how much we have grown from last year to

this year. It's the great thing about district: you get to play everyone twice."

The buy-in is the key for the Tigers to be successful.

"I have a great bunch of coachable kids," Zuilhof said. "They are always ready to practice and play. It is more than just on the court: it is off it as well."

## Broncos win six of last seven games

By Clay Whittington  
The Belton Journal

The Broncos' rollercoaster season took an upward turn Monday, and it came at exactly the right time.

En route to its 13-10 overall record, Lake Belton has yet to find consistency, continually alternating winning and losing skids.

After opening the schedule by sandwiching a pair of three-game win streaks around a pair of losses, the Broncos endured a five-game losing streak before bouncing back with six victories in their next seven contests.

The year, however, concluded with back-to-back losses for Lake Belton, which returned to the court Monday for its nondistrict finale, and the Broncos started 2025 with a bang.

Lake Belton was never challenged by the visiting Austin Royals as the Broncos took an eight-point advantage, 19-11, into the second period and cruised from there, outscoring the opposition by five points in each of the remaining three quarters to win 59-36.

Mikey Lockett, a sophomore, led Lake Belton with 17 points to go along with four as-

sists, three steals and two rebounds, while junior teammate Dee Ravizee complemented the outing with 15 points, seven rebounds, three assists and a steal.

Additionally, Nelson Hayes, a senior, recorded double-digit points, scoring 11, and he also had four rebounds, a block and an assist, while Ameer Williams finished with seven points and four rebounds.

The victory came on the heels of a disappointing two-point defeat to an Australian traveling team, which won 62-60.

Although the Broncos would prefer to have

delivered a more impressive showing to this point, the time for tuning up is over as the District 16-5A schedule opens Friday.

Lake Belton travels to face Waco in its opener before playing at Killeen Chaparral on Tuesday. The Broncos' first home district game follows on Jan. 17, when they host Waco University.

Lake Belton also plays Belton at home on Jan. 21 before traveling to play state powerhouse Killeen Ellison on Jan. 24 to conclude the first round of district. The Eagles have reached the state championship game in each of the previous two seasons.

## Belton ISD wrestling make strides halfway through season

By: Arias Ramos  
The Belton Journal

The Belton ISD wrestling teams, Lake Belton High School and Belton High School, have been making strides as they reach the halfway point of

their first seasons.

Both teams strive for perfection as they approach their district competitions later this month.

For the Belton Tigers, winter break was no time to relax. After resuming prac-

tice on December 30th, the team had practice Monday through Thursday before heading into the Centex Invitational, a two-day meet that featured 40 schools from the region.

The Tigers' efforts paid

off, with the boys' team securing an impressive seventh-place finish, scoring 107.5 points overall.

Three standout wrestlers brought home med-

See **WRESTLING**,  
Page B3

## Tigers to start district play Friday

By Clay Whittington  
The Belton Journal

The Tigers have started the season in impressive fashion, but that no longer matters.

Coming off the most successful season in program history, Belton was forced to change head coaches during the summer, ushering in a new era as Phil McCaslin took control, and the Tigers did not miss a beat.

Belton won its first 11 games of the schedule and recently improved to 20-4 overall after defeating Wimberley on the road Monday.

The outcomes, however, are now meaningless as District 16-5A play begins Friday, when a mere 10 games will determine the Tigers' playoff fate.

Looking for a fifth consecutive postseason appearance, Belton

opens the most critical stretch of the campaign against visiting Killeen Chaparral before hosting No. 5 Killeen Ellison on Tuesday.

The Eagles have advanced to the state championship game in each of the two previous seasons, but during the span, the Tigers have earned three wins against the powerhouse.

Belton concludes the first round of district by traveling to Waco on Jan. 17 and Lake Belton on Jan. 21 before playing Waco University at home Jan. 24.

While emerging from the schedule among the top four teams will not be easy, the Tigers are taking momentum into the competition.


Belton earned its sixth consecutive win

See **TIGERS**,  
Page B3



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**Sports Briefs**

**By Clay Whittington**  
*The Belton Journal*

The Heart of Texas Fellowship of Christian Athletes recently released its list of coaches for the upcoming Victory Bowl all-star games, and a pair Belton ISD representatives will be taking part.

For the second consecutive season, Broncos head baseball coach Chris Peacock will help oversee the Red team in the annual game, while Tigers head boys basketball coach Phil McCaslin will also serve for the Red squad.

Along with the baseball and boys basketball games, the Victory Bowl weekend consists of a girls basketball, softball and football game with players being selected from a wide range of Central Texas schools.

Utilizing programs from all University Interscholastic League classifications, the event brings together graduating seniors for one final opportunity to represent their schools while also building on their faith through group activities in the days leading up to games.

The Victory Bowl begins May 29 with both basketball games being played at Fairfield High School, and then, baseball and softball games are set to take place at Mary Hardin-Baylor on May 30. The event concludes May 31 with a football game at Waco ISD Stadium and a volleyball match at Waco University High School.

**SOCCER**

The Lady Tigers, who have won six consecutive district titles, took part in a three-

day competition at Frisco's Toyota Soccer Complex last week, going 2-1.

Belton defeated Frisco Heritage 2-1 as senior Kiersten Rowland recorded both goals before assisting teammate Ava Itz for the lone goal in a 1-0 victory against El Paso Americas.

The Lady Tigers fell 3-1 to Frisco in their final contest.

Belton (2-1) closing its nondistrict schedule with tournaments at Burnet and Georgetown and a contest against Kingwood Park at College Station. The three-day Burnet tournament begins today.

Due to the potential for inclement weather, the three-day Waco Midway tournament, which was set to start today, was cancelled, leaving the Lady Broncos without competition until traveling to Georgetown for the annual Governor's Cup tournament Jan. 16.

The Lady Broncos begin the District 16-5A schedule at Killeen Chaparral on Jan. 31, when the Lady Tigers host Killeen Ellison.

Lake Belton's boys play Fort Worth Southwest at Waco ISD Sports Complex today and Killeen Harker Heights on Tuesday, while the Tigers open play at the Leander Glenn tournament today.

**LAKE BELTON SOFTBALL**

The Lady Broncos will conduct tryouts for the upcoming season beginning Friday.

The two-day process will last from 6:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. on Friday followed by an afternoon session last from 4:45 p.m. to 6:15

p.m. Then, on Saturday, tryouts will last from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

In order to participate, athletes must have a current physical on file with the school and complete all required paperwork.

Athletes also need to bring appropriate shoes and cleats, wear a T-shirt with school colors, softball pants and softball socks. They also need to bring any necessary equipment.

For additional information, contact Lake Belton head coach Kelsie McEachern at [kelsie.mceachern@bisd.net](mailto:kelsie.mceachern@bisd.net).

**BELTON SOFTBALL**

The Lady Tigers will conduct tryouts for the upcoming season beginning Friday.

The two-day process will last from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday followed by the first round of cuts. Then, on Saturday, tryouts will last from 10 a.m. to noon followed by final cuts and revealing of teams.

In order to participate, athletes must have a current physical on file with the school and complete all required paperwork.

Athletes also need to bring appropriate shoes and

cleats, wear a T-shirt with school colors, softball pants and softball socks. They also need to bring any necessary equipment.

For additional information, contact Belton head coach Morgan Birkel at [morgan.birkel@bisd.net](mailto:morgan.birkel@bisd.net).

**LAKE BELTON BASEBALL**

The Broncos will conduct tryouts for the upcoming season beginning Jan. 17.

The three-day process begins with a tryout for freshmen from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Jan 17, and later in the day, another tryout for sophomores, juniors and seniors will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

On Jan. 18, all grades will participate in a session from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and the process concludes Jan. 20 with a session from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for all grade levels.

In order to participate, athletes must have a current physical on file with the school and complete all required paperwork.

Athletes also need to bring appropriate shoes and cleats, wear a T-shirt with school colors, baseball pants and socks. They also need to bring any necessary equipment.

For additional information, contact Lake Belton head coach Chris Peacock at [christopher.peacock@bisd.net](mailto:christopher.peacock@bisd.net).

**BELTON BASEBALL**

The Tigers will conduct tryouts for the upcoming season beginning Jan. 17.

The two-day process begins with a tryout for all grade levels from 4:45 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Jan 17, and on Jan. 18, freshmen will participate in a session from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., while all other grades will have a session from 12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Both sessions will be followed by a meeting with players.

In order to participate, athletes must have a current physical on file with the school and complete all required paperwork.

Athletes also need to bring appropriate shoes and cleats, wear a T-shirt with school colors, baseball pants and socks. They also need to bring any necessary equipment.

For additional information, contact Belton head coach Mark Krueger at [mark.krueger@bisd.net](mailto:mark.krueger@bisd.net).

**LAKE BELTON TRACK & FIELD**

The Broncos and Lady Broncos recently released their schedule for the upcoming season, and their first meet is rapidly approaching.

Lake Belton opens at the Killeen ISD Relays on Feb. 7 before traveling to the College Station A&M Consolidated Tiger Relays the following week.

Lake Belton will also take part in the annual Big Red Relays hosted by Belton on March 1, and it conducts the Bronco Relays at home March 20.

The District 16-5A meet will be April 2-3 at Belton High School with the area meet taking place at Lake Belton on April 10. The regional meet and state meet are scheduled for April 18 and May 2, respectively.

**FISHING REPORT**



**GOOD.** Water stained; 63 degrees; 2.22 feet below pool. Thanks to continued mild weather, the white bass and hybrid striped fishing is consistent and in keeping with how it typically is this time of year. Fishing is best as a front arrives and north or northwest wind velocity increases. Fishing is worse once the north winds subside leaving cold, calm, and clear conditions. Fishing is average as the southerly winds return, and until the next front arrives. White bass fishing is fair with the MAL. Original with chartreuse tail for vertical work in deep water, and the White Tornado in 1-1/8 ounce white color for horizontal work when fish show to be carpeting the bottom to either or both sides of the boat. The morning bite is from 7:45-11:00 a.m. Expect a weaker, shorter afternoon bite from 1:45-5:00 p.m. Gulls are beginning to show and help to find fish during the first hour of the day. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Catfishing continues to be excellent. While water temperatures dropping, anglers should search for blue catfish in deeper, 30-45 feet, river channels and around steep ledges. Larger cut baits have been effective for trophy size fish. Eater fish under 10 pounds are still active and slow drifting with small cut shad along sand flats. Channel catfish are fair but can still be caught on warmer days using punch bait in 15 to 25ft of water. Report by Brian Worley, B&S Catfishing.



**GREAT.** Water stained; 60 degrees; 2.18 feet below pool. The white bass and largemouth bass are still putting on a show at Stillhouse with 2-angler catches over 100 fish in a morning. White bass are feeding on the edges of flats in the 20-foot range just after sunrise, then moving quickly deeper and continuing to feed until around 10:45 a.m. Fish can be caught as deep as 48-53 feet, especially on calmer, clearer days when the sun's rays reach that deep on this lake's very clear water. As of December 16, the water temperature from top to bottom was still 58-62 degrees, but will likely drop entirely into the high 50s with the chilly weather forecast heading into the weekend. MAL Dense Lures with silver bodies and chartreuse tails worked straight up off the bottom aided by a splashier are getting these results. We will likely drop back to a Bladed Hazy Eye Slab with a spinner and stinger hook going forward as the water cools and the fish slow down. There are plenty of largemouth bass and freshwater drum mixed in with the white bass in these same deep water areas. The shad-mimating 5/8 ounce Bladed Hazy Eye Slab is the go-to bait for these fish. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service.

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## Oh, that snarl! Tigers' defensive grit shines through in 29-28 win over University

By **Tony Adams**  
*Belton Journal*

The Belton Tigers girls' basketball team hosted the University Lady Trojans in their District 16-5A home opener on Tuesday evening at Tiger Gym.

In a game loaded with suffocating defenses and several scoring droughts, Belton capped a 9-0 run that with an eventual game-winning three-pointer by Isa Warner with 4:40 to go, as the Tigers held off the Trojans, 29-28.

"Games like this build confidence," Belton head coach Anne Marie Zuilhof said.

The Tigers came reached the scoreboard 45 into the contest when Avelle Bonfoh drained a three-pointer. Ke'ara Shanks followed with a free throw to give the Tigers a 4-0 at 1:12 mark.

Tihanna Jones, Ahnori Cummings, and Mariah Sedberry combined for the first 11 points to give University an 11-6 lead with 1:21 to go in the first quarter.

Lilia Trujillo's three-pointer pulled the

Tigers to within two points of the Trojans with 59 seconds to play in the quarter. University led at the end of first eight minutes, 11-9.

While the Tigers were held without a point for 5:29, they held University to just four points during that span, as Sedberry and Ty'Rihanna Felder combined for the four points. Felder collected the lone field goal before Warner's steal and layup field goal snapped the scoreless streak with 4:30 remaining in the half.

Sedberry and Cummings combined for five points to give the Trojans a nine-point lead with 2:30 to go in the second quarter, which was answered with Warner's three-pointer above the key and Ella Tucek's field goal in the paint in the waning seconds. University led the Tigers at the half, 20-16.

Belton held the Trojans to one field goal in the third quarter, while only able to scrounge a pair of field goals of their own, as the Tigers endured a 6:10 scoring drought that bridged into the fourth quarter. University (led going into the final

stanza, 26-20.

The Tigers snarled and fought their way down the stretch, as clamped down on the University offense, as Belton put together their 9-0 stretch. Bonfoh's putback in the lane ended their own scoreless skid with 7:33 to go. Emma Flory hit a layup and assisted on Shanks' field goal in the paint 46 seconds later to tie the game at 26-26 with 6:10 left in the fourth quarter.

Ninety-seconds later, Warner found late banking hours at Tiger Gymnasium as she hit a bank-shot three from the left elbow of the arc to give the Tigers a 29-26 lead.

Warner, Bonfoh, Shanks, Flory, Tucek, Emma Harvey, and Madison Bowling were all about the defense in the final 4:40, having contested every shot, pass, and loose ball on the floor.

Cummings ended University's 8:57 scoreless stretch with a second-chance putback with 1:02 to play, which clipped the Tigers' lead to one.

Belton (11-14, 1-1 District 16-5A) salted 50 seconds away but threw a

pass that was intercepted by Felder. She drove the length of the floor, missed the first shot, and threw the second shot off the side of the backboard with under a second to go.

The Tigers safely inbounded the ball and escaped with the one-point with, and their first district victory.

Belton scored 11 field goals, four which were beyond the three-point arc. The Tigers converted just 3-of-10 from the charity stripe.

Warner led all scorers with 11 points, with Bonfoh having scored seven for the Tigers.

Defensively, Belton held University to eight field goals, as the Trojans shot 8-of-14 from the free-throw line.

Jones led the Trojans with eight points, while Sedberry and Felder each had six.

The Tigers will have a tough test on Friday as they travel to Killeen to take on Chaparral (17-9, 2-0 District 16-5A). The Bobcats logged a road win at Waco High on Tuesday, 68-53.

## Wrestling - From Page B1

als. Chase Colbath earned gold, Izzy Availa claimed silver, and Jacob U'ren achieved bronze. These

achievements underscore the Tigers' potential as they continue their push toward district competition.

The Lake Belton Broncos have also been hard at work on the other side of the district.

Last week's practices and participation in the Centex Tournament provided the team with valuable experience. Two wrestlers secured sixth-place finishes, contributing to the team's growth.

Looking ahead, the Broncos have a busy

schedule. This week, practices are set for Monday and Tuesday at 3:00 p.m., and after-school practices resume at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Wednesday's break from practice marks the return to school, offering the team a brief rest before another in-finishes, contributing to the team's growth.

Next, the Broncos will participate in the McCal-

lum Knights Round Table Tournament on Friday.

This dual-format event allows varsity boys to gain more matches while varsity girls compete individually. The Broncos plan to enter multiple wrestlers in some weight classes, maximizing opportunities to earn varsity spots for the district meet.

Next week promises to be equally eventful for

Lake Belton. The team travels to Copperas Cove on Wednesday and will host the prestigious Jim Grimm Memorial Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

This event offers another chance to compete and serves as a team-building effort. JV and varsity wrestlers assist with table management, and parents volunteer at the concession stand and hospitality room.

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## Tigers - From Page B1

Monday against the Texans, emerging with an 83-76 victory.

The squads went back and forth throughout the contest with the Tigers trailing 24-23 following the first quarter before taking a 45-44 advantage into half-time. In the third period, the game remained tight as

Belton outscored Wimberley by just one point.

Then, the Tigers pulled away just enough to capture the win.

Jay'dn Loggins, a junior, led Belton with 29 points, while junior teammate Noah Childers finished with 17 points, including a late 3-pointer to


help secure the outcome. Additionally, Ty Johnson, a sophomore, scored 16 points.

Defensively, junior Daniel Briscoe stood out defensively, according to McCaslin.

"He was outstanding not only with his lockdown defense but also his

key rebounding efforts," McCaslin said. "His tenacity on both sides of the ball proved vital in limiting Wimberley's second-chance opportunities.

"The win highlights Belton's team depth and resilience with each player stepping up when needed."



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Scot Hrbacek, CFP® Financial Advisor

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To help avoid a big tax bill, you might want to make the conversion during a year in which your total income is down. Another good time to convert might be when the financial markets are down. Since the value of the investments in your traditional IRA will have dropped, your conversion will generate less in taxes.

Also, you could spread the conversion over several years, reducing the tax bite in any given year.

See your tax advisor before making a conversion. If it's appropriate for your situation, you may find that owning a Roth IRA can benefit you and your family for years.

*This Article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor*

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## LEGALS

### CAUSE NUMBER 24CPB00260 ESTATE OF CLYDE LEE MCAFEE DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1 BELL COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Clyde Lee McAfee, Deceased, were issued on May 6th, 2024 in Cause No. 24CPB00260 in the County Court At Law No. 1 of Bell County, Texas, to: Lou Ann McAfee, Independent Executrix.

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.  
DATED the 2nd day of January, 2025



**PAULA GOLDEN**  
REALTOR®  
254-541-1100



**LAURA GOLDEN-LUEDEKE**  
REALTOR®  
254-760-8447

## GIVE US A CALL!

**SALADO** - Discover elegance and comfort in this meticulously crafted 3389 sqft custom-built home. With 4 bedrooms and 3 baths, the spacious interior offers a seamless flow between its open-concept living spaces. Modern amenities and luxurious finishes grace every corner, while the serene backyard oasis provides a perfect retreat. This residence harmoniously combines architectural sophistication with contemporary living, promising a lifestyle of refined beauty.

**ACREAGE** From the Starry Nights to the City Lights this one-of-a-kind Texas Ranch is under 30 minutes to Waco & 1.5 hrs to Austin! Approx 29 acres with views over Leon River/Lake Belton! 3,000+ square ft custom home you must see to appreciate. Enjoy the fabulous chef's kitchen and large family room both with panoramic views. Take family game night to a whole new level with wet bar and full bath with separate entrance for possible future pool. Huge covered back porch to see the magnificent Texas night sky and enjoy cool nights by the custom fireplace. Everything is bigger and better in Texas and it is clear to see why when you see this amazing ranch!

**NEW CONSTRUCTION!** Beautiful rock and brick home situated on 1/2 acre in the newly developed Deer Grove subdivision in Belton ISD. The open floor plan features 3 bedrooms and 2 bath, a pop-up ceiling in the family room as well as a corner fireplace as a focal point. Large open kitchen with beautiful cabinets and granite! A formal dining and breakfast area plus office. A generous master suite with large walk in closet as well as nice sized secondary bedrooms. Large covered porch, perfect for relaxing or entertaining with your friends and family. As if that is not enough - the home has been pre-wired for a home generator.

**SALADO** -- \*\*Sellers are offering a 2-year home warranty to include pool and septic coverage!\*\* Beautiful custom home with pool to cool off in the Texas summer heat and an oversized backyard to enjoy! This home is located in Salado ISD - features a split floorplan with 4 bedrooms (2 secondary are oversized), 3 bath, formal dining and eat-in breakfast area with luxury vinyl flooring throughout. The kitchen is open to the breakfast and living areas making it great for entertaining. Oversized, insulated garage. All interior walls insulated for sound and exterior walls are fully insulated making this very energy efficient! Great location with easy access to I-35, Belton, Temple, and Austin.

**BELTON ISD** - Charming home with a nice front porch, 2 bedrooms, one bath and lots of storage. Living area could be used as a meeting room. Lot features a beautiful mature tree in the front yard, fully fenced yard, and several out buildings. Excellent location with many possibilities! Adjacent properties are also listed for sale and could make this an amazing commercial property

**THE ESCARPMENT** is a legendary neighborhood, and the perfect setting for this gorgeous residence. Just minutes from Stillhouse Hollow Lake, this gated home sits on over an acre and includes a sparkling pool, garden area and a 30x40 building that is insulated. Enjoy the abundance of windows throughout the home and especially in the breakfast area while watching nature. A gourmet island kitchen is a chef's dream with an abundance of countertop space with attached breakfast area. The master suite is an exceptional space with room to make a sitting area and you can enjoy the sunroom just off the suite. The property has beautiful shaded areas, native Texas plants and fruit trees to enjoy throughout the year. As a bonus enjoy the wildlife that passes by in the extended yard outside the fence.

Exceptional property featuring a 3800+ sqft home sitting on 84 fully fenced AG exempt acres with stock tank and views for miles!

Texas law requires all real estate licensees to give the following information about brokerage services to prospective buyers, tenants, sellers and landlords.  
<http://liabs.govcov.com/Laura.pdf>

**Top Producing Agent  
for over 20 years**

## EMPLOYMENT

Respectfully Submitted:  
Is/ Lane Heginbotham, HARRIS LAW OFFICE, 425 North Eighth Street, Killeen, Texas 76541,  
Phone (254) 526-0108, Fax (254) 526-7141,  
Lane Heginbotham State Bar No.:24000323 lane@centexlawyers.net  
01.09

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of MEGAN ELIZABETH ELROD, Deceased, were issued on December 20, 2024, in Cause No. 24CPB00421, pending in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Bell County, Texas, to: CAITLIN M. PETERS.

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: ESTATE OF MEGAN ELIZABETH ELROD, c/o CAITLIN M. PETERS, 14014 Somersworth Drive, Houston, Texas 77041

DATED the 2nd day of January 2025  
KAREN M. VILLANUEVA, State Bar No.: 24102608, Telephone: (254) 771-1855,  
Facsimile: (254) 771-2082, E-mail: karen@templawoffice.com  
01.09

### THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 25CPB00001

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

BEAU HARBISON, Applicant, on January 02, 2025, filed an application to determine heirship seeking independent administration and letters of administration in a proceeding styled: FRANCES NANETTE KNOX, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00001 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025, in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is:

LANE HEGINBOTHAM, 425 NORTH 8TH STREET, KILLEEN TX 76541

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on January 02, 2025.

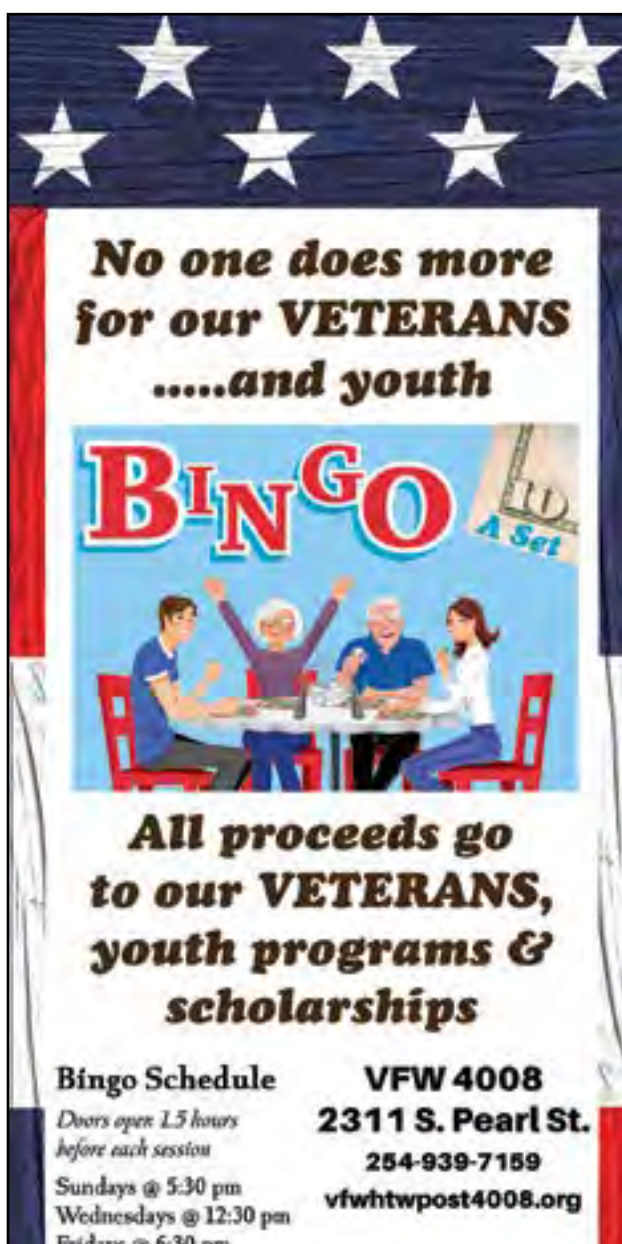
Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Sophia Nieto Deputy  
01.09

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration for the Estate of JAMES LOUIS ROLLESTON, Deceased, were issued on December 3, 2024, in Cause No. 24CPB00433, pending in the County Court at Law No. 1 of Bell County, Texas, to: ALLISON L. LANGE.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to



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Wednesdays @ 12:30 pm  
Fridays @ 6:30 pm

**2311 S. Pearl St.  
254-939-7159  
vfwhtwpost4008.org**

## LEGALS

present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. ESTATE OF JAMES LOUIS ROLLESTON, c/o: ALLISON L. LANGE, 730 E. Broadway Waukesha, WI 53188 DATED December 4, 2024

KAREN M. VILLANUEVA, State Bar No.: 24102608, Telephone: (254) 771-1855, Facsimile: (254) 771-2082, E-mail: karen@templawoffice.com  
01.09

### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF

Chris K. Schaefer as Independent Executor of the Estate of Martha N. Schaefer, Deceased. Pending in the County Court At Law of Bell County, Texas, in Matters of Cause No. 23CPB00588.

To all persons interested in the above estate: whereas, on the 26th day of March, 2024, in the County Court At Law of Bell County, Texas, the undersigned duly qualified as the Independent Executor of the Estate of Martha N. Schaefer, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary on this estate were granted and this is to notify

All persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Any person indebted to said estate is hereby notified to pay same to the undersigned. Chris K. Schaefer, Independent Executor of the Estate of Martha N. Schaefer, Deceased. Address: C/O Marold Law Firm, PLLC, Attorneys, Attn: Burke C. Marold, 2135 E. Hildebrand Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 7820  
01.09pd

### CAUSE NUMBER 24CPB00627 ESTATE OF MICKIE JEAHI EMERY DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1 BELL COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Mickie Jeahi Emery, Deceased, were issued on December 9th, 2024 in Cause No. 24CPB00627 in the County Court At Law No. 1 of Bell County, Texas, to: Young J. Kim, Independent Executor.

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.

DATED the 31st day of December, 2024

Respectfully Submitted:

Lane Heginbotham, HARRIS LAW OFFICE, 425 North Eighth Street, Killeen, Texas 76541,  
Phone (254) 526-0108, Fax (254) 526-7141, Lane Heginbotham, State Bar No.: 24000323,  
lane@centexlawyers.net 01.09

### CAUSE NO. 24CPB00056 IN THE ESTATE OF SHIRLEY E. MARSHALL DECEASED IN THE COUNTY COURT AT LAW NO. 1 BELL COUNTY, TEXAS NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of Shirley E. Marshall, Deceased, were issued on November 6th, 2024 in Cause No. 24CPB00056 in the County Court At Law No. 1 of Bell County, Texas, to Charles E. Marshall, Independent Administrator.

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.

DATED the 30th day of December, 2024

Respectfully Submitted:

Lane Heginbotham, HARRIS LAW OFFICE, 425 North Eighth Street, Killeen, Texas 76541,  
Phone (254) 526-0108, Fax (254) 526-7141, Lane Heginbotham, State Bar No.: 24000323,  
E-mail: lane@centexlawyers.net  
01.09

### THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 24CPB00819

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

STACIA ANN TAGGART, Applicant, on December 27, 2024, filed an application for determination of heirship and for independent administration/letters of administration in a proceeding styled: MICHEAL DAVID HEISER, Deceased, and bearing the number 24CPB00819 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application

Your home or land could be one  
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We would be honored to  
represent you in this important  
transaction.



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**LEGALS**

after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025, in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is:

JAMES R. SECREST, 3600 Birdcreek Plaza, Temple TX 76502

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on December 27, 2024.

Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By : Sophia Nieto Deputy  
01.09

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF DAVID LEE LEWIS, DECEASED**

NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary were issued on January 2, 2025 in a proceeding styled Estate of David Lee Lewis, Deceased, in Cause Number 24CPB00680, pending in the County Court At Law #1 of Bell County, Texas.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Independent Executrix, addressed as follows:

Daisy Daryl Lewis Independent Executrix of the Estate of David Lee Lewis, Deceased  
c/o Burk Roberts, Roberts & Roberts, L.L.P., 2501 East Elms Rd., Ste. A, Killeen, Texas 76542-3023

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

Signed on January 3, 2025.

Roberts & Roberts, L.L.P., Attorneys for Daisy Daryl Lewis

By: Burk Roberts  
01.09

**THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 24CPB00816**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

ZELDON HUCKABY, Applicant, on December 20, 2024, filed an Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration and Application to Determine Heirship within Administration in a proceeding styled: BRANTLEY WYATT MAYNARD, Deceased, and bearing the number 24CPB00816 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025 in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

**LEGALS**

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is:

STEVE BLYTHE, 319 N THIRD ST., PO BOX 2088, TEMPLE TX 76503

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on January 06, 2025.

Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Lillian Phillips Deputy  
01.09

**THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 24CPB00815**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

ZELDON HUCKABY, Applicant, on December 20, 2024, filed an Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration Pursuant to the Texas Estates Code and Application to Determine Heirship within Administration in a proceeding styled: COLTON BLAKE MAYNARD, Deceased, and bearing the number 24CPB00815 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025, in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is: STEVE BLYTHE, 319 N THIRD ST, PO BOX 2088, TEMPLE TX 76503

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on January 06, 2025.

Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Lillian Phillips Deputy 01.09

**THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 24CPB00809**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

RUSSELL RAY MAYNARD, Applicant, on December 19, 2024, filed an Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration and Application to Determine Heirship within Administration in a proceeding styled: DAVID DEAN MAYNARD, JR, Deceased, and bearing the number 24CPB00809 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application

**LEGALS**

after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025, in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is: STEVE BLYTHE, 319 N THIRD ST, PO BOX 2088, TEMPLE TX 76503

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on January 06, 2025.

Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Lillian Phillips Deputy  
01.09

**THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION CASE NUMBER 24CPB00803**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

ZELDON HUCKABY, Applicant, on December 19, 2024, filed an Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration Pursuant to the Texas Estates Code and Application to Determine Heirship Within Administration in a proceeding styled: MARY ELIZABETH MAYNARD, Deceased, and bearing the number 24CPB00803 in the County Court of Bell County, Texas.

The court will hear the aforesaid Application after the expiration of ten days, exclusive of the day of publication, from the date this citation is published which will be January 09, 2025, in the County Court at Law #1 Courtroom, at the Bell County Justice Complex, 1201 Huey Road, in Belton, Texas.

All persons interested in the aforesaid estate are commanded to appear at or before the time set for said hearing by filing a written contest or answer to said application should they desire to oppose or contest it.

Said written contest or answer shall be filed in the office of Shelley Coston, County Clerk, Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, Belton, Texas 76513.

The name and address of the attorney for applicant is: STEVE BLYTHE, 319 N THIRD ST, PO BOX 2088, TEMPLE TX 76503

The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on January 06, 2025.

Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Lillian Phillips Deputy  
01.09

# EDITORIAL

## Chicken Salad Summer

Shop the Insanity • Darren Blair

For those readers who are new to this feature, I am a bit north of 40 in age. That's a fair bit of years to reflect on when it comes to self-reflection, let alone finding material I can

use for this feature. As part of this, it sometimes happens that a memory will succeed in dislodging itself from wherever it was in the

back of my brain, leaving me to try and ponder both what caused it to dislodge and why.

Well, I'm pondering one such memory now.

I've talked about how I grew up in a military family, and how for the first several years of my life we moved around as the Army reassigned my dad to different duty stations. The military maintains on-base housing for service members who have families, and so these individuals can apply for this housing in order to ease the difficulties of moving. It's just a matter of some bureaucrat seeing who's next on the list and matching them with the next available appropriate lodging.

Sometimes it happens that the lodging isn't quite ready yet when the family arrives, and so everyone will have to spend a brief period staying at a type of facility known as a "guest house". This is a sort of temporary-occupancy apartment complex meant for families to stay in for a few days while lodging becomes available. Well, there was one time where we had to stay at a guest house as we were coming into a duty station.

To say that the guest house was "quaint" would be to over-sell it. The facility was cinderblock construction, with white interior walls and (if memory serves) tan outer walls. Cinderblock being what it is, there weren't a lot of interior decorations or anything "fancy". Each room had a few outlets, some beds, a TV set, and I want to say a dresser, night stands, and some lamps; there was probably also a

small refrigerator, but I'm not sure as I seem to recall eating a \*lot\* of prepackaged chicken salad. Every two rooms shared a single bathroom, meaning that if you needed to use the facilities or get cleaned up you had to dart in, lock both sets of doors, and get done as quickly as possible so as not to inconvenience anyone else.

There was of course a small playground on-site, and the TV picked up what over-the-air stations it could (I specifically remember my brothers and I watching re-runs of "Gumby"), so we weren't totally bored. We did, however, have to observe mandatory "quiet time" during a part of the day so that those service members who were on overnight shift could sleep; the signs warning of this were one of the few decorations the place had. Whatever we did during this period, we had to keep the volume down as much as possible.

I was running a delivery route when this memory came back to me, so I'm not sure what triggered it. It's just me, the radio, and the road when I'm delivering, which does give me time to reflect. As to why it came back...

Gratitude? Was it supposed to be a lesson in gratitude? Maybe, perhaps, my brain was trying to remind me of a time when things weren't exactly fun to give me a bit of perspective on some challenges I've been facing. It might also be why I'm a bit of a critic when it comes to chicken salad.

I'm not sure if that guest house facility is still there, but I do have those memories.

## Local **Activities & Events**

### Newcomers Club Activities

**January**  
1/10 TGIF  
1/11 Couples Night Out  
1/13 Bookworms  
1/14 Singing Bluebonnets  
1/15 Popcorn Bridge  
1/16 Meet & Greet; Nonfiction Book Club  
1/17 Trailblazers Walking Club  
1/18 Exploring Wines  
1/20 Snack Time Mahjong

1/21 Bunco  
1/22 Fun Lunch  
1/25 Jimmy's Egg  
1/27 Well Read Women; Crochet and Knit; Monday Canasta  
1/28 Singing Bluebonnets

To join or for more information, please call: Mary Pringle (760)265-5035 or email at: pringlem@msn.com. Visit the website: [www.bellcountynewcomers.com](http://www.bellcountynewcomers.com).

### CAC announces 2025 concert lineups Here's a look at the 2025 Texas Music Series:

**AN EVENING WITH LOS LONELY BOYS — Jan. 11**  
The Grammy Award-winning multi platinum San Angelo-based trio have welcomed audiences into their family with open arms since emerging in 1996.

**MARCIA BALL PIANORAMA — Feb. 8**  
Grammy nominated keyboardist Marcia Ball assembles some of her favorite fellow piano players for a one-of-a-kind show she calls Pianorama.

**SHAWN COLVIN — May 16**  
In the 30 years since the release of her debut album, Colvin has won three Grammy Awards, released 13 albums, written a critically-acclaimed memoir, maintained a non-stop national and international touring schedule, appeared on countless TV and radio shows, had her songs featured in major movies, and created a remarkable canon of work.

**RUTHIE FOSTER JAZZ BAND — July 12**  
With five Grammy nominations to her name, Ruthie Foster stands as a testament to the power of authenticity and resilience in music. Her soulful melodies, heartfelt lyrics and an unwavering commitment to her art inspire audiences and fellow musicians as she continues to carve a path uniquely her own.

**ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL — Nov. 8**  
Founded in 1970, Asleep at the Wheel has been part of the American roots music landscape for more than 50 years.

**SHINYRIBS — Dec. 6**  
Shinyribs, a regular visitor to the CAC, defies genres as a melting pot of Texas blues, New Orleans funk, horn-driven Memphis soul, country twang, border music, big band swing and roots-rock. The 2025 CTOS Classic Music Series includes four big shows.

**LITTLE JOE HERNANDEZ Y LA FAMILIA — Feb. 22**  
Temple legend and five-time Grammy winner Little Joe Hernandez y La Familia is one of the most popular Tex-Mex bands in the industry. Described as the King of Brown Sound, Little Joe helped pioneer Tejano music, a mix of traditional norteno music and country, blues and rock styles.

**THE TEXAS TENORS — March 30**  
Emmy award-winning classical crossover, the trio was formed in 2009 by country singer JC Fisher, pop singer Marcus Collins and opera singer John Hagen. They were a top four finalist in the fourth season of America's Got Talent, making them the highest-ranking vocal group in the show's history.

**VAN CLIBURN FINALIST CLAYTON STEPHENSON — Oct. 18**  
American pianist Clayton Stephenson's love for music is immediately apparent in his joyous charisma onstage, expressive power and natural ease at the instrument.

**A CELEBRATION OF RUTHIE FOSTER — Nov. 22**  
Foster makes a return to the CAC, and her music blends blues, folk gospel, soul and jazz. She's won multiple Best Music Awards, including Best Female Vocalist three times.

**The Bell County Museum** will have The Vietnam Experience on display through January 2025. The exhibit of artworks from Naval History and Heritage Command will be accompanied by artifacts and archival documents related to the Vietnam War. Leave a remembrance for a lost loved one or share your own experience in the war through our interactive memorial.

**The Bell County Master Gardener Association** will be holding its monthly Herb Study Group on Thursday, January 9 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. This month's topic is "Herb of the Year- Chamomile". There will be a round table discussion (structured conversation where a group of people explore a topic or issue.) We encourage you to research and join in the discussion. No registration required and the public is welcome to join.

**The Cultural Activities Center** in Temple has announced lineups for its two premier music series, and visiting bands will include Los Lonely Boys, Asleep at the Wheel and the wildly popular Shinyribs. 2025 will usher in new music in both the Texas Music Series and the Central Texas Orchestral Society's Classical Music Series. Some old friends will be making return engagements in Temple, and many new performers also will be playing the CAC stage. For more information, please visit <https://www.cacarts.org/events>. Be on the lookout for the full 2025 Texas Music Series lineup in next weeks edition of the newspaper.

**The Bell County Master Gardeners and Troy Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn** presents "Fire Wise Landscaping with Native Plants", Friday, January 10 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Troy Community Center, 201 E. Main St., Troy. Certified Master Gardener, Pat Johnson will present information on how to prepare and use fire wise plants in your landscape. Learn to select native plants that will accent your environment and make your landscape area safe. The class limit is 50. Register at [info@greatertroychamber.com](mailto:info@greatertroychamber.com) or contact Gaby Warlick at 254-400-7345.

**The Bell County Master Gardener Association** will be holding its monthly Herb Study Group on Wednesday, January 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. This month's topic is "Herb of the Year- Chamomile." No registration required and the public is welcome to join.

**The Bell County Master Gardener Association** is hosting a free monthly seminar "Growing Spring Vegetables in Central Texas" on Thursday, January 16 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener, Dave Slaughter will teach you how to overcome the challenges of growing a spring vegetable garden in Central Texas. Come learn how to overcome the challenges, what seeds to plant, and best time to plant. The class limit is 50. Please register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com).

**You are invited to the 4th annual Presidential Memorial Certificate Banquet Hosted by Young's Daughters Funeral Home & Bereavement Center along with VEW District 14**  
A dinner & the presentation of certificates to honor the memory of your deceased service members will be held at VFW POST# 1820 3302 Airport Rd, Temple, Texas 76504 on Thursday, January 23, 2025 5:00 PM Welcome & 6:00 PM Meal  
CALL SERVICE OFFICER SABRINA N. YOUNG 254-401-1302 TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

**The Bell County Master Gardener Association** presents a hands-on workshop "Seed Starting" on Saturday, January 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Texas Agrilife Extension Office, BCMGA Learning Center, 1605 N. Main St., Belton. Certified Master Gardener Wayne Schirmer will discuss the requirements for seed germination and how to grow seedlings. You will receive information on when to start seeds to have transplants at the proper time. Wayne will discuss dense seed planting as well as optional things that can assist in seed starting. You will plant seeds that you'll be able to take home to germinate and plant in your spring vegetable garden. The class limit is 20 and the class fee is \$25. Register at [bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com](mailto:bcmgaspeakers@gmail.com). Registration closes on Wednesday, Jan 15 or when the class is full.

**Aspen Hospice and Palliative Care Volunteers Needed** Listed here are many ways you can help make a difference for our hospice patients. You can provide companionship, listen to music, read, reminisce, play games, cards, checkers, paint nails, apply makeup, curl hair or take them on walks. Please visit [aspenhealthcare.net](http://aspenhealthcare.net) or call 512-856-5668 for more information.

**Bell County Historical Commission** holds their meetings on the fourth Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in the historical Bell County Court House, 101 E. Central Ave in Belton. Join us in our vision of preserving and promoting Bell County's rich historical heritage for current and future generations. We are dedicated to initiating and conducting programs that preserve and celebrate the county's historic cultural resources in alignment with state laws governing historical preservation in Texas. Our community resources consist of a research room, book repository, cemetery information, historical markers and monument records. Our services include information on historic preservation, educational programming, history community outreach and partnerships. We welcome you to come join other history minded folks and get involved by serving on one of our committees that consist of preservation, cemetery, markers and education. To volunteer or for more information please visit [historicalcommission@bellcounty.texas.gov](mailto:historicalcommission@bellcounty.texas.gov), call 254-933-5917 or go by their office located in the

historic Bell County Courthouse, 101 E. Central Ave., RM 117.

**Pistons on the Creek** will meet every third Friday from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Come down to Nolan Creek and show off your rides. From classic to modern, muscle, rat rod, exotic, all automotive enthusiasts are welcome. Support our awesome downtown businesses and restaurants surrounded by live music, food, drinks and a great atmosphere.

**Bell Fine Arts Visitors** welcome Wednesday's from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 306 E th Ave in Belton. Majong games are available every Monday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come join the fun and meet new folks. For more information text Jeanne at 409-313-0611.

**Local chapter of the Crochet Guild of America** meets from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Lena Armstrong Public Library, 301 E. First St., in Belton. The group is open to anyone interested in crochet. All skill levels are welcome. For information email Betty Reichert at [bettyreichert@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyreichert@yahoo.com) or Kathy Bement at [katshookandneedle@gmail.com](mailto:katshookandneedle@gmail.com). Anyone interested in joining the local chapter of the Crochet Guild of America will also need to join the National Crochet Guild of America.

Visit [www.crochet.org](http://www.crochet.org) for details.

**Bell County Texas Democratic Women** holds their monthly meeting on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Belton AgriLife Center, 1605 N Main in Belton. Join us to hear from local and state candidates and about important issues and events. This is open to the public.

**Leadership Belton** is an excellent source for learning leadership skills. This 10-month program focuses on three key elements: community awareness training, leadership training, and team building. Do you have someone ready to take the next step to become a leader? If so, Leadership Belton is here to make that difference. For more information on how to participate, contact the chamber at 254-939-3551 or e-mail at [info@beltonchamber.com](mailto:info@beltonchamber.com).

**Engage & Empower with BISD Belton ISD** believes the learning experiences of our students are enhanced through the engagement of our community. We invite parents and community members to get involved in our schools. Register as a volunteer with our new volunteer and partnership system at the following link: [https://beltonisd.ezcommunicator.net/edu/beltonisd/login\\_form.aspx?app=0](https://beltonisd.ezcommunicator.net/edu/beltonisd/login_form.aspx?app=0).

## Community Information

**TAKE ME HOME PROGRAM** The Belton Police Department is adopting the Take Me Home Program, aimed at helping individuals who need special assistance to return safely home after getting lost. The program is a database with photos and personal information to help police officers find someone who is lost or wandered away from home. Take Me Home is designed for individuals who may need additional aid including those with Dementia, Autism or specific mental health needs. It's free to register someone and the data is kept confidential to first responders. You can sign up a loved one here: [www.beltontexas.gov/takemehome](http://www.beltontexas.gov/takemehome). Read more about the program here: [https://www.beltontexas.gov/news\\_detail\\_T11\\_R1166.php](https://www.beltontexas.gov/news_detail_T11_R1166.php).

**Dial 988 for Mental Health Emergencies** To help those contemplating suicide, press option 1 for assistance with military/veteran population.

**Text-to-911** for speech/ hearing impaired, those unable to call or speak due to home invasion, abduction or domestic violence or physically incapable. Providing location, city name and nature of the emergency in the first message is imperative. For further education on this service, don't hesitate to call 254-933-5500.

**Citizens Helping in Police Service (CHIPS)** are extra eyes and ears while in areas where large groups may gather. Contact the Belton Police Dept. to join.

**Belton Citizens Police Academy** meets Thursday nights to enhance police and community partnerships. Apply online to be a part of this exciting program.

**Slam the Scam** Throughout the year, we give you the tools to recognize scams and stop scammers from stealing your money and personal information. Share the information with your loved ones & Slam the Scam! Visit [ssa.gov/scam](http://ssa.gov/scam) for tips.

**Dementia/Alzheimers Support Group-** Young's Daughters Funeral Home & Bereavement Center, 4235 E. US HWY 190 in Temple. Fridays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Join us for activities while caregivers discuss and help each other during this difficult time. Call Sabrina at 254-401-1302



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5700 F.M. 439 ~ 254.721.6514  
**Belton Christian Church**  
9425 W FM ~ 436 254.939.1172  
**Belton Church of Christ**  
3003 N. Main ~ 254.939.1816  
**Belton Church of God in Christ**  
1122 W. 2nd Ave. ~ 254.939.1697  
**Belton First Assembly of God**  
500 S. IH-35 ~ 254.933.2803  
**Belton Lighthouse**  
1001 NE Loop 121 ~ 254.654.7278  
**Belton Nazarene Church**  
1701 Sparta Rd ~ 254.939.3404  
**Bethel A.M.E. Church**  
401 S. Davis St. ~ 254.939.6090  
**Central Texas Cathedral**  
**Worship Center**  
700 S. Main Street ~ 254.831.3064  
**Christ Bible Baptist Church**  
1590 Jack Rabbit Rd ~ 254.939.9247  
**Christ the King Catholic Church**  
310 E. 24th Ave. ~ 254.939.0806  
**Christian Tabernacle Apostolic UPC**  
1010 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.3464  
**Cornerstone Community Church**  
5081 Dog Ridge Rd ~ 254.721.8250  
**Crossroads Church**  
500 South I-35 ~ 254.939.2122  
**Dominion Life Chapel**  
105 Green Briar St. ~ 254.563.0472  
**Elm Grove Baptist Church**  
6388 Elm Grove Rd. ~ 254.933.8127  
**Family Gospel Church**  
2210 Holland Rd. ~ 254.721.0707  
**Fellowship Baptist Church**  
2025 Morgan's Point Rd ~  
254.780.2388  
**First Baptist Church Belton**  
506 N. Main St. ~ 254.933.3391  
**First Christian Church of Belton**  
306 E. 5th Fecbelton.com  
**First Mexican Baptist Church**  
703 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.6900  
**First Presbyterian Church of Belton**  
2500 Church Street ~ 254.939.2115  
**First United Methodist Church**  
205 E. 3rd Ave. ~ 254.939.5703  
**Free Pentecostal Church of Jesus**  
1111 Cacti Lane ~ 254.933.8201

**Freedom Bible Fellowship**  
308 W. Ave. D ~ 254.933.3310  
**Holy Temple of Our Lord Jesus**  
**Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Inc.**  
519 S. Pearl St. ~ 254.613.4591  
**Hope Community Church**  
507 Mitchell St. ~ 254.933.8222  
**Hope Tabernacle**  
202 E. 1st Ave. ~ 254.933.8222  
**Iglesia de Cristo**  
3303 N. Main ~ 254.939.6910  
**Immanuel Prince of Peace**  
**Lutheran Church**  
1215 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.0824  
**Keys Valley Baptist Church**  
4393 W. US Hwy. 190 ~  
254.939.1650  
**Lakeview Baptist Church**  
7717 N Hwy. 317 ~ 254.780.1884  
**Liberty Church**  
302 E. Central Ave. ~ 254.933.7107  
**Liberty in Christ Church**  
2520 N. Main ~ 254.939.3337  
**Miller Heights Baptist Church**  
1400 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.1835  
**Ministerios Vida**  
2020 S. IH-35 ~ 254.624.8015  
**Mt. Zion United Methodist Church**  
218 Alexander St. ~ 254.939.5621  
**New Life Fellowship**  
706 E. 4th. ~ 254.939.8011  
**Nolan Valley Baptist Church**  
13206 W. FM 93 ~ 254.721.5998  
**Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ**  
117 N. Birdwell St. ~ 254.939.0822  
**Redeemer Reformed Baptist**  
505 E. Ave C. www.RRBC1689.com  
**Temple Vision de lo Alto**  
4357 Orchard Hill ~ 254.563.1231  
**Trinity Full Gospel**  
810 East 2nd Ave. ~ 254.939.7673  
**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
1726 Morgan's Point Rd. ~  
254.778.8034

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**1st Christian Church of Temple**  
300 N 5th St ~ (254) 773-9061  
**Christ Episcopal Church**  
**and School**  
300 N. Main St. ~ 254.773.1657  
**Christian Life Church**  
4343 West FM 93 ~ 254.939.2626  
**Covenant Lutheran Church**  
4202 Hickory Rd. ~ 254.733.7718

**First Baptist Church**  
8015 West Adams Ave. ~  
254.773.6866  
**First Methodist Church GMC**  
102 N. 2nd Temple. TX  
~254.773.7992  
**First Presbyterian Church Temple**  
12 West French ~ 254.773.3407  
**Foundation Church**  
10701 W. Adams ~ 254.780.9673  
**Grace Baptist Church**  
740 Jayline Drive ~ 254.773.1401  
**Grace Comm. Primitive Baptist**  
3111 N. 3rd St ~ 254.774.8192  
**Grace Presbyterian Church**  
2401 S 57th ~ 254.773.2134  
**Harvest Church**  
2501 General Bruce Dr. ~  
254.780.3566  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
2109 W. Ave H ~ 254.773.3898  
**Leon Valley Church of Christ**  
4404 Twin City Blvd. ~  
254.939.0682  
**New Hope Church of God**  
2005 W. Ave D., Suite D. ~  
254.742.2181  
**St. Francis Episcopal & School**  
5001 Hickory ~ 254.733.4255  
**St. Luke's Catholic Church**  
2807 Oakdale Dr. ~ 254.773.1561  
**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
1018 S 7th St. ~ 254.773.4541  
**Taylor's Valley Baptist Church**  
2497 W. FM 93 ~ 254.939.0503  
**Temple Bible Church**  
3205 Oakview Drive ~ 254.778.3233  
**First Church of the Nazarene**  
5000 S. 31st ~ 254.773.3744  
**The Redeemed Christian Church of**  
**God Salvation Center**  
405 Van Dyke Drive, Suite 403A ~  
469-348-1475  
**Unity Church of Temple**  
318 N. 2nd ~ 254.770.0070  
**Vineyard Christian Fellowship**  
7425 W Adams Ave. ~ 254.778.2802  
**Vista Community Church**  
7051 Stonehollow Dr. Sundays 8:30,  
10, 11:30 a.m., 5 p.m.  
www.thevista.tv ~ 254.774.7992  
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# EDITORIAL

## Heart Talk

Coffee Talk • Renae Brumbaugh Green

Remember Bon Jovi's 1986 hit that begins, "Shot through the heart, and you're to blame. You give love a bad name,?" It turns out, Bon Jovi was on to something. A new field has developed called cardiac psychology. It studies the relationship between emotions and heart health. It seems that negative emotions like depression, anxiety, anger, and loneliness increase the risk of heart disease.

An example of this is stress cardiomyopathy, also known as broken heart syndrome. According to research, the chances of a heart attack are 21 times higher within 24 hours of losing a loved one. It also increases after receiving other shocks like a cancer diagnosis. Strong emotions like rage cause irregular heart rhythms, which can trigger heart attacks.

This is why I don't watch Game of Thrones.

But it's not just one-time events that cause heart problems. Long term sadness, stress, or anger may be pushed down on the surface, but these emotions bubble and boil deep down.

They produce negative stress hormones like cortisol and put us in a constant state of fight-or-flight. This response causes our veins to shrink in order to push blood to the heart so we can escape or defend ourselves.

You might compare your body to a car. A vehicle that's well-cared for can handle occasional stress like speeding up or slamming on the brakes. But doing this too much will cause damage to the engine and brakes. The same is true for our bodies. We weren't built for long-term stress, and chronic exposure will damage our hearts.

Negative emotions also increase other risks for heart disease, because they lead to unhealthy behaviors like heavy drinking, overeating, and a sedentary lifestyle. People diagnosed with a heart condition may experience temporary depression and anxiety as they adjust to their new reality, but emotionally healthy people can usually come to terms with it within a few weeks. Emotional issues that last beyond that can often be traced to some-

thing that existed before the diagnosis and may have contributed to the problem.

The good news is, we can take control of our emotional health by finding balance. Negative emotions aren't always bad. They often act as warning signs that we need to change something. When you find yourself feeling sad, depressed, anxious or angry, ask yourself why. Then take steps to improve your situation so it doesn't become long term.

Here are some ideas to improve your heart health:

Talk about your feelings. If you don't feel comfortable sharing with another person, write your thoughts in a journal. You can always destroy or delete your words to ensure no one else reads them. Just expressing them will help.

Pray, meditate, do yoga, or try some deep breathing exercises. These practices have proven benefits for emotional and physical health.

Limit unhealthy practices such as heavy

drinking and smoking.

Try to exercise most days. A short walk, gardening, dancing, swimming, or anything else that gets your body moving is great. Exercise helps your body get rid of negative stress hormones.

Eat an anti-inflammatory diet. Avoid processed foods and chemicals, which are slow poison to your body and have negative effects on both physical and mental health.

When I'm feeling stressed or anxious, I try to put things into perspective. I'll ask myself if this particular thing will matter in a year, five years, or beyond. Most things can be marked off my anxiety list right away. More importantly, I take all my concerns, lay them at my Father's feet, and leave them there. He's able to do what I can't, and He's at work even when I don't see or understand what He's doing.

*"Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." 3 John 1:2*

# BUSINESS SHOWCASE

### Discover & Learn at the Bell County Museum

We offer visitors a look into the past, present, and future with interesting exhibits, collections, and interactive elements. Check out the Moustache Teacup collection, featured on Travel Channel's *Mysteries at the Museum*, see a real-life chuck wagon, and practice your archaeological skills. It's always free admission! We have the following permanent exhibits:

Discover Bell County takes visitors on a journey through our History. Explore our Land, Agriculture and Ranching, Transportation and Industry, and Education and Culture.

Gault Site includes large murals, discovery drawers, microscopes and the film, "The Gault Project: An Adventure in Time." This exhibit also features an inter-

active dig pit, a chance to be an archaeologist, a chalkboard for cave drawings, discovery drawers, and more.

Little River Log Cabin was built in the 1850s near Little River/Academy, the area of earliest Anglo settlement in Bell County. It can be seen from the museum exterior, or by tour groups.

See our traveling exhibitions and upcoming events on Facebook or at BellCountyMuseum.Org. Teachers can schedule a field trip, reserve a travel trunk to show in your classroom, or register for a virtual class program or tour.

Visit us at 201 N. Main St. in Belton and make your time at the museum valuable and engaging. 254-933-5243, museum@bellcounty.texas.gov.

Join us at the museum for the final speaker in our "Vietnam Experience" series.



Stories of Valor: LTC (Ret) Paula Quindlen

At age 21, LTC Paula Quindlen was deployed to South Vietnam, where she served from 1970-71 at the 27th Surgical Hospital in Chu Lao. For her leadership and meritorious service in combat, Quindlen was awarded a Bronze Star.

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Time: 6:30 - 7:30  
254-933-5243



BellCountyMuseum.Org/Events  
201 N. Main St. Belton

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- CALLBACK
- CAPPER
- ENTENDRE
- GAG
- HEADLINER
- HUMOR
- IMPROVISATION
- JEST
- JOKE
- LAUGH
- LINEUP
- MICROPHONE
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