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# Belton ISD Delta Program holds ribbon cutting, open house



**BELTON JOURNAL/Michele Weisman** 

BISD Delta Principal, Tammie Baggerly and Delta students cut the ribbon at their open house event last Thursday. The new facility is located on Fourth Ave.

#### **By Michele Weisman**

The Belton Journal

The Belton ISD Delta Program hosted its first open house with a full house and a ribbon cutting on Thursday, October 2, at 5 p.m.

Students, parents, teachers, administrators, and boards of trustees gathered at the new building at 731 Fourth Ave. in Belton to celebrate.

Tammie Baggerly, the principal of BISD Delta, said, "We have 40 students that attend here. They're so proud of this building. They're proud of the work they do here. Our kids can do a lot. They can do more than I think people realize they just need a chance. They need an opportunity to show the world what they can do. And someone needs to say, okay, yes, come, come work for us, or come work with us."

Classrooms include a gym, an art room, a kitchen, a sensory room, and a fine motor room. Most of the classrooms offer hands-on learning for job skills and household skills.

Culinary teacher Alexandria Cryer talked about a recent Taco Tuesday.

"Everyone contributes in the kitchen with browninga the ground beef, cutting the lettuce, shredding the cheese, cutting the tomatoes."

Cryer said the students experience "Everything from making our list, going to the grocery store. We do the budgeting for the store before we

BISD Delta is ideally located for job training opportunities in the com-

Student Blake Brown said, "It's an amazing place, where we can learn and grow. Today we went to Grand Avenue and did custodian work. We bussed tables. We cleaned the restrooms. We also wipe the hallways so it looks really nice."

Brown said that being able to see friends and teachers is something he looks forward to every school day.

"I tell my mom every day what I did at school," Brown added.

For families interested in their child attending, Baggerly said they need to talk to their case manager in high school and ask if they are eligible.

"It's a committee that decides whether there's a need," Baggerly

# **City of Belton** seeks input on parks master plan



Special to the Journal

The City of Belton is asking residents and park users to share their input in a new survey to help shape the next 10 years of parks, events, recreation, and trails in Belton.

The survey is part of the City's Parks & Recreation Master Plan process, an effort to evaluate current facilities, programing, and events, then identify potential improvements, and set priorities based on community vision.

"Belton's parks are at the heart of the community," said Mayor David K. Leigh. "We want every voice-longtime resident or new neighborto help direct the future of our shared spaces."

The responses will guide decisions on future amenities, program offerings, trail networks, park maintenance, and expansions. The master plan will serve as a roadmap for the City's investment in parks from 2026 to 2036.

The survey is available online and can be completed in as little as five minutes. It is available through the month of October at www.beltontexas.gov/survey.

# McCoy's opens doors for Belton manufacturer

By David Stone The Belton Journal

Editor's Note: This is the first in an occasional series about products that are Made in Belton.

A Belton company that produces large sliding doors and windows is really shining with builders of custom, high-end homes.

Glass Expanse, located at 2600 Digby Drive in Belton, moved to Belton about four months ago.

"We were leasing property in Troy, but we were outgrowing our facility," said Adam Conley, founder of Glass Expanse. "We were looking for land to build a new place, and Belton Economic Development Corporation helped us secure a location here."

"It's a great location — I live in Belton so it's closer to home," he added.

Conley said Glass Expanse manufactures premium patio sliding doors and windows using glass and aluminum.

"About 95 percent of our business is residential. but we also make sliding doors and windows for offices and restaurants," he said.

> See McCOY'S, Page A2



**Courtesy photo** 

Glass windows and doors made by Glass Expanse in Belton provide a scenic view from the living room of

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# Burn ban in place until at least Oct. 14

**By David Stone** The Belton Journal

A surge in wildfires has prompted Bell County Judge David Blackburn to issue an emergency order prohibiting outdoor burning until at least Tuesday, Oct. 14, at 8 p.m.

Rob Reinhard, Bell County's emergency management coordinator, said 42 grass and wildland fires were reported during a seven-day stretch. The fires included an Oct. 2 blaze near the intersection of Morgan's Point and Rogers Park

Morgan's Point Resort and Moffatt responded to the wildfire. No homes were damaged in the blaze, Reinhard said.

"There's not any one area of the county that is experiencing more fires than others," he potential," he added. "It ranges added. "We've had fires from as far west as near Killeen, north of Troy and east of Bartlett."

"The Keetch-Byram Five fire vehicles from Drought Index (KBDI) has recorded Bell County above 600, which indicates a heightened fire risk due to dry conditions," Reinhard said.

> "The KBDI is a widely used tool for assessing forest-fire

from 0 to 800, where 0 indicates no moisture depletion and 800 represents extreme drought. The index is based on a daily water balance that accounts for precipitation and soil moisture, assuming a maximum storage capacity of eight inches. Values are expressed in hundredths of

> See **BURN BAN**, Page A2



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**Steve Giniewicz** 



# Bond approval would upgrade Bronco Stadium, Tiger Field, Swim Center

The Belton Journal

Belton ISD voters will cast their votes on Nov. 4 in a \$161.8 million bond referendum that includes four propositions.

The bulk of the referendum is a \$92.9 million Proposition A that includes campus security and school improvements, and another \$62 million would be used to update or build athletic facilities such Bronco Stadium, the Swim Center, Tiger Field and other facilities across the district. Also, a \$6 million proposition would update technology for students and staff at all BISD schools.

Perhaps the biggest athletic facility project included in the bond referendum is transitioning Lake Belton High School's football stadium from a practice field to a varsity-level arena.

"Bronco Field was built as a sub-varsity football, varsity track and varsity soccer facility," Belton ISD Athletic Director Sam Skidmore said this week. "It was built with the intent of expanding it in the future."

The "future" may be this year if the bond is approved. Currently Lake Belton home football games are played at Tiger Field.

"Bronco Stadium would seat about 5,300," Skidmore said. "(If the bond passes) we will expand the home bleachers, add restrooms and add concessions to the home side."

A new press box would be added to the home stands and a video board would be constructed. Visitor-side stands would be expanded, and locker rooms would be improved.

"We would also expand the parking lot for the stadium and for Lake Belton High baseball and tennis facilities," said Dr. Mike Morgan, Belton ISD's deputy superintendent.

left alone.

"We put down a good turf just a few years ago it's still in good shape," he said.

Another big project in the bond referendum is the expansion of the Roy & Jean Potts Swim Center, which serves the needs of all 20 Belton ISD schools. The center also is home to the Belton ISD Swim Club and community activities such as open swimming and water aerobics, Skidmore said.

"Right now, the Swim Center consists of an eightlane 25-yard competition pool, a three-lane therapy pool, on-site shower and locker room facilities that services more than 400 students and members of the community," Skidmore said.

According to Morgan and Skidmore, the Swim Center needs to expand to meet the district's needs.

"We are limited in how many students can use the facility," Morgan said. "We are limited to 25 elementary students and 14 middle school students, plus 160 swim club members and 30 to 50 community members. We are limited to about 77 students at a time right now."

Those numbers would likely change if the bond is approved.

"We would triple our lane space, and we could offer the community more swimming lessons, open swim and water aerobics," Skidmore said. "Right now, we can only offer swim lessons during the summer."

If the bond passes, new locker rooms for athletes would be added.

Big changes also are in store for Tiger Field if voters give the bond a thumbs-up. Currently, the stadium serves both Belton High and Lake Belton football teams.

"There would be many improvements made to the

According to Skidmore, the playing field will be stadium," Skidmore said. "We would improve lighting, the turf and the video board."

> According to Morgan, the home-side grandstands would be configured to allow the home band to sit on the home side. Also, new concessions and restrooms would be added, and the visitors locker room would be improved.

> Tiger Field hosts varsity and sub-varsity football games, track and field competitions, middle school football games, and a Powder Puff football league. Summer football workouts, 7-on-7 football games and Special Olympics games also are held at Tiger Field.

> "Right now, the stadium seats 8,500 people, but that would go down just a bit," Morgan said. "The home-side stands will be reconfigured. Right now, there's a walkway that passes in front of the ADA seats. We want to move the ADA seats to the front of the walkway. To make this ADA improvement, we will have to eliminate a few seats."

> Smaller athletic improvements would include building a weight room at Belton Middle School.

> "Right now, student athletes at Belton Middle School have to travel to Belton High to lift weights," Moore said.

> The bond would allow Belton ISD to turf Belton High baseball and softball fields, and add LED lighting to the softball complex.

> Morgan said advisors have estimated a quartercent increase in property taxes.

> "If all four propositions are approved in November, Belton ISD taxpayers will see an approximate \$5.22 annual increase in property taxes for the average home valued at \$348,832 after the application of the homestead exemption," he continued. "There will be no increase for homeowners 65 years of age and

# Burn Ban - From Page A1

an inch of soil moisture depletion."

Currently, the index is calculated using ground-based estimates of temperature and precipitation from weather stations and is manually interpolated by experts at the Texas A&M Forest Service for counties across the state, according to Reinhard.

The Bell County Commissioners Court will review the status of the burn ban during its scheduled meeting on Tuesday, Oct.14, and could extend the burn ban.

# McCoy's - From Page A1

In addition, Glass Expanse provided sliding windows for a wedding venue in Sherman and for the conference room at MRB Group in Temple.

Glass Expanse was founded in 2017 and based in Troy until we moved to Belton.

At Glass Expanse, we make premium, beautiful, custom slide-andstack doors and windows in Texas that will expand your space and blow your mind," Conley added.

"When I entered the door and window industry, I was motivated to design a company focused on functionality and aesthetics," he said. "I wanted to give the contractors and customers something they would love to share with clients, friends, and family."

Conley said Glass Expanse sold directly to builders and homeowners for seven years, but now the company sells its sliding doors and windows in Belton, at Lengefeld Lumber in Temple and at 21 other locations in Texas.

This month, though, that number will grow significantly. McCoy's Building Supplies will begin carrying Glass Expanse doors and windows at 18 locations.

"We plan to expand," he said. "I'd like to open locations across Texas and eventually across the Sun Belt."

"As Glass Expanse grows, we hope to create products that are unique in function and form. We want to manufacture products that push boundaries and stand apart from the ordinary."

For now, however, Conley and his 14 Belton employees will continue to fill the niche need for big sliding doors and windows.

For additional information about Glass Expanse, call (254) 902-4475 or visit www.glassexpanse.com.

# Belton ISD's Dr. Golden selected for Holdsworth Superintendent Program

Special to the Journal

Belton ISD Superintendent Dr. Malinda Golden has been selected to join The Holdsworth Center's Superintendent Leadership Program, an 18-month program designed to strengthen superintendents across Texas with world-class training, executive coaching and sup-

port. Dr. Golden is one of only 17 superintendents chosen statewide for the prestigious program, which is fully funded through philanthropic support. Participants will learn from leadership experts at The Holdsworth Center's Campus on Lake Austin and receive one-onone coaching from experienced superintendents.



Dr. Malinda Golden

"I am deeply honored to represent Belton ISD in this cohort," Golden said. "This program will not only strengthen my own leadership but also equip our district with innovative practices to better support our students, staff and community. I am committed to ensuring that each and every student in Belton ISD thrives, and this experience will help us continue to grow as a district of choice."

> Belton ISD Board

President Manuel Alcozer praised Golden's selection. Dr. Golden is held in the highest regard not only in Belton ISD but across Texas, and her selection for the Holdsworth program is proof of that," Alcozer said. "She has the vision, the heart, and the drive to make a lasting impact on students, and we are proud to have her representing the Big Red Community on such a prestigious stage. The lessons she learns and the strategies she brings back will serve our students, staff and families well into the future.

Founded in 2017, The Holdsworth Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building stronger leaders for Texas public schools.

# Y O UTHANK YOU CENTRAL TX

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# The Belton Journal and related properties:

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

# 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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# BITUARIES



Aguilar Richard Cayetano Aguilar August 7, 1952 -

**September 26, 2025** 

Richard Cayetano Aguilar, affectionately known as "Uncle Ricky" to his numerous nieces and nephews, passed away peacefully on September 26, 2025, in Belton, Texas, after battling a prolonged chronic illness. Richard was born on August 7, 1952, to Lee (Elias) Aguilar and Joan (Ascension) Aguilar in Temple, Texas. Richard was a man of great wisdom and compassion. His journey through life was one of boundless curiosity and academic excellence. His life was a testament to the power of education, the beauty of language, and the strength of familial bonds.

A viewing will be held on Thursday, October 9, 2025, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM, followed by a rosary recited at 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM. His Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, October 10, 2025 at 11:00 AM, followed by lunch in Crotty's Reception Hall at 12:00 PM. All services will be held at Crotty Funeral Home in Belton.

From his early days, intellectual Richard's prowess was evident. He was a Fulbright Scholar, a prestigious honor that reflected his dedication to learning and cultural exchange. After earning both his undergraduate and Master's degrees at Texas State University in San Marcos (formerly Southwest Texas State University), Richard's passion for languages propelled him to study in Germany, where he honed his skills and expanded his global perspective.

Richard's career as an educator spanned from pre-K to university-level instruction. He was a beloved figure at Shasta College in Redding, California, where he not only taught multiple language courses but also took on faculty leadership roles, shaping the minds of future generations. His teaching journey also brought him to Academy ISD, where he had the unique joy of teaching his own nieces Eva, Evelyn, Katarina, further blurring the lines between family and education, his two greatest passions.

spiritual Α man raised in the Catholic tradition, Richard lived a life that exemplified selflessness, intelligence, and love. In his youth, Richard worked for and earned the Ad Altare Dei Cross, an award given to Boy Scouts of Catholic faith. Richard also earned

his Eagle Scout award in high school.

Richard's interests were as diverse as the languages he spoke fluently: German, French, Italian, Russian, Spanish, Japanese, and Mandarin Chinese. However, his talent was not limited to linguistics. He was an All-State percussionist in high school, and in his senior year (1970) was the recipient of the Helen Bloomer Award, which was the highest honor given in the Marching 100 Band. Richard no doubt had a gift for music, additionally playing both keyboard instruments and the accordion with great skill.

Richard's love for travel took him across the globe, where he immersed himself in other cultures and traditions, always seeking to understand and appreciate the world's rich tapestry. His creative spirit led him to create a model language website, and his playful side found joy in computer games. His hobbies extended to knitting, baking, and carpentry, where crafted beautiful wooden furniture, a skill he shared jointly with his

Richard was preceded in death by his parents Lee (Elias) and Joan (Ascension) Aguilar, his beloved sister Nelida Aguilar, and his brotherin-law and good friend Scott Sherwood.

Richard's legacy is proudly celebrated and honored by his siblings: Robert Aguilar (Argie Gomez), Teresita Aguilar, Rita Aguilar, Michael Aguilar (Donna), Gabriel Aguilar (Loreen Hlavac), Claudia Bear, Melissa DeLaRosa (Rene), and Cathy Sherwood, all who remember him for his loving nature and dedication to family. His life was a series of cherished moments, from holiday gatherings to birthday celebrations. He was a formidable Yahtzee player, known for marathon sessions that stretched into the wee hours of the night with his sisters.

Above all, Richard valued quality time spent in conversation with his siblings, in-laws, nieces, nephews, Aunt Janie, and a circle of friends that spanned continents. Those phone calls and visits were the moments he cherished most, a simple yet profound reminder that at the heart of a well-lived life are the relationships we nurture and the love we share.

Today we celebrate Richard Cayetano Aguilar—a man whose life was a masterclass in empathy, learning, and the joy of human connection. May his story inspire each of us to live with purpose, to cherish every encounter, and to leave a legacy of love and knowledge that transcends time. Richard will be greatly missed by

The family wishes to acknowledge and extend our thanks to David Fernandez III and Amanda Morales for their tireless attention as medical advocates for Richard's care during his final months of

Crotty Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Belton is in charge of arrangements.



Mercer **Arthur Joseph Mercer III** June 6, 1947 – October 2, 2025

Born Arthur Joseph Mercer III on June 6, 1947, in Temple, Texas to Arthur J. Mercer Jr. and Ura Louise Hudgens Mercer, Joe died on October 2, 2025, at the age of 78 at his home near Belfalls, Texas after a long, fierce battle with

He graduated from Temple High School in 1965 where he played football and participated in Golden Gloves. After a semester at Blinn College he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in July 1966 to serve in Vietnam until 1968 during the beginning of the Tet Offensive. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Sargent having received a Purple Heart, Presidential Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal. Vietnamese Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and rifle Sharpshooter Badge.

Joe returned to Texas to study at Trinity University, San Antonio and Texas A&M University, College Station where he graduated with a degree in Building Construction in 1974. He married Beth Ussery of Weslaco, Texas in August 1974 after graduation and moved to Houston to work with Brown & Root in their offshore marine division designing offshore drilling platforms.

Before he was transferred to Bahrain, he was offered a position with Ussery Engineering Inc. in Weslaco, Texas to help expand his father-in-law's business in the design and construction of underground drainage and irrigation pipelines on agricultural land in the Rio Grande Valley. Joe and Beth moved to Monte Alto, Texas where they both worked for the family business.

Joe later left Ussery Engineering and started Mercer Apiaries, a commercial beekeeping business producing honey and providing pollination services to local farming operations for the production of cucurbit crops. Mercer Apiaries honey was featured in the Neiman Marcus Christmas catalog. He served as the president of the Rio Grande Valley Beekeepers Association as well as the Texas Beekeepers Association, was a member of the Monte Alto Lions Club, and served on the school board of the Monte Alto ISD.

After the death of Beth's father, Joe returned to the family business, changing the name to Mercer & Ussery Inc. and expanded the operation to include municipal water and sewer construction projects while Beth ran the agricultural construction projects. For a time, he held a private pilot's license and flew a Mooney 252. They bought land, planted pasture, and raised Simbrah cattle naming that operation Filegonia Cattle Company. Both Joe and Beth were active in the Rio Grande Valley Simbrah/ Simmental Association for many years. They raised Louisiana Catahoula Leopard dogs, had a good cutting horse and cow horse as well as burros for halter breaking calves. There were also a few chickens in the mix, as well as stray dogs who wandered in and stayed. At the time of his death, he owned a mule named Matilda because he had always wanted one and figured they would work well together being

In 2008, the decision was made to shut down the business, pack up and move everything to Central Texas near Belfalls close to where most of his

of like mind.

immediate family lived. Joe farmed some of his grandfather's land until 2021 when he retired from farming to keep Beth's cattle equipment running. He learned his mechanic skills from his father and uncle, Gary Hudgens, and was putting them to good use until his death. Joe rebuilt old cars with his brother, Mike, and could repair just about anything. The tanks on his and Beth's land are stocked with bass, catfish, and perch that he introduced. He loved to fish and said that there was nothing more exciting than catching a tarpon on a fly rod before breakfast.

Joe was preceded in

death by his parents.

Survivors include his wife, Beth; his brother, Mike Mercer and wife, Nancy of Temple; cousins, nieces and nephews; and a godson, Frank Barker of Cypress, Texas.

In lieu of flowers, please contribute to the Salvation Army or to someone that needs your

A Celebration of Joe's life will be held at Joe's Shop on Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 10:30 am.

Harper-Talasek Funeral Home in Temple is in charge of arrangements.

> See OBITS. Page A5





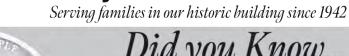
First Presbyterian Church 2500 Church Street Belton, TX 76513 Worship Service at 11am fpcbelton@gmail.com www.fpcbelton.org

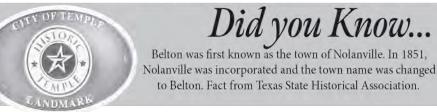
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#### NOTICE OF BOND ELECTION ORDER CALLING ELECTION

ORDER BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BELTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT CALLING A BOND ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN SAID DISTRICT; MAKING PROVISIONS FOR THE CONDUCT AND THE GIVING OF NOTICE OF THE ELECTION; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING THERETO

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Belton Independent School District (the "District") finds and determines that it is necessary and advisable to call and hold an election for and within the District on the propositions hereinafter set forth; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds, determines and declares that the meeting at which this Order is considered is open to the public, and that the public notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting was given, as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF BELTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT:

Findings. The statements contained in the preamble of this Order are true and correct and are hereby adopted as findings of fact and as a part of the operative provisions hereof

Section 2. <u>Election Ordered; Date; Propositions</u>. A bond election (the "Election") shall be held for and within the District on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 ("Election Day"), a uniform election date established by Section 41.001(a), Texas Election Code, as amended (the "Code"), as required by Texas law. At the Election the following propositions (individually a "Proposition" and collectively, the "Propositions") shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the District in accordance with law:

#### BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION A

#### THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Belton Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$92,925,000 for the construction, acquisition, renovation, and equipment of school buildings in the District, which bonds may be issued in various issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without

limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied, pledged, assessed, and collected under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

#### BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION B

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of Belton Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$43,725,000 for the construction, renovation, acquisition, and equipment of improvements to Tiger Field and Bronco Field, which bonds may be issued in various issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied, pledged, assessed, and collected under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

#### BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION C

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Belton Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$6,000,000 for the acquisition or update of District technology equipment, including student, teacher and staff devices, which bonds may be issued in various issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 5 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied, pledged, assessed, and collected under the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

## BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION D

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

Shall the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the Belton Independent School District (the "District") be authorized to issue and sell at any price or prices the bonds of the District in the amount of \$19,185,000 for the construction, acquisition, and equipment of District natatorium facilities, including improvements to existing District natatorium facilities and construction of a practice pool, which bonds may be issued in various issues or series, shall mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and shall bear interest at such rate or rates, not to exceed the maximum rate now or hereafter authorized by law, as shall be determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance: determined by the Board within the discretion of the Board at the time of issuance; and shall the Board be authorized to levy and pledge, and cause to be assessed and collected, annual ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to, or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued and said taxes to be levied, pledged, assessed, and collected under the Constitution and laws of the State of Foxes including the Taxes Education Code. the State of Texas including the Texas Education Code?

Section 3. Official Ballot.

Voting at the Election, and early voting therefor, shall be by the use of the lawfully approved Bell County, Texas ("Bell County" or the "County") voting systems and ballots

(b) The preparation of the necessary equipment and the official ballots for the Election shall conform to the requirements of the Code so as to permit the electors to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" each Proposition which shall be set forth on the ballots substantially in the following

# $\underline{BELTON\ ISD-PROPOSITION\ A}$

FOR THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. "The issuance of \$92,925,000 of bonds for the construction ☐ AGAINST

acquisition, renovation, and equipment of school buildings in the district, and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds."  $\underline{BELTON\,ISD-PROPOSITION\,B}$ ☐ FOR THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE.

"The issuance of \$43,725,000 of bonds for the construction AGAINST renovation, acquisition, and equipment of improvements to Tiger Field and Bronco Field, and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds."

# BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION C

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. FOR

"The issuance of \$6,000,000 of bonds for the acquisition or undate of AGAINST district technology equipment, including student, teacher and staff devices, and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds."

# BELTON ISD - PROPOSITION D

THIS IS A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. FOR

"The issuance of \$19,185,000 of bonds for the constru acquisition, and equipment of district natatorium facilities, including AGAINST ) acquisition, and equipment of district natatorium facilities and construction of a practice pool, and the levying of a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection with the bonds."

Section 4. <u>Multilingual Election Materials</u>. All notices, instructions, and ballots pertaining to the Election shall be furnished to voters in English and Spanish in compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended (the "Voting Rights Act"), and the Code, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual requires

<u>Persons Qualified to Vote</u>. All resident, qualified electors of the District te at the Election.

Section 6. <u>Election Precincts, Voting Locations and Voting Hours on Election Day.</u>
The election precincts for the Election shall consist of the territory within the boundaries of the

District situated within one or more County election precincts located wholly or partially within the District. The precinct numbers for the District's election precincts shall be the same as those assigned by the County to the County election precincts. The polling places for the Election are hereby designated to be those locations identified by the Elections Administrator (as defined herein). Such locations are listed on Exhibit A attached hereto, which is incorporated herein by reference and made a part hereof for all purposes; provided, however, such locations may be changed if so directed by the Elections Administrator without further action of the District. The County or its Elections Administrator are hereby authorized and directed to make such changes in polling locations as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Election, without further action by the District, and the President of the Board or his/her designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit A to reflect the locations designated by the County or its Elections Administrator, which locations are hereby approved. Each polling place shall be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on

Section 7. <u>Elections Administrator; Early Voting Clerk; Early Voting Locations, Dates and Times.</u> (a) Desi Roberts, the Bell County Elections Administrator (the "Elections Administrator") is hereby appointed as the Early Voting Clerk for purposes of this Election (the "Early Voting Clerk") and appointed Elections Administrator for the District and agent for the custodian of voted ballots in the jurisdiction.

The address for the Early Voting Clerk of Bell County is 550 E. 2nd Avenue, Belton, Texas 76513 and the Early Voting Clerk may be reached at the following: (i) Telephone: (254) 933-5774, (ii) Email: <u>elections@bellcounty.texas.gov</u>, and (iii) https://www.bellcountytx.com/departments/elections/index.php.

(c) Applications for early voting by mail shall be submitted to the Elections Administrator by regular mail to Bell County Elections Department, PO Box 1629, Belton, TX 76513, or by common or contract carrier to Bell County Elections Department, 550 E. 2nd Avenue,

#### THE BELTON JOURNAL

The main early voting polling place for Bell County is hereby designated to be the Bell County Belton Courthouse Annex, 550 E. 2nd Avenue, Belton, TX 76513

Early voting by personal appearance for all election precincts shall be held at the locations, at the times and on the days set forth in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein, or at such other locations, times, and days as hereafter may be designated by the County or Elections Administrator as provided in the Election Agreement without further action by the District. The President of the Board or his/her designee is hereby authorized to update Exhibit B to reflect the locations designated by the County or the Elections Administrator, and such locations are hereby approved.

The Elections Administrator and/or Early Voting Clerk are hereby authorized to appoint the members of the early voting ballot board and the presiding judges and alternate judges for each polling location in accordance with the requirements of the Code. Each of the presiding judges shall be authorized to approve the necessary election clerks to assist in conducting the

(g) Voting times may be changed if so directed by the Elections Administrator without further action of the District. The Elections Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to make such changes in voting hours as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the Election.

Section 8. <u>Joint Election</u>. The District has determined that it is in the best interest of the District to participate in a joint election with other governmental entities in the County holding elections on Election Day and contract with the Elections Administrator for election services (the 'Election Agreement").

Section 9. <u>Appointment of Election Officers</u>. The election judges, alternate judges, clerks, members of the early voting ballot board, the central counting station officials, and other personnel necessary for conducting the Election shall be appointed, election judges and alternate judges may be changed, and the central counting station shall be established and staffed all as provided in the Election Agreement and such actions are hereby approved. Further, the Board hereiby authorizes the President of the Board to appoint any such other officials not designated herein or appointed pursuant to the Election Agreement as are necessary and appropriate to conduct the Election in accordance with the Code.

the Election in accordance with the Code.

Section 10. Notice of Election. Notice of the Election shall be given by: (i) publishing a substantial copy of this Order, in English and Spanish one time not earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day nor later than the tenth (10th) day prior to the date set for the Election, in a newspaper published in the District (or that otherwise complies with applicable law), (ii) posting a copy of this Order and the Voter Information Documents (as hereinafter defined), in English and Spanish on the bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the Board and in at least three (3) other public places within the boundaries of the District, not later than the twenty-first (21sh) day prior to the date set for the Election, and (iii) posting a copy of this Order and the Voter Information Documents, in English and Spanish on the District's website, prominently and together with the notice of the Election, the contents of each Proposition and any sample ballot prepared for the Election Day. Additionally, on Election Day and during early voting by personal appearance, this Order and the Voter Information Documents shall be posted in a prominent location at each polling place. Notice of the Election shall also be provided to the County Clerk and voter registrar of the County to later than the sixtieth (60th) day before the Election Day; which notice the County is hereby authorized and directed to post to its website not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the election, in compliance with Section 4.009, Texas Election Code, as amended. The website for the District's internet website not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the election, in compliance with Section 4.009, Texas Election Code, as amended. The website for the District can be found at https://www.bisd.net/Page/1940.

Section 11. <u>Conduct of Election</u>. The Election shall be held in accordance with the Code, except as modified by the Texas Education Code, the Texas Government Code, and the Voting Rights Act, including particularly Chapter 272 of the Code pertaining to bilingual

Section 12. Information Required by Section 3,009 of the Election Code

District's Outstanding Debt. As of the date of this order, the District's aggregate (a) <u>District's Outstanding Debt.</u> As of the date of this order, the District s aggregate principal amount of outstanding of tax-supported debt was \$359,990,000 and the aggregate amount of outstanding interest on such tax-supported debt was \$207,563,700. As of the date of this Order, the District's total ad valorem tax rate is \$1.1494 per \$100 of assessed valuation, which is made up of a maintenance and operations tax rate \$0.7552 per \$100 of assessed valuation and a debt service tax rate of \$0.3942 per \$100 of assessed valuation of taxable property in the District.

Issuance of New Debt. The District intends to issue the bonds authorized by the (b) <u>Issuance of New Debt.</u> The District intends to issue the bonds authorized by the Propositions over a period of years in a manner and in accordance with a schedule to be determined by the Board based upon a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the then current needs of the District, demographic changes, prevailing market conditions, assessed valuations of property in the District he use of variable rate debt and management of the District's short-term and long-term interest rate exposure. Market conditions, demographics and assessed valuations of property vary based upon a number of factors beyond the District's control, and the use of variable rate debt involves periodic adjustments in interest rates that vary based on market conditions and contractual obligations. Therefore, the District cannot and does not guarantee a particular interest rate or tax rate associated with the bonds authorized by the Propositions. As such, the information contained in this paragraph is provided solely for illustrative purposes and does not establish any limitations or restrictions or create a contract with the voters. The District estimates that, based on the District's current traxbale assessed valuation, current market conditions as of the date of this the District's current taxable assessed valuation, current market conditions as of the date of this Order, and estimated future growth in the District's taxable assessed valuation, if all of the Propositions are approved and all of the bonds authorized by the Propositions are issued in accordance with the District's current projected plan of finance, the maximum interest rate on the bonds is not expected to exceed 5.25%.

(c) <u>Additional Information Required by Section 3.009 of the Code</u>. The additional tion required by Section 3.009 of the Code is located in Sections 2 and 3 of this Order.

Section 13. <u>Voter Information Documents</u>. The Board hereby approves the voter information documents (collectively, the "Voter Information Documents"), in substantially the form presented to the Board, with such changes as may be approved by the President of the Board, the Superintendent of the District, or their designee, acting on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the District's general counsel, bond counsel, and financial advisor, as prescribed by Section 1251.052(b), Texas Government Code.

The President of the Board, the Superintendent of the District, or their designee, acting on behalf of the Board, is further authorized and directed to post or provide for the posting of the Voter Information Documents in the manner provided under Section 10 of this Order, and additionally on the District's website in an easily accessible manner beginning not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the date set for the Election and ending on the day after Election Day.

Section 14. <u>Findings and Determinations.</u> The Board finds and determines that the facilities and equipment to be acquired, constructed, renovated or equipped pursuant to Proposition A are predominately for required classroom instruction and essential administrative operations for faculty and staff, stadiums with seating capacity for 1,000 or fewer spectators, gymnasiums, playgrounds or play areas, school buses, equipment used for school security purposes, and/or technology infrastructure integral to the construction of a facility.

Section 15. Necessary Actions. The President of the Board or the Superintendent or such person's designee, acting on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the District's attorney and bond counsel is hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code and the Voting Rights Act in carrying out and conducting the Election, whether or not expressly authorized herein, including making changes or additions to polling places or procedures to the extent required or desirable as determined by the Elections Administrator or as may become necessary due to circumstances arising after the date of this Order and modifying the provisions of this Order to facilitate compliance with changes in law made during the 89th Texas Legislative Session and any special sessions thereof or administrative interpretations of such laws.

Section 16. Severability. If any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Order, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, invalid, or unenforceable, neither the remaining portions of this Order nor their application to other persons or sets of circumstances shall be affected thereby, it being the intent of the Board in adopting this Order that no portion hereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality, voidness, invalidity or unenforceability of any other portion hereof, and all provisions of this Order are declared to be severable for that purpose.

Section 17. Effective Date. This Order shall take effect immediately upon its approval. PASSED AND APPROVED this August 14, 2025.

# EXHIBIT A/ ANEXO A

# ELECTION DAY SCHEDULE/ CRONOGRAMA DEL DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 — Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Martes, 4 de noviembre de 2025 - Los lugares de votación estarán abiertos de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.n

# ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS\* LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN PARA EL DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN\*

Bell County utilizes countywide vote centers. District voters may vote at any of the following locations on Election Day:
El Condado de Bell usa centros de votación de todo el condado. Los votantes del Distrito pueden ar en cualquiera de los siguientes lugares el Día de la Elección:

Site#/ N.º de sitio	Polling Site/ Sitio de votación	Address/ Dirección	City/ Ciudad	State/ Estado	Zip Code Código postal
1	Belton Nazarene Church	1701 Sparta Road	Belton	TX	76513
2	North Belton Annex	1605 N. Main Street	Belton	TX	76513
3	Belton Senior Center	842 S. Mitchell Street	Belton	TX	76513
4	Morgan's Point Event Center (EV)	60 Morgan's Point Blvd	Morgan's Point Resort	TX	76513
5	Little River's Freedom Road Fellowship	1406 W. Church Street	Little River Academy	TX	76554
6	Liberty Christian Center	4107 Westcliff Road	Killeen	TX	76543
7	Bartlett City Hall	140 W. Clark Street	Bartlett	TX	76511
8	First Baptist Church Holland	506 Dixie Drive	Holland	TX	76534
9	Christian House of Prayer	3300 E. Stan Schlueter Loop	Killeen	TX	76542
10	Nolanville City Hall	101 N. 5th Street	Nolanville	TX	76559
11	Belton Annex (EV)	550 E. 2nd Avenue	Belton	TX	76513
12	VFW Post 3892	201 VFW Drive	Harker Heights	TX	76548
13	Harker Heights Parks & Recreation Center (EV)	307 Millers Crossing	Harker Heights	TX	76548
14	Salado Annex (EV) (New Site)	11057 Event Drive	Salado	TX	76571
15	Lakeview Baptist Church	7717 HWY 317	Belton	TX	76513
16	Jackson Professional Learning Center (EV)	902 Rev R A Ambercrombie Drive	Killeen	TX	76543
17	Killeen Senior Center @ Lions Club Park (EV)	1700 E. Stan Schleuter Loop	Killeen	TX	76542
18	Charis Church	1401 E. Elms Road	Killeen	TX	76542
19	St. Paul Chong Hasang Catholic Church	1000 E. FM 2410	Harker Heights	TX	76548
20	First Baptist Church of Trimmier	6405 Chaparral Road	Killeen	TX	76542
21	Troy Community Center	201 E. Main Street	Troy	TX	76579
22	VFW Post 1820	3302 Airport Road	Temple	TX	76504
23	Northside Church of Christ	3401 N. 3rd Street	Temple	TX	76501
24	House of Hope Outreach	5625 E. US Hwy 190	Temple	TX	76501
25	Cross Church on Birdcreek	2202 Birdcreek Drive	Temple	TX	76502
26	Immanuel Baptist Church	1401 W. Central Avenue	Temple	TX	76504
27	Temple ISD Admin Building (EV)	401 Santa Fe Way	Temple	TX	76501
28	Temple College	130 E Marvin R Felder Drive	Temple	TX	76501
29	Meredith-Dunbar Early Childhood Academy (New Site)	1717 E. Avenue J	Temple	TX	76504
30	St. Joseph Catholic Church Fellowship Hall	20220 FM 485	Burlington	TX	76519
Site#/ N.∘ de sitio	Polling Site/ Sitio de votación	Address/ Dirección	City/ Ciudad	State/ Estado	Zip Cod Código postal
31	First Baptist Church of Moffat	13929 Moffat Road	Temple	TX	76502
32	St. Matthews Catholic Church (New Site)	14051 E US Highway 190	Rogers	TX	76569
33	First Church of the Nazarene	5000 S 31st Street	Temple	TX	76502
34	Boys Ranch	3275 Boys Ranch Road	Kempner	TX	76539
35	Triple 7 Fire Station	258 Triple 7 Trail	Killeen	TX	76542
36	True Deliverance Ministries (EV) (New Site)	709 W. Dean Ave	Killeen	TX	76541
37	Robert M. Shoemaker High School	3302 Clear Creek Road	Killeen	TX	76549
38	Skyline Baptist Church	906 Trimmier Road	Killeen	TX	76541
39	Westside Baptist Church	711 Stagecoach Road	Killeen	TX	76542
40	Killeen Utilities Department	210 W. Avenue C	Killeen	TX	76541
41	The Journey Church	5300 Bunny Trail	Killeen	TX	76549
		1517 Barbara Lane	Killeen	TX	76549

\* Subject to change. To verify, please go to the Bell County Elections Administrator website, \* Sujeto a cambios. Para confirmar, vaya al sitio web del Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Bell,

# EXHIBIT B/ ANEXO B

BELL COUNTY EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER 4, 2025 GENERAL CRONOGRAMA DE VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA DEL CONDADO DE BELL - 4 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2025, ELECCIÓN GENERAL\*

Early voting will be conducted Monday, October 20, 2025 through Friday, October 31, 2025 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. La votación anticipada será del lunes, 20 de octubre de 2025 al viernes, 31 de octubre de 2025, de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m.

# EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS/ LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN ANTICIPADA

- Belton Bell County Courthouse Annex, 550 East 2nd Ave, Belton, TX 76513\*\* Harker Heights – Parks & Recreation Center, 307 Millers Crossing, Harker Heights, TX 76548
- Killeen Jackson Professional Learning Center, 902 Rev. R. A. Abercrombie Dr., Killeen, TX
- Killeen Killeen Senior Center @ Lions Club Park, 1700 E. Stan Schleuter Loop, Killeen, TX
- Killeen True Deliverance Ministries, 709 W. Dean Ave, Killeen, TX 76541
- Morgan's Point Event Center 60 Morgan's Point Blvd, Morgan's Point Resort, TX 76513 Salado - Salado Annex, 11057 Event Drive, Salado, TX 76571
- Temple Temple ISD Administration Building, 401 Santa Fe Way, Temple TX 76501
- Subject to change. To verify, please go to the Bell County Elections Administrator website,
- \* Sujeto a cambios. Para confirmar, vaya al sitio web del Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Bell, https://www.bellcountytx.com/departments/elections/index.php. \*\* Lugar de votación principal.

#### AVISO DE ELECCIÓN PARA LA EMISIÓN DE BONOS

#### ORDEN DE CONVOCATORIA A UNA ELECCIÓN

ORDEN EMITIDA POR EL CONSEJO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DEL DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE DE BELTON QUE CONVOCA A UNA ELECCIÓN PARA LA EMISIÓN DE BONOS QUE SE CELEBRARÁ EN DICHO DISTRITO, DISPONE LA REALIZACIÓN Y EL AVISO DE LA ELECCIÓN, Y CONTIENE OTRAS DISPOSICIONES AL RESPECTO

POR CUANTO, el Consejo de Administración (el "Consejo") del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Belton (el "Distrito") considera necesario y aconsejable convocar y celebrar una elección para y en el Distrito para someter a decisión las propuestas aquí expuestas, y

POR CUANTO, el Consejo declara que la asamblea en la que se decide esta Orden está abierta al público y que se dio aviso público de la hora, el lugar y el objetivo de la asamblea, conforme lo exige el Capítulo 551 del Código de Gobierno de Texas, en su versión modificada.

AHORA, POR LO TANTO, EL CONSEJO DE ADMINISTRACIÓN DEL DISTRITO ESCOLAR INDEPENDIENTE DE BELTON ORDENA LO SIGUIENTE:

Sección 1. <u>Determinaciones</u>. Las declaraciones contenidas en el preámbulo de esta Orden son fieles y exactas, y se incorporan al presente documento como determinaciones de hechos y como parte de las disposiciones operativas del mismo.

Sección 2. <u>Elección ordenada: Fecha de la elección: Propuestas</u>. Se celebrará una elección para la emisión de bonos (la "Elección") para y en el Distrito el día martes 4 de noviembre de 2025 ("Día de la Elección"), fecha de elección uniforme establecida según lo dispuesto en la Sección 41.001(a) del Código Electoral de Texas, en su versión modificada (el "Código"), según lo exigen las leyes de Texas. En la Elección, se someterán las siguientes propuestas (individualmente, la "Propuesta"), y, en conjunto, las "Propuestas") a los votantes habilitados del Distrito de oscificarios de consecuencia de según de la seguina de la se Distrito de conformidad con la lev

#### DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA A

SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

¿Se deberá autorizar al Consejo de Administración ("el Consejo") del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Belton (el "Distrito") a emitir y vender a cualquier precio o precios los bonos del Distrito por el importe de \$92,925,000 para la construcción, la adquisición, la renovación y el equipamiento de edificios escolares en el Distrito, cuyos bonos podrán emitirse en diversas emisiones o series, con vencimiento en serie o de otra manera en un plazo que no exceda los 40 años a partir de su fecha, serie o de otra manera en un plazo que no exceda los 40 años a partir de su fecha, y devengar intereses a una tasa o tasas, que no exceda los a excedan la tasa máxima vigente establecida por la ley actual o futura, según lo determine el Consejo al momento de la emisión; y se deberá autorizar al Consejo a aplicar y gravar, y a ordenar la evaluación y el cobro de impuestos anuales ad valorem sobre todo immueble imponible en el distrito, suficientes, sin límites en cuanto a tasa o cantidad, para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado o autorizado en anticipación de dichos bonos, o en relación o en conexión con ellos; dichos bonos que serán emitidos y dichos impuestos que serán gravados comprometidos calculados y cobrados: dichos impuestos que serán gravados, comprometidos, calculados y cobrados conforme a la Constitución y las leyes del Estado de Texas, incluido el Código de Educación de Texas?

#### DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA B

#### SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

¿Se deberá autorizar al Consejo de Administración ("el Consejo") del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Belton (el "Distrito") a emitir y vender a cualquier precio o precios los bonos del Distrito por el importe de \$43,725,000 para la construcción, o precios los bonos del Distrito por el importe de \$43,725,000 para la construcción, la renovación, la adquisición y el equipamiento de mejoras a Tiger Field y Bronco Field, cuyos bonos podrán emitirse en diversas emisiones o series, con vencimiento en serie o de otra manera en un plazo que no exceda los 40 años a partir de su fecha, y devengar intereses a una tasa o tasas, que no exceda los apratir de su fecha, y devengar intereses a una tasa o tasas, que no exceda o excedan la tasa máxima vigente establecida por la ley actual o fittura, según lo determine el Consejo al momento de la emisión; y se deberá autorizar al Consejo a aplicar y gravar, y a ordenar la evaluación y el cobro de impuestos anuales ad valorem sobre todo immueble imponible en el distrito, suficientes, sin limites en cuanto a tasa o establed de actual de la contra de la immico imponible en el distrito, sufficientes, sin limites en cuanto a tasa o cantidad, para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado o autorizado en anticipación de dichos bonos, o en relación o en conexión con ellos; dichos bonos que serán emitidos y dichos impuestos que serán gravados, comprometidos, calculados y cobrados conforme a la Constitución y las leyes del Estado de Texas, incluido el Código de Educación de Texas?

#### DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA C

SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

¿Se deberá autorizar al Consejo de Administración ("el Consejo") del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Belton (el "Distrito") a emitir y vender a cualquier precio o precios los bonos del Distrito por el importe de \$6,000,000 para la adquisición o la actualización de los equipos tecnológicos del Distrito, que incluyen dispositivos para estudiantes, maestros y el personal, cuyos bonos podrán emitirse en diversas emisiones o series, con vencimiento en serie o de otra manera en un plazo que no exceda los 5 años a partir de su fecha, y devengar intereses a una tasa o tasas, que no exceda o excedan la tasa máxima vigente establecida por la ley actual o futura, según lo determine el Consejo al momento de la emisión; y se deberá autorizar al Consejo a aplicar y gravar, y a ordenar la evaluación y el cobro de impuestos anuales *ad valorem* sobre todo inmueble imponible en el distrito, suficientes, sin limites en cuanto a tasa o cantidad, para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado o autorizado en anticipación de dichos bonos, o en relación o en conexión con ellos; dichos bonos que serán emitidos y dichos impuestos que serán gravados, comprometidos, calculados y cobrados conforme a la Constitución y las leyes del Estado de Texas, incluido el Código de Educación de Texas?

#### DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA D

SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

¿Se deberá autorizar al Consejo de Administración ("el Consejo") del Distrito Escolar Independiente de Belton (el "Distrito") a emitir y vender a cualquier precio o precios los bonos del Distrito por el importe de \$19,185,000 para la construcción, la adquisición y el equipamiento de instalaciones de natación del Distrito, que incluyen mejoras a las instalaciones de natación existentes en el Distrito y la construcción de una piscina de práctica, cuyos bonos podrán emitirse en diversas emisiones o series, con vencimiento en serie o de otra manera en un plazo que no exceda los 40 años a partir de su fecha, y devengar intereses a una tasa o tasas, que no exceda o excedan la tasa máxima vigente establecida por la ley actual o futura, según lo determine el Consejo al momento de la emisión; y se deberá autorizar al Consejo aplicar y gravar, y a ordenar la evaluación y el cobro de impuestos anuales ad valorem sobre todo impueble imponible en el distrito, suficientes, sin límites en cuanto a tasa o cantidad, para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado o autorizado en anticipación de dichos bonos, o en relación o en conexión con ellos; dichos bonos que serán emitidos y dichos impuestos que serán gravados, comprometidos, calculados y cobrados conforme a la Constitución y las leyes del Estado de Texas, incluido el Código de Educación de Texas?

# Sección 3. Boleta oficial de votación.

La votación en el Día de la Elección, y la votación anticipada para esta, se llevará a cabo mediante el uso de sistemas de votación y boletas de votación legalmente aprobados del Condado de Bell, Texas ("Condado de Bell" o el "Condado").

La preparación de los equipos necesarios y las boletas oficiales de votación para la Elección deberá hacerse de conformidad con los requisitos del Código, de modo que permitan a los votantes votar "A FAVOR" o "EN CONTRA" de cada Propuesta que se presentará en las boletas de votación sustancialmente de la siguiente forma:

## DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA A

☐ A FAVOR ) SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

☐ EN CONTRA )

☐ A FAVOR

"La emisión de \$92,925,000 en bonos para la construcción, la adquisición, la renovación y el equipamiento de edificios escolares en el Distrito, y la aplicación de un impuesto suficiente para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado en conexión con dichos bonos."

# DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA B

) SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES.

EN CONTRA ) "La emisión de \$43,725,000 en bonos para la construcción, la renovación, la adquisición y equipamiento de mejoras a Tiger Field y Bronco Field, y la aplicación de un impuesto suficiente para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado en conexión con dichos bonos"

# DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA C

 $\hfill \square$  A FAVOR ) SE TRATA DE UN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE LOS INMUEBLES

■ EN CONTRA ) "La emisión de \$6,000,000 en bonos para la adquisición o actualización de equipos tecnológicos del distrito, que incluye dispositivos para estudiantes, maestros y el personal, y la aplicación de un impuesto suficiente para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado en conexión con dichos benes."

# DEI DE BELTON: PROPUESTA D

INMUEBLES.

"La emisión de \$19,185,000 en bonos para la construcción, la EN CONT ) adquisición y equipamiento de instalaciones de natación del Distrito, RA que incluyen mejoras a las instalaciones de natación existentes en el Distrito y la construcción de una piscina de práctica, y la aplicación de un impuesto suficiente para pagar el capital y los intereses de dichos bonos y los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito formalizado en

Sección 4. <u>Materiales de votación multilingües</u>. Todos los avisos, instrucciones y boletas de votación relacionados con la Elección se proporcionarán a los votantes en inglés y español de conformidad con la Ley Federal de Derecho al Voto de 1965, en su versión modificada (la "Ley de Derecho al Voto"), y el Código, incluido especialmente el Capítulo 272 del Código relacionado con los requisitos bilingües.

conexión con dichos bonos."

Sección 5. Personas habilitadas para votar. Todos los votantes habilitados residentes del Distrito serán elegibles para votar en la Elección.

Sección 6. <u>Circunscripciones electorales, lugares de votación y horario de votación del</u> Día de la Elección. Las circunscripciones electorales para la Elección consistirán en el territorio dentro de los límites del Distrito situado dentro de una o más circunscripciones electorales del Condado, ubicadas total o parcialmente dentro de los límites del Distrito. Los números de circunscripción de las circunscripciones electorales del Distrito deberán ser los mismos que aquellos asignados por el Condado a las circunscripciones electorales del Condado. Los lugares de votación para la Elección se designan por medio del presente documento como aquellas ubicaciones identificadas por el Administrador de Elecciones (como se define en este documento). Dichos lugares se indican en el Anexo A adjunto al presente, el cual se incorpora por referencia y forma parte de este documento para todos los fines; sin embargo, se dispone que dichos lugares podrán cambiar, si así lo ordenare el Administrador de Elecciones, sin necesidad de acción adicional por parte del Distrito. Por medio del presente documento, se autoriza y se ordena al Condado o a su Administrador de Elecciones a realizar los cambios necesarios en los lugares de votación para llevar a cabo la Elección de manera adecuada, sin más acciones por parte del Distrito, y, por medio del presente documento, se autoriza al Presidente del Consejo de Administración, o a la persona que él designe, a actualizar el Anexo A para que indique los lugares designados por el Condado o su Administrador de Elecciones, cuyas ubicaciones se aprueban por medio del presente documento. Cada lugar de votación deberá estar abierto desde las 7:00 a. m. hasta las 7:00 p. m. el Día de la Elección.

Sección 7. Administrador de Elecciones; Secretario de la Votación Anticipada; Lugares, fechas y horarios de la votación anticipada. (a) Se nombra a Desi Roberts,

# **Bond** - From Page A4

Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Bell (el "Administrador de Elecciones"), Secretario de la Votación Anticipada para los propósitos de esta Elección (el "Secretario de la votación anticipada"), y Administrador de Elecciones para el Distrito y agente del custodio de las boletas de votación votadas en la jurisdicción.

(b) La dirección del Secretario de la votación anticipada del Condado de Bell es 550 E.

d Avenue, Belton, Texas 76513, y se puede contactar con el Secretario de la votación anticipada través de los siguientes medios: i) teléfono: (254) 933-5774, ii) correo electrónico: elections@bellcounty.texas.gov

(c) Las solicitudes de votación anticipada por correo postal deben enviarse al Administrador de Elecciones por correo regular al Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Bell (Bell County Elections Department, PO Box 1629, Belton, TX 76513), o por transportista común o contratado al Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Bell (Bell County Elections Department, 550 E. 2nd Avenue, Belton, TX 76513).

(d) Por medio del presente documento, se designa a Bell County Belton Courthouse Annex, 550 E. 2nd Avenue, Belton, TX 76513 el lugar principal de votación anticipada para el Condado de Bell.

(e) La votación anticipada en persona para todas las circunscripciones electorales se llevará a cabo en los lugares, horarios y días establecidos en el <u>Anexo B</u>, que se adjunta y se incorpora al presente documento, o en otros lugares, horarios y días que el Condado o el Administrador de Elecciones designe más adelante, según lo dispuesto en el Contrato de Servicios Electorales, sin más acciones por parte del Distrito. Se autoriza al Presidente del Consejo, o a la persona que él designe, a actualizar el <u>Anexo B</u> para que indique los lugares designados por el Condado o por el Administrador de Elecciones, y dichos lugares se aprueban por medio del presente documento.

(f) Se autoriza al Administrador de Elecciones y/o al Secretario de la votación anticipada a nombrar a los miembros del consejo de boletas de votación anticipada, a los jueces presidentes y a los jueces suplentes para cada lugar de votación de acuerdo con los requisitos del Código. Los jueces presidentes estarán autorizados a aprobar a los secretarios electorales necesarios para ayudar a llevar a cabo las Elecciones.

(g) Se podrán cambiar los horarios de votación si así lo ordenare el Administrador de Elecciones sin más acciones por parte del Distrito. Por medio del presente documento, se autoriza y se ordena al Administrador de Elecciones a efectuar los cambios en los horarios de votación que sean necesarios para la llevar a cabo la Elección de manera adecuada.

Sección 8. <u>Elección conjunta</u>. El Distrito ha determinado que lo más conveniente para el Distrito es participar en una elección conjunta con otras entidades gubernamentales del Condado que estén celebrando elecciones en el Día de la Elección, y celebrar un contrato de servicios electorales con el Administrador de Elecciones (el "Contrato de Servicios Electorales").

los funcionarios de la estación central de conteo y demás personal necesario para llevar a cabo la Elección; se podrán cambiar los jueces electorales y los jueces suplentes, y se establecerá la estación central de conteo y se dotará de personal, según lo dispuesto en el Contrato de Servicios Electorales, y dichas acciones quedan aprobadas por medio del presente documento. Además, el Consejo autoriza al Presidente del Consejo a designar a otros funcionarios no designados en el presente documento o nombrados de conformidad con el Contrato de Servicios Electorales, según sea necesario y adecuado para llevar a cabo la Elección de conformidad con el Código.

Sección 10. Aviso de la Elección. El Aviso de la Elección se conformidad con el Codigo.

Sección 110. Aviso de la Elección. El Aviso de la Elección se hará por medio de la siguientes modalidades: i) publicación de una copia sustancial de esta Orden, en inglés y español, una sola vez dentro de un plazo no anterior al trigésimo (30.º) día ni posterior al décimo (10.º) día antes de la fecha estipulada para la Elección, en un periódico publicado en el Distrito (o que, de lo contrario, cumpla con la ley aplicable); ii) publicación de una copia de esta Orden y de los Documentos de Información para el Votante (según se definen más adelante), en inglés y español, en el tablero de anuncios utilizado para publicar avisos de asambleas del Consejo, y publicación en al menos tres (3) lugares públicos adicionales dentro de los límites del Distrito, a más tardar el vigésimo primer (21.º°) día previo a la fecha estipulada para la Elección; y iii) publicación de una copia de esta Orden y de los Documentos de Información para el Votante, en inglés y español, en el sitio web del Distrito, de forma destacada y junto con el Aviso de la Elección, el contenido de cada Propuesta y cualquier ejemplo de boleta de votación preparada para la elección, a más tardar el vigésimo primer (21.º°) día antes de la fecha estipulada para la Elección y hasta el final del Dia de la Elección. Además, en el Día de la Elección vigón anticipada en persona, esta de la Elección. Además, en el Día de la Elección y durante la votación anticipada en persona, esta de la Elección. Además, en el Día de la Elección y durante la votación anticipada en persona, esta Orden y los Documentos de Información para el Votante deberán estar publicados en una ubicación destacada en cada lugar de votación. También se proporcionará un Aviso de la Elección al Secretario del Condado y al registrador de votantes del Condado a más tardar el sexagésimo (60.º) día antes del Día de la Elección, por medio del presente documento, se autoriza y se ordena al Condado a publicar el aviso en su sitio web a más tardar el vigésimo primer (21.ºº) día antes de la fecha estipulada para la Elección. El Aviso de Elección deberá publicarse en el sitio web del Distrito a más tardar el vigésimo primer (21.ºº) día antes de la Elección, de conformidad con la Sección 4.009 del Código Electoral de Texas, en su versión modificada Puede encontrar el sitio web del Distrito en https://www.bisd.net/Papex/1940 modificada. Puede encontrar el sitio web del Distrito en https://www.bisd.net/Page/1940.

Sección 11. <u>Celebración de la Elección</u>. La Elección deberá llevarse a cabo de conformidad con el Código, salvo según las modificaciones estipuladas por el Código de Educación de Texas, el Código de Gobierno de Texas y la Ley de Derecho al Voto, incluido, en particular, el Capítulo 272 del Código relacionado con los requisitos bilingües.

Sección 12. Información requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código Electoral

(a) Deuda pendiente del Distrito. A la fecha de la presente orden, el importe total del capital pendiente de pago de la deuda respaldada por impuestos del Distrito era de \$359,990,000, y el importe total de intereses pendientes sobre dicha deuda respaldada por impuestos era de \$207,563,700. A la fecha de la presente Orden, la tasa de impuestos ad valorem del distrito es de \$1.1494 por cada \$100 de tasación oficial, que se compone de una tasa de impuesto de mantenimiento y operaciones de \$0.7552 por cada \$100 de tasación oficial y una tasa de impuesto al servicio de la deuda de \$0.3942 por cada \$100 de tasación oficial de inmuebles imponibles en el Distrito.

Emisión de deuda nueva. El Distrito tiene la intención de emitir los bonos autorizados por las Propuestas a lo largo de un periodo de varios años de cierta forma y de conformidad con un cronograma que será determinado por el Consejo en función de varios factores, incluidos, entre otros, las necesidades actuales del Distrito, los cambios demográficos, las condiciones predominantes del mercado, las tasaciones oficiales de inmuebles en el Distrito, el las condiciones predominantes del mercado, las tasaciones oficiales de immuebles en el Distrito, el uso de la deuda a tipo de interés variable y la gestión de la exposición del Distrito a las tasaciones oficiales de interés a corto y largo plazo. Las condiciones del mercado, la demografía y las tasaciones oficiales de los immuebles varian según una serie de factores más allá del control del Distrito, y el uso de la deuda a tipo de interés variable conlleva ajustes periódicos en las tasas de interés que varian según las condiciones del mercado y las obligaciones contractuales. Por lo tanto, el Distrito no puede garantizar y no garantiza una tasa de interés o tasa impositiva particular asociada a los bonos exterisados por las Descripcios. garantzar y no garantza una tasa de interes o tasa impostrua particular asociada a los bonos autorizados por las Propuestas. Conforme a lo precedente, la información contenida en este párrafo se proporciona únicamente con fines ilustrativos y no establece ninguna limitación o restricción ni crea ningún contrato con los votantes. El Distrito estima que, con base en la actual tasación oficial imponible del Distrito, las condiciones actuales del mercado, a partir de la fecha de esta Orden, y el crecimiento futuro estimado de la tasación oficial imponible del Distrito, si todas las Propuestas se aprueban y todos los bonos autorizados por las Propuestas se emiten de acuerdo con el actual plan de financiamiento del proyecto del Distrito, se espera que la máxima tasa de interés de los bonos no exceda el 5.25 %.

(e) <u>Información adicional requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código</u>. La información adicional requerida por la Sección 3.009 del Código se encuentra en las Secciones 2 y 3 de esta

Sección 13. <u>Documentos de Información para el Votante.</u> Por medio del presente documento, el Consejo aprueba los documentos de información para el votante (en conjunto, los "Documentos de Información para el Votante"), sustancialmente en la forma presentada ante el Consejo con los cambios que sean aprobados por el Presidente del Consejo, el Superintendente del Distrito, o las personas que ellos designen, quienes actúan en nombre del Consejo, en consulta con el abogado del Distrito, el asesor en materia de bonos y el asesor financiero, según lo establecido en la Sección 1251.052(b) del Código de Gobierno de Texas.

Se autoriza y se ordena al Presidente del Consejo, al Superintendente del Distrito, o a las personas que ellos designen, quienes actúan en nombre del Consejo, a publicar los Documentos de Información para el Votante, o a encargarse de su publicación, de la manera dispuesta en la Sección 10 de esta Orden, y, además, en el sitio web del Distrito de una manera fácilmente izando a más tardar el vigésimo primer (21. er) día antes de la fecha estipulada para la Elección, y finalizando el día después del Día de la Elección

Sección 14. <u>Conclusiones y determinaciones.</u> El Consejo concluye y determina que las instalaciones y los equipos que serán adquiridos, construidos, renovados o equipados de conformidad con la Propuesta A son principalmente para la instrucción en el aula requerida y las operaciones administrativas esenciales para el profesorado y el personal, los estadios con aforo para 1,000 espectadores o menos, las canchas y los gimnasios, los patios o las zonas de juego, los autobuses escolares, los equipos utilizados para fines de seguridad escolar y/o la infraestructura tecnológica integral para la construcción de una instalación.

Sección 15. Acciones necesarias. Por medio del presente documento, se autoriza y se ordena al Presidente del Consejo o al Superintendente o a la persona designada por dicha persona, que actúe en nombre del Consejo, en consulta con el Fiscal del Distrito y el asesor en materia de bonos, a realizar todas las acciones que sean necesarias para cumplir con las disposiciones de Código y de la Ley de Derecho al Voto para llevar a cabo la Elección, se encuentren o no autorizadas expresamente en el presente documento, lo que incluye realizar cambios o adiciones a los lugares o procedimientos de votación con el alcance requerido o deseable, según lo determine el Administrador de Elecciones o según pueda ser necesario debido a las circunstancias que surjar después de la fecha de esta Orden, y modificar las disposiciones de esta Orden para facilitar el cumplimiento de los cambios a la ley efectuados durante la 89.ª Sesión Legislativa de Texas y cualesquiera sesiones especiales de la misma o interpretaciones administrativas de dichas leyes.

Sección 16. <u>Divisibilidad</u>. Si alguna disposición, sección, subsección, oración, cláusula o frase de esta Orden, o su aplicación a cualquier persona o conjunto de circunstancias, por cualquier motivo, fuera declarada inconstitucional, nula, inválida o inaplicable, ni las partes cualquier motivo, fuera declarada inconstitucional, nula, inválida o inaplicable, ni las partes restantes de esta Orden ni su aplicación a otras personas o conjunto de circunstancias deberán verse afectadas por tal medida, ya que es la intención del Consejo, al adoptar esta Orden, que ninguna de sus partes, disposiciones o reglamentaciones se vuelvan inoperantes o pierdan vigor con motivo de cualquier inconstitucionalidad, nulada, invalidez o inaplicabilidad de cualquiera de sus partes, y se declara que todas las disposiciones de esta Orden son divisibles para dicho propósito.

Sección 17. Fecha de entrada en vigencia. Esta Orden entrará en vigencia

AUTORIZADA Y APROBADA a los 14 días del mes de agosto de 2025.

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# BISD students tour plants on Manufacturing Day

The Belton Journal

The Belton Economic Development Corporation joined forces with the National Manufacturing Institute last week to highlight innovative technologies and processes for younger generations.

"This marks the sixth year that Belton ISD high school students will tour local companies to learn about modern manufacturing practices, required skills, and career pathways," said Cynthia Hernandez, president of Belton EDC.

This year, Belton EDC collaborated with several partners for Manufacturing Day festivities, including the City of Belton, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Belton ISD, Temple College, Belltec Industries, CGI, ECS Environmental Solutions, RK Bass Electric, Stratasys Direct Manufacturing, and TRU Homes.

"Manufacturing Day gives us an opportunity to highlight our local industries and their impact on our community," said Warren Ketteman, BEDC's director of industry development. "Belton ISD students toured some of our industries and saw first-hand the opportunities they offer. Without our partners, this special day would not be possible."

The Manufacturing Day student lunch was spon-

sored by the BEDC and featured a panel discussion titled "Technology in Manufacturing: Its Impact Today & in the Future." After the panel, students visited interactive engineering and technology stations hosted by ECS, Workforce, and Temple College.

As part of the MFG Day festivities every year, the Belton City Council proclaimed the first Friday of October as Manufacturing Day in Belton.

At last week's Council meeting, Mayor David Leigh presented the proclamation and said National Manufacturing is an initiative to celebrate modern manufacturing and to inspire the next generation of

According to this proclamation, "manufacturing fuels innovation, generates employment and strengthens the US economy and communities such as Belton."

"It is essential to showcase advanced manufacturing processes, automation, skilled careers and STEM education to students, educators, parents and civic leaders in Belton," Leigh said while reading the proc-

To further celebrate and recognize local manufacturers, the BEDC placed ads showcasing these companies, organized a social media campaign, and scheduled snow cone truck visits to the plants to show

# Rescue Magazine to host 10th annual Pet Extravaganza

By Michelle Rodriguez The Belton Journal

The tenth annual Pet Extravaganza hosted by Rescue Magazine will be held at the Cadence Bank Center on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The Pet Extravaganza is the largest pet adoption event in Central Texas. It is also a large trick-ortreat event. It's family-friendly and lots of fun," said the President of Rescue Magazine, Ron Ducharme.

Tickets for adults cost \$10 with an early bird discounted cost of \$8. Tickets for children cost \$5 with an early bird discounted cost of \$4. There are V. I. P. ticket options for \$20 that offers front of the line admission, a swag bag (while supplies last), and a special photo op with special guest Captain Dan Sparrow. There is free admission for first responders, military, and pets. Dogs must be on non-retractable leashes and have their rabies certificate. Tickets can be purchased on the Rescue Magazine website. Donations are also accepted there.

"The Bell County Animal Shelter will be there to focus on adopt-

ing animals. There will also be funfilled attractions, trick-or-treating with lots of candy, pony rides, lots of vendors, micro-chipping, trainers, pet care, home improvement, and Captain Dan Sparrow from the U.K.," said Ducharme.

There will be a haunted hotel built onsite, over 80 vendors will be passing out candy for trick or treating, and there will be a costume contest for kids, adults, and pets. There will be a fun zone with bounce houses and games, a petting zoo, and an eight-foot Bumble Bee.

Volunteers will help with set up, tear down, customer service, games, raffle tickets, and clean up. They will be provided with free tickets to the event, lunch, and refreshments.

There are opportunities for vendors and sponsorships. Nonfor-profit organizations like rescues, shelters, and other agencies have opportunities for free spots. Some sponsors include Pet Angels Cremation Grand Avenue Theatres, The Belton Journal, Hampton Inn and Suites, Realty Executives, First Convenience Bank, ACH Pest, Walmart, Sam's Club, Bubba's 33, Tractor Supply Co., HEB, Petco, Domino's, Belton Veterinary Clinic, and more.

Rescue Magazine is a free digital magazine that is published every month. They are also a local animal welfare organization that supports local animal shelters and rescues with food drives and adoption events. They donate over 150,000 pounds of food and pet supplies every year. Most recently, Journey Home Rescue thanked Rescue Magazine for their donation of pet food received last week.

Ducharme also hosts KTEM's News Radio 14 animal hour every Sunday from 11 a.m. to noon, a radio show where animals have a voice. The show features interviews and segments about animal welfare, adoption, and care.

He is also a non-compensated consultant for Bell County Animal Shelter. He is helping with increasing the number of animal adoptions, volunteers, and bringing awareness to the shelter.

More information can be found on the website at https://www.rescuemagazine.org/ or Rescue Magazine's Facebook page.

# **Obits** - From Page A3

# Babcock Sr.

Robert "Bob" Dan Babcock Sr. October 14, 1935 -October 4, 2025

Robert "Bob" Dan Babcock Sr. CSM USA (ret.) of Belton, Texas passed away at his home on October

Funeral service will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday October 9th, 2025, at Dossman Funeral Home, Burial with Full Military Honors to follow at North Belton Cemetery.

Visitation was held from 5 p.m. till 7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 8th, 2025, at Dossman Funeral Home.

Bob was born October 14th, 1935, in Lansing, Michigan to Grant L. and Stella M. Babcock.

Bob attended Grand Ledge High School, where he lettered in football, baseball, track, and was Team Captain for a State Champion Baseball team. He was also selected to a Michigan State American Legion Team in which he played at Briggs Stadium in Detroit, Michigan, Cleveland Stadium and Yankee Stadium.

Bob joined the Army and went to Korea in 1952 and was part of the 16th Recon Company, 7th Cavalry Regiment (Gary Owen) 1st Cavalry

Division. He was discharged in 1956 and then went to Michigan State College and decided to re-enter the Army in 1959. His military schools included: IPM (Interrogation of Prisoner of War), Infantry Ranger School (at Fort Benning, GA, and Noncommissioned Officer Academy (at Fort Hood, TX). He completed two tours to Korea, three combat tours to Vietnam, and several overseas tour to places such as Germany and HQ's Land I Southeast Imir Turkey. He also served as the Infantry School CSM and CSM of all US Forces in the Middle East. His military awards include two Meritorious Service Awards, a Joint Service Commendation, and numerous others.

While in Vietnam, he met his wife of 53 years Thach To. They had three children. CSM Babcock retired from the Army at Fort Hood in 1979 with over 26 years of active service and remained in the Lake Belton area. He owned and operated Veterans Real Estate from 1991-2012. Bob was an avid sportsman and bass fished with the Temple Bass Club, Phantom Bass Club, American Bass Anglers, and Military Bass Club. He was also one of the founding directors of the Lucky Strike Bass Club of Killeen. He was a lifetime member of Ducks Unlimited and founded the C/R 393 Waterfowl Hunting Club in El Campo, TX. For over 30 years he served on the board of directors at 439 Water Supply Corp.

Bob also truly loved baseball. Dedicated to his father, he built a regulation baseball field, "Grant Field", at his residence in Belton, TX, for his grandsons. He spent countless hours maintaining and doing upkeep of it to provide his grandson's teams a safe, respectable place for them to

Bob is survived by his wife, Thach; sons Ben (spouse Travis of Southlake, TX) and Bobby (spouse Tami of Belton, TX); daughter, Beckie (spouse John Paul Taylor of Belton, TX); and his eight grandchildren, Cooper, Sam, Owen, Braxton, Collin, Harrison, Audrey, and Avi-

Bob is preceded in death by his parents Grant and Stella Babcock, brother Dr. William Babcock, sister Susie Bergman, and son Dan Bab-

In Lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Bob's name to Ducks Unlimited, #1 Water Fowl Way, Memphis, TN 38120 Tel (901) 758-3825.

https://give.ducks.org/campaign/621700/donate



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**Temple** 

Thursday, October 9, 2025

# LIFESTYLES

# Local filmmakers to debut short film

By Shanna Grote

The Belton Journal

Two local women who grew up creating movies on their parents' camcorders are now filmmakers with an exciting new film premiering publicly on YouTube on October 29, at 7:30 p.m. CT.

The first film product under their company, the four-minute short film titled "Dinner with the Joneses", just received multiple festival selections and a nomination at Austin Horror Film Fest for Best Comedy Short Film.

Written by Diamond Monique Washington, "Dinner with the Joneses" is about a 1950s family, seemingly perfect on the outside, who normalizes a bizarre tradition. Social commentary is served with a dark and macabre twist. The film can be viewed at <a href="https://www.">https://www.</a> youtube.com/@CarvedOutEntertainment after its release date.

Danielle Schenzel and Christina Cooper are a creative dynamic duo. They moved to the area after Covid and launched their LLC in 2024, choosing the name Carved Out Entertainment.

"Carved Out" means to create or achieve something through significant effort, such as carving out a career or niche.

"The vision for the company is to create our own space in the film industry, where we produce our own projects and tell the stories we want to tell," Cooper explained.

"We're excited to bring more arts and entertainment to the local community in Temple," Schenzel

A film is certainly not produced overnight and this backstory begins in 2012. When Cooper was in college at Arizona State University, she met another aspiring filmmaker and horror writer, Diamond Monique Wash-

Washington offered to write three scripts for Cooper to produce. Christina produced and directed the first two, A Deadly Love (2016) and My Keeper (2018), with next to a zero-dollar budget. Dinner with the Joneses is the 3rd script.

At first there was an effort to raise money for short film through local sponsorships, and Cooper even designed 1950s magnets to sell and raise funds for the film. Ultimately, Cooper decided that she did not want to wait around for permission or money and needed to move forward without excuses and make this happen. Dinner with the Joneses is selffunded and was made on a much larger budget this fer Ryan Flores arrived early to black out windows for of this process. Josh and Alicia are amazingly talented time, though still considered a microbudget.

The women held a virtual casting call drawing most their cast and crew from the internet. They used



Danielle Schenzel (left) Christina Nicole Cooper (right) are local filmmakers who are launching their short film "Dinner with the Joneses" on Oct. 25.

Facebook groups like Austin Filmmakers to spread the

"When the actors came on board, that's when things started to feel real," Cooper said.

Like most things in life, the film was not without its challenges. The film was originally planned to be shot in Temple but one month before the shoot, the location fell through. The filmmakers did not lose heart and found a perfect Airbnb in Austin instead. This film is a period piece so the location and wardrobe are extremely important to the story. The daunting task of finding the wardrobe was drastically improved with the help of the Violet Crown Company in Bastrop, and Nichole Hull, the costume designer.

Director of Photography Blake Mendoza and his team streamlined the shot list and kept the production running smoothly in the single-day photo shoot. Gafthe perfect dinnertime look, while Key Grip Derrick Dixon and 1st AC Dylan Byrne delivered excellent

With Texas labor laws limiting child actors to eight hours on set, each scene had to be completed in about 20 minutes. By the end of the day, three key shots remained with only 1.5 hours left, but the crew pulled it off and the child actors wrapped 10 minutes

Hair and Makeup Artist, Angel J. Chumbley, was discovered during a retro photoshoot at LoneStar Pinup in Temple, TX. She brought on assistant Elizabeth McIleheran, and together, their work transformed the actors creating a clear contrast between the characters and the rest of the crew once the costumes and styling were complete.

An original score was created by Alicia Sutedja and Joshua Datant.

"This is my first time working with composers on an original score, and it was one of my favorite parts and creative artists," stated Cooper. I'm so grateful for all of the talented people who found the project, and I'm proud of what we created together."

# MPR volunteers unite for Oktoberfest, library legacy



**Courtesy Photo** 

The Lake Belton High School Show Ensemble performed at last week's Oktoberfest at Morgan's Point Resort. The event — Page Turner's Block Party — raised money to build a new library.

By David Stone

The BELTON JOURNAL

Morgan's Point Resort's Oktoberfest celebration wasn't just a festive day at Ansay Park — it was a powerful example of what happens when community leaders come together with a shared purpose.

The event, known as Page Turner's Block Party,

was organized by the Friends of the Mary Ruth Briggs Library — four resident members who also serve in key volunteer roles across the city. This planning crew brought their civic experience and shared passion to the table, crafting an event that was deeply rooted in community purpose.

Together, the Friends pursued two goals: To raise seed money for the city's library, and to support the MPR Economic Development Corporation's vision of creating a future gathering space - one that not only fosters connection and celebration among residents but also

strengthens local business engagement and community vitality, said Linda Bridges, president of the EDC.

"This wasn't just an event — it was a collaboration across departments, across roles, and across passions," Bridges said.

"Each of us brought our experience from different corners of city service, but we came together with one mission — to build a permanent library for MPR."

The block party featured bratwurst plates, bouncy houses, local business showcases, live entertainment and even a surprise appearance from Friends Chairman Lou

Guillaud in full lederhosen — bringing authentic flair to the Oktoberfest event. "Behind the scenes, the success of the event was made possible by a broad network of support," Bridges added. "The Friends of the Library worked hand-in-hand with the city of Morgan's Point Resort and fellow non-

profit organization MPR COPS, who played a key role in

recruiting and coordinating volunteers."

"From logistics and setup to outreach and safety, each group contributed their time, talent, and teamwork to transform a shared vision into a vibrant reality."

"This event couldn't have happened without our volunteers," said Bridges said. "They're the heartbeat of MPR — always ready to lend a hand, share a smile, and build something beautiful together."

With support from vendors, sponsors, and dozens of volunteers, the event raised money and sparked a new tradition for Morgan's Point Resort.

"As the Friends of the Mary Ruth Briggs Library prepare for their next fundraiser — a Cinco de Mayo celebration on the First Saturday in May — the committee remains united in its mission to serve the city not just through their individual roles, but through communitydriven action. The vision is clear: We need a thriving library and a welcoming space where every resident feels at home."



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# Cleaning



# 254.939.7007 100 Years Ago This Month: **Historical events from October 1925**

home to many historical events over when it first opened. the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in October

• The Lerma River in Guanajuato, Mexico, floods on October 1, leaving thousands of people homeless as a re-

- Three workers are burned alive when the Church Hill Tunnel in Richmond, Virginia, collapses on October 2. The tragedy is partly responsible for the emergence of an urban legend known as the "Richmond Vampire" more than 80 years after the tunnel's collapse.
- The Soviet Union removes all restrictions on the alcohol content of beverages on October 4. Alcohol had been prohibited on a limited basis for 11 years prior to the removal of the limitation.
- Legendary baseball pitcher Christy Mathewson dies of tuberculosis on October 7. Mathewson, who notched 373 wins and five National League ERA titles during his career, developed tuberculosis after being exposed to chemical weapons during World War One.
- On October 9, the Italian state prosecutor absolves 24 officials of any responsibility for the June 1924 murder of Giacomo Matteotti. Matteotti was an Italian socialist politician who accused the fascists of fraud shortly before he was kidnapped and killed by police affiliated with fascist leader Benito Mussolini.
- The Palace Museum is opened to the public in Beijing on October 10. More than 1.1 million pieces of

The month of October has been artwork were housed at the museum of the conflict.

- Federal Bureau of Investigation agent Edwin C. Shanahan is killed on October 11. Shanahan is the first FBI agent to be killed in the line of duty.
- Six hundred American troops enter Panama on October 12. The troops enter at the request of Panamanian President Rodolfo Chiari, who was hoping to put down a renter's
- · Margaret Hilda Roberts is born in Grantham, Lincolnshire, England on October 13. Roberts would come to be known as Margaret Thatcher and serve as the Prime Minister of England
- from 1979 to 1990. • The Pittsburgh Pirates win the World Series on October 15. The Pirates defeat the Washington Senators 9-7 in the decisive seventh game of the series. The Senators had opened the series winning three of the first four
- Rebels invade Damascus during the Great Syrian Revolt on October 17. The rebels set several colonial French buildings on fire and take control of Azm Palace during the revolt.
- · Hungarian-American explorer and amateur archaeologist Bryon Khun de Prorok begins excavating the Tin Hinan Tomb in the Sahara Desert in French Algeria on October 18. Prorok begins the excavation despite objections from the local Tuareg Berber community.
- · "The War of the Stray Dog" between Bulgaria and Greece begins on October 19. The killing of a Greek captain and a sentry by Bulgarian soldiers was one reason given for the start

- John William Carson is born in Corning, Iowa, on October 23, Carson would grow up and host "The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson" for three decades, ultimately earning the nickname "The King of Late Night."
- Seven of 23 U.S. Navy Curtiss CS-1 seaplanes are destroyed by wind gusts on October 25. The planes had been brought to Maryland to compete in the Schneider Cup.
- · Nicaragua President Carlos José Solórzano acquiesces to former president Emiliano Chamorro Vargas's day-old demand to make him Minister of War on October 26, effectively ceding control of the country.
- · American inventor Fred Waller receives a patent for the water ski on
- October 27. • The remains of Egyptian pharaoh Tutankhamun are found on October 28. English Egyptologist Howard Carter had discovered Tutankhamun's tomb nearly three years before discovering the remains, which had been covered by a death mask made of gold.
- · An armored truck is hijacked and robbed of \$93,000 in cash in Buffalo, New York, on October 29. The money is never recovered and Richard Reese Whitemore, who was indicted for the holdup, was never convicted of the crime after a jury could not agree that he was guilty.
- The Persian Parliament formally deposes the exiled Shah of Persia on October 31. The deposition officially ends the Qajar dynasty, which began











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# When Anger Kicks Back



John C. Perry

Our pastor recently preached on anger, and it struck a nerve. Not because I disagreed, but because I recognized myself in almost every word. I've wrestled with anger for years. Sometimes it's a slow burn; other times it flares up over the smallest things. And while I've tried to learn to manage it better, it's still a familiar

companion. One Saturday morning years ago, I planned to mow the yard. But the lawnmower wouldn't start. I checked everything, spark plug, gas, the usual suspects. After an hour of frustration, I lost it. I stepped back and kicked that mower with all my might. The result? A broken big toe, a gashed foot, and a mower that still wouldn't start. Anger didn't solve the problem, it just added pain.

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anger is jaw-dropping. The average adult experiences anger about 14 action. It's meant to stir us toward times per week. Roughly 30% of justice, compassion, and truth. Jeradults report struggling to control it. Around 64% of young people (ages 14-21) experience uncontrolled anger. During the early COVID lockdowns, Google searches for "angry all the time" surged by 45%.

I was raised believing that anger was evil. That only added to my frustration. If anger is evil, then I must be evil. That's a tough belief to carry, especially as a child. But over the years, I've come to understand that anger is a normal human response. It's not inherently sinful. It's what we do with it that matters.

That moment with the lawnmower taught me something: anger doesn't just hurt others, it can wound us, too. But if anger is so destructive, why did God give it to us?

We're made in the image of God, and yes, God gets angry. Anger is mentioned 455 times in the Old Testament, 375 of those referring to God's own anger. Psalm 7:11 says, "God is angry with the wicked every day." Clearly, anger has a place in the divine design.

Anger isn't the enemy. Misguided anger is. Scripture doesn't condemn the feeling. It warns us about

Some of the data I found on how we wield it. I believe God gave us anger to motivate constructive emiah's prophetic call in Jeremiah 3:12-14 is fueled by divine frustration. And Jesus, in righteous anger, overturned the tables of the money changers in the temple (Mark 11:15-18). He saw injustice and responded, not with violence, but with convic-

In our society, righteous anger has fueled movements that ended slavery, protected the vulnerable, and called out corruption. But unchecked anger? That breaks toes, hearts, and relationships.

So, the next time anger rises, ask yourself: Is this the kind of anger that kicks lawnmowers, or the kind that overturns tables in the temple?

God didn't give us anger to burn bridges. He gave it to build them. To shine light on injustice. To stir us toward love. Let's not waste the fire. Let's use it as He intended, to illuminate truth, defend the hurting, and reflect the heart of Christ.

John C. Perry is the Lay Leader with New Life Methodist Church. They meet every Sunday at 9 a.m. (Bible Study) and 10 a.m. (Worship Service) in the Salado Middle School at 1169 Williams Rd.





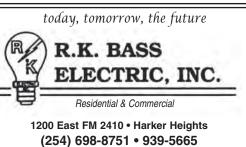
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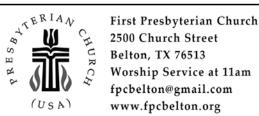


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# EDITORIAL

# **Texas History**

Pleasant Ramblings • Mark Magnan

A while back I talked about some things that are historic that I would like to see. Obviously the major places in the world that are often seen but not as easy to get to. There are plenty of places closer and just as interesting in different ways. When I was in school I took a few years of "Texas History", I don't remember how many, but at least three years. I guess I didn't realize that other states didn't have enough history to devote a full class to it, much less multiple years. So knowing about the history of our state I had a good idea about areas and some of the events that happened there. Of course everyone knows about the Alamo, and it is still an amazing place to visit. I have visited other sites of famous Texas battles. A few of those are just as interesting as the Alamo, but you need to read up on them and then visit. San Jacinto is a

must for any Texan since that is the place that changed our history. Another is a place that I had visited and just felt the depth of the events there.

There are plenty of things to see that are just not well known or in the history books. I mentioned some old cabins that were way out in the woods when I was young and just exploring. I had no idea what they were all about, who lived there or even what went on in those walls. It might have been just a getaway or perhaps a place where a family lived.

There was one place that I visited that I did know a bit more about. There was a small lake that I visited fairly regularly, it was too big to be a tank. Now for the non Texans, or city slickers, a "tank" when referred to in this context is a large "pond" or very small "lake". When someone says "tank", even today, I think about a hole in the ground with water in it for the watering of various livestock. Now a tank is small, so not quite big enough for a lake designation. I am not really sure what constitutes a pond either, I think that is a yankee term. So this lake was fair size, big enough for a boat, but you would be bored quickly.

The lake was on private property. As you entered the gate you drove a little dirt road and topped a small rise. As you come over the small knoll you could see the water, the grass was light green as it covered the beach like sand all the way down to the water. The road gently turned to the left as you followed the curve of the lake. Ahead is a white frame house, it seems very small and old, but not in bad shape. Just past the house the road goes right and up slightly to the dam for the lake. Looking across the lake you could see the longest portion and it seemed to disappear into the far woods. To the left was the seep from the dam, so just a muddy area, the grass was greener and a few reeds. The dam was not really long, probably less than a football field. The upcoming shore was different from the opposite side, the trees came right up to the water. Overall just a nice place to spend the day fishing, and this lake had a good stock of crappie. Again for those not familiar with outdoors, the fish is a (crop-ee) and probably one of the best eating fish in the world, at least in my opinion, but it would take a couple of decent sized fish to feed a normal person.

Back to the house that we saw on the way in. It actually looked like it was in good shape, the history tells another story. There was an older lady that lived in the house, I only met her a couple of times even though she was always home. Actually according to the man that owned the ranch, she had lived in this same house for her entire life. Her parents were sharecroppers and raised her here, and she stayed. It was a few miles from town, so a store was not close for food, however there was a nice garden right there. The view from the front yard was of a quiet lake, you couldn't ask for a better setting. I don't really know the history other than what I was told, but the fact that someone was probably born in the previous century and had been living in the same spot all their life was amazing to me. I wish I could have talked with her and listened to any story she might have shared. Often those would be the most interesting. Perhaps she just wanted to live a quiet life, and had just

# Thank God for Shoes

Coffee Talk • Renae Brumbaugh Green

Anyone who knows me well knows I'm obsessed with shoes.

I gave up the sexy, footwearspike-heeled decades ago. But my heart still races when I see a new pair of loafers. My eyes to turn to hearts when I try on a great pair of sneakers. It's a weakness. I own it.

That's why, a few years ago, it took a new pair of shoes to pull me out of one of the darkest places of my life. It was one of those seasons when almost everything that could go wrong did. I won't go into detail, but we've all had those times. Instead of bucking up and facing the issues head-on, I sunk into a miry quickcouldn't get out. It wasn't a place I wanted to stay, but with quicksand and depression, escape can be

I tried to eat healthy. It didn't help.

I exercised. Didn't

I prayed, wrote in my journal, took long bubble baths. The gauge didn't

One day, I remembered reading about the were the perfect blend of important role gratitude comfort and style, and plays in our mental health. they still had that new-I figured, why not? I'll leather sheen on them. I start a list of things I'm can't say they filled my grateful for.

about depression. It messes with your mind, and you enthusiasm, "I'm thankful

sand of depression and a fog. So when I tried to sift through my life to find things I was thankful for, I came up short. I was that sad. I couldn't think of a single thing.

So I argued with myself. I told myself to find just one item-no matter how small—that I was thankful for. At that moment, my eyes landed on my shoes—a spiffy new pair of brown loafers I'd bought for work. They heart with joy... they Now here's the thing didn't. But I was able to mumble, without much

Looking back that day, from a healthy mindset, I realize how ridiculous it was that my shoes were the only think I could think of for my gratitude list. I have an amazing husband, fantastic kids, a beautiful home, the goofiest dogs you've ever met... the list is unending. But in that moment, my shoes were the

best I could do. But then something happened. Focusing on those shoes made me realjob. That job allowed me to buy new shoes when I needed them. It also ensured I could pay for groceries, gas for my car, and internet service. I remembered how fortunate I was

at to have a comfortable, reliable car, which led me to recall all the great places I'd been in that car, to meet friends for lunch or see really cool things. Before long, I had to put the list on hold because it was getting too lengthy, and I had other things to do.

It took a lot of mental muscle to heft my mind from depression to gratitude, but I made that first effort. As wimpy as "shoes" sound on a gratitude list, it was all I could ize I was grateful for my do at the time. And it turns out, it was enough.

> "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

the bit of Texas history for that.

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# Second Annual Friends of the Poor Walk set for Oct. 18

**By Michelle Rodriguez** The Belton Journal

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SSVdP) at Christ the King Catholic Church will host their second annual Friends of the Poor Walk on Saturday, Oct. 18 at Yettie Polk Park located at 101 S. Davis St. from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Registration is at 9 a.m. The walk begins at 9:30 a.m. Closing and final prayer is at 10:30 a.m.

"This is our second annual Friends of the Poor Walk. Christ the King conference is one of many conferences in the United States that will host the Friends of the Poor Walk. We use it to raise awareness that the SSVdP is here to serve those in need and help raise funds. Funds raised will be used to help the needy in the Belton area with rent, utilities and other bills," said President of the SSVdP Christ the King Conference in Belton, Marcia Thigpin.

Upon registration, walkers can choose to walk one mile or up to three miles. Registration is now open and

raise funds for those in need in the community. Pastries, fruit, granola, and refreshments such as coffee, juice, and water will be provided. T-shirts were available for purchase through Sept. 15 and are available for pick up onsite only.

"SSVdP is an international group. Each country has their groups, and there's regional groups and councils. We are part of the Austin group, and the local group is the Christ the King Conference. Conferences serve the needy locally. Funds raised will help the needy in the Belton area," said Thigpin.

SSVdP at Christ the King Catholic Church was established in September 2022. It is a continuation of the same work as the Salt and Light Ministry that supported a monthly food pantry and a utility bill assistance program.

"Last year, we had about one hundred people. We register people early to see how many people to expect for snacks and water. People can also register the day of. We would appreciate if they went online and reg-

is free; however, donations are being accepted to help istered or donated. Donations can be made online or the day of the walk at Yettie Polk Park," said Thigpin.

Sponsors include UPS Belton, Gold; Don Ringler Toyota Chevrolet and Scott and White Employees Credit Union, Silver; and R.K. Bass Electric, Bronze.

Donations are accepted to the food pantry on the last Saturday of the month at 8 a.m. or the first Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. They can use plastic, good-quality paper bags, or re-usable grocery bags. They could always use shelf-stable foods like canned goods (meats, vegetables, fruits, applesauce) and drygoods (beans, rice, pasta, instant potatoes, dried fruit). Toiletries like toilet paper, shampoo, soap, toothpaste, diapers, and wipes are also appreciated.

The link to the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at Christ the King Catholic Church is <a href="https://ctkbel-">https://ctkbel-</a> ton.org/svdp, the parish link is https://www.wesharegiving.org/app/giving/WeShare-2571?tab=home, and there is also a link to sign up for the walk: <a href="https://">https://</a> runsignup.com/Race/TX/Belton/ChristTheKing-FriendsOfThePoorWalk.

# Humor & Harmony Concert to benefit BOCCC

Special to the Journal

The Body of Christ Community Clinic (BOCCC) is thrilled to announce its upcoming Humor & Harmony benefit concert, taking place Saturday, October 25 at 6 p.m. at the Cultural Activities Center in Temple, Texas. Tickets are currently on sale at iTickets.com.

Back by popular demand is Joseph Habedank, a two-time Grammy nominee and four-time GMA Dove Award winner. Habedank's powerful music, drawn from personal experience, resonated deeply with last year's audience, earning him a heartfelt return invitation. Much of his music reflects redemption.

As he said, "Even though I was raised in church, life's messy, and that's okay," Habedank shared. "If we weren't a mess, Jesus would've never had to go to the cross to pay for it. Brokenness is okay, but redemption is better."

Joining this year's performance is Christian co-

median Dennis Swanberg, affectionately known as The Swan and celebrated nationwide as "America's Minister of Encouragement." Swanberg will appear at over 150 events this year, while his popular TBN and FamNet television shows continue to air weekly.

He's authored seven books, with a new release on men's ministry scheduled for next year. Audiences can expect a joyful blend of encouragement, hilarious storytelling, and heartfelt inspiration.

The BOCCC hosts annual fundraisers to support its mission of providing free medical and dental services to underserved residents of eastern Bell County.

Executive Director Donna Dunn shared her excitement. "We are so very excited to bring these two amazing performers to Central Texas. We wanted to offer both music and humor at this year's benefit concert, and we've found two of the very best."

Individual ticket prices for the concert are \$55

per person plus processing fees, or sponsorships are Bronze for \$500 for 4 seats, and Silver for \$1,000 for 6 seats. Other sponsorships levels include \$2,000 for Gold, \$3,500 for Platinum, \$5,000 for a Diamond partnership. Sponsorships may be purchased from the BOCCC's medical clinic located at 2210-B Holland Road in Belton. Individual tickets may be purchased through iTickets at (800) 965-9324 or by visiting iTickets,com.

Board Chairman, Jerry Wickwire, said, "This is one of our major fundraisers for our Clinics, so we ask our friends, family, and neighbors to help us so that we can better serve the needs of so many who are in need of dental and medical care in East Bell County." Ms. Dunn added, "We need for as many East Bell County residents, who are able, to attend the concert to help raise funds so we can help provide for those in eastern Bell County who need care."



# Scotti's Italian Ice brings the Jersey Shore to Belton

Scotti's Italian Ice is a small, veteran-owned family and cookies. They are kosher-certified and lactose-free. business dedicated to serving refreshing, authentic Italian ice, reminiscent of what owner Ann Scotti enjoyed growing up on the Jersey Shore.

"I'm proud to introduce our East Coast favorite to the Belton community. I'm originally from the Jersey Shore. I grew up in Lighthouse and would visit Ralph's, saying to myself, 'I want to do that one day,'" said Ann Scotti. Ann and her daughter Mikayla enjoyed Italian ices during summer trips to New Jersey before moving to Texas after she and her husband served in the Army.

"Italian ice is a gourmet version of shaved ice. It has a soft, smooth texture, created in a special machine," explained Mikayla. "The business is named after my dad, Dan Scotti, whose go-getter attitude inspired my mom."

The product is made with all-natural ingredients, and the cookies and cream flavor tastes just like cookies. "I really enjoy seeing the kids' reactions. They say, 'It's good because the flavor is authentic, natural, and delicious," said Ann. A three-ounce cup of Italian ice contains only 70 calories, compared to 160 calories in a three-ounce cup of ice cream. The Italian ices are crafted using all-natural ingredients like agave, real fruit,

The Italian ice flavor options include cookie dough, cookies and cream, chocolate fudge, brownie, and cappuccino. They also offer water ice flavors such as USA rainbow (blue raspberry, cherry, and lemon), watermelon, and a sugar-free lemon that tastes just as good.

In addition to Italian ice, they sell cannolis, freshsqueezed lemonades, and Italian sodas. "We can add flavors like strawberry, blue raspberry, and cherry to the lemonades," Mikayla noted. The Italian sodas come in sixteen-ounce plastic cups and are available in flavors such as piña colada, mango, and blue Hawaii. They are low-calorie because they are made with club soda and topped with cream and whipped cream.

"A cannoli is a shell made from dough wrapped around a metal rod, filled with ricotta cheese, powdered sugar, chocolate chips, and orange zest," explained Mikayla. "Dad always took me for cannoli and Italian ice in the summer. It's very nostalgic to relive those summer memories. They are located at 219 S. East St., behind the Gin, and their hours are Friday and Saturday from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.



Wear your Halloween costume and visit the museum for this special night of magic! For one night only, important people of Bell **County history will** come to life at the museum to meet you. There will also be fun activities, a trunk or treat, and balloon twisters!



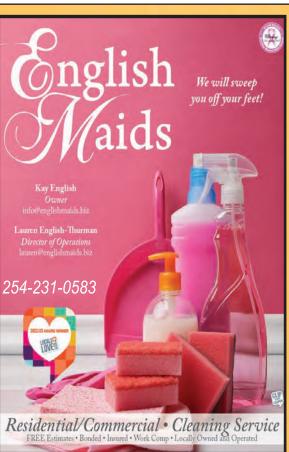
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# SPORTS



# Four-game win streak leads Belton back to rematch at Lake Belton

The Belton Journal

The Belton Tigers Volleyball team looked to build upon their District 16-5A win total last Tuesday, as they hosted the Chaparral Lady Cats at Tiger Gym.

Belton played hard from first serve to last, as they swept the Cats in three

Scores of the match were 25-14, 25-21, and 25-14.

The momentum of Tuesday's match carried the Tigers into Friday's home matchup against the Ellison Lady Ea-

Belton stormed the Eagles from the outset and executed their third district sweep in a row as they handily swept Ellison.

Scores of the contest were 25-13, 25-11, and 25-21.

On Tuesday, Belton traveled to Waco to take on the Waco High Lions.

The Tigers were on point again in Waco, as they swept the Lions.

Belton improved their record to 26-11 overall and 4-1 in District 16-5A play, which concluded the first pass through on Tuesday night. The Tigers surpassed their 25 wins from 2024 and are the most wins by Belton in at least the past 15 sea-

For the year overall, the Tigers have won 64 of 94 sets played. In district, the Tigers won 12-of-15 sets.

On Friday, the Tigers will begin their second leg of district play, as they travel to Bronco Gymnasium to take on Lake Belton. The Broncos (23-12 overall, 5-0 District 16-5A) defeated the Tigers on Sept. 23, 3-0. The scores of that match were 25-13, 25-18, and 25-19.

# Broncos looking to rebound after East View loss, hosting Leander Glenn Grizzlies in District contest

**By Aries Ramos** 

The Belton Journal

The Lake Belton Broncos will look to build on the progress they've shown in recent weeks and earn another district win when they host the Leander Glenn Grizzlies on Friday night. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. at Bronco Stadium.

Lake Belton (2-3 overall, 1-1 district) enters the matchup following a 49-36 loss to Georgetown East View last week, a game that saw the Broncos rally from an early 28-point hole before running out of time. Despite the defeat, the second half surge gave head coach Brian Cope plenty to build on as the Broncos move deeper into district play.

East View set the tone early, striking on the first play of the game with an 84-yard touchdown run and racing out to a 21-0 lead by the midway point of the first quarter. Lake

Belton struggled with turnovers early, giving the Patriots short fields and momentum. East View capitalized again with a 21-yard touchdown to make it 28-0 in the second quarter.

The Broncos finally broke through thanks to a 45-yard kickoff return by Zion Harness that set up a short touchdown run from Zyien Dupree. Just before halftime, quarterback Maverick connected with receiver Davion Peters for a 30-yard scoring strike that trimmed the deficit to 35-14 at the break.

Peters struck again to open the third quarter, hauling in a 37-yard touchdown from Maverick to pull the Broncos within two scores. But each time Lake Belton threatened, East View responded, eventually holding on for the 49-36 vic-

After the game, Cope said his team's effort and fight were encouraging

signs despite the early struggles.

"You can't spot a team 28 points," Cope said. "We didn't get off the bus, and that's on me. But our kids fought for 48 minutes. That two point conversion at the end was big for district point differential. We've got to keep fighting and getting better."

Cope also pointed to progress in the passing game and protection up front, noting that the Broncos "showed some really bright spots" offensively. Senior two-day standout Christian Onchweri again played a key role on both sides of the ball and continues to set the tone for Lake Belton's energy and leadership.

The Broncos now turn their focus to Glenn (0-5, 0-2), a relatively young program that opened in 2016 and is entering its seventh season of varsity football. The

> See BRONCOS. Page B3

# Lake Belton sweeps University in straight sets on senior night

**By Aries Ramos** The Belton Journal

The Lake Belton Broncos volleyball team continued its impressive district run Tuesday night, sweeping University in straight sets on senior night to remain undefeated in District 16-5A play.

Lake Belton (22-12 overall, 5-0 district) made quick work of the visiting Trojans, rolling to set wins of 25-10, 25-12, and 25-15. The victory completed not only the season sweep of University but also a clean sweep of the district's first half, keeping the Broncos in sole possession of first

The opening set featured a dominant closing stretch from Lake Belton, which scored 12 of the final 13 points to secure the 25-10 win. Strong serving set the tone early, allowing the Broncos to control the tempo and keep University off balance.

Lake Belton carried that energy into the second set, jumping ahead early and never looking back. Efficient play at the net and solid defense on the back row limited University's scoring opportunities, as the Broncos cruised to a 25-12 victory to take a

2-0 match lead.

The third set followed a similar script. The Broncos consistency on serve receive and attacking depth proved too much for the Trojans to handle as Lake Belton closed out the sweep with a 25-15 win, sealing their fifth straight district victory and extending their winning streak to five matches overall.

The night also carried special meaning as the program honored its seniors, recognizing the leadership and commitment that have helped fuel the Broncos strong start in district play. The team responded with one of its most complete efforts of the season, showcasing disciplined defense, and relentless energy from start to finish.

With the first half of the district schedule complete, Lake Belton now turns its attention to a matchup Friday night when rival Belton visits Bronco Gym. First serve is set for 5:30 p.m.

Belton enters the contest in second place in the district standings and will be looking to hand Lake Belton

> See LAKE, Page B3

# Belton begins 10-5A-2 play against Ellison at home Thursday

By Tony Adams The Belton Journal

The Belton Tigers football team enjoyed the bye, taking advantage of time to rest, take advantage of community service situations, and the installation of Thursday night's game plan.

The Tigers last non-district game featured a combined 65 second-half points between Belton and Cuero. The Gobblers held on for a 50-43 win.

Belton collected 538 yards

total. Sawyer Harbin, in his first rie, 164 receiving yards and two week as the starting quarterback, went 18-of-32 for 273 yards, tossed three touchdowns and two interceptions. Gavin Ross had 138 receiving yards and a score, and Achilles Palomares added 59 receiving yards and a touchdown. Gino Zecca had 24 carries for 203 rushing yards and two scores, along with 38 yards in receptions.

The defense was tested, having allowed 498 yards, which included 328 passing yards and five touchdown passes by Jaxxon Matouchdown catches by Walker Dietze, and 116 rushing yards by Camelo Peres.

The Ellison Eagles await the Tigers, as the District 10-5A-2 gauntlet begins. The Eagles average 263 yards per game passing and 171.6 yards per game rush-

Quarterback Marlyn Smith (73-of-116, 62.9%, 1,205 passing yards. 10 TD, INT, 268 rushing yards, six TDs) controls the Ellison offense, with Evan Dowling (279 rushing yards, 92 receiving yards, two TDs), Laboris Creagh (212 rushing yards), Juan Ramirez (404 receiving yards, four TDs), Prince Hall (358 receiving yards, three TDs), and Keandre Sayles (293 receiving yards, six TDs) all options in the Ellison attack. The Ellison line is aggressive, and helps the Eagles offense move.

Belton has four sacks, 19 tackles for loss, six fumble recoveries, and four sacks. Oakley Torres (36 tackles, three tackles for loss), Lyric McGinnis (33 tackles), Jacob Lewis (32 tackles), Azian Wilkinson (31 tackles), and Rowdy Watson (23 tackles) has kept offenses on their toes.

Belton's offense averaged 265.8 yards per game passing and 123.4 yards per game rushing, which averages out to a total offense of 389.2 yards per contest.

Since coming in to replace Will Shepard following an injury a game-and-a-half ago, Harbin is

> See TIGERS, Page B3

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# orts Briefs

By Clay Whittington The Belton Journal

The Lady Tigers traveled to compete in Burnet's annual tournament at Delaware Springs Golf Course on Tuesday and placed ninth out of 21 teams.

Ella Hice shot a teamlow 97, while Abby Beck had a 103, Annaleigh Holliday posted a 105 and Mackenzie McGarry finished with a 109.

Belton returns to action Oct. 30 at Waco's Cottonwood Golf Club.

**YOUTH** 



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Scot Hrbacek, CFP® Financial Advisor

When you turn 65, Medicare becomes a vital part of your health care coverage. But Medicare isn't a "set and forget" program.

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Out-of-pocket costs such as monthly premiums, deductibles, copayments and other expenses that Medicare doesn't cover: Sometimes a plan with a

higher premium saves money overall because of lower copays. Prescription drug coverage: It's crucial to verify that your medications are included. Your health care needs for the coming year: Make sure your potential plan covers the care you expect to

And travel plans: Frequent travelers might want supplemental coverage for overseas medical emergencies not covered by Medicare.

So, take advantage of Medicare's annual open enrollment to ensure the coverage you choose is the best one to meet your needs.

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

# Edward **Jones**

3011 N. Main, Ste C, Belton, Tx 76513

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Registration is now open for the Belton Christian Youth Center 2025 basketball league.

Boys and girls in kindergarten through eighth grade can participate.

Early registration discounts are available until Sunday with the deadline set for Oct. 31. The fall season begins Nov. 22.

Spots are limited. Forms are available at BCYCsports.com, and information about sponsorships can be obtained by calling 254-939-5759.

For more information, visit BeltonYouth.com.

#### **FUNDRAISER**

The seventh-annual Rockin for Youth benefit for the Clements Boys and Girls Club, Belton Tiger Athletic Booster Club and Lake Belton

School High Athletic Booster Club will be held Saturday at 301 Thomas Arnold Road in Salado. The event will begin at 5

General

sion tickets are \$25 at the door and \$20 if purchased in advance at Out-HouseTickets.com.

admis-

Kids ages 12 and under are free.

#### **ATHLETIC PASSES**

Belton ISD family passes are on sale for \$75 and can be purchased at the Belton High School field house or at the Belton ISD administration office.

The pass allows the owner and all immediate family members entry into any Belton ISD athletic event played at home, excluding football games.

# New Tech ends cross country season with hardware

**By Clay Whittington** 

The Belton Journal

New Tech's cross country season is over, but the Dragons and Lady Dragons are ending with awards.

After months of training and numerous competitions, the schedule reached its pinnacle Monday. when Cameron Yoe Junior High School hosted the District 19-3A

Only the top three teams and top 10 individuals in the Varsity division advanced to the upcoming Region III-3A meet, and no New Tech harriers qualified.

The Dragons and Lady Dragons were still successful, though.

In the girls junior varsity race, New Tech freshman Ellie Megoulloa was crowned champion after completing the two-mile course in 14 minutes, 35.23 sec-

The outing was approximately 40 seconds faster than her closest competition as Yoe freshman Audrey Foster was second with a time

of 15:14.78.

Daniella Idumebor, a sophomore, also represented the Lady Dragons in the race, placing 16th (18:20.86).

Little River Academy scored 21 points to claim the team title, beating out Thrall (2nd, 45) and host Yoe (3rd, 57) in the final standings.

A trio of Dragons took part in the junior varsity race, and junior Desmond Long led the group with a third-place time of 20:23.11. Additionally, freshman David Martinez was fifth (20:52.73) and eighthgrader Daniel Zubaty was sixth (21:14.72) in the three-mile run.

Thanks in part to individual champion Kaiden Camacho (1st, 19:41.53), a sophomore, and junior runner-up Emiliano Tovar (2nd, 20:12.09), Rockdale won the championship with 24 points. Yoe was second (31).

The Dragons did not compete in the varsity race, but New Tech senior Claire Thomas was 45th (16:52.09) in the girls race.

All five of Academy's scoring runs placed among the top 10 to help the team amass 30 points en route to earning the team title with

Franklin (2nd, 75) and Thrall (3rd, 93) also advanced as teams.

Rogers was fourth (98) and will be sending two runners to regionals after junior Alinah Vidaurri was sixth (13:21.21) and sophomore Julia Luna was ninth (13:29.42). Lexington was fifth (114) and Yoe was sixth (127) as freshman Bethany Merryman was fifth (13:20.33).

Rockdale was seventh with 167

Franklin sophomore Payton Conn (1st, 11:45.40) was the district champion, beating out Academy senior Gabby Davenport (2nd, 13:09.06) and sophomore Kadence Alcock (3rd, 13:12.36).

#### **DISTRICT 16-5A MEET**

The league meet for Belton and Lake Belton was held Thursday at Waco's Heart of Texas Soccer Complex, but results were not available.

# More news online



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83 degrees; 0.04 feet above pool. With any luck, this will be the last ho-hum report for quite a while. The lake is near turnover and the great autumn fishing it will bring. Hopefully the midweek cold front will spark the turnover. Lows are to be in the 60s with highs in the 80s for the foreseeable future. There is only about 4 degrees difference between the surface temperature and the air temperature at 60-65 feet, so just a few cool days and nights will do it. In the meantime, fishing is still tough as white bass and hybrid striped bass roam about in search of shad and remain suspended most of the daylight hours, oblivious to any bottom features. Extensive use of side-imaging to cover ground, in conjunction with downriggers used to put bait just above the fish with precision, is producing the best with #12 Pet Spoons on the downriggers. If an area seems to have a good density of fish and bait present, slow down and cast the MAL Heavy or MAL Mini horizontally using a countdown method for suspended fish or the sawtooth method for bottom-oriented fish. Leave one rod hanging vertically in a rod holder with the bait very near bottom, so you can race it up past them as they show beneath the boat on Garmin LiveScope or 2D sonar. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Catfish are excellent. Anglers can find blue catfish around sand flats and river channels in 10-20 feet of water. Larger fresh cut baits have been effective for trophy size fish. Eater fish under 10 pounds can be caught deadsticking with small cut shad along ledges and river channels. Channel catfish are great and can be caught on punch bait in 10-20 feet of water. Flatheads are good on live bait in shallow water around river mouths. Report by Brian Worley, B&S Catfishing.

83 degrees; 0.03 feet above schoolie-sized

pool. With any luck, this will be the last ho-hum report for quite a while. The lake is near turnover and the great autumn fishing it will bring. Hopefully the midweek cold front will spark the turnover. Lows are to be in the 60s with highs in the 80s for the foreseeable future. There is only about 4 degrees difference between the surface temperature and the air temperature at 60-65 feet, so just a few cool days and nights will do it. In the meantime, fishing is still tough as white bass and hybrid striped bass roam about in search of shad and remain suspended most of the daylight hours, oblivious to any bottom features. Extensive use of side-imaging to cover ground, in conjunction with downriggers used to put bait just above the fish with precision, is producing the best with #12 Pet Spoons on the downriggers. If an area seems to have a good density of fish and bait present, slow down and cast the MAL Heavy or MAL Mini horizontally using a countdown method for suspended fish or the sawtooth method for bottom-oriented fish. Leave one rod hanging vertically in a rod holder with the bait very near bottom, so you can race it up past them as they show beneath the boat on Garmin LiveScope or 2D sonar. Some smaller, largemouth surfacing, but the action is light and spread far and wide. A small, clear soft plastic on a jighead cast fast and accurately is about the only thing these shad-eating bass will respond to consistently. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line

# Tigers - From Page B1

33-of 54 (61.1%) for 422 yards, averaging 12.8 yards per completion, five touchdowns and two intercep-

Zecca's performance against Cuero has vaulted him up to being the team's leading rusher with 285 yards. Morton and Javid Nua Planz (44-167) are two solid options in the run game for the Tigers. Ross' 700 receiving yards on 50 catches and 140 yards per game average has him amongst the state's highs in both categories.

Ellison's defense has 20 ½ sacks, 43 tackles for loss, eight fumble recoveries, and seven interceptions through their first five games. Demetrius Perry has 55 tackles which includes 40 solos, and had eight tackles for loss. Renaldo Johnson and Jakiree Teal are amongst the team leaders in tackles and tackles for loss. Perry and Julius Simon have combined for nine sacks this season. Tyler Reed has two of Ellison's seven interceptions.

Thursday night's contest represents the start of a five-game gauntlet for Belton over a 29-day stretch, which features two Thursday night games and Homecoming 2025 on Oct.



# Broncos - From Page B1

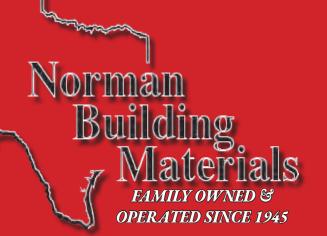
Grizzlies are still searching for their first win of the year, making Friday's matchup an important opportunity for both teams to gain ground in district standings.

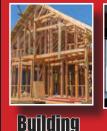
"We showed what

we're capable of when we play with energy and execution," Cope said. "Now it's about starting that way from the first snap."

With home field ad-

vantage and momentum from their late push a week ago, the Broncos will look to put together a complete performance and move above .500 in district play.





Materials











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# Lake - From Page B1

its first district loss of the standings while the the chase

the season. The meeting focus will be on maintain- day's rivalry clash. marks a pivotal point in ing the rhythm and compo-Broncos aim to create recent run. Strong serving, separation at the top of efficient offense, and steady Tigers hope to tighten Broncos to their unbeaten district mark traits they'll

For Lake Belton, the look to carry into Tues-

With momentum on the playoff race, as the sure that have defined their their side and a perfect district record intact, the Broncos will look to propassing have powered the tect home court and take another step toward a district championship.



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THE BELTON JOURNAL



# Local Activities & Events

# **Newcomers Club Activities**

#### **OCTOBER**

10/09: Couples Night Out, 42 Dominoes, Mexican Train Dominoes

10/10: TGIF Lunch

10/13: Bookworms 10/14: Singing Bluebonnets

10/15: Popcorn Bridge

10/16: Meet & Greet, 42 Dominoes, Non-Fiction Book Club

10/18: Exploring Wine

10/20: Snack Time Mah Jongg

10/21: Bunco 10/22: Crochet & Knit, Fun Lunch

10/23: 42 Dominoes, Mexican Train Dominoes

10/24: Trailblazers Walking Group

10/25: Jimmy's Egg 10/27: Well Read Women,

Monday Canasta

10/28: Singing Bluebonnets 10/30: 42 Dominoes

"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."

# CAC announces 2025 concert lineups

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.

Here's a look at the 2025 Texas Music Series:

#### AN 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.

#### 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.

#### **Bell County Master Gardneners - Oct 10**

Friday, Oct 10 at noon, Troy Community Center, 201 East Main Street, Troy. The Bell County Master Gardeners and the Troy Chamber of Commerce invite you to an engaging Lunch and Learn seminar with Master Gardener Sherry Oermann. We will dive into the fascinating world of bee to explore their life cycle, learn where they live and how they behave and answer common questions such as why do bees sting? Why are they attracted to soda cans? What does it mean when we see a big cluster of bees on a tree limb? You'll even get to see and touch a bee suit and other beekeeping items in this interactive session! This event is free and open to the public. Bring your lunch and your curiosity! Registration online at https://forms.gle/EVzzrg1RV36x2xPM9 or contact gabywarlick@gmail.com or call 254-400-7345.

## **Bell County Master Gardneners - Oct 11**

Join us for the final session of our Let's Talk About Herbs series: Winterizing Made Easy. In this seasonal class, we'll cover everything you need to know to prepare your herb garden for winter, from overwintering tender perennials, to protecting container plants and knowing what to cut back and what to leave alone. You will learn smart strategies tailored for our Central Texas conditions. Saturday, Oct 11, 2025, 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. at Oak Grove outside of the AgriLife Extension Office,1605 N. Main Street in Belton No registration needed.

# **Bell County Master Gardneners - Oct 14**

Discover how Texan native plants have nourished people for generations, and how you can incorporate them into your own landscape! Join Master Gardener Barbara Ishikawa for an engaging discussion of Texas native plants used for food, along with tips on growing and using them at home. 6:00 p.m. at Harker Heights Activities Center, 400 Indian Trail, Harker Heights.

# Family Camp Out - Oct 24 - 26

Roll up your sleeping bags and hit the trail for a campout at Heritage Park. Activities include fishing, kayaking, and s'mores. This year we are offering an extended weekend of fun, Saturday-Sunday, October 24-26, 2025. Stay tuned for registration information from Bellton Pars & Recreation.

# 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps Ball - Nov 8

The Louis Wayne Qualls Marine Corps League Detachment 1249 is proud to be hosting the 250th Birthday of the United States Marine Corps Ball on November 8th, 2025, starting at 5pm at the Lone Star Convention Center, Bldg 5764, 24th St, Fort Hood, TX. Events will include Traditional Marine Corps Birthday Ceremonies, Guest Speaker, Sit down Dinner, Music, Dancing, Cash Bar. Tickets are \$65.00 per person; corporate sponsorship is available. Open to all, Black Tie / Military Dress. Tickets must be purchased by October 31st, 2025, at www.mcl1249tx.com. No ticket sales at the door. Website will have a link to get your base pass online and will be active 2 weeks prior to the Ball.

# Annual Library Art Show - Nov 15

Mary Ruth Briggs Library in Morgan's Point Resort will hold our 7th Annual Library Art Show on Saturday, November 15th from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at the Garrett and Mic Hill Event Center located at 60 Morgan's Point Blvd in MPR. Drop off times for art pieces are as follows: Friday, November 14th, 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM and Saturday, November 15th, 9:00 AM to Noon. Art entries are limited to 3 per artist and should not include previous entries. Artwork that can be hung must have a hanger on the back that can be suspended on wires to be hung on a wall. Include a 3 x 5 white index card with a short description of your work. Questions? Contact Library@mprtx.us. Cash prizes and ribbons will be awarded for Children and Adults (16 and up) as well as a Peoples Choice Award as decided by the attendees. For online applications see the website at morganspointresorttx.com or paper applications are available at MPR City Hall at 8 Morgan's Point Blvd, Morgan's Point Resort Texas 76513. We look forward to seeing you for a night of music by the LBHS Silver Strings, wine, appetizers and

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will meet both on Tuesday, Oct. 14th and Oct. 28th at 6:30pm at the Temple VA Hospital. Use the entrance on the Valet parking side of the hospital and take the elevator to the 5th floor -Conference Room 5G31. Both care-givers, supporters and those suffering from mental illness are welcome to join us for mutual support and sharing of information . For more information, call 254-771-3638.

Bell Area Parkinson's Support group (BAPS-North) meets at CTCOG, 2180 N. Main St, Belton on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 2:30-4:00 PM every month. All are welcome, and there is no membership cost. The Bell Area Parkinson's Support group (BAPS-West) meets at St. Andrews United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 206 W Fowler Ave, Killeen on the 1st and 3rd Fridays from 2:30-4:00 PM every month. For more information contact Gayle Shull at GayleInBelton@gmail.com or (254) 718-4197.

Marine Corp League will meet the third Tuesday of each mont at VFW 3859. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. and metting will begin at 7:00 p.m. 201 VFW Dr, Harker heights, Tx 76548. Email commandant@mcl1249tx.comfor more inforantion.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will meet both on TUESDAY, Sept. 23rd at 6:30pm at the Temple VA Hospital. Use the entrance on the Valet parking side of the hospital and take the elevator to the 5th floor -Conference Room 5G31. Both care-givers, supporters and those suffering from mental illness are welcome to join us for mutual support and sharing of information . For more information, call 254-771-

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 or call 512-856-5668 for more information.

Young's Daughters Funeral Home Dementia/Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group occurs weekly on Fridays from 6-7 p.m. This group allows your loved ones to join. Loved ones will be doing activities while the group of caregivers are joining together to better understand and learn tips and tricks for daily life. Young's Daughters Funeral and Bereavement Center is located at 4235 East Hwy 190 in Temple.

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 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 historical commission@bellcounty.texas.gov, call 254-933-5917 or visit the 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 5th 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.

# 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. Read more about the program here: 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.

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 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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# CLASSIFIEDS

#### THE BELTON JOURNAL

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### **MCGUIRE TIRE**

is looking to hire automotive tire/lube tech. Apply in person 103 Lake Road in Belton, or 603 South First in Temple. Pay based on experience TFN

#### **LEGALS**

#### THE STATE OF TEXAS **CITATION BY PUBLICATION - CIVIL CAUSE NO. 25DCV353776**

TO: XVAVIER TUCK

Greetings:

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the ORIGINAL PETITION at or before 10 o'clock AM of the first Monday after the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this Citation, the same being Monday, at or before 10 o'clock AM, before the Honorable 169th Judicial District Court, Bell County, Texas to be held at the Bell County District Courts Building in Belton, Texas. Said ORIGINAL PETITION was filed in said court on May 09, 2025.

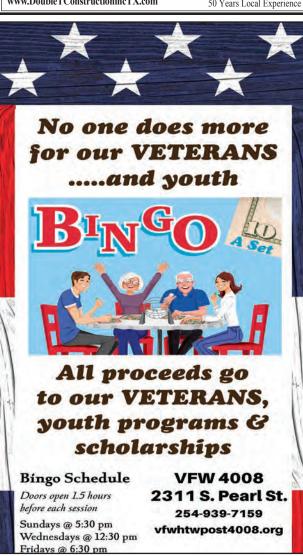
Your home or land could be one of your largest investments.

We would be honored to represent you in this important transaction.



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#### **LEGALS**

The file number of said suit being No. 25DCV353776. The names of the parties in said suit are:

CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES, LLC VS. STEPHANO TUCK, XAVIER TUCK, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF JAMES D. TUCK, Deceased

The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit:

This proceeding concerns the foreclosure of a lien on the following real property and improvements commonly known as 4305 Hank Drive, Killeen, TX 76549, and more particularly described as LOT TWENTY-FOUR (24), IN BLOCK SEVEN (7), OF CONDER VALLEY PHASE FOUR, IN THE CITY OF KILLEEN, BELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN CABINET C, SLIDE 368-B, C & D, PLAT RECORDS OF BELL COUNTY, TEXAS.

This was issued at the request of attorney: BRADLEY CONWAY MILLER GEORGE & SUGGS PLLC 6080 TENNYSON PKWY STE 100 Plano TX 75024.

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 AM on Monday next following the expiration of forty- two days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. In addition to filing a written answer with the clerk, you may be required to make initial disclosures to the other parties of this suit. These disclosures generally must be made no later than 30 days after you file your answer with the clerk. Find out more at TexasLawHelp.org.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office in Belton, Texas, on SEPTEMBER 11, 2025.

Joanna Staton District Clerk Bell County, Texas, 1201 Huey Road, P.O. Box 909, Belton, Texas 76513

By: M Cortez Deputy 09.18, 09.25, 10.02, 10.09

#### APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE

#### TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE **COMMISSION**

for a Wine- Only Package Store Permit by NAS 2025 LLC,DBA Express Mart to be located at 300 N Main St, Belton, Bell Co., Texas. Members of said LLC are Akbarali Lakhani-Member, Shumail Khowja- Member and Nayyir Naushad-Member 10.02,10.09 PD

#### THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION **CASE NUMBER 25CPB00613**

TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS

JOHN T. MORAN, Applicant, on September 30, 2025, filed an application to determine heirship & application for independent administration of intestate estate by agreement & letters of independent administration in a proceeding styled: KAREN BREMER, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00613 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 October 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: Dawn M. Smith ,325 N St Paul Floor 29, Dallas, TX 75201

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

#### **LEGALS**

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 October 01, 2025. Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Erika De Casas Deputy

10.09

#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RICHARD R. TURNER, Deceased, were issued on September 24, 2025, in Cause No. 25CPB00562, pending in the County Court-At-Law No: 1, Bell County, Texas, to: JANET LONG. 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: DEVON S. LINZY Attorney at Law, PO Box 428, TEMPLE, TX 76503 DATED the 1st day of October, 2025. DEVON S. LINZY Attorney for JANET LONG, State Bar No.: 24086218, PO Box

> THE STATE OF TEXAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION **CASE NUMBER 25CPB00611**

428, TEMPLE, TX 76503, Telephone: (254)

773-1663, Facsimile: (254) 773-2574, Email:

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS

devon@linzythigpen.com

10.09

JASON CLEMENS, Applicant, on September 29, 2025, filed an Application to Determine Heirship and for Letters of Administration - Intestate in a proceeding styled: BARRY ALAN CLEMENS, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00611 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 October 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: JOSHUA TISDALE, 1216 S 31ST ST, TEMPLE TX 76504

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 September 30, 2025. Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513

By: Lillian Phillips Deputy

10.09

# **NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of KENNETH WAYNE ZBRANEK were issued on October 2, 2025, in Docket No. 25CPB00577, pending in the County Court at Law Number ONE (1) of BELL County, Texas, to MEGAN CHRISTINE RAY.

All persons having claims against the estate, which is presently being administered, are required to submit them, within the time and manner prescribed by law, and before the estate is closed, addressed as follows: c/o PATRICK J. RIDLEY 2582 Blue Meadow Drive P.O. Box 1141 Temple, TX 76503-1141 Dated October 6, 2025

PATRICK J. RIDILEY Attorney for Executor of the Estate of KENNETH WAYNE ZBRANEK 10.09



The Belton Journal is conducting a straw ballot of our readers as to who or what you consider to be the best of 2025. One winner per category of this straw ballot will be announced in an upcoming special edition.

# Three readers' entries will be randomly chosen to win \$50 in cash.

# **Rules:**

- 1. All nominees must be in the Belton area.
- 2. Ballots may be deposited in a ballot box at The Belton Journal office or mailed to 210 N. Penelope, Belton, TX **76513**. Call **254-939-5754** for more information.
- 3. Entry Ballots must be legible and must be received by noon Friday, November 21, 2025
- 4. At least 50% of the ballot must be completed to be 2025 eligible for cash prize drawings
- 5. To nominate for a category not listed, write the category name and your selection at the bottom of the ballot.

BEST IN THE COUNTY	015		Pest Control	Dentist
College	Office Supply		Plumbing	Bank Teller
Elementary School	Convenience Store		Dry Cleaning	
Middle School	Feed Store	Enchiladas	Nursing Home	
High School	Western Wear		Assisted Living_	Real Estate Agent
Community Event	AUTO PARTS		Health Food Store	Photographer
County's Attraction	Farm Equipment		Internet Provider	
	Wedding Caterer		Nail Salon	Accountant
	Print Shop	Dining Atmosphere	Title Company	Local Band
Place to meet people	Building Supplies			Club President
Entertainment	Gift Shop	Buffet	Pawn	Club Flesidelit
Service Organization	Lawn & Garden	Meet for Coffee	Auto Repair	Chiropractor
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Mattress Store	Catering	Day Care	Barber
SHOPPING	Antiques & Collectibles	Liquor Store	Shoe Repair	
Firearms	— Eyeglasses	Sushi	Landscaping	Beautician
Flooring	Consignment Shop	To Take Out of Town Guests	Mortgage	Veterinarian
Movie Theater	lewelry	Deli	Tax Service	City Employee
Wine Shop	— Barber	Donuts	Window Cleaning	-
Swimming Pool	— Beauty Shop	Sandwiches	Employment Agency	Secretary
New Car Dealership	Home Decor		Counseling	County Employee
Truck Dealership	Book Store	Appetizers	Funeral Home	
Used Car Dealership		Special Occasion	Property Management	Insurance Agent
Supermarket	DINING	Take Out	Pet Grooming	Attorney
Sporting Goods	Meat Market	Bakery	Signs/Banners	- Mechanic
Appliances		Breakfast	Financial Advisor	
Pharmacy	Chicken		Carpet Cleaning	Electrician
Women's Wear	Pizza		 Dental Office	Sales Person
Children's Wear	Salad Bar	<del></del>	Window Treatment	Grocery Store Clerk
Men's Wear	Steaks		Alarm/Security	
Shoes	Hamburger		Credit Union_	Boss
Furniture	French Fries		Orthodontist	Radio Announcer
Tires	Ice Cream/Yogurt	Chiropractor	Dermatology	Radio News Anchor
Chevrolet Dealership	Seafood	Veterinarian	Law Firm	Kadio News Anchor
Ford Dealership	Hot Dogs	Oil Change		TV News Anchor
	Barbecue	Air Conditioning	Hearing Aids  House Leveling	Travel Agent
Dodge Dealership	Desserts	Insurance Agency	PEOPLE (Places Note Where Individual Works)	
Nissan Dealership	Catfish	Gym	(Please Note Where Individual Works)	Local Celebrity
Toyota Dealership	First Date Dining	Spa	Waiter/Waitress	Unsung Hero
Florist	Mexican	Limo	School Teacher	
Bank	Hot Sauce	Car Rental	Nurse/Dental Assistant	3

# ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON, PLEASE | My Vote for a Category Not Listed:

Name:		
Phone: —		





# EDITORIAL

# Our own little bubbles

My Front Porch • Lynette Sowell

Sometimes, there's a time to be pithy. Meaningful. Profound. Other times, a little hissy fit or rant is called for. Hey, it makes me feel better. And, this is my front porch, so can rant if I want to.

Doesn't it bug you when you're grocery shopping and someone stops with their cart parked in the center of the aisle, diagonally, and they don't move? These shoppers somehow have an extreme fascination with ketchup, potato chips, or lunch meat. You

They stand there, gaping at the shelf as if whatever they're looking for is going to magically appear the longer they stare. No, people, this isn't the hidden Diagon Alley in London. It's HEB or Wal-Mart. A secret shopping aisle with hidden product is not going to appear. They're oblivious, in a bubble, as if they're the only ones in the store.

So what's protocol in this case? Go down anoth-

I'm about to launch into a nonsensical rant. er aisle? Stand there until they decide to move? Use your Jedi mind powers? "You will move your cart so

"Uh, excuse me, thanks," I usually say as pleas-

Sometimes, the reaction is a huff, an eye roll, or a look that says, "How dare you interrupt my staring at the ketchup bottles?"

But this problem of preoccupation and being in a bubble isn't limited to grocery store aisles. It happened one day when I was driving home behind someone who was more interested in his cell phone than paying attention to the traffic light.

We were sitting at the red light at RGIII and 190. When that light turns green. It doesn't stay green long, if you're trying to get onto 190. Waiting, waiting, waiting for guy in front of us to move. I could see him, head down, looking toward a phone.

So what's the protocol? Wait until he moves? Let

the light turn yellow? Go around him? How long until doing the "courtesy honk?"

One, two, three—oh, good, I thought to myself. The guy drove ahead and took the turn so we could all go. I thought we were in luck. Until, at the Avenue D traffic light, it happened again. I counted to five this time, giving the guy a break, then I couldn't stop myself—honk! His head jerked up and he waved slowly, as if to say, "Whatever. Don't bother me."

So, here's my chance to fill you in and tell the town. Because we need to stop it.

Stop it. We should stop being so wrapped up in our own little worlds while we're out in this big one that we forget little courtesies. Letting people pass in the grocery aisles. Using your Driver's Ed 101 skills and paying attention to the traffic lights instead of our cell phones. Realizing there are other people in line besides us. Courtesy, awareness, simple manners. They go a long way. And, I feel much better now. Thanks for humoring me.

# **Entertainment 101: Gallows Humor**

Shop the Insanity • Darren Blair

pist had just checked my x-rays. They took "Romeo & Juliet" the mortally wounded knee."

With this, we come to a rather conalso known as black comedy and dark hu- or dire situation? mor. To quote Wikipedia, it "makes light

and can be found even in classical creative those familiar with the comedy troupe and much headway.

"So there I was. The physical thera- works. For example, in Shakespeare's its various works. in the 1590s.

a look at my back, took a look at my chart, Mercutio jokes about how while he may be sometimes delve into dark humor, such in injecting humor into situations that are and declared that they didn't know how I laughing now, tomorrow they'll find him a as one skit premised on a fictional "Being deadly serious; Mercutio's bit from above, could still walk given how badly my spine "grave man", a deliberate play on words. Eaten By A Crocodile" event, done to sati- for example, was a way of accepting his was messed up. At that point I didn't have For those who missed it in literature class, rize how dissonantly dispassionate some own impending demise. In fact, humor the heart to ask them about my blown this play was believed to have come about reporters can be while covering sporting like this is quite common in professions events. In fact, gallows humor is often a such as medicine, law enforcement, and That all being said, why might some- means of drawing attention to elements of firefighting, where death is an ever-prestroversial realm of humor: gallows humor, one have a laugh at a potentially shocking society whose darker elements the person ent reality. Absurdity and shock are often feels need to be explored, be it a seemingly the only way to penetrate the hard shell In some instances, the joke is deliber- minor trend or great societal evil. An ex- folks can form around them as a defensive of subject matter that is generally consid- ately meant to be absurd, such as the afore- ample of the latter is Johnathan Swift's "A mechanism, and the laughter has to start ered taboo, particularly subjects that are mentioned hopscotch map. Common sense Modest Proposal", another literature class from somewhere in order to stave off any normally considered serious or painful to dictates that anyone who actually would favorite like "Romeo & Juliet". Swift's fear or dark feelings someone might have. discuss". <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/</a> try to use it would meet an unfortunate de-shocking bit of satire was meant to draw Case in point: a medical facility in France Black comedy . I reference them as, at mise, but there's also the unstated humor attention to the mass of political, econom- that had an infamous X-rated mural in a time of typing, their headline image is an - and horror - in someone being foolish ic, and social issues plaguing Ireland at the doctors' break room, a mural whose purart installation showing a hopscotch map enough to try. And if someone was to, say, time by presenting something rather horrif- pose was to be a massive distraction from that goes off the edge of a tall building. do it while on a pogo stick? You have the ic as a solution since the political and com- the woes of the day. Gallows humor is actually quite old, start of a Monty Python revival series, for munity leaders of the day weren't making

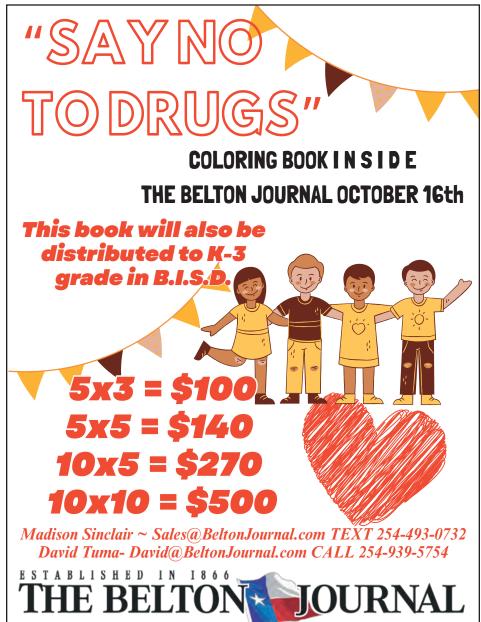
Perhaps its most critical use, espe-Yes, the Monty Python troupe would cially in light of matters like COVID, is

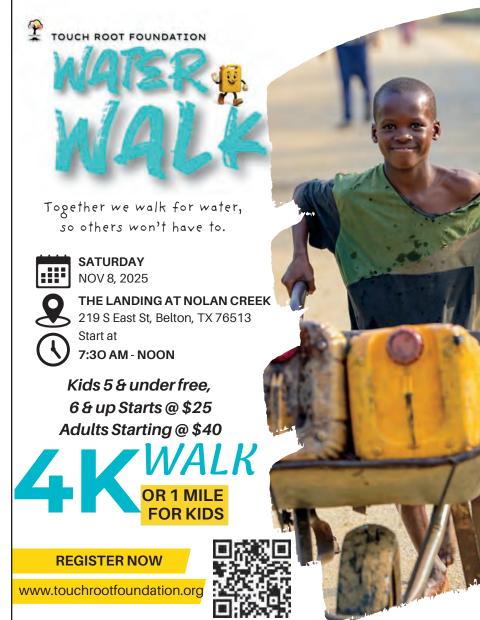
Then again, as the saying goes, "if I wasn't laughing I'd cry".













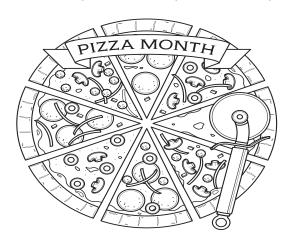


This food is one of the most popular comfort foods around the world.

Answer: Pizza

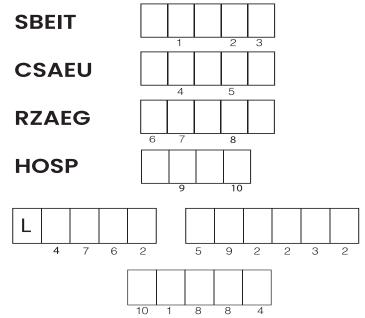
# **Creative Coloring**

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



# **Double Word Puzzle**

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.



ynswer: Large cheese pizza

# THIS DAY IN HISTORY



**1829:** Stephenson's Rocket wins the Rainhill Trials, a locomotive race.

**1939:** Germany annexes western Poland.

1956: Don Larsen of the New York Yankees pitches the only perfect game thus far thrown in the World Series.



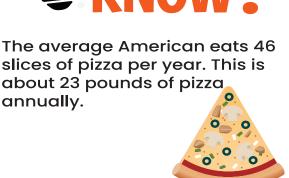
throwing dough up in the air when making a pizza



All .

English: Dough Spanish: Masa Italian: Impasto French: Pâte German: Teig







Answer: Putting sauce on dough

U.S. Naval Academy: On this day in 1845, the U.S. Naval Academy was founded in Annapolis, Maryland, to improve the instruction of midshipmen.