

Vote for
your
favorites,
Reader's
Choice
B10

Voters nix 3
BISD propositions

By David Stone
The Belton Journal

Belton ISD voters rejected three of four propositions in Tuesday's \$161.8 million bond referendum, including two propositions that focused on upgrades to the district's athletic and sports facilities.

Only Proposition C, which will update technology for students and staff, was approved by voters.

Proposition C makes up only \$6 million of the bond total.

Despite the results, Dr. Malinda Golden, BISD's superintendent, said the district has community support.

"We are proud of the record turnout from our Belton ISD voters and we are grateful for the support of our district," Golden said.

See ELECTION,
Page A9



BELTON JOURNAL/Michele Weisman

Seton Medical staff and Belton Area Chamber of Commerce cut the ribbon on Seton's new imaging center in Belton.

By Michele Weisman
The Belton Journal

On Friday, a tour and ribbon cutting was held for the new state-of-the-art imaging Seton Medical Center Harker Heights located at 2812 Oakmark Drive in Belton.

Staff, Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, and the public gathered to celebrate at 11 a.m.

Tables decorated with skeletons and flowers also held trays and cups of cookies, red grapes, and small cheese cubes.

Lucy Taylor, director of marketing, and Dr. Bodie Correll, chief medical officer, gave tours of the new facility. Each room has its designated specialty. One room is for X-rays, another for ultrasound, one for CT scans, and one for MRIs.

The Belton location, with its own dedicated staff, will have Harker Heights staff from time to time.

Speaking about the new location, Correll said, "We do the same things in both places. This is just increasing capacity and increasing access for this side of the county. We have CT here, we have plain X-ray, we have ultrasound, and then the MRI machine. And so we can do all four of those modalities. Probably the only main thing that we do in Harker Heights that we don't do here right now is mammograms."

Correll explained the importance of the new location, convenient for patient care. It is located near Free-

See SETON,
Page A2

Lake Belton Stampede Marching Band advances to state



Courtesy Photo

The Lake Belton Stampede compete on the field. The band is headed to compete at the State Marching Band Contest on Nov. 10 at the Alamodome.

Special to the Journal

The sound of success is ringing across Belton ISD as the Lake Belton High School Stampede Marching Band has once again advanced to the UIL State Marching Band Contest.

The achievement marks the continuation of a tradition of excellence for the Stampede, which has advanced to the state level every year since the school opened in 2020.

Under the direction of Bobby Yerigan, the Stampede's 2025 show, The Crown, features music by Richard Wagner and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Students began preparing the music in mid-July before adding drill and choreography in August. Yerigan said the ensemble's consistency and drive have helped cement a culture of excellence.

"The culture of expecting this to be 'normal' was built from day one," Yerigan said. "This program and these students don't know anything different, so it feels com-

See BAND,
Page A2

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Obituaries.....	A3
Lifestyles.....	A6
Service Directory.....	A8
Sports.....	B1
Editorial.....	B4, B9
BTOWN.....	B5
Classifieds.....	B6, B7
Church Directory.....	B8
Cut-it-Out.....	B9
Readers Choice Form..	B10



City rejects sidewalk project bids

By David Stone
The Belton Journal

The Belton City Council rejected all bids for a major sidewalk improvement project on South Penelope and North Main, and in Industrial Park, during last week's meeting.

The City opened bids from four contractors for the sidewalk project on Sept. 30. The low bid of \$1.003 million was received from ML Contracting of San Antonio, followed by bids of \$1.099 million by Wellcraft Builders of Round Rock, \$1.099 million by Palomares Construction of Bryan and \$2.053 million by Patin Construction of Taylor.

According to Scott Hodde, director of Public Works, the sidewalk project includes 12,000-square-feet of sidewalk and the relocation of existing sewer. It also includes storm sewers, hand-railing, American Disability Act ramps, reconstruction of driveways and a retaining wall with sloped concrete walls to create a drainage channel.

"Bids received for the project identified ML Contracting as the apparent low bidder," Hodde said in a statement to Council members. "However, after conducting reference checks based on information provided by the contractor, several concerns were noted that the City felt warranted careful consideration."

See SIDEWALK,
Page A7

**Troy Ashford**
*Local Agents Supporting
Local Athletes and Their
Families For 20 Years!*



201. E. 2nd Ave.
Belton, Texas 76513
(254) 933-2007





(254) 939-0343

2025  2025 



**TEMPLE TOWING**
(254) 771-1303
Templewrecker.com



Belton/Temple
clinic!
1618 Canyon
Creek Dr. #120



DERMATOLOGY
Serving patients closer to home!
RealSkinDerm.com



Schedule today!
254-265-7100



WHAT CAN WE
HELP YOU PROTECT?



Steve Giniewicz
Agent
1341 Marlandwood Rd.
Temple, TX 76502
254.760.5141
sginiewicz@txfb-ins.com



**TEXAS
FARM
BUREAU
INSURANCE®**
AUTO / HOME / LIFE

Nominations Open for 2025 Beltonian Award

Special to the Journal

The Board of Directors of the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting nominations from the community for the 2025 Beltonian Award.

This award is given to individuals who have demonstrated longtime achievement in volunteer service to the Belton community. That service could be for service in education, church, a service organization, youth programs, or any area that improves the quality of life in Belton.

Past recipients of the Beltonian Award include

Danny Dossman in 2024, Joe Sheppard in 2023, Don Al Ringler in 2022, Dan and Kandy Kirkley in 2021, Marion Grayson in 2020, Roscoe Harrison in 2019, and Andy Davis in 2018.

“This is a great opportunity to honor individuals for their service to our community,” stated Randy Pittenger, President/CEO of the Belton Chamber. “We look forward to seeing the nominations for this year.”

Letters of nomination must include a summary of why the nominee should be selected and recognized. All letters must be received by Monday, Dec. 1, 2025. The Board of Directors will select the award win-

ner from the submitted nominations at its December meeting.

Nominations should be sent via email to randy@beltonchamber.com or mailed to:

Beltonian Award Nominee
Belton Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 659
Belton, Texas 76513

For more information about the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, visit our website at www.beltonchamber.com, call 254-939-3551, or email us at info@beltonchamber.com.

DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day observed in Belton

By Michelle Rodriguez
The Belton Journal

The Central Texas community gathered to take part in the DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day and Community Resource Fair on October 25, the Saturday before Halloween, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oak Village Shopping Center.

This family-friendly event hosted in partnership with the Central Texas Council of Governments, CENTEX Regional Advisory Council, Central Texas Poison Control, Safe Kids Mid-Texas, offered a safe and convenient way to dispose of unused or expired medications while also connecting with local resources and services.

“CTCOG has two of its divisions involved in the fair, the Regional Planning Division, and the Area Agency on

Aging by offering its front of the building and parking lot to host,” said CTCOG’s Director of Area Agency on Aging, George Losoya.

“Even with the government shutdown, we held it, rain or shine! It was a big need for the community. We had people from all over like Gatesville come. People dropped off their unused prescriptions, open, and unopened bottles,” said Tommie Ferguson, Community Education Specialist with BBA Poison Control. “We collected over 100 pounds of medication. We are looking to have another one in April 2026.”

In addition to safe medication disposal and car safety checks, attendees explored the Community Resource Fair featuring local resources and services.

“This event was about keeping our community safe and connected,” said Ferguson. “By properly disposing of medi-

cations and learning about local resources, families helped protect their loved ones while enjoying a fun fall event.”

There was a drive thru to drop off medication, with narcotics and non-narcotics being accepted. They could not take sharps or anything with needles. Anything battery operated must have the battery taken out.

“The helicopter from PHI, Temple Ambulance, and the Belton fire truck were there to promote the event and give the public the opportunity to see inside emergency vehicles,” said Losoya.

Everybody from the game warden was there with a boat to teach the kids water safety, vendors from Baylor Scott and White and Coryell, and Centex RAC did car seat checks.

They passed out candy and goodies for the kids. The event helped make this Halloween a safe, healthy, and fun day for the Bell County community.

Seton - From Page A1

dom Urgent Care and Wellstone Health Partner Family Medicine Clinic.

Correll said, “It may take 60 or 90 days to get in for an MRI. So just increasing that access, trying to bring down wait times.”

Taylor pointed out, “There’s a lot of parking here. Generally, if you’re coming in to have something like this done, you’re probably on crutches or have some kind of injury. You’re not having to park in a large parking lot and navigate a hospital.

COO/CNO Mandy Shaiffer, said during the ceremony, “We are very proud to reaffirm our commitment to expanding services and health care where they’re needed in our communities.

Chamber President/CEO, Randy Pittenger, helped with the official Belton Area Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The new Belton location expects to start seeing patients in early November.

Band - From Page A1

pletely natural to us. We expect to be in this position year after year.”

As they prepare for the state contest, Yerigan said the focus shifts toward precision and detail.

“These last two weeks of preparation have been more intense and fine-detail driven,” he explained. “We can play the music and march the drill just like everyone else, but it’s the small refinements that will ultimately separate the bands that advance. As I tell the kids, it’s the little things now that make the biggest difference.”

For the students of the Stampede, this season has been defined by growth, grit and pride.

Junior Gabe Jones said seeing the band’s progress from rehearsal to performance has been especially rewarding.

“No matter what, rain or shine, we show up, work hard and get better,” he said. Senior drum major Olivia Cromwell called it a defining year for the young program. “Seeing the band’s energy in real time is exhilarating,” she said. “This season has really shown who the Stampede is and what we’re made of. If I could describe us in one word, it would be tenacious.”

That determination, senior Jill Stewart added, “helps us overcome challenges and perform with pride.”

Junior Adam Namkung agreed, saying the band’s focus and discipline have been key to its success.

“We’ve learned to stay focused, fix mistakes quickly and keep pushing ourselves to improve.”

While Lake Belton advances, Belton High School’s

M100 Marching Band capped off a remarkable season of its own with a powerful performance of Between the Storms. Directed by Kevin Kwaku, the show explores the emotions and energy of rain, storms and sunlight through a dynamic musical journey.

“Our 3-day fundamentals camp began last school year at the end of April,” Kwaku said. “Our guard and percussion students began preparing in mid-July, and the full band came together at the end of the month for summer rehearsals. From that point forward, our students poured their hearts into every performance.”

Senior trombone section leader and drum major Shawn Noel reflected on the experience, saying his favorite part of the show came during the fourth movement, which features many amazing moving parts. Describing the season in one word, Noel chose perseverance.

“Our band program has pushed through many challenges and continues to grow and improve as an ensemble,” he said.

Belton ISD Director of Fine Arts Keith Zuehlke said the Stampede’s return to state highlights the district’s strong fine arts programs and the culture of excellence students and staff have built together.

“Advancing to the state marching contest is a tremendous achievement and a reflection of months of dedication, discipline and teamwork,” he said. “For Lake Belton High School, it validates the artistic and personal growth of our students and showcases the excellence that comes from commitment, collaboration and resilience.”

Zuehlke added that while only one band advanced, both programs represent the heart of Belton ISD’s fine arts community. “Both the Stampede and M100 demonstrate what it means to strive for excellence,” he said. “Each performance, from rehearsal fields to competition stages, builds confidence, leadership and lifelong memories. We couldn’t be prouder of their accomplishments and the way they represent Belton ISD.”

Board Vice President and Stampede Booster Chris Flor echoed that sentiment, noting the unity and perseverance shared across both programs.

What stands out most is the extraordinary commitment and endurance our students show every day,” Flor said. “Marching band demands both physical and mental strength, with hours of practice that rival any athletic program, from the heat of summer band camp through the final competitions in November. Yet through it all, they bring passion, precision and pride to every performance. Their dedication reflects the very best of what it means to be a Belton ISD student — driven, disciplined and deeply committed to excellence.”

He added that both the Stampede and Belton High’s Marching 100 “show what happens when students, families and directors come together to lift one another up.”

The Lake Belton High School Stampede will perform The Crown at the UIL 5A State Marching Band Contest on Monday, November 10, at the Alamodome in San Antonio.



Thank You, Veterans!



The Belton Journal (ISSN 1053-9131) is published every Thursday, 210 N. Penelope, Belton, TX 76513. Second Class periodical postage paid at Belton, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Belton Journal P.O. Box 180 Belton, TX 76513

Publisher: David Tuma, David@BeltonJournal.Com; **Classifieds & Legals:** Elsie Wiley, Legals@BeltonJournal.Com; **Advertising:** Madison Sinclair, Sales@BeltonJournal.Com, ads@beltonjournal.com; **News Editor:** Lynette Sowell, LSowell@CoveLeaderPress.com; **Sports Editor:** Clay Whittington, Sports@BeltonJournal.Com; **Sports Reporters:** Tony Adams, Aries Ramos

Graphic Artists: Jason Bachie, Emma Gill **Creative Consultant:** Susan Kolodziejczyk;

News Reporters: David Stone, Michelle Rodriguez, Annie Dockery, Michele Weisman, Shanna Grote

Submission guidelines for 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 its terms.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

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

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



SERVING OUR COMMUNITIES FOR OVER 61 YEARS

Traditional Burial Services • Cremation Services • Veterans Services • Pre-Planning Options

Killeen

506 North 38th Street
(254) 699-8200

Belton

503 North Main Street
(254) 939 2411

Temple

500 West Barton Avenue
(254) 773-4564

OBITUARIES



Insall

Carolyn Sue Insall
December 11, 1946 –
November 1, 2025

Carolyn Sue Insall, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and faithful servant of the Lord, was called home by her Savior on Saturday, November 1, 2025. Visitation will be at Dossman Funeral Home in Belton, Texas on Thursday, November 6th from 6:00-8:00 PM. Funeral Service will be at Dossman Funeral Home on Friday November 7th at 1:00 PM with interment following at North Belton Cemetery Pavilion. She was born on December 11, 1946, in Ranger, Texas, to George Dalton Millican and Gladys Adams Millican. On March 1, 1991, Carolyn married the love of her life, Arnold “Pee Wee” Insall, in Belton, Texas. Together, they built a life filled with devotion, laughter, and faith. Carolyn earned her Master of Science degree from Tarleton State University in 1994 and went on to dedicate 25 years of her career to Scott & White Hospital, where her compassion and professionalism touched many lives. Carolyn joyfully shared the love of Jesus teaching children’s Sunday School for 20 years. She was instrumental in establishing the Body of Christ Community Clinic, a ministry close to her heart. Her service extended to volunteering with Texans on Mission, Campers on Mission, Crosswaters Outfitters, Hope for the Hungry, and many others ministries. After retiring from Scott & White, Carolyn enjoyed spending time as part of the Wildflower Quilt Guild, and fishing with Pee Wee—simple pleasures that reflected her creativity and love of God’s creation. She was a devoted member of First Baptist Church in Belton, Texas where she worshiped faithfully and built lasting friendships. She is survived by her husband, Arnold “Pee Wee” Insall of Belton, Texas; her children, William David Houghton and wife Michele of Franklin, Tennessee, and Susan Denise Coffey and husband Billy Coffey of Temple, Texas; her grandchildren, Elizabeth and Sarah Houghton of Franklin, Tennessee, and Ricky Gill and wife Bethany of Temple, Texas. She was also great-grandmother “Gigi” to Colt and Elijah Gill. She is also survived by her brothers,

Homer Dalton Millican and wife Linda of Odessa, Texas, and Larry Milburn Millican and wife Tracy of Georgetown, Texas, and many beloved nieces and nephews. Carolyn will be remembered for her servant’s heart, steadfast faith, and the warmth she shared with everyone who crossed her path. Hope for the Hungry, 627 Hope For The Hungry St, Belton, TX 76513 <https://hopeforthehungry.org/ways-help/donate>



Body of Christ Community Clinic. 2210 Holland Rd Ste B, Belton, TX 76513 <https://bodyofchristclinic.org/donate-to-body-of-christ-community-clinic/>

Morgan

Judith Ann Speer Morgan
March 17, 1951 –
September 4, 2025

Judith Ann Speer Morgan, age 74, passed away September 4th, 2025, at Baylor Scott & White Hospital in Temple, Texas. Judy chose to be cremated. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at 11am, Saturday, November 8th, 2025, at Soldiers of the Cross Fellowship, 14788 FM 439, Nolanville, Texas. Judy was born on March 17th, 1951, in Corpus Christi, Texas to Claude and Dorothy Speer. She grew up in Robstown and graduated from Robstown High School in 1969. She attended Texas A&I University from 1969 to 1973 where she studied Elementary Education, specializing in kindergarten. She moved to San Antonio, Texas to begin her teaching career. She worked for 29 years in the San Antonio I.S.D. at Laura Steele Elementary as a kindergarten teacher (17 years) and then as a 2nd grade teacher (12 years). Judy was a member of the Texas Retired Teacher Association. Judy met her husband Charlie in January of 1980, and they married in Robstown at her sister’s home in 1983. In 2019 she and Charlie relocated to Belton, Texas. Judy attended the Fellowship of San Antonio Church in San Antonio, Texas and upon relocating to Belton, Texas became a member of The Soldiers of the Cross Cowboy Fellowship in Nolanville, Texas. Judy enjoyed many activities with her husband such as fishing, gardening and traveling. She also loved to read. Judy is survived by her loving husband, Charlie,

sons; Alan & wife Elena Morgan of Royse City, Texas, Sean & wife Tracy Morgan of Appleton, Wisconsin, Scott & wife Amanda Morgan of Tyler, Texas, six grandchildren, three great granddaughters, and one great grandson, sister Claudia & husband Johnny Secrest of Corpus Christi, Texas and nephew Wade Secrest. Judy was preceded in death by her parents Claude and Dorothy Speer. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made to the Soldiers of the Cross Cowboy Fellowship, P.O. Box 363 Nolanville, TX. 76559, <https://soldiersofthecross.life/give> or your favorite charity.

Pechal

Ronson Wayne Pechal,
August 8, 1973 –
October 23, 2025

Ronson Wayne Pechal, born on August 8, 1973, in Temple, Texas, ascended to his heavenly home on Thursday, October 23, 2025, at his residence in Temple. He was a man who touched the lives of many, known for his honesty, straightforward nature, and unwavering commitment to his family. His education began at Rogers High School, where he graduated in 1991, having showcased his athletic capabilities on the football field. He furthered his skills with EMT and firefighting training, embracing his calling to aid and protect those around him. Ronson dedicated his career to public service; he began with Belton EMS before making his way to South Texas, where he continued to serve until the spring of 2000. He returned to Temple, joining the Temple Fire Department, a role that allowed him to demonstrate his dedication to community safety and well-being. Later on, he made the heartfelt decision to become a caregiver for his beloved parents, a choice that showcased his deep love and respect for family. Ronson was a man of many interests and hobbies. He enjoyed fishing, cooking, and camping, often finding joy in these activities while surrounded by his family. His participation in the men’s brotherhoods, Bible studies, and community events held at SPJST reflected his desire to connect and contribute to his community. A proud member of his Czech heritage, he held a special love for East Bell County and attended both Seaton Church and Ocker Brethren Church. As a father and grandfather, Ronson took immense pride in his family. He is survived by his parents, Larry Pechal and Darlene (Psencik) Pechal, his daughter, Megan (Cornelius) Chopin, and his sons, Justin (Beth) Pechal and Logan (Makaylea) Pechal. He was a cherished brother

to Brandon (Sarah) Pechal and a devoted grandfather to five grandchildren. He is also remembered fondly by his niece, Allison, and nephew, Grayson, along with his beloved cat, Bubs. Ronson will be remembered not only for his steadfast character and love for his family but also for his sense of humor and genuine outlook on life. His legacy will undoubtedly continue to resonate with those who knew and loved him. A visitation was held on November 3, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM, followed by the Funeral Service at 2:00 PM at Young’s Daughters Funeral Home & Bereavement Center, located at 4235 E. US Hwy 190, Temple, TX 76501. The burial took place later that day at 3:30 PM at Ocker Brethren Church Cemetery, Farmers Rd, Temple, TX 76501. Ronson Wayne Pechal leaves behind a rich legacy of love, family, and service that will be cherished and remembered by all fortunate enough to have known him. Arrangements are under the direction of Sabrina Young at Young’s Daughters Funeral Home and Bereavement Center in Temple, Texas

Luckett

Carl A. Luckett
July 18, 1964 –
October 28, 2205

Funeral services for Carl A. Luckett, 61, of Rogers, was held at 1:00 PM, Monday, Nov 3, 2025, at Dossman Funeral Home Chapel with

Rev. Allen Raynor officiating. Burial will follow at Reeds Lake Cemetery. The family received friends for visitation 5:00 -7:00 PM, Sunday evening, Nov 2, 2025 at the funeral home. Mr. Luckett died October, 28, 2025, in a Temple hospital. Mr. Luckett was born July 18, 1964 in Landstuhl, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, the son of Chester Alonzo Luckett and Catherine Geraldine Denny Luckett. He married Dixie Lawson, July 31, 1987, in Belton. He was a long haul truck driver and owned his own truck. He enjoyed being self-employed. Later he went to work for Bell County in the Road and Bridge Department. Mr. Luckett was preceded in

death by his parents, one son Jason David Pavy, father-in-law Gene Lawson; two brothers and a nephew. Survivors include his wife, Dixie Luckett; two daughters, Melissa Brown and husband Daniel, and Angie Williams Brown and husband Marco; three sisters Carol, Catherine and Cheryl; seven grandchildren, Vanessa Ngotel and husband Walton, Olivia Pavy, Mikayla Brown, Erin Gardner and husband Jesse, Makayla Brown, Adyson Felix and Ricky Coffey; and three great-grandchildren, Uriah Scott, Makensley Ngotel and Chase Ngotel.



Auto • Home
Life • Commercial

Kenny Paysse **FARMERS**
778-7136 **INSURANCE**



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

All Are Welcome in Person or on Zoom!
Rev. Kathy Vineyard, Pastor



CENTRAL TEXAS
MEMORIAL COMPANY

- Custom Designs
- Quality Workmanship
- Large Inventory
- Quick Turnaround Time

208 N. Head St. Belton, TX 254-933-2474



CAROTHERS
EXECUTIVE HOMES

Custom Built Homes
773-5100
50 Wheat Rd. Belton
10 Year Warranty

Hewett-Arney Funeral Home

Serving families in our historic building since 1942



Did you Know...

Belton was first known as the town of Nolanville. In 1851, Nolanville was incorporated and the town name was changed to Belton. Fact from Texas State Historical Association.

100% Family Owned (254) 778-3200 Phones answered 24/7 Please don't text & drive!	Direct Cremation \$1600 <i>Complete</i> <i>Includes Crematory fee</i>	Complete Funeral \$5510 <i>Includes 20ga</i> <i>Steel Casket</i>
---	--	---

14 W. Barton Ave. • Temple • www.HewettArney.com

Call and ask for pricing. By regulation funeral home must disclose pricing by phone.

Home is Where the Care is!



At Home Care ✿ Alzheimer's Care ✿ Hospice Support

(254) 780-9864 **CAREAGEHOMECARE.COM**

FREE 3 Month
Trial Subscription



HAPPY VETERANS DAY!

Because
Home
Is
Where
The
Care
Is



"I have depended on CareAge HomeCare for over a year for in-home assistance with my elderly parents. I give credit to CareAge for enabling them to stay in their home as long as they have. Many thanks to Vicki and her staff as they have really made a difference in my parents' lives."
-Wendell Smith

At Home Care • Alzheimer's Care • Hospice Support
CareAge HomeCare
Call us today and see how we can help!
(254) 780-9864
CareAgeHomeCare.com



Courtesy photo
Photo of Terry Grounds and J.N. Dunn. They were friends as they served in the Marines.

Local Vietnam veteran shares his story

By Michelle Rodriguez
The Belton Journal

Terry Grounds served with the III Marine Amphibious Force in Vietnam from February 1968 through December 1969. He fought in the Tet Offensive many different times.

"I arrived in Vietnam by sea and did a water landing. On Monkey Mountain, there are real monkeys. They ate our left-over food. I was saved by the grace of God. I had bullet holes in my clothes. I got shrapnel in my butt. They used tweezers to get it out. A new second lieutenant told me to go into a rat hole. First, I threw three hand grenades in the tunnel, and we heard the enemy screaming. The second lieutenant apologized for ordering me to go down in there," said Grounds.

The Marines were ordered to go into the villages where they were attacked by different men, women, and children.

"I was in the field on the front line. I was awake for three straight days. People would sleep for two hours and take turns being on watch. They asked us if any anybody knew how to type," said Grounds.

He raised his hand and began to drive and type for a General in Saigon, Vietnam. The General asked Grounds not to salute him and he rode in the front seat in order not to be killed by the enemy.

"My mother would wait to get letters from me. The postman cried

when I came home," said Grounds.

His mother sent clothes for Grounds to distribute to the children who had nothing to wear. When his time was up, Grounds landed in San Francisco, California. He was the only Marine on the plane with Army soldiers. A protestor spit on him and the cop told Grounds to keep walking after Grounds punched the spitting protestor in the face.

Grounds' service paperwork burned in a fire. Grounds found and contacted his best friend from the Marine Corps, J.N. Dunn, right before Dunn died due to complications from Agent Orange. Dunn wrote a letter as a witness to Grounds' service and verified different locations Grounds served. Grounds' spouse stated that was a day neither will forget when Grounds found his Marine best friend Dunn.

Military service runs in his family. Grounds and his wife, Darcel, have three sons who are all combat veterans. Darcel Ground's father retired as a CWO4 in the Marines and was a Drill Sergeant at the MCRD.

"My uncle flew in Japan during WWII. He was a POW. He became friends with his prison guards. The guards let them go free when the U.S. gained control over the area," said Grounds.

Grounds worked for TDA inspecting animals and then DECA as a meatcutter before he retired.

Honor Vietnam veterans in your community

The Department of Veterans Affairs notes that approximately 2.7 million Americans served in the Vietnam War. There was strong domestic opposition to American involvement in the conflict, and many veterans returning from the war were treated poorly and unfairly. That made it difficult for Vietnam veterans to adjust to life at home.

a problem compounded by the trauma of the war. Although it is impossible to reverse time and remedy the poor treatment of Vietnam veterans, there are ways that the public can honor those veterans who sacrificed their safety and health in service of their country. These ideas can help communities express their gratitude to veterans who served in the Vietnam War.

• Join the Vietnam War Commemoration as a commemorative partner. Once approved, member organizations are given a free starter kit of materials for developing and implementing their

programs and events.

• Adopt a care facility. Individuals or organizations can support a local VA hospital or gathering organization by organizing events that can include visits, food and entertainment.

• Single out Vietnam veterans in the community. Spotlight features on veterans who live in town with the newspaper or interviews for a townwide blog or social media group. Share veterans' stories with as many people as possible.

• Offer special discounts to Vietnam veterans. On National Vietnam War Veterans Day this March, community officials can encourage local restaurants to offer discounts on meals and small business owners can offer exclusive sales to service personnel who served in Vietnam.

These are some of the ways communities can recognize Vietnam veterans who call their towns and cities home.



Veteran Owned & Operated

William & Gwen Pomykal
Service & Repairs
Preventative Maintenance

SERVING BELTON, TEMPLE, AND KILLEEN

(254) 938-6290

www.gopomykal.com
#TACLA22074C



Thank You, Veterans!

We salute your service, and wish you a happy Veterans Day.

LARGE ENOUGH TO HANDLE DIVERSE NEEDS, SMALL ENOUGH TO CARE!

254-939-0701 **Alton D. Thiele P.C.**
1300 E. Avenue C - Belton
adtepa.com Email: alton@adtepa.com



WE APPRECIATE OUR VETERANS & MILITARY

Norman Building Materials
HANDY OFFERED & OPERATED SINCE 1945

1010 S MAIN ST. (254) 939-5132
NORMANBUILDINGMATERIALS.COM

Veterans Day
HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Please Join the
Belton Senior Activity Center
842 S. Mitchell Street, Belton Texas
To Celebrate and Honor Veterans
Friday, November 7, 2025
Reception -- 8:30am
Program 9:00am -- 11:00am
Barbeque Lunch Following
Sponsored by VFW Post 4008

BACFS, Inc.
Serving Belton Area Seniors

Please call the Center at 254-939-1170 to make reservations

Honoring the Best & the Bravest

For their courage, hard work and dedication to their country, we salute the men and women of our Armed Forces past and present. It is because of their sacrifice that America remains the land of the free, and we thank them for protecting our citizens and our country.

Wishing all of our veterans and soldiers a very happy Veterans Day.

VFW 4008
2311 S. Pearl St.
Belton, TX
939-7159

Saluting Our Veterans

Thank you for making us the #1 shop for Automotive repair, and quality tires from Bridgestone, Firestone, and Fuzion.

Jones Home & Auto
Family Owned & Operated Since 1950

103 N. Main Street | Belton, TX
M-F 7:30-5:30 & Sat 8-1
www.jonesautomotive.net

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to veterans.

REEC SVI

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Answer: Service

THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR COUNTRY

PROTECTING OUR Freedom

ALLABOUT Insurance

Tim Hodge
41025 31st Suite #300
Temple, TX 76702
254-773-3833
http://allaboutinsurancesales.com
Tim@allaboutinsurancesales.com

VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS



Our home is accepting guests and available at no cost to those needing to make the most of every moment

OUR HOSPICE HOUSE

254-500-7123
WWW.OURHOSPICEHOUSE.ORG



Relax... We'll Handle It.



Temple
254-773-7750

Harker Heights
254-699-1102

Salado
254-947-8480

Belton
254-831-9320

www.fcttx.com

A6
Thursday,
November 6, 2025

LIFESTYLES

THE BELTON JOURNAL

Belton High School students build skills and confidence at Masonry Days

Special to the Journal

Students at Belton High School traded their pencils for trowels during the campus's two-day Masonry Days event on October 30–31, an immersive learning experience designed to introduce students to the art and science of masonry.

Hosted in partnership with the Texas Masonry Council, the event combined hands-on training, live demonstrations and a friendly wall-building competition that showcased craftsmanship, teamwork and career readiness in action.

Led by Belton ISD Construction Careers teacher Michael Carrillo, the event welcomed both middle and high school students eager to explore the trade.

Carrillo explained that hosting middle schoolers for Masonry Day offered them a unique opportunity to experience the construction industry through engaging activities, industry insights and expert-led training.

"They're getting a real feel for what this work looks like and the pride that comes with building something lasting," he said.

Over the course of two days, students learned the fundamentals of masonry with a focus on bricklaying and blockwork. They rotated through demonstrations on mortar spreading, blocklaying, and supplier-led presentations before tackling a design challenge and wall-building contest.

Carrillo shared that the lessons went beyond technical ability, emphasizing that learning masonry equips students with practical skills and insights into the construction industry while fostering creativity, problem-solving and teamwork. It also gives them an appreciation for craftsmanship and safety in building practices.

As part of the event, representatives from Texas State Technical College's Building Construction Technology program were on hand to recognize outstanding student performance with scholarships valued at \$100, \$150 and \$250. These awards celebrate students' emerging skills and encourage them to continue exploring pathways in the construction industry.

Denise Ayres, Belton ISD's Director of PK–12 Career Readiness, said events like Masonry Day bring classroom instruction to life.

"Students have the opportunity to apply the skills they've been learning in a real-world setting, working side by side with professionals who use these techniques every day," she said. "It's one thing to learn about construction in theory, but it's another to lay brick, measure for precision and see how craftsmanship, problem-solving and teamwork come together in the field. Experiences like this help students make the direct connection between what they're learning today and the career pathways available to them tomorrow."

Ayres added that partnerships like the one with the



Courtesy Photo

Belton High School students hone their skills at Masonry Days last Thursday and Friday, where they learned foundational methods for bricklaying, and more.

Texas Masonry Council are essential in preparing students for success beyond high school. "Industry partnerships are vital in preparing students for the future," she said. "Partners like the Texas Masonry Council help ensure that our programs stay aligned with workforce needs, provide students with access to expert mentors, and open doors to internships and job opportunities. These collaborations allow students to experience the standards and expectations of the profession firsthand while building valuable relationships with employers who are invested in their success."

The event also gave students the chance to build confidence as they took on authentic, hands-on tasks.

"Experiential learning empowers students to see themselves as capable, skilled and employable," Ayres said. "When students are trusted to take on authentic tasks, they develop a sense of pride and ownership in their work. They gain confidence not only in their technical skills but also in essential employability skills such as communication, perseverance and attention to detail that employers consistently value."

For many students, the experience was both challenging and rewarding. Senior Bryson Necessary, a TeamWorks Mason and National Silver Medalist, said

the event reminded him why he first fell in love with the trade.

"Back when my sophomore-year TeamWorks team needed another guy, the only spot left was masonry," he recalled. "I hadn't really been taught much yet, but once I started trying it, Mr. Carrillo helped me out, and I ended up really enjoying it."

Although he didn't compete this time, Necessary said he was eager to see what others could create.

"I'm curious to see what everyone can do with their designs," he said. "Talking to some of the people here really opened my eyes to what's possible in this career. I don't have the same thoughts about my future that I did just a few days ago."

Ayres said the event exemplifies Belton ISD's mission to connect learning with purpose. "Belton ISD's Career Readiness programs are built on the belief that students learn best when education is connected to purpose," she said. "Events like Masonry Day link education, industry and opportunity. We're proud of our teachers for creating meaningful experiences and grateful to our industry partners for helping us prepare students who are ready to lead, contribute, and build the future—literally and figuratively."

Railway Express offering free Thanksgiving dinner

Special to the Journal

For the third year in a row, Railway Express



2809 Oakmark Dr.
254-939-5000
www.grandavenuetheater.com

Visit our website or call for showtime info

Diner in downtown Belton is opening its doors to the community with a free Thanksgiving meal for anyone and everyone.

Owners Christi and Jay Williams started the tradition as a way to give back to the community that has supported them since opening the diner.

What began as a simple idea to help those who

might otherwise go without a Thanksgiving meal has grown into a local event that brings together families, friends, and neighbors from all walks of life.

"This is our way of saying thank you," said owner Christi Williams. "We see people who might be spending the holiday alone, families who could

use a little help, or just folks who want to share a meal and some company — and it fills our hearts to have them all at our table."

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held on Thanksgiving Eve, Tuesday, November 26, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Railway Express Diner, 201 N. East Street, Down-

town Belton.

The meal is completely free, no sign-up required — everyone is welcome to come in, sit down, and enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving spread featuring fried turkey and all the fixings, prepared fresh by the diner's team and volunteers.

Last year, the diner served around 200 indi-

viduals and families.

"It's the smiles, the stories, and the feeling of community that make it so rewarding," said Jay Williams. "We get as much out of it as the guests do — maybe more."

Railway Express Diner invites everyone to join them this Thanksgiving Eve to share food, fellowship, and gratitude.

Aquamation, a new way to memorialize pets

By Michelle Rodriguez
The Belton Journal

"All dogs go to heaven," and now there is an

option to help pets get there, aquamation.

The Aquamation Center at Carlson Pet

Memorial now offers aquamation in Belton and across Central Texas.

"This is a gentler way

to send a pet off to heaven. Most people cremate, bury, or taxidermy their pet's remains," said Ron Ducharme, professional services director for the Aquamation Center at Carlson Pet Memorial. "Anyone that would like information may contact me."

Aquamation uses a combination of warm water, gentle flow, and alkali to accelerate a natural process that returns a loved one to the earth.

"Human aquamation is legal in 25 states and growing. It's legal in all 50 states for animals," said Abraham Nimeh, owner/operator of the Aquamation Center at

Carlson Pet Memorial.

The process uses 90 percent less energy than traditional flame-based pet cremation and produces zero direct emissions of harmful substances, including mercury and greenhouse gases. The process uses 95 percent water and five percent alkali, which is also found in food, makeup, and naturally in soil.

The alkali found in soil and water is what causes a loved one who is buried to return to earth over a period of three months to seven years. Aquamation accomplish-

See **PETS**,
Page A7



JOHN R. HOLMES SR.
Financial Advisor

john.holmessr@raymondjames.com
2010 Birdcreek Drive, Suite 100 // Temple, TX 76502
T 254.314.8867

Services offered
Investments • Financial & Retirement Planning Estate,
Charitable Giving & Trust • Educational Savings

RAYMOND JAMES

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. © 2021 Raymond James Financial Services, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through Raymond James Financial Services Advisors, Inc. 21-BRAUW06-0002 TA 4/21

Sidewalk - From Page A1

“While the City appreciates the effort and interest shown by ML Contracting, city staff has determined that it would be in the City’s best interest to reject all bids,” Hodde added.

Hodde pointed out that several minor revisions have been identified that need to be updated, and the revisions will result in changes to certain quantities and specifications.

“Awarding the engineers and the City to make these updates will help ensure the project is accurately scoped and positioned to be successful,” he said.

Also last week, the City authorized the purchase of Data Center hardware to replace Belton’s aging facility.

“This purchase will allow the Belton IT Department to replace existing servers, switches and storage that comprise our current virtual environment that currently hosts the virtual servers,” said Chris Brown, director of Information Technology.

The virtual environment will consist of three servers, two 10 GB switches and a large, shared storage device that will provide a lower cost of ownership and maintenance.

The cost of the equipment is \$169,032.26.

Also, the council approved the submission of an application to Texas Parks & Wildlife for implementing a new outdoor recreation program called Project EXPLORE.

“If successful, the \$95,500 grant will help Belton Parks & Recreation connect underserved residents to the outdoors,” said Adam Trujillo, a recreation specialist for the city. “The grant is designed to engage individuals who may not typically visit Texas State Parks or participate in nature-based programs.”

“Our initiative will focus on reaching individuals from low-income and minority communities, as well as encouraging greater participation among women,” Trujillo said in a statement. “Through this program, we aim to inspire a lifelong appreciation for outdoor recreation and ensure equitable access to nature for all members of our community. To achieve this, we will purchase and outfit a mobile classroom trailer that can travel to schools, community events, the public library, and local parks, bringing outdoor education directly to where people are.”

The grant opportunity ended Nov. 1.

Pets- From Page A6

es the same natural process in about 20 hours. It can be performed on very small companions, such as small birds, guinea pigs, and hamsters.

The remains are a vital resource to the organic farmer and can help to revitalize burnt or damaged forestry.

“It is sterile, spore-free, and all pharmaceuticals are totally inert,” said Nimeh. “Aquamation produces 20 to 30 percent more remains because the gentle process does not incinerate delicate structures. The remains are a pyre white, soft substance, unlike the charred, coarse remains from standard pet cremation.”

The aquamation process ensures there is no co-mingling of remains, unlike standard pet cremation where ashes are blown around by jets. This ensures the remains the owner gets back is theirs, and theirs alone. The remains from aquamation are 100 percent safe, pure, and are a vital source to the organic farmer. They are free of pathogens

and pharmaceutical residue that may be present in fire remains.

Aquamation is the industry standard in many areas of the country and the world. It may inevitably be the standard for pet interment in Texas.

Carlson Pet Memorial is available 24 hours, seven days a week with on-demand transportation, compassionate staff, affordable and value-based, high standards, local care, personalized delivery, and dignified internment program.

Pricing for services vary depending on weight of animal, package, or they offer communal only.

Memorial package includes aquamation service, choice of one of four urns: bamboo picture, bamboo shaker, mango wood, or acacia tree of life, name engraved on urn, and claw paw print.

For more information contact Ron Ducharme at 254-218-3951.

Expert, Affordable Auto Repairs & Maintenance

DARREL & STEVEN GREEN



254-770-0666 | www.DarrelGreensAutoTX.com

205 E. THIRD AVE.
BELTON, TX
254-939-5703
FUMCBELTON.ORG



BELTON FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS

McGuire Tire

103 Lake Rd. | Belton | 939.1357
603 S. 1st | Temple | 773.3114
Oil Changes • Alignments • Brakes • Batteries • Lift Kits • Front End Repair • Shocks/Struts
Wheels • Truck Accessories • Mobile Tire Service • Nitrogen Inflation • Lawn/ATV Tires
Nationwide Road Hazard • Off Road Sealer • Truck Tire Retreading • Farm/Construction Tires

“Since 1947”

McGuireTire.com



78th Anniversary Sale!!



Call for PRICE!

•Free Tire Rotations
•Free Alignment Checks
•Free Air Pressure Check
•Free Brake Inspection



MUD TIRE SPECIALS
ALL ON SALE

\$10.00 OFF OIL CHANGE

ADDITIONAL QUARTS & SYNTHETIC OIL HIGHER. DOES NOT INCLUDE DIESELS OR SPECIALTY FILTERS. NOT TO BE COMBINED WITH OTHER OIL CHANGE COUPONS. THIS DEAL.

McGuire Tire EXP. 12-31-25

6 MONTH FINANCING

(SEVERAL CREDIT OPTIONS)

McGuire Tire EXP. 12-31-25

\$20 OFF SERVICE COUPON

Choose One:
• Alignment
• Brake Service (Most Vehicles)

McGuire Tire EXP. 12-31-25

NITROGEN INFLATION (4 TIRES) \$24.95

Helps tires run cooler and maintains proper inflation through temperature changes. Proper inflation promotes better fuel mileage and total tire miles. Price good for passenger and SUV tires. LT sizes and dual prices slightly higher.

McGuire Tire EXP. 12-31-25

1000'S OF TIRES ON SALE!



GOODYEAR
P215/55 R17
ASSURANCE \$168



NEXEN
P205/65R15
AH5 \$128



Kelly Tires
LT265/75 R16E
Edge AT \$224



Mastercraft
LT275/65 R20E
MXT \$350



Kelly Tires
P225/60R17
A/S \$150



GOODYEAR
P275/55R20
LS2 \$215

SEE STORE FOR MORE INFO



BRIDGESTONE
P275/55R20
Alenza \$250



Firestone
P265/70R17
LE3 \$250



UNIROYAL
P225/60R16
M/S \$156



Firestone
LT245/75R17
AT2 \$272



YOKOHAMA
LT265/70R17E
AT15 \$226



KUMHO TIRE
LT285/70R17E
AT52 \$240



McGuire Tire

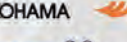


Brushguards

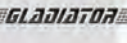


LIFT KITS
Truck Accessories

ASK FOR REBATES







WELCOME

NOVEMBER

IN ALL Things GIVE Thanks

FREE 3-Month Trial Subscription

SCAN ME!



Local Service Directory

Household Services



BEST-WAY
Carpet Services

VINYL PLANK HARDWOOD VINYL
CARPET CERAMIC TILE

GET PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
254.770.0932

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Feel free to write us, info@bestwaycarpets.net
3206 Airport Rd, Temple, TX 76504

Systems & Appliances

Pomykal
Heating & Cooling

Belton, Temple, Killeen

(254) 938-6290

William Pomykal Service & Repairs
Gwen Pomykal Preventative Maintenance

www.gopomykal.com TACLA22074C

Construction

Brown's House Leveling & Foundation Repair

Belton Owned  Free Estimates
Est. 1960

254-228-9179



Custom Draperies

We design & fabricate in our own workroom!
Custom Draperies - Fabrics - Blinds

1805 N Main St, Belton, TX 254-382-0070

Spoons

Home Appliance Service
Since 1970

We provide in Home Service on All Major Brands of Appliances.

791-1973 

MJ PAINTING CONSTRUCTION
25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

- DRYWALL REPAIR AND PAINTING
- COMPETITIVE PRICES
- UNPARALLELED SERVICE

FREE ESTIMATES
512-746-6123

Yardwork

The Original
Ash Tree Service



- Tree Trimming
- Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Tree Planting

Free Estimates
Split Firewood For Sale
Third Generation

254.654.6317
254.939.7007

Cleaning

English Maids

Residential/Commercial • Cleaning Service

254-231-0563

Good Neighbors Fencing and Construction

A 6000 FENCE KEEPS A 6000 NEIGHBOR
LOCALLY OWNED

LOOKING FOR A LOCAL FENCING CONTRACTOR IN TEMPLE, TX?

(254) 346-1405

Hamm's Tile & Marble
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Showers, Floors, Walls



254-231-9016
Wesley@HammTileAndMarble.com
HammTileAndMarble.com

Take the time to honor veterans this holiday season

The holiday season is a time when family and friends gather to reconnect and celebrate. For many families there are people missing from these celebrations, whether they sacrificed their lives defending the country or died honorably years after serving in the military.

As individuals plan to add spirit to homes and businesses through decorations and other touches, they also can consider adding a bit of the holidays to the places where their beloved service members lie in eternal rest. This is the main premise behind the Wreaths Across America organization.

The primary activity of Wreaths Across America is to distribute wreaths to be placed on graves in military cemeteries. On National Wreaths Across America Day, which takes place on a moving day each December at thousands of locations, volunteers place wreaths on headstones and read out the names of the service members.

The organization was

founded by Morrill Worcester and his wife, Karen, as a way to teach all generations about the value of their freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms.



Worcester, owner of the Worcester Wreath Company in Maine, remembered a trip to Washington D.C. as a child that included a visit to Arlington National Cemetery. In 1992, when Worcester's business had a surplus of wreaths nearing the end of the holiday season, he remembered an indelible image of wreaths on graves at Arlington

and devised a way to put those wreaths to use honoring the country's veterans.

Arlington National Cemetery was the first place to receive wreaths. Since then, the movement has grown to include cemeteries across the nation. In 2022, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers placed more than 2.7 million sponsored veterans' wreaths on headstones of our nation's service members at 3,702 participating locations.

Although veterans are remembered each Memorial Day and Veterans Day, they can be honored 365 days a year for their service and sacrifices. Wreaths Across America offers an important way to set aside time during the holiday season show appreciation for veterans who are no longer with us.

Those looking to get involved can visit www.wreath-sacrossamerica.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities or bringing WAA into their communities.

Double T Construction, Inc

- ROOFING
- Seamless Gutters
- Custom Cabinets
- Window Replacement
- Counter Tops
- Window Services

Free Estimates

(254) 939-1934
doubletconstruction@bellsouth.net
www.DoubleTConstructionIncTX.com

 All Work Warranted and Insured
30 Years Local Experience

CALL FOR PRICING!
(254) 939-5754



Welcome to Belton, Texas





We believe in a BETTER flooring experience.

LET US FLOOR YOU!



254-933-1313 Bellcountyflooring.com
6401 St.Hwy 317 Ste. B M-F 8-5:30 Sat: 8-3

Belton Chamber Spur Classic Golf Tournament raises funds for BISD student scholarships

Special to the Journal

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce announced the winners of the Spur Classic Golf Tournament presented by Fairway Independent Mortgage (The Wood Group and Fairway 365) held Friday, October 24 at Mill Creek Country Club. Proceeds from the golf tournament are used annually to fund scholarships for Belton ISD students.

The Champions of the 4-person scramble, winning on a scorecard playoff after finishing with a team score of 55, were from Grandview Bank and included Dustin Dewald, Drew Dewald, Jeff Dewald, and Jeff Williams. The winning team members were awarded championship spurs and cash prizes.

Cash prizes were also awarded to random placed teams, including the 5th place team from First Texas Bank, 11th place team from Vista Real Estate, and the 15th place team from Anchor Bay Packaging. KPA Engineers, led by Rick Kasberg, won the scorecard draw for green fee and cart vouchers at Mill Creek.

Several participants won prizes in special drawings for a variety of items including a Blackstone Griddle, Yeti cooler, and Turtlebox Bluetooth Speaker provided by

Keith Ace Hardware; Texas Lottery tickets; golf bag, umbrella, chair, and other assorted items donated by Jack Hilliard Distributing; Pamper Basket from Woodhouse Day Spa, Crow & Cactus, the Porch Boutique, and Ruby Tea Room; and Bourbon Basket provided by Jared Porritt, Crow & Cactus, and Cochran, Blair & Potts.

“We had a very successful experience with this golf tournament and were excited to have great participation and beautiful weather for golf,” stated Jordan Samfield, Chamber Board member and Chair of the Golf Tournament Planning Committee. “We appreciate all the sponsors who helped make it successful, and the enthusiasm of our participants,” added Samfield.

Numerous sponsors and participants enjoyed a beautiful day at Mill Creek, including a Chick-fil-A breakfast provided by West Temple Orthodontics, Schoepf’s BBQ sausage wraps, and beverages from Jack Hilliard Distributing. Gold Spur hole sponsors included Cedar Crest Hospital and RTC, Crossroads Church, First Texas Bank, Hill & Wilkinson General Contractors, Horizon Bank, MEP Electric, and Perry.

“We are excited to provide these great opportunities for our members, businesses, and community to come together,” stated



Courtesy Photo

The Champions of the Spur Classic Golf Tournament, with a team score of 55, were from Grandview Bank and included Dustin Dewald, Drew Dewald, Jeff Dewald, and Jeff Williams.

Randy Pittenger, Chamber President/CEO. “We are especially thankful for the leadership of our Board of Directors in planning activities for our community. Our goal is always to support our business community in making the Belton area a great place to live, work, shop, play, and raise a family. Events like these provide opportunities for

our community to celebrate together, as well as business exposure to potential customers.”

For more information about the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce, visit our website at www.beltonchamber.com, call 254-939-3551, or email us at info@beltonchamber.com.

Election - From Page A1

Proposition A, which included \$92.9 million in campus security and improvements at several schools, was the closest of the four propositions. It failed — 50.49 percent against to 49.51 for. Prop A would have funded six-foot security fences, security gates and additional exterior lighting around school playgrounds

“School safety is important to us,” said Dr. Mike Morgan, BISD’s deputy superintendent. “We needed to upgrade some of our security cameras that are near the end of their life. Also, some campuses are in need of fire alarm and suppression upgrades, and we have four schools in need of new roofs.”

He said modernization is needed at Sparta Elementary, Lakewood Elementary, Belton Middle School and DAEP (disciplinary alternative education program).

“We were also going to renovate restrooms and bring these funds up to current ADA standard,” Morgan said.

One of the major upgrades would have included building a new Band Hall at Belton High and converting the existing Band Hall into an Orchestra Hall.

Proposition B, which included \$43.7 million in improvements to athletic facilities, failed 62.04 percent against to 37.96 percent for. Prop B would have provided improvements at several campuses and would have turfed the Belton High softball and baseball fields.

Perhaps the biggest athletic facility projects included in the bond referendum was 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. “It was built with the intent of expanding it in the future.”

Many Bronco fans hoped the “future” would be this year. Currently Lake Belton home football games are played at Tiger Field.

If the proposition had passed, Bronco Stadium would have been expanded to seat about 5,300, Skidmore said. Also home bleachers would have been expanded, and restrooms, a press box and concessions would have been added to the home side. Visitor-side stands would have been expanded,

and locker rooms would’ve been improved.

Big changes also would have been in store for Tiger Field if voters had given the bond a thumbs-up. Smaller athletic improvements would include building a weight room to Belton Middle School.

Proposition C passed 52.85 percent for to 47.15 percent against, and it will provide money to update campus, student and staff technology, including laptop computers.

“We have 19,000 devices in the district, and many are approaching end of life,” Morgan said. “This will impact every campus and every department in the district.”

Proposition D, another proposition focused on athletic facilities, failed 57.89 percent against to 42.11 percent for. This proposition would have provided \$19.2 million to update the district’s Swim Center.

The Roy & Jean Potts Swim Center 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, swim lessons and water aerobics, Skidmore said.

“Right now, the Swim Center consists of an eight-lane 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 be expanded 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.”

“If the proposition had passed, we would triple our lane space, and 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.”

Also, new locker rooms for athletes would have been added.

Meredith Bender, Bell County’s public information officer, said absentee ballots and early voting accounted for 7.43 percent of total voter turnout.





YOUR MANAGED SERVICES PROVIDER

We Make IT Simple.



WE CAN HELP...

- Increase Efficiency
- Prevent Work Delays
- Reduce Work Related Stress

templetechnology.net

250th Marine Corps Birthday Breakfast in Salado

Enjoy boot camp chow and fellowship with Marines, Navy Corpsmen, and those who have served with Marines! Family and friends also invited. Attire is casual dress, but squared away!

Keynote speaker:
LtCol Spencer Smith (Ret),
former Marine One pilot

Saturday, 8 November, 0730

Johnny’s Steaks & Bar-Be-Cue Cantina
301 Thomas Arnold Road, Salado, TX

Pay at door (cash) - \$15 adults,
\$10 for kids 12 and under, NC for infants

Please RSVP by
Wednesday, 5 November.
Call or text Rhonda Rinehart
at (512) 507-6265 or
scan QR code.



D

B

B

A

D

B

B

A

DOWNTOWN
BELTON
BUSINESS
ALLIANCE

VOTED BEST
COMMUNITY
EVENT









WATERSTATION
SPONSORED BY



2025
BELTON
MARKET
DAYS
SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 15
9 AM - 4 PM

LIVE MUSIC * FOOD TRUCKS * VENDORS

The roles of the various branches of the U.S. military

Each November, people across the United States and its territories honor the brave men and women who serve and have served in the various branches of the country’s military. Veterans Day is observed annually every November 11 and honors the service of all U.S. military veterans. The day should not be confused with Memorial Day, which is celebrated each year in May and honors all military personnel who have died in service.

Veterans Day is a great time for anyone to learn more about the various branches of the U.S. military.

Army

The U.S. Department of Defense notes that the Army is the largest and oldest service in the country’s military. The Army provides the ground forces that protect the United States. Members of the Army are trained to defeat enemy ground forces and to seize and control enemy lands and resources. Army also are trained to control and interact with the general population in countries where members are stationed.

Marine Corps

It might surprise some to learn that the Marine Corps. is a component of the Department of the Navy. That’s one reason why maintains amphibious and ground units for contingency and combat operations. The Marine Corps. is divided into four groups: the operating forces that fight; the headquarters for leadership; the supporting establishment that provides logistical support; and the Marine Corps. Reserve.

Navy

The Navy protects America at sea. Despite its massive land mass, the United States is a maritime nation, which underscores how important a strong Navy is to the safety of the country and its residents. The Navy works alongside American allies and partners to keep the seas open and free.

Air Force

The Air Force has five core missions: air superiority; global strike; rapid global mobility; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; and command and control. The Air Force defends the country and its residents in air, space and cyberspace and is capable of delivering forces anywhere in the world within hours.

Space Force

The existence of the Space Force may come as a surprise to many Americans. Organized under the Department of the Air Force and established in 2019, this branch of the military organizes, trains and equips space forces in order to protect the interest of America and its allies in space.

Coast Guard

During peacetime, the Coast Guard is part of the Department of Homeland Security. In times of war, it operates under the Navy. The Coast Guard provides law and maritime safety enforcement as well as environmental protection. In addition to promoting national security, border security and economic prosperity in the maritime environment, the Coast Guard saves those in peril on the sea.

National Guard

The National Guard is comprised of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. The National Guard has a diverse array of responsibilities that range from supporting combat missions to responding during domestic emergencies to assisting in humanitarian efforts and more.

The U.S. military is made up various branches, each with its own unique missions and responsibilities. Veterans Day marks the perfect occasion to celebrate the many individuals who have served and continue to serve in the U.S. military.



How do you Scot?



64TH SCOTTISH GATHERING & HIGHLAND GAMES



Dance



Games



Pipes & Drums



Clans



Music

November 7-9, 2025
Salado, Texas
saladoscottishfestival.com



FREE 3 Month Trial Subscription





THE BELTON
JOURNAL
Since 1866



Lake Belton extends winning streak advancing to Regional Semifinals

By Clay Whittington
The Belton Journal

The Lady Broncos have reached the third round for a second consecutive season.

One year after being eliminated from the Class 5A, Division I playoffs in the regional semifinals, Lake Belton has returned with every intention of avenging the defeat.

Although the opponent is different, the goal remains the same — advance.

The Lady Broncos emphatically entered the round by blowing out Dallas Adams on Monday to earn the area championship with a one-sided performance.

Lake Belton cruised to a 25-10, 25-13, 25-11 victory behind a Kaitlyn Hutchins' standout showing. The junior outside hitter finished with 16 kills and four blocks to go along with serving up three aces.

Dzenowski finishes 114th in State meet

By Clay Whittington
The Belton Journal

Keira Dzenowski's debut campaign is complete.

In her first few months as a high school student, the Lady Broncos freshman accomplished a lot, beginning with her opening competition.

At the Temple Invitational, Dzenowski posted an impressive time, completing the three-mile course in 20 minutes, 0.9 seconds to capture the event's bronze medal.

Then, she found her stride.

During the ensuing months, Dzenowski became the poster child of the program, winning multiple races en route to becoming Lake Belton's first harrier — boy or girl — to reach the state meet.

Her dominance, however, ended there.

At Friday's University Interscholastic League Class 5A State Championships, Dzenowski capped off her first season by placing 114th on the sport's biggest stage.

Racing along a five-kilometer course at Round Rock's Old Settlers Park, she completed the trek in 20:32.9.

While it was not the outcome Dzenowski hoped for, there is plenty of reason to believe additional appearances await.

She was dominant throughout the schedule and peaked when it mattered most by winning the District 16 championship with a time of 19:31.9. The showing was more than 50 seconds faster than her closest competitor.

Additionally, the performance propelled the Lady Broncos to the team title with just 19 points as junior teammates Jenna Benedick (3rd), Madelyn Rivas (4th) and Sarah Gray (5th) and sophomore Lucy Loa (6th) joined Dzenowski in the field's top six.

Belton was second with 59 points.

At the Region II meet, Dzenowski was the only district representative to reach state, earning an individual berth by placing 26th (19:52.07).

Austin LASA senior Eva Cragolino captured the state championship, winning the race in 17:47.1 to beat out Aledo senior Molly Garrison (2nd, 17:53.5) and Montgomery Lake Creek freshman Haylee Hughes (3rd, 17:56.8).

In the team standings, Smithson Valley finished atop the pack, amassing 39 points to emerge with the team title. Lucas Lovejoy (2nd, 74), Aledo (3rd, 158), Frisco Wakeland (4th, 169) and New Braunfels (5th, 176) rounded out the top five.

With the victory, the Lady Broncos advance to play Melissa (22-17) or Dallas Highland Park (38-8) either today, Friday or Saturday. The squads played their area-round contest Tuesday, but a final score was not available.

Lake Belton (31-12) used a 13-1 outburst in the opening set to take control against Adams (21-12), and in the second set, the Lady Broncos immediately constructed a 10-3 lead before pulling away by winning seven of nine points midway through.

In the final set, Lake Belton held an 18-3 advantage before completing the sweep.

The win came on the heels of a 3-0 victory against Red Oak in the first round. Unlike their contest against Adams, though, there was little breathing room.

Lake Belton narrowly escaped the first two sets before finally finding their rhythm and winning 25-22, 26-24, 25-13.



Lake Belton girls' basketball set for 2025-2026 campaign

By Tony Adams
The Belton Journal

The Lake Belton Broncos girls' basketball team was a young squad in the 2024-2025 season, as they went 13-22 overall.

The Broncos made the playoffs with a 5-5 mark but ran into a buzzsaw in 5A state semifinalist Red Oak in the Class 5A-I Bi-district round.

"The 2024-25 season was a season of growth and gaining experience," Lake Belton head coach Tiffney Barnes said. "We knew that coming in with such a young team of four freshmen, four sophomores, two juniors and two experienced seniors. Our point guard was a freshman last year and so much pressure was on her shoulders which she handled well. Even though we did not end where we wanted to, it was still a blessing and man just a fun experience. The personality of this group, because they are all back, is as a joy that cannot really be described. Their work ethic is one that I really never experienced in a group, I have seen it an individual but never a group as a whole. When you have that, it becomes contagious within your program."

Lake had just three seniors on last year's team, which makes the 2025-2026 team one of considerable experience.

With the youth that Lake had in Aniyah Victorian, Heavenly Middleton-Reed and Natalie Maldonado provided a great deal of leadership.

"Those seniors provided how to lead together,"

Barnes said. "There is not one individual that I can call out 'Leader.' They all have watched our last year seniors lead, and now they mock that leadership."

Judging by the composition of the 24-25 team, the Broncos have a good core returning.

"Honestly, all I can say right now is that with the experience we have coming back and joining, this season is going to be fun, Barnes said. "These girls love each other and we consider each other family, not just teammates and coach. They 'Do It' for each other and it is such a beautiful thing to be a part of."

The tournament schedule and pre-district schedule sets up with a plethora of competition that will challenge the Broncos early.

"We try to mock our tournaments and pre-season games on what we will see during district and if, God bless, post-district games," Barnes said. "Road to March is our goal."

The District 16-5A talent returning for this season will be interesting. There is a plethora of great coaches and players that make the district a fun watch.

"Our district is made up of some the best coaches that 'Know the Game' and are hungry to be successful," Barnes said. "These coaches and their athletes put in a lot of work in the off season as well as the preseason to get ready for the season. The competition that we are going to encounter is going to be tough and we will do our best to

See **LAKE**,
Page B3

Belton downs Waco, travels to Brenham for regular season finale

By Tony Adams
The Belton Journal

On a beautiful cool evening, the Belton Tigers hosted the Waco High Lions on Thursday night at Tiger Field.

The Tigers scored three touchdowns in each half, punted the ball once, and defense got stops when needed as Belton defeated Waco, 42-18.

"It is a scratch where it itches offense. We take what they give us," Belton head coach Brett Sniffin said. "They were playing the secondary with all their guys sitting back there, so we just ran the ball. The guys took care of their business and got it done."

Belton's offense took the ball at the Waco 49 on their first drive. The pound-

ing runs of Gino Zecca, Will Shepard, and Gavin Ross behind the hungry Tiger offensive line set up Ross' five-yard run on an end-around. Corin Ramesar's extra point put Belton up 7-0 with 6:16 left in the opening quarter.

Belton stopped the Lions on their first two drives, having forced a punt and turnover on downs, respectively.

After two third-down conversions and three straight first down conversions, Javid Nua Planz blasted into the end zone from eight yards out. Ramesar's extra point gave Belton a 14-0 advantage with 8:25 to play in the half.

Waco's ensuing drive included two fourth and one conversions, which included a 30-yard touchdown run by Lane Johnson. A two-point conversion run by Eric

Taylor, Jr. drew the Lions back to within eight points with 4:23 left in the half.

The Tigers responded with a 44-yard drive that covered over 2:38. Following a 31-yard pass completion from Shepard to Ross, Cason Morton scored on a three-yard run. Ramesar's extra point gave the Tigers a 13-point lead, 21-8, with 1:50 to go in the half.

Carlos Rodriguez's 35-yard field goal to end the half pulled the Lions with ten, 21-11.

Belton went to work on the clock immediately upon having received the second-half kickoff. The Tigers capped a 61-yard drive in six plays and 3:22 off the clock with a four-yard touchdown run by Zecca. Ramesar's extra point put the Tigers out front, 28-11, with 8:38 left in the

third quarter.

After both teams got stops in the next two possessions, Lv'Tamarion Marshall's 72-yard run set up Waco's next score. Alvarez's 33-yard touchdown pass to Zay'Drian Johnson and extra-point by Rodriguez with 3:25 left in the third pared the margin back to ten, 28-18.

The next two Belton drives were time eaters for the Tigers. An eight-play, 75-yard, 2:16 drive, with six first downs collected, ended with a Shepard two-yard plunge through a mass of humanity on the goal line. Ramesar's extra point made the score 35-18 with nine seconds left in the third quarter.

The Tigers' defense held Waco to a
See **TIGERS**,
Page B3



StateFarm

JOHN CORSI
STATE FARM INSURANCE
Voted Best Insurance Agency in Bell County
101 Lake Road Belton, TX (254)939-5846





Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm Saturday 9am- 3pm

• Vinyl • Hardwood • Laminate
• Carpet • Ceramic Tile
• Vinyl Plank

5812 S. General Bruce Dr. • floorcosurplus.com 254.727.4061

Engineered Hardwood
(Starting at \$3.00)
Sq. Ft.

Lake Belton High School Stampede Marching Band Advances to State

Special to The Journal

The sound of success is ringing across Belton ISD as the Lake Belton High School Stampede Marching Band has once again advanced to the UIL State Marching Band Contest. The achievement marks the continuation of a tradition of excellence for the Stampede, which has advanced to the state level every year since the school opened in 2020.

Under the direction of Bobby Yerigan, the Stampede’s 2025 show, *The Crown*, features music by Richard Wagner and Pyotr

Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Students began preparing the music in mid-July before adding drill and choreography in August. Yerigan said the ensemble’s consistency and drive have helped cement a culture of excellence.

“The culture of expecting this to be ‘normal’ was built from day one,” Yerigan said. “This program and these students don’t know anything different, so it feels completely natural to us. We expect to be in this position year after year.”

As they prepare for the state contest, Yerigan

said the focus shifts toward precision and detail. “These last two weeks of preparation have been more intense and fine-detail driven,” he explained. “We can play the music and march the drill just like everyone else, but it’s the small refinements that will ultimately separate the bands that advance. As I tell the kids, it’s the little things now that make the biggest difference.”

For the students of the Stampede, this season has been defined by growth, grit and pride. Junior Gabe Jones said seeing the band’s progress from rehearsal to performance has been especially rewarding. “No matter what, rain or shine, we show up, work hard and get better,” he said. Senior drum major Olivia Cromwell called it a defining year for the young program. “Seeing the band’s energy in real time is exhilarating,” she said. “This season has really shown who the Stampede is and what we’re made of. If I could describe us in one word, it would be tenacious.” That determination, senior Jill Stewart added, “helps us overcome challenges and perform with pride.” Junior Adam Namkung agreed,

saying the band’s focus and discipline have been key to its success. “We’ve learned to stay focused, fix mistakes quickly and keep pushing ourselves to improve.”

While Lake Belton advances, Belton High School’s M100 Marching Band capped off a remarkable season of its own with a powerful performance of *Between the Storms*. Directed by Kevin Kwaku, the show explores the emotions and energy of rain, storms and sunlight through a dynamic musical journey.

“Our 3-day fundamentals camp began last school year at the end of April,” Kwaku said. “Our guard and percussion students began preparing in mid-July, and the full band came together at the end of the month for summer rehearsals. From that point forward, our students poured their hearts into every performance.”

Senior trombone section leader and drum major Shawn Noel reflected on the experience, saying his favorite part of the show came during the fourth movement, which features many amazing moving parts. Describing the season in one word, Noel

chose perseverance. “Our band program has pushed through many challenges and continues to grow and improve as an ensemble,” he said.

Belton ISD Director of Fine Arts Keith Zuehlke said the Stampede’s return to state highlights the district’s strong fine arts programs and the culture of excellence students and staff have built together. “Advancing to the state marching contest is a tremendous achievement and a reflection of months of dedication, discipline and teamwork,” he said. “For Lake Belton High School, it validates the artistic and personal growth of our students and showcases the excellence that comes from commitment, collaboration and resilience.”

Zuehlke added that while only one band advanced, both programs represent the heart of Belton ISD’s fine arts community. “Both the Stampede and M100 demonstrate what it means to strive for excellence,” he said. “Each performance, from rehearsal fields to competition stages, builds confidence, leadership and lifelong memories. We couldn’t be prouder of their accomplishments and

the way they represent Belton ISD.”

Board Vice President and Stampede Booster Chris Flor echoed that sentiment, noting the unity and perseverance shared across both programs.

What stands out most is the extraordinary commitment and endurance our students show every day,” Flor said. “Marching band demands both physical and mental strength, with hours of practice that rival any athletic program, from the heat of summer band camp through the final competitions in November. Yet through it all, they bring passion, precision and pride to every performance. Their dedication reflects the very best of what it means to be a Belton ISD student — driven, disciplined and deeply committed to excellence.”

He added that both the Stampede and Belton High’s Marching 100 “show what happens when students, families and directors come together to lift one another up.”

The Lake Belton High School Stampede will perform *The Crown* at the UIL 5A State Marching Band Contest on Monday, November 10, at the Alamo-dome in San Antonio.



Smart financial moves to make before year-end

Scot Hrbacek, CFP® Financial Advisor

As the year winds down, it’s time for a financial tune up.

Here are some steps to consider:

If you’re 73 or older, you’ll need to take required minimum distributions from traditional retirement accounts to avoid a 25% penalty on any amount you should have withdrawn but didn’t.

And if you’re still working, consider ramping up your pretax retirement contributions. Not only will this help your future self, but it might reduce your current tax bill.

Now is also a good time to review your investments. Did they perform as expected? Do they still match your goals? You may need to rebalance.

One more thing: If you’ve had major life changes like marriage, divorce or a new baby, review the beneficiary designations on all bank and brokerage accounts. These often override what’s written in your will.

Taking care of these and other financial tasks now can help you start the new year on solid ground.

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
3011 N. Main, Ste C, Belton, Tx 76513
(254) 933-7680 • scot.hrbacek@edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Broncos control playoff fate; head to Killeen for district finale

By Aries Ramos
The Belton Journal

Lake Belton’s offense put on one of its most explosive performances of the season Friday night, but Georgetown’s high powered attack ultimately proved too much as the Eagles outlasted the Broncos 50–40 in a district showdown.

Despite the loss, the Broncos showed fight from start to finish, trading big plays with one of the top teams in the district and keeping the outcome up in air until the closing minutes.

Georgetown jumped out early with two quick touchdowns, taking a 14–0 lead midway through the first quarter. Lake Belton answered behind its running game, as junior Zyien Dupree powered through defenders for a 5-yard touchdown to make it 14–7. The Eagles continued to find success through the air and on

the ground, but the Broncos responded each time.

Quarterback Jessiah James connected with Davion Peters on a 44-yard touchdown strike to bring the deficit to 21–13, then engineered another scoring drive just before halftime. After hitting Zion Harness on a deep pass, Dupree broke free for a 19-yard touchdown his second of the night to make it 28–20. Georgetown added one more score in the final seconds of the half to lead 35–20 at the break.

Lake Belton continued to trade blows in the second half. James led another long drive early in the third quarter, but penalties and sacks slowed momentum. Georgetown capitalized with a 48-yard touchdown run to go up 42–20 before Dupree struck again. The junior tailback broke through the middle and sprinted 70 yards down the sideline for his third touchdown, cutting the lead to

42–27 and reigniting the Lake Belton sideline.

James kept the Broncos within reach in the fourth quarter, connecting with Peters for a 25-yard score and later finding Harness on a 5-yard touchdown to make it 50–40. Georgetown was able to run out the clock from there, but the Broncos left the field having battled wire to wire.

Dupree finished with more than 150 rushing yards and three touchdowns, while James threw for nearly 300 yards and three scores. Peters and Harness combined for over 200 receiving yards and three touchdowns, fueling one of Lake Belton’s most productive offensive outings of the season.

Head coach Brian Cope praised his team’s effort after the game. “I saw a bunch of kids fight for all 48

See **BRONCOS**,
Page B3

2025

PLATINUM EXCELLENCE PRODUCT

2025

PLATINUM TOP PERFORMER GROWTH



(254) 939-0343

TannerRoofing.Com

Harper-Talasek FUNERAL HOMES

Belton • Killeen • Temple

We make it personal.®

254.939.2411 • 503 N. Main Street

www.harpertalasek.com

2"x1.7" HT.SportsSponsorship'21

H-E-B plus!

2509 N. Main Street

Belton

Extraco Banks.

Let's Build Some Dreams™

Banking | Insurance | Mortgage

774.5500 | Belton | extracobanks.com

Extraco Banks is a Member FDIC.

Go Tigers!

We're with you all the way!

BELTON HIGH SCHOOL

600 Lake Rd. 215-2200

Designers & Manufacturers of Quality Library Furniture

TRIACO MANUFACTURING

Classroom, Auditorium Library and Science Furniture

indeco sales

939-5742 • 1-800-692-4256

805 E. 4th Ave. • Belton



WE GO THE EXTRA SMILE

SIT MEANS SIT DOG TRAINING

(254) 541-3343

centraltexas.sitmeanssit.com

CENTRAL TEXAS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

LIONS

New Enrolling

Book A Tour Today!

www.ctcslions.com | 254-939-5700

R.K. BASS ELECTRIC, INC.

200 East FM 2410 • Harker Heights

254-698-8751

Smith Brothers Drive-In

Tiger Car Wash & Speed Wash

GO BIG RED

921 E. 6th • Belton

939-2471

BELTON TIGER ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB

@ BELTON TIGERS

ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB



NEED A ROOF? LOCALLY OWNED

Residential, Commercial, General Construction SERVICES

3809 S. General Bruce Drive, Ste #103-324,
Temple, Texas, 76502 (254) 300-8242
whitishroofing.com





Belton bows out of playoffs in area round contest

By Aries Ramos
The Belton Journal

The Belton Tigers volleyball team closed out a remarkable season Monday night, falling in straight sets to Wilson in the area round at Cleburne High School. Despite the loss, the match marked the end of a successful season, a campaign defined by hard work, leadership, and growth both on and off the court.

Belton came out battling but couldn't overcome Wilson's strong serving and steady defense, dropping the match 20-25, 21-25, 10-25. The Tigers fought to stay in each set, showing flashes of the energy and teamwork that carried them

throughout the year, but ultimately came up short against a tough Wildcat squad.

While the postseason exit was disappointing, it does little to overshadow what the Tigers accomplished this fall. Belton finished the year with an impressive 31-14 overall record and an 8-2 mark in district play, securing a second place finish and a well earned playoff berth. The 31 wins represent one of the best single season records in recent school history.

Throughout the season, the Tigers relied on a mix of veteran leadership and young talent to power their success. Their chemistry on the court, combined with a

relentless defensive effort and disciplined play at the net, helped Belton remain competitive against some of the toughest teams in Central Texas.

Coaches praised the team's collective spirit and the way players embraced the program's standards of accountability, sportsmanship, and continuous improvement. Even in defeat, the Tigers showed the same unity that defined their journey, finishing the season with their heads held high.

For Belton's seniors, Monday's match was the culmination of years of dedication and growth. Their leadership helped set the tone for a team that not only succeeded in matches

but also built a foundation for the future. For the underclassmen, the playoff experience provided valuable lessons and motivation heading into the offseason.

The coaching staff expressed pride in how the group represented Belton High School not just with their record, but with their effort and character. The focus now shifts to offseason development as the program looks to build on this season's achievements and continue raising its standard of excellence.

While the final result wasn't what the Tigers had hoped for, the legacy of this year's team will be remembered for its history making success.

As the final point was scored Monday night, one thing was clear, the 2025 Belton Tigers have set a

new benchmark for the program and laid the groundwork for even greater things to come.

Belton Lake: Stillhouse

GOOD. Water normal stain; 76 degrees; 0.39 feet above pool. White bass fishing is good and getting stronger with each passing cold front as the water cools through the 70s. Fish are gathering in large schools and using bottom features in 32-42 feet of water most of the morning and in the late afternoons after feeding briefly in shallow water right around sunrise. The MAL Lure, original or heavy, and with either a white tail or chartreuse tail is a good lure to have on the rods right now. Once a school of fish is found on sonar use your trolling motor to stay on top of them, then drop the lure to bottom and crank it up fast enough to ensure the blade starts spinning and stays spinning. Observe fish reaction using live imaging sonar or 2D sonar. Once the fish settle down and no longer chase, move on and look for the next school. No bird activity, and very limited topwater activity typically with cloud cover just after sunrise. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Unseasonably warm conditions have bass holding in a summer pattern. The most consistent bite is coming from nomadic schools chasing shad, best located with forward-facing sonar. Weightless soft plastic jerkbaits and mid-strolling presentations are producing steady action. A few scattered fish can still be caught around submerged vegetation and shoreline cover, but those bites have been less consistent.	FAIR. Water stained; 76 degrees; 0.26 feet above pool. White bass fishing is good and getting stronger with each passing cold front as the water cools through the 70s. Fish are gathering in large schools and using bottom features in 32-42 feet of water most of the morning and in the late afternoons after feeding briefly in shallow water right around sunrise. The MAL Lure, original or heavy, and with either a white tail or chartreuse tail is a good lure to have on the rods right now. Once a school of fish is found on sonar use your trolling motor to stay on top of them, then drop the lure to bottom and crank it up fast enough to ensure the blade starts spinning and stays spinning. Observe fish reaction using live imaging sonar or 2D sonar. Once the fish settle down and no longer chase, move on and look for the next school. No bird activity, and very limited topwater activity typically with cloud cover just after sunrise. Report by Bob Maindelle, Holding the Line Guide Service. Unseasonably warm conditions have bass holding in a summer pattern. The most consistent bite is coming from nomadic schools chasing shad, best located with forward-facing sonar. Weightless soft plastic jerkbaits and mid-strolling presentations are producing steady action. A few scattered fish can still be caught around submerged vegetation and shoreline cover, but those bites have been less consistent.
--	---

Broncos - From Page B2

minutes, clawing for every inch and every yard on both sides," Cope said. "I'm really proud of them. They left it all out there, especially our seniors, and their character showed tonight."

Cope also pointed to the defense's persistence against Georgetown's top ranked offense and high-

lighted the continued development of his young playmakers, including James' composure and Dupree's explosive performance.

With one game left, the Broncos remain in control of their playoff destiny. A win Thursday night at Chaparral would secure a fourth-

place district finish and punch Lake Belton's ticket to the postseason.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m. Thursday at Chaparral High School, where the Broncos will look to finish strong and earn another chance to showcase the heart and toughness that have defined their season.

Lake - From Page B1

prepare for it."

The mission and goals for the Broncos are clear for Lake Belton.

"To be "Two Feet in" because only together, we can make it to the pavement that leads to continue play

in March," Barnes said. "With the dedication and keep God first, we have that tunnel vision."

Tigers - From Page B1

three-and-out on the next drive and received the ball back on their own 46. Belton took 11 plays, 54 yards, and 7:14 off the clock on a drive capped by a 30-yard touchdown pass from Shepard to Ross. The extra point by Ramesar gave the Tigers a 24-point lead with 3:58 to go.

Waco fumbled the ball on the next offensive play for a loss of 21 yards and could not escape the shadows of their goal posts, having to punt the ball away with 1:47 to go.

The Tigers outgained the Lions on offense, 482-244. Belton out-passed Waco 148-67 and outrushed the Lions 344-177.

Shepard passed just 11 times, having completed eight for 148 yards, threw one touchdown and one interception, and ran for 102 yards and a touchdown. Zecca ran for 109 yards and a score, Planz contributed 88 yards and a touchdown. Ross and Cason Morton each added a rushing touchdown.

Ross caught six passes for 116 yards and a touch-

down, and Achilles added two catches and 32 yards.

The Tigers will face Brenham on Friday with District 10-5A-II's second place on the line. The ranked and previously unbeaten Cubs were upset convincingly by University, 42-14.

Trojan quarterback Savoy Nichols was 24-of-32 for 353 passing yards and four touchdowns. London Smith had ten catches for 171 yards and three touchdowns.

Brenham quarterback Xryan Upshaw completed 18-of-32 passes for 270 yards, two touchdowns, and two interceptions. Chris Guidry caught 13 passes for 192 yards and had a 55-yard touchdown catch.

The Tigers will take on Brenham at Cubs Stadium on Friday night at 7 pm.

Brenham won the matchup against Belton last season, 42-24. Shepard threw for 262 yards and ran for 71 more. Ross had 89 yards receiving, and Zecca added 54 yards rushing.

Guidry had 55 yards receiving in last year's

battle. Jakoby Dixon had 234 yards rushing and three touchdowns for the Cubs in the 2024 tilt.

The Cubs average 38.2 points per game and yield 15.9 points per contest. In four district games, the Cubs average 37 points and allow 20. Upshaw (1,799 total yards, 25 touchdowns), CJ Glover (817 rushing yards, 12 touchdowns), Guidry (1,069 receiving yards, 18 touchdowns), and Cartelle Brown (475 receiving yards, four touchdowns) are the chief offensive threats for the Cubs.

Belton averages 32.1 points per game and allows 28.8 points. In fourth district games, the Tigers score 39.3 points per game and allow 23.3 per tilt.

Shepard (1,980 total yards, 21 touchdowns), Ross (1,110 total yards, 11 touchdowns), Zecca (483 rushing yards, five touchdowns), Planz (378 rushing yards, five touchdowns), and Morton (401 total yards, three touchdowns) are the Tigers primary threats on offense. The

Tigers' offensive line has been excellent throughout the season.

Belton's hungry defensive has logged 26 tackles for loss, scooped up nine fumbles, eight interceptions, and registered seven sacks.

Brenham has 79 tackles for loss, 21 sacks, nine fumble recoveries, and six interceptions.

"It's going to be a tough ball game," Sniffin said. "We will need our best effort. Brenham is a great team, and they are state ranked."

Fishing REPORT



BIRDDOG FENCE & CONSTRUCTION, LLC

Let us point you in the right Direction!



254-346-1405

Birddogfence1@gmail.com

Best of the Best SERVICES IN TOWN

\$22 PER WEEK



Local Pros



Auto Listings

3" X 2" EXAMPLE SIZE

Madison Sinclair~Sales@BeltonJournal.Com

254-939-5754

ESTABLISHED IN 1866

THE BELTON JOURNAL



**FREE 3
Month
Trial
Subscription**

**THE BELTON
JOURNAL**

Since 1866

Local

Activities & Events

Newcomers Club Activities

NOVEMBER

11/03: Chat 'n' Canasta	11/18: Bunco
11/04: Footloose Singles	11/19: Popcorn Bridge, Fun Lunch
11/03: Monthly Luncheon, Popcorn Bridge	11/20: Nonfiction Book Club, Meet & Greet
11/10: Bookworms	11/21: Trailblazers Walking Group
11/11: Singing Bluebonnets	11/24: Well Read Women, Monday Canasta
11/13: Mexican Train Dominoes, Couples Night Out	11/25: Singing Bluebonnets
11/14: TGIF Lunch	11/26: Crochet & Knit
11/15: Exploring Wines	11/29: Jimmy's Egg
11/17: Snack Time Mah Jongg	

**"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:

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.

November BCRSEA Meeting - Nov 6

The November BCRSEA Meeting will be our annual "Each One~ Bring One". Members are asked to bring a prospective Member who is a retired School Employee and receives an Annuity from TRTA. Prospective Members are asked to be at St. Francis Episcopal Church ,5001 Hickory Rd. Temple at 1:00 on Nov. 6th to learn about benefits and receive some welcome gifts . For every prospective member referred , the current BCRSEA member who is referring will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card to the St. Francis gift shop. This is also our annual bingo for books and bake sale fun raiser. Monies will go towards buying books for students in 3 elementary schools and for scholarships. The meeting for members begins at 2:00.

Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner- Nov 8

Under the leadership of Supt. Charlie L. Berry, Sr., the Greater Belton Church of God In Christ is sponsoring its Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner free to the public. It is our goal to be a blessing to the public at large. We are a full-service church with a caring and serving spirit. Our menu will be the traditional turkey, dressing, gravy, yams, green beans, soft drink and a dessert. Dinner will be served on November 8th at 10:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. We give special thanks to Asp. Deacon Tracey William for spearheading this event.

250th Birthday Marine Corps Birthday Breakfast in Salado - Nov 8

Enjoy boot cam chow and fellowship with Marines, Navy Corpsmen, and those who have served with the Marines! Family and friends, also invited. Attire is casual dress, but squared away! Keynote speaker is LtCol Spencer Smith(Ret), former Marine One pilot. Saturday, November 8, 2025, 07:30, at Johnny's Steaks & Bar-B-Que Cantina, 301 Thomas Arnold Road, Salado, Tx. Pay at the door (cash) \$15.00 for adults, \$10.00 for kids 12 and under, NC for infants. Please RSVP by Wednesday, November5. Call or text Rhonda Rhinehart at 512-507-6265 for more information.

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.

Central Texas Republican Women's Annual Members Meeting - Nov 10

Central Texas Republican Women's Annual Members Meeting and Network Luncheon will be held on Monday, November 10th 2025 at Harris Community Center at 401 N. Alexander St. in Belton. In addition to electing the 2026 Club Executive Board, the Club is pleased to host Colonel (Retired) Otis Evans as the featured Guest Speaker. We know you will leave inspired by hearing his story of patriotism and the significance of Veterans' Day. The lunch menu includes Chicken Parmesan, Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Steamed Vegetable, Caesar Salad, Dessert, Rolls, Iced Tea and Water. Cost is @20.00 per person. Please RSVP by Thursday, November 6h. Email at rsvpctrw@gmail.com to pay at the door with cash or check. Or pay by credit card at www.ctrw-pac.com. Doors open at 11:00am, with Lunch and Meeting Call to Order at 11:30am. We look forward to seeing you as we gather and break bread together, honor our Veterans, and elect the Club's 2026 Executive Board. This is a meeting you will want to attend. Note: Please be reminded, Per CTRW By-Laws Standing Rule G: Members must pay for reservations, if reserved and unused, when the organization is required to pay for such unused reservations.

Bell County Master Gardeners - Nov 14

Join us for our upcoming Special Event Seminar," Native and Adapted Fruit-Bearing Trees and Shrubs for Central Texas," a lively presentation exploring trees and shrubs that thrive in our local climate. Bell County Master Gardener Tracy Brown will teach you how to grow your own fresh fruit by choosing the right fruit-bearing plants for your space. See how you can support pollinators and wildlife. Enjoy seasonal harvests while caring for the environment. With these practical tips on planting, maintenance, and harvesting, you'll learn how ecological stewardship and delicious results can go hand in hand! Firday, Nov 14, 2025, 12:00 p.m. at Troy Community Center, 201 East Main Street, Troy. Visit txmg.org/bell/ to register.

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 morgan-spointresorttx.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 fun!

Bell County Master Gardeners - Nov 15

Join us for our upcoming Special Event Seminar, "Mushrooms in a Box, Lo-Tek Mushrooms." Bell County Master Gardener Tracy Brown presents the history, science and the practical methods of cultivating mushrooms using low-tech, accessible techniques. Beginning with the ancient origins of fungi and their close genetic link to humans, it introduces audience members to the mushroom growth cycle, common species grown on mushroom blocks, and the advantages of low-tech methods. The step-by-step sections cover choosing containers, preparing substrates, inoculating with spawn and monitoring conditions for successful growth. Additional slides highlight common problems and solutions, beginner friendly mushroom varieties, and harvesting techniques. The presentation concludes with guidance of proper storage and use of mushrooms, and the benefits of low-tech cultivation which includes affordability, minimal space requirements, sustainable reuse of waste products, and support for local food resilience. Nov 15, 2025, 9:00

a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Bell County Extension Office-Learning Center, 1605 N. Main Street, Belton. Visit txmg.org/bell/ to register.

Hoop Shoot Contest - Dec 13

Temple Elks Lodge #138 Hoop Shoot Coordinator, and have attached a flier below regarding the free local Hoop Shoot Contest beginning at 10 a.m. on 12/13/25 at the Belton Christian Youth Center (BCYC), 505 Avenue C, Belton, Texas 76513. You can pre-register at <http://www.bcycsports.com/home> or day of the event registration begins at 9 a.m. at BCYC. The Elks Hoop Shoot Contest is a national free throw contest for boys and girls ages 8-13 as of April 1, 2026. The boys and girls compete in three age groups, 8-9, 10-11, and 12-13, with girls and boys competing separately. Winners advance through the Lodge #138 contest to district, state, regional, and the National Finals in Chicago. Please see the Elks Hoop Shoot website for full contest rules and details: <https://www.elks.org/hoopshoot/compete/playbook.cfm>. Please feel free to provide the attached flier to those interested in participating. Contact me with your mailing address if you would like me to send you copies of the attached flier and/or send you a poster about the contest. You can reach me at zammax@aol.com or 254-217-0070.

Bel 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 **Bel 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@mc-11249tx.comfor more inforamtion.

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 aspenhealth-care.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.

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.

Citizens Helping in Police Service (CHIPS)

are extra eyes and ears while in areas where large groups may gather. Contact the Belton Police Dept. to join.

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

Slam the Scam Throughout the year, we give you the tools to recognize scams and stop scammers from stealing your money and personal information. Share the information with your loved ones & Slam the Scam! Visit ssa.gov/scam 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



NOW OPEN

Enjoy premier senior living in your new
single-family style cottage!



**WOODLAND
COTTAGES**
BELTON

475 RIVER FAIR BOULEVARD, BELTON, TX 76513



RESERVE TODAY!

WOODLANDCOTTAGES.COM ♦ **254.613.6449**

Handicapped accessible units available. The owner and management company for Woodland Cottages comply fully with the provisions of the Equal Housing Opportunity Laws and nondiscrimination laws. The homes have been designed and constructed to be accessible in accordance with those laws.



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 TF

LEGALS

NOTICE OF STATUTORY LIEN
FORECLOSURE SALE

for the following boat motor: Motor Serial Number OT991972
The Sale will take place on 11/10/25 at 10:00 a.m. at 603 N. 8th St., Killeen, TX 76541. THE HIGHEST BID WILL BE ACCEPTED AND MUST BE PAID IN CASH.
11.06

THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION – CIVIL
CAUSE NO. 24DCV349634

To :NORA E. CUADRIELLO AND
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS- AT- LAW OF
RAYMOND MENN
Greetings:

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

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



We KNOW Belton!
GoCov.com
(254) 939-3800



Double T Construction, Inc

ROOFING

- Seamless Gutters
- Custom Cabinets
- Window Replacement
- Counter Tops
- Window Screens

Free Estimates

(254) 939-1934
doubletconstruction@hotmail.com

www.DoubleTConstructionIncTX.com

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS
MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS
DISCOVER VISA

All Work Warrantied and Insured
50 Years Local Experience

No one does more
for our VETERANS
.....and youth



All proceeds go
to our VETERANS,
youth programs &
scholarships

Bingo Schedule
Doors open 1.5 hours
before each session
Sundays @ 5:30 pm
Wednesdays @ 12:30 pm
Fridays @ 6:30 pm

VFW 4008
2311 S. Pearl St.
254-939-7159
vfwhtwpost4008.org

LEGALS

You are hereby commanded to appear by filing a written answer to the PLAINTIFF’S 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 146th Judicial District Court, Bell County, Texas to be held at the Bell County District Courts Building in Belton, Texas. Said PLAINTIFF’S ORIGINAL PETITION was filed in said court on October 23, 2024. The file number of said suit being No. 24DCV349634. The names of the parties in said suit are:

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC
VS. NORA CUADRIELLO,TAMANTHA GOODE,PATRICK BAYS,BRANDON BAYS,SAMANTHA HILL,PHILIP EASTHAM,THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AT LAW OF RAYMOND MENN DECEASED
The nature of said suit being substantially as follows, to wit:

You are hereby notified that suit has been brought by LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, its successors and assigns, as plaintiff against NORA E. CUADRIELLO, TAMANTHA GOODE, PATRICK BAYS, BRANDON BAYS, SAMANTHA HILL AND PHILIP CHANCE EASTHAM, and the Unknown Heirs at Law of Raymond Menn, Deceased, and any other person claiming any right, title, interest or possession in and to the property located at 1104 Lonesome Oak Drive, Temple, TX 76502, and legally described to wit: LOT EIGHTEEN (18), IN BLOCK SIX (6), OF VILLAGE OF SAGE MEADOWS PHASE III, IN THE CITY OF TEMPLE, BELL COUNTY, TEXAS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN CABINET D, SLIDE 272-B, PLAT RECORDS OF BELL COUNTY, TEXAS. Plaintiff’s Petition is styled LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC v. NORA E. CUADRIELLO, TAMANTHA GOODE, PATRICK BAYS, BRANDON BAYS, SAMANTHA HILL AND PHILIP CHANCE EASTHAM, and the Unknown Heirs at Law of Raymond Menn, Deceased. The Plaintiff seeks to rescind the vendor’s lien and assert superior title to the above- described property. This was issued at the request of attorney: JAMES A FRAPPIER 4004 BELT LINE ROAD SUITE 100 ADDISON TX 75001. 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 October 07, 2025.
Joanna Staton
District Clerk Bell County, Texas 1201 Huey Road P.O. Box 909
By: Misty Cortez Deputy Clerk
10.16,10.23,10.30,11.06

THE ESTATE OF RUSSELL H.
WIEDIGER

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RUSSELL H. WIEDIGER were issued on October 27, 2025, in Cause No. 25CPB00604, in the County Court of Bell County, Texas to Kristin Leigh Reid. follows: Claims may be presented in care of the Executrix of the Estate addressed as Kristin Leigh Reid c/o Virginia S. Wiediger Estate of RUSSELL H. WIEDIGER 16284 Moody Leon Road Moody, Texas 76557
All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED this 30th day of October, 2025.
ESTATE OF RUSSELL H. WIEDIGER
By: PAT MCGOWAN Attorney for the Executrix 11.06

LEGALS

APPLICATION HAS BEEN MADE WITH
THE
TEXAS ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
COMMISSION

for a Wine and Malt Beverage Retail Dealer’s Off-Premise Permit by Best Comienza LLC Dbu Uptown Food Mart to be located at 921 E 6th Avenue, Belton, Bell Co., Texas. Members of said LLC are Sakhawat Hossain- Member and Towhidul Tanveer-Member
11.06,11.13

THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CASE NUMBER 22CPB00604

To: Unknown Heir
JULIA BLAKEY, Applicant, on November 23, 2022, filed an Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration or, in the Alternative, Dependent Administration, and Application to Determine Heirship in a proceeding styled: SAMUEL HENRY BLAKEY, JR, Deceased, and bearing the number 22CPB00604 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 November 06, 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: MARY LINDLEY-WILEY, 100 W CENTEX EXPWY STE 302, HARKER HEIGHTS TX 76548
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 October 28, 2025.
Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road , Belton, TX 76513
By: Lillian Phillips Deputy
11.06

THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CASE NUMBER 25CPB00675

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS
MAGGIE JONES, Applicant, on October 28, 2025, filed an application for dependent administration and letters of administration and application to determine heirship in a proceeding styled: MOLLY EARL WINTERS, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00675 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 November 06, 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: ASHLEY S CLAPPER, CORBIN, STAPLER & CLAPPER PC, 603 N 8TH ST, KILLEEN TX 76541
The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation

in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on October 29, 2025. Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road , Belton, TX 76513
By: Lillian Phillips Deputy
11.06

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Dependent Administrator for the Estate of Raymond Dale Morris, Deceased, were issued on October 27th, 2025, under Docket No. 24CPB00787, pending in the County Court at Law Number 1 of Bell County, Texas, to Patricia Morris. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Representative, Estate of Raymond Dale Morris, Deceased c/o Patricia Morris P.O. Box 943 Belton, Texas 76513 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED October 30, 2025.
Respectfully Submitted, BIEBAS AND RILEY, PLLC, PO BOX 943, BELTON TX, 76513, Tel: (254) 613-6322, Fax: (254) 870-7053, kacie@biebasandriley.com
By: /s/ Kacie Biebas, KACIE BIEBAS Attorney for Dependent Administrator, State Bar No. 24087166
11.06

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION – PARENT
AND CHILD
CAUSE NO. 22DFAM333662**

To: ANTONIO SHIRAZ MCNAIR
Greetings:
You are hereby commanded to appear before the 169th Judicial District Court, Bell County, Texas to be held at the Bell County District Courts Building in Belton, Texas, to be held at the courthouse of said County in the City of Belton, Texas, at or before 10 o’clock AM of the Monday next after the expiration of 20 days after the date of service of which this citation, then and there to answer the THIRD AMENDED PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP of SHAMICCA NICOLE BILLIE, Petitioner
filed in said Court on March 31, 2025, against RAVEN RIVERS, respondent, and said suit being number 22DFAM333662, on the docket of said Court, and entitled In the Interest of Children
KAI XAVIER-EDWARD BILLIE, DOB 08/09//2022
The nature of which suit is a request to Parent/Child Relationship.
The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgement or decree in the child’s/children’s interest which will be binding upon you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child’s/children’s adoption.
The officer executing this writ shall promptly serve the same according to requirements of law, and the mandates hereof, and make due return as the law directs.
This was issued at the request of attorney: BRETT PRITCHARD, 1201 S WS YOUNG DR STE C, KILLEEN TX 76543.

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 twenty 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.
Witness, Joanna Staton, District Clerk of Bell County, Texas.
Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said Court at office in Belton, Texas, on October 30, 2025.

Joanna Staton District Clerk Bell County, Texas, 1201 Huey Road, P.O. Box 909, Belton, Texas 76513
By: M Cortez Deputy Clerk
11.06

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION-PARENT
AND CHILD**

To: Nikendrick Mitchell, Ervin Sorrells, any Unknown Father and All Whom It May Concern, Respondents, in the hereinafter-styled and -numbered cause:
You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you **or** your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10 a.m. on the Monday next following **the** expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The First Amended Petition of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Petitioner, was filed in the 146th Judicial District Court of Bell County, Texas, on August 4, 2025, against Nykeema Frank, Nikendrick Mitchell, Ervin **Sorrells, Trey-**One Alexander, Respondent(**s**), numbered 25DFAM355085, and entitled “In the Interest of NEVADA FRANK, et al., minor children.” The suit requests to terminate the parent-child relationships and/or to appoint a managing conservator of the children. The date and place of birth of the children who are the subject of the suit are: NEVADA FRANK, DOB: August 7, 2023, Place of birth: Texas, TREY-ONE ALEXANDER, DOB: November 6, 2024, Place of birth: Texas
The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the children’s interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child’s adoption.
The name and address **of** the attorney for plaintiff is Susan Parker, Bell County Attorney’s Office, P.O. Box 1127, Belton, TX 76513
Issued and given under my hand and seal of the Court at Belton, **Texas**, this the 31 day of October 2025
Joanna Staton, District Clerk of Bell County, Texas, 1201 Huey Road, P.O. Box 909, Belton, TX 76513
By: C. Rodriguez Deputy.
11.06

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING
CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF MAURICE MECKLEY,
DECEASED**

NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters of Testamentary were issued on October 28, 2025 in a proceeding styled estate of Maurice Meckley, Deceased, in Cause Number 25CPB00589, pending in the County Court At Law #1 of Bell County. Texas. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Independent Executor, addressed As follows: Michael Harry Meckley Independent Executor of the Estate of Maurice Meckley. Deceased, c/o Burk Roberts, Roberts & Roberts, L.L.P., 2501 East Elms Rd.. Ste. A, Killeen, Texas 76542-3023 All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
Signed on October 29, 2025.
Roberts & Roberts. L.L.P.. Attorneys for Michael Harry Meckley
By: Burk Roberts
11.06

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CASE NUMBER 25CPB00674**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS
DANIEL MUNGIA, Applicant, on October 28, 2025, filed an application for independent administration, for letters of administration and application to determine heirship in a proceeding styled: ENRIQUETA MUNGIA, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00674 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 November 06, 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: JEFFREY THIGPEN; P.O. BOX 428, TEMPLE, TX 76503
The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on October 29, 2025. Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480, 1201 Huey Road, Belton, TX 76513
BY: Lillian Phillips Deputy
11.06

**THE STATE OF TEXAS
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
CASE NUMBER 25CPB00266**

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS
LOURIE STONEBARGER, Applicant, on October 27, 2025, filed an Application to Determine Heirship and for Letters of Independent Administration in a proceeding styled: CLAUDETTE DIANN HERRON, Deceased, and bearing the number 25CPB00266 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 November 06, 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: W. RANDY HARRELL; 2106 BIRD CREEK DRIVE, TEMPLE, TX 76502
The officer serving this Citation shall, in compliance with the Law, serve it by publication once in a newspaper of the general circulation in this, the County in which the decedent last resided as required by Section 202.052 of the Texas Estate Code, for not less than ten days before the return day hereof, exclusive of the day of publication, and the date of publication said newspaper bears shall be the day of publication.
Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at office on October 27, 2025. Shelley Coston County Clerk of Bell County, Texas, PO Box 480 ,1201 Huey Road ,Belton, TX 76513
By: Lillian Phillips Deputy
11.06

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PATRICK HAROLD LOGAN, Deceased, were issued on October 20, 2025, in Cause No. 25CPB00609, pending in the County Court-At-Law No: 1, Bell County, Texas, to: CLAIRE K. LOGAN. 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: Jim Thigpen Attorney at Law, PO Box 428, TEMPLE, TX 76503
DATED the 27th day of October, 2025.
Jim Thigpen Attorney for CLAIRE K. LOGAN, State Bar No.: 19837300, PO Box 428, TEMPLE, TX 76503, Telephone: (254) 773-1663, Facsimile: (254) 773-2574 ,Email: jim.thigpen@linzythigpen.com
11.06



Hamm's Tile & Marble
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Showers, Floors, Walls
254-231-9016
Wesley@HammsTileAndMarble.Com
HammsTileAndMarble.com



MONTEITH
Abstract & Title Co
Home Owned Since 1876
Frank Turner, Jr. & Employees
106 South East St. • 939-5791

Contact Madison
today and this space
can be yours!

Madison Sinclair
254-493-0732 cell
254-939-5457 office
sales@beltonjournal.com



BELTON/MORGAN'S POINT RESORT	Freedom Bible Fellowship 3087 W. Ave. D ~ 254.933.3310	Covenant Lutheran Church 4202 Hickory Rd. ~ 254.733.7718
Agape Christian Center 321 N. Penelope ~ 254.939.WORD	Holy Temple of Our Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith 519 S. Pearl St. ~ 254.613.4591	Eighth Street Baptist Church 215 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. ~ 254.773.2598
Anchor of Hope Fellowship 5700 F.M. 439 ~ 254.721.6514	Hope Community Church 507 Mitchell St. ~ 254.933.8222	First Baptist Church Temple 8015 West Adams Ave. ~ 254.773.6866
Belton Christian Church 9425 W FM ~ 436 254.939.1172	Hope Tabernacle 202 E. 1st Ave. ~ 254.933.8222	First Methodist Church Temple, GMC 102 N. 2nd Temple. TX ~ 254.773.7992
Belton Church of Christ 3003 N. Main ~ 254.939.1816	Iglesia de Cristo 3303 N. Main ~ 254.939.6910	First Presbyterian Church Temple 12 West French ~ 254.773.3407
Belton Church of God in Christ 1122 W. 2nd Ave. ~ 254.939.1697	Keys Valley Baptist Church 4393 W. US Hwy. 190 ~ 254.939.1650	Foundation Church 10751 W. Adams ~ 254.780.9673
Belton First Assembly of God 500 S. IH-35 ~ 254.933.2803	Lakeview Baptist Church 7717 N Hwy. 317 ~ 254.780.1884	Grace Baptist Church 740 Jayline Drive ~ 254.773.1401
Belton Lighthouse 1001 NE Loop 121 ~ 254.654.7278	Liberty Church 302 E. Central Ave. ~ 254.933.7107	Grace Comm. Primitive Baptist Church 3111 N. 3rd St ~ 254.774.8192
Belton Nazarene Church 1701 Sparta Rd ~ 254.939.3404	Liberty in Christ Church 2520 N. Main ~ 254.939.3337	Grace Presbyterian Church 2401 S 57th ~ 254.773.2134
Bethel A.M.E. Church 401 S. Davis St. ~ 254.939.6090	Miller Heights Baptist Church 1400 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.1835	Harvest Church 2501 General Bruce Dr. ~ 254.780.3566
Central Texas Cathedral Worship Center 700 S. Main Street ~ 254.831.3064	Ministerios Vida 2020 S. IH-35 ~ 254.624.8015	Immanuel Lutheran Church 2109 W. Ave H ~ 254.773.3898
Christ Bible Baptist Church 1590 Jack Rabbit Rd ~ 254.939.9247	Mt. Zion United Methodist Church 218 Alexander St. ~ 254.939.5621	Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. ~ 254.939.0682
Christ the King Catholic Church 310 E. 24th Ave. ~ 254.939.0806	New Life Fellowship 706 E. 4th. ~ 254.939.8011	New Hope Church of God 2005 W. Ave D., Suite D. ~ 254.742.2181
Christian Tabernacle Church Apostolic UPC 1010 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.3464	Nolan Valley Baptist Church 13206 W. FM 93~ 254.721.5998	Oak Park United Methodist Church 5505 South 31st St. ~ 254.773.3021
Cornerstone Community Church 5081 Dog Ridge Rd ~ 254.721.8250	Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ 117 N. Birdwell St. ~ 254.939.0822	St. Francis Episcopal Church & School 5001 Hickory ~ 254.733.4255
Crossroads Church 500 South I-35 ~ 254.939.2122	Redeemer Reformed Baptist Church 2378 FM 1670 ~ 818.519.9855	St. Luke's Catholic Church 2807 Oakdale Dr. ~ 254.773.1561
Dominion Life Chapel 105 Green Briar St. ~ 254.563.0472	Tapestry Community Church of Belton 1215 S. Wall St. ~ 254.218.4008	St. Mary's Catholic Church 1018 S 7th St. ~254.773.4541
Elm Grove Baptist Church 6388 Elm Grove Rd. ~ 254.933.8127	Temple Vision de lo Alto 4357 Orchard Hill ~ 254.563.1231	Taylor's Valley Baptist Church 2497 W. FM 93 ~ 254.939.0503
Family Gospel Church 2210 Holland Rd. ~ 254.721.0707	Trinity Full Gospel 810 East 2nd Ave. ~ 254.939.7673	Temple Bible Church 3205 Oakview Drive ~ 254.778.3233
Fellowship Baptist Church 2025 Morgan's Point Rd ~ 254.780.2388	Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Bell County 1726 Morgan's Point Rd. ~ 254.778.8034	Temple First Church of the Nazarene 5000 S. 31st ~ 254.773.3744
First Baptist Church Belton 506 N. Main St. ~ 254.933.3391	~ TEMPLE ~	
First Mexican Baptist Church 703 S. Wall St. ~ 254.939.6900	Chalice Church - Disciples of Christ 300 N 5th St ~ (254) 773-9061	Unity Church of Temple 318 N. 2nd ~ 254.770.0070
First Presbyterian Church of Belton 2500 Church Street ~ 254.939.2115	Christ Episcopal Church and School 300 N. Main St. ~ 254.773.1657	Vineyard Christian Fellowship 7425 W Adams Ave. ~ 254.778.2802
First United Methodist Church 205 E. 3rd Ave. ~ 254.939.5703	Christian Life Church 4343 West FM 93 ~ 254.939.2626	Vista Community Church 7051 Stonehollow Dr. ~ 254.774.7992
Free Pentecostal Church of Jesus 1111 Cacti Lane ~ 254.933.8201		Wildwood Baptist Church 5195 Cedar Creek Rd. ~ 254.773.3177



Bell INC.
Air Conditioning
LENNOX
Jerry Graves TACLA21562E
310 E. Central Ave. • 254-877-2628

Popelka Law Firm, PLLC

Drew Popelka
Attorney - CPA

(254) 774-7880

6173 W. Adams Ave. • Ste. C-201 • Temple, TX
templeattorney@sbcglobal.net • www.popelkalaw.com

today, tomorrow, the future



R.K. BASS
ELECTRIC, INC.
Residential & Commercial
1200 East FM 2410 • Harker Heights
(254) 698-8751 • 939-5665

Mc Gregor Welding Supply Co
Welding Equipment and Supplies



Mon - Fri: 7:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sat: 7:30 am - 12:00 pm
(254) 933-9353
110 S. Wheat Rd. Belton TX 76513

Adrian's
GARAGE
5225 SOUTH 31ST STREET
TEMPLE, TEXAS 76502
774-7510
General Auto Repair & Maintenance



Extraco
Banks. | Let's Build
Some Dreams™
774.5500 | Belton | extracobanks.com



BEST-WAY
Carpet Services
VINYL PLANK | HARDWOOD | VINYL
CARPET | CERAMIC TILE
GET PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
254.770.0932
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm
Feel free to write us, info@bestwaycarpets.net
3206 Airport Rd, Temple, TX 76504



DON RINGLER
AUTOMOTIVE
CHEVROLET | TOYOTA
I-35 Exit 294B | 778-4285
www.DonRingler.com



First Presbyterian Church
2500 Church Street
Belton, TX 76513
Worship Service at 11am
fpcbelton@gmail.com
www.fpcbelton.org
All Are Welcome in Person or on Zoom!
Rev. Kathy Vineyard, Pastor

Parable of the Lost Sock



John C. Perry

Many of you know Jesus’ parable of the lost sheep, found in Luke 15:3–7. It’s the story of a shepherd with 100 sheep, until one wanders off. The missing sheep is nowhere to be found.

So, what does the shepherd do? Does he shrug and say, “Well, 99 out of 100 isn’t bad”? Not at all. He leaves the 99 behind and goes searching for the one that’s lost. And when he finds it, he lifts it onto his shoulders and carries it home. But the story doesn’t end there, he calls his friends together to celebrate. “Rejoice with me,” he says, “for I have found my lost sheep.”

Now, I genuinely hope you’re not like me when it comes to los-

ing things. If I were writing the parable, it might be called the “Parable of the Lost Sock” or “The Missing Phone.” I misplace things constantly, likely a side effect of age, or maybe just my wiring. My phone is the usual culprit. Thankfully, my smartwatch is synced to it, so I can make it beep and track it down.

But my reading glasses? My car keys? The TV remote? Sadly, none of those come with a built-in locator. That’s where Sandra comes in. I love my wife for many reasons, but one of her superpowers is finding things. I mean anything. She’s like a bloodhound on the trail of a prison escapee. If it’s lost, she’ll find it.

If you’re anything like me, maybe we should start a support group, “I Lose Stuff All the Time.” We could hold meetings, share stories, and maybe Sandra could lead a workshop for us poor souls. Although calling us “losers” might not be the best branding...

But let’s return to Jesus’ parable. There’s deep beauty in that story. It reveals the heart of God, a love so personal and persistent that He’ll go more than halfway to find you. No matter how far

you’ve wandered, no matter why you strayed, He’s coming for you.

We don’t know why the sheep got lost. Maybe it was shunned by the others. Maybe it was the black sheep of the flock. Maybe it just got distracted and wandered off. But none of that mattered to the shepherd. And none of it matters to God. The life we’ve lived, the mistakes we’ve made, none of it cancels His love.

This parable reminds us that we are each exceptionally valuable to God. Even when we feel insignificant or forgotten, He sees us. He seeks us. He celebrates when we’re found. The shepherd left the 99 to find the one. That’s how much each of us matters to Him.

So, the next time you lose something, your keys, your glasses, your peace of mind, pause. Take a deep breath. And remember: our Heavenly Father never loses track of us. His love is relentless, and His joy in finding us is beyond measure.

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.



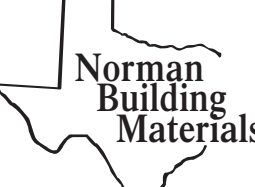
TEMPLE TOWING
Statewide 24 Hours Anywhere
Cars • Pickups • Trucks • 18 Wheelers
Statewide 24 Hours Anywhere
Cars • Pickups • Trucks • 18 Wheelers
Motorcycles • Forklifts • Small Tractors
3815 Shallow Ford West
Temple, TX 76502
Phone: (254) 771-1303
Fax: (254) 771-5613



NAGY PLUMBING
For All Your Plumbing Needs
• Commercial/Residential
• New Construction & Remodels
• Sewer lines & Camera Services
254-760-9334
M-36617



STAAS PLUMBING COMPANY, INC.
REPUTATION BUILT ON SERVICE
778-2575
KEN STAAS
2101 W. AVENUE M • TEMPLE, TEXAS 76504
M-12173



Norman Building Materials
FAMILY OWNED
AND OPERATED
SINCE 1945
1010 S. Main St. • Belton
939-5132

EDITORIAL

Making do

My Front Porch • Lynette Sowell

There’s an older phrase that people sometimes use to describe what we do when we can’t run out and buy the latest thing that comes off an assembly line somewhere. It’s called “making do.”

We sometimes laugh at the older generation, born and raised during lean times. No, I’m not talking the time of the lines to buy gasoline in the ‘70s, or the recession in the ‘80s, or even times like now when some families can’t go out to eat except maybe once a month. That’s not really making do.

I’m talking even farther back, when my own parents were born in 1941, and times even earlier than that. When mothers would go to the grocery store with their ration books so they could buy their allotted amount of meat and other foods. I remember seeing my grandparents’ ration books, and listening to my mother explain what shopping was like during World War II—even though she didn’t remember it herself.

I keep those ration books as a reminder that our coun-

try didn’t have the abundance it has now.

Going shopping didn’t offer many options, and when these women went to the stores, they purchased what they could. They made do. Their children thrived, went to school, and then went on to do remarkable things.

We have so many options, so many choices now that children are starting to take things for granted, and maybe some of us grown-up children too. Dare I call it, spoiled?

We want a new computer? We get it. A new car? We make it happen. The latest media player? It’s ours. The television? We get one that communicates with the Internet and has touch-screen capabilities. See it? Want it? Get it. Now. We don’t feel like cooking? We let someone else do it for us and spend much more than it would cost to do it ourselves.

Yes, like spoiled children, we assume that we must have the latest, the newest, even though what we have works perfectly fine as it is.

“Oh, that’s so 20th century,” we hear when talking

about things we’ve had for a while. But in the 20th century, without the gadgets and gizmos we have now, mankind accomplished some truly remarkable things.

The children learned, and they grew up smart, and found cures for diseases like polio. They grew penicillin, which has saved millions of lives. They engineered marvels like planes that can go hundreds of miles per hour—and broke the sound barrier. They helped shrink our world so we can now sit and talk face-to-face via live video with family members on the other side of the globe.

Many of these children grew up in an era, and before the time of “making do.”

In “times like these”, those of us who are familiar with making do can share with others on how to cut corners, cut the family budget, and hold off on things until circumstances change.

Sometimes, making do isn’t such a bad thing. It’s often the smart thing to do.

Entertainment 101: Stunting

Shop the Insanity • Darren Blair

So. It’s November. Halloween is over, but Thanksgiving is ahead. You’re trying to prepare yourself, and as part of it decide to turn on your favorite radio station. But instead of the format you’re expecting, it’s wall-to-wall Christmas music a full month earlier than you were prepared to hear it. You turn the radio off, scream in frustration, and find yourself questioning the very nature of reality itself.

What you just experienced is “stunting”, derived from the phrase “publicity stunt”.

With stunting, a broadcast station – usually a radio station – deviates from its typical format, often with little to no advance announcement.

In some instances, stunting is pretty innocuous. For example, we have the above station deciding to celebrate the holidays by going all-Christmas (if a bit too soon for the average person). It can

also be done to mark a special occasion or event, such as playing music from an artist’s catalog all day long to mark a milestone birthday. While still something of a publicity stunt, it’s meant more to appeal to the existing audience or otherwise generate positive feedback.

However, it’s not always so innocent. In some instances, a DJ can take it upon themselves to “stunt” as a protest. For example, in May 1990 DJs with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s Triple J radio station played the song “Express Yourself” by N.W.A. 82 times in a row to protest the station’s news manager being punished for airing part of a different, more controversial N.W.A. song during a news-related discussion.

Then we have those instances where stunting is done as a transitional period ahead of a station changing its format. Instead of an abrupt change (say, a “classic rock” station airing its weekend pro-

gramming as normal and then becoming a “Spanish hits” station come Monday morning), the stunting can provide time for listeners to accept that the format is changing. For example, when KROI changed from news to classic hip-hop in 2014, it spent a period playing singer Beyonce’s discography (the station has since changed its format several more times, and as of this typing will now likely change its format again as part of being sold).

TV stations and networks can engage in stunting as well, although for a variety of reasons it’s not very common. Cartoon Network has a history of this, particularly its “Adult Swim” programming block for older audiences. In fact, it was one such stunt that led to the revival of the popular “Toonami” anime block, this time as a Saturday night block airing content that would be too mature or risqué for weekday afternoons when Toonami once aired.

Stunting is, like all publicity stunts, a risk. Sometimes it pays off, like with Toonami being revived. But other times it falls flat, like a different stunt Cartoon Network did where they ran a single cartoon short for 12 hours straight as an April Fool’s prank; as no advance notice had gone out, cable providers and Cartoon Network itself were flooded with complaints from confused viewers.

Then of course we have the all-Christmas formats, which if launched too early can indeed lead to frustration and even people turning the station off until after the stunting is over. No, not everyone wants to hear the same Christmas special a minimum of sixteen times over the course of a two month period, and in fact it may even result in someone trying to summon Krampus just to be rid of it all. So if you’re going to be doing any stunting, you might want to consider how your audience will react first.

Thank You!

CUT-IT-OUT

local coupons

DELICIOUS FOOD WITH A GORGEOUS VIEW!

Serving Classic American, Southern Comfort, Seafood, Cajun, And More!

2207 Lake Belton Rd. Belton, TX
(254)-939-5771

DEADFISHGRILL.COM

103 LAKE ROAD
BELTON
939-1357

603 SOUTH FIRST
TEMPLE
773-3114

\$10 OFF OIL CHANGE

Exp: 11-30-25

A/C SYSTEM CHECK
(Most Vehicles)
\$19.95

CHECK HOSES & SEALS
PRESSURE TEST
LEAK CHECK
(Additional charge for coolant or services needed. Not to be combined with other coupons. No cash Value.)
Exp: 11-30-25

ALIGNMENTS | BRAKES | OIL CHANGE | AIR CONDITIONING | SUSPENSION | BATTERIES | WHEELS
TRUCK ACCESSORIES | LIFT KITS | ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE | TRUCK | RETREADING | FARM | CONSTRUCTION

CHINA CAFE

Belton, Texas

BUFFET, SUSHI & GRILL

FREE BUFFET

BUY: 2 BUFFETS & 3 DRINKS,
GET 1 BUFFET FREE

PEOPLE WHO WALK THROUGH OUR DOORS ARE NOT ONLY CUSTOMERS, BUT OUR FRIENDS.

Visit us today or call for delivery

(254) 933-8881

215 Sparta Road, Belton, TX

Hours: 10:30am - 9:30pm



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	
College_____	Liquor Store_____
ElementarySchool_____	Sushi_____
Middle School_____	Take Guess to_____
High School_____	Deli_____
Community Event_____	Donuts_____
County's Attraction_____	Sandwiches_____
Church_____	Grll_____
Place to meet People_____	Appetizers_____
Entertainment_____	Special Occasion_____
Serviceorganization_____	Take Out_____
	Bakery_____
SHOPPING	SERVICES
Flooring_____	Clinic_____
Movie Theater_____	Shipping Center_____
Wine Shop_____	Chiropractor_____
Swimming Pool_____	Veterinarian_____
Firearms_____	OilChange_____
New Car Dealership_____	Air Conditioning_____
Used Car Dealership_____	InsuranceAgency_____
Truck Dealership_____	Gym_____
Supermarket_____	Spa_____
Sporting Goods_____	Limo_____
Appliances_____	Car rental_____
Pharmacy_____	Real Estate Agency_____
Women's Wear_____	Pest Control_____
Children's Wear_____	Plumbing_____
Men's Wear_____	Dry Cleaning_____
Shoes_____	Nursing Home_____
Furniture_____	Assisted Living_____
Tires_____	Health Food Store_____
Chevy Dealership_____	Internet Provider_____
Ford Dealership_____	NailSalon_____
Dodge Dealership_____	TitleCompany_____
Nissan Dealership_____	Pawn Shop_____
Toyota Dealership_____	Auto Repair_____
Florist_____	Day Care_____
Bank_____	Shoe Repair_____
Office Supply_____	Landscaping_____
Convenience Store_____	Mortgage_____
Feed Store_____	TaxService_____
Western Wear_____	Window Cleaning_____
Auto Parts_____	Employment Agency_____
Farm Equipment_____	Counseling_____
Wedding Cake_____	Funeral Home_____
Print Shop_____	Property Management_____
Building Supplies_____	Pet grooming_____
Gift Shop_____	Signs/Banners_____
Lawn & Garden_____	FinancialAdvisor_____
MattressStore_____	Carpet Cleaning_____
Antiques & Collectibles_____	Dental Office_____
Eyeglasses_____	Window Treatment_____
Consignment Shop_____	Alarm/Security_____
Jewelry_____	Credit Union_____
Barber_____	Orthodontist_____
Beauty Shop_____	Dermatology_____
Home Décor_____	Law Firm_____
Book Store_____	Hearing Aids_____
	House Leveling_____
DINING	PEOPLE
Meat Market_____	(Please note where individual Works)
Chicken_____	Waiter/Waitress_____
Pizza_____	School Teacher_____
Salad Bar_____	Nurse/Dental Assistant_____
Steaks_____	Dentist_____
Hamburger_____	Bank Teller_____
French Fries_____	Accountant_____
IceCream/Yogurt_____	Local Band_____
Seafood_____	Chiropractor_____
Hot Dogs_____	Barber_____
BBQ_____	Beautician_____
Desserts_____	Veterinarian_____
Catfish_____	City Employee_____
First Date Dining_____	Secretary_____
Mexican_____	County Employee_____
HotSauce_____	Insurance Agent_____
Chicken FS_____	Attorney_____
Fajitas_____	Mechanic_____
Enchiladas_____	Electrician_____
Margaritas_____	Salesperson_____
Italian_____	Grocery Store Clerk_____
Business lunch_____	Boss_____
Oriental_____	Radio News Anchor_____
Dining Atmosphere_____	Travel Agent_____
Breakfast Taco_____	Unsung Hero_____
Buffet_____	
Meet for Coffee_____	
Catering_____	

ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON, PLEASE

Name:_____

Phone:_____

Address:_____

My Vote for a Category Not Listed: