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A Visitor's Guide to Pampa & Gray County

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PAMPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Building a Stronger Future

The Pampa Economic Development Corporation is an organization that promotes new business in Pampa. The Pampa EDC type B has aggressive business incentives funded from the half-cent sales tax for Economic Development that yields over \$1,000,000 dollars annually. Incentives are available to companies creating new jobs in Pampa on a project by project basis. Location and excellent quality of life make Pampa a prime spot for new industrial business and sales. Pampa, Texas is located 50 miles Northeast of Amarillo, Texas, 113 miles from Elk City, Oklahoma and 120 miles from Liberal, Kansas.



The Pampa Economic Development Corp. and Xcel Energy have partnered on efforts to attract new business to the Pampa Energy Center, an industrial site located along U.S. Highway 60 west of the city. As part of Xcel Energy's Certified Site Program, a 250-acre space known as Pampa Energy Center South received site certification following a robust year-long site analysis process. "Xcel Energy is now actively promoting Pampa's industrial capabilities to a much wider audience, which extends our reach considerably at no extra cost," said Clay Rice, Executive Director of the Pampa EDC.

"Having a partnership with Xcel Energy, which has the resources and know-how to market and promote one of the best industrial sites in the Panhandle region, is a terrific opportunity for Pampa and Gray County. The Pampa EDC looks forward to continuing to work with Xcel Energy on this venture," said Glennette Goode, president of the Pampa Energy Center Board. Certification of the Pampa Energy Center North and South sites will help Pampa be more competitive in the marketplace by making it faster, easier, and less expensive for developers and site selectors to consider real estate for their client.

Pampa Energy Center is Pampa EDC's rail served Industrial Park. With approximately 1,000 developable acres of land and 5500 acres of water rights, the property is more than sufficient to market as one of the finest Industrial Parks in the state. The abundance of acreage owned by Pampa Energy Center will be excellent for a variety of industrial development projects. Companies located at Pampa Energy Center are: Flogistix, Proman, Rampa, Inc., and RenewTest, LLC.



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Treasa Heuston
Assistant Director Office & Records

Carol McCord
Assistant Director Marketing & IT

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Glennette Goode
Troy Newton
Sue Fatheree
Ted Hutto
Emily Arrington, D.D.S.
Jason Bagwell
Tanya Larkin ED. D

RECENT PAMPA EDC BUSINESS PROJECTS

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Covid-19 Grants (Total 52)
Wiskey Business Enterprise, LLC
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PAMPA'S Monthly Events

May

- **Pampa Partnership Golf Tournament** held at the Pampa Country Club and Hidden Hills Golf Course.
- **Pampa High School Honors Banquet**

June

- **Burnin' the Bricks**, sponsored by High Plains Cruisers and others. Events include a burnout competition, car show, cruise night, drag races and a cook-off.

July

- **Fourth of July Fireworks Display**, provided by the City of Pampa at Recreation Park.
- **Tri-State Seniors Golf Tournament**, held at the Pampa Country Club.

August

- **Top O' Texas Rodeo**, one weekend long at the Rodeo Grounds at Recreation Park. Includes the Kid Pony Show and Junior Rodeo, a Saturday morning rodeo parade and the Top O' Texas Rodeo Queen competition. Rodeo office is in the Community Building, 200 N. Ballard, 806-669-0434.
- **Relay for Life** at Recreation Park.
- **PampaFest** in Downtown Pampa

September

- **Chautauqua Celebration**, Labor Day, Central Park, sponsored by the Pampa Fine Arts Association.
- **Pampa High School Homecoming Parade**, held on Homecoming Friday (date is either in September or October).

October

- **Blessing of the Animals**, St. Matthews Episcopal Church.
- **Country Fair**, held at M.K. Brown Auditorium & Civic Center and sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce. Includes a dinner and live auction.
- **Pampa's Tribute to Woody Guthrie**, held at the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center and the Woody Guthrie Inn.

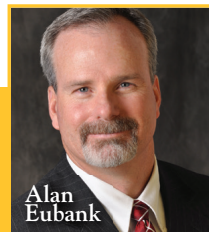
November

- Pampa ISD Veteran's Day program at M.K. Brown on Veteran's Day.

December

- Soup with Mrs. Claus
- Salvation Army Angel Tree Program
- **Christmas Parade**, sponsored by the Pampa Chamber of Commerce.
- **The Nutcracker** at M.K. Brown Auditorium, put on by local performers every holiday season.

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Top O' Texas Gold Coats



Ribbon cuttings have been a ceremonial symbol of a new beginning for a very long time. Sometimes the ribbon cutting is the signal of the beginning a brand new business, or one who is expanding into a new city, or even one who is just receiving a refreshing update. No matter the situation, it's a happy occasion and an inauguration day of great change and a bright future. Perhaps that's why the Pampa Chamber of Commerce Top O' Texans dawn the gold coats as each new member of the chamber joins the organization with a celebratory ribbon cutting. Having all of those Gold Coats show up on the stoop of your building signifies a turning point in your business. Now that you have joined many other businesses who have successfully served

generations of Pampans- you now have their support as does the success of your business in the future.

The Gold Coats, as they are so widely known as, are the official greeters of Pampa. Many will find them at chamber events or around town enjoying the city and all of it's luster. It is a proud organization who

enjoys showing off the success of Pampa and bragging about all it has to offer. If you are ever interested in joining the gold coats and helping to carry on the tradition of the celebration of united commerce in Pampa, don't hesitate to contact the chamber.

- Courtney Oxley, Top O' Texas Goldcoats President



PREMIER PET CARE

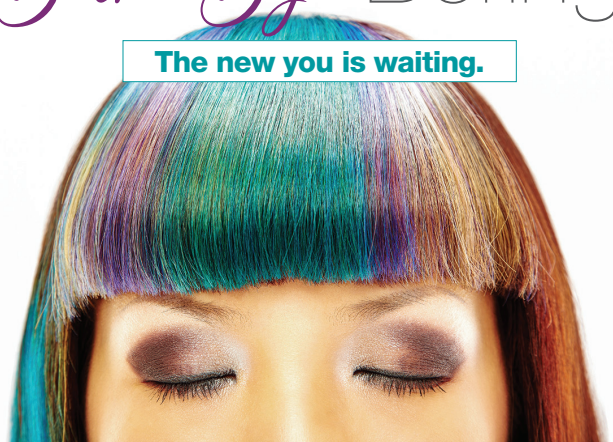
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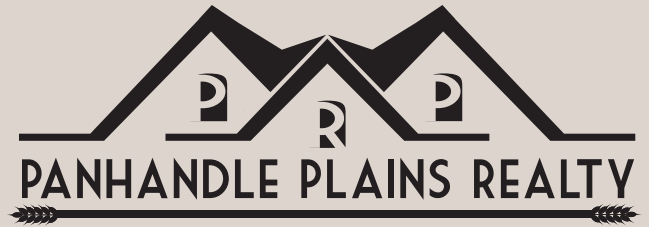
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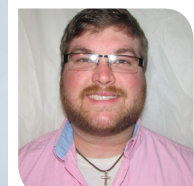
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Pampa ISD heads into 2022 to 'Inspire, Invest and Innovate'



Photos by John Lee

Hugh Piatt speaks at the Harvester Hall of Fame in 2021.

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

Pampa Independent School District is heading into their second year under the direction of Superintendent Hugh Piatt and after the horrific events of Uvalde in May 2021, PISD is waiting for the legislation to come into play.

Looking into next year

“A lot of it is going to involve safety,” Piatt said. “There will be door evaluations to make sure they lock mechanically and an intruder simulation coming up in the fall. Then we have all of the ‘have-to’ to harden our school.

“For us, for the most part we are all a one-entry school. Every elementary you have to come in the door and stand in the vestibule before you’re buzzed to come into the office. We feel pretty good about where we are.”

Some of the improvements could also be upgrades to security surveillance systems and increased protection on windows. The District has already looking into adding two more school resource officers to move throughout the District for added security. The proposed three officers will be split 60-40 percent between the school district and the City of Pampa.

One state-required item that will be continued is the

Reading Academy, which PISD has been ahead of for two years.

“All teachers in grades K-3 and, for us, and if they are teaching reading through fifth grade, including principals, all have to be trained in the science of reading,” Piatt said. “It’s an extensive training we do during the school day. We aren’t making them do it on their own. You’ll hear negative on the news about teachers having to do it on their own. It’s hours and hours on their own on top of their full-time job. We will have our teachers use business days to do Reading Academy.”

Building off 2021-22

Piatt looks back at last school year and is proud to say the District made it through in a productive manner.

“Scores for reading/writing, STAAR scores, etc. saw gains in areas I never dreamed we would,” Piatt said. “It was across the board. We graduated 95 percent of our kids while many of them not coming to school. It was a harder year than even the year before (2020-21).

“We knew what to expect going into the Covid year. We knew we would have a mask on, we knew we would have to quarantine and be out so many days. There was a process in place that was given to us. It was pretty strict. Last year it was the opposite.



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Photos by John Lee

Pampa students volunteer to paint a house in Pampa.

Do we mask or not. It was unscripted. There wasn't a road map."

The Average Daily Attendance continues to be a battle as the District is only seeing about 90 percent of their enrollment consistently in class, which shifts the burden to the teachers.

"Now you're spending all of your time doing double work, catching all the kids up who missed and trying to move forward with your curriculum," Piatt said. "We still had to deal with Covid and how long do you stay out or test/don't test. Those rules were all very blurry. It was a hard year in lots of ways."

Inspire, Invest and Innovate

Piatt said the 2022-23 mantra is going to be to "Inspire, Invest and Innovate."

"We're going to try and inspire kiddos, that's what teachers do and that's why you sign up for the job," Piatt said. "We're going to spend time, invest and do things that let the kids know we care. Hopefully we will be innovative enough to prepare kids for jobs that don't exist yet."

After coming through two years with Covid looming

in the background, Piatt would like to see even more resiliency from the District.

"I think this idea of being more resilient, having tougher skin and being able to work a little hard (is a good thing)," Piatt said. "How far can we push our limits and are we really working as hard at it as we can. We can become more successful. If we quit too early, we'll never know what can achieve."

Looking at the new UIL

Piatt said the new District offers more competition.

"It's kind of like it used to be when you had seven or eight teams in your District when only one got out," Piatt said. "Then it went to two, and now it's four. You've got to be better than the other half."

Piatt added the new non-football District of Pampa, Borger, Perryton, Hereford, Dumas, Canyon, West Plains and Randall may be one of the best Districts in the state for some of the sports.

"It makes good competition," Piatt said.

For more information, call Pampa ISD at 806-669-4700.

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**Pampa ISD
Information**

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- Pampa Junior High School.....4000 Bad Cattle Co. Rd.....806-669-4900
- Austin Elementary.....1900 N. Duncan.....806-669-4760
- Lamar Elementary.....1234 S. Nelson St.....806-669-4880
- Travis Elementary.....1900 N. Duncan.....806-669-4750
- Wilson Elementary.....1234 S. Nelson St.....806-669-4930



Above, Aubrey Dorn signs to take her soccer game to the next level.

Photos by John Lee

Neighboring School Districts:



Lefors ISD
 209 E. 5th
 Lefors, TX
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Hidden Hills Golf Club

course with hills and not very many trees. It's a different experience from what most people are used to."

Designed by Ray Hardy and owned by the City of Pampa, it continues to see improvements to various areas.

The golf course also upgraded their fleet of golf carts in 2019.

"All of these have GPS capabilities," Brauchi said. "It gives us some control to set geofences to keep people out of areas they aren't supposed to be in without spending extra money on somebody being a marshal.

"It's a benefit to the golfer in that they already have the GPS already on the cart so when they pull up to the ball it shows

them the distance to the green."

Brauchi said Hole No. 9 is one of the toughest holes on the course as you're shooting up hill to get to the green.

"It's a long Par 4," Brauchi said. "It comes back up the hill to the pro shop and it's got about a 30 to 40-foot rise from the bottom of the fairway to the green."

Featuring a shot over water, Brauchi said the most unique hole is No. 13.

"It takes a lay-up shot off of the tee box and you have a carry over water and an uphill shot onto a green that slopes from back to front," Brauchi said.

For more information, visit www.hiddenhillsgolfclub.com or call 806-669-5866.

By JOHN LEE

pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

Hidden Hills Golf Course opened in 1990 at its location just north of Pampa on State Highway 70.

Brian Brauchi, who became the general manager of the

course in December 2019, said the course offers a unique design and layout that flexes the Texas Panhandle's characteristics.

"It has a different layout," Brauchi said. "We have true, link-style golf course that's unique. It's a cool-season golf

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Pampa Chamber Celebrates the 'Vitality' of Pampa



Photo by John Lee
The Chamber, FirstBank Southwest and the Goldcoats celebrate the opening of the bank's new location.

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987



Cortnie Patterson

Cortnie Patterson was named the Executive Director of the Pampa Chamber of Commerce in November 2021.

Patterson said her first year has been a little bit of a whirlwind as she has stayed busy planning several Chamber-related events in the nine months since being hired.

"I enjoy the event-planning," Patterson said. "It makes it easy for me to enjoy my job. I don't know what the Chamber looked like for several years (before I was hired), but I do know that Covid and lockdowns took a huge toll on events and how things could be/were done.

"People were just ready to go out and do things again. It was divine timing for me to step in and do so many events."

Patterson hasn't lost sight of the Chamber's original purpose, which is to promote the businesses and grow the community.

"Our word for the year is 'vitality,'" Patterson said. "Which means strong and active. So everything we do, we make sure it's related to the idea of the vitality of Pampa. A strong and active Pampa."

Patterson and the Chamber brought back the monthly luncheons, which had been held quarterly in recent years. This allows the Chamber members to network with other local businesses and programs.

"It's had a great response," Patterson said. "We've become more active with our Top O' Texans (the Goldcoats). Social media has allowed us to interact with a lot of the community we weren't interacting with before."

In 2022, the Pampa Chamber and the City of Pampa collaborated for their first-ever Fourth of July celebration, which had an amazing turn out.

"I think the Fourth of July was the real turning point in seeing where the community stood," Patterson said. "We didn't have a lot of time from the time we thought of the event to when it happened to plan and get people involved.

"Seeing the overwhelming response from the community for the event proved how excited people are to have things to do and how willing they are to stay in Pampa and be involved in the things we are doing."

The Chamber of Commerce is also bringing back the Country Fair on Oct. 26 at M.K. Brown with the theme being "Bet on Pampa."

"We absolutely, as the Chamber, are betting on Pampa," Patterson said. "We're betting on Pampa to be prosperous and a growing/thriving community with growing businesses."

The event will feature a concert (feat. Will Bannister) and a casino night.

Patterson is looking forward to grow "Shop Pampa First" for 2022 and upcoming events like the Lighted Night Parade.

Overall, Patterson is excited for the growth of Pampa and seeing the new businesses come in.

"If you look back in the last 10 years, that one block on Hobart where Bartlett's, Allsup's and Elite Eye Care have built three brand-new buildings in a block," Patterson said. "If someone had told us 10 years ago that this block would have been full of brand-new buildings, we wouldn't have believed them.

"The new FirstBank Southwest building is a testament of them to decide to stay downtown and build a brand-new building. It's such an honor. Thriving is the only word I can use to describe it."

Patterson reminds residents and business that connections are important when growing a community.

"The currency of community is connection," Patterson said. "The Chamber is the place to be connected. If you're new to town or looking to grow, the Chamber offers you that opportunity to connect with like-minded business owners and individuals."

For more information on the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, call 806-669-3241.

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The Greater Pampa Area Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary partnership of businesses, professionals and individuals investing their time and financial support to promote economic vitality and improve the quality of life in the Greater Pampa Area.

The Pampa Chamber of Commerce serves as a resource and information broker as well as a catalyst through which the citizens can work together for the common good of the Greater Pampa area and Gray County.

Pampa Chamber of Commerce



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While first appearance lends to the idea that Flipz is a newly-designed fast food, chain restaurant, the made-to-order, hand-crafted products sold illustrates its exclusivity to Pampa.

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<https://www.theplazarestaurant.com/menu-categories/appetizers-pampa/>

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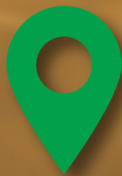


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Pampa Museum Promotions Preserves and Promotes the History of Pampa

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

The Pampa Museum Promotions, founded in 2020, was founded as a way to focus on the three museums in Pampa: the White Deer Land Museum, the Freedom Museum U.S.A. and the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center Museum.

“It’s kind of a unique situation that Pampa has three museums,” Pampa Museum Promotions chairman John Curry said. “We decided that if we really focused on that and the ability of the museums to market themselves as a group instead of individually, we could make a lot of headway.”

One of the ways the Promotions helps promote the museums is through the Windows on a Wider World organization in Amarillo.

“We market ourselves as a museum experience in Pampa,” Curry said. “More than 1,000 kids came to Pampa in 2021 through WoWW and had the experience of going to all three museums while they were here.”

Through these museum day-trips, students learn about the Red River Wars, genealogy, Woody Guthrie, handle/touch military equipment and military history.

“We want to figure out ways to market Pampa in a variety of ways to experience history, not just one county museum,” Curry

said. “Our county museum, the White Deer Land Museum, has a lot more interactivity than just a ‘bunch of old stuff.’ We’ve gotten grants over time and want all of our museums to be successful.”

Curry said the museums have had occasions where tour groups have come through Pampa on buses and stopped by all three museums.

“We have learned there’s tremendous interest in the things we have,” Curry said. “The Woody Guthrie Museum has a large international following because of Woody Guthrie. The Freedom Museum has the potential of a large following and the Indian Wars situation has a lot of national interest. The Order of the Indian Wars has come here once and are planning their anniversary convention here in 2025.”

The White Deer Land Museum also houses the N-N Room, which has been used to host events involved with historical concept (educational, civic and cultural events).

“The Tri-State Seniors (the longest running seniors tournament in the country) and are interested in that history,” Curry said. “They had multiple tours while they were here and it ended up with us getting new members for the Friends of the WDLM and the museum.”

The Pampa Museum Promotions is operated by a



committee made up of those involved with the museums and is funded mostly through grant money.

The Pampa Museum Promotions will be hosting Joe Moser on Nov. 13, 2021 for “Lightning Down.”

Information on the ‘Lightning Down’ event

On August 13, 1944, Joe Moser set off on his forty-fourth combat mission over occupied France. Soon, he would join almost 170 other Allied airmen as prisoners in Buchenwald, one of the most notorious and deadly of Nazi concentration camps. Tom Clavin’s *Lightning Down* tells this largely untold and riveting true story. Moser was just twenty-two years old, a farm boy from Washington State who fell in love with flying. During the War he realized his dream of piloting a P-38 Lightning, one of the most effective weapons the Army Air Corps had against

the powerful German Luftwaffe. But on that hot August morning he had to bail out of his damaged, burning plane. Captured immediately, Moser’s journey into hell began. Moser and his courageous comrades from England, Canada, New Zealand, and elsewhere endured the most horrific conditions during their imprisonment ... until the day the orders were issued by Hitler himself to execute them. Only a most desperate plan would save them. The page-turning momentum of *Lightning Down* is like that of a thriller, but the stories of imprisoned and brutalized airmen are true and told in unforgettable detail, led by the distinctly American voice of Joe Moser, who prays every day to be reunited with his family. *Lightning Down* is a can’t-put-it-down inspiring saga of brave men confronting great evil and great odds against survival.

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FREEDOM MUSEUM USA



Photos courtesy of Della Moyer



Located in Memorial Park in Pampa, Texas, Freedom Museum USA is open Tuesday through Saturday from Noon until 4:00 p.m. Special tours may be arranged by appointment.

The Museum collection is located in an old water pumping station originally built by the WPA in 1939. In August 1986, Pampa Army Airfield Reunion, later in conjunction with Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1657, began development

of a museum to commemorate and honor those brave men and women who sacrificed so much that we might be free. Freedom Museum officially opened in August 1994. Remodeled and enlarged, the Museum currently contains approximately 3600 square feet to house an amazing selection of exhibits.

Freedom Museum is currently staffed by one full-time employee as required by Federal regula-

★ ★ ★ FREEDOM MUSEUM USA ★ ★ ★



Photos courtesy of Della Moyer

tions. That employee is Ron Howell, a retired law enforcement officer who served in the US Army in Vietnam. Howell enjoys guiding visitors through the museum

and relaying stories about various exhibits. Other volunteers provide their services on a daily basis. All contributions, which are tax-deductible, are directed fully to the

development and maintenance of the facility.

Freedom Museum USA is currently a learning partner with Window on a Wider World, an organiza-

tion based in Amarillo which is dedicated to enriching the education of Texas Panhandle students through arts, science and cultural experiences. Over 900 students from around the area have visited in the museum in the 2021-22 school year.



All branches of the United States Armed Forces are represented in the Freedom Museum. Exhibits of both official and private memorabilia from military and civilian sources offer a well-rounded view of American military history.



Photos courtesy of Della Moyer

White Deer Land Museum

The White Deer Land Museum opened in May 1970 with only first floor available to the public. The second floor would open 5-7 years later.

When the Land Company used the building they only needed an office. Most of the other rooms were rented out. Pampa's fourth post office was located on the first floor and at one point the Holy Souls Catholic Church met in the largest room.

There have been dentists, abstract-

tors, barbers, attorneys, and many other professional people who have used both floors for office space. Now we have some 34 rooms, large and small, filled with artifacts.

Since then there have been three major additions. First, the Holland Wing was added to the museum in the early 1990's. Second, the Red River War Wing was added in the 2000s. Our newest addition, the N Bar N, opened February 14, 2020. The space is multipurpose





and will host lectures, art exhibits and many other educational and cultural events.

With 2021-2022 school year kicking off the Freedom Museum USA, Woody Guthrie Folk Music center and the White Deer land Museum has student field trip bookings from Pampa, Wheeler, Amarillo, and Busland.

We would like to thank everyone involved in the growth and success of our amazing museums in

Pampa. The White Deer Land Museum's hours have returned to our normal pre-COVID schedule.

Tuesday-Friday
10:00am-3:00pm
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Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center

Photos courtesy of Della Moyer



In 1929, 17-year-old aspiring singer/songwriter Woody Guthrie arrived in Pampa from Oklahoma at the behest of his father, an Oklahoma businessman down on his luck and working in Pampa to pay off debts. Guthrie arrived quite accomplished playing the harmonica and quickly acquired an amazing talent with the fiddle and guitar while in Pampa.

He became a determined musician with little interest in the conventions of rural Panhandle life, spending more time reading in the local library than attending school, dropping out of Pampa High before completing his final year. In 1933, At 21, he mar-

ried Mary Jennings and worked at jobs in Pampa while honing his musical skills. Guthrie and his wife, Mary, had three children in Pampa: Gwen, Sue and Bill. In 1937, Guthrie left Pampa behind, joining the throngs of Midwesterners driven from farmlands across America by the advent of the Dust Bowl and working their way west to California in the hopes of a better life.

Guthrie, considered an icon of American folk music, authored the nation's folk anthem "This Land is Your Land" among other distinctly American classics. Guthrie may have left Pampa, but Pampa never quite left Guthrie. Pampa

locals Thelma Bray and Glenna Lea Miller established the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center in 1991.

Housed in Pampa's historic Harris Drug Store, one-time Guthrie employer, the Center serves as musical venue for live events throughout the year and a museum of relics that chronicle Woody's life and music.

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center strives to keep Woody's words and music alive and to provide a place for the public to visit a little part of Woody's world.

Anyone may come there to learn about, talk about, sing about and add to the

legacy of Woody Guthrie.

The Center has a variety of books, recordings, drawings and pictures from Woody's life. For those who might desire to play and sing, the Center is open on Friday nights for jams, stories and fellowship.

These evenings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to pull up a chair to listen or to visit. The hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10am until 5pm and 6pm until 8:30pm on Friday nights. For visits outside these hours you may call Mike at 806-664-0824.



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Second Annual PampaFest Returns Aug. 20

BY JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

The Second Annual PampaFest will return to Downtown Pampa on Saturday, Aug. 20.

Event Coordinator Corey Coronis said while there are a few changes being made to the layout of the event, attendees can still expect a great experience.

“We’re swapping the food trucks and the vendors to different blocks and so far we’ve 22 food-type trucks and about 60 retail vendors,” Coronis said. “What’s different this year is all of the vendors will be inside the event. We won’t have any out in front of the gates and event this year.”

Along with some Pampa food truck vendors, PampaFest will also feature food trucks from Midland, Abilene and Lubbock.

“We wanted to bring something that even Amarillo doesn’t see over there,” Coronis said. “We want to encourage them to come over here and try something different. We do have some Pampa vendors in this to support Pampa, but we also have them from all over the state.”

The food area will also see more seating areas where patrons can enjoy their meals.

There will also be an opportunity for local musicians to play some acoustic

songs before the main slate of musicians take the stage.

“We’ve got some local artists who will get up there and strum some tunes out,” Coronis said. “We have a little 8X8 riser beside the stage where we will allow them to play some music before the event and hopefully kick off around 2:30 to 3 p.m.”

This year’s event will run until midnight of that evening.

The event will also feature a vodka bar with a menu of special cocktails. Not only will there be a bar inside the main, general admission area, but also inside the VIP area for those special guests. VIP guests will also have a meet-and-greet with Cody Canada and potentially other performers.

Security at the event will be doubled and guests will only be permitted to bring clear bags inside the gates.

“Last October we signed the Starlight Ranch’s Security Team, so they are bringing 12 security guards from there and then our police officers from last year,” Coronis said. “We don’t want to hold up the crowd and mess with them. But we also want them to know we are doing everything we can to make it a completely safe environment.”

This year’s band line-up includes Ryan Culwell, Wight Lighters, Kaitlin Butts, Jamie Lin Wilson, Cody Canada and the De-



parted and Jason Boland and the Stragglers. Several of the bands have ties to Pampa.

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Pampa Country Club: Almost 100 Years of Rich History



By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

The Pampa Country Club is located off Harvester Street near Loop 171 and today is still considered by many one of the finest golf facilities in the Texas Panhandle.

Organized in 1928 with \$12,000 in stock and shares selling for \$200 each. The first certificate was issued to M.K. Brown on April 23, 1928 according to an article by the White Deer Land Museum's long-time cura-

tor Eloise Lane.

Lane's article states in the mid-1930s, the clubhouse was built and paid for in cash and would leave no debt. The size of the clubhouse continued to grow as the population of Pampa, and thus the club's membership, grew.

Pampa Country Club hosts a wide range of tournaments from the Hart Warren Top O' Texas Golf Tournament, Tri-State Seniors and one half of the Pampa Partnership.

The Country Club also has special buf-

fets throughout the year that is open to the public. For din-

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Hidden Hills Golf Club, 30 Years of Golfing in Gray County

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

Hidden Hills Golf Course opened in 1990 at its location just north of Pampa on State Highway 70.

Brian Brauchi, who became the general manager of the course in December 2019, said the course offers a unique design and layout that flexes the Texas Panhandle's characteristics.

"It has a different layout," Brauchi said. "We have true, link-style golf

course that's unique. It's a cool-season golf course with hills and not very many trees. It's a different experience from what most people are used to."

Designed by Ray Hardy and owned by the City of Pampa, it continues to see improvements to various areas.

The golf course also upgraded their fleet of golf carts in 2019.

"All of these have GPS capabilities," Brauchi said. "It gives us some control to set geofences to keep

people out of areas they aren't supposed to be in without spending extra money on somebody being a marshal.

"It's a benefit to the golfer in that they already have the GPS already on the cart so when they pull up to the ball it shows them the distance to the green."

Brauchi said Hole No. 9 is one of the toughest holes on the course as you're shooting up hill to get to the green.

"It's a long Par 4," Brauchi said. "It comes back

up the hill to the pro shop and it's got about a 30 to 40-foot rise from the bottom of the fairway to the green."

Featuring a shot over water, Brauchi said the most unique hole is No. 13.

"It takes a lay-up shot off of the tee box and you have a carry over water and an uphill shot onto a green that slopes from back to front," Brauchi said.

For more information, visit www.hiddenhillsgolfclub.com or call 806-669-5866.

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Photo by John Lee

From left, Liz Ramirez and Jimmy Hicks.

Pampa Youth and Community Center, a Place for All to Work Up a Sweat

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

The Youth Center first opened its doors in 1960 and has been overseen by a very involved Board of Directors with many members who have served for several decades, including Dr. Jay Johnson.

The Youth Center is full of different things to do, you can swim, play basketball, take spin classes or lift weights and even more.

“In the early 1970s the area for weights was added,” Johnson said. “Mid-1970s we decided to enlarge the men’s dressing area and then a few years later we added the ladies dressing area.”

The Youth Center has two spacious basketball/racquetball courts, a 25-yard swimming pool, saunas, hot tubs, locker rooms, a carpeted gym with high intensity cardio equipment, Jazzercise classes (housed at the facility), HIIT (High-intensity interval training) classes, a full-sized basketball court, spin cycles, water aerobics, two indoor tennis courts and a walking/running track.

All of these amenities are included in the variety of memberships the Youth Center offers. The Youth Center also offers all-day passes for \$6.

Jimmy Hicks, who became director in 2018, said his goal is for the Youth Center to be a safe-haven for everyone in the community.

“What I try to do is to make this a safe-haven for the young, teenagers, middle-aged, elderly and anyone who comes and works

out,” Hicks said. “It’s a social setting. Some people just come to be around other people.”

The Youth Center was founded as a safe place for children to play games and spend time. But as it grew, it became a place for all.

“The senior citizens are free to enter and walk the track,” Johnson said. “We have invested a lot of money into our equipment here, we have everything from free weights all the way to weight machines.”

The Youth Center doesn’t want to be compared to the large chain gyms such as Gold’s Gym in Amarillo, where the more jockish athletes tend to workout.

“Last thing I want is for someone is to be intimidated,” Hicks said. “When they walk in the door there is no one looking down on you. It’s more ‘Hey, how are you doing? Come on in.’”

Pampa Youth and Community Center is an organization for the people and ran by the people, the center was created by locals and is still ran by locals to this day.

“If anyone has any questions about us, just come in or give us a call or stop in for a tour and see if it will work for you. We have something for everyone. We would love to make you a new member today and I encourage anyone who is interested to come and take a look at us. We are very blessed to be able to have this building and I hope it can bless you as well,” Johnson finished.

Pampa Youth Center is located at 1005 West Harvester Avenue and you can contact them at (806) 665-0748.



At the Pampa Youth & Community Center you will find a wide variety of exercise options available to help you get or stay in shape!

Features at the PY&CC

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- Two Racquetball/Handball Courts
- Two Basketball Courts
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 - Free weights
 - Cybex weight machines
- Cardiovascular Room
 - Treadmills
 - Summit Trainer
 - Arc Trainers
 - Airdyne Bikes
 - Stationary Bikes
 - Recumbent Bikes
 - Rower
- Indoor Running/Walking Track
- Indoor Swimming Pool
- Ladies Workout Room
- Whirlpools & Saunas
- Programs & Lessons
 - Swimming Lessons
 - Tournaments (Dodgeball, Basketball, Power Lifting, Cornhole, etc)
 - Youth Activities (Dive-in Movies, Kid’s Camp, Tournaments, etc)
 - Fitness Classes (Zumba, Aqua Zumba, HIIT, Yoga, Water Aerobics)
 - Spin Class
 - Crossfit Pampa- Beginner to advanced



Pampa Youth and Community Center
1005 West Harvester
P.O. Box 1164
Pampa, Texas 79066-1164
806-665-0748

Low Monthly Fee!

Something for everyone at The Sparrow's Nest

BY JOHN LEE

pampanewseditor@gmail.com

Twitter: @jcl1987

The Sparrow's Nest, located at 120 N. Cuyler in Downtown Pampa, was opened 10 years ago by Cindy Crawford.

Cindy and her daughter, Jill Price, run the store which features several vendors selling everything from clothes, gifts, decorations, beauty products and many more.

"We have space and then lease some to vendors who sell similar things along with gifts, unique artwork, hand-crafted items, etc.," Price said.

There isn't a requirement for the type of item vendors sell, just that there isn't too much of that product already being sold at the Sparrow's Nest.

The only expectation on the vendor is the upkeep of their booth, although The Sparrow's Nest will help on the daily straightening up.

"We'll tidy up, but typically they come in, restock and clean up," Price said.

The Sparrow's Nest draws its name from the popular hymn "His eye is on the sparrow."

The store's product changes with the season throughout the year and includes Pampa Harvester products and homecoming supplies made by Christine Kiper.

"We have homecoming supplies (ribbon, bows, etc.) where they can make their own homecoming mums and

garters," Price said.

Sparrow's Nest has been a part of the steady growth Downtown Pampa has enjoyed over the last several years.

"I feel like it is nice because there is quite a bit of foot-traffic, as well," Price said. "You see people hopping from Finley's Fountain to have lunch or the Coffee Shop. You have workers downtown just taking a break."

The Sparrow's Nest has gift items for children and also offers baby/wedding registry.

There is no booth space available about the moment but those interested are encouraged to call and be put on the waiting list.

For more information on The Sparrow's Nest, visit their Facebook page, Instagram or call the business 806-669-1900. They are open Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Clubs and Services

In the arts:

- High Plains Cruisers- kahammer43@gmail.com
- Pampa Community Concert Association- glennette@goodeangus.com
- Pampa Radio Operated Plane Society - www.propsclub.org, e-mail pampapropsclub@yahoo.com.

For Veterans:

- VFW Post 1657- 105 S. Cuyler, P.O. Box 2684, Pampa, Texas

For Seniors:

- Pampa Senior Citizens Center- 500 W. Francis, Pampa, Texas 806-669-7414.
- Southside Senior Citizens Center- 438 W. Crawford, Pampa, Texas, 79065
- Pampa Meals on Wheels- 302 E. Foster Ave, Pampa, Texas 79065, 806-669-1007.
- GrayCares Living at Home- 511 N Hobart St, Pampa, Texas 79065, 806-688-7109.

Social Clubs:

- Rotary - Every Wednesday at 12 p.m. at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce, 200 N Ballard St, Pampa, TX
- Lions Club- Every Thursday at noon in the basement of the First United Methodist Church, 201 East Foster, Pampa, Texas, 79065
- Kiwanis- Every Friday at noon at Pampa Country Club, 1765 E Harvester Ave, Pampa, TX 79065.

Social Clubs:

- Top O' Texas Republican Women's Club- 2434 Cherokee Pampa TX 79066 (806) 669-2206
- Altrusa International of Pampa- Every other Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the Pampa Chamber of Commerce 200 N Ballard St, Pampa, TX
- Pampa Desk and Derrick Club- Meets every fourth Tuesday and during the pandemic they have met at someone's house. For more information call Carol Cofer- 806-669-3108.

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Photos by ReDonn Woods

Above left, Chief Lance Richburg in the dunking booth. Above right, hot dog eating contest.

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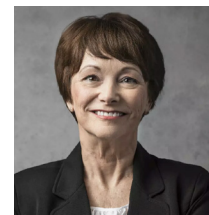


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Top O' Texas Rodeo Returns for 75th year

By JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com
Twitter: @jcl1987

The Top O' Texas Rodeo was held at 7 p.m. on Aug. 12-13 in Pampa for the 75th time.

Along with the rodeo itself, the Top O' Texas Rodeo brought back their freestyle bull-riding.

"We are bringing back our freestyle bull-riding," TOTRA Executive Director Cindy Kempf said. "We will have that at the start of the rodeo performance and towards the end of the rodeo. We will have the Muttin' Bustin' extravaganza during the barbecue and then the Top 10 finishers will move on to the rodeo performance on Saturday."

Justin Russell of Wolf Creek Rodeo provided the stock for the event. Brandon Wren announced the rodeo for the first time.

The dances will be held each night. Music on Friday will be Seth Ward and the Silence. Tickets for Friday are \$10/person.

Saturday, Colby Cooper will perform with Mike Chisum opening for him. Tickets that night will be \$20/person.

The dance floor for each night will be expanded to accommodate a larger crowd.

"The guys are going to be changing the fencing," Kempf said. "We are going to have a bigger fenced off area to accommodate more people. We are expecting a lot of people to come. They are enlarging the area at the dance pavilion."

The Kid Pony and Junior Rodeo will be held July 9. Entries are open for that event.

Other events include the Nickel Drop (Ages 6 and under) and the Calf Scramble (12 and under), Rodeo Parade (Saturday, Aug. 13 at 10:30 a.m., standard route) and Slack performances on Thursday, Aug. 11 at 7 p.m. (no charge).

Rodeo tickets will be \$10/person and \$5/child (5 to 12 years old).

Entries are open for the Top O' Texas Rodeo Queen competition.

Kempf added a lot of work goes into planning the rodeo and she is excited for this year's event.

"I enjoy it," Kempf said. "When it comes down to it. The rodeo performances (are great). I get to work with a lot of awesome

people. My Rodeo Board and I work year-round. I get to work with great rodeo stock contractors, great announcers, clowns, etc.

"I get to work with a great community with sponsors, people that buy the banners and people that support us and come out. That's nice to know that all the work you put in for a year, people appreciate it and come out to support you."

For more information, call 806-662-2873.



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64th Annual White Deer Rodeo



■ Event will feature Josh Ward, Mike Ryan and Josh Abbott Band.

with the Rodeo 22 years, said the Club is looked to build off the success of 2021.

“We took a gamble last year and decided to go with a bigger musician than we normally have,” Guerrero said. “The gamble paid off. We drew more than we’ve ever drawn, with 2,200 on Friday and 4,700 people on Saturday. Prior to that it was still an awesome show and the rodeo atmosphere can still draw a bunch of people. But us taking that gamble, really upped the game.”

Guerrero added that prior to the 2021 rodeo, over the last 10 years the rodeo had seen a substantial growth, setting up for great, and welcomed expectations.

Along with a Rodeo Queen competition, the event will also feature muttin’ bustin’ both nights at 7:30 p.m. with steer riding

to follow.

“We will have a calf scramble in the middle of the rodeo,” Guerrero said. “We get other people involved besides just the contestants. We have little activities throughout the rodeo.”

Guerrero expects about 150 to 200 contestants in the rodeo across both nights.

Tickets for Friday are \$15 and include a barbecue, rodeo performance and the dance featuring Josh Ward. Tickets for Saturday are \$25 and include Mike Ryan and Josh Abbott Band. BYOB is welcome, but not glass bottles.

“That’s the best bang for your buck you can get,” Guerrero said. “That’s the best price you can get anywhere. You can’t go to Amarillo or anywhere like that and see a rodeo and a concert for that price.”

For more information on the event, visit the White Deer Riding Club Facebook page or call Jared Guerrero at 254-371-9921.

BY JOHN LEE
pampanewseditor@gmail.com
Twitter: @jcl1987

The 64th Annual White Deer Rodeo took place July 29-30 at the White Deer Rodeo Grounds and featured Josh Ward performing on Friday evening, and the pair of Mike Ryan and Josh Abbott Band on Saturday.

White Deer Riding Club Vice President Jared Guerrero, who has been involved



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Sculpture Tour of Pampa



This Land is Your Land



Lovett Memorial Library Statue



Loch Ness Lizard



Art History Wall - A Preview

Photos by The Pampa News

"This Land is Your Land" is a 150' wide by 10' tall sculpture that represents the chorus of Woody Guthrie's classic song. Lovett Memorial Library statue; She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness (Proverbs 31:26). The Loch Ness Lizard was constructed in 1991-1992 by the metal trades class with recycled materials. The Art History Wall is located west of the MK Brown Civic Center and has 16 different faces dedicated to the Texas flag, area cattle brands, the agriculture and petroleum industries, early American lifestyles and WWII Air base.

A Sense of Community



Photos by John Lee

Above left, Richard Morris and Constable Joe Montgomery visit during a goldcoating. Right, Pampa ISD Veterans Tribute.

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PAMPA FACTS

Located in Gray County, Texas, Pampa has a population of 18,401. Gray County itself has a population of 23,043.

Other facts about Pampa:
 Elevation: 3,234 feet above sea level
 Compared to:
 Amarillo- 3,601'
 Oklahoma City- 1,201'
 Albuquerque- 5,312'

Dallas- 430'
 Denver- 5,280'
 Distance from:
 Amarillo- 56 miles
 Oklahoma City- 220 miles
 Albuquerque, N.M.- 344 miles
 Dallas/Forth Worth- 356 miles
 Denver, Colo.- 443 miles
 Lubbock- 179 miles
 Austin- 472 miles

Climate in Pampa
 (from U.S. Climate Data)

Average temperatures:
 Highs- Jan.- 49°F, Feb.- 52°, March- 61°, April- 70°, May- 78°, June- 86°, July- 91°, Aug.- 90°, Sept.- 82°, Oct.- 71°, Nov.- 60°, Dec.-49°

Lows- Jan.- 23°F, Feb.- 26°, March- 33°, April- 41°, May- 51°, June- 60°, July- 66°

Aug.- 65°, Sept.- 57°, Oct.- 45°, Nov.- 33°, Dec.-24°

Average rainfall: Average annual rainfall is 23.28 inches with the wettest months being June (3.66 inches), May (2.99) and Aug. (2.76)

Transportation:
 Pampa sits right on U.S. Highway 60 and has Texas Highways 70 and 152. Interstate 40 is 27 miles south of Pampa.
 BNSF Railroad provides piggy-back service to the area with 55 trains daily.
 Private air service is available locally at Perry Lefors Airfield. Commercial flights are available through Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport.

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Employment and workforce
 Workforce Country- 7,753
 Radius of Labor Drawing Area: 60 miles
 Manufacturing employment: 1,100 (est.)

Major employers
 Pampa ISD, Pampa Regional Medical Center, Walmart, Texas Department of Criminal Justice, City of Pampa, Hunting-Titan, United Supermarkets, Gray County, Cabot Corporation, G2X, National Oilwell Varco

Education
 School districts: Pampa ISD, Miami ISD, Lefors ISD, Grandview-Hopkins, White Deer ISD
 Higher education: Clarendon College, Frank Phillips College, Amarillo College
 Private: Community Christian School, Create-A-Beat Afterschool Arts Program, St. Matthew's Day School, First Baptist Child Development Center, Gray County Latchkey

Medical Care
 Pampa Regional Medical Center services a population of about 65,000 from the Texas Panhandle and employs roughly 240 staff members. For more information visit www.prmctx.com.

Ambulance service is provided by Emergency Services Foundation of Texas. Air ambulance is provided by Lifestar 2 and is stationed at the hospital.
 Pampa also has 12 medical clinics, 3 nursing homes, 1 assisted living center, 2 chiropractic offices, 3 veterinarians, 4 dentists, 2 orthodontists and 2 eye care facilities.

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Mortgage Loans



FirstBank Southwest

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