

PRIDE OF PAMPA

2025

Friends &
Neighbors



Dustin Miller: A Familiar Face and a Heart of Gold

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

Whether you know him from his coaching years at Pampa High School or as the name and face associated with the City of Pampa, Dustin Miller has contributed and served the Pampa community for many years in many ways.

Moving to Pampa at a very young age, Dustin would attend and graduate PHS, earning a basketball scholarship to play at Northwestern Oklahoma State University where he would attend and play for four years while obtaining a Business Administration degree.

Dustin would marry the love of his life, Dori, during his college years and they both would move back to Pampa upon his graduation and begin their life here and start a family.

Unsure of where his new degree would take him, Dustin would work at one of the many offices as the business administrator of Regional Eye Care for Dr. George Walter until George's closure of his practice ten years later.

During his search for a new job, Dustin would run into the late, great Coach Cavalier who had been Dustin's coach while he was in high school, and mentioned to him that there was a need for an assistant basketball coach at the school, to which Dustin eagerly inquired and obtained.

"He asked me what I was doing and I told him I was looking for a job and he said they were looking for an assistant basketball coach and asked how interested I would be," Dustin said. "Of course I was interested, I was just going to have to go back to school to get my teaching certification. At the time, all three of my children were young and I had no job, but I was going to do whatever it took to provide for my family."

Dustin was able to work as the assistant coach while pursuing his certification and for three years he would make the drive back and forth to WT to take the required classes, work full time at the school, and be a full-time dad.

Dustin would coach basketball at the high school for ten years until a brand new opportunity opened up for him, and he is thankful for all the years he was at the school and feels blessed to have known and worked with Coach Cavalier during that time.

"He was a great man and a great leader of men," he said. "He taught us boys how to be men, but he mostly taught us how to work hard and how to be good and responsible citizens. He was a huge influence on me and he gave me a lifeline for my family when we needed it the most. I have nothing but respect for him and his family."

During the summer months, Dustin managed the MK Brown swimming pool for Shane Stokes who was the Community Services Director at that time, and was working there during the transition to the water park where he and Abby Hancock, Coach Cavalier's daughter, would manage the park during its first year.

Shane would offer Dustin a job as Assistant Community Services Director and after that following basketball season was over, he would resign to take on that position.

"I had been at the eye center for ten years and the school for ten years, so I told my wife that this was going to be longer than ten," Dustin laughed. "God just opened the door for me to walk through and that's why I'm still here."

"It was quite a process and you think you might know how a city operates, but until you get in, you have no idea. It was great to come in as an assistant and just learn."

Shane Stokes would become City Manager in 2017 and Dustin would then become the Community Services Director, working that position until October of 2023 when he would become Assistant City Manager, a role that he carries to this day.

Dustin would take on many responsibilities in many departments, un-

derestimating just how much of a work load every single department carries each and every day and he considers his job as a continuous learning experience.

"My main goal right now is to take anything I can off of Shane's plate, to free him up so he can do whatever he needs to do."

While many of Dustin's responsibilities include multiple-department oversight and offering help where needed, he is also tasked with community events and all the organizing and coordinating that comes with them.

"I love Pampa and I just want our town to thrive and be successful and if there is anything I can do to make people love living here or want to live here, I'm all in."

With the love of the town and community at the forefront of his vision, Dustin would brainstorm with many other City members and personnel on what they can do to serve the interests of the citizens and their families.

The ideas for both the Independence Day Celebration and the beloved Celebration of Lights would come about during these brainstorming sessions and every year has brought tremendous success with these events, and being able to see the joy and smiles on the town's residents in turn brings joy to Dustin and



to all those who contributed.

But Dustin seeks absolutely no recognition for the overall success of the beloved events because it takes the hard work of many to make these things happen.

"It's all bred out of love for the people that live here and I hate any personal gratification for any of that. Granted, it may start with an idea, but it wouldn't have ever happened without a ton of people involved. Anyone can come up with an idea, but are you brave enough to follow through with it and handle the failures that may come with it? I'd rather stick my neck out and try rather than wish I had tried,

and that's what we all did."

Dustin's inspiration and passion for his role at the City of Pampa comes from the fond memories he carries while growing up here and he strives to ensure that the people who live here are able to create memories that they too can look fondly back on.

"We want to provide something to those families where they can come and do things together and make those memories that will last a lifetime, so maybe when those kids grow up, they will be inspired to do something for their city and community because they remember the fun they had."

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY THE PAMPA NEWS



Julie Sims: Coming Around Full Circle



By GENEVA WILDCAT

There's an undeniable truth to the saying, *'it's not for everyone'*, when it comes to certain jobs, whether it be the ability to maintain a sunny and friendly disposition at all times as a customer service representative, or the ability to push all emotion to the side and remain strong and stoic during times of tragedy and chaos.

For Julie Sims, her innate ability to adapt to her surroundings and willingness to learn have given her many windows of opportunity that some people, including myself, would never even dare to peek through.

Julie was born and raised in Pampa and lived here for about 18 years before pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice. During that time, she would begin building her family and move

to Lefors, commuting back and forth to school until she obtained her degree in May of 1998.

She would join the Lefors Fire Department where she would take an interest in Emergency Management Services and complete her basics to work full time for Guardian EMS that covered Pampa at that time before it would ultimately transition to Pampa EMS in 2009.

But growing up in Pampa and knowing many of the residents, the job undoubtedly came with its challenges.

"I worked for Pampa for a while before I left to go to work in Borger for eight years for their EMS," she said. "Working that job after living here in Pampa was hard because I know a lot of people and working on them was pretty hard. So

when I went to Borger, I learned to handle things better and how to compartmentalize my emotions a lot more because I didn't know anyone. There's a lot of things that you just have to shove in a little box and lock the door."

Julie said that while working for EMS, you will see anything from a stubbed toe to a cardiac arrest and every day would bring a different challenge. Because the EMS works in conjunction with the Emergency Room, Julie would gain experience working within the ER, learning how to provide care to patients both physically and mentally.

The declining health of her parents prompted Julie to move back to Pampa where another transition was happening between the Pampa

JULIE cont. on page 3

Franklin McDonough: Carving Out His Own Path

By GENEVA WILDCAT

There's no denying that sometimes the plans that we make for ourselves for the future don't always pan out the way we wanted them to, especially when it comes to a profession, whether it be because of some external forces outside of our control, or simply because of changes of perspective or interest that commonly occur over time.

Some folks take precautionary measures and have a backup plan just in case, or some people tend to just go with the flow and find something different.

But for Franklin McDonough, he knew exactly what he was going to do and who he was going to be, and come hell or high water, he was going to make it happen with no backup plan in place.

Born and raised in Plainview, Franklin would grow up in a law enforcement family with many of them serving as peace officers, so it only seemed natural that he too would serve in a similar field, actually working for the Plainview Sheriff's Office upon graduating high school.

Franklin would attend Abilene Christian University while also working for the Taylor County Sheriff's Office as a jailer, and it was during this time where he would have a conversation that would completely change the trajectory of his course of study, and ultimately his entire plans for the future.

Franklin had originally had his sights set on attending the DPS



(Department of Public Safety) Academy, and he expressed this plan of action to the DPS Captain who stopped by the sheriff's office to talk to the administrator who happened to be an old friend. The conversation, however, would take a bit of a strange turn.

"The jail administrator told him that I was a student at Abilene Christian and that I was very intelligent," Franklin said. "The DPS Captain asked me how many hours I had and I told him and he said he would personally make sure that I didn't get into the Academy until I graduated from college. I was so upset by that response that I actually looked at him and told him that when I graduated from college, I was going to go to law school and I wasn't going to need DPS anyway."

Franklin had also told his mother about going

into the DPS Academy, but that's not exactly the dream she had for her son despite coming from a long line of law enforcement officers, herself being a dispatcher for many years.

"I had actually told my mom that I just wanted to go ahead and go into the academy because coming from a law enforcement family, that's what I wanted to do. But mom said no and that she wanted me to go to law school, and she cried. From that moment on, I was like, *'okay, mama cried, so I'm going to law school,'*" he smiled.

"So that's what my dedication was after that—that was all I envisioned literally after that conversation and I was going to do whatever it took to get into law school."

While there's something to be said about the amount of determi-

PATH cont. on page 3

Visit FirstBank Southwest today and put our comprehensive list of financial services to work for you.



Home Loans



Auto Loans



Personal Loans



Commercial Loans



Business Toolkits



Competitive Rates



FirstBank Southwest
Faith. Family. Bank.

Member FDIC

806.665.2341 • FBSW.COM

Julie

Continued From Page 2

EMS and Hemphill County EMS, the transition completing in 2019. “It was the perfect time and I was comfortable coming back home, and I think maturity had a lot to do with it and learning how to deal with things.” “There is a huge turnover rate with EMS, fire and first responders because you see things that no one else should have to see. You watch people die even though you did everything you could to keep it from happening. My faith helped a lot. Someone told me one time that God put us on this earth for a certain amount of time and when your time is up, it doesn’t matter what I do, when He says it’s time to go home, you go home with Him. That was my way of dealing with things. But it’s still hard, especially when it’s your friends or kids. There’s no way around that.” Julie came back to Pampa right before Covid-19 swept across the world in full force, and in her line of work, there was no running or trying to hide from it. All public service personnel had no other choice but to face the pandemic head on and witness the devastating effects it had on otherwise healthy people, while trying to take every precaution not to bring it home to their own families. Last summer, Julie would be offered an opportunity that would set her on a completely different

path, but coincided with the degree she had originally obtained many years prior. “Judge Kurfman asked me if I was ready for a change and I asked him what he had in mind. He told me that Judge Goodman was retiring and he said, ‘why don’t you throw your hat in? You were a judge before,’ because I had actually been a Municipal Court Judge in Lefors nearly 20 years ago, but it didn’t last very long because I didn’t have a clerk or anything and it was very part time, but I had gained a little bit of experience.” Not entirely knowing what the duties were of the Justice of the Peace aside from setting bonds and pronouncing deceased persons, Julie would contact her husband’s aunt who had been a JP for many years, and she would find out that there was so much more to the role than she expected. “She told me that they take care of small claims court, parent not contributing, truancy, evictions, and of course the deaths and setting bonds, and you’ve got your Class C’s and tickets. She said it’s a little more involved than anyone understands, and she was right.” Julie would go through the process of applying for the job and would run uncontested, ultimately being appointed the role of Justice of the Peace Precinct 1 & 3 from November to December and was officially sworn in January 1 of this year. The previous JP, Karen Goodman, would train

Julie as much as Julie’s hectic schedule would allow her to as she was still working for EMS, and once Julie took the seat and Karen fully retired, Connie Ogle, the current JP for Precinct 2 & 4, would help Julie along the way, allowing her to join with her on many calls and outings. One of the biggest aspects of the job is dealing with truancy and offering that tough love to young students and helping them get back on the right track. “Sometimes juveniles need that tough love, but other times they just need understanding. You hear all sorts of reasons like, ‘they just won’t get up’ or ‘I can’t make them go’ or ‘I’ve taken them to school and they leave’, or some of them have a baby and it’s hard for them to make it to school, and I completely understand that. I spoke to one girl that reached out to me and I told her, ‘I want you to understand something-I had my first baby at 17. You can do this, but you’re going to have to buckle down. I was a single mom and got my bachelor’s degree and did it on my own. You can do this.’ I was trying to be compassionate with her because I know how hard it is to get to school when you have a kid.” Julie knows that she has much more to learn with the job, but with her ability and willingness to fully educate herself and her drive to continue to serve the community in whatever capacity she may find herself in, Julie is certain to find success in all that she does, just as she always has.

Path

Continued From Page 2

nation it takes to go and get through law school, to know exactly how and where a law student plans to use their degree and credentials is another story. Some may enter and know exactly what and where they’re going to practice, but others may end up finding their passion while still in school, or sometimes losing the passion all together. But for Franklin, he knew his would lead him right into the courtroom as a prosecutor, and with that drive, he would join mock trial and negotiation teams and compete at the

national level. He would graduate in 2005 and pass the bar exam in November of the same year, but he also obtained a degree in Political Science, something that serves as an example of what could’ve happened if he had not pursued nor completed law school. “I wasn’t prepared for anything else when I went to law school,” he said. “Looking back, had I had an epiphany if God doesn’t want me going to law school, then I probably would’ve gone and gotten graduate degrees in political science to become a professor.” “But this was the only path I knew and I didn’t have a plan B at the time. This is exactly what I

wanted to do.” Fast forward nearly 20 years later and Franklin is exactly where he planned to be, and although some people would be content with making it to where they wanted to be, Franklin still reaches for a new height, just recently earning the title of expert in criminal law after a lengthy and difficult exam process. As long as the passion still burns in his heart for the profession that he fought for and obtained it’s safe to say that Franklin has no intentions of slowing down, and has many more years to grace the courtroom that has become like home.

Arieon Keller: A Big Voice with an Even Bigger Heart



By GENEVA WILDCAT
For a little over a year, the angelic voice of 19-year-old Arieon Keller has graced the ears of Pampa’s residents, playing and singing her own songs at many community events around town and afar. “I’ve been singing my entire life. My grandmother used to tell me that I could sing before I could talk,” she smiled. With a passion for music, Arieon would at

KELLER cont. on page 4

UNDERWOOD

LAW FIRM



KEN FIELDS
ken.fields@unlaw.com

120 W. KINGSMILL AVE.
STE 505 | PAMPA





BRYAN GUYMON
bryan.guyman@unlaw.com

Providing broad-base legal services for Pampa and the Texas Panhandle including:

- Estate Planning
- Wills & Probate
- Oil, Gas & Mineral Law
- Real Estate
- Commercial Transactions
- LLC & Corporate Formation
- Litigation
- Municipal Law

806.669.6851 **UWLAW.COM**



MORTON LUMBER CO.

1404 W. Wilson - Borger, TX
273-2380
Mon-Fri 7:30a-8:00p Sat 8:00a-6:00p Sun 12p-6p

Lumber, Hardware, Feed and More!

DIGITAL ABSTRACT & TITLE

SPEED, SERVICE, RELIABILITY



A DIFFERENT KIND OF TITLE COMPANY

We are a full service abstract and title company serving the Texas Panhandle with over 70 years combined Title Industry experience. We are licensed in Gray, Roberts, Hemphill, Lipscomb, Ochiltree and Hansford County

720 W. Francis Ave. Pampa, Tx
806-665-8241 Fax 806-665-7209
info@digitalabstract.net | www.digitalabstract.net

COLLISION REPAIR

BODY WORK * PAINTLESS DENT REPAIR
WINDOW TINTING * TRUCK ACCESSORIES & MORE



CALL US TODAY!



101 S. Hobart St. | Pampa
806-665-3500



Zachary Green: Right Place at the Right Time



By GENEVA WILDCAT

As the minister for Mary Ellen Church of Christ, a media broadcaster for Harvester Sports Network, and a full time educator at both Pampa Learning Center and Pampa High School, Zachary Green is certainly one busy man, even somehow finding the time to write several sports articles for us at The Pampa News and helping us get into contact with folks when we need it.

At one point, Zach worked exclusively as a sportswriter for our newspaper, utilizing his own talent as a writer and passion for sports.

Originally hailing from Kansas, he would move around the southern states, living in Stillwater, Oklahoma for several years and attending college at Harding University in Arkansas where he would earn a degree in Broadcast Journalism.

After having no luck finding a job where he could use his degree, he would get his big break when Tim Howsare, the editor for The Pampa News at the time, would call Zach in for an interview as a sports editor, being hired right there on the spot.

Zach would officially move to Pampa where he would also become well-acquainted with Mary Ellen Church of Christ, becoming a youth minister at one point and officially becoming a preacher a little over two years ago.

During his tenure at the newspaper, he would receive a phone call from Hugh Piatt, who was the principal for Pampa High School during that time, about a reference for

someone for a job at the school. Zach would inquire about what the job was for and sure enough, it was for teaching film and broadcast, which Zach had a degree in. He would interview for the job that next day, and just like at the newspaper, would be hired right then.

Zach admits that he had no intention of staying in Pampa for a lengthy amount of time, but as luck would have it, along with divine timing, he would end up making Pampa his home.

“It’s funny because I didn’t come here with the intention of staying,” he said. “I’ve always wanted to work for Oklahoma State because that’s my favorite team, or work for the Daily Oklahoman which is their big newspaper. So I just thought I would be here for a couple of years and move. But I met Lysie at church here and not even a year later, we were married.”

After a couple of years as the film instructor at Pampa High School, the state would make changes to many of the elective courses, denying the approval of any certifications a student could obtain from the class, forcing the course to shut down. Zach would go on to be the instructor for an IT class as well as yearbook before ultimately going to Pampa Learning Center to instruct all of the electives classes.

The school would eventually bring back the course, now known as Audio and Broadcast, but Zach would stay with PLC as well as be the instructor for the Edgeunity program that helps students graduate early or

earn their credits due to attendance or grades.

Just when you think he couldn’t possibly have anymore time on his hands, he is also the main broadcaster for Harvester Sports Network, which became really popular during Covid when it was nearly impossible for die-hard Harvester fans to attend any games, but were still able to watch the livestreams through the network. Even after the world was in the process of getting back to normal and folks felt more comfortable going out, Harvester Sports Network still remained a popular channel and has grown ever since.

“That first year, UIL allowed it because of Covid, but everyone knew that there was no way you could start something like that and the next year, be like, ‘no, you can’t do that anymore.’ Sure enough they kept it.”

“We livestream all of the football games and we have what we call Hudl Focus which is an automated camera for both the gym and football field, and what’s nice about it is nobody has to run it and it still shows the scoreboard and follows the ball. We do playoffs for basically everything except tennis, wrestling, golf and track because it’s difficult to livestream those things. We use the Hudl camera for basketball for all the home games here and away and for baseball and softball we stream all the games.”

“We did that for one year and the coach that was in charge of the game and practice filmers moved to do something

ZACH cont. on page 5

Keller

Continued From Page 3

tend UNT, but decided it would be for the best to come back home where she would start working at The Coffee Shop in downtown Pampa and pursue her passion on her own terms, a decision that has since paid off and put her on the map as one of Pampa’s new rising musicians.

“One of my friends was playing at Firecreek and he said, ‘yeah, you should see if you can play down here sometime.’ I ended up booking my first show the next day. My first live show the next day! I didn’t have time to prepare or anything, but I went out there with a heart of gold and did what I could and it was so much fun.”

With a great reception at her first show, Arieon’s confidence skyrocketed and it was then and there she knew what she was meant to do.

She has since played all over the Texas panhandle and now she has her sights set on expanding, potentially returning to school to gain a degree in music production to release her own albums. But she knows she will always be on a learning journey and admits she learns something new with every performance.

“I have a few songs out right now, but I kind of sound like a 12-year-old in them,” she laughed. “They’re not the best, but if you want to hear me really being me, it’s when I’m doing it all live.”

“I always learn something new, like whether to back off sound or give a little more love to my guitar instead of my voice,



but people teach me new things all the time.”

Arieon gives an enormous shoutout to the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center and all the musicians who play there on a regular basis, including Pampa’s very own Chief of Police Lance Richburg, the Fossil River Band, and Michael Sinks.

“I used to play there every Friday night and those people taught me everything I know. They all are absolutely amazing and are the sweetest people you could ever meet.”

Arieon takes her music inspiration from her Christian upbringing, falling in love with both the sound and message.

“I knew I wanted to be a Christian songwriter my whole life and have always loved worship.”

“I grew up listening to Chris Tomlin, Matthew West, For King and Country, Casting Crowns—they were the people who made me want to sing

and play worship. It’s just the feeling you get when you’re sitting at a worship concert and you can just feel the love of God.”

Arieon spreads the message of God’s love wherever she plays, including at Celebrate Recovery, a Christ-based recovery organization here in Pampa that helps those who are suffering from affliction and addiction.

While Arieon makes no big plans for this year, she is open to playing wherever she is invited, because for her it’s not about the fame or the fortune, but rather a love for playing music and sharing her talents with the community.

Be sure to stay updated on when and where Arieon will be playing next by following her on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok under Arieon Keller and also check out the music she has made so far on all streaming platforms.

Chef Sharon Masenda: An Inspiration for Freedom and Pursuing Your Passions

By GENEVA WILDCAT

There’s the saying, ‘if you love what you do, you’ll never work a day in your life,’ and while that sentiment certainly rings true, sometimes there is still a sense of restriction and dependency, from having to follow rules and dress codes to fulfilling compromising schedules and answering to management.

A mechanic can love working on cars, but as a profession, they’re faced with meeting certain deadlines and dealing with customers who may not have had the best day,

or a writer who may have a difficult time piecing a story together in a pinch when they’re used to taking their time, or a chef who loves to cook and create delicious works of art but are restricted by their environment and time constraints.

Some days the passion may feel more like an obligation to fulfill rather than the freedom of expression it should represent.

Chef Sharon Masenda’s immense love for cooking and maintaining her personal freedoms have granted her the rare abil-

ity to enjoy both of those simultaneously.

Her passion for food and cooking began when she was extremely young, being introduced to different cuisine by her family who are originally from Zimbabwe, as well as from childhood friends who were of different cultural backgrounds.

“Growing up, there was a lot of Zimbabwen food, which is a lot of greens, rice and different meats, so the American diet was new to me and I was discovering it when I would go to my friends’ houses.

SHARON cont. on page 5

Checking & Savings

~ Loans ~

New and Used Vehicles

Boats

Recreational Vehicles & Motorcycles

Real Estate

Home Equity

Pantex Plus Line of Credit

Individual Consumer

Pantex

Federal Credit Union

Your Credit Union!

www.PantexFCU.com

Borger • Fritch • Pampa

Federally Insured by NCUA

Kyle R. Chambers, DDS

GENERAL & FAMILY DENTISTRY

For Growing Smiles!

Come see us for your Check-ups & Cleanings

ABOUT US

Our team knows that dental offices are not everyone’s favorite place. We strive to build and maintain a professional, personal and trusting relationship with our patients. Our goal is to make every patient feel safe, comfortable and relaxed at their visits while providing the very best dental care. Dr. Chambers and our team sits down with each of our patients and takes time explaining each individual treatment plan providing education to the patient allowing them to choose what treatment works best for them and their situation. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to provide your dental needs.

(806) 665-0256

2401 N. Hobart

pampadentistry.com

Zach

Continued From Page 4

else and they asked me to take that over too. The kids will go with me and we take like five or six because we have an end-zone camera, a camera for the livestreaming, and a camera for all the football angles. This year we have 16 kids in the program

and it started during that first year of Covid literally me and one kid on the camera, but it's slowly gotten bigger each year." Falling under the academic telecast category, all of the livestream games are completely free of charge for both the viewer and producers, all while giving students a hands-on experience in broadcasting that the community can witness.

Harvester Sports Network has also synched with Pampa radio stations where viewers of the network get live commentary as well as live visuals of each game.

Zach has undoubtedly made a name and a place for himself in our little town and whether he's front and center or behind the scenes, the positivity and service he provides can be felt by many.

Sharon

Continued From Page 4

I grew up in Dallas and my best friends growing up, one family was from Amsterdam and the other was from the Philippines. This is where my love for diversity comes from and why I love to be surrounded by different people from different cultures. There's just so much to learn from them."

Chef Sharon seeks diversity wherever she can, traveling extensively to New York City where she has found much of her inspiration from with all the different methods and styles of cooking and the vast variety of cuisine that is available. And it's that diversity she brings back with her, along with the desire to share what she has learned and experienced in the hopes of broadening not only the food scene in the Texas panhandle, but the overall scope of what's out there beyond the borders of one's hometown and state.

Before attending the Art Institute in Dallas for Culinary, Chef Sharon would begin to build up her experience in a professional kitchen working at Black-Eyed Pea at the age of 15, and from there she would work for Red Lobster, BJ's, and as a corporate chef for an insurance firm, with a few other restaurants in between. It was those experiences that she credits for having the biggest impact on her culinary career and giving her insights on not only how to be a fantastic and renowned chef in the kitchen, but how to have

a good business ethic through hospitality.

And with the rise of online college courses for just about everything you can think of, Chef Sharon highly recommends attending a Culinary Arts program that will give you an actual hands-on learning experience and not just something out of a book.

"I hate when someone comes and tells me

SHARON cont. on page 6

Glennette Goode: Bold, Fearless and Passionate

By GENEVA WILDCAT

As a woman with many roles, Glennette Goode has always been one of those few who isn't afraid to learn and try something new and get involved with anything she can that is of service to the community, no matter how busy it can get.

Born and raised right here in Pampa, Glennette's interests and passions would start early on, having danced for 12 years with Jeanne Willingham, a close friend and dance instructor, and spending time and working on her fourth-generation family land and ranch.

After graduating Pampa High School, Glennette would choose to attend college specifically in New Mexico where she spent many years of her youth visiting her grandparents.

"They lived in Chama, New Mexico and I spent a lot of my summers up there where they had a hunting and fishing lodge," she said. "The only way you could get up to some of the fishing lakes up in the high mountains was to go on horseback, and I would go and help guide the fishermen up. In the winter, we would have our snowmobiles out there and we would play. I just have really fond memories of being up there, and so the school was only about three hours away instead of 12 hours or so away like a lot of the other schools were."

Glennette would major in Mass Communica-

tions at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, the degree dealing primarily in speech with emphasis on radio and television with a journalism minor.

She had worked for both the high school and college newspaper, and still finds the form of media and information a relevant and important channel and actively supports The Pampa News, despite the advances in technology where folks can now find out anything with the tap of a finger.

She would come across a job opportunity in Beaumont, Texas at their local radio station where she would spend eight years before moving to Louisiana where she

would learn new skills along the way managing an internal engine parts warehouse.

"All the businesses I was involved with in Beaumont and West Monroe-I do not have a degree in accounting, but I ended up doing the books for all of them. I had actually transitioned the internal engine parts business in West Monroe to computers in the late 70s as opposed to the index cards. I've never really considered myself tech-savvy because it's always changing, but I do pride myself in being capable of learning new programs."

In 1984, the oil and gas industry began to grow

GOODE cont. on page 6



Glennette Goode and husband Jimmy

The
PAMPA News

Still going strong for over 118 years.

Let Us Bring The News to You

806.669.2525 | 403 W. Atchison

www.thepampanews.com

Assistant Chief Massey: Embracing the Role



By GENEVA WILDCAT

The professional life of a public servant can be far more unpredictable and tedious than anyone could imagine, and the capability to not only adapt, but to embrace the changes and curveballs as they happen is crucial to the operation and well-being for the department as a whole.

There are certainly times when someone who has gotten comfortable in their position is given the opportunity to take on a completely different role and carry their experience into the new position, and

in Brian Massey's case, that's just what he is doing (and has done) at the Pampa Police Department as the newly appointed Assistant Chief.

Brian was born in Texas and raised in Florida, and upon graduating from high school, he would go to work for RaceTrac Petroleum where he worked his way up to the Area Supervisor and would run six locations out of south Florida as well as training management staff all around the country, building up his training and leadership experience that would come

into play years later in a different career field.

Brian admits that he didn't feel like his position at that time was truly meaningful and wasn't much of a service to others, prompting him to take on an entirely different path.

"The issue that I had with retail management was a sense of purpose," he said. "I was going to work every day to make someone else money and I just did not have a sense that I was doing anything other than that."

MASSEY cont. on page 7

6

Sharon

Continued From Page 5

they’re doing online Culinary School-don’t do that. It’s a waste of time and money and there’s no way anyone is tasting your food when you’re doing it online. When it comes down to actually getting it done, the taste matters the most. You can go over your ServSafe rules day and night and go over all the business numbers and stuff like that, but if your food doesn’t taste good, the business won’t be successful.”

“My best advice to people who want to be a chef is to go work for chefs. But don’t start just there, start at a restaurant that you’ve always loved, that’s exactly what I did.”

“Beef up your resume of places you’ve cooked at, the foods you have cooked and the people that you have worked for because everyone is going to teach you something that is going to help create yourself.”

“And if you’re not in a position to be able to go to Culinary School, get a business degree, but while you’re getting that business degree, go work at restaurants because now you have the skill, you know what it’s like to be on your feet and now you know the business aspect of it. You need that.”

Aside from catering numerous public and private events all over the panhandle, Chef Sharon works as a meal prep chef, offering a weekly healthy and nutritious menu to folks who have grown tired of going out to eat and simply don’t have



the time nor the energy to whip something up in the kitchen, or for those who want something different that is entirely created by a professional chef with exceptional culinary skills, or for those that may have difficulty cooking just for themselves without accidentally cooking enough food for an army.

“What I love so much about the meal prep program is all the different types of people that I’m able to help,” she said. “For instance, I help a lot of clients who are older women that live alone and we all know the difficulty of cooking for one and the amount of waste that happens when you cook too much. I love that I’m able to get them nutrient-dense and really good meals, but I also have clients that are just busy and don’t have time to leave the office to get something good and so it just ends up be-

ing fast food a few times a week. I have clients who are blue-collar men who have gotten used to eating something at the gas station because it’s quick and easy. So being able to help people with their diets and provide really great meals for them based on their needs is really great.”

Aside from earning her Culinary Degree, she also obtained a Food Science Degree, giving her the knowledge of what a person with certain health and medical issues may need as far as nutrients that they can get from certain foods and even in its preparation, giving Chef Sharon’s clients the comfort in knowing that not only is she a skilled chef, but an experienced dietician and nutritionist as well who has the client’s best interest (and health) in mind.

“So much of your health

SHARON cont. on page 7

Goode

Continued From Page 5

in Pampa and Glennette’s father and other family members began to drill, prompting Glennette and her husband Jimmy to move back home where she would work on the books for the family ranch, and has been home ever since.

Upon coming home, Glennette would get in touch with her old friend and dance teacher, where she would go on to dance for another 25 years, performing many times in many roles for The Nutcracker, even helping instruct many of the classes. From there, she would find another passion and take on a whole new opportunity.

“I’ve always had a passion for the arts,” she said. “I grew up playing piano and loved dancing. I also attended Pampa Community Concerts growing up. It was always a packed audience and you had some serious names that would come and perform. I joined the board for the Community Concert when I came home and I’ve been on there ever since.”

“I attended one program at the auditorium when I was still dancing and noticed that there were no real light capabilities, it was either ‘on’ or ‘off’ and there was no one who knew how to run the lights. Another group had come to Pampa with the same show and they brought in their own lights and it was phenomenal. It just hit me so hard about how much of a difference lights can really make. It shouldn’t be the show, but it can

make the show so much more impressive. With my college courses, I had a basic background in lighting. I started volunteering and doing everything I could at the auditorium and started working on the lights for the Nutcracker and other shows.”

When Jeanne passed away, the Jeanne M. Willingham Foundation was started and has since contributed over a quarter of a million dollars to the auditorium that has included the installation of brand new lights and a new sound system that was put in just last year.

Glennette would also serve on many community boards, including Pampa Fine Arts and the Pampa Education Foundation, Pampa Civic Ballet, and is currently serving as the president of the Pampa Economic Development Corporation, serving on the board a total of about 15 years.

“I’ve always been pro-Pampa and when we moved back home in ‘84, there were about 30,000 people here and now it’s about half that. If we don’t do something, it’s going to continue to decline. Pampa cannot survive on just the oil and agriculture business alone. I grew up in that lifestyle, not knowing year to year if we were going to make any money, and so I’m very conservative with money because I don’t know if I will have it next year. So with everything that I’ve been involved in, I try to carry that attitude. We need the new industries to come in to help Pampa survive, and that is what we are trying really hard to do.”

Glennette and her fam-

ily would take over Pack n’ Mail in 2019, moving the business in its current location at 808 W. Francis, where her son, Jeremy, was already running his own technical support and repair business. The two businesses would merge and create a one-stop shop for shipping, mailing, and technological support.

“It was all hands-on deck with moving over here,” Glennette laughed. “All family members and a fella who helps us with the cattle were moving all weekend to have everything set up.”

“We took on everything that Pack ‘n Mail had been doing except for the bill-paying and money orders. We later went to a convention for shipping retailers that actually encouraged us to add printing to the services. We have expanded it beyond its capabilities and are actually working on buying two more printers. Everything we have done here, and even for my husband who has taken over the lights at the auditorium, it’s a creative outlet for all of us.”

On top of all that, Glennette is also co-owner of Goode Angus along with Jimmy, Jeremy and Liana, a family business who prides themselves on breeding and registering some of the best Angus in the United States.

Glennette’s boldness, determination, willingness to learn and overall grit have taken her to places she may have never expected, but it’s because of those qualities that we have such a strong presence backing up and supporting our community in more ways than one.



K&K Inc.

SERVICES OFFERED:

Pipeline

Oil & Gas

Electrical & instrumentation

Heavy Equipment

General Construction

CALL US :

 806- 883-5621

 Info@kandkinc.com

 Kandkinc.com



510 E. 2nd Ave. White Deer, Tx

YOUR PROTECTION FOR THE FUTURE

INSURANCE

Insurance is a contract that protects an individual or entity by providing them financial compensation in the event of losses due to untoward incidents.

Taylor Insurance Agency

120 East Browning 806-669-3062

sheltontitleco.com

info@sheltontitleco.com

S

SHELTON

TITLE



CLARENDON

Serving Armstrong, Donley & Hall Counties

222 S. Sully
Clarendon, TX 79226

Ph: (806) 874-3511

CHILDRESS

Serving Childress County

415 Commerce St.
Childress, TX 79201

Ph: (940) 937-3681

PAMPA

Serving Gray & Roberts Counties

1600 N. Hobart
Pampa, TX 79065

Ph: (806) 669-2899

SILVERTON

Serving Briscoe County

415 Main St.
Silverton, TX 79257

Ph: (806) 823-2354

WHEELER

Serving Wheeler County

112 E Texas Ave
Wheeler, TX 79096

Ph: (806) 826-3526

Massey

Continued From Page 6

“Prior to that as I was getting ready to graduate high school, I’m looking around and thinking, ‘what is it that I want to do with my life?’ And it was my goal to start at the Escambia County Sheriff’s Office there in Pensacola as a dispatcher and once I would’ve been old enough, go through the Sheriff’s Academy. But I ended up working for RaceTrac and it kind of put those hopes and dreams on hold.”

Brian would finally pursue his passion and join the Police Academy in Lancaster, TX in 2005. Upon graduation, he would eagerly begin his search for a job in the field that was highly competitive at that time. Due to the high interest and number of applicants at many places, Brian would be placed on a waiting list for several departments with six-to-nine month waiting times.

With no time to wait, he would go to Spearman where his uncle, who was working as the Public Works Director at the time, had offered him a job working for the police department.

“My uncle told me, ‘hey, I’ve got a job up here. It’s probably not where you want to be and probably not the amount of money that you want to make, but it’s better than what you’re making right now which is nothing,’” he laughed. “I thought about it and prayed about it and end-

ed up applying and got hired and when I started there, I told them I would give them a year, and I ended up staying four.”

He would ultimately decide to go somewhere closer to the Dallas metroplex and would apply at the Iowa Park Police Department outside of Wichita Falls where he would spend three years until a few officers he met who had come from Pampa told him he needed to come to the Pampa Police Department.

“They finally talked me into applying here and I started January of 2013 and have been here ever since. I was very fortunate early in my career here to get moved into the Crime Prevention role and was going to a lot of the schools and teaching kids and community members about crime safety. That was my first role outside of patrol. I was a detective for a little bit, then I was the Sargeant over the Criminal Investigations Division and then spent a few months as a Patrol Sargeant running our evening shift patrol. From there I got transferred to the Administration Sargeant role and then promoted up to the Administrative Support Services Lieutenant where I helped develop our training program.”

The training program that Brian helped jumpstart in 2018 has grown since its conception and brings in officers from all around the country to gain beneficial and crucial knowledge and have that hands-on training that covers every aspect in the field of law enforcement.

“We’re really proud of that program,” he said. “Chief Richburg came to me one day and said, ‘I have this vision, go make it happen.’ And I was blessed to be able to build it from the ground up.”

Brian took on a new role as Assistant Chief just this January after Kenneth Hopson’s retirement, and he is excited to continue to serve the community and the department, just in a different capacity.

“I was honored to be selected and chosen by Chief Richburg to fill those shoes. Assistant Chief Hopson left with a lot of experience and a lot of knowledge and so it’s some big shoes to fill, but I’m going to do the very best I can.”

“No matter what role I am in, my goal when I come to work every day is to support the employees of this department the best that I can, including all the equipment that they may need, making sure we have adequate staffing, recruiting and retaining employees, and carry out any of the Chief’s vision. We work very well together-Chief Richburg is a visionary and I am of the nuts and bolts mindset, I like to plan things out and take that vision and put it into motion.”

“We’ve got a great department here with the men and women who come in every day to serve this community. Our mantra is to serve this community with a warrior’s courage and a servant’s heart and we truly have a department of people who live by that.”

Sharon

Continued From Page 6

is tied directly to what you consume and eat. I want people to eat my meals and feel good, not just like, ‘oh, this tastes good,’ I mean physically good and that they feel they did something good for their body. That falls into the hospitality aspect and is really important to me.”

Chef Sharon posts her weekly menu on her Facebook page and Instagram, and if a client requests a personal change, she is more than happy to accommodate.

While it seems that she certainly has her plate full, (pun intended), Chef Sharon enjoys the freedom of being able to take a breather when she needs to and focus more on her

family without the risk of being reprimanded by corporate control. But she will tell you it took a lot of work to get to where she is now and it’s crucial to always take the good with the bad that comes with whatever path you choose.

“I have learned way more from my failures than I have from my successes. I’ve had to cancel events because there wasn’t enough people booking. I could’ve taken that and decided to never do it again, but instead I took that information and was able to kind of gauge like, ‘this is when people have time’ or ‘these are the things people are more interested in and what they’re not interested in, so let me try this again.’ You can’t let your failures scare you away from even trying to put yourself out there.”

Chef Sharon has certainly made a name and place for herself in our little town, and whether you’ve requested her culinary services for yourself or just sat and had a conversation with her, you’re certain to walk away beaming with inspiration and positivity.

“I’m happy and thriving here and until God tells me that my story is meant to be somewhere else or something happens, I’ll be here. I have some of the best and most supportive clients who are absolute blessings I’ve met some of the most generous people here in Pampa.”

Be sure to follow her Facebook page at Chef Sharon Masenda and her Instagram at girleatstexas to see what she’s got cooking up next and where you can catch her!



OUTTA HERE TRAVELS

Specializing in Premium & Luxury Travel Experiences

Adult-Only & Romance Travel • Family & Group Vacations
Ocean & River Cruises

Schedule a Complimentary Consultation

I work by appointment only and accept a limited number of new requests each month



Michelle Osborn

Owner, CTA, ACC, VTA

806-486-1958 | OuttaHereTravels.com



Always fast.
Always reliable
internet.

500 Mbps Internet

\$49*
/mo.

with Auto Pay & Paperless billing. Reg. rate \$54/
mo. Equipment included.



Includes
intelligent Wi-Fi
powered by eero*.



Scan, call 1.855.692.4116
or visit **Sparklight.com/internet**

*Promotional rate for 500 Mbps download x 50 Mbps upload Internet service is \$49/mo. and includes Auto Pay with checking/savings account or debit card plus paperless billing discount. Regular rate \$54/mo. and is subject to change at any time. Includes Unlimited data plan. Customers who use more than 5TB of data during a data period may be subject to speed reductions. Taxes, surcharges and fees are not included. Customers are required to use an approved modem capable of DOCSIS 3.1 in order to receive the internet services listed. All services are not available in all areas. Offer available to new customers only. Restrictions apply. Call for details. ©2025 Cable One, Inc. eero and all related marks are trademarks of Amazon.com, Inc. or its affiliates.

Sparklight®
Always working for you.



COMPASSIONATE CARE *Close to Home*

*YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO FAR
to get the care you need*

- Surgery
- Primary Care
- Extended Care
- Interventional Cardiology
- Orthopedics
- Urgent Care


- Emergency Services
- Women's Health

- Allergy Testing & Treatment
- Occupational Health
DOT Physicals, Drug Screen, Hearing Screen, Breath Alcohol Screen, Pulmonary Function test
- **Se Habla Español**

 Pampa Medical Group
Urgent Care
prmctx.com

**YOUR HEALTH
OUR PRIORITY**
Walk-Ins & Extended Hours



 3023 Perryton Pkwy
Suite 100, Pampa TX

 806-688-8800



Pampa Regional Medical Center

One Medical Plaza (806)665-3721 prmctx.com

PRIDE OF PAMPA



2025

Businesses &
Organizations



Coney Island Cafe: A Pampa Icon

By GENEVA WILDCAT

As one of Pampa's oldest and longest-running restaurants, it's no wonder that the Coney Island Cafe is considered a hometown icon and has become a tradition for many of Pampa's residents to visit regularly.

For those who are just passing through our humble abode, a visit along the historic downtown bricks will lead them right to the Coney's doors where they're sure to leave with not only a full belly, but also with a mental note on where they can go for some good eatin' if they happen to come through again.

Started in 1933 just a street away from its current location on Foster, the Coney Island Cafe has served the community its signature chili dogs that have guests cleaning their plates, and even nearly 100 years later, the chili hasn't changed, providing a sense of nostalgia in every bite.

Through the decades, the Coney has largely remained the same with only its employ-

ees and owners changing, and in 2017, Brandon Richards, owner of Brandon's Flowers located just a hop, skip and jump away from the Coney at 123 N. Cuyler, took over the beloved establishment with a clear vision.

Brandon recalls fond memories of going to the Coney while growing up in Pampa and understands the deep tradition that it holds, but he also understands that to keep the business alive through the changes that time brings, updates are absolutely necessary and to be able to do that while keeping its iconic status comes with its challenges.

"I'm from Pampa, I was born here and I've always loved the Coney," Brandon said. "Of course we were in and out of there a lot with the flower shop being so close, and I knew the previous owner, Brenda Donelson and her sister, Linda who ran it for many years really well and I just felt like it was the right time to bring the conversation up."

"I know there are a

lot of people who don't think the Coney should ever change, but although it is a Pampa icon, it's still a business and so you have to change and grow with the times or it won't be there anymore."

Brandon went in not wanting to change anything that made the Coney what it is today and has been for nearly a century, but only to add to its menu, offering new items while still serving the classics the Coney is known for.

"I saw a lot of people that would be eating in there with a group and there would be one person not eating and I would ask why. They would say, 'well, I just wasn't in the mood for chili or stew today.' So that gave me the idea that we needed to broaden the menu a little bit."

Brandon would add daily specials based on the season with a wide variety of new sandwiches and soups, as well as crowd-favorites such as meatloaf and the homestyle 'Harvey Burger' that are always available.



Coney Island Cafe circa 1940, photo courtesy of Corey Coronis

Brandon also has made the effort to have all of their pies made entirely from scratch, selling the delectable desserts by the hundreds during the holidays.

When it came to the interior and exterior of the historical building, he did not change a thing, only making necessary repairs and restoring the vintage sign out front.

It's no secret that many local businesses are still reeling from the effects that the Co-

vid pandemic brought with it, and the Coney is no exception. However, with the downtown renovations and rebuilding of the sidewalks within the past year or so, the Coney had to close its doors during that time as well due to severe inaccessability.

But with brand new and safer sidewalks that lead right to its doors, the Coney is now in full swing and Brandon wants to try to get it back on everyone's radar once again.

"Business has never returned to what it was post-covid, and what I hear from citizens is, 'oh, I forget about the Coney!' Please don't forget about it. It might not always be there if people keep forgetting about it."

Be sure to stop by 114 W. Foster Monday through Friday from 11 AM to 7 PM and Saturday from 11 AM to 3 PM and check out their bigger menu, daily specials, and timeless classics.

PAMPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Building The Future



Pampa Energy Center is Pampa EDC's rail served Industrial Park. With approximately 2,600+ 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 Economic Development Corporation will be excellent for a variety of industrial development projects. Companies located at Pampa Energy Center are: Flogistix, Proman, Rampa, Inc., and RenewTest, LLC.

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE AT PAMPA ENERGY CENTER

for leasing information contact:
The Pampa EDC (806) 665-0800

**PAMPA EDC
BOARD MEMBERS**

Glennette Goode
Sue Fatheree
Laycee Johnson

Emily Arrington
Jason Bagwell
Cade Taylor



RYAN BRADLEY *Executive Director*

Ryan Bradley, a Pampa native, graduated from Pampa High School and later earned a bachelor's degree in Engineering from Texas A&M. After gaining experience in offshore oil and gas, he returned to Pampa in 2020 as the plant manager for Hunting. With 18 years of experience in engineering and project management, he is now joining the Pampa Economic Development Corporation. Let's congratulate Ryan on his new role in making Pampa great!



The Pampa EDC is pleased to have Spencer McElhannon of Leading EDG to assist our community's aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners. Spencer offers consultative services free of charge, courtesy of the Pampa EDC.

www.leading-edg.com



WE SPECIALIZE IN
SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
LOCAL SITE SELECTION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
RETENTION & EXPANSION
QUALITY OF LIFE



@PAMPA_EDC



@PAMPAEDC



@PAMPAEDC



**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE**

GrayCares: A Gem of the Community



Donna Brauchi, Tom Burns, Helen Burns, Dee Randall and Dan Morrison

By GENEVA WILDCAT

For the last 15 years, GrayCares has provided essential services to the folks of Gray County 65 and over so that they may live independently in the comfort of their own home.

Inspired by HutchCares in Hutchinson County and realizing the need for support for the older population of his own community, Reverend Steve Cox with the St. Paul United Methodist Church would put together a committee to explore the potential of offering something similar for the citizens of Gray County, and in mid-February of 2010, GrayCares would be established with the church still playing a vital role in supporting the organization.

Donna Brauchi had worked for the Texas Agricultural Extension for several years and upon her retirement, she was looking to remain involved in the community and find something that would allow her to help make a difference in the lives of many of the citizens she knew and loved.

"The GrayCares committee asked me if I would be interested in doing something like what they were offering, and it sounded like something I had been really thinking in my mind would be a great fit," she said.

Donna would work as the director for eleven years until her retirement, and Dee Randall would take the role in March of 2021. The director's duties include meeting with potential clients, recruiting and training volunteers, handling financial, client and volunteer records, and communications.

GrayCares is completely non-profit and is operated solely through grants and donations, with the

Panhandle Gives event in November the biggest fundraiser of the year as all donations are amplified during that time.

With the 'neighbors helping neighbors' mindset at the forefront, the many volunteers of GrayCares provide non-medical services and assistance such as:

- Local transportation to doctor's appointments, grocery store, bank, and wherever else the client needs to go within the city limits
- Minor home repairs and maintenance, such as changing light bulbs, taking out trash, moving furniture, and building hand rails and access ramps
- Occasional yard care, such as cleaning out flower beds, planting and raking leaves
- Occasional housekeeping
- Snow removal
- Pet care

GrayCares also distributes Christmas Blessing Bags that contain basic grocery items to get the client through the holidays, allowing them to use their money they would have otherwise used for those necessities for holiday shopping.

While GrayCares offers many essential tangible, hands-on services, it's the emotional support that is the most crucial, with the volunteers spending time to get to know the clients and providing a loving presence in an otherwise sometimes lonely situation.

"It surprised me to see that many of the people who signed up for the services have no family or if they did, maybe they were so busy with their jobs or families, that they really didn't have a lot of contact with them or could come and help, and it's just so heart breaking to see. They're just there by

themselves," Donna said. "There are some people that are just not connected to anyone anywhere and they are the ones that really need somebody."

"We all need community and I think that just a phone call or a visit is so important to these people that are alone and have no one coming in. Community is just so important," said volunteer Helen Burns. "I think there are a lot of wonderful things about Pampa, and GrayCares is at the top of the list."

GrayCares is not only rewarding for those who sign up for their many services, but for the volunteers too who have made long-lasting relationships and bonds through the beloved organization.

"I've always liked the idea of people living in their own home as long as possible, and in a way, I'm paying it forward because at some point I'll probably need the help too," volunteer Tom Burns, Helen's husband, laughed.

"Our volunteers become friends with many of the clients and they check on each other," Dee said. "It probably wouldn't have happened if it wasn't for GrayCares."

"It's just such a wonderful opportunity," said volunteer Dan Morrison. "I'm not out there curing diseases or anything like that, but I'm taking out trash and buying groceries and keeping them independent, and it's just a heartwarming opportunity to be able to help others and brighten their day."

If you or someone you know would like to know more about the services GrayCares offers, or to sign up to become a volunteer, or to just simply donate, call 806-688-7109.

Wayne's Western Wear: A Dream Come True

By GENEVA WILDCAT

In 1979, Wayne Stribling would make his dream come alive when he opened Wayne's Western Wear in Pampa.

Originally from Canyon, Wayne helped manage the West Texas Western Store while he was in college until moving to Pampa with his wife Carol and two infant sons, Scotty and Seth, where within that same year, Wayne would open his own store.

The family would build their life right here and the new Pampa business would soon begin to

grow, establishing itself as a hometown staple.

Wayne's Western Wear would originally open up only a stone's throw from its current location in a small office space within the strip next to the car wash on Hobart Street.

"We started very, very small," Carol said. "We opened with just a few boots and Wrangler shirts and pants and a few belts and hats. It was a very small inventory and we just continued to build it."

Wayne's would find its forever home in 1989 after the smaller building could no longer house the

growing business.

While there were a couple of other western stores and boot shops in Pampa at the time, it didn't take long before Wayne's Western Wear would become the go-to hub for not only western clothing, but for a vast variety of quality casual and work apparel to suit anyone's needs and fashion tastes.

With Pampa being a centralized location in the Texas panhandle, smaller surrounding towns didn't have to worry about going too far out of their way to find what they needed at Wayne's.

WAYNES cont. on page 4

Hall's
HEATING & AIR

You'll Dig the Difference!

806-669-2437

CallHalls.com

LIC #TACLA00109088C

BILL ALLISON
EST. 1976 AUTO SALES

CELEBRATING 49 YEARS OF SERVING PAMPA

Committed to providing quality cars at great prices, and to serving our customers with pride & integrity.

Proudly serving Pampa since 1976

665-3992 1200 N. HOBART, PAMPA
<http://www.billallisonauto.com>

REMAX

Opening doors for you!

806-665-7355



Xtra Auto Center: Building a Pampa Legacy



Jeff Stevens, Lucy Arreola, and Johnny Lopez

By GENEVA WILDCAT

For the last 16 years, Xtra Auto Center has given the citizens of Pampa and surrounding communities an easier way of purchasing a vehicle without the headache of credit checks and third-party financiers, all while keeping that hometown hospitality.

What started as a hobby turned into a passion for Xtra Auto Center owner, Jeff Stevens, when he began purchasing vehicles for his personal collection, his first being a 1974 Pontiac Firebird.

“That’s really where it all started for me,” he said. “I’ve always loved cars. My granddad Frank had a lot of first-year Mustangs and I was about ten or so at the time and me and my brother Greg would help him work on them and tinker around with them. I’ve just always had a passion for

cars.”

Jeff worked for the family business, Frank’s Grocery Store, for many years and in the mid-90s, he would take on a side job selling cars to make a little extra cash.

When the original lot on Foster Street became available, Jeff would decide to focus on building his own car business and his inventory would soon begin to grow. While he was turning his passion into a profession, his main goal was to help serve the community he loves by eliminating the stress that comes with buying a vehicle.

“I realized with the financing side of things, being able to offer the ‘buy here, pay here’ and ‘no credit check’ was really needed here. If we can help people out who can’t get financing, we were going to make it as easy

as possible for them.”

After selling the grocery store in 2008, Jeff would take a leap of faith and start up Xtra Auto Center in 2009 and the business has thrived since its conception.

Xtra proudly backs every car they sell with a warranty and their shop of certified mechanics stay up-to-date with the changes in technology and software for newer vehicles, while also partnering up with O’Reilly Auto Parts and Autozone to aid in the ongoing education and information needed to provide the best in mechanical service.

“We pride ourselves in trying to give a good quality vehicle that we can stand behind and give reassurance to the customer,” Jeff said.

Aside from the wide selection of cars, trucks and SUVs to choose from and the appeal of the ‘no credit check’ policy, the customer service has played a major role in the business’s success.

As with most larger car dealerships, the customer may only see their representative during that initial visit until the paperwork is finished and then the customer answers to an outside financier through the rest of the loan process. But with Xtra Auto Center, the customer deals directly with the staff before, during and after the sale, making monthly payments to the same people that helped them acquire their new vehicle.

Being able to see the

XTRA cont. on page 6



Wayne’s Western Wear in its early days

Wayne’s

Continued From Page 3

After Wayne’s passing in 2000, Carol would ultimately decide to keep his legacy alive and has continued its operation for the last 24 years alongside their son, Seth.

Seth would come to Pampa in 2001 to work for the family business and has his own workshop within the building where he embroiders caps and t-shirts as well as creasing hats for those new buyers.

Wayne’s Western Wear has certainly stood the tests of time, especially when the Covid pandemic forced them to close their doors for a month.

Carol, understanding and sympathizing with her employees over the hardships that they were all going to be facing during that time, would continue to pay them as though they were still working at the store.

But things remained difficult even after reopening due to delayed shipments of items, but Carol and Seth, the employees, and the store would persevere and overcome those obstacles.

Through all of the un-



Wayne and Carol

expected curveballs that time tends to throw at us all, Wayne’s Western Wear has remained steadfast in its mission: to provide nothing less than the best in men, women, and children’s boots, clothing, and accessories.

For the last 24 years however, Carol’s mission has been two-fold: by keeping the store successful and thriving, she is also keeping Wayne’s memory and dream alive. “I’m going to keep go-

ing until I can’t anymore,” she laughed. “Honestly, I personally didn’t want to move to Pampa when we did because I loved Canyon, but this was Wayne’s dream. But now I can’t imagine ever doing anything else. Pampa has been so good to us and for us.”

Stop in at Wayne’s Western Wear, located at 1504 N. Hobart Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM, closed on Sundays.

GET THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR THE BEST JOB!



Tools • Gloves
Flashlights • Knives • Coffee

Pellet & BB Guns & all the accessories!

Plus, checkout our blowers,
chainsaws, mowers, Grills & more!

120 S. Hobart 665-2366

7:00 am - 6:00 pm Monday-Friday
7:00 am-1:00 pm Sat • Closed Sunday



B&G

**Power
Equipment
Sales&Rental**



Mejia's Bakery: A Family Tradition



Brian, Raul, and Jesus Mejia

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

Sitting on the red bricks of Pampa's historic downtown is Mejia's Bakery, a third generation restaurant that is known for its authentic Mexican cuisine and fresh baked breads and desserts. Mejia's Bakery first came to Pampa in 2006, but the family business started many years before then in Mexico. When the Mejia family moved to Pampa, they soon realized

that there wasn't a Mexican bakery anywhere in town and seized the opportunity to bring in their business and provide residents something entirely new and different and has thrived ever since. The bakery portion of the restaurant specializes in traditional Mexican breads and desserts, including their signature puffy and sweet conchas and the ever-popular cin-

namon sugar dusted churros, along with many beautifully decorated cakes and wide variety of cookies that will satisfy any sweet tooth. Mejia's would add on a kitchen in 2009 where guests could dine in for breakfast, lunch and dinner, offering a full menu to suit anyone's mood and taste, whether it be a classic hotcake plate first

MEJIAS cont. on page 6

Finley's Fountain: A Hub of Fellowship and Nostalgia



James and Kathi Bagley

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

Situated on the historic red bricks of downtown Pampa sits Finley's Fountain, a place that brings about feelings of nostalgia for many of Pampa's residents as soon as they walk through the door for more reasons than one. James and Kathi Bagley both hail from small towns in Texas and they deeply understand the significance of the downtown area, and in 2014, Kathi had the idea of opening a fine gift store in the heart of Pampa's own downtown, with Finley's opening up in 2015. In December of that same year, Bill Hite, the owner and pharmacist of Heard-Jones, announced to the Bagleys his plans to retire, and while he had several parties interested in taking over the practice in the same building, Bill only wanted a place to sit and eat with friends,

which is something that Heard-Jones had provided to the community for many years. Heard-Jones was unique in that not only was it a pharmacy, but it was a general store and diner as well. "It was just like it was in the 50s, 60s and 70s," James said. "Most stores back then had a little diner and it was a place where a husband could sit and have a cup of coffee and maybe a donut while his wife was able to shop without feeling rushed, and they could have lunch there too." When Bill announced his retirement, downtown Pampa had been in a bit of a decline with most people shopping at the more larger retail stores toward the north part of town, and with a long-running and successful business about to close, the Bagleys decided it

would be a good idea to purchase the building and create something reminiscent of what Heard-Jones was known for: a place of fellowship and good food, along with the hopes of contributing and promoting the downtown area. In March of 2016, the Bagleys would get to work renovating the historical building with the intention of opening their doors for Burnin' the Bricks in June, one of Pampa's most popular events to kick off the summer. "Kathi and I talked about it and were like, 'it's a classic car show. How are we not going to have a classic restaurant open?'" Despite literal last minute vent installations and words of caution by close friends to not open on one of the busiest downtown

FINLEY'S cont. on page 6

community
CABOT
Credit Union
Est. 1931



Anyone living, working, worshipping, or attending school in Carson, Gray or Roberts County may join

1063 N. Sumner
Pampa, Tx
806-665-0847
cabotccu.com

CROWN SUPPLY
ESTABLISHED 1983

**INDUSTRIAL &
SAFETY SUPPLIES**
• Large Hydraulic, Chemical,
and Transport Hose Shop

• Large Stock of Personal,
Portable & Fixed Gas
detection in the
Panhandle Area

(806)274-7178

515 East Tenth St. | PO Box 5198
Borger, Texas
crownsupplyind.com



Judson Eddins of Texas Furniture

Texas

Continued From Page 6

The Eddins have expanded the business in their own way, with Judson opening up a store of the same name in Amarillo and his brother opening up his own in Lubbock, with all stores being run by members of the family, truly making it a family business.

Each store carries all of the high-quality name brands in furniture and mattresses, such as La-Z-Boy, Ashley and Sealy just to name a few, and

there's plenty of home decor to accentuate that new piece or suite, with many pieces created by local artists right here in Pampa.

Trends rarely change when it comes to furniture, especially with technology coming out with something new nearly every year, but the store always carries that new sofa or recliner with built-in accent lighting and sound system to make lounging more than just about sitting.

Texas Furniture always tries to accommodate their customers, delivering as far as nearly 100

miles out and making sure that the product arrives in mint condition and securing it exactly where the customer needs it.

There are far and few businesses that have remained in operation for nearly a century, so Texas Furniture is absolutely something to be celebrated.

Be sure to stop in and take a look at their wide variety of furniture Monday through Saturday, 9 AM to 5:30 PM or go to their website, www.texasfurn.com and if you see something you like, order it and have it delivered right to your door.

Southside Senior Citizens Center: 45 Years of Service to the Community



Southside Senior Citizens Center located at 438 W. Crawford

By GENEVA WILDCAT

In November of 1980, JC Randall would establish the Southside Senior Citizens Center, located at 438 W. Crawford, as a gathering place for folks to come together and enjoy good company and good food.

Before it would become a senior center, the building had operated as a youth center where kids and teenagers had a place to play games, attend dances, and take a dip in the pool during those summer months.

Many residents carry fond memories of those

days, but as the kids got older and the newer generations came around, the interest of in-person gatherings began to dwindle, so the center was changed but still remained as a place to come for fellowship and food.

Every Wednesday, the center would have a potluck dinner where people could enjoy a hot meal and donate to the center if they were able to, never required to. People from all ages and all walks of life would attend the weekly event, but JC Randall realized that some folks who rely on

Meals on Wheels or Pampa Senior Citizens for their weekly meals had the risk of going without during the weekend and he wanted to fill that gap.

"Professor Randall found out that the other senior center didn't do meals on Saturdays, so therefore we started to do them," said Southside Senior Citizens Center administrator, Bea Taylor. "And we don't charge. Every now and again we will ask for a donation, but we don't ever charge."

SERVICE cont. on page 8

Sleeper Martial Arts: Building Confidence, Strength and Discipline

By GENEVA WILDCAT

For the last several years, the Sleeper Martial Arts school of Pampa has helped folks of all ages build self-esteem and confidence through hard work, discipline, and a whole lot of grit.

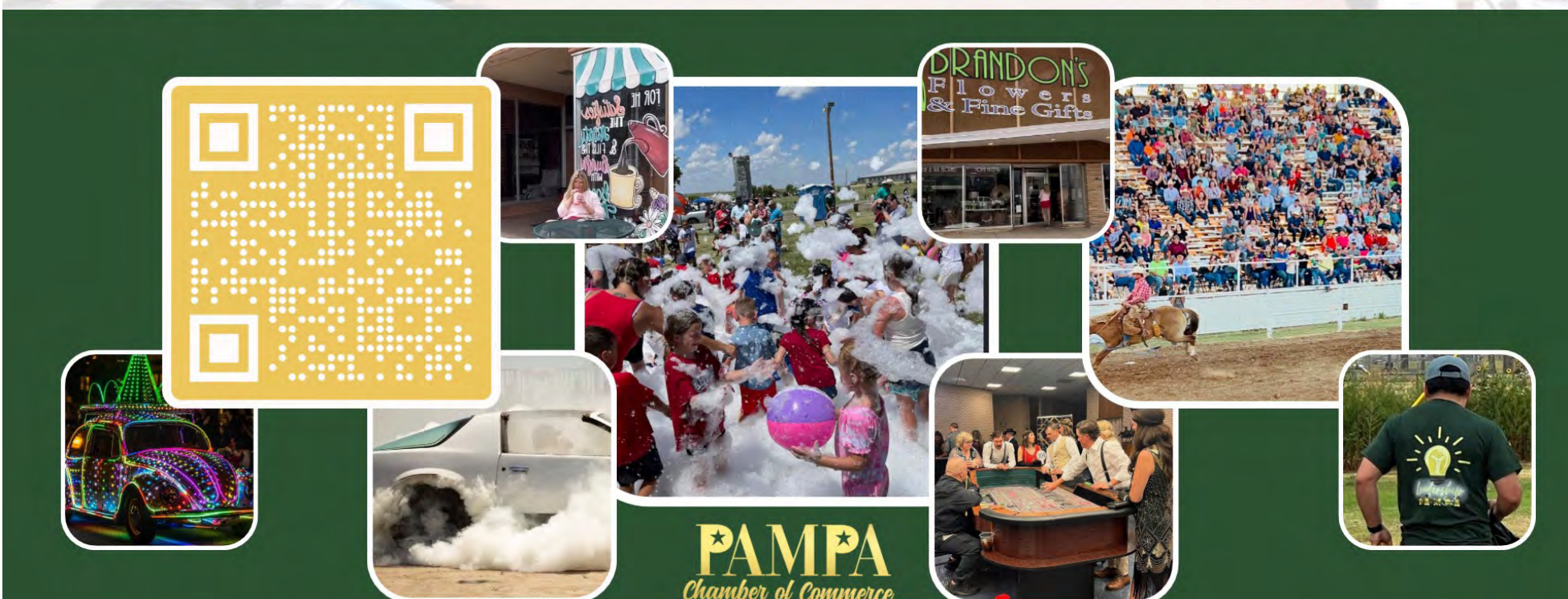
Originally started by

Troy Schwiegerath, the school was meant to provide a place for kids and adults to come and get fit, learn a new set of skills, and potentially earn impressive belts based on their dedication to the program and overall level of skill.

Students who enroll in the school's programs will learn the art of Kenpo, Karate, and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, as well as wrestling, kickboxing, MMA, and of course, self-defense.

All of the classes that

SLEEPER cont. on page 8



PAMPA
Chamber of Commerce

Let us show you how to live like a local!

8

The Pampa News

Sleeper

Continued From Page 7

Sleeper Martial Arts offer provide lasting benefits to the heart, mind and body, with a group of instructors and senseis who emphasize the importance of goal-setting, maintaining those goals, and building self-esteem all while having respect for not only the art, but for each other.

Both kids and adults have the opportunity to earn belts within the Karate and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu classes, going from white to black, but Alex and Yani Couch, the instructors and owners of Sleeper Martial Arts, assert that it’s not a process that happens over the span of just a few months, but over several years.

Alex obtained his black belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu nearly three years ago after training for about 12 years, so advancement is solely dependent on the amount of dedication and hard work an individual is willing to put into it.

Alex trained under the direction of Troy shortly after he had started the school, and due to Troy’s busy schedule at the time, asked Alex to teach a kids class for him.

“He kind of started pushing him to teach more, and maybe a year later he told him whenever you want it, it’s yours,” Yani said. “Alex didn’t really quite take it then, but I remember him even early on saying ‘I want to do that. I want to be able to teach and have my own dojo.’ So fast forward now 14 years and here we still are.”

Yani remembers that there were only a handful of kids and adults during



Troy Schwiegerath, Yani Couch, and Alex Couch

the school’s early days, but now it’s not unusual to see close to 100 people come in for classes, especially for the kiddos.

“We get to meet a lot of people and mold these little bodies into kind humans and it’s just really great.”

Yani started training with the school several years ago and actually just recently earned her Brown Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, an impressive feat and even more so considering she is the only female at the school to have ever earned it.

Knowing the instructors are still on their own journey and remain passionate about the art provides a sympathetic atmosphere for the students, further proving that they are all in this together.

All students enroll for different reasons, whether it be to get in shape, learn self-defense, or just try something new, but from the many testimonials throughout the years, the results have remained consistent, with students

having a renewed sense of confidence and a level of inner and outer strength they hadn’t quite experienced before, and Yani ensures that they are not training anyone to fight, but rather to not fight.

“The more you train, the more you realize that you’re training to not fight. Most of the people in the Jiu-Jitsu community are some of the nicest people you’ll ever meet and never act like they’re better or meaner than anyone else.”

“I love all of my students and we have a great time learning self-defense in a fun way. I think more than anything what we offer is giving our students confidence to believe in themselves. What makes my heart so happy is seeing them come here and be happy to be here.”

For more information on the Sleeper Martial Arts school of Pampa and how to sign up for classes, visit their location at 618 W. Foster in Pampa, call 806-207-0166 or visit their Facebook Page, Sleeper Martial Arts.

Service

Continued From Page 6

Every Saturday, the senior center delivers a home-cooked meal to citizens to help carry them through the weekend, and as of today, there are 172 residents who the center provides for all over Pampa.

The service is entirely donation based and even just a little bit is graciously accepted. Throughout the years, places like MK Brown, Altrusa, United Way and AgriLife Extension have helped support the senior center, but with rising costs, it’s become harder for organizations to help other organizations provide services to the community, especially when it comes to food.

Nevertheless, the Southside Senior Citizens Center still remains steadfast in their mission to fight hunger.

The volunteers who make up the meals for the weekend have a passion and love for cooking in their personal lives, so they only serve up the best as if they were cooking for themselves and for family.

Donna Williams has worked for the senior center for about four years preparing meals and her menu has consisted of pork roast, ribs, baked chicken, and a variety of pastas just to name a few, taking time to cook with love and care.

“They don’t like the food that just comes right out of the package, they cook everything from scratch down here, and I mean everything,” Bea



Memorial plaque dedicated to JC Randall, founder of the Southside Senior Citizens Center

said. “They say, ‘I want real food, and I figure everyone else wants real food too.’”

The Southside Senior Citizens Center keeps their doors open to the public throughout the week from 9 AM to 1:30 PM, closed on Wednesday, for anyone who would like to come in to sit and strike up a conversation or play a game, and although there is no membership for the center, it’s common to only see a couple of regulars and the cooks busy in the kitchen.

“We would love to have people come in to shoot pool and play cards, but down in this area, they just don’t do it anymore. We used to have card parties, spade tournaments,

dominos and stuff like that, but I guess times have changed.”

While it is true that times have certainly changed, the devastation that hunger can cause is something that has always remained the same and Bea wants people to know that anyone and everyone is eligible to sign up to receive a meal and is not just limited to senior citizens.

“Age is not a thing for us, our thing is hungry people.”

Stop by 438 W. Crawford for more information about how to sign up for meals or how you can become a volunteer and help make a difference one meal at a time.

8

The Pampa News

2025 Pride of Pampa - Businesses & Organizations

8

The Pampa News

HAPPY

A DIVISION OF CENTENNIAL BANK

8

The Pampa News

Life is busy and there are plenty of things to worry about.

Don't let your bank be one of them.

8

The Pampa News

Having a strong financial partner in an uncertain economy is paramount to success.

Happy State Bank's patience, perseverance, commitment, and resilience have created a fortress balance sheet. Never have doubt in your money or your future with Happy State Bank.

8

The Pampa News

Member FDIC

8

The Pampa News

HappyBank.com | A Home BancShares Company (NYSE: HOMB)

8

The Pampa News

HappyBank.com | A Home BancShares Company (NYSE: HOMB)

PRIDE OF PAMPA

★ 2025

Faith &
Education



Cover photos courtesy of Della Moyer

Pampa High School: A Bittersweet Goodbye to the Old

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

Circulating all over social media is the demolition progress of the Fine Arts building and auditorium at Pampa High School, with plans for demolition of the Career and Technical Education building not far behind. For many previous students, graduates and staff of PHS who carry fond memories of time spent within those buildings, watching them become nothing more than slabs tugs at the heart strings.

Pampa High School Principal, Clay Jones, understands the sentimentality of it, but is also excited for what is to come, and after taking a look at the blueprints for the new layout of the school, he has every reason to be.

It's been about 15 years since any major renovations have been made on the historic structure, the last time in 2010 when the new biology and chemistry wing was added, completely re-routing the school's entrance and exit as well as differences in some of the placements of offices and rooms, so this new plan is far bigger than what the school has ever seen.

"It's definitely been

a unique experience so far," Clay said. "I'm not really a sentimental person, but we have weekly staff meetings about the construction and there are several people that really had a lot of great memories inside those buildings."

"We've been trying to piece these things together the best we can with the facilities we have, and I'm super excited to see a new state-of-the-art building with state-of-the-art resources, and it's going to be great for our kids because they're really going to be the ones to benefit from this."

Once the final demolition is complete, the construction will begin, and according to the blueprints, 25,000 square feet will be added to the rest of the structure, stretching about two blocks and will total out to about 69,000 square feet once completed.

"This main hallway will basically extend from Duncan all the way to Charles Street and it will turn north and then turn south, basically make an 'L' shape. It's going to be pretty massive and you'll be able to go in through that door on



Duncan and look all the way down to the end on Charles."

"In 2019 they started a Strategic Plan Committee and the district reached out and we had people and business partners from all over the community to talk about where we wanted to go. A lot of our buildings are very aged with thousands of students coming in over the last 85 years, so that alerted us to where we kind of wanted to go. It's been a fun process to watch because while we can all have dreams, at the

PHS cont. on page 2



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY THE PAMPA NEWS



Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ: A Near 100-Year-Old Congregation



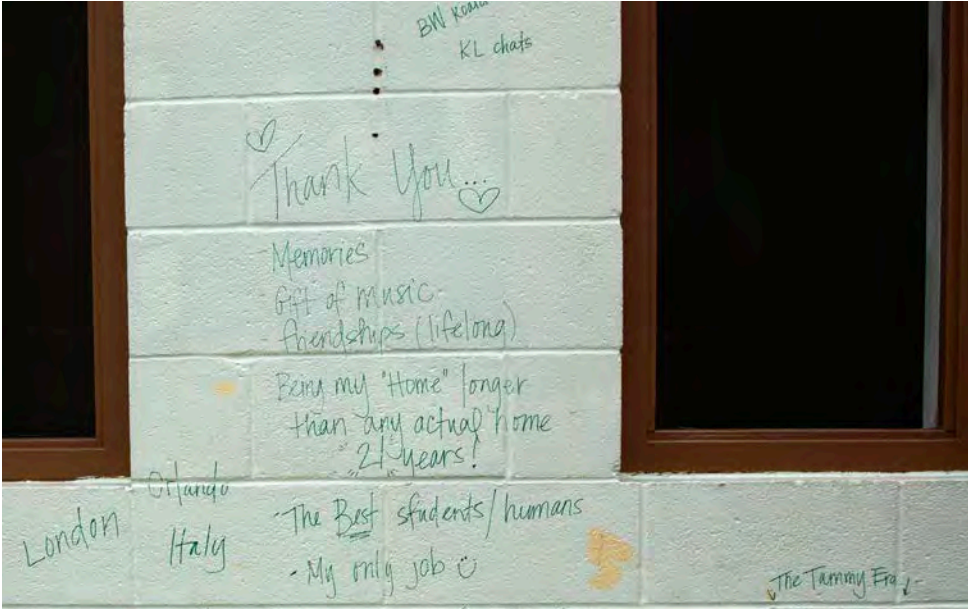
By GENEVA WILDCAT

Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ originally began in 1927 with only 35 members meeting in their own private homes or numerous public buildings. With that number constantly growing, it was time for the congregation to find a more permanent residency and larger building, and through the support and efforts by the late J.W. Eller, Brother N.A. Cobb and Brother J.E. Williams, the first church would be erected on the corners of Francis and Warren streets. After the second World War in 1947, the congregation had grown to nearly 300 members and it was time again to consider a new building, with construction being completed in December of 1951 at its current location. Zachary Green has been the current minister for

the church for about two and a half years, first starting out as a youth minister before going to work for Pampa High School where he is also currently working. “Growing up, I’ve always been a part of the Church of Christ,” he said. “My father was a deacon in Kansas where I was born, and so when I moved here in 2012, I just knew I was going to go to a Church of Christ here in Pampa.” The many Churches of Christ throughout the world are entirely non-denominational and their teachings are based on Scripture, following the Bible word for word in its entirety and maintaining the traditional values set forth by the church. While it’s no secret that there has been a decline in church attendance over the past several years, it’s difficult to pinpoint what

exactly has changed. Going to church every Sunday used to be something of a family tradition, but as the family dynamic changes, so do the traditions, such as a single-parent household having no choice but to work on a day that was once reserved for worship. Covid-19 undoubtedly left an impact on attendance and although churches have since opened their doors, people have found it easier to catch the livestream of a sermon that had become popular during the world-wide shutdown and can do so in the comfort of their own home at their timely convenience. But sometimes the decline in numbers can be attributed to just simply a matter of members moving to another town or state, or sadly passing away.

MARY cont. on page 3



Final goodbyes on the wall in the Fine Arts building before its demolition. Photo courtesy of Della Moyer

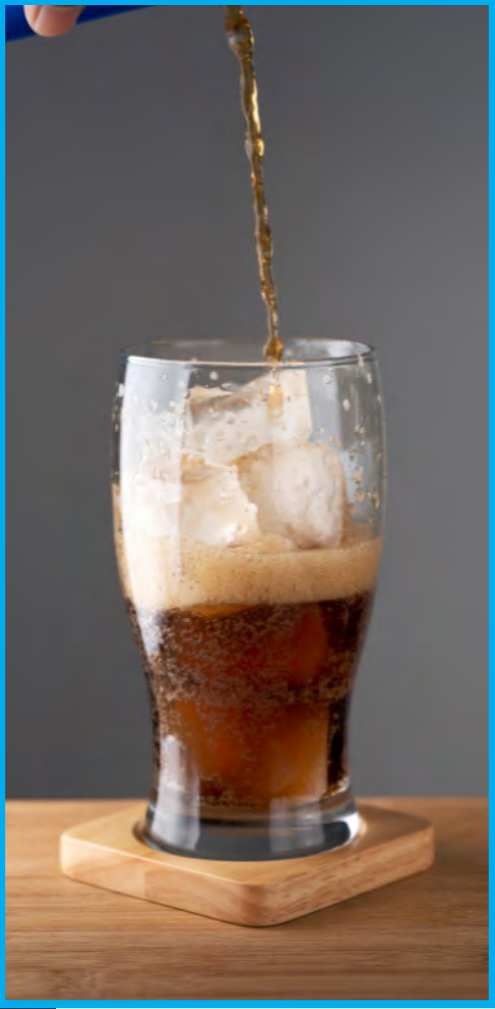
PHS

Continued From Page 1

time we had no way of making that happen. Luckily everything has fallen in line now.” The renovations and plans for the expansion are as follows and may be subject to change: The most northwestern portion of the new building will house Agriculture, Ag Mechanics and Welding with a vestibule facing the east to allow students to work outside; moving south will be the Fine Arts section and stage leading into the Band Hall with shared property and uniform storage units in between: the southern most part of the building will contain the ensemble room and choir ensemble room; moving toward the east is the music library with the dry food and equipment for the culinary arts classroom across the hall; on the

other side of the music hall is a set of offices and bathrooms, the kiln and electrical areas with the art classroom next to that and a learning simulation lab next door as well; across the hall from the art classroom are the calming and sensory rooms with both the Skills for Success area and room next door with the health classrooms at the very end on both sides of the hall, which then will merge into the main existing building. The second floor will house the E-Sports and Switch area with the computer and practicum labs to the left and general classrooms to the right; in between will be the Deca Mart with the Green Room studio across from the E-Sports lab and a computer class and general classroom next to that to the right, a general classroom and restrooms to the left. The main purpose of the expansion is to give the Career and Technical Education and Fine

Arts classes more room to learn, practice and perfect their fields of study and for the instructors to have a bigger window of opportunity to fully embrace their work area without feeling too cramped in the classroom. As with most things, it’s going to take time to make the vision come to fruition, and with the focus on doing what’s best for not only the students, but for the community as well, the ending results are sure to be worthwhile. “I think when people see the end product, they’re going to be really impressed with what we’ve come up with and be something they’re proud of,” Clay said. “I know it could never take the place of what they remember it as, but I do think when it’s done, they’ll think, ‘wow, that’s impressive.’ This building is going to have the ability to service this area for years and generations to come.”



BEVERAGE
CARBONATION



BULK
GASES

PROCESSING &
MANUFACTURING
SOLUTIONS



WELL
STIMULATION
SERVICES

DRY
ICE

The Reliant Family of businesses would like to express our appreciation to our team-members, the customers and communities we serve, and their families for supporting our mission to build on win/win relationships through our service and products using CO2 in the industrial, food and beverage, and medical industries throughout North America. We are so thankful and blessed through this community which has literally help raise and walk through life with our founding families for over 100 years.





Mary

Continued From Page 2

Zach believes it is a mixture of all of these things that caused a once 300-member congregation to be nearly cut in half since the church's original establishment. But there's one other element to the decline that is far more worrisome for those whose mission is to bring people closer to God.

"I think a lot of it for most churches, not just ours, is that people just don't feel like they need God anymore or they feel like they have their life pretty much figured out."

Zach understands why attending church on Sunday may be the furthest thing from someone's mind when their day-to-day schedule is hectic and Sunday is the only time they have to catch up on things that had been otherwise neglected for the week, and he even admits that he was guilty of feeling that way at one time. But it was his deep roots

within the church from a young age that naturally inspired him to get back in the spiritual routine.

"Even in college I had a time where I wasn't going to church, but I had to sit there and reflect, 'am I doing the right thing by not going?'" I do think that growing up in the church and my parents getting me involved helped me a lot. Parents have to set that example and the kids need to see why it's so important."

While Zach and all the members of Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ would love to see an increase in their congregation and encourage anyone looking for their forever church home to come through their doors, they also understand that it is solely on the discretion of the person and on God's timing, as well as knowing that everyone's spiritual journey is different.

"For someone that has never been to a church at all before, you have to find a balance of being welcoming, but also letting people come in at

their own pace," he said.

The church is also heavily involved with the community in other ways, from providing ministry to the Gray County Jail and Jordan Baten Unit, to providing non-perishable food items and clothing through their church pantry and closet that is available for everyone. The food pantry is available at the church during office hours Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9 AM to 3 PM, and the closet is available the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month between 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Their outreach isn't just limited to here in Pampa either, as they support missionaries in several countries and support many children's homes in New Mexico.

Mary Ellen and Harvester Church of Christ welcomes everyone to join them for service and worship on Sunday mornings starting with class at 9:30 AM, morning worship at 10:30 AM, and evening worship at 4 PM, and Wednesday nights at 6 PM.

Byron May: Putting the 'Pal' in Principal



By GENEVA WILDCAT

There are some professions that certain folks are just made for, when their personality and overall character coincides with the job to where it seems like it's not even a job at all, but rather just a part of their lives that they find absolute joy in.

For Byron May, his friendly, energetic and kid-at-heart nature has placed him in a position where he is able to utilize those traits to provide a fun, yet educational environment for students.

After receiving an English Teaching degree from Abilene in 2003, Byron would move to Pampa where he would become an English teacher at Pampa High School while also coaching football and soccer for about 11 years.

He would also teach a few classes in the Career and Technical Education building before transitioning to Pampa Junior

High where he would become the assistant principal for four years before moving to Travis Elementary as the principal, coming back to the same field and property where he spent many years coaching soccer.

It was 2019 when Byron came to be the principal at Travis, and as we all very well know, Covid was about to turn the world upside down.

"So in 2019, I started as the elementary principal here, and by spring break to this very day, we all left and never came back," Byron said. "I remember looking at the news and watching all these updates and there were some schools down south in the metroplex that were starting to show cases of Covid and the schools were starting to close and I remember looking over at one of my teachers and said, 'I wonder what the

chance is we will even come back when spring break is over?' And little did I know that we wouldn't be coming back until the following August."

But Covid wouldn't be the only big change to happen within the school district, because in 2023, the configuration of all the elementary schools would be completely transformed.

"We approached it very thoughtfully and we tried to be intentional with every single step we took. But it really required us to sort of rethink what every aspect of school is like. Definitely the social aspect of it was the hot topic in the community that we knew we had to get right, and there were a lot of different ideas floating around, but one thing we felt like we couldn't do was build this thing in

BYRON cont. on page 4

PH₂O

AMPA AQUATIC CENTER

Summer PHun!

1400 N Sumner Street
Pampa, TX
806-665-5730

Visit us online for hours and pricing information!
www.cityofpampa.org

GOT THE BUG??

When you pick up your prescription you can ask for Kleenex, fever reducers, vitamins and many over the counter necessities.

We make it easy for you when you're sick. We are a one-stop for getting rid of the "bug". And getting on the road to recovery!

Keyes Pharmacy
669-1202 • 928 N. Hobart
 Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



Byron

Continued From Page 3

way that maintained all of the divisions that existed. We just wanted our kids and staff to have the chance to get to know each other. It’s a core belief of mine that if you take the chance to get to know a person, you’ll find out you have way more in common with them than you have differences.”

While the transition wouldn’t have drastically impacted the new kids—dos just starting school or were already in their first year, those who were working on two or three years at the same school would most likely have a harder time adjusting to the change, and it wasn’t just limited to the students either, as the staff at every school would certainly feel the effects of it as well.

“It was hard for a lot of kids, especially at the 4th and 5th grade level because they had the same friends for about five years and they didn’t even know that some of these other kids existed. There were times of frustration, but in the end, many of the kids said they had made new friends that they never even knew before then. We are seeing more and more kids that are interacting with each other outside of school in other activities that they might have not ever known about.”

“With every single change comes challenges and I’m not going to pretend like that wasn’t one. Even for our staff—so many of them had worked together for more than five or six years, and so for them to kind of change and have to build working relationships with other people that they had not been down a hallway with

or at meetings with, it’s hard even on the adult level.”

“I think that as we’ve been keeping our finger on the pulse of the climate and culture of our school, it’s one of the things we are really proud of, that our staff talks about how much they enjoy working together and they feel like family and can count on each other. It’s a huge relief because before we ever started that mission and that fruit basket got turned over, one of the big questions was, ‘how can we possibly do that?’”

While the first day or two of school is usually filled with nervousness and anxiety among students, staff, and parents, the transition to a brand new building with brand new faces would certainly heighten those first day jitters, so Byron and the staff of Travis figured out a way to break the ice as soon as the students arrived at the school.

“On the very first day, we intentionally didn’t tell the kids what classes they were going into and how the school was going to be, so when they showed up, we had like an obstacle course set up for them and they had to go through the it to find out what class they were going to be in and when they got outside, they had a whole group of teachers dressed crazy, yelling for them to come over. I think so many kids were nervous about like, ‘is this going to be like my school?’ and we wanted to break that whole perception of what school was going to be and kind of rattle them out of that nervousness and let them know that it was going to be fun and different.”

With Travis Elementary housing only 4th and 5th grade students whose mentalities are just beginning to mature and who have junior high to anticipate within the

next year or two, Byron and the teachers have the unique opportunity to be able to coordinate fun, yet age-appropriate events without worrying about the risk of excluding the much younger students in the lower grade levels.

“I think that we have to make sure that this is the place where kids want to be and where they feel safe and supported. Fourth and fifth grade is an especially fun time to teach kids because they still like learning and when they get a passionate teacher, the students thrive on that.” “We just want these kids to know that they’re loved when we plan and arrange things for them and we try to structure school so that they know that education and learning is worthwhile and fun and rewarding.”

It’s safe to say that Byron put the ‘pal’ in principal, interacting with the kids as if they were his own and invoking smiles and laughter to brighten their day, but if you ask him, it’s the kids and staff who do that for him.

“God has been really good to me and he has put me in some awesome places around some awesome people and I’m just working his plan. I think throughout all the changes we’ve had, we’ve always try to put the kids first and try to make sure our teachers have everything they need to be successful. They’re the ones working the daily miracles and building the relationships.”

“What’s also really awesome about this job is I’ve been around for long enough that it feels like about half of the people are my former students, and so there really is this tremendous sense of pride to see the kids they’re raising and the families they’re growing, and now I have a chance to help in that. It truly is a privilege.”

First Baptist Church: A Message That Will Always Prevail

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

For over 100 years, First Baptist Church in Pampa has provided a home and sanctuary for the spiritually down-trodden and has helped build a foundation of faith for people of all ages and all walks of life.

Byron Williamson has been the senior pastor for First Baptist for the last 12 years and within that time, he and his wife Jana, who works as the Director of Communications and School/Community Engagement for Pampa ISD, have both garnered a reputation for being humble and true servants of God and the community.

Spending many years in Houston, Byron would make his way up to the panhandle where he would serve as a pastor in Groom in the 90s.

While some people might find it difficult to make the transition from an enormous city to a small dot on the map, for Byron however, it was the tight-knit community the panhandle is known for that made the transition an easy one.

“I just fell in love with the people and the area,” he said. “Some people thought I was crazy to move up here from the Houston area, but we just absolutely love it.”

Both Byron and Jana have made many friends



Byron Williamson



Enrique Perez

FIRST cont. on page 5

Celebrate Recovery: A Candle of Hope in the Darkness

BY GENEVA WILDCAT

Celebrate Recovery of Pampa has provided many of those with afflictions and addictions a path to recovery through fellowship, compassion, and Christ’s love, with many of its members offering their own successful testimonials as shimmers of hope for newer members.

Founded in 1991 by Pastor John Baker, his wife Cheryl, and Pastor Rick Warren, Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered ministry where people can find freedom from their ‘hurts, hang-ups, and habits’, with thousands of churches around the world starting one of their own and becoming a prominent global movement.

Chris Didway has been the director of Celebrate Recovery for two and a half years, and while he does believe that places like Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous provide essential tools and paths to sobriety, he believes that Celebrate Recovery offers more in the aspect of helping treat multiple addictions and by incorporating Scripture into the program, folks tend to stay on the path of recovery and maintain their sobriety.

“At Celebrate Recovery, we know that the only way we’re going to get



Celebrate Recovery Director, Chris Didway

sober is through God and Jesus Christ,” he said. “So both AA and NA are exactly the same and alcohol and narcotics is exactly what they focus on, but here, it’s all hurts, habits, and hang-ups. We have drug addicts, alcoholics, food addicts, or just whatever might be going on in their life and they want to overcome it.”

“We follow a 12-step program just like AA and if you read the steps, they’re exactly the same,

but ours have Bible verses incorporated into each step. We actually have workbooks where they answer a lot of questions after the segment they just went over to make sure they understand it fully.”

Every Tuesday night at 7, Celebrate Recovery begins their meeting with a short video on the topic of discussion for the night, and it’s not uncommon for members to relate to the content and share

CELEBRATE cont. on page 6



Integrated systems and innovative technology

Contact Hunting Titan today to learn more

11785 Hwy 152, Pampa, TX, 79065

Tel: 806.665.3781

E-mail: sales.titan@hunting-intl.com

Web: HuntingPLC.com



HUNTING



First

Continued From Page 4

during their time here, and over the years, their own family has grown and a few of their family members have even made their way to Pampa, all of whom are also wonderful servants of the community, including Mark Murray who is an instructor at the high school, Tanner Davis of Travis Elementary, and Tanner’s wife, Bethany who is the principal at Lamar Elementary.

“It’s so funny because when my wife and I moved here, we didn’t think we would live near our family ever again. But over the years, we’ve had several family members migrate here and part of that is they saw a healthy community and many wonderful opportunities.”

Byron isn’t the only

pastor that has come from Houston to join the Pampa community, as First Baptist’s newest addition to their church family, Enrique Perez, will serve as the church’s first Spanish-speaking worship service pastor, and he too hails from Houston.

Byron and Enrique would be brought together through a mutual friend when Byron expressed his desire to provide a greater outreach to Pampa’s Hispanic community.

“So what we’re doing is starting a Spanish-speaking worship service that will take place at the same time as the English service. We hope this will be more effective in reaching people who don’t have a church home in this area.”

The two would eventually meet and because of their similar ties to Houston, Byron was able to ensure Enrique

that he would love the Texas panhandle just as much as he does, and as it would turn out, he was right.

At the time of their meeting, Enrique was already a pastor of Su Casa in Houston, a church he had started about seven years ago and had since grown exponentially. Needless to say, at first, Enrique was a bit hesitant to move that far away from his home and church family.

He would ultimately decide to go where he knew God needed him the most and shortly after, Enrique would visit Pampa for the very first time.

“From the first time I came to visit Pampa and the church to meet up with Pastor Byron, I just felt peace and a tender love automatically for the town,” he said. “What I’ve loved so far is literally the fellowship between strangers.

FIRST cont. on page 6

New Life Assembly: Love ‘em Like Jesus

By GENEVA WILDCAT

For about five years, Pampa’s New Life Assembly of God had gone without a pastor after the previous pastor, Sergio, had retired, with multiple members of the congregation and staff filling in that crucial role.

While a church can operate without a full-time pastor just by the devotion of its attendants who will do what it takes to keep their congregation intact, the presence of a pastor(s) is still vital in the church’s operation.

Todd and Donna Carnagey moved to Pampa in 1987 where Donna went to work at Horace Mann Elementary until the beloved school’s closure in the early 90s brought her to Woodrow Wilson Elementary where Todd was a physical education teacher and she was the special education teacher.

They moved to Lubbock in 2003 where Donna became a children’s pastor for First Assembly as well as a special education teacher at one of the elementary schools and Todd was the coach for both the middle school and high school.

Last summer, Donna had become an ordained minister after deciding that she was ready to step out of teaching and take on a new path.

“In August of 2023, I decided I was done being an educator. I was ready to do something different and I just felt like it was time for us to be in min-



istry,” Donna said. “I was praying about retiring at that time and I wasn’t sure if Todd was ready. But by January, we both really began seeking the Lord and finding out what He wanted us to do. ‘Do You want us to just retire and help out our local church and stay?’ We found out that New Life Assembly still not had a pastor and it had been about five years since they had one.”

On February 25 of last year, they were elected pastors for New Life Assembly of God in Pampa by the church’s congregation. Donna was elected head pastor and Todd was elected lead worship pastor.

“It made us feel so overwhelmed and joyful

to come back here and be elected, because they could’ve said no. We had been gone for 21 years and they could’ve picked anyone else,” Donna smiled.

When the Carnageys lived in Pampa the first time, they had attended New Life Assembly and considered the members of the congregation their church family and to see many of the members still there was a warm welcome home.

“Most of the people that were here then are here now, so it’s pretty much like family,” Todd said.

“It was very much like coming home and we feel like we’re home,” Donna said, Todd nodding in

NEW cont. on page 6

OUR TRADITION... YOUR SUCCESS

Picture courtesy of Michael Yates

ACADEMIC & GENERAL EDUCATION

English	Psychology	History
Government	Criminal Justice	
Communications	Education	
Fine Arts	Agriculture	
Biology	Math	And More...

CAREER & WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

Nursing	Phlebotomy Tech
Cosmetology	Nail Tech
Welding	Industrial Maintenance
Ranch & Feedlot Operations	
CDL Truck Driving	And More...

ON CAMPUS OR ONLINE

Clarendon COLLEGE

(806) 665-8801

1601 W. Kentucky | Pampa, TX

ClarendonCollege.edu

Give your child a gift that will last a lifetime.

St. Matthew’s Episcopal Day School

established since 1954

...fosters the development of the whole child in an enriched environment, nurturing the spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical needs of each individual.

Classes Available For

1st grade, Kindergarten
Pre-K and 3 year olds
Special Education classroom
for 3-5 year olds

- Daily Chapel
- Daily Music
- Frog Street, Handwriting Without Tears, Explode the Code, God’s Design and Apologia Curriculum

Curriculum focusing on key literacy & math skills which integrates science, social studies, physical development and includes conscious discipline strategies for social - emotional development.

- State of the art Gym with BEAM Interactive gaming systems.
- Four-star certification from Texas Rising Star
- After School Enrichment Program for school aged children
- Hot Lunch Program

Call for more information.

Scholarships available
Child Care Beginning at 6 weeks

727 W. Browning
806-665-0703
director@stmatthewsdayschool.org



Tanner Davis: There's No Place Like Home



2025 Spring Break Bash at Travis Elementary

By GENEVA WILDCAT

It's not every day that someone can walk down the same hallways in a school they loved as a kid, and be able to see the same bright and smiling faces and feel the same scholastic enthusiasm they too experienced years ago. For Tanner Davis, working as an educator for Travis Elementary is like reliving some of the best childhood moments he had as a student at Travis.

Born and raised here in Pampa, Tanner would attend Pampa ISD's schools, and in his adult years, become heavily involved within the school district and the community as a whole in an effort to give back and serve the town he proudly calls home.

Tanner would spend some time attending college in Abilene where he would earn a Bachelor's Degree in Ministry, but that degree would also grant certification in teaching. Upon graduation, he would serve as a daycare director for a church in Abilene, working alongside the preschool administrator before making the move back to Pampa.

His wife, Bethany, would first be hired on at Pampa ISD where she is now currently serving as the principal at Lamar Elementary. Tanner would be offered a job as the PE instructor at Travis Elementary, to which Tanner would eagerly accept.

"Of course I said yes because I was going to be working at my elementary school," he smiled. "That was seven years ago and here I still am!"

Tanner would witness first hand the transition of the schools that occurred a couple of years ago, and while it may have been hectic those first few months, he was excited to take on the changes.

"I was a big fan of the transition because it was going to put people on a more even playing field and it presented more opportunities for the students."

"I remember when I was in school, all the friends I had were my neighborhood friends, but when we went to Junior High, we made new friends. But now they're already making those friends. And all the teachers are able to teach the same content and they're right next door to each other instead of across town."

Tanner would be the PE instructor for several years before becoming the Special Education instructor, and that position is where his passion truly lies for teaching and finds the role extremely rewarding.

He also ministers the youth group at First Baptist Church on Wednes-



days and Sundays for Pampa High School students, as well as serving on the board for the church's daycare helping facilitate their needs.

Just this past year, Tanner had the opportunity of being the Chairman for the beloved Children's Shopping Tour, an event he fondly remembers as a kid when his parents were on the board, with Tanner being actively involved since he was 14.

"Both of my parents have been on the steering committee literally my whole life. Every year we have about 200 volunteers-our community is just so amazing and that's one thing I love about Pampa and that's why I wanted to move back. This is a super giving community and they always show up."

While the community turn-out is always humbling, seeing the kids who are participating in the event shop selflessly for their family truly touches the heart.

"The kids don't know they're already getting something, but it's hard for them to focus on themselves because they're so excited to be giving to their family. That's what I love about it, and these kids aren't used to being able to give to their parents, so seeing how excited they are to be giving to their families is super fun."

Tanner is also on the board for Snack Pak 4 Kids, a highly beneficial and essential program in Pampa that helps fight food insecurity for students by providing nutritious items to help carry them through the weekend and start the week with a full stomach and the ability to focus on Monday morning at school.

It's clear that Tanner's passion is for providing support to Pampa's youth and doesn't want any child to go without or to have to struggle with whatever needs they might have.

"I hate when we're on

breaks because I get so worried about all of our kids who may not have stable homes or an ample food source. I'm on these boards for all of these organizations because I love our schools and all of our kids."

"I love Pampa and being involved in this community. I just want to give back as much as I can because I was born and raised here and so many people have provided me opportunities to do things. I've seen firsthand how community involvement has touched so many lives and I want to be a part of that."

Celebrate

Continued From Page 6

times it doesn't."

"My question to these guys is always, 'what are you willing to do? how far are you willing to go to get back your sanity and get your life back to-

gether?'"

"It's really cool to see these guys go into action and start talking about how God has helped them in their lives and how they completely surrendered to God and how they've overcome so many things."

If you or someone you

know needs help overcoming addiction, alcoholism or any other harmful affliction, join Celebrate Recovery every Tuesday night at The Vault, located across the street from First Baptist Church at 203 N. West Street at 7 PM.

INSURICA®



SINCE 1925

CELEBRATING

100

YEARS

OF SPECIALIZING IN YOU!

Specialized Insurance Programs for Specialized Industries

Insurance & Bonds

Employee Benefits

Risk Management

Workers' Compensation

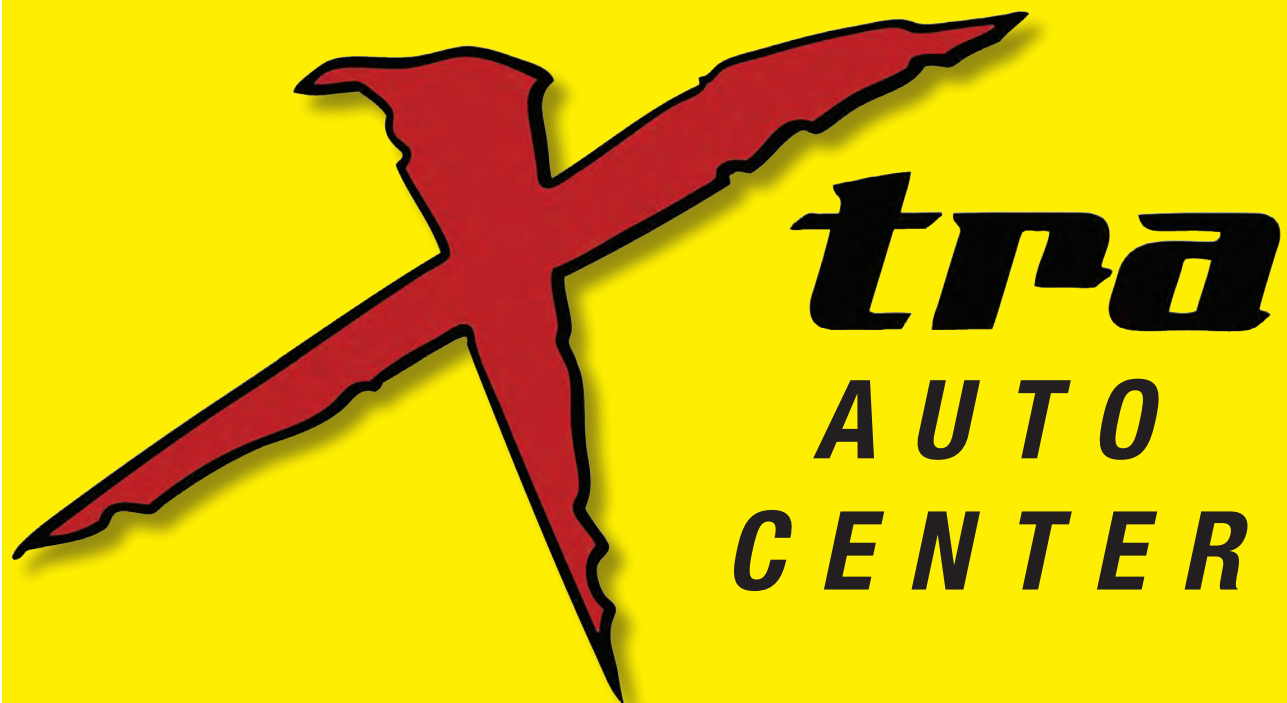
Loss Control

Commercial & Personal Insurance

Employee Benefits

INSURICA.com | 806.669.3333

Buy Here, Pay Here - No Credit Checks
www.xtraautocenter.com • Se Habla Español



1401 N Hobart • (806)665-9872

march
30

PAMPA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
PROUDLY CELEBRATES

doctor's day

Recognizing the **physicians** of Pampa Regional Medical Center for their hard work and tireless dedication to our hospital and the community we serve.

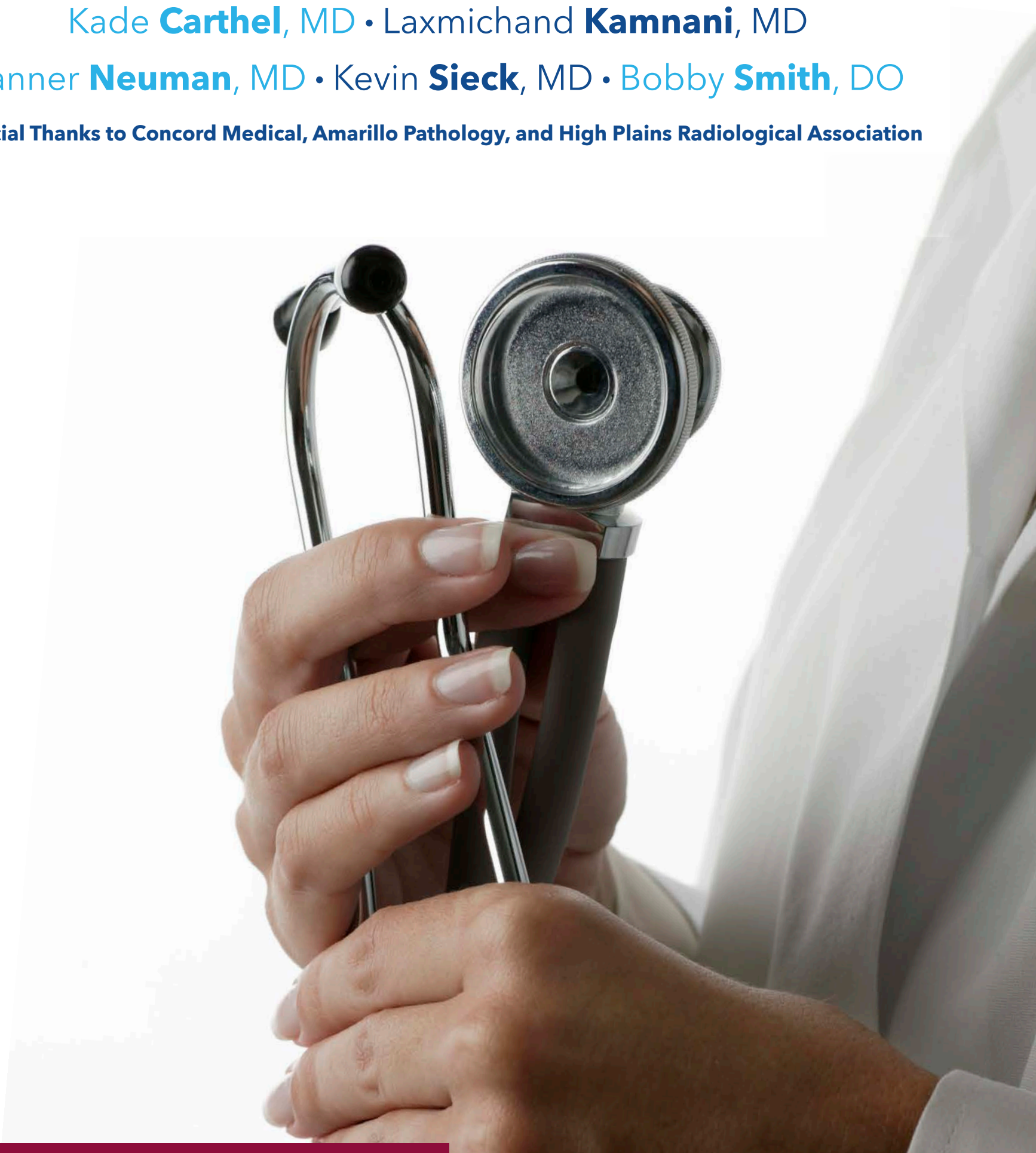
.....

Nirmala **Kamnani**, MD • David **Hampton**, MD

Kade **Carthel**, MD • Laxmichand **Kamnani**, MD

Tanner **Neuman**, MD • Kevin **Sieck**, MD • Bobby **Smith**, DO

Special Thanks to Concord Medical, Amarillo Pathology, and High Plains Radiological Association



COMPASSIONATE CARE
Close to Home

*YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO FAR
to get the care you need*



Pampa Regional Medical Center

One Medical Plaza (806)665-3721 prmc.tx.com

PRIDE OF PAMPA



2025

History &
Heritage



Pampa Lovett Memorial Library

BY GENEVA WILDCAT,
INFORMATION PROVIDED
BY THE WHITE DEER LAND
MUSEUM

It's hard to imagine that a town doesn't just automatically come with certain establishments that would be deemed essential to the community, after all, churches, schools, banks, general stores, and government structures are usually the first to be erected.

One would assume that a library would be just as crucial as anything else, but surprisingly, libraries tend to just be a bit of an afterthought, but once they're built and in full operation, you can't imagine now not having it at all.

Pampa's first 'library' was on the second floor of the First National Bank, with over 700 books provided by the Ladies Library Club. The club dates as far back as the early 1900s and would regularly meet in members' homes as early as 1907, one of which was the home of one of Pampa's earliest pioneers, Katie Vincent, which is now the infamous Pioneer Cottage that can be seen on Atchison street next to the underpass behind the post office.

Funds were donated to the library from the White Deer Land Co. at the suggestion of the local company manager, T.D. Hobart, whose name was immortalized

in one of Pampa's main roads.

It didn't take long for the interest in the library to grow, and like-minded women of various clubs and organizations in Pampa came together to form a library association in 1928 and opened up a single-shelf library in a room within the First Methodist Church in 1931.

Only a year later due to the lack of financial support, the Pampa Library Association would hold its last meeting and ultimately decide to transfer the title of all library equipment to the city to pay off any accrued debt. Five days later, however, the Pampa Public Library Board would have their first meeting at City Hall.

The library's new home would be established in the second floor of City Hall, later moving to the southeast corner of the basement where it expanded to include the whole south half of that floor.

On January 18, 1955, a dedication ceremony was held that granted \$330,000 for the Lovett Memorial Library, given to the city and Gray County in the trust of Henry and Fannie Lovett, Gray County pioneers whose home once stood where the library is now.

Dr. Godfrey L. Cabot, head of the Cabot Companies, gave the library a



\$60,000 endowment for book purchases, and the first trustees, Dr. Walter Purviance, C.P. Buckler, and M.K. Brown were chosen to manage those funds from both the Cabot endowment and the Lovett estate.

Established in 1973, the Friends of the Library organization has provided the library with an enormous amount of financial support to jumpstart numerous reading programs and help keep the library stocked with books for every interest, and has continued its mission still to this day.

"We are a group that supports the library in financial ways that the city budget cannot," Friends of the Library member, Lynne Moore said.

"We support the library with purchases of books,

primarily children's books, the Memorial Garden out there, and really just other things that they need or would like to have that are not included in the city budget. One of the ladies of the library has started a Teen Time for the library, so we're helping her out to get the supplies. We help with the Summer Reading Program in getting books and supplies for that. So we're really just a financial support group."

"I think everyone has this perception of the library as just being a city entity and the city funds everything, but they don't," Friends of the Library member La-Wausa Crain said. "Even the books that are bought for adults are through a grant and so there is no

budget for books in the library. The city budget is for the library staff and to keep up the capital improvements that have to be made on the building and even that is done on a yearly basis. We kind of step in and try to keep things up and going."

The Lovett Memorial Library has several reading programs throughout the year for all ages, including Outdoor Reading that meets on the 3rd Friday of the month at 4:30 PM, the ever-popular Summer Reading Program that features fun activities, crafts and of course, reading, and Story Time every Monday at 10 AM which will now feature a Spanish-speaking reading segment hosted by Arlett Tellez, a high school senior who grew up go-

ing to the library regularly, and these are just to name a few.

The library has no trouble adjusting to the trends that come and go through the years, including advances and interests in Technology, providing free computer classes upon appointment and providing electronic versions of all the books they carry.

As someone who also grew up going to the library on a regular basis and having an immense love for reading, I can't imagine our town not having a library and firmly believe that it is a crucial necessity for the public. I've said it before, there's nothing quite like the smell of a library and the wave of nostalgia that hits the senses in unmatched.

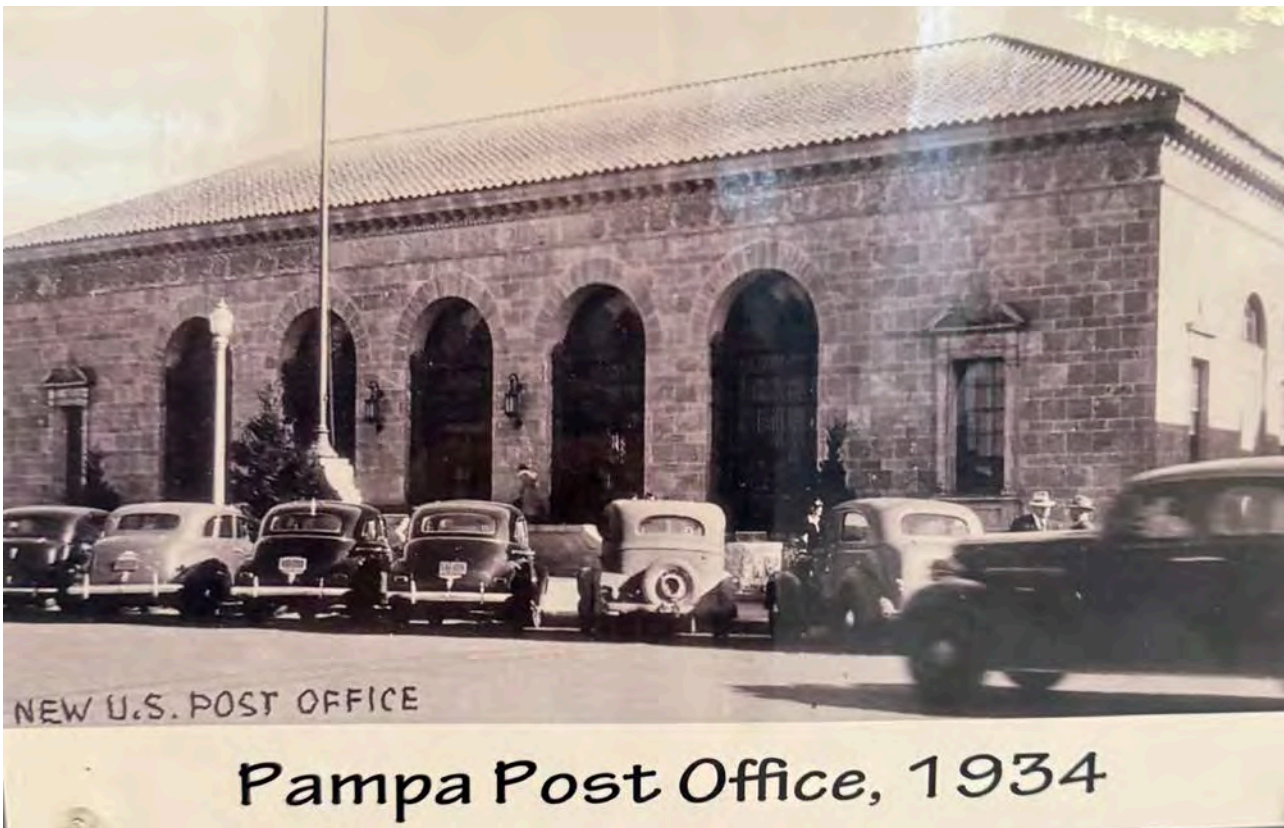
A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY THE PAMPA NEWS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

The U.S. Post Office in Pampa, Texas, is an outstanding example of the Spanish Renaissance Revival Style popular in the Southwest during the 1920s and 1930s, as well as an excellent representation of the style as it was utilized by the federal government for its institutional needs. Built during the depths of the Depression, it was an unusually elaborate and expensive structure. Its size and elaborateness indicates the sudden impact and raised expectations of the Gray County oil boom of the late 1920s. Thus, the architectural significance of the Pampa Post Office building is strengthened by the economic and historical circumstances of its construction.

During the 1920s, Pampa grew from a sleepy ranching and farming community of less than a thousand people into a bustling oil and gas center of over ten thousand. As this development progressed, the Postal Service attempted, in vain, to keep pace. Before the oil boom occurred, the Pampa Post Office ranked as a third-class office in leased or rented space. Annual postal receipts averaged less than \$20,000 per year before 1926, the year oil activity began to increase in the Pampa area. By the end of 1926, however, quarterly receipts had jumped to \$127,671. On July 1, 1927, Pampa became a second-class office, but continued growth forced an upgrading of the office to a first-class post office on July 1, 1928. The Postal Service had attempted to keep pace with demand by leasing larger facilities in the Duncan Building in 1926. But by the early 1930s, it was obvious that a new facility was needed.

While Pampa's need for a new post office grew critical, Congressman Marvin Jones was becoming increasingly influential in Washington. Jones, an Amarillo Democrat, was consolidating his power base in the House and would be a major player in Roosevelt's New Deal. As the Depression deepened, the Pampa project grew from a simple small-town post office into a major Public Works Administration undertaking. Jones, as chairman of the subcommittee overseeing all such projects, pushed the Pampa Post Office (and other Panhandle projects) ahead of others. The original allotment of \$80,000 was doubled to \$160,000 before construction began, then cut ten percent as an



economic measure.

In early 1933, lots for the new structure were purchased from the White House Lumber Company and the Fletcher estate. The total cost for the 140-foot x 125-foot site was \$25,000. Construction began in the spring of 1933, and U.S. Congressman Marvin Jones spoke at the cornerstone laying in June of that year. The contractor for the project was Stibbard Construction Company, and the architects were DeWitt and Washburn of Dallas and T.P. Lippincott of Philadelphia. W. R. Walker of Detroit served as Superintendent of Construction, while H.W. Olmsted was a construction engineer for the Treasury Department.

The Spanish Renaissance Revival structure is a large building for a town the size of Pampa, elaborate on both the interior and exterior. The spectacular gold leaf, the rich color scheme, and the liberal use of marble and other expensive materials are outstanding. The Post Office is one of the most architecturally significant buildings in Pampa, and one of the few where the building's style is an integral part of the interior and exterior design and not merely applied ornamentation.

The Pampa Post Office opened for business on June 25, 1934, and was dedicated to a service on August 8. Once again, Congressman Marvin Jones served as the speaker, addressing a crowd of several thousand onlookers. Pampa's Post Office opened with a flourish in 1934, and quickly became a major local landmark and social institution. Its

completion marked the end of the downtown building boom fueled by the expanding oil industry. No other large-scale projects occurred in the downtown until the 1950s.

In 1983, it was considered by Postmaster, Richard Wilson and other postal officials to build a new post office as the conditions in the original building were not sustainable and posed as a hazard for the workers and citizens who came through.

"I agree it's a beautiful building, but there's only one toilet for 14 women employees," Wilson had said. "Because of a high ceiling, the utility bills have gotten out of hand. We've had trouble with the heating and cooling system. For a time we thought the heater was going out. Our employees are parking on the Coney Island lot."

"I'm not necessarily wanting to leave the downtown area. The question is: 'What's the preferred site?'"

Due to mass opposition by many city residents and a few other factors, the idea for a new location and building for the post office was dropped.

Post offices previously established in the area of Gray County were Eldridge (Alanreed) on March 20, 1886; Crossland on July 21, 1888 (discontinued December 2, 1889 with mail going to Eldridge); Boydston on April 18, 1891 (established in Donley County but changed on December 11, 1902, to Gray County because of a new survey) and Lefors on October 12, 1892.



**Packing,
Shipping,
Boxes,
And More!**

(806)665-6171



Good3 Repair

**Computer,
Cell Phone,
Tablet
Repair**

(806)665-1009

808 W Francis

Proud to be a part of Pampa.



FirstBank & Trust

T E X A S

EQUAL HOUSING LENDER | MEMBER FDIC

FirstBankTexas.com

1224 N. HOBART STREET | 806.665.0022

John Mead: Preserving Pampa's History

By GENEVA WILDCAT

Through the tireless efforts of the late John Mead, Pampa's full history has been documented and made available to anyone who has a fascination with their hometown and has the desire to learn more about every corner of Pampa.

John worked for the Lovett Memorial Library from January 9, 1999 to December 31, 2017, and while most people would enjoy their retirement through spending time in the comfort of their own home or vacationing to see and experience different things, John stayed active through the library, also serving on the Advisory Board and the Friends of the Library Board.

His love for history and preservation gave him the unique drive and determination to write full books on many different subjects regarding Pampa, all of which you can find at the library and the White Deer Land Museum, and the amount of details provided through his research is certainly impressive and mind-blowing.

John passed away on November 19, 2022, and his departure from this world left many in a state of grief, them knowing they would never meet someone again that was quite like John.

Both Tonie Bolin and Misty Guy worked with John and they share the same heartfelt sentiment in being honored to have known and worked with him.

"A lot of people thought he was a grumpy old

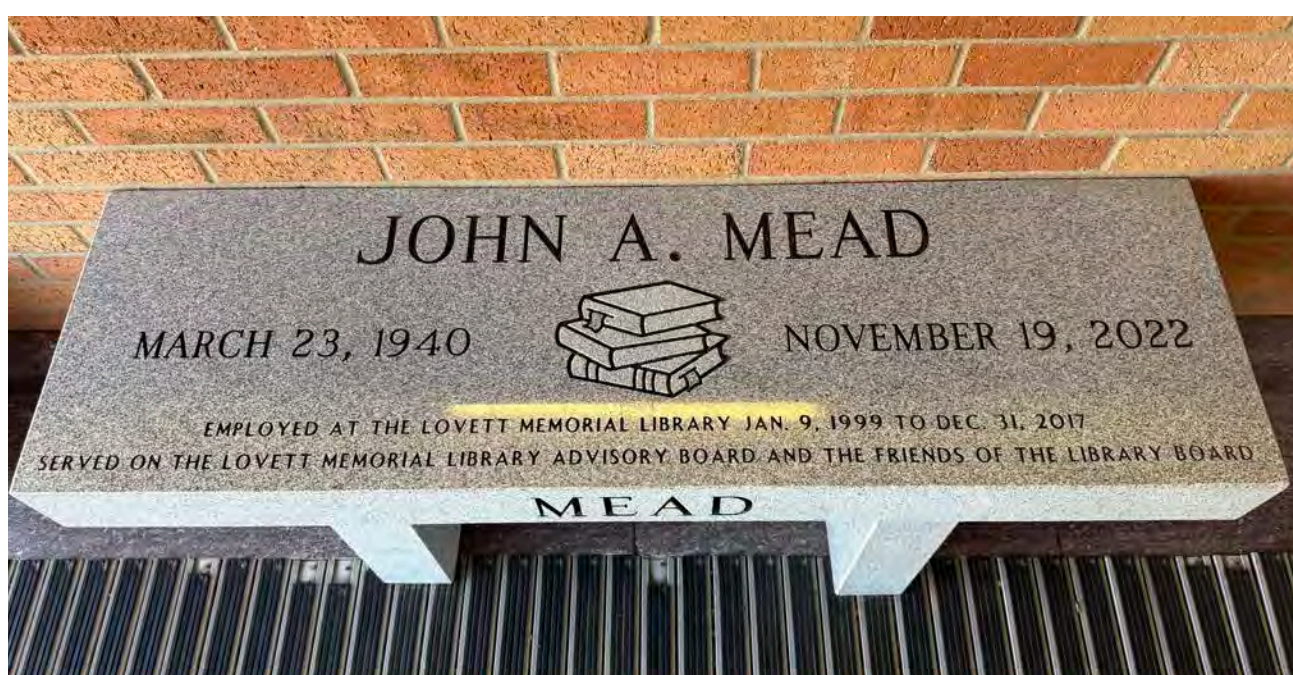
man, but he had a heart of gold," Misty smiled. "He did a lot of donations to the library, not only for the work and time that he spent here with the local history, but he also donated candy for the kids' Easter egg hunts, the Fall Festival-he always made sure the kids had the good candy, he loved chocolate. And his family still continues to send candy for those events, always in memory of John Mead."

"He was honorary grandpa to my daughter Sykora and Marsha Rollins who was here named her son, John Michael after him. He was also honorary grandpa to her eldest daughter Rachel. Every Father's Day, we would have the kids write letters to him."

"He contributed so much and he never wanted any publicity for it, he was just so humble."

"He was a very caring and thoughtful man," Tonie said. "He would anybody and everybody, he was just so great. He contributed a lot to the kids' programs and if you ever needed anything, you just mention it and it was here."

I highly recommend taking the time to go to the library and just read through the many, many books that Mr. Mead put together, and you'll see just how much time, care and research went into each and every one of them. Pampa was lucky to have such an individual who wanted to help preserve the history of the town he knew and loved.



**Carmichael
-Whatley**
FUNERAL DIRECTORS & CREMATORY

600 N. WARD | PAMPA, TEXAS | 806.665.2323
203 S. 3RD ST. | CANADIAN, TEXAS | 806.323-6431

**FAMILY-OWNED
& OPERATED
FOR OVER
60 YEARS**



WWW.CARMICHAEL-WHATLEY.COM



CHIEF PLASTIC

PIPE & SUPPLY INC.



**YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP
FOR YOUR TOTAL
PLUMBING CARE**

- Rheem water heaters
- PEX Pipe
- PVC Pipe
- PVC, Poly and Steel Fittings
- Septic Tanks



4

The Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center



BY GENEVA WILDCAT
reporter@thepampanews.com

Located in historic downtown Pampa just on the other side of the railroad tracks is the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center; the building and location itself rich in history (and controversy) that would make any history or music buff giddy with excitement.

Painted across the brick front of the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center is ‘Harris Drugs’ depicted in its near-original font, a preservation of what the building was and still means to the story.

Upon walking in, the decor-laden walls full of paintings, pictures, and other historical items dedicated to the late-great

folk music icon grabs your attention and clings onto it until you’ve seen and read every fascinating piece.

From the pictures of a barely visible Pampa during the Dust Bowl to the displayed bouy obtained from the sinking of the USS Rueben James off the coast of Iceland in 1941 (the inspiration for Woody Guthrie’s song, The Sinking of the Rueben James), the fellow traveler or tourist can expect to wiggle their toes in the sands of time. Under the high ceilings containing the original tin material and design from the building’s conception, an open stage and seating area welcome guests and musicians from all back-

grounds to come together for a jam session every Friday night.

While the man for whom the building commemorates is of absolute significance, the history of the location is just as interesting, especially for those life-long Pampa residents.

Executive Director of the board for the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center, Michael Sinks, is not only a Woody Guthrie historical buff, but a Pampa history enthusiast as well.

Having moved to Pampa in 1989, Sinks worked for AT&T until his retirement in 2009, giving him more time to focus on his love of music and playing music.

Freedom Museum USA



BY GENEVA WILDCAT

While Memorial Day may only be once a year to commemorate and remember fallen service members who died actively serving their country, The Freedom Museum USA in Pampa sits on the busiest street in Pampa where every day passersby can clearly see the planes, helicopters and tanks, all from different world conflicts, acting as a stark reminder of why we are free.

But what lies on the inside tells the story about the soldiers who went through the hells of war and the sacrifices they made: from the numerous displayed uniforms and patches (both from our own countrymen and from the enemy) to the Hall of Honor that holds multiple framed pictures of Texas Panhandle service members, many of their stories preserved in

time.

The Freedom Museum USA, founded by the VFW Post 1657 of Pampa, remains a crucial element to preserving not only the history of local service members, but to tell their story in a visual way that truly speaks to the heart.

The detailed exhibits and stories show the impressive and intense research and dedication that went into putting the museum together, speaking on the deep reverence and commitment everyone had and still has that was involved with the museum’s conception and purpose.

To be able to see the artifacts from different wars, from World War I and World War II to Vietnam, the observer can surely at least begin to understand the importance of preserving the history and why Memorial Day and Vet-

erans Day are celebrated differently between the general public and veterans.

While many of us will be taking advantage of the Memorial Day sales that popular retailers advertise and enjoying the three-day weekend without the worry of having to come in to work on Monday, for service members, it’s a day of mourning for their fallen brethren when they will hold a special ceremony to honor those who lost their lives in action.

The Freedom Museum USA is located at 600 N. Hobart in Pampa and is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon until 4 PM. It’s gauranteed that once you step foot through the door and take the time to visit the exhibits, even if it’s just one, you’ll come out with a deeper understanding of what it truly means to be free.

Welcome to your little corner of the universe.

When looking for land, might we suggest choosing one with forever views? It's a small detail, but it's one we know you'll enjoy. And to help you get everything else you want, Capital Farm Credit is here for you. We'll help you navigate the process of buying rural property, because rural lending is what we do. You could say we know the value of every acre out there — on land or in the night sky. **To learn more, visit [CapitalFarmCredit.com](https://www.CapitalFarmCredit.com).**

Together we're *better.*

NMLS493828

PAMPA
806.665.3786

A Summer of Bowling Fun for One Low Price?!?

Individual BowlPass

~~\$149~~ **\$89**

- Two Hours of bowling for one person (not transferable)
- Starts May 1st & ends August 31st - four full months of bowling fun!
- Unlimited shoe rental included!
- Available whenever we are open

Platinum Family BowlPass

~~\$149~~ **\$119**

- Two Hours of bowling fun every day
- Covers your ENTIRE household:** Mom, Dad, & kids under 18
- Starts May 1st & ends August 31st - four full months of bowling fun!
- Available whenever we are open
- Unlimited shoe rental included for your whole family!
- Platinum BONUS:** Grandparents & Babysitters can bowl too!

Sign your family up today at PampaFamilyFun.com

or sign up at the bowling desk

SCAN ME! >>>

Sign Up By April 30th and Save \$30!

The Zone Bowling Center | 1401 S Hobart | Pampa Texas (806) 665-5181

NEED HELP?

WE'VE GOT YOU!

- Service Lines
- Water Heaters
- Central Air
- Conventional Heating
- Mini Split Systems

Larry Baker

Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning
11780 Hwy 152 - Pampa 806-665-4392

Paying Homage to Pampa’s Pioneers



**BY GENEVA WILDCAT,
INFORMATION PROVIDED
BY THE WHITE DEER LAND
MUSEUM**

Have you ever really noticed how Pampa’s street names are far different than any other town or city you’ve visited, with no streets, roads, or avenues named after presidents and the numerical streets are far and few between.

Instead, you’ll find names of people that no one other than Pampa historians would know of, and what they know is the rich history that each one of those pioneers played a part in and why they hold such prominence and have essentially been immortalized within the town.

Pampa is unique in how it has paid its homage to its founders, pioneers, and local heroes through its street names, and while those same streets have been traveled through millions of times for nearly a century, it’s easy to not give the road you’re driving on to head

to work, school, or to the grocery store a second thought.

But now that you’re here and you’ve got the time, take a look at this impressive list of Pampa’s street names and the prominent individuals they were named after.

It’s been said that, ‘perhaps there is no place in the world where pioneer names and pioneer tales are talked about with greater pride than in the Panhandle’, and with just a quick glimpse of this lengthy list would certainly validate that statement.

- Atchison-named for a founder of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Co.
- Albert-named for A.H. Doucette, the White Deer Land Company surveyor for many years
- Baer-named for Chris Baer, a prominent early-day farmer in the area
- Ballard-named for an official in the New York Office of the White Deer Land Co.
- Barnard-named for Charles B. Barnard,

Pampa’s first Chamber of Commerce President

- Barnes-named for the maiden name of M.K. Brown’s wife, Josye Lucille
- Beryl-named for Mrs. DeLea (Beryl) Vicars, daughter of J.S. Wynne, one of Pampa’s first residents
- Brown-named for Montagu Kingsmill Brown, co-manager of White Deer Land Co. with C.P. Buckler
- Browning-named for Lt. Governor Browning whose firm was legal representative of the Choctaw Railway
- Brunow-named for Dr. V.E. von Brunow, Pampa’s first doctor
- Buckler-named for C.P. Buckler, co-manager with Montagu Kingsmill Brown of White Deer Land Co.
- Campbell-named for W.R. Campbell, a prominent farmer and rancher
- Charles-named for Charles B. Cook, son of Charles C. Cook, Pampa’s first lawyer
- Christine-named for

the daughter of Charles C. Cook

- Cook-named for Charles C. Cook
- Craven-named for William H. Craven, manager of the Shoenail Outfit owned by Swift and Co. in the early days
- Cuyler-main street, named for Cornelius C. Cuyler, Trustee, White Deer Land Co.
- Duncan-named for J.N. Duncan who served as Pampa’s first mayor in 1912
- Finley-named for B.E. Finley, first cashier of the First National Bank, and in 1929 President of the same bank
- Fisher-named for R.B. Fisher, an early day school superintendent
- Foster-named for Frederic de P. Foster, law partners who controlled the English syndicate which acquired the White Deer Lands
- Francis-named for George Tyng’s youngest son
- Frederic-named for Frederic de P. Foster
- Frost-named for an official in the New York Office of the White Deer Land Co.
- Gillespie-named for an early cattleman
- Gray-named for Peter W. Gray, a prominent Texas lawyer and a member of the first Texas Legislature
- Gwendolyn-named for M.K. Brown’s sister who lived in England
- Hazel-named for the daughter of the A.A. Holland family, owners of the Holland Hotel, forerunner of the Schneider Hotel
- Henry-named for J.R. Henry, a prominent early-day farmer in this area
- Hobart-named for Timothy Dwight Hobart,

sometimes known as “The Father of Pampa”, who managed the White Deer Lands from 1903 until 1924

- Houston-named in honor of Texas’ hero, Sam Houston
- Jorden-named for W.D. Jorden who was once a partner in the cattle business with M.K. Brown
- Kingsmill-named for Montagu Kingsmill Brown, who was named for his uncle, a London banker who came to this area at one time in the interest of the English bond holders in the White Deer Company
- Lea-named for granddaughter of L.L. Stone, former superintendent
- Linda-named for W.T. (Bill) Fraser’s daughter
- Lynn-named for a granddaughter of L.L. Stone
- Malone-named for Grover C. Malone, Pampa’s second funeral director
- Mary Ellen-named for the daughter of Charles C. Cook
- Montagu-named for Montagu Kingsmill Brown
- Naida-named for the daughter of Earl Talley of Talley Addition, and who was also a Gray County Sheriff
- Nicki-named for W.T. (Bill) Fraser’s daughter
- Purviance-named for Dr. Walter Purviance, one of Pampa’s senior doctors
- Reid-named for F.P. Reid, who was a long-time mayor of Pampa
- Rham-named for an official in the New York Office of the White Deer Land Co.
- Roberta-named for the wife of Earl Talley
- Russell-named for

Judge Russell Benedict who was sent to Texas in 1903 with power of attorney to transfer title to the purchasers of the White Deer Lands from New York and Texas Land Co.

- Schneider-named for Alex Schneider, founder of the Schneider Hotel, formerly the Holland Hotel
- Short-named for J.C. Short, a pioneer rancher and the first mail carrier in Lefors
- Sloan-named for C.P. Sloan, owner of the town’s first two-story house
- Somerville-named for David Somerville of Matador Co.
- Starkweather-named for a superintendent of the Texas Branch of the Southern Kansas Railroad Company, later the Santa Fe Railroad
- Sumner-named for Louise Sumner of St. Louis who owned a plot of land in Pampa
- Thut-named for Henry Thut, Sr., owner of an early-day line rider camp and later the Thut Hotel in Lefors, and was the first Treasurer of Gray County
- Tignor-named for Charles Tignor, a prominent early-day farmer in this area
- Tuke-named for an official in the New York Office of the White Deer Land Co.
- Tyng-named for the first manager of the White Deer Lands and is credited with naming the city for the pampas of the Argentine
- Warren-named for Mrs. B.E. Finley’s maiden name
- Williston-named for Russell Benedict’s son
- Wynne-named for J.S. (Jesse) Wynne, one of the first residents of this area

Woody

Continued From Page 4

After visiting the barber next door to the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center, Sinks would be invited to a jam session that would put him on a path he never expected and the woman who would set him on that path was Thelma Bray, who is now 100 years old.

“The little lady that started this place, Thelma Bray, said they needed some help and asked me if I would come back Tuesday night,” Sinks said.

“So I thought maybe they needed to move a piano or something, but

they were having a board meeting and she asked me to be on the board and I’ve been here ever since. I had just retired and was looking for a place to play music. It was completely self-serving, I just came to play some music,” he laughed.

Admittedly, Sinks didn’t know much about Woody Guthrie or his music, but a member of the board at the time, Pat Stewart who was a die-hard fan of Woody Guthrie, passed along his knowledge and passion for the folk singer to Sinks.

“He started telling me what books to read and telling me stories and introduced me to the family and I went to the mu-

sic festivals in Okemah, Oklahoma where Woody was born and I just became enamored with the story; it’s Shakespearean. And the fact that he started his music career right here in this room,” Sinks said.

“He found his first guitar in the store room and he started fooling around with it and the boss told him, if you can play it, you can have it. So this is where it all started for Woody.”

Harris Drugs was owned and operated by Carl “Shorty” Harris, formed during the oil boom in the late 1920s that affected the entire Texas Panhandle.

Trying to find a way



Pioneer Cottage, built in 1903, one year after the county was organized, by settlers Wiley Vincent and his wife Katie

Pampa Museums Promotions

Visit our museums for history you won't forget
Call (806) 669-8041 for more information

FREEDOM MUSEUM USA
600 N. Hobart * (806) 669-6066
Facebook - Pampa Freedom
freedommuseumusa.org

WHITE DEER LAND MUSEUM
112 S. Cuyler * (806) 669-8041
Look for us on Facebook

WOODY GUTHRIE FOLK MUSIC CENTER
320 S. Cuyler * (806) 664-0824
woodyguthriepampatx.com
Look for us on Facebook



Pampa Sculpture Tour

PAMPA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In 1985, members from Pampa’s two garden clubs, Pampa Garden Club and Las Pampa Garden Club, joined Thelma Bray, founder of Pampa Area Foundation for Outdoor Art, along with several other art-minded members of the Pampa community, to “provide for art and sculpture in parks and public places in Pampa.”

From those first meetings in 1985, has grown an impressive collection of outdoor sculptures for a community of Pampa’s size. More than a dozen pieces of outdoor art, in the form of bronze sculptures, giant lizard, and colorful abstracts, are scattered throughout Pampa, to be enjoyed by visitors and residents alike.



“Grandfather’s Vision, sculpted by G.L. Sanders and sits at Dr. V.E. von Brunow Park at the corner of Cuyler and Foster



The “Loch Ness” Lizard, constructed from recycling materials during the 1991-1992 metal trades class of Pampa High School under the direction of teacher Warren Smith

Woody

Continued From Page 5

to make money during a time when oil field towns were less than friendly to most people, Shorty set up a lemonade stand out on Highway 60.

From the advice of a traveler, Shorty learned how to turn a profit from his simple lemonade stand and turned it into a hamburger stand.

After a few years’ worth of savings, Harris, along with a business partner, bought the newly constructed building that would become Harris Drugs.

Across the street from Harris Drugs was a boarding house that out-of-town oilfield workers would stay and the 25-cent-per-8-hour cot rental would be managed by none other than Woody’s father, Charley who would hire his then 17-year-old-son.

Prohibition was in effect during that time and while most drug stores were known to sell ice cream and root beer and other various items, “special medicine” was also sold under the prescription of a doctor.

“So drug stores popped up everywhere, kind of like medical marijuana dispensaries today. But Woody was told when he went to work here that if somebody put down a nickel, they wanted ice cream or root beer. If they put down 50 cents, reach under the counter and get one of these bottles in a paper sack and don’t ask any questions,” Sinks smiled.

Thelma Bray was going to school during the time

that Woody Guthrie was working and playing music in Pampa and had no idea until later on when she read a book about his life.

“She went to a town hall meeting and stood up and said *I want to do something to recognize Woody Guthrie as a worldwide famous musician who started here in Pampa, Texas.* One of the people said that *Woody Guthrie was a communist and an atheist and we’ll have nothing to do with him in Pampa.* Neither one of those statements were true, but it didn’t matter,” Sinks said.

“She didn’t let that stop her. She was kind of a mover and a shaker around here. She was one of those people that didn’t let “no” dissuade her. She started looking for other people that were like-minded and thought that something should be done to honor Woody Guthrie and she found some people and started a 501C3 in 1992 called Pampa’s Tribute to Woody Guthrie and they had their first concert that year that had all sorts of names including Debbie Gibson.”

After Harris Drugs had closed, it has since been a leather shop, a shoe shop and a bar, but after its final closure, Thelma set her sights on buying the building.

In 2002, the ten-year project was finally coming to its completion after they bought the historic building with the help of many of Pampa’s well-known citizens at the time.

After a lot of renovations and clean up, the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center became what it

is today, and according to Michael Sinks, it’s more than just a museum.

“I underestimated the power of Woody Guthrie’s name because people did come,” he said, pointing to the massive painted canvas of a boxcar with hundreds upon hundreds of signatures of visitors and musicians from all over the world that have stopped through to pay Pampa’s hidden gem a visit.

“People kind of take some ownership of this place. Usually when they come to visit they often stay for 2 to 3 hours and we’ll just talk. I’ll tell them all the stories I know about Woody and they’ll tell me their stories,” he said.

“Some people have an idea in their head about what folk music is, but the real definition of folk music to me is folks getting together to play music. That’s what this place is for and that’s exactly how I got here.”

Because the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center is completely nonprofit and is free to the public, the center does rely on donations and funding from certain organizations to keep up its operation.

But with the outpouring of love and support from the community and from folks all around the world, the spirit of Woody Guthrie is still live and well in Pampa.

Visit the Woody Guthrie Folk Music Center at 320 S. Cuyler Tuesday through Friday from 10 AM to 5 PM and join in on the jam sessions on Fridays from 6 PM to 8:30 PM.



Cabot Corporation (NYSE: CBT) creates solutions that are an essential part of modern-day life. Many of the things you touch, see, eat and drink have Cabot as part of their chemical make-up. During our more than 130 year history, we have garnered a deep understanding of our customers' needs, their industries and the global trends that impact their businesses.

Cabot is committed to operating with sustainable business practices that ensure the well-being of our employees, customers and the communities in which we operate. As a result, the company has earned a reputation for producing high-quality solutions while continuing to set the industry standard with respect to sustainability and safety.

Cabot Corporation
11561 US Hwy 60
P.O. Box 5001
Pampa, Texas 79065



TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE
Hemphill County
BEEF
CONFERENCE
Canadian, Texas

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29-30, 2025

PLEASE JOIN US IN CANADIAN, THE DIAMOND OF THE TEXAS PANHANDLE. FOR OUR BEEF CONFERENCE BROUGHT TO YOU BY CAPITAL FARM CREDIT.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
DAN OWOLABI

CEO OF BRANCHES, A MINISTRY DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING HIGH-IMPACT ENTREPRENEURS, EXECUTIVES, AND BUSINESS OWNERS AROUND THE WORLD.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN THE CATTLE INDUSTRY

INDUSTRY LEADING SPEAKERS INCLUDING: TROY APPLEHANS - CATTLE FAX, MATT MAKENS - ATMOSPHERIC SCIENTIST, COLIN WOODALL- NCBA, JOHN STIKA - CERTIFIED ANGUS BEEF, DR. RANDALL SPARE - DVM, TOM FANNING - PRATT CATTLE FEEDERS, BEN WEINHEIMER - TCFA, ROBBY KIRKLAND - TCFA, AMY KIRKLAND - TX BEEF COUNCIL, CLINT CRYER - CAPITAL FARM CREDIT, DR. MORGAN TREADWELL - TX A&M AGRILIFE RANGE SPECIALIST, DR. JASON SMITH - TX A&M AGRILIFE, LEE LEACHMAN, MIKE TURNER, ADAM ISAACS, KATHY PRICE, LAURA BURANDT, DAN OWOLABI, DONNELL BROWN - MODERATOR

WWW.HEMPHILLCOTXBEEF.COM FOR REGISTRATION & AGENDA

(806) 323-9114 TICKETS ARE \$175/PERSON • SPOUSE TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR \$150/SPOUSE

PLEASE JOIN US IN CANADIAN, THE DIAMOND OF THE TEXAS PANHANDLE. FOR OUR BEEF CONFERENCE BROUGHT TO YOU BY CAPITAL FARM CREDIT. 100+ AGRIBUSINESS VENDORS • & 3 BEEF MEALS,



100+ AGRIBUSINESS VENDORS • 3 QUALITY BEEF MEALS.

Bartlett's Lumber & Hardware



Grant Johnson's 'The Way We Were' Full Exhibit Now on Showcase at White Deer Land Museum

Capturing the absolute beauty and essence of Pampa is Grant Johnson's 'The Way We Were' exhibit, a 16-piece series that he recently completed with a Part 2 soon to be in the works. 'The Way We Were' series is a call to reflect back on the days when love and empathy were natural and organic occurrences between people, with fellowship, selflessness and humility at the core of society.

Last year while still working on four more paintings to complete the series, he said, "Having empathy with someone doesn't matter if you agree with them or not, you can have empathy," he says. "We're getting to where we don't even identify each other as humans. We almost just care about ourselves." "It wasn't that way when I grew up. And so

what I'm trying to do with this series, is make people stop and think for a minute about how we were even though you had to work harder."

This is just a glimpse of what he has created, so be sure to go see these gorgeous works of art in person at the White Deer Land Museum.

Take a step back in time and let the nostalgia take you away.

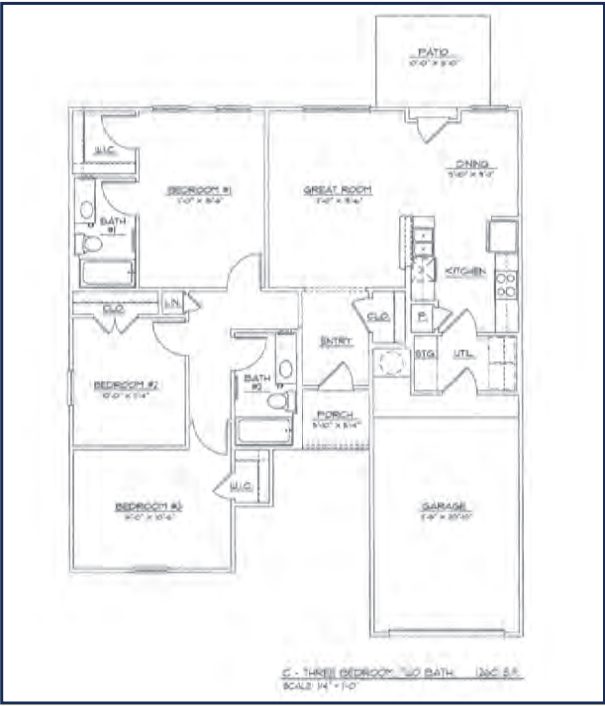


Grant Johnson, photo courtesy of Della Moyer



Make Yourself at Home

- Fully gated, the 3, and 4 bedroom homes available
- Vinyl planking and plush carpet.
- Energy Star[®]™ rated appliances
- Spacious floor plans complete with attached garages.
- Our beautiful community center is host to monthly potluck dinners, bingo, healthy cooking courses, a computer lab & holiday events!
- FREE After school and summer programs
- Two playscapes
- Income Restricted Section 8 Vouchers Accepted!



Move-In
Special
\$400



1517 Alcock Street
Pampa, TX 79065
806.440.0054





Intersect
Power



For more information about the
Meitner project, please contact us at
community@intersectpower.com
or 1-888-556-4009

intersectpower.com

ACE
Hardware
PAMPA



1215 N. Hobart.
806-665-0723

**THE
HELPFUL
PLACE.**



CRAFTSMAN

BLACKSTONE

DIABLO

TORO



YETI



Big Green Egg
The Ultimate Cooking Experience



EGO
POWER BEYOND BELIEF

STIHL

Benjamin Moore

Hours:

Mon-Sat 7:30am-8pm

Sunday 10am-6pm



LOCAL AG LENDING

**Financing
your Legacy**

Farm & Ranch, Recreational Land,
Rural Residence, Beginning Farm
& Ranchers Loans

Pampa | www.plainslandbank.com | 806.669.1126



NMLS #709351

AUSTIN ELEMENTARY



Mrs. Troxell's Kindergarten class was celebrating 100 days brighter at our glow party!



Mrs. Harris's Kindergarten class was dressed up for Halloween and ready for our fall carnival.



Belinda Rodriguez was enjoying bouncing around at the bounce house party for positive behavior.

Mrs. Mendoza's first grade class loved getting to bring anything but a backpack during homecoming week.



Mrs. Morrison's class enjoyed their field trip to safety town in Amarillo!

LAMAR ELEMENTARY



Lamar 3rd Grade Battle of the Books Teams competed in a local competition recently. They will compete in the Area meet on March 25th. Good Luck!



The 2nd annual Lamar staff "Inflatable Fun Run"



Students that sold any popcorn in the fundraiser got a can of silly string to shoot at Dr. Davis.

Students that sold more than \$400 in popcorn sales got to take a special trip to Amarillo to tour Goody's Popcorn Facility and lunch at Chick-Fil-A.



100th day of school fun



This students were nominated by their teachers for a "Pizza Picnic with the Principals". Each one of these Harvesters have shown academic excellence and leadership in their classrooms!

PAMPA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



6th Grade Honor Choir members at their Clinic and Concert with other 6th graders from across the Panhandle at Tascosa High School on February 7, 2025. Students were chosen by audition this past November.



All-Region Band Members prior to their Clinic/Concert at WTAMU on January 18, 2025.



Battle of the Books teams at their district practice session on February 21, 2025. They will compete against schools from the surrounding area on March 25th.



Students recognized for showing Random Acts of Kindness in February.



Gifted and Talented students presented their Fall Projects at the 1st annual PJHS GT Fair this past December. Projects ranged from video game design to artwork to presentations on forms of cyberbullying.



The 2024-25 PJHS Staff has risen to the challenge this year as they increase the rigor of their teaching across all subjects this year, including the implementation of daily writing in every single class. They also continue to revolutionize the culture of their campus by recognizing students for academic achievements during their 6 weeks awards assemblies.

The 8th Grade Football team showed excellent sportsmanship throughout their season and demonstrated what the Harvester Spirit is all about.



7th Grade Girls' Basketball prior to a game.

PAMPA LEARNING CENTER



PLC Fall 2024 Graduate Brinley Pugh with Synetta Conley, Carrie Williams, Zac Green and Lisa Mitchell.



Carrie Williams making the hot chocolate for the students and staff during the Christmas crafts.



Sunli Soto, Corwin Stokes, Kayton Stokes and Jayce Reeves making their Christmas craft before the PLC Fall Celebration.



PLC Fall 2024 Graduate Abigail Magers with Synetta Conley, Carrie Williams, Zac Green and Lisa Mitchell.



PLC students after making their Christmas crafts take a group photo before heading to the celebration at the Admin building.



PLC Fall 2024 Graduate Ryland Early with Zac Green, Synetta Conley, Carrie Williams and Stephanie Boyd.



PLC students, staff, family members and PISD Administration at the PLC Celebration for the fall 2024 Semester. PLC does a celebration of the achievements by the students each semester at the PISD Admin building.

PAMPA HIGH SCHOOL



24-25 Vase Competition



Boys B-Ball vs. Perryton



Chemistry 2 Class



Practicum Education Students Getting ID Badges



Student News Network



Howdy Week

WT PHS Counselors



Culinary Arts Cookie Baking

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS



Beckett Arnzen, Hagen Clements, Bennett Graser, and Ryatt McGinty painting at the table in the Wobblers Classroom

Hagen Clements and Beckett Arnzen enjoying a Dr Seuss book during Read Across America Week



Liam Hassler was excited to meet Santa



Millie Nachtigall got to meet Santa at Bright Beginnings



Georgie Samulowitz and Vivian Craig are BFFs



Imaginations abound with Colt Ferguson Slayton Morrison and Zayden Harris



Israel Servin having fun with watercolors in our Early Preschool classroom



Ramzy Roberson practicing colors and counting with our Frog Street curriculum



Jacqueline Lucero playing dolls in our Twos classroom



Ms. Robbie Conley and Millie Nachtigall putting a puzzle together



Oliver Johnson dressed up for Halloween



Van Bradley saying Happy Turkey Day

TRAVIS ELEMENTARY



Talking Tails!! Our Brillo Tribe students are being introduced to several different live animals, and learning about the different way animals use their tails. Thanks to the Wild West Wildlife Rehabilitation Center for stopping by!



Our fourth graders honoring veterans during our "Veteran's Day Program"



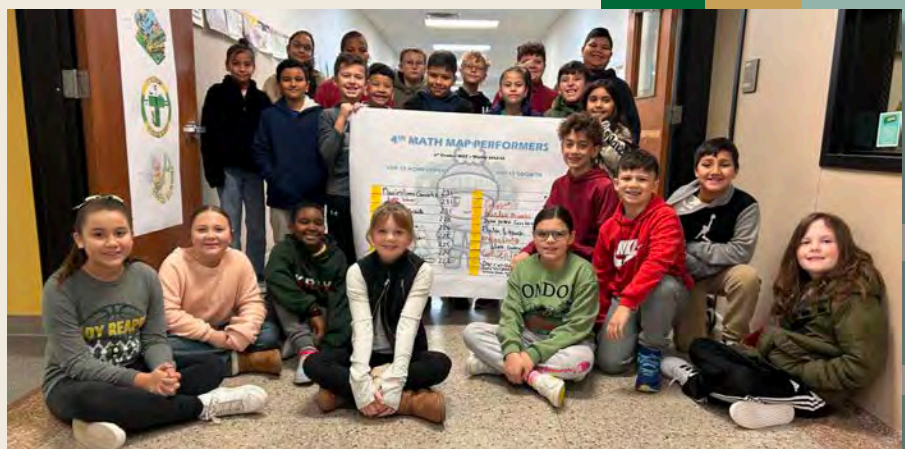
Congratulations to 5th Graders Romina Transcoso and Tiana Beja! Winners of the Travis Yearbook Design Contest!



"Recess With A Veteran" is a keeper! The students and veterans really enjoyed playing ball together.



Our Battle of the Books Teams are ready for competition! We held our practice contest against Lamar and Pampa Junior High!



Our top Math Performers in the Fall Semester! These 4th and 5th Grade students made the Top 10 in their class for either achievement or growth!

WILSON ELEMENTARY



We are thankful for our wonderful ALTRUSA for coming to read to our fabulous Wilson students!



Mrs. Taylor's class decking out in green and gold and showing the harvester spirit!



Ms. Scott's class in all the creative gear for the 100 days of school celebration.



Ms. Orepeza's class during color wars!



Wilson staff award winners with the sweet students they are making an everlasting impact on!