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NEWCOMERS

Spring 2018 Welcome Guide



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Information

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Welcome to Central Texas

The Spring 2018 Newcomers Guide is designed to help new residents familiarize themselves with the Central Texas communities that comprise the greater Killeen-Fort Hood area. This convenient guide provides information to help new and returning residents settle into their homes, enroll in schools and colleges, get involved in the local communities, and enjoy the area's wide variety of activities and attractions.

It includes information on registering vehicles, hooking up utilities, searching for a job, understanding the workings of local governments and receiving assistance from the many service organizations in the area.

The following Herald newsroom staff members, graphic designers and correspondents contributed to the writing, photography, planning, editing and design of this section: Kyle Blankenship, Renee Blue, Kayla Bouchard, Jacob Brooks, David A. Bryant, Felisa Cardenas, Julie A. Ferraro, Rose Fitzpatrick, M. Clare Haefner, Emily Hilley-Sierzchula, Brad Kester, Dave Miller, Mark Miller, Deb Moore, Matt Payne, Artie Phillips, Amy Proctor, Eric J. Shelton, Brittany Sodic, Josh Sullivan, Ellen Villeneuve, Clay Whittington, Gabe Wolf and Andy Zavoina.

ON THE COVER | Design by Christian Anhalt

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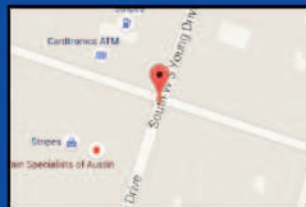
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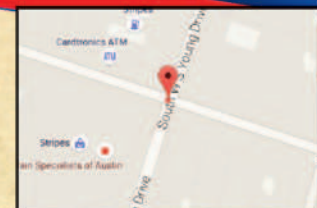
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New residents must get driver's licenses, register vehicles

Upon moving to Texas, individuals can legally drive with a valid, unexpired license from another state or country for up to 90 days.

Within that time, individuals must apply in person at any driver's license office for a Texas license.

To apply, residents must prove their residence is in Texas and they have lived here for at least 30 days.

Residents must get their vehicles inspected prior to registering or renewing their vehicle registration.

There are a number of forms that can be used to prove residency:

- Current deed, mortgage, monthly mortgage statement, mortgage payment booklet or a residential rental/lease agreement.
- Current homeowner's or renter's insurance policy or homeowner's or renter's insurance statement.
- Valid, unexpired Texas voter registration card.
- Texas motor vehicle registration or title.
- Texas boat registration or title, Texas concealed handgun license.
- Utility statement (including electric, water, natural gas, satellite TV, cable TV or non-cellular phone bill) dated within 90 days of the application date.
- Selective Service card.
- Current automobile insurance policy or insurance statement.
- Current Form DS2019, I-20 or a

DRIVER'S LICENSE OFFICES

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5100 W. Elms Road
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Building 69004
254-618-4180
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

GATESVILLE

606B Leon St.
254-865-2444
Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesday-Thursday: 8 a.m. to noon and 1:15 to 5 p.m.

LAMPASAS

1690 N. U.S. Highway 281

512-556-6871

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TEMPLE

6612 S. General Bruce Drive
254-770-6734 (recording)
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VEHICLE REGISTRATION OFFICES

BELTON

550 E. Second Ave.
254-933-5318
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

KILLEEN

307 Priest Drive
254-634-0265
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document issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

In addition to the residency requirements, three forms of identification are required, including a Social Security card or military ID card. One form of ID needs a photo. For more information, go to www.txdps.state.tx.us.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

Texas residents must register their vehicles in the state within 30 days of

moving and should do so prior to applying for a Texas driver's license.

Proof of insurance and an inspection from a Texas Department of Public Safety inspection station are needed.

Active-duty members of the U.S. Armed Forces and nonresident, full-time students attending a Texas college or university are not required to register or title their vehicles in Texas.

Call 254-634-0265 or go to www.txdot.gov.

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Killeen offers melting pot of different cultures

Killeen is a growing metropolitan city with a rich history, and has adapted its diversity and splash of southern hospitality in its support of one of the largest military posts in the world.

The city was established in 1882 with the arrival of the first Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railroad train, and incorporated in 1983, primarily as a shipping center for agricultural and textile materials and products. Its namesake is Frank P. Killeen, a senior railroad official and native of Ireland.

The rural community began with a few hundred people, and gradually expanded until it boomed during the war era of the 1940s. Camp Hood, later designated Fort Hood, was set up in 1942 as a development and training center to fight German tanks. Killeen grew with the influx of soldiers and families, and became a melting pot of cultures, food, ideas, languages and people.

About 145,000 live in the city, more than a 10 percent increase from 2010, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The city sprawls more than 55 square miles.

Downtown Killeen is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Infrastructure and amenities continue to expand to keep up with demand.

In addition to essential city services, a variety of quality-of-life amenities are offered, including hiking and biking trails, public libraries, a recreation and fitness center, a disc golf course, swimming pools, skate parks, and an 18-hole golf course.

Killeen has two airports: Skylark Field, which serves smaller private airplanes and offers fuel and hangar services, and Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport, connecting residents and visitors to the world with service through American Airlines and United Airlines to hubs in Houston and Dallas.

Texas A&M University-Central Texas was granted stand-alone status in 2011, culminating more than a decade of work to bring an upper-level university to the city. The two-year school offers upper-division classes and acts as a supplement to Central Texas College, a two-year college, where many Central Texans begin their journey.



Established in 1882, about 145,000 people now call Killeen home.

Council, mayor work with city staff

Killeen uses the council-manager government, established in its City Charter in 1949.

Under its weak-mayor form of government, the City Council and city manager provide services to the city.

Although Mayor Jose L. Segarra is the chief elected officer, his administrative power is limited. He presides over the seven council members, who set policy.

The city manager is the chief administrative officer, and responsible for leadership throughout the city organization.

Four council members represent Killeen's districts: Councilwoman Shirley Fleming represents District 1, Councilwoman Debbie Nash-King represents District 2, Mayor Pro Tem Jim Kilpatrick represents District 3, and Councilman Steve Harris represents District 4.

The three at-large council members — Councilmen Gregory Johnson, Jonathan Okray and Juan Rivera — represent the city as a whole. Residents of each district choose representatives, but at-large members are elected by the entire city.

Council terms are two years and service is limited to three consecutive terms.

Elections are held in May in even-numbered years for mayor and at-large council members. Elections for the four district council members are held in May during odd-numbered years.

City Hall is at 101 N. College St., and can be reached at 254-501-7600.

Go to KilleenTexas.gov for a schedule of upcoming council meetings, agendas and minutes, along with more information on the city government.

U.S. Highway 190/Interstate 14 and State Highway 195 provide access to neighboring towns and cities, and to Interstate 35, a major north-south traffic

artery, driving Texans, business and travelers to and from Central Texas.

Go to KilleenTexas.gov for more information about the city.

Killeen's rules include animals, minors and homes

The Killeen City Council has approved laws and restrictions within the city, known as city ordinances, to keep residents safe by outlining policies and punishments on a variety of routine public concerns.

Go to KilleenTexas.gov to see a full list of ordinances. Code enforcement can be reached at 254-501-7608.

Animal control, curfew, false alarm, noise disturbance, property maintenance, and waste are among the most commonly violated ordinances.

ANIMAL SERVICES

Animals must be restrained to an enclosure, such as a house, fence or cage and must be on a leash when in public.

Pens must be ventilated and large enough for pets to stand with legs fully extended and allow the pet access to clean food and water. Owners of unattended dogs must post signs by each gate entrance warning visitors of a dog.

To sell, trade or give away any live animal on any roadside, public right of way, commercial or private parking lot within the city limits is unlawful.

All cats and dogs more than four months of age living within the city limits are required to be spayed or neutered, microchipped and vaccinated against rabies as prescribed by a veterinarian.

CURFEW

Minors are not permitted in public places without a parent or guardian escort between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Sunday night through Friday morning, and Saturday and Sunday from 12:01 a.m. to 6 a.m. When school is not in session between June 1 and Aug. 15, minors are prohibited from being in public places between 12:01 a.m. and 6 a.m. daily.

FALSE ALARMS

Permits are required for all fire alarm systems. The fire department responds to all fire alarms, but property owners will be charged a service fee beginning with the third false alarm in a calendar year. False alarms of security alarm systems may result in a service charge to the user upon the fourth false alarm in a calendar year.

HOME BUSINESSES

Residents can operate a business from home, but there are certain restrictions. Signs or advertising for the business cannot be posted on the property and sales of goods cannot take place. Employees are limited to those who reside in the property, and the business cannot emit noise or other disruptions.

NOISE

The minimum fine for first-time offenders is \$100 and \$250 for a second violation. The ordinance applies to especially loud animals, parties, car stereos and any noise that affects the comfort and quality of life.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Grass and weeds must not grow more than 12 inches on a parcel of land that is smaller than two acres. Parking on lawns or other unpaved spaces is prohibited. Vehicles that weigh more than one ton may not be parked in residential areas. Trailers may not be parked on the street in residential areas; however, one trailer per property with a bed length of 16 feet or less with no advertising may be parked on an all-weather service that is visible from a public right-of-way. Boats, motor homes, travel trailers and recreational vehicles may be parked on all-weather surfaces in residential areas but may not be parked on the street or encroach on an alley, sidewalk or other public right-of-way.

A vehicle that does not display a valid license plate and inspection certification is considered a "junked" car by the state, and cannot be stored on residential property if visible from a public place or right-of-way.

Open storage of building materials, rubbish, tires, appliances or abandoned vehicles is prohibited. Property owners should not allow standing, stagnant water to accumulate in holes, containers or pools.

PAYDAY LENDING

Credit access businesses, better known as payday and car title lenders, are required to register with the city of Killeen and conspicuously display a certificate of registration.

They must also prominently display a sign regarding the Military Lending Act. A payday advance may not be made for an amount more than 20 percent of the borrower's gross monthly income, and a car title loan may not exceed the lesser of 3 percent of the borrower's gross annual income or 70 percent of the retail value of the vehicle.

When credit extension is repaid in installments, the lender may not refinance or renew the loan. When repayment is made in a single lump sum, repayment cannot be refinanced or renewed more than three times. The lender is also required to use at least 25 percent of each installment toward the loan principal.

ILLEGAL DUMPING

Dumping of any litter or junk, including tires, construction materials, and furniture, on public or private property is illegal.

Killeen residents may dispose of up to 300 pounds of excess trash at no cost once per month at the Killeen Transfer Station at 12200 State Highway 195. Dumping of any liquid or solid waste such as pool water or lawn clippings or other non-stormwater contaminant into a waterway, stormwater drain, gutter or other inlet is against city ordinance.

To protect the sewer system, residents and businesses may not dispose of fats, oils and greases through drains.

Common examples of foods containing fats are cooking oil, butter, fried foods and salad dressings, which should be wiped with a paper towel and thrown away or poured into a sealable container and thrown away or taken to the Killeen Recycle Center at 111 E. Ave. F.

GARAGE SALES

Permits are required for garage sales in Killeen. No more than two garage sales are permitted on one property per calendar year, and each sale may last no more than three days. A permit can be obtained at Building Inspections, 100 E. Ave. C, for a fee of \$5.

FIREWORKS

It is unlawful to possess, store, sell or use any fireworks within and up to 5,000 feet outside city limits.

Two library branches serve Killeen residents

The Killeen City Library System is an educational and cultural asset.

The main library at 205 E. Church Ave. in downtown Killeen and the Copper Mountain Branch Library at 3000 S. W.S. Young Drive offer two locations for residents with a dynamic book collection, electronic resources and seasonal children's activities.

Downloadable audiobooks, e-books, and research databases can be found in the Virtual Branch Library at killeen-texas.gov/libraries.

The libraries have a selection of about 136,000 books, 8,000 DVDs, 2,500 audiobooks on CD and 8,500 e-books and audiobooks for residents with library cards.

Borrower cards for residents of Bell, Coryell, Lampasas and Williamson counties are free at either library with valid state or federally-issued photo ID and proof of residency.

Children between 5 and 17 years old can be issued library cards on a parent or legal guardian's account.

Access to the Texas A&M University-Central Texas library is available to Killeen library card holders who are not students through the Warrior-Connect program. For research purposes, the library's database can be accessed in person and online.

The libraries offer weekly story times



Jaquann Moore, a library volunteer, organizes books at Mountain Branch Library on W.S. Young Drive in Killeen.

for children year-round, and have active summer reading clubs in June and July. Specialty programs and events throughout the year also are available.

The Main Library is open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

The Copper Mountain Branch Library is open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Both locations are closed Sunday and legal holidays.

Go to KilleenTexas.gov/libraries for more information or call 254-501-8990.

Here's how to set up a Killeen utilities account

The city's Utility Collections Division, 210 W. Avenue C, manages billing for water, sewer and trash services.

New accounts can be set up during regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Visit by noon for same-day service; after-hours services are available for an additional fee.

A \$25 account fee and \$90 deposit are required to set up water, sewer and solid waste services, but there is a good credit waiver of deposit for account holders who previously have had 12 months of service with no late payments.

A lease or deed to a property is required to begin services, as well as photo ID for each person listed on the account, and proof of Social Security number. The transfer of service from one Killeen address to another must be done in person or via email to utilitybilling@killeentexas.gov. Service can be on at both addresses for up to seven days during

transfer, and more time requires a second deposit. Deposits for commercial accounts are based on meter size. Applications are available at KilleenTexas.gov/utilitycollections or at the Utility Collections Division office.

Payments can be made in person via drop box or drive-thru lane. Phone payments can be made by calling 254-220-4183. Online payments are also accepted, and by mail or bank draft. A \$2 fee is applied to credit card transactions.

Go to KilleenTexas.gov/utilitycollections for more information or call 254-501-7800. The division can be reached after hours at 254-501-7800, option 2. Call 254-501-6500 or 254-501-6319 to report water leaks or sewer blockage/overflow.

Trash service is often set up at the same as water and sewer; its customer service can be reached at 254-501-7785.

More information about weekly garbage rates, yard waste, container sizes and placement, prohibited items, and special collection services can be found on the city's website.

New chiefs in charge of Killeen police, fire departments

Last year, for the first time in at least 14 years, both the Killeen Police Department and the Killeen Fire Department have new chiefs in charge. Now, there's another new police chief in town.

Margaret Young took over as the interim police chief in October, when former police chief Dennis Baldwin was named the interim city manager. In September, Charles "Chuck" Kimble became the permanent police chief.

Brian Brank is back for his second year as fire department chief. He took over in an interim capacity when Kenneth Hawthorn retired. On Nov. 7, that interim title was removed, and Brank became the first permanent fire chief in six months. He was chosen out of 53 candidates.

KILLEEN FIRE

KFD saw the emergence of its newest fire station. Fire Station No. 9 opened for operations in March 2017.

"Everyone gets excited to see something new," Brank said at the open house, "Whether it be City Council members, firefighters, residents, and I'm included in that."

The station services residents in the southwest part of Killeen, an area that has grown rapidly over the past few years.

Brank said he expects there to be at least 10,000 to 15,000 more people living in the area within the next five years, and that new station is vital to the public



A Killeen police car sits parked on Illinois Avenue during a community event for National Night Out in Killeen. The police went to several neighborhoods to get to know people in the community.

safety of those who live there.

KILLEEN POLICE

Kimble came to Killeen from North Carolina. When he was hired, he brought more than 25 years law enforcement experience. He comes from Spring Lake, North Carolina, where he is the current chief, and previously worked at the police department in Fayetteville, North Carolina, where he spent the last five years of service as assistant police chief.

Kimble was the top selection among 42 applicants.

The police department headquarters was opened for use in 2010, and though not much has changed with the building, it's still being used in a variety of different ways.

With the threat of a rising violent crime rate, according to Young, the community room has hosted several neighborhood watch meetings.

Through community crime prevention coordinator Tammy Moseley, Mayor Pro Tem Brockley Moore and City Councilwoman Shirley Fleming, residents in several neighborhoods throughout the city are getting together to take steps toward ensuring a safer place to live. That's some help that members of the department can appreciate.

"Law enforcement can't do it all by themselves. We need that extra set of eyes and ears," Moseley said when she talked about Killeen's Citizen Police Academy. "The more eyes that we have out there to help us, the more we will be able to help citizens."

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Road projects help Harker Heights with growth

Harker Heights has witnessed tremendous growth and economic development since its incorporation in 1960.

Located on Interstate 14 about 10 miles west of I-35, and abutting Stillhouse Hollow Lake, the city is 15.65 square miles in size.

The city's population surpassed 30,000 last year, and officials expect it to reach 45,000 to 50,000 people.

"Harker Heights has that unique sense of place that continues to attract new residents and businesses," City Manager David Mitchell said.

Work began earlier this month on a construction project that will widen I-14/U.S. Highway 190 from four to six lanes by adding a third lane of through traffic in each direction in the existing median. The first phase of the project will extend from one mile west of FM 2410 (Knights Way) to FM 3423 (Indian Trail.) That portion is expected to be finished by spring 2019.

The next phase will extend the widening project to FM 2410 (Sammons Road) or approximately 8.58 miles. Funding is not currently available for the second phase.

Housing developments continued to have strong demand in Harker Heights. The city issued 185 residential permits (single-family and duplex) in 2017, with 156 of those for single-family homes and 29 for two-family homes.

Stillhouse Flats, a 96-unit, multifamily development, opened in 2017

Another new development, known as Cedar Brook Ridge, off FM 3481, began selling lots this year.

Some of the public services that the city provides include Parks and Recreation, library, Planning and Development, Pet Adoption Center, Fire and EMS, Police and Public Works.

The city's parks system contains something for everyone, from disk golf, running, walking, exercise stations, basketball, soccer, baseball, softball, kids play areas and even a dog park.

A list of park facilities and their locations can be found on the city's website.

One of the programs that is at the heart of what makes the city such a special place is the Super Hero program. This program provides sporting



Home construction is seen on Henrietta Avenue in Harker Heights on April 9.

Heights elects mayor, five council members

The council/manager form of government in Harker Heights functions with five elected council members and an elected mayor.

Serving as council members are: Hal Schiffman, mayor pro-tem; Steve Carpenter, Place 2; Jackeline Soriano Fountain, Place 3; John Reider, Place 4; and Jody Nicholas, Place 5.

The mayor of Harker Heights is Spencer H. Smith.

The mayor and council serve three-year terms and are eligible to run for two consecutive terms. At that point, they will not be eligible to run for a seat without taking an absence of one year.

Smith is serving a first term that expires in May of 2020. Schiffman is serving a second term that expires in May of 2019.

Carpenter's first term expires in May.

Vying for his seat in the May 5 municipal election are Michael Blomquist and Jeff Orlando.

Fountain's first term expires in May 2019. Reider's first term expires in May 2020. Nicholas is serving a first term that expires in May. She is unopposed for re-election.

David Mitchell is city manager and began his career in January 2014.

Mitchell's responsibilities are to execute the city laws, prepare the budget, and administer the day-to-day governing of the city. He is aided by Patty Brunson, assistant city manager.

The council meets at City Hall in the Kitty Young Council Chambers, 305 Miller's Crossing.

Regular meetings are held at 5 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The council also holds workshop meetings at 3 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.


In September, Billy Ray Hall was installed as the new municipal court judge. Garland Potvin was also appointed as the alternate municipal judge.

activities and events for special-needs children.

Harker Heights is also home to the popular Harker Heights Food, Wine and Brew Fest each September. For more


information on the Fest, visit <http://www.hhfoodandwine.com/>.

For more information about Harker Heights, go to www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us/.



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"March 2014, 1 in 68 children are diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder." - CDC

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Heights library offers opportunities for lifelong learning

The Stewart C. Meyer Harker Heights Public Library, at 400 Indian Trail, is a dynamic resource for encouraging lifelong learning and reading enjoyment.

Whether in the library facility or through rapidly advancing technologies, the library provides opportunities for patrons to enrich their lives and pursue their aspirations.

The library has something for everyone — from storytimes for children to book clubs for adults, volunteer groups for teens, and a variety of electronic resources for all.

“We offer individuals and families occasions for growth by visiting the library facility and encouraging the use of our numerous resources online,” Library Director Lisa Youngblood said. “We are meeting the educational, informational, and recreational needs of our patrons through a variety of collections, services and programs for all ages.”

There are separate spaces for children, teens, and adults, a computer lab, study rooms and a drive-thru window to pick-up books.



Storyteller Rickey Pittman, right, is accompanied by area youth at the Harker Heights library.

“If people call ahead, we can get their items ready and have them at the drive-thru window,” Youngblood said.

More than 50,000 materials fill the library’s teen, adult, and children section. Those include books, DVDs and audio books, magazines, newspapers, electronic databases, downloadable audio books, e-books and journals.

Thousands of people visited the library last year. Many experienced an array of quality programming, such as traveling performers, STEAM

(science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics) programs, robotics camps, Summer Reading Club specials and more.

“Patrons have been excited to learn about our new services,” Youngblood said. “We are particularly proud of our virtual library that offers resources to clients that are convenient to them.”

Find the virtual library at: <http://www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us/virtuallibrary> for a look at the online services offered 24/7. Included are book lists, a research database, encyclopedias, job search and training information, e-books and e-audiobooks.

Staff members assisting Youngblood include: Sandy Nelson and Christina Link, reference librarians; Amanda Hairston, children’s librarian; Betty DeLong, circulation manager; and Rose Ramon, young adult services/library clerk.

Library hours are: Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday. For more information, call 254-953-5491.

Harker Heights provides water, garbage recycling services

Harker Heights provides for a full array of utility services: solid waste collection, drainage, wastewater and water. Establishing water service costs \$55 for a residential meter deposit and \$200 for a commercial meter deposit.

To establish service, residents must present a driver’s license or other government-issued picture ID and a lease agreement along with a completed application for service.

Sewer and trash services are set up at the same time as water service for residential customers. The city provides a variety of ways to pay your utility bills including walk in, through mail, online, via integrated voice response system (reached by calling 254-953-5630), at First National Bank Texas locations in the Harker Heights H-E-B, Harker Heights Wal-Mart and Market Heights, drop box and at the kiosk at City Hall.

The city contracts with Centex Waste Management for garbage collection. Residents have trash pickup twice a week and pay \$18.33 per month for the service. Brush must be cut and bundled in lengths not more than four feet in length and weigh no more than 50 pounds each. Up to five bundles of brush will be picked up per collection day. A list of all non-pickup holidays can be found on the city’s website under the Public Works Department.

Commercial customers must call Centex Waste Management to set up services at 800-800-5804.

Centex Waste Management handles the billing and payment collection for commercial trash pickup and adds a fuel surcharge to the monthly invoice for commercial services.

The city provides a free brush, bulk item and recycling collection point at the solid-waste drop-off center at 1761

Knight’s Way. The recycling service is provided through a partnership with Fort Hood. Only the following materials are accepted: plastic, aluminum, glass, paper, cardboard (all boxes must be broken down), scrap metal and tires with and without rims.

All recyclables can be combined except for cardboard, which has a separate bin at the collection site. The center will not accept motor oil.

Residents must present a current water bill and a driver’s license to utilize the drop-off center. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Call Public Works at 254-953-5649 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 254-681-6779 for emergency after-hours water leaks. Call 254-702-4893 for emergency sewer stoppages. After-hours phone for streets, drainage and sanitation: 254-319-4996.



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 - District Volunteer Program
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 - Empowered Parents (Monthly Learning Session)
 - *ESL (English Language Learners class - 2x weekly)
 - For Kids' Sake Seminars (4 Hours - Held the last Saturday of each month pending calendar conflicts. Supports Families with skills needed for divorce & parent education class needs as court ordered or lawyer recommended). Cost-\$40 per person. Call for more information.
 - Parent Academy (Mini workshops series 2x yearly)
 - Quarterly Parent Newsletters (Provided in English, Spanish, German & Korean)
 - Summer Hot Tots (Literacy Program - pre-schoolers not enrolled in school)
 - *TxCHSE Classes (Former GED classes, 2x weekly)
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www.killeenisd.org/Departments>Special Programs>Parent, Family & Community Engagement

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Officers Peter Quichocho and Crystal Thomas present Marty Portmann the "Thin Blue Line Certificate" for her volunteer efforts with the police department.

Harker Heights police, fire departments keep pace

Harker Heights is a fast-growing city of 30,000 residents, which means it takes a small army of police, firefighters and other first responders to keep residents safe.

The Harker Heights Police Department is tasked with making sure residents live and work in a peaceful and safe city. Chief Mike Gentry has led the department since 1995 and will be retiring at the end of April. He will be succeeded by Deputy Chief Phil Gadd.

Gentry said Harker Heights is part of a greater metropolitan area of approximately 150,000 people "and is characterized by outstanding schools, a rapidly growing commercial area and some of the most desirable residential neighborhoods in the area."

The city has changed a lot since being incorporated in 1964.

"What at first was a few residences and a bar district has grown into the vital city that draws many to choose to live, work and shop here," Gentry said.

HHPD consists of 57 sworn peace officers and 10 civilian employees.

The department is divided into three divisions: criminal investigation, patrol and administration. Most HHPD officers are in the Patrol Division, which is the most common interaction people have with police. A Special Operations section also works with patrol.

The Criminal Investigation Division



Fire Chief Paul Sim gives a tour of the remodeled Harker Heights fire station on Indian Trail.

consists of investigators and detectives who solve crimes.

The Administration Division includes animal control, records, sex offender registry and checks and community services. The department also has a full-time social worker who identifies at-risk homes and helps provide available social services to those in need.

The department has been housed at 402 Indian Trail behind the library since the station opened in 2007.

The city's animal control division is operated by the information technology

branch of the city. Contact HHPD at 254-953-5400 for more information.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Harker Heights Fire Department was founded in 1961 as a volunteer organization and continues to provide emergency medical care, fire suppression and rescue for city residents. It also assists surrounding agencies when needed.

Fire Chief Paul Sims has headed the department since September 2016.

Sims' staff members work out of two stations that provide critical services to the community 24/7. Both stations house on-duty fire fighters and rescue vehicles.

One of those stations is at 401 Indian Trail and accommodates the administrative staff. The second station, at 3207 Stillhouse Lake Road, serves the southern part of the city.

The department also operates a regional mobile command center to respond to large-scale events, such as wildfires.

The department is roughly divided into two divisions: operations and fire prevention.

Operations officers oversee day-to-day rescue and fire suppression incidents. On the fire prevention side is Brad Alley, fire marshal, building inspections and education. The fire department can be contacted at 254-699-2688.



The historic Bell County Courthouse is in Belton, the county seat. Bell County was founded in 1850 and is now home to more than 310,000 people.

Bell County's population, budget growing

According to County Judge Jon Burrows, Bell County was able to add \$1.626 million to the fund balance this past year, increasing it to \$42,177,210. That's a little over 5.5 months of operating funds in the reserve.

That was good news, because at the beginning of the fiscal year, the projected budget showed the county using \$4.5 million of the fund balance.

"I believe the future continues to look promising for Bell County, due to our diverse economy and continual growth," Burrows said.

This is Burrows' last year as a county judge. His likely successor will be David Blackburn, who ran for the seat unopposed, and does not have a Democratic challenger in November.

Burrows will have his last day on Dec. 31. He has held the role of Bell County judge for five terms.

The county budget included \$34,169,865 of expenditures for public safety, as well as \$2,675,961 for health and

conservation.

More than \$86 million worth of total revenue was generated last year, including \$881,691 from a hotel/motel tax and more than \$46.63 million that came from total property taxes.

Burrows said a reason for the budget increases can be attributed to population.

In 1960, the county's population was just 94,097. Now, it hovers above 360,000, according to a study from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

That's more than 50,000 higher than the 2010 population. With more people comes more costs, Burrows said. The number of autopsies that have to be ordered increases, as well as appointed attorneys and health care.

The projected expenditures for 2018 is \$96,377,497. In 2017, it was \$95,147,600 in 2017, and even that was up significantly from the \$87.5 million budget the county had in 2016, and the \$82.9 million budget the year before.

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Kyla Jefferson pets a goose at the petting zoo at the Train Whistle Jamboree in Nolanville. The event also had inflatables, food trucks and vendors.

About 5,000 people call Nolanville home

Nolanville, located about 10 miles east of Killeen, is home to about 5,000 residents.

The city is involved in several future projects including a new park and street and sidewalk infrastructure improvements.

City officials strive to continue improvements to the town's landscape and quality of life.

The City Council last year updated the building standards and property maintenance codes.

The city's \$1.7 million operating budget funds the administration in addition to the police and public works departments.

All departments are centrally located in the new Nolanville Municipal Building at 101 N. Fifth Street.

Nolanville manages city business with a council-manager form of government. A six-member council convenes for regular meetings at 6 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month in council chambers in the Nolanville Municipal Building.

The governing body includes Mayor Christina Rosenthal, Mayor Pro Tem Butch Reis and council members George French, III, James Bilberry, David Wil-

liams and Joan Hinshaw.

The city manager is Kara Escajeda who was appointed in March 2015.

Crystal Briggs serves as both assistant city manager and city secretary. Briggs is in charge of day-to-day operations and administrative business.

Stephen Peters currently holds the position of city treasurer but moved the leadership of the finance department to Marlene Fey.

Judge G.W. Ivey leads the city's municipal court. Monica Skelton serves as court clerk. The court conducts hearings once a month.

Daniel Porter is the chief of the Nolanville Police Department. He guides the activities of six full-time officers and several reserve officers.

Chris Atkinson is the director of Nolanville's Public Works and is in the lead of the city's code enforcement, permits, animal control and more. He manages two public works employees and oversees contracts pertaining to the city's streets and other infrastructure.

The Central Bell County Fire and Rescue volunteer department provides fire protection for Nolanville. Jason Worsdale is fire chief. Ambulance services are contracted with Acadian.

Nolanville residents receive water from two private water services — 439 Water Supply and Bell County Water Control and Improvement District No. 3. WCID No. 3 handles the majority of the city's water and sewer services as well as billing for those services and trash services provided by Texas Disposal Systems.

Nolanville Economic Development Corporation uses a one-quarter percent of the city sales tax to be used for economic and industrial development under the provisions of Chapter 505 of the Texas Local Government Code 4B.

Colleen Smith is coordinator of the NEDC and has been president since its development.

The NEDC also coordinates activities through a subcommittee known as Keep Nolanville Beautiful that resulted in a second place recognition by the Governor's Community Achievement Award in 2016 and a Gold Star Affiliation with Keep Texas Beautiful.

Several boards and committees provide feedback to the city on the needs of the community.

Committee and board application forms are available on the city's website: www.ci.nolanville.tx.us.

Belton tourism includes lakes, festivals, July 4 parade

As the county seat of Bell County, Belton really knows how to celebrate. The city's largest event of the year is the Fourth of July festival, which traditionally attracts over 50,000 people to the city with a population of just over 20,000. The festivities include a rodeo, a carnival and festival on Nolan Creek.

"Nothing in Central Texas can top the city of Belton's July 4 parade," City Manager Sam Listi said. "It is the best way to kick off Independence Day and celebrate all things American. Families faithfully attend every year, scouting out parking spaces along the route days in advance. Those who visit for the first time are determined to return."

The city's Nolan Creek recreation project is complete and includes a new park with nature trail and kayak/tube launch area. The Nolan Creek Nature Trail is located below the MLK bridge on Nolan Creek, with parking available just east of the bridge.

From that point it takes up to two hours to float to the downtown area where the cascades are located behind The Gin on Nolan Creek restaurant. Much of the recreation on Nolan Creek is occurring at the cascades, which are a series of light rapids and pools just east of Main Street.

Year-round the Downtown Belton Merchants Association hosts Belton Market Days, which is held the third weekend of each month. Downtown streets near the historic Bell County Courthouse are closed, and a variety of vendors sell their wares to the public.

Belton's 2nd Annual Bacon, Blues and Brews Festival will be held in Downtown Belton around the Courthouse Square. The Festival kicks off 6 p.m. Oct. 5 with blues bands, food trucks and breweries until 9 p.m. The fun continues at noon on Oct. 6 with more bands and breweries and the highlight of the festival, the bacon cook-off competition. Teams will compete to see who can prepare the best bacon-inspired dish.

Belton and Stillhouse Hollow Lakes host several annual events, and offer



Tristen Oliphant, of Belton, rides in a float during the Belton July 4th Parade, which has been held annually since the mid-1800s. In 2008, USA Today named the Belton 4th of July Parade as one the Nations "Top Ten Places to Fly Your Flag on the 4th."

year-round boating, fishing, and other water recreation activities for all ages, in Central Texas' premier quality of life community, according to the city.

According to the Corps of Engineers, last year there were over 2 million visitors between Belton Lake and Stillhouse Hollow Lake.

The Belton city government consists of a mayor and a council with six members. Marion Grayson currently serves as the mayor of Belton, and David K. Leigh, Paul Sanderford, John Holmes, Dan Kirkley, Guy O'Banion and Craig Pearson make up the council.

Sanderford's and O'Banion's terms will expire in May. The three people running for those two seats are O'Banion, Art Resa and Wayne Carpenter.

Learn more about the city at www.beltontexas.gov.

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People gather in front of the Salado Stagecoach Mural along Interstate 35 for a ribbon-cutting.

Arts, antiques draw tourists to Salado

The small town of Salado contains a wealth of activities for tourists and area residents alike.

From the annual Salado Christmas Stroll in December to the Wildflower Weekend in late March, the village in south Bell County is constantly trying to bring in tourists.

The village has art galleries, micro-breweries, wineries, wine bars, barbecue restaurants and more.

Including a variety of art events, big events that occur every year in Salado: the Wildflower Arts & Crafts Festival at the end of March, Chocolate and Wine in September and the Christmas Stroll in December.

Each of them are expected to bring in about 4,000 to 5,000 attendees, according to officials.

Things have also been heating up in Salado after the Interstate 35 expansion was finished in 2017.

The Salado population grew to 2,600 residents as of early March, an increase of about 300 from last year, according to village officials.

Salado is one of a handful of state-recognized Cultural Art Districts in Texas, earning this distinction, in part, because of the large number of acclaimed artists who have chosen Salado as the place for

their creations.

Salado is home to the well-known Tablerock Amphitheater, a critically acclaimed outdoor sculpture garden and many historic buildings designated on the national register.

One of the most iconic venues is the Stagecoach Inn & Restaurant, once a stagecoach stop in the pioneer days, that now serves as a place for dinner and meetings. The Stagecoach Inn reopened in mid-June 2017 after an extensive renovation.

Salado is also home to internationally known painters, glass blowers, sculptors, potters, carvers, writers, actors, and others in the creative arts. Music fills the air in many of the food and beverage establishments.

The Salado government is comprised of a mayor and a board of five aldermen.

Skip Blancett is the current mayor. He is seeking re-election in the May 5 election and is being challenged for the post by David Williams and Linda Reynolds.

Fred Brown, Amber Preston Dankert, Michael McDougal, Andy Jackson and Frank Coachman make up the current board of aldermen.

Learn more at www.salado.com or 254-947-5040.

Small-town charm draws residents to Florence

Florence is a small town with big dreams. The city of about 1,200 residents in northwestern Williamson County is in the middle of an economic revival of its downtown area, and overall the city's limits has grown by 8 percent since 2000.

Five new businesses have opened downtown and more are planned, including a coffee shop housed in an historic building.

The elected government consists of Mayor Mary Condon, who has led the city since 2007, and five council members: Debra Bartos Cahill, mayor pro-tem, Lesa Ragsdale, Kory Woolverton, Richard Moon and Denise Deichmann.

Residents will see at least one new face on the council after May 5, when longtime resident Candy Kyle will replace Deichmann, who did not seek re-election.

Condon has one challenger for mayor in May, David Merideth Sr., a former councilman and lifelong resident with deep family roots in the area.

The city has a busy library that offers classes and a book club that meets Tues-

days. Like many community libraries, the Eula Hunt Beck Florence Public Library is a fixture for many people. It has a sewing machine, board games and even yoga on Fridays and Saturdays.

A yarn club meets there monthly and Spanish classes are offered every Tuesday afternoon. For more information about the library and a class schedule, visit florencepubliclibrary.wordpress.com or call 254-793-2672.

One place is becoming known as a wedding destination. The Vineyards at Florence is at 8711 Farm-to-Market 487. Owners say it's a taste of Italy in Central Texas and features a cafe, bar, spa, pool, fitness center, walking trails, and, of course, wine tastings.

Residents and visitors alike enjoy the variety of restaurants, from D. Boone's Country Store on Farm-to-Market 487, to Chunky Cow Cafe & Creamery on Main Street, to La Fuente, a Mexican restaurant at 214 E. Main St. Two other restaurants, The Florence Diner at 204 E. Main Street and Mano's Mexican

Food at 103 N. Patterson, are still serving up delicious meals to longtime residents and newcomers, as well.

The downtown area is becoming a bustling area. The Cow Palace Emporium, 211 E. Main, specializes in home decor, collectibles, gifts, and a selection of unique items created by local artists. The Fisher Gallery, at 206 E. Main, is a place to find fine art, photography and wood-crafted items. For the thirsty types is Salado Creek Saloon, at 974 S. Patterson Ave. It is a full bar with a dance floor, jukebox, shuffleboard, washers, karaoke, a pool table and live music on weekends. Jess Morse's Country Mile Appliance Warehouse offers both new and scratch and dent top-of-the-line kitchen and laundry appliances, as well as an expanding selection of outdoor grilling equipment. Busy Bee on Brewster Avenue has everything a beekeeper needs as well as local honey. For more information on businesses and events in Florence, visit florencechamberofcommerce.org, or florencetex.com.

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STAFFING SERVICES

Justice complex the epicenter for Bell County courts

The Bell County Criminal Justice Complex in Belton functions as the epicenter for civil and criminal justice in Bell County, keeping the wheels of justice moving.

The large complex of buildings at 1201 Huey Road off Loop 121 is home to the 27th, 146th, 169th, 264th and 426th district courts as well as County Courts at Law 1, 2 and 3. The offices of the district clerk, county clerk, district attorney and county attorney are located at the justice complex. The facility also is adjacent to the Bell County Jail.

The 27th, 264th and 426th district courts are where all felony criminal cases are heard. Judges hear cases ranging from state jail felonies up to capital cases. Judge John Gauntt presides over the 27th District Court, where he also hears cases in Lampasas County. Residents elected Gauntt in 2012 and re-elected him in 2016. His court is the first felony courtroom on the scenic second floor of the Bell County Justice Complex.

Adjacent to Gauntt's court is the 264th District Court, its seat most recently held by Martha Trudo who retired in August. Other judges from the area have been sitting in on the bench for court cases since then.

The next round of elections will bring a new face to the bench in May.

Belton lawyer Paul LePak and Temple-based lawyer Jeff Parker are in a runoff election for the chance to replace



Trudo as the 264th District Court judge. LePak took home 42 percent of the vote, while Parker claimed 26 percent in the March primary election.

Gov. Rick Perry appointed Judge Fancy Jezek to the bench at the 426th District Court, and she has been re-elected since.

The 146th and 169th District Courts hear only civil suits, including family law, divorces and claims for damages.

Judge Jack Jones won the election to the 146th District Court in 2012. Gordon G. Adams has served as judge for the 169th District Court since being appointed by former Gov. George W. Bush in 2000.

In Bell County, county courts at law hear all misdemeanor and juvenile

cases. Jeanne Parker took the bench at County Court at Law 1 in 2014 after longtime judge Edward Johnson retired. Parker, as assistant county attorney, prosecuted Child Protective Services cases.

Judge John Mischian, elected in 2006, oversees County Court at Law 2. Rebecca DePew has served as judge of County Court at Law 3 since 2011.

The Bell County District Attorney's Office prosecutes all felony cases in the county and also has investigators. Henry Garza has served as the district attorney since 2001.

The Bell County Attorney's Office prosecutes all misdemeanors, juvenile cases and hot checks. Voters elected Jim Nichols to the position in 2012.



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JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Justices of the peace are elected officials who perform a number of important services in the county. These services include everything from performing marriages to arraigning criminals. Justices of the peace serve four-year terms with no term limits. Two justices of the peace serve Precinct 4, which encompasses most of western Bell County.

Claudia Brown is Place 1 Justice of the Peace. This is her first term, and she is the first black woman to hold the title in the county. Bill Cooke is Place 2 Justice of the Peace. Cooke was appointed to the position, beginning his time as a judge in 1996, and also was subsequently re-elected. He ran unopposed in the March primary.

The two justices trade off each week when they are on call. During that time, they act as the initial magistrate judge for people charged with crimes and set bond rates. They also issue the times of death for fatalities, and can order an autopsy. Their jurisdiction includes all tickets written by Bell County deputies and Texas state troopers.

They also have jurisdiction in evictions, small claims up to \$10,000, debt claims and tenant repair and remedy suits. Precinct 4's office is in the Bell County Annex at 301 Priest Drive in Killeen.

CASA volunteers advocate for children

Emotions can be overwhelming for a child entering the foster care system from an abusive home, which is where Court Appointed Special Advocates come in.

CASA volunteers are screened, trained and appointed by judges to advocate for a child's best interests in the child protection system.

CASA of Bell and Coryell Counties has been helping children navigate the system for more than 20 years.

"CASA volunteers are assigned to help one child or set of siblings at a time, so they can focus on giving that child or sibling group the individualized advocacy and attention they need," according to the CASA website. "CASA volunteers save taxpayers money and children's futures by helping children find a safe, permanent homes as soon as possible."

CASA volunteers help by researching the child's background and making recommendations to the court on behalf of the child. It is a unique situation because volunteers focus on one child's case at a time. Advocates commit to 12 hours of continuing education each year.

"CASA volunteers are frequently the only stable presence in these children's lives as they navigate the foster care system," according to CASA.

CASA, a national volunteer movement dating back 40 years, began in Bell County in 1997.



Supporters and members of the community attend the Court Appointed Special Advocates Benefit Brunch on Oct. 8 at Stillhouse Wine Room in Killeen.

People can help by volunteering to become a CASA advocate, or by donating to the organization. The next information session for new volunteers will be May 3 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the CASA office at 112 N. Main St., Belton.

For more information, call 254-774-1881, email kelly.ed.bccasa@outlook.com or radams.bccsa@outlook.com or visit www.casabellcoryell.org.



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*Utility allowance based on community average.

Bell County tax assessor-collector takes care of business

If you're new to Bell County and wish to vote or drive a motor vehicle, it's important to make use of the tax assessor-collector's office. Shay Luedeke began his term in January 2017.

The duties of the tax assessor-collector include issuing certificates of title and license plates for motor vehicles and trailers, collecting registration fees and sales tax for the county and state.

The office also contracts with the Bell County Appraisal District for assessment and collection of property taxes.

The main office is in Belton at 550 E. Second Ave., and satellite offices are located in Killeen at 307 Priest Drive; in Temple at 205 E. Central Ave.; and the Visitor's Control Center Building 69004 outside Fort Hood's main gate.

Both the Temple and Fort Hood offices are open from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Killeen office is open 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday, and from 7 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Thursday.

Vehicles can be registered at the tax assessor-collector's office. Renewals can be made online at www.txdmv.gov.

To complete the online transaction, a vehicle owner must be a county resident and the vehicle must have a current registration that does not expire more than six months before the renewal process. The vehicle also requires a state inspection not more than 90 days prior to the expiration date of registration.

The other primary service of the tax assessor-collector, besides collecting property taxes, is voter registration.

Bell County has an election adminis-



Shay Luedeke talks with Dan Corbin while waiting for election results in 2016.

trator who oversees voter registration and elections.

New voters can register year-round. Residents must be 18 to vote, but they can register two months before their 18th birthday. Voter registration cards can be picked up at political party headquarters, libraries, local government offices and at any of the tax assessor-collector offices. Go to www.votexas.org.

The tax assessor-collector also collects county fees for beer licenses issued for businesses in Bell County.

Those licenses must be renewed through the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission Office in Belton or online at www.tabc.state.tx.us.

According to the assessor-collector's website, those surcharges are subject to change each year. Learn more at www.bellcountytexas.com or call 254-933-5318.

BELL COUNTY CLERK

The Bell County clerk's office handles much of the paperwork that documents the lives of Bell County residents, from births



Coston

to deaths and all the steps in between.

The office provides administrative support to the commissioners court and three county courts-at-law. Republican Shelley Coston has been the Bell County clerk since Jan. 1, 2007.

Deputy clerks in the office focus on specific duties in five departments — vital statistics, land records, probate, civil and juvenile records and criminal records.

The duties of the county clerk include acting as recorder of property deeds; filing and recording livestock brands; filing and recording birth and death certificates; issuing marriage licenses; recording assumed names; recording military discharge papers; filing wills and probates; processing civil case records with a monetary value of up to \$200,000; and misdemeanor criminal case records.

The office, at 1201 Huey Road in Belton, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Go to www.bellcountytexas.com or call 254-933-5171.



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Clearwater district provides groundwater resources, education

Established in 1999 by the residents of Bell County, the Clearwater Underground Water District manages and protects the groundwater resources of the county.

"We are a political subdivision of the state of Texas, and we oversee the protection of the groundwater resources in Bell County," said Dirk Aaron, Clearwater general manager.

"We are driven to develop policy based on sound science, thus we conduct a lot of research about the state of groundwater in Bell County," he said. "We have completed an extensive database, with a full interface on our website."

The district updated the current management plan in 2016, required under Chapter 36 Texas Groundwater Law, and received approval Feb. 19, 2016, from the Texas Water Development Board. Clearwater's annual reports and annual financial audits can be found online at <http://staging.cuwcd.org/public-records/>.

In addition to the management plan, the district is currently awaiting final approval of the Groundwater Management Area 8 "Desired Future Conditions" set for all the counties in the area, expected in early May.



Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District General Manager Dirk Aaron during the 17th annual water symposium at Texas A&M University-Central Texas in Killeen.

"We want to protect the groundwater across Bell County so that it is available to future generations," he said.

The Clearwater District also monitors wells across the county, and has invested in several wells in Bell County that are not currently being drawn from, but are there to allow Clearwater to take measurements of the groundwater in various areas of the district.

Clearwater is a key partner with the Texas Water Development Board and the governor's initiative to create a weather system across Texas. This statewide earth observation network, known as TexMesonet, will deliver near-real-time, quality data to forecasters, modelers, and the general public while managing quality assurance, quality control and metadata for partner networks. Because of local agreements and support of the Bell County Commissioners Court, the state this spring will install this spring six advanced weather stations across Bell County. To learn more about this project, go to www.texmesonet.org/.

The district's educational features include a new mobile classroom for schools, groups, fairs and neighborhoods to provide a deeper understanding of our aquifers and the local geology of Bell County.

Learn more at <http://www.cuwcd.org/>.

Central Texas Council of Governments helps area grow, improve

The Central Texas Council of Governments is an association of cities, counties, school districts and special districts spanning a region of seven counties in Central Texas.

The purpose is to help communities work together on services targeting economic development and regional planning, services for the elderly and housing assistance.

The council was established in 1968 as a result of state legislation that served local government by planning for common needs and helping governments improve regional development.

The council has no regulatory or taxing ability, but it helps the region identify areas it can strengthen and develop. The council's governing body

is made up of representatives from each of its regions. When representatives see a need in their district, they bring it before the entire group. At that point, the council decides what projects take priority.

CTCOG serves more than 385,000 residents in the Central Texas area. Representatives are chosen yearly.

The representatives elect the organization's executive committee. The committee appoints an executive director who makes all policies and gives the official approval for undertakings of the council.

Current executive director is Jim Reed. Other directors include Katie Anderson, housing and assistance director; Uryan Nelsom, planning and

regional services director; Michael Irvine, finance director; and Kerry Phillip, Area Agency on Aging director.

The council also forms committees dedicated to technical, study and policy work. The committees work alongside a professional staff that answers to the executive director.

Each jurisdiction pays individual dues to the council, which allow each jurisdiction to take advantage of some state-funded financial assistance. They also participate in regional planning.

The council takes on special projects on a fee-for-service basis.

Headquarters is at 2180 N. Main St., Belton. Call 254-770-2200, email info@ctcog.org or go to www.ctcog.org.

Register to vote and take part in political process

As soon as residence is established, a person is qualified to register to vote. Residents may register to vote year-round, but must be registered at least 30 days before an election.

Bell County residents may register during regular business hours at the Bell County Tax Assessor and Voter Registrar's Office, at 550 E. Second Ave. in Belton, the County Annex at 307 Priest Drive in Killeen and the Fort Hood visitor control center.

A person must be 18 years old or within 60 days prior to his or her 18th birthday and be a U.S. citizen to register. A person may not register to vote if declared mentally incapacitated or convicted of a felony. Anyone who has been convicted may retain his or her right to vote once the sentence or probation has been completed.

Residents must have a Texas driver's license number or personal identification number issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety or the last four digits of your social security number.

Coryell County residents may register to vote at the Coryell County Courthouse at 620 E. Main St. in Gatesville or at the County Tax Office at 330 Cove Terrace in Copperas Cove.

In Bell County, call 254-933-5774 or 254-634-0265. In Coryell County, call 254-865-5911.

Forms may be downloaded at www.sos.state.tx.us.



An early voting sign is seen outside the Lions Club Park Senior Center in Killeen.

VOTER ID

Voters will be required to show one of the following forms of photo identification at the polls:

- Texas Driver's license issued by Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS).
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS.
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS.
- Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS.
- U.S. military ID card with photo.
- U.S. citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph.
- U.S. passport.

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, for voters ages 18-69 the

acceptable form of photo ID must be current or have expired no more than four years before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.

A person 70 years of age or older may use a form of acceptable photo ID that has expired if the identification is otherwise valid.

If a voter does not possess and is not reasonably able to obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID, the voter may vote by signing a Reasonable Impediment Declaration at the polls explaining why the voter is reasonably unable to obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID or providing one of various forms of supporting documentation.



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Elected officials represent area in Legislature, Congress

Residents in the greater Killeen area have multiple ways to get their voices heard. The area is served by two congressional districts. Both are represented by Republicans.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 31

U.S. Rep. John Carter represents the 31st Congressional District, an area of Central Texas that includes Killeen and Harker Heights, in the U.S. House of Representatives. Carter, a Republican from Round Rock, is a seven-term member of the House. Carter's Bell County office is in Temple at 6544-B S. General Bruce Drive. Call 254-933-1392 or go to <http://carter.house.gov>.

Carter is running for re-election in the Nov. 6 general election.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 25

In January of 2016, Lampasas County, along with Coryell County and a part of Killeen, moved to District 25, represented by Republican Roger Williams of Austin. He was elected to the seat in November 2012.

Williams' Austin district office is at 1005 Congress Ave., Suite 925 Austin, TX 78701. Call 512-473-8910 or fax 512-473-8946.

Williams is running for re-election in the Nov. 6 general election.



U.S. Rep. John Carter, R-Round Rock, front, and U.S. Rep. Roger Williams, R-Austin, visit Fort Hood.

TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Five legislators within the Killeen Daily Herald's coverage area represent citizens at the state Capitol in Austin.

SENATE DISTRICT 24



Republican Dawn Buckingham represents Senate District 24. The Lakeway resident represents a multi-county region that includes Bell, Coryell and Lampasas counties. The district also

contains two major military bases, Fort Hood in Killeen and Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene. She was elected in 2016.

Call her office at 512-463-0124 or email dawn.buckingham@senate.texas.gov. Her term will expire in 2021.

HOUSE DISTRICT 54

In the House of Representatives,



District 54 is represented by Republican Scott Cosper, a Killeen resident. He was elected in 2016.

The district includes much of western Bell County, as well as Lampasas and Burnet counties.

Call Cosper's office at 254-680-5568 for Killeen office or 512-463-0684 for the Austin office, or email scott.cosper@house.texas.gov.

He is running for re-election in 2018, and is facing Killeen veterinarian Brad Buckley in a primary run-off election on May 22. The winner will advance to the general election on Nov. 6.

HOUSE DISTRICT 55

District 55 is represented by Republican Hugh Shine, of Temple. He was



elected in 2016.

Reach his office at 254-742-7616 or 512-463-0630, or hugh.shine@house.texas.gov. He won the March primary and is running unopposed in the November general election.

HOUSE DISTRICT 59



Republican J.D. Sheffield of Gatesville has represented District 59 since 2012. The district spans six counties, including Coryell County and parts of Fort Hood. Call his office at

512-463-0628. Seeking re-election, Sheffield won in the Republican primary in March, and is running unopposed in the general election.

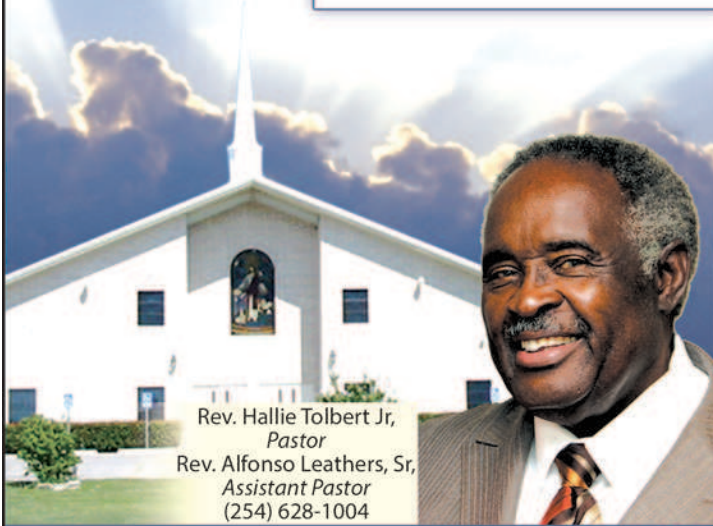
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Democratic, Republican parties active in Central Texas

Bell County voters can join a community of like-minded political residents by getting involved with the Democratic or the Republican Party. Coryell County also has both political party groups.

DEMOCRATS

Bell County Democrats meet the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the historic courthouse in downtown Belton in the commissioners' meeting room to discuss ways of promoting voter registration, training for precinct representatives and finding innovative ways to express their political beliefs.

Call party chair Christine Rosenberg at 254-563-2417 or go to www.bellcodems.com for more information.

The website also has a calendar of events, and Bell County Democrats also runs a Facebook page. The headquarters is in Killeen, 1808 E. Rancier Ave., and can be reached at 254-563-2417.

Bell County Texas Democratic Women meets monthly on the third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. Bell County Agriculture Extension Office building, 1605 N. Main St.

The group can be found on Facebook on the Bell County Texas Democratic Women page. The group's chair is Barbara Garrett.

Democrats in Coryell County can get involved by calling County Chair Gene Whittle at 254-865-8162 or email gene.whittle@embarqmail.com.

The Democratic Headquarters of Copperas Cove meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at German Imbiss, 302 S. First St., in Cove.

President of the Democratic Club of Copperas Cove is Ed Bryant. He may be reached at 254-547-5048.

REPUBLICANS

The Republican Party of Bell County is headquartered 204 N. East St. Suite E, Belton. The party chairman is Nancy Boston. For more information, call 254-831-5200 or go to www.belltxgop.org.

The Central Texas Republican Women, affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women, is an auxiliary of the Bell County Republican Party. The president is Susan Parker. Contact the group at 254-231-5371 or go to www.ctrw-pac.com.



Political campaign signs are seen during an election judge training class in 2016 at the Republican Party of Bell County headquarters in Belton.

Nolanville resident part of Silver-Haired Legislature

The Texas Silver-Haired Legislature is a nonprofit body that was created by the 69th Texas Legislature in 1985.

It was tasked with developing a nonpartisan forum for older Texans to address senior citizen issues and establish legislative priorities for the Legislature to consider.

Seniors 60 and older are elected to a two-year term by their peers from 123 districts in Texas.

The Central Texas Council of Governments oversees the Area Agency on Aging Central Texas, and under that organization comes the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Locally, seniors are represented by Irene Andrews of Nolanville, who was elected to the 17th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature last year.

Andrews retired after 15 years with Killeen ISD as a special education instructor, and was elected for the legislature's 2017-2019 term.

She was sworn during a statewide orientation in July 2017.

The Texas Legislature will reconvene in January 2019.

According to the Texas Demographic Center, the number of seniors living in Texas is about 3.8 million with a projected increase to almost 6 million by 2030. Currently, Texas ranks third in the U.S. with total population of seniors.

ctrw-pac.com.

Salado Area Republican Women, affiliated with the Texas Federation of Republican Women, is an auxiliary of the Bell County Republican Party. Contact the group at 281-787-1073 or saladoarearw@yahoo.com. The website is www.saladoarearw.com.

Bell County Young Republicans is also active, with Michael Jones as president. Contact Information: 254-913-9451 or

bellyoungrepublicans@gmail.com.

Pints & Politics is a Republican group operating in Bell County, and meets monthly on the first Friday 6 to 9 p.m. Contact information: dswarthout1@centurylink.net or 414-378-2341.

Residents in Coryell County can get involved with the GOP, too. Jack P. Barcroft serves as party chairman. Contact information: Coryell GOP at 254-865-2126; website: coryellgop.org.

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www.bounceenergy.com

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www.breezeenergy.com

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www.championenergyservices.com

CIRRO ENERGY

800-692-4776
www.cirroenergy.com

DIRECT ENERGY

855-461-824
www.directenergy.com

DISCOUNT POWER

877-909-7693
www.discountpowertx.com

FIRST CHOICE POWER

866-469-2464
www.firstchoicepower.com

4CHANGE ENERGY

855-784-2426
www.4changeenergy.com

CABLE/SATELLITE TELEVISION PROVIDERS

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CENTURYLINK

902-B W. Central Texas Expwy.
Killeen, TX 76541
254-628-5484
1551 E. Veterans Memorial Blvd.
Suite D
Harker Heights, TX 76548
254-699-9100

DISH NETWORK

855-398-9123

GRANDE COMMUNICATIONS

5 Meadowbrook Drive, Suite B
Temple, TX 76502
254-773-1163

SPECTRUM

309 N. College St.
Killeen, TX 76541
866-874-2389
3034 S. 31st St.
Temple, TX 76502
866-874-2389

FRONTIER UTILITIES

877-437-7442
www.frontierutilities.com

GREEN MOUNTAIN ENERGY

866-785-4668
www.greenmountain.com

PAYLESS POWER

866-963-9353
www.paylesspower.com

PEDERNALES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

888-554-4732
www.pec.coop

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www.reliant.com

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www.startexpower.com

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855-508-3926
www.mytexansenergy.com

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www.trieagleenergy.com

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www.sprint.com

T-MOBILE

800-866-2453
www.t-mobile.com

VERIZON WIRELESS

254-680-3125
www.verizonwireless.com

VONAGE

800-608-5590
www.vonage.com

Several post offices serve Central Texas residents

Killeen residents have plenty of options when it comes to sending and receiving mail. New residents can change addresses online or in person at a post office. Information may be obtained 24 hours a day by calling 800-275-8777 or visiting www.usps.com.

In the northern part of Killeen, residents with the ZIP codes 76540, 76541, 76543 and 76544 are served by the Main Post Office at 300 N. 10th St., downtown.

The office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Passport applications are taken from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. weekdays. Call 254-634-0281.

Residents in the southern portion of Killeen, ZIP codes 76542, 76547 and 76549 are served by the Copper Mountain Post Office, 3100 S. W.S. Young Drive, which is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Call 254-554-3033.

Residents in southwestern Killeen, ZIP code 76549, are served by the Willow Springs Post Office at 2403 W. Stan Schlueter Loop. It's open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Call 254-501-8601.

The Harker Heights Post Office, serving ZIP code 76548, is at 415 E. Farm-to-Market 2410. It is open from 8:30 a.m. to



People wait to mail packages at inside the Copper Mountain Post Office in Killeen.

5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Call 254-699-2111.

The Fort Hood Post Office is in Building 332 on 761st Tank Battalion Avenue. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. Call 254-287-2728.

Postal contract stations are located in Fort Hood National Banks at Clear Creek Road in Building 50005 and at Clarke Road in Building 91079. All are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday

through Friday.

The Nolanville Post Office, serving ZIP code 76559, is at 201 N. Main St. It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Call 254-698-2626.

The Copperas Cove Post Office, serving ZIP code 76522, is at 802 E. Avenue D. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Call 254-547-3605.

Permit process made easy in area cities

In every city, permits are needed for a variety of reasons. Permits are necessary for new construction, as well as for things like garage sales and sign postings. Luckily for residents, the cities of Central Texas make it easy to apply for permits of all kinds.

KILLEEN

City residents can obtain permit applications online on the city website. By going to www.killeentexas.gov/index.php?section=144, applicants will see multiple links for a variety of different permits.

Permit forms can be printed off at home and filled out, and there are multiple ways to turn in a permit. Completed applications can be emailed to buildingpermits@killeentexas.gov or faxed to 254-501-6302. Permits can also be dropped off to the Building Inspections Office in person at 101 East Avenue C.

HARKER HEIGHTS

The entirety of the permit process can be completed

online from the comfort of home through the use of My Government Online. By going to www.mygovernmentonline.org, city residents can make an account and navigate to the Harker Heights city portal, where all city permits are available to be completed and submitted electronically.

If using the My Government Online site is not an option, residents can still obtain permit applications from the city website at www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us/index.php/permits-and-forms and print them off. Physical forms can be submitted in person to the Building Inspections Office located at 305 Millers Crossing.

COPPERAS COVE

City residents can complete the entire permitting process online through the city's website. By navigating to www.copperascovetx.gov/building/online_permits, residents are given a list of available permits. By clicking the link for whichever permit is needed, residents are then shown a new window that will allow them to complete and submit the permit online. Applicants will need to create an account before beginning the permit process.



Lt. Gen. Paul Funk II, III Corps and Fort Hood commander, speaks to members of the Central Texas Association of the U.S. Army about the fight against ISIS in Iraq and Syria on April 10 at Fort Hood.

Fort Hood soldiers have missions at home, overseas

Killeen was largely rural when talks of Camp Hood came about during World War II.

In 1942, 108,000 acres of Central Texas land were transformed from farmland into Camp Hood, home of the Tank Destroyer Tactical and Firing Center. Tank destroyers — mobile anti-tank guns on armored half-tracks — were developed to fight in the European Theater.

The roughly 300 families who resided on land that is now Fort Hood were relocated and replaced by nearly 38,000 troops. The number of soldiers multiplied until it peaked at almost 95,000 in less than one year's time.

That number dropped after the end of the war, but Camp Hood nevertheless became Fort Hood, a permanent installation, in 1950.

Fort Hood is named after Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood, commander of the Texas Brigade during the Civil War.

Fort Hood's garrison command mission is to control the infrastructure that trains, maintains, sustains and enables the combat units on post to perform in theater. The directorates making up the garrison command perform daily, vital support missions include:

The Directorate of Logistics performs or oversees supply, transportation and general support maintenance.

The Directorate of Public Works plans new construction, administers housing on the installation, protects the environment, and maintains existing buildings,

roads and grounds.

The Directorate of Resource Management monitors the expenditure of funds for tenant units as well as the directorates and manages the workforce. The Directorate of Contracting oversees the development, awarding and execution of contracts for goods and services.

The installation aviation officer administers the airspace around Fort Hood. The Directorate of Civilian Personnel performs all personnel management functions for the civilian workforce at Fort Hood. The Equal Employment Opportunity Office administers the Equal Opportunity program for civilian workers at Fort Hood.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service supports more than 400,000 soldiers, family members and retirees with retail merchandise in more than 20 outlets on post.

The Defense Commissary Agency supports soldiers, family members and retirees with groceries in two stores.

The Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation provides various athletic, social and creative opportunities for soldiers and families.

The garrison chaplain administers spiritual life programs installation-wide.

III CORPS HISTORY

The history of III Corps, headquartered at Fort Hood, dates from 1918, when it served in World War I. During that fight, the corps won battle stream-

ers for the Aisne-Marne, Lorraine and the Meuse-Argonne campaigns. Made inactive in 1919, the corps was reactivated in 1940 to train combat divisions.

During World War II, the corps was deployed to Europe and earned the name "Phantom Corps" by hitting the enemy when least expected. Made inactive again in 1946, III Corps was reactivated in 1951 and served on active duty until 1959, when it was once again made inactive. It was promptly reactivated, however, and returned to duty at Fort Hood during the Berlin Crisis in 1961.

In 1962, III Corps was designated part of the U.S. Army Strategic Army Corps. During the Vietnam War, III Corps trained and deployed two field force headquarters and many combat service support units totaling more than 100,000 soldiers.

In recent years, III Corps soldiers have fought in and supported operations worldwide, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Grenada, Panama, Honduras, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan. III Corps is responsible for 120,000 soldiers within 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, 1st Armored Division at Fort Bliss, 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas, and the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado.

The corps is currently led by Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II, who, with approximately 350 soldiers of the corps headquarters element, is leading the fight against the Islamic State in the Middle East.

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Nearly 36,000 troops call the Great Place home

Fort Hood, nicknamed the “Great Place” is one of the largest military installations in the free world.

With nearly 36,000 troops and almost 220,000 acres of training ground, Fort Hood is big.

In 2016, the Texas Comptroller’s Office said the post had an economic impact of more than \$35.4 billion statewide.

The post services more than 380,000 area active-duty soldiers, family members and retirees at its commissaries, post exchanges, Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center and other facilities.

It is, by far, the biggest employer of the Killeen-area economy. Major units include III Corps, 1st Cavalry Division, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, First Army Division West and the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command.

Other brigade-size units include the U.S. Army Operational Test Command, 89th Military Police Brigade, 1st Medical Brigade, 36th Engineer Brigade, 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 48th Chemical Brigade, 504th Military Intelligence Brigade, 11th Tactical Theater Signal Brigade and 85th Civil Affairs Brigade.

Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II currently commands III Corps and Fort Hood. He joined the Phantom Corps in February 2017.

III Corps Command Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Crosby joined the Fort Hood command team in August 2017. The command team and III Corps headquarters is currently deployed to the Middle East in command of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve for a one-year deployment.

Fort Hood’s deputy commander for maneuver is Maj. Gen. John C. Thomson III. The deputy commander for support is British Maj. Gen. Felix Gedney, who recently replaced British Maj. Gen. Douglas Chalmers in the position.

Fort Hood’s garrison commander is Col. Henry C. Perry, who took command in July 2017.

Across the post, most of the original World War II-era buildings have been torn down to make room for modern brick-and-stone buildings.

Construction on a new \$24 million Training Support Center was completed in 2017. The center was dedicated in hon-



Maj. Gen. Erik C. Peterson, left, incoming commander of First Army Division West, receives the division guidon from Lt. Gen. Stephen M. Twitty, First Army commander, during a ceremony June 26.

or of 1st Cavalry Division Medal of Honor recipient Master Sgt. Mike Castaneda Pena, who was killed in action Sept. 5, 1950, at Waegwan, South Korea.

Being the first in the digitized warfare arena and having the most modern equipment, Fort Hood soldiers use state-of-the-art training facilities.

Housed in the Close Combat Tactical Trainer are exact replicas of tank and Bradley fighting vehicle crew compartments, which allow troops to play realistic video-game-type scenarios to familiarize themselves with the equipment and how to interact as a unit before taking the high-dollar equipment to the field.

Its motor pools and hangars hold more than 260 tanks, 165 aircraft and 320 Strykers.

Two urban training areas offer soldiers the chance to practice the type of warfare they may face during missions to Iraq, Afghanistan or other areas.

Once in the field, soldiers find themselves in a semi-arid terrain that has 413 miles of paved roads and 449 miles of dirt roads. Live-fire exercises take place on more than 60 ranges, which support all Army weapons and most aerial weapons with eight automated, multi-purpose ranges for digitized units and six automated small-arms ranges.

Bombs that weigh up to 2,000 pounds can be handled and military aircraft have the ability to maneuver in restricted airspace to 45,000 feet.

The newly remodeled Robert Gray Army Airfield radar approach control center opened in September. The radar control tower controls airspace within a 60-mile radius of Fort Hood from the surface to 12,000 feet.

In order to monitor and secure this environment, the facility interfaces with other federal aviation administration air route traffic control centers located across the state in Houston, Waco and Austin. The collaboration of these FAA centers enables over 10,000 flights each year with safe passage to Dallas, Houston and Atlanta.

Fort Hood and its soldiers will also see a direct impact from the nearly \$700 billion National Defense Authorization Act signed into law in December 2017 by President Donald Trump.

About \$70 million of authorized funding for the military is earmarked for the post. Of that amount, \$37 million will be used to finish renovating the 1st Cavalry Division headquarters building. The rest is set for projects such as building new motor pools capable of handling heavy military vehicles, including the M1 Abrams tank.

Fort Hood has armored combat, air, artillery and sustainment

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

Known as America's First Team, the 1st Cavalry Division is an armored division led by Maj. Gen. Paul T. Calvert. It has three, armored-brigade combat teams, a Stryker brigade and an air cavalry brigade, as well as artillery and sustainment units. More than 15,000 soldiers wear the unit's distinct, large patch.

Two unique assets to the division are the Division Band and the Horse Cavalry Detachment, a company-sized unit with more than 30 horses to present a living history of the cavalry. The division fought in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan, among others.

The division was first stationed at Fort Hood in 1971.

FIRST ARMY DIVISION WEST

First Army Division West has the unique mission of training, readiness oversight and mobilization for U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard units.

The division is headquartered at Fort Hood and commanded by Maj. Gen. Erik C. Peterson. It has four training brigades stationed at Fort Hood and other installations.

OPERATIONAL TEST COMMAND

U.S. Army Operational Test Command is headquartered at West Fort Hood and commanded by Brig. Gen. John Ullrich. As the Army's only independent testing organization, it plans, conducts and reports rigorous operational tests, assessments and experiments in order to provide essential information for the acquisition and fielding of warfighting systems.

The command has about 240 soldiers and employs about 340 Department of the Army civilians to maintain its operations and has directorates at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and Fort Bliss.

3RD CAVALRY REGIMENT

The 3rd Cavalry Regiment is led by Col. Jonathan Byrom, the 77th commander of the regiment.

On order, the "Brave Rifles" deploy to



Soldiers with the 3rd Cavalry Regiment conduct a troop level combined arms live-fire lanes exercise with Stryker vehicles on Nov. 21 at Fort Hood.

FORT HOOD UNITS

III Corps
1st Cavalry Division
1st Army Division West
13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command
U.S. Army Operational Test Command
1st Medical Brigade
3rd Cavalry Regiment
36th Engineer Brigade
48th Chemical Brigade
69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade
85th Civil Affairs Brigade
89th Military Police Brigade
407th Army Field Support Brigade
418th Contracting Support Brigade
504th Military Intelligence Brigade
Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center
Warrior Transition Brigade
11th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade
901st Contracting Support Battalion
Noncommissioned Officer Academy
Hood Mobilization Brigade
3rd Air Support Operations Group (Air Force)

designated contingency area of operations by sea, land or air and conducts combined arms operations to prevent conflict, shape the operational environ-

ment and win any fight.

The 3d Cavalry Regiment uses the battle cry "AI-EE-YAH!" instead of "Hooah!" This phrase was adopted by early mounted riflemen from what they said was a Sioux war cry, meaning "Attack!"

13TH EXPEDITIONARY SUSTAINMENT COMMAND

The 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command is led by Brig. Gen. Douglas M. McBride Jr. Its mission is to deploy, provide command and control of assigned, attached and operationally controlled units, and plan and provide sustainment, distribution and health service support for full-spectrum operations.

The 13th ESC also maintains training and readiness authority over dozens of units across the western United States.

AIR FORCE

About 360 airmen call Fort Hood home. The 3rd Air Support Operations Group and its two squadrons provide direct support to Army units for joint operations. The group's 3rd Weather Squadron provides weather data for III Corps and Fort Hood.

Information fair welcomes new soldiers, families to post

The Hood Howdy Information Fair is a twice-yearly installation event conducted by Fort Hood's Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation as well as Army Community Service, Relocation Readiness Branch

Held in February and August, the event serves as an overall installation "welcome" to the Great Place, and provides newly arrived soldiers and family members with the opportunity to become familiar with the installation and community businesses and agencies.

Many groups set up booths to provide information to the thousands of new Fort Hood residents who stop by the event.

The August Hood Howdy focuses on youth and schools to help families who just arrived on post get settled and ready for a new school year to begin.

The February Hood Howdy highlights wellness for soldiers and their families as well as caregivers and local veterans, informing them about programs and services that are free on the installation



Vendors, soldiers, veterans and civilians attend the Hood Howdy event in February at Fort Hood.

as well as in the community.

The Employment Readiness Branch also sponsors a mini Career Fair with more than 25 employers participating in conjunction with the event.

"Military life is a whole different style of life," said Shirley Quick, Army Community Service, Relocation Readiness

Branch, program manager.

"(The event) shows that Fort Hood is indeed a great place to be."

Hood Howdy takes place at Club Hood, Building 5764, on 24th Street at Tank Destroyer Boulevard.

Call 254-287-4471 or go to www.hoodmwr.com/hoodhowdy.

Fort Hood accessibility safe and reliable for soldiers, visitors

In September 2015, officials discontinued vehicle decal requirements to drive onto the installation, but a Defense Department ID card is required to drive through the Fort Hood gates.

Non-military personnel looking to access Fort Hood by vehicle without a DOD ID card need to stop at Fort Hood's Marvin Leath Visitors Center for a temporary pass. Entry requirements for a person without a DOD ID Card requesting unescorted access:

- A valid purpose for entering the installation; (attend meeting, visit museum, job interview, etc.)
 - Current vehicle registration (if operating a vehicle)
 - Proof of current insurance (if operating a vehicle)
 - License plate number
 - Provide the destination, name of facility, building number, street address or unit name/designation
- Upon satisfying the above criteria

and vetting requirements an installation access pass/badge will be issued to that person.

Marvin Leath Visitor's Center: Take the Fort Hood main gate exit off U.S. Highway 190/Interstate 14 on the west side of Killeen. Stop in the visitor's center with a state registration document for the vehicle, a valid state driver's license and proof of insurance.

For a small fare, taxis will transport people arriving by bus at the Killeen bus terminal. Direct phones are located in the terminal.

PLACES TO KNOW

Marvin Leath Visitors Center

Building 69012

Open 24 hours, seven days a week

Phone: 254-287-9909

Copeland Soldier Service Center

Building 18010

Open 24 hours, seven days a week

Phone: 254-287-3832

Phantom Express

Building 69005

Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays

Phone: 254-553-1104

VILLAGE OFFICES

- Comanche I & II Villages

51814-1 Comanche Ave.

254-285-2243

- Comanche III Village

53301 Drum Song Trail

254-285-2289

- Kouma & Montague Villages

48810 Washington St.

254-285-2245

- McNair & Chaffee Villages

6310 Tank Destroyer

254-285-2251

- Pershing & Venable Villages

5649-2 Lockridge Loop

254-285-2242

- Wainwright, Walker & Patton Park Villages

6310 Tank Destroyer Blvd.

254-285-2251




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Army has stores, services for military personnel, families

The Army and Air Force Exchange Services provides goods and services to military personnel and family members.

The Exchange stores are similar to department stores. AAFES also partners with many popular brands to bring them onto Fort Hood. It operates on funds generated through sales of merchandise and services, not tax dollars.

The TJ Mills Starbucks is the first to boast a drive-thru on an Army installation. Also new to TJ Mills Boulevard is a Qdoba Mexican Eats inside the AAFES Food Court.

Customers on Clear Creek Road can get a caffeine fix from the new Starbucks inside Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, which also includes a retail store and barber shop. Down the street, a two-in-one restaurant of Burger King and Popeye's is under construction.

The Exchange offers customers a line of credit through the Military Star Card. It is accepted in both Warrior Way and Clear Creek Commissaries, along with select Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities such as the bowling alley, Information, Tickets and Tours and the Child Development Center.

The Clear Creek Shopping Center, which opened Oct. 1, 2015, features clothing, shoes, cosmetics, jewelry, hardware, books and magazines, outdoor living, toys and a variety of specialty stores and restaurants.

To use these facilities, an individual

COMMISSARIES

Fort Hood has two commissaries, one on Clear Creek Road and the other at the intersection of Warrior Way and 10th Street.

A military ID card or a dependent card is required to shop in the commissaries, which are grocery stores for the military.

The commissaries offer a variety of services, including a ATM, bakery, deli, fresh sandwiches to go, party cakes, plants and rotisserie chicken. Fresh produce, lean meats and much more are available at a low cost. Deli trays and fruit baskets are available upon request.

The commissary also offers cleaning supplies and pet supplies such as food, toys and treats.

They take debit and credit cards, cash and Lone Star card for SNAP food benefits and Woman, Infants and

Children program benefits.

Both commissaries are closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Check the store page under the Locations tab on www.commissaries.com for other holiday hours.

CLEAR CREEK COMMISSARY

Building 50001 Clear Creek Road

Phone: 254-287-3905

Store Director: Wanda Dotson

Hours: Sunday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

Monday: closed; Tuesday-Saturday: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WARRIOR WAY COMMISSARY

Warrior Way and 10th Street

Phone: 254-287-8025

Hours: Sunday: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.;

Monday and Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.;

Wednesday: closed; Thursday and

Friday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

must present a military ID or military dependent ID when paying for goods and services, except at restaurants.

All post visitors are authorized to dine at all Fort Hood exchange facilities. Post exchanges are tax-exempt and offer electronics, clothing, home furnishings, appliances and food and alcohol.

The Clear Creek Shopping Center, Building 4250 Clear Creek Blvd., is open

from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday. The phone number is 254-532-7200.

Palmer Theater is operated by AAFES and offers movies to patrons with a military ID. The theater is in Building 334 and the 24-hour movie hotline is 254-287-3851.

Shopping is also available online at www.shopmyexchange.com.

FORT HOOD CHURCHES

For more information about Fort Hood religion services, visit <http://www.hood.army.mil/chaplain>.

Spirit of Fort Hood Chapel

Tank Destroyer Boulevard,
Building 320
254-286-6785

Old Post Chapel

761st Tank Battalion and 50th Street
254-288-6545

Comanche Chapel

Tank Destroyer Boulevard,
Building 52024
254-288-6556

The Ohana Place

Battalion Avenue at 19th Street
254-287-2690

25th Street Chapel

Battalion Avenue at 25th Street,
Building 10041
254-285-6751

The Spiritual Fitness Center

Battalion Avenue at 33rd Street
254-553-1195

58th Street Chapel

Battalion Avenue at 58th Street
254-287-4034

73rd Street Chapel

Battalion Avenue at 73rd Street
254-287-0469

76th Street Chapel

Battalion Avenue at 76th Street
254-288-5145

West Fort Hood Chapel

Headquarters Avenue at Clark Road
254-288-9442

13th ESC Chapel

67th Street and Support Avenue
254-287-1391


Darnall Community Hospital Chapel

Basement across from dining facility
254-288-8849

North Fort Hood Chapel

Headquarters and 18th Street,
Building 56516
254-289-0972

Looking for a specific denomination? Newcomers can find a list of more churches in Central Texas on pages 98-100.



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3 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS

Killeen, Lampasas, and Harker Heights

Museums help preserve military history of Fort Hood

Fort Hood is home to one of the Army's most storied divisions, along with one of its most history-steeped regiments.

Both the 1st Cavalry Division's and the 3rd Cavalry Regiment's tales are told through their on-post museums and memorials.

A museum to honor all of Fort Hood and Central Texas is in the planning and fundraising stages. The Mounted Warrior Museum will be built just outside the main gate and will provide a unique educational experience, preserving and interpreting the story of mounted units and soldiers who have served at Fort Hood and worldwide, and the rich history, values and heritage of Killeen/Central Texas.

1ST CAVALRY DIVISION

The 1st Cavalry Museum, Building 2218, is at 56th Street and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue.

Exhibits highlight the First Team's history from frontier forts of the American West to its involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan. The 1st Cavalry's outdoor exhibit of more than 60 vehicles also includes the Skycrane, one of the largest helicopters built by the Army.

The museum's phone number is 254-287-3626. Steven Draper is the director.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday and train-



A cake is cut in celebration of 1st Cavalry Division's 96th birthday on Sept. 13 outside of the 1st Cavalry Division Museum at Fort Hood.

ing holidays. The museum is closed on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Easter and Thanksgiving.

3RD CAVALRY REGIMENT

The 3rd Cavalry Museum holds artifacts dating back to the unit's beginnings 171 years ago. The unit formed in 1846. After following the regiment around the country and Europe, the museum debuted at Fort Hood in January 2010. Located in two buildings, the museum offers history of the regiment found in flags, uniforms, equipment, and weapons. The outdoor vehicle park

displays vehicles from World War II through the present day.

The museum is located between Battalion Avenue and 761st Tank Battalion Avenue just west of 24th Street. The entrance to the parking lot is on 761st Tank Battalion Avenue.

Call 254-288-3590 or 254-287-8811. Fred Adolphus, is the director.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and training holidays, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday and federal holidays. The museum is closed on Christmas Day, Thanksgiving and New Year's Day.

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AUSA, a voice for the Army, support for soldiers

The Central Texas-Fort Hood Chapter of the Association of the United States Army is not only the biggest in the country, but also one of the most active — to include the largest active-duty unit membership in the Army, the 1st Cavalry Division.

AUSA members include retired military personnel, with combat experience dating back to World War II, and local businesspeople. Active-duty soldiers also attend meetings.

Since 1950, the Association of the United States Army, created by the Army for the Army, has worked to support all aspects of national security while advancing the interests of America's Army and the men and women who serve. Its mission is "Voice for the Army — Support for the Soldier."

Thanks to donations from the community, AUSA provided \$62,000 in scholarships to about 60 local active-duty or retired soldiers, Department of the Army civilians employed at Fort Hood, and members of their immediate families.

The local chapter president is Stephanie O'Banion, president and CEO of the United Way of Central Texas. O'Banion began her term in 2016.

"We serve as the liaison between the Army and local civilian communities; as well as help educate the public about the needs for a strong national defense and the Army," she said. "CTFH AUSA



Johnny Mojica, area community coordinator and public affairs for H-E-B, and AUSA Fort Hood Area Chapter President Stephanie O'Banion, hold a donation of \$60,000 to be used for playground shades at Fort Hood during a meeting Nov. 15 at Club Hood.

is involved in a variety of programs to help support deployed and mobilized soldiers and their families.

"Some of our activities include general membership meetings with high-profile guest speakers, community involvement events, special events honoring the Army and outstanding soldiers, professional development forums, scholarships, and a strong soldier support program; helping soldiers and their families in need," O'Banion said.

"Whether you are interested in membership, making a donation, or want to participate in an AUSA event, there are a number of reasons why you should

lend your support to AUSA," O'Banion said. "We are the only professional association for the entire Army. We advocate for the men and women in uniform who serve. We support the soldiers and the civilians and families who work alongside of them in the local community who support us."

The association holds four local general membership meetings a year, in addition to regular charitable events.

A large local contingent also travels to the national conference in October in Washington, D.C.

For more information, go to www.forthoodausa.org.



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Copperas Cove continues growth in many areas

Copperas Cove continues to experience growth in housing, retail and industrial business.

The history of Copperas Cove dates back to when the developing cattle industry cut through the region with the Chisholm Trail in the 1870s.

A resident petition for a post office named the settlement “Cove” but added “Copperas” to reflect the mineral taste of the spring water.

Marsden Ogletree became the first postmaster in 1879 and lends his name to Ogletree Gap Park.

Today Copperas Cove touts itself as “The City Built for Family Living.” It is the largest city in Coryell County and is home to many retirees, active-duty military and others. Copperas Cove had an estimated population of 34,272 residents as of Jan. 1, 2018.

Residents are served by four major entities — the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce, the Copperas Cove Economic Development Corporation, the Copperas Cove Independent School District and the City of Copperas Cove municipal government.

Two single-family subdivisions are in Phase II of construction, the Five Hills Retail Center is filling up on the city’s east side, and The Narrows Business and Technology Park is slated to get sidewalks.

The Business Highway 190 corridor, currently seven lanes of traffic — three in each direction with a center turn lane — is proposed for a redesign being considered by the Copperas Cove City Council.

The Improvement Plan is intended to make drivers entering Copperas Cove feel more welcome. The roadway would be reduced to two lanes in each direction with a grass-and-tree-lined median and turn lanes at key intersections. Bike lanes and sidewalks would increase safety for those traveling by alternative means.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

Copperas Cove has a wide variety of events and activities on tap each year, from the Five Hills Art Guild “GO GREEN!” festival in March to the annual Rabbit Fest in May, both at City Park.



Copperas Cove Shriners perform on their ATV's during the 37th annual Rabbit Fest Parade on May 20.

The Rabbit Fest brings an estimated 20,000 people to Copperas Cove and features a parade, carnival, pageant, car show and rabbit show. The economic benefits to the city from this, and similar events has been praised by the City Council and city officials.

The Five Hills Art Guild recently unveiled its latest project, a mural at the corner of Main Street and Avenue D, featuring a look at the city and its people from the early 1900s.

There is a Polar Bear Plunge in January at the City Pool and assorted 5K runs throughout the year.

Copperas Cove Parks and Recreation offers golfing at the Hills of Cove Golf Course, basketball courts and baseball/softball diamonds at eight locations throughout the city.

The Parks and Recreation Department

will be performing a host of improvements to the parks in the coming year, from paving parking lots to adding walking trails.

Families can fish for trout in the City Park duck pond during the annual Fishing in the Park event, or hunt for eggs at the Easter Egg Round Up.

Another huge event that takes place in Copperas Cove is the Five Hills Scholarship Pageant. Under the auspices of the Parks and Recreation Department, the pageant has been named one of the Top Three New Events in the State by the Texas Festival and Events Association.

More than \$50,000 in scholarships and prizes are awarded to boys aged 0-8 and girls and women of all ages, who in turn dedicate themselves to charitable projects benefiting Copperas Cove and surrounding communities.



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Ordinances clarify rules for Copperas Cove residents

The Copperas Cove City Council passes laws and restrictions, otherwise known as ordinances, that outline policies and punishments for lawn clippings in the street, failure to maintain property, right of way parking and other actions. The entire list of ordinances can be found on the city's website at www.copperascovetx.gov

HIGH GRASS/WEEDS, TRASH AND DEBRIS

The city regulates high weeds, grass, rubbish, obstruction by tree limbs, junk or other objectionable, unsightly or unsanitary matter in private yards, to include branches overhanging the street or sidewalk. A person or owner responsible for or claiming or having supervision or control of any real property commits an offense by permitting or allowing weeds, grass, brush or vegetation not regularly cultivated to grow to a height greater than 12 inches.

Residents are responsible for keeping the sidewalk or street clear of obstructions caused by intruding and overhanging brush and/or tree limbs, requiring a clearance of at least eight feet above a sidewalk and 14 feet above a street.

They are also responsible for stagnant or unwholesome water, filth, carrion, weeds, rubbish, rubble, junk or garbage, or impure or unwholesome matter of any kind, including, but not limited to, all vegetation that by size or material usually not suitable for timber or livestock and easily subject to becoming a fire hazard or harborage for rodents, dead grass, tree limbs or tree stumps.

BASKETBALL GOALS

Residents are not allowed to construct, erect or place any obstruction or encumbrance, permanent or temporary, on any street, alley, parkway, sidewalk, right-of-way or other public place in the city.

Obstructions or encumbrances include but are not limited to permanent or portable basketball goals, posts and fences, all trees, shrubs or bushes over two feet in height above the pavement and other landscaping structures or ornaments to include signs.

RIGHT OF WAY

Any person constructing, erecting

Copperas Cove provides numerous utility services

The city recently entered into an agreement with FATHOM Water Management Inc. to provide the FATHOM Smart Grid for Water — delivering a complete solution including infrastructure, software, services and utility billing and customer care operations. FATHOM provides the city's customers with real-time access to their water usage and billing information, while also improving utility revenue and overall operations with data-driven insights.

The Utility Administration Office is at 914 S. Main St., Suite A, and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Residents are encouraged to create an online account and make payments, schedule transfers, activations and disconnects online at: <https://copperascove.u2you.gwfathom.com>. FATHOM Customer Care can be contacted at 844-685-6349 from Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SOLID WASTE

The solid waste division collects residential trash, brush, bulky items and recyclables.

Residential trash collection occurs once a week, Monday through Thursday, through an automated trash collection system. The service requires a one-time deposit of \$40 per residence and a monthly fee of \$17. The city provides residents with a 96-gallon container; however, a resident can opt for a smaller, 64-gallon bin.

or placing any obstruction or encumbrance on any street, alley, sidewalk, right-of-way or other public place in the city will be declared as creating a nuisance. Any such person notified by a city official to remove such obstruction or encumbrance, and all persons failing or refusing to remove such obstruction or encumbrance on any street, alley, sidewalk, right-of-way or other public place, or any part thereof, will be guilty

Residents can receive additional bins for an additional charge. The solid waste department is located at 2605 S. FM 116 and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; however, the scale closes daily at 4:30 p.m. Go to www.copperascovetx.gov or call 254-547-4242.

RECYCLING

Recyclable items are collected twice per month during resident's regularly scheduled trash collection days. Residents who participate receive a 96-gallon single-stream container.

There is no charge for recycle collection. The solid waste department is at 2605 S. FM 116 and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; however, the scale closes daily at 4:30 p.m. Go to www.copperascovetx.gov or call 254-547-4242.

WATER AND SEWER

Copperas Cove residents are provided with safe, uninterrupted water through the water distribution department. Deposits for water services start at \$50. The city's sewer deposit also starts at \$50. The rate for water in the city is \$4.50 for residents and \$5.51 for commercial businesses per 1,000 gallons, with a minimum base rate of \$11.77 per month for water depending on water meter size.

The rate for sewer in the city is \$6 for all customers per 1,000 gallons used with a minimum rate of \$12 per month for all customers.

The water distribution department is at 914 Tank St. Go to www.copperascovetx.gov or call 254-547-2416.

of committing or creating a nuisance.

PARKING

Copperas Cove has an ordinance that prohibits vehicles, recreational vehicles and trailers from being parked in yards and giving recreational vehicles parked on city streets 72 hours to load or unload. No oversized vehicles can be parked on a public street after 9 p.m. without a permit from the police department.

Copperas Cove library offers a variety of programs

The Copperas Cove Public Library is located in the heart of the city, adjacent to the Central Fire Station. The library offers internet terminals or Wi-Fi connections, opportunities to read to your children, catch up with current magazine or newspaper articles, borrow audio books on CD, or maybe even check out a book to read.

New users should bring government-issued identification and proof of local residency, such as a utility bill, lease or official identification with a local address to apply for a library card. Non-residents can obtain a card for a small annual fee.

In addition to borrowing books, CDs and DVDs, library card holders may download and borrow children's books or current, popular e-books for teens and adults from the library's collection. Users can also search licensed online databases of journal articles and other current information using the TexShare databases. Users need to log in to their Copperas Cove bibliotix catalog account to access the databases, then follow the TexShare databases link on the left side of the page.

New books are always coming in, and are placed on the section of shelves just to the left of the circulation desk. The new book list is also posted online.



Dotty Woodson of Texas A&M AgriLife Research demonstrates how to secure insect netting on a rain barrel during a Rainwater Harvesting class March 29 at the Copperas Cove Public Library.

ADULT AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

The library's collection includes popular fiction and non-fiction books, graphic novels and large print works as well as videos and audio CDs of favorite books. Books not in the inventory can be requested through inter-library loan for a modest fee.

The library offers many special programs offered throughout the year and a Book Club throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

The children's room in the library has a wide selection of books, CD books, and video (both VHS and DVD), stuffed toys

and a puppet theater.

The library offers Toddler Time for 1- to 3-year-olds on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and Story Time for 3- to 5-year-olds on Thursdays at 10 a.m. The annual Summer Reading program runs from mid-June into early July with special activities and performers in the library each week.

The library is at 501 S. Main St., Copperas Cove, and is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; closed on Sunday. Kevin Marsh is the library director. Call 254-547-3826 or go to www.copperascovetx.gov/library.

Cove officials take direction from state constitution

The Texas Constitution and the Copperas Cove City Charter determine how the city government operates and functions. Making the financial and governing decisions of the city is its elected City Council, consisting of a mayor and seven council members. Residents elect members in November, with a rotation of seats up for election. All council members are at-large and serve three-year terms, with up to two consecutive terms.

The council meets on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, with workshop meetings at 5 p.m. and regular meetings at 6 p.m. One exception is in December, when meetings are held only on the first Tuesday. Meetings are

held at the Technology Center, 508 S. 2nd St. The mayor has no vote during council meetings, nor does the city manager, who attends to provide information to the council. The interim city manager is Ryan Haverlah.

Learn more about Copperas Cove at www.copperascovetx.gov.

MEET THE COUNCIL

Frank Seffrood, Mayor

Term ends: November 2018

Email: fseffrood@copperascovetx.gov

David Morris, City Council Place 1

Term ends: November 2018

Email: dmorris@copperascovetx.gov

James Pierce Jr., City Council Place 2

Term ends: November 2018

Email: jpierce@copperascovetx.gov

Dan Yancey, City Council Place 3

Term ends: November 2019

Email: dyancey@copperascovetx.gov

Jay Manning, City Council Place 4

Term ends: November 2019

Email: jmanning@copperascovetx.gov

Kirby Lack, City Council Place 5

Term ends: November 2019

Email: klack@copperascovetx.gov

Marc Payne, City Council Place 6

Term ends: November 2020

Email: mpayne@copperascovetx.gov

Charlie Youngs, City Council Place 7

Term ends: November 2020

Email: cyoungs@copperascovetx.gov



Firefighters Patrick Pitts, left, and Matt Rodgers inspect a car seat for a resident during a safety event at the Copperas Cove Fire Department.

Cove police, fire departments always ready to respond

The Copperas Cove Police Department is organized into two major divisions: uniform services and support services. Each division falls under the command of a deputy chief who oversees the operations of various sections.

The patrol division consists of 22 patrol officers, six corporals and three sergeants. The patrol section is divided into three shifts that provide the citizens of Copperas Cove professional police coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



Wilson

The police chief is Eddie Wilson, who has worked to implement a number of new programs since taking charge of the department.

The Cove Watch Program is designed to help police expediently communicate important information directly to residents.

Cove Watch is used to inform residents of vital information in their neighborhood via SMS (text message) and/or email. As an example, if the Police Department received a report of multiple burglaries in a specific section of town, the Cove Watch system would alert residents in and around that loca-

tion. Residents have the option for text, email or both when signing up for the program.

The Copperas Cove Police Department is working to take advantage of the growing trend of video surveillance systems to partner with residents and business owners.

The Video Surveillance Partner Program will develop a database of community partners that can become an important tool in quickly solving crime.

Nextdoor is a free private social network application that allows residents to communicate with neighborhoods online. Several neighborhoods in Copperas Cove are already the program.

The Copperas Cove Police Department will use Nextdoor to share police related events, public information and press releases. Residents can also use Nextdoor as another means of speaking directly to police.

The Police Department's main office is at 302 E. Avenue E, Copperas, Cove. The phone number for non-emergencies is 254-547-8222.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Copperas Cove Fire Department

responded to 1,685 fire calls for service and 3,964 emergency medical service calls in 2017. That was an increase of 40.49 percent from 2016.

The fire department experienced an increase of nearly 20.96 percent in emergency medical service calls (687) during the same period.



Neujahr

The fire chief is Michael Neujahr and the main office is at 415 S. Main St., Copperas Cove. The department has approximately 50 firefighters.

"The Copperas Cove Fire Department will continually strive to exceed our citizen's expectations working within a healthy, safe and innovative environment that enhances the professional and efficient delivery of emergency services," Neujahr said. "We will strive to be an organization providing community safety education and information, keen to anticipate, influence and embrace change."

In 2017 there was an estimated \$401,000 in property damage caused by fires. Response times in the city and county response areas were reduced by more than 4 percent.

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Coryell County has historic past

With Gatesville as the county seat, and an area of 1,057 square miles, Coryell County history goes back to the early days of Texas.

According to the county website, Coryell County was created by the Texas state legislature in 1854 and is named for James Coryell, an early explorer of the region. Gatesville, the county seat, grew up around Fort Gates, established in 1849 to protect settlers.

The habitation of Coryell County dates as far back as 4500 B.C. The Tonkawa, Lipan Apache, Kiowa and Comanche were among the tribes who migrated through the area at various periods. When the General Colonization Law went into effect in 1824, followed by the 1825 State Colonization Law of Coahuila y Tejas, Robert Leftwich obtained a grant to settle 800 families in Texas. The grant went through several legal challenges, and later became Robertson's Colony, named for Sterling C. Robertson. The grant encompassed all or parts of 30 present-day Texas counties. Settlers began moving into the area after Fort Gates was established at Gatesville.

Land for a courthouse square was acquired and a one-story framed structure was constructed in 1865 on a corner presently occupied by a city filling station. In 1872, a two-story structure of native white limestone was erected on this property and served as a focus of county business for the next 25 years.

On May 15, 1897, architect W.C. Dodson was commissioned to draw plans and specifications for a third courthouse at a contract price of 3.5 percent of the total building cost. The stipulations imposed on the architect were that the building have a cupola on top with a Seth Thomas Clock and a bell of not less than 800 pounds, and that the building be roofed in metal with the dome on the cupola in clad copper. In addition, there were to be dual statues of Liberty and Justice at the north and south entrances."

The flag of Coryell County was designed by Donald K. Fisher, a member of the Commissioners' Court, and



The Coryell County Courthouse, built in 1898, still serves the county and district courts.

adopted on Feb. 24, 1986, in preparation for a number of anniversary events. In gold on white, it depicts the County Seal and the date of the County's creation and organization, 1854. The colors do not have any particular significance but were selected to avoid the overused red-white-blue combination.

Cities in Coryell County include Copperas Cove (34,272 population), Gatesville (15,498), Evant (406), Jonesboro (774), and Oglesby (459). The County's population is more than 76,000 residents.

The County has a sheriff's department and a county Commissioners' Court consisting of five members.

County Judge John Firth leads the Commissioners' Court, but is not running for re-election in May 2018. The commissioners are: Precinct 1, Kyle Matthews; Precinct 2, Daren Moore; Precinct 3, Don Jones; and Precinct 4, Ray Ashby.

The Coryell County Commissioners Court recently passed a \$16.4 million budget for 2017-18. The tax rate for fiscal year 2017-18 is 54.53 cents per \$100 of taxable value.

Scott Williams was elected sheriff of Coryell County, on May 24, 2016, and become sheriff on Jan. 1, 2017.

For more information, go to www.coryellcounty.org or call 254-865-5911.

Gatesville plans projects as population grows

The county seat of Coryell County, Gatesville is also known as the Spur Capital of Texas, for good reason. Donated in 1991, the Loyd and Madge Mitchell Collection of about 10,000 pairs of spurs, is thought to be the largest collection in the world.

Gatesville has other assets and continues its growth in a variety of areas. City leaders have begun the process of developing a new Comprehensive Plan for the city. Benchmark Planning, a planning company from Charlotte, North Carolina is assisting the city in this process. Residents have been invited to take part in two discussion sessions and have completed a survey to determine the areas of greatest needs and interest.

The results of the survey are currently being assessed to determine next steps. According to City Manager Bill Parry, the goal is to end up with a plan that will guide the city as it looks to future expansion and development.

Coryell Memorial Healthcare System, based in Gatesville, is in the midst of a \$42 million renovation and expansion project. The plan is to renovate and add facilities across almost every part of the health care system's 117,000 square feet. A new 25-bed hospital will be added to the current campus and a 16-bed medical therapy wing will be constructed at The Meadows Rehabilitation and Long-term Care facility.

The project is expected to be completed during the summer of 2018.

Within the past year, the healthcare system added pulmonary rehabilitation and cardiac rehabilitation programs, hired a full time cardiologist and added a psychiatrist nurse practitioner to its team.

Over the past year, Gatesville Independent School District officials met with representatives from Cambridge Strategic Services and over 50 volunteers serving on six action plan subcommittees.

These groups researched best practices, brainstormed new ideas and formulated action plans to address each specific strategy area. Their work continued until the draft Strategic Plan was presented to the Board of Trustees for approval.

GISD staff has been working diligently since June to initiate individual elements of the Strategic Plan. This five-year document serves as the foundation for the work of the administration and campus staff.

Some new visitor-related businesses have come to Gatesville in the past year. The Hidden Valley RV Getaway, a 63-acre recreational vehicle park, opened at 246 Farm-to-Market 116. The Bed and Breakfast opened at 327 E. Main Street. Peacock Cabins, 1804 South St. also offers accommodations for travelers.

The Gatesville Convention and Visitors Bureau has a new website, as well: www.visitgatesvilletx.com.

Despite incorporation in 1997, Kempner has a long history

Kempner can boast a long and somewhat wild history.

The city was founded in 1882, named after Harris Kempner, a Texas philanthropist, banker and railroad magnate.

Despite that lengthy existence, Kempner was incorporated only 21 years ago.

The town voted in 1997 to incorporate by a vote of 200 in favor, 33 against. The push to incorporate came when the Copperas Cove City Council annexed land that extended into Lampasas County, leaving residents to wonder if their community could be next, according to the city's website.

The original city council was composed of Mayor Roger Fancher, Council members Rex Hooten, Linda Mosley, Paul Cook, Sylvia Tucker, and Dora Silva.

The Kempner Police Department began with a city marshal in May 2000. The Office of Chief of Police was established in April 2004.

The current department is comprised

of a chief (Forrest Spence) and three officers. Kempner is a type A general law municipality and was incorporated on Aug. 9, 1997.

The area was rowdy and lawless in its early days around the 1850s. According to Kempner's website, there was concern about the Comanches. Resident Dan Taylor asked then-Gov. F.R. Lubbock for ammunition to help the settlers hold their own against the Comanche, but Lubbock wrote back that he and his neighbors should contact a man named Mr. Foster in Burnet for their gunpowder.

As if that wasn't bad enough, several stagecoach and mail robberies occurred between Taylor's Creek and Belton.

In 1882 the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway was built through the area, two miles from the Taylor store, and the community's center finally became fixed when the post office was moved to a frame building near the railroad tracks and renamed Kempner after

Harris Kempner, a Galveston merchant and director of the Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe.

The first postmaster at the new location was Johnnie Chance. The coming of the railroad caused the population to double.

Today, the city has police, a volunteer fire department, justice of the peace, post office and city park. The population is nearly 1,100 citizens.

Carolyn Crane is the current mayor and Robert McKinnon is the mayor pro tem. Council members include Clifton Morse, McKinnon, Bob Crane, David Richardson and Melba Vandever.

The council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 12288 E. Highway 190.

The city recently passed a 2017-2018 budget of just over \$400,000 with a tax rate of 23.5 cents per \$100 of taxable value.

More information is available at city-of-kempner.org.

Rural lifestyle attracts Lampasas County residents

Lampasas County is relatively small and quiet, making it a contender for residents looking to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city. The county's population is over 20,100 residents. The county seat is Lampasas, and the governing body is the commissioners' court. The court, led by County Judge Wayne Boultinghouse and four commissioners, meets at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Lampasas County Courthouse, 501 E. Fourth St., Lampasas.

Boultinghouse's term will end this year, and the position will be filled by Larry W. Allison or Randy Hoyer. Voters will decide the winner in May's runoff election.

Commissioner Bobby Carroll from the Kempner area serves Precinct 1; Commissioner Jim Lindeman of Lampasas represents Precinct 2; Commissioner Lewis Bridges from Lometa represents Precinct 3 and Commissioner Mark Rainwater from the Adamsville area represents Precinct 4. Precinct 2 Commissioner will also have a runoff election. Jamie Smart and Ron Farr will face off in May for the seat.

In addition to responsibilities required by the state, the commission also sets the county's annual tax rate, monitors the expenditure of county funds, handles budget responsibilities for all county offices and issues bonds for building purchases and repairs.

County Attorney John Greenwood is the chief prosecuting attorney, handling misdemeanor cases, and motions to revoke cases and bond forfeitures. Some of County Sheriff Jess Ramos' duties include criminal investigations, traffic enforcement and jail operations. County residents can register to vote with Elections Administrator Mark Bishop.

For more information, go to www.co.lampasas.tx.us.



A float with the Spring Ho beauty pageant winners and runner-ups goes by July 8 in Lampasas. The Spring Ho celebration is a weeklong celebration and the parade happens the second to last day.

Lampasas offers small-town charm

The city of Lampasas manages to safely walk the line between small-town rustic charm and big city convenience, with a population of about 7,000 and a short, 15-minute drive to Copperas Cove.

Lampasas — about 30 miles west of Killeen — was founded in 1883, and today it is run by a council-manager style of government led by Mayor Misti Talbert, Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Williamson, and council members TJ Monroe, Robert McCauley, Delana Keele-Toups, Mike White, Greg Smith and City Manager Finley deGraffenried.

Greg Smith's seat will be up for re-election in the May 5 election, and the position is being vied for by Catherine Kuehne and T.J. Wright.

Council members and the mayor are elected at-large for two-year terms. The council, which meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of every month at City Hall, 312 E. Third St., is responsible for adopting budgets, determining policies, appointing the city manager and approving legislation.

A major attraction is the city's annual Spring Ho Festival, which is traditionally held on the second weekend in July. Founded in 1972 by residents Gary Martin and Milton Boone, the festival commemorates the rejuvenating powers

of Sulphur Springs.

In terms of commercial growth, one of Lampasas' largest employers, Oil States Industries, broke ground in September on a 42,200-square-foot expansion just south of its existing building.

Multiple businesses came to Lampasas in 2017, including The Shoppe on Key, Chick Pool & Spa, Lucy Suz, Rocky River RV Resort, The Cake Lady, Broken Fork Restaurant, Centex Cryotherapy, Roll-Call Security & Communications and Putters & Gutters Family Fun Center.

The Keystone Hotel, a local landmark built between 1856 and 1870, was purchased by an Austin man with a lifelong interest in historic buildings. Over the years it was known as the Gracy Hotel and the Star Hotel, along with its more familiar name.

Andy Fish purchased the 8,620-square-foot building and its 0.419-acre property with plans to renovate the building, mainly for private use, while preserving its most historic features. The structure has not been used commercially since the closing of Lampasas Federal Savings in the 1990s, but the community is happy to see this landmark come back to life.

To find out more about the city, visit www.lampasas.org.

Road projects improve transit across Central Texas

Investments continue to be made in Killeen-Fort Hood area road projects. Construction remains a common sight, but some projects have been completed, while others are ongoing.

The Waco District of the Texas Department of Transportation plans, designs, builds and maintains the state transportation system in eight area counties. Upcoming projects put a focus on safety by dedicating more than \$86 million on striping, texturing and raised pavement markers. About 63 percent of state projects are completed on time, while 95 percent are finished under budget.

INTERSTATE 14

The area's main east-west thoroughfare — U.S. Highway 190 — received its official designation as an interstate highway in January 2017.

The 25-mile stretch from Belton to Copperas Cove is now Interstate 14, and is the first segment of a strategic deployment route that will eventually connect forts to ports from El Paso to Savannah, Georgia. More than \$100 million of state and local investment brought the Killeen and Fort Hood portion to interstate standards.

While already designated, work continues east of Killeen.

The highway from the west end of Harker Heights to just west of Belton will be widened from four to six lanes.

The first phase of construction, from one mile west of Farm-to-Market 2410 to Indian Trail started this month, with completion scheduled for spring 2019.

No funding has been identified yet for the expansion further east.

The Texas Department of Transportation continues construction.

ROSEWOOD DRIVE OVERPASS

The city of Killeen completed an overpass on U.S. Highway 190 at Rosewood Drive in October 2015. The overpass created a major north-south route by connecting Rosewood Drive under the highway.

INTERSTATE 35

The construction, widening and safety-proofing of Texas' primary



Construction is seen on FM 2410 in Harker Heights on April 9. It's one of several ongoing road projects in Central Texas as more people move to the region.

north-south interstate continues in Bell County. The multiyear project will widen the highway to three lanes on both sides from San Antonio to Hillsboro. It is funded through federal stimulus money along with a voter-approved road construction initiative.

An interchange flyover now connects U.S. 190 with Interstate 35.

Construction began in fall 2010, but stalled in 2013 because of right-of-way purchase issues in other areas of the I-35 widening project.

STATE HIGHWAY 195

State Highway 195 construction is finalized near the Bell/Williamson County line north of Florence. The large project turned one of the main routes from the Killeen area to Austin into a four-lane divided highway and included a bypass of Florence. Construction began in 2011.

Other projects include construction to enhance the landscape near the southern part of Killeen city limits near Sharp Cemetery Road; a turnaround underpass for north and south traffic on SH195 frontage roads and FM 3470; and

milling and inlay from U.S. Highway 190 to FM 3470.

STAGECOACH ROAD

Construction on Stagecoach Road continues as crews now work to fix the Killeen road.

The \$17 million project was expected to reach completion by fall 2016, but there was a failure in the asphalt that caused cracking.

Previous work widened Stagecoach Road from a two-lane road to five with a continuous center turn lane. The project includes construction of a 12-inch waterline, a 16-inch force main and an 18-inch gravity sewer main. New traffic signals also were planned.

TRIMMIER ROAD

Construction on Trimmer from Jasper Drive to Elms Road is substantially complete. The project widened the north-south thoroughfare to five lanes in the busy commercial corridor and installed new signalization, intersections, entrances and sidewalks.

The \$7.7 million multi-part project began in January 2015.

Killeen airport offers convenience for travelers

The Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport provides regional and local residents and travelers with access to two major airline hubs, making most destinations a quick hop away.

Convenience is a key draw.

American Airlines and United offer flights daily to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport and Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport, respectively.

The airport at 8101 S. Clear Creek Road in southwest Killeen, which opened in 2004 and expanded in 2011, is easily accessed via improved area highways and is easy to get to from anywhere in Central Texas.

Paid short- and long-term parking is adjacent to the terminal; the first half hour is free. Veterans and military award recipients who qualify are exempt.

Rental car companies as well as taxis and shuttles provide ground transportation.

The Ted C. Connell Terminal Building, which spans 91,000 square feet, has a gift shop, coffee shop and ATMs. The terminal's namesake originally brought air service to Killeen in 1966. Connell was an automobile, banking, real estate and regional airline businessman, and former Killeen mayor from 1962 to 1966. He also served as a personal aide to President Lyndon B. Johnson. In 2004,



Lisa Lee kisses her mother, Elizabeth Collins, before a flight at the Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport.

a 7-foot bronze statue was erected at the airport's grand opening in his honor.

The airport also honors Robert Gray, a Killeen native, who was a pilot on the famous Doolittle Raid in 1942. The airfield is named after him and a 7-foot bronze statue as well as memorabilia is displayed in the terminal.

Go to FlyKilleen.net for flight schedules, services and more information.

SKYLARK FIELD

The city's general aviation airport is on the east side and serves private aircraft, charter jets and aviation businesses.

The airfield at 1523 Stonetree Drive does not offer commercial airline passenger service. It served as Killeen's commercial airport for decades prior

to the opening of Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport in 2004.

The airfield formerly known as Killeen Municipal Airport has a 5,500-foot runway with precision instrument approach, making it a popular choice for private and business aircraft. Aviation fuel sales, T-hangar and tie-down space rentals and tenant services are available.

About 65 single- and multi-engine aircraft are based at Skylark Field. The airfield is home to the Central Texas College aviation program, which offers flight instruction and aviation degrees. The terminal building is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, except major holidays. Jet fuel and 100LL Avgas are also available at self-service pumps 24 hours a day. Call 254-501-8728 or go to www.skylarkfield.net.




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The HOP coordinates many kinds of trips with routes and services across Central Texas.

The HOP provides transit for residents

Hill Country Transit District operates The HOP, Central Texas' regional public transit system.

Although The HOP strives to provide "seamless" public transportation, The HOP service is actually provided for "rural" service areas and for "urban" service areas.

Urban service is provided in Copperas Cove, Killeen, Harker Heights, Belton, and Temple, with a direct connector route providing stops in Harker Heights, Nolanville, Belton and Temple. The rural service covers over 9,000 square miles in nine counties including Milam, Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Mills, Lampasas, San Saba, Llano and Mason counties.

Each year, The HOP transports approximately 850,000 riders. In the rural service areas, more than 11,000 passengers ride each month. In the urban service areas, more than 50,000 riders use the fixed route bus service, and more than 12,000 riders each month use the Special Transit Service, a door-to-door service provided by The HOP in these urban areas.

The HOP operates 10 fixed routes — one each in Copperas Cove, Harker Heights and Belton; two in Temple; four in Killeen; and one that serve primarily as a connector route between major cities in the service area. Bus routes are indicated by numbered signs along area streets, and each bus stop has map and schedule information.

Urban services operate from approxi-

mately 6 a.m. until 7 p.m. weekdays, and limited service (approximately 9 to 6 p.m.) is provided on Saturdays. The base bus fare for fixed route is \$1.

A reduced fare of 50 cents is available for seniors 60 years or older, children 12 or younger, Medicare recipients, students and those with disabilities provided they have a discount card issued by The HOP. Monthly passes with unlimited rides are \$25. Rural fares may vary, and rural passengers should call The HOP for specific information. Riders must have the correct fare because drivers cannot make change. Multi-ride tickets and monthly passes can be purchased at the Killeen City Library at 205 E. Church Ave. in Killeen, or they may be purchased in person or by mail through the Belton office. Bus passes also can be purchased at Harker Heights City Hall, at Temple City Hall, and at the Belton Utility Billing Department.

To assist local agencies who wish to provide transit access for their clients, The HOP offers "tokens" for sale at The HOP's operations office in Belton. The HOP office accepts cash, cashier checks, or money orders. Bus route maps also are available at these offices, as well as inside The HOP buses.

Route and schedule information is also available on The HOP website: www.takethehop.com.

For more information, call 254-933-3700, and select option 3 for customer service.

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Killeen ISD sets bond election as district grows

For the first time since 2002, Killeen Independent School District embarked on a major project in the last quarter of 2017, developing projects and costs for a bond issue that will be presented for a vote on the May 5 ballot.

The request for \$426 million in property owners' tax dollars will be divided into two ballot propositions — \$235 million and \$191 million.

The projects included in the bond issue are construction of a new high school and new elementary school, both of which should open for the 2022-2023 school year; renovations to bring older schools into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and increased security in and around the buildings, as well as consolidations of some older campuses into new buildings, and renovations to Killeen High School and Clifton Park Elementary School.

The bond issue was driven, in part, by current overcrowding in the district's schools. Enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year, the 26th largest school district in Texas, is expected to be nearly 45,000 students, a new record high, according to KISD officials.

This will be the first school construction bond election for Killeen ISD in 16 years. Since the last bond, KISD has grown by nearly 14,000 students.

"The bond program would replace up to 60 of 69 middle school and up to 50 of 59 high school portable classrooms with newly constructed, permanent classrooms," said Terry Abbott, KISD chief communications officer.

A bond steering committee, comprised of parents and community members, spent more than a month studying the facilities needs of the district and determining priority projects before recommending to the school board on Dec. 12 that the bond program be placed on the ballot for voter approval.

The community steering committee's work came after years of public discussion by KISD leaders about a possible bond program, and detailed facilities and academic planning that took place over the past several years. If voters approve the bonds, property taxes for the average home in the district valued at \$150,000 with a homestead exemption



Members of two new Cyber Patriot computer networking teams compete Jan. 20 in a state level competition. The students are taking information technology courses at the KISD Career Center.

KILLEEN ISD REGISTRATION

For families who want to enroll their children with the Killeen Independent School District, the district has an online option. "We have made the registration process easier for new-to-families with online registration," district officials said.

Now parents may complete the required back-to-school forms online and then visit campus enrollment for finalization. The following documents are needed for registration:

1. Current proof of residency within Killeen ISD (utility bill or lease contract)

2. Certified birth certificate
3. Student's Social Security card
4. Immunization record
5. Previous school record

Enrollment for prekindergarten through 12th grade will be at your student's home campus. Please contact your student's home campus for enrollment hours.

To find your home campus, go to <http://bit.ly/29KekKE>.

For more information on what supplies or immunization shots are needed for your student, go to <https://www.killeenisd.org/frontPageV3/onlineregistration.cfm>.

would increase about \$190 per year:

"With the tax increase, KISD's tax rate would still be far lower than that of almost every other school district in the central Texas area," Abbott said.

Property owners age 65 and older would see no tax rate increase at all as a result of the bond issue, because property tax rates for those senior citizens are frozen at their current levels.

Other initiatives will take KISD to the cutting edge of technology. The Early College High School will have its first graduating class in 2019, with a total of 1,200 students enrolled in the program providing an associate degree and high school diploma in partnership with Central Texas College.

A middle school STEM — science, technology, engineering and math — program opened at Roy J. Smith Middle

School for the 2017-2018 year. The STEM program will expand to all four KISD high schools for the 2018-2019 school year, also in partnership with CTC.

There are other construction projects in the works that will be funded from the existing district budget.

The 14th middle school being built on Warriors Path in Harker Heights at an estimated cost of \$54 million is scheduled to open for the 2020-2021 school year.

The 35th elementary school is slated for construction on Morganite Lane in Killeen. The building will cost approximately \$37 million and should be complete in time to open in the fall of 2019.

An expansion of the agricultural science barn at the Killeen Career Center should be done by fall of 2018. A Career Center expansion is also in the planning stages, with the cost yet to be determined.

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Kyliegh Courtland, from left, Kiyasia Jones, Kelsey Jones and Savannah Briggs participate in an “exploding pumpkins” experiment during Mad Scientist Day in the Life Skills Department at Copperas Cove High School on Oct. 31.

Several projects underway as Copperas Cove ISD expands

School district enrollments are bound to fluctuate. Copperas Cove Independent School District, however, has seen recent growth.

At the end of January, Copperas Cove Independent School District had an enrollment of 8,132 students, according to Rick Kirkpatrick, deputy superintendent of operations and support services. “The district peaked this year at 8,184 students.”

Kirkpatrick added, “The district has grown by approximately 75 students per year for the last three years.”

He anticipates an additional uptick in enrollment for CCISD due to approximately 1,100 new homes will be constructed over the next several years.

A number of projects are underway in the Copperas Cove school district. The largest is the construction of a new transportation facility off of Summers Road, Kirkpatrick said.

“Our current facility is situated in a neighborhood and the flow of buses through there tend to cause congestion,” he said “In addition, the site is much too small for our current fleet, causing the district to park buses in the adjacent alley.”

COPPERAS COVE ISD REGISTRATION

All necessary information for enrollment is easily accessible on the Copperas Cove Independent School District’s website at [http:// www.ccisd.com/155050_2](http://www.ccisd.com/155050_2). New students must bring the following documents:

- Student’s Social Security card
- Current immunization records
- Proof of residence within CCISD

(current utility bill or lease contract)

- Emergency contact information
- Copy of student’s records from school most recently attended
- Guardianship papers (if applicable)
- Official birth certificate

For more information, go to www.ccisd.com and click on the For Parents tab.

The new transportation facility will have plenty of parking for the district’s entire fleet and room for future expansion, should it be needed. The second project in the district is the renovation of the original Cove State Bank building into administrative offices.

“Currently, the district’s administration is spaced out over three different buildings, some without adequate restroom facilities,” Kirkpatrick said.

The renovated facility will bring all of the CCISD administration under one roof and provide much-needed training facilities for the district.

Innovations are part of CCISD’s curriculum projects, as well.

CCISD has a partnership with Central Texas College in Killeen to allow current high school students to attend CTC to earn college credits, according to Kirkpatrick.

“This is very beneficial to students as they have the opportunity to experience a true college course. It also benefits the district by reducing the number of students on the high school campus at any one time.”

As the district’s student population continues to grow, that benefit will be very important to maintaining classroom teacher-to-student ratios and providing the best education possible to all students.

Belton ISD plans construction to keep up with growth

The Belton Independent School District has officially broken ground on plans to continue to address district growth.

In May 2017, voters approved a \$149.7 million bond program to fund the construction of two new Belton ISD campuses and smaller projects at two existing facilities.

"The growth is really happening all over Belton ISD," said Superintendent Susan Kincannon.

"We're preparing for the new homes and the new students that will come with those new homes in our school district."

As a fast-growth district, the current elementary and middle schools are expected to be at or near capacity in 2019, with the high schools reaching capacity two years later.

The district's snapshot enrollment, which it provides as an official count to the state at the end of October, was 11,535 in fall 2017. Belton ISD has grown by more than 3,000 students in the last decade, and that rate of growth is not expected to slow down anytime soon.

According to demographers, the district will likely see a fall 2022 enrollment of 13,787 students.

Construction started in January on improvements to the Wall Street Auditorium and the addition of a gymnasium,



Belton's Chase King (16) pitches against Killeen. Belton won 11-0 in five innings.

music classrooms and bathrooms at Lakewood Elementary School. Both projects are scheduled for completion by this fall.

Also in January, the community joined teachers, students and District administrators to celebrate the ground breaking of Belton ISD's 11th elementary campus.

Named after the location chosen for the first election held in Bell County in

1850, Charter Oak Elementary will be built near the intersection of Poison Oak Road and Carriage House Drive in the city of Temple.

"We currently have 5,526 students in grades PK-5, and by the time we open Charter Oak Elementary in the fall of 2019, we will have nearly 5,800 elementary students," Kincannon said. "This new elementary school will help us to meet our capacity needs, and it will allow us to continue to provide a quality education for our children for generations to come."

When finished, Charter Oak Elementary will have space for about 800 students in a flexible and adaptable 21st century learning environment.

The final major project voters supported as a part of the May 2017 bond program is the district's second comprehensive high school.

Lake Belton High School is scheduled to open in fall 2020 with students in grades nine and 10, and another grade will be added in each of the next two years.

The first senior class will graduate from the school in 2023.

A groundbreaking ceremony for Lake Belton High School, which will be built near the intersection of Farm-to-Market roads 317 and 2483 in the city of Temple, will be held in May.

Florence ISD educates more than 1,000 students on three campuses

The Florence Independent School District serves 1,023 students in three separate schools in Florence, in northwestern Williamson County south of Killeen on State Highway 195.

Paul Michalewicz is in his fourth year as superintendent of Florence ISD. The Board of Trustees nominated him in March for the Texas Association of School Boards Superintendent of the Year award.

The district met standards required by the Texas Education Agency, according to the 2016-2017 Texas Academic Performance Report.

The school board meets regularly on the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Florence High School library, 401 Farm-to-Market 970. The board of trustees consists of Ed Navarette, president; Dena Shelton, vice president; Jason Earp, secretary; and members Jeff Stone, Lance Loerwald, Joshua Atkinson and David Iiams.

After May 5, Charles Giddens, who is unopposed for elec-



Florence's Hannah Gray set a personal record on the deadlift at the regional competition on March 3 in Temple.

tion, will replace Iiams on the board.

Agendas for district meetings are available at www.florenceisd.net. The district headquarters is at 306 College Ave. Call 254-793-2850 for more information.

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Salado's Javier Chavez, right, and Lampasas' Isaac Alford (2) compete for the ball during a Class 4A playoff opener in Copperas Cove.

Lampasas ISD expands CTE program

The Lampasas Independent School District has made great strides in its technological initiatives, and students, parents and teachers are all benefiting.

Serving nearly 3,400 students enrolled in prekindergarten through 12th grade, the district is a perfect match for families interested in rural living while remaining in close proximity to modern conveniences.

"We now have students who are working to obtain the skills needed to become job ready upon graduating high school," district Superintendent Chane Rascoe said. "We are very pleased with the progress and have future plans to expand our (CTE) program even more next year."

Lampasas ISD has one of the Texas Education Agency's best-rated high schools in the area.

The district expanded its one-to-one technology initiative to the high school

over the summer.

"We set a goal to further extend the iBadger 1:1 technology initiative to include the ninth grade this year," Rascoe said. "Thanks to the work of our great staff, we were able to extend the 1:1 initiative to the entire high school campus, including all grades 9-12."

Rascoe said the elementary campuses have been challenged to continue their success of the past.

"The Read On Lampasas program started last year and was a tremendous success," Rascoe said. "So far this year, we have increased funding for the purchase of additional reading materials and supplies, set clear expectations for each campus, conducted staff trainings, and provided students with incentives to further improve the reading performance of our kids."

Learn more at www.lisdtx.org.

Gatesville school district thriving with nearly 2,800 students

Formed in the 1880s, the Gatesville Independent School District now has nearly 2,800 students.

A \$25.6 million budget for 2017-2018 school year ensures those students have ample opportunities to learn.

Eric Penrod has been the district's superintendent since 2015.

"This district has a long tradition of academic excellence, coupled with a strong commitment to the success of every student," Penrod said. "Our mission is to provide all students with programs of excellence that instill a passion for lifelong learning, while preparing them for the challenges of tomorrow," he said. "We are committed to preparing our students for their future by providing high-quality, well-rounded educational programs both in and out of the classroom. While we cannot predict the future, it is essential that we support our students in developing the knowledge and skills that will guide them on their journey as lifelong learners."

The district has five school buildings including a primary (PK-K), elementary (1-3), Intermediate (4-6), Junior High (7-8) and High School (9-12). A new elementary school was completed in 2015.



Gatesville quarterback Jett Truss keeps the ball for a 6-yard touchdown run against China Spring.

There are seven school board members including: board president, Joe Nolte; vice president, Mary Anne Leib; Secretary, Michelle Edwards; and members Cheyenne Kizer, Rob Erwin, David Fincher and John Westbrook. The seats

occupied by Nolte and Edwards will be up for election in November 2018.

The administration building is at 311 S. Lovers Lane in Gatesville. Call 254-865-7251 or go to www.gatesvilleisd.org for more information.

Salado ISD seeks bond to manage rapid growth

Salado Independent School District continues its growth, with the district's enrollment increasing from 1,348 to 1,854 students over the past five years.

Last year's enrollment was 1,767 students. The enrollment growth of 38 percent in the past five years is the highest percentage increase of all 81 school districts in the Waco region, according to Superintendent Michael Novotny.

To address this growth, the district has called for a \$49.4 million bond election on May 5. This bond would fund:

- \$41.2 million for a new sixth-through eighth-grade middle school to accommodate the enrollment growth
- \$7.4 million for new baseball and

softball fields, practice fields and improvements to the existing football/soccer/track stadium

- \$800,000 for hallways/corridors to connect three separate elementary school buildings

"About three-fourths of our growth has been from families moving into our district and new homes being built," Novotny said. "There are several home developments within our district boundaries. New homes are popping up and families are moving in with kids. And then about one-fourth is attributed to additional transfer students — students who live in neighboring districts and their families are transferring their kids into our district."

The Salado Independent School Dis-

trict was awarded the Postsecondary Readiness Distinction Designation by the Texas Education Agency. "Out of the 159 school districts in Central Texas (Austin/Waco regions), we are one of only six districts that received this recognition," according to the district.

Salado High School took third place in the state academic UIL competition out of about 200 high schools in the 4A level in the past year, Novotny said.

The Salado High School football team made it to the fourth round of playoffs in the fall, and the Salado High School filmmaking team had two films win state championships.

The district also started a health science program this year that helps prepare students for careers in medical fields.

Military Child Education Coalition serving children for 20 years

The Military Child Education Coalition has made an impact on lives of military children across the globe for 20 years. The nonprofit, located in Harker Heights, has hosted programs and training and advocated for the children of service members to ensure that the constant moves and trying separations and deployments do not impact their education.

The coalition began as an idea in the late 1990s at the kitchen table of Sandy Schwartz, spouse of then-Fort Hood commander Lt. Gen. Thomas Schwartz and began to form partnerships with the surrounding school districts, said Mary M. Keller, president, CEO and co-founder.

Now with more than 200 employees and programs and trainings just about everywhere you can find military families, it's notable that this international organization has kept its headquarters in Harker Heights instead of moving up to Washington, D.C.

"We believe goodness happens at the local level," Keller said. "The school districts been wonderful partners as we've developed new concepts. They are also thought partners and innovators with us."

Two major programs of the coalition are the Parent to Parent program and the Student 2 Student program. Both are based on peer interactions to build community, awareness and advocacy.

The parent program began in 2006



From left, Shoemaker High School seniors Francis Bautista Aguon, Dabria Brown and Leilani Amituanai presented at a national Military Child Education Coalition conference.

and will soon reach 250,000 participants, Keller said. It uses informative and interactive parent workshops to groups and organizations in the local community that address academic, social, and emotional issues associated with a military family lifestyle. Here it is funded through a grant from the Sid Richardson Foundation out of Fort Worth.

The student version has iterations for elementary to high school-aged children and brings together civilian and military dependents to greet new students at school. It's now in more than 1,000 schools.

"One of our first five Student 2 Stu-

dent programs was at Harker Heights High School, Keller said, reiterating the strong partnership with the district that makes this possible. "It gives us this wonderful reasonableness test."

The program is now in schools from Belton to Gatesville.

For smaller children, the coalition hosts Tell Me a Story events, where kids can hear a story read by a local celebrity. Then they can participate in an activity and take home a free copy of the book.

The first curriculum was created in 1999, thanks to a grant from the national arm of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Another grant allows the coalition to fund about 20 military student transition consultants to serve as their special guidance counselors in military-heavy districts. One works within both the Killeen and Copperas Cove districts. Other districts have guidance counselors who have received additional training and are known as military student transition affiliates.

"We're a coalition. We cannot claim credit. This is a community of work. That's what we're proud of we're really a relentless focus," Keller said. "We have a sacred obligation to children whose parents are serving."

While the coalition's official anniversary date is Aug. 10, officials plan to celebrate a few times this year, including in July at their national training seminar in Washington, D.C.

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Private, charter schools offer alternatives for education

THE RICHARD MILBURN ACADEMY

The Richard Milburn Academy is one of eight academies in Texas. At RMA, students in grades nine through 12 have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma in an environment in which they feel safe, supported and valued. Students can choose from two daily sessions to complete their nontraditional academic, career and life skills curriculum.

Richard Milburn Academy, home to about 200 high school students, is now located at 802 N Eighth St. Call 254-634-4444, or go to www.milburnschools.org.

OAK CREEK ACADEMY

Oak Creek Academy is a nonprofit private school for students in prekindergarten through 12th grade. Established in 2013, Oak Creek offers curriculum tailored to individual students' needs, with in-house speech, occupational, physical and behavioral therapies.

This non-graded school has a 1:5 teacher to student ratio that promotes one-on-one learning and individualized instruc-

tion. Parents also work with teachers and therapists to promote learning in and outside of the classroom.

Oak Creek is at 1020 Trimmier Road in Killeen. Call 254-526-9299 or go to www.oakcreekkilleen.org.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The St. Joseph Catholic School is a private school for prekindergarten to sixth grade students accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Commission. St. Joseph promotes the teachings of the Catholic Church, along with a curriculum of traditional courses such as math, science, language arts, social studies, physical education, music, technology, and Spanish language.

The school is at 2901 E. Rancier Ave. in Killeen. Call 254-634-7272.

KILLEEN ADVENTIST JUNIOR ACADEMY

The Killeen Adventist Junior Academy is a private, tuition-based school for prekindergarten through eighth grade. Its curriculum is distributed

by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventist Education Department while also incorporating the common core. The academy is accredited through an extension of the Texas Education Agency. For more information, call 254-699-9466. The academy is at 3412 Lake Road in Killeen.

MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

The Memorial Christian Academy is a private religious school located on the grounds of the Memorial Baptist Church in Killeen. Its academic curriculum for students prekindergarten through 12th grade is based on biblical teachings and promotes a Christian worldview. The school is accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Athletics, as well as before- and after-school care for students, are also offered.

Call 254-526-5403 or visit www.mcawarriors.com. The academy is at 4001 Trimmier Road, Killeen.

Communities in Schools offers support to local children

Communities In Schools of Greater Central Texas is a local, nonprofit organization currently serving Bell, Coryell and Williamson counties.

Since the organization's founding in 1992, CIS has grown to serve 48 campuses in six school districts: Killeen, Copperas Cove, Temple, Belton, Salado and Florence.

CIS is one of 27 affiliates across the state of Texas that is a part of the national CIS organization, which includes 164 affiliates across the nation.

"Communities In Schools is the nation's largest and most effective dropout prevention organization because we do whatever it takes to keep kids in school and on the path to graduation," CIS Executive Director Michael Dewees said. "Our mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life."

The organization offers services that

support students at risk of dropping out, to include academic support like tutoring, and even basic needs such as food and clothing for underprivileged students.

CIS addresses student needs by providing supportive guidance and counseling, including children dealing with the deployment of a parent as well as grief counseling, crisis intervention, mentoring, conflict resolution, anger management, drug and gang prevention and alcohol awareness.

Dewees said his mission is simple. "Our goals are twofold: To improve academic performance and to provide access to basic necessities so academic success is possible," Dewees said. "Once student needs are met, they can turn their attention and energy to school. This ultimately leads to academic success and higher achievement in school and in life."

Many children face challenges both

inside and outside the classroom, he said.

"There may be ample resources in a community, but rarely is there someone on hand who is able to connect these resources with the schools, students, and families that need them most," Dewees said.

To accomplish its goals, CIS partners with local businesses, social service agencies, health care providers and volunteers.

In the 2016-17 school year, CIS served over 5,328 students struggling in academics; on average 91 percent of students improved in academics, behavior, and/or attendance, 99 percent stayed in school, and 98 percent were promoted to the next grade.

CIS relies in part on donations and the support of the community in which it serves.

To learn more or to make a donation, go to www.cis-tex.org.

Central Texas College offers variety of programs

Central Texas College has evolved into a unique institution focusing on an affordable, accessible education.

The school's diverse student population includes nearly 6,000 students per semester at its Killeen and Fort Hood campuses and an additional 10,000 area students taking classes online.

CTC prepares students for jobs or to transfer to four-year universities, with more than 100 associate degrees and certificates of completion available in many diverse fields.

CTC celebrated its 50th year of providing higher educational opportunities to area residents with the fall 2017 semester. Since opening its doors to more than 2,000 students in 1967, CTC has evolved into an institution focusing on an affordable, accessible education.

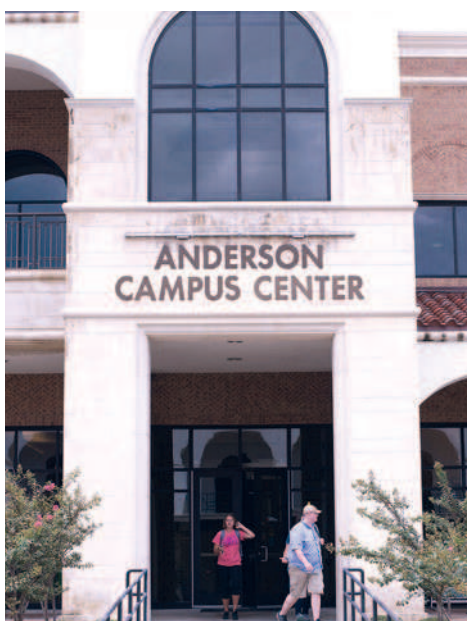
CTC is the top college choice for graduating high school seniors in the area. Local students can save nearly \$15,000 in tuition and fees by completing an associate degree with CTC before moving on to a four-year university, according to university officials.

The school focuses on preparing students for jobs or to transfer to four-year universities, with more than 100 associate degrees and certificates of completion available in many fields.

Programs of study include aviation science, business administration, communications, computer science, computer-aided drafting and design, electronics technology, industrial technology, interdisciplinary studies, language, mathematics, nursing and paramedic, science and computer and information technology.

Distance education or online class offerings continue to expand. This past year, CTC was ranked among the best online colleges in the country by affordablecollegesonline.org and best-valueschools.com. CTC was also named to the Military Times Best: Colleges 2018 list for the eighth consecutive year and was listed as the second most popular school for Army personnel and fourth most popular overall among all military personnel using Tuition Assistance.

In addition, CTC offers more than 400 online and blended (a combina-



Students walk out of the Anderson Campus Center at Central Texas College.

tion of online and classroom) courses. Students may complete 37 certificates and 32 degrees online. CTC also offers a Weekend and Evening College program to allow students with busy work and family schedules to complete any of 27 associate degree plans or 11 certificate programs at night and on weekends.

Another flexible class format innovation added last semester was the CTC Degrees on The Go program. Students can earn an associate degree in 15-16 months through a combination of online classes and evening/weekend classes at either the CTC central campus in Killeen or its Fort Hood campus.

Last semester, the Electronics Department began offering an Industrial Control and Robotics certificate program which prepares students for employment in operating, testing, maintaining and calibrating unmanned, automated, servo-mechanical or electromechanical equipment. This type of robotic equipment may be found aboard submarines, aircraft and equipment at worksites such as oil rigs, deep ocean exploration or hazardous waste removal.

CTC continues to foster strong relationships with Fort Hood. Recently, a new military articulation paramedic program opened which awards credit to

military or Department of Defense first responders for their experience, knowledge and military trauma courses.

This allows them to articulate from their current EMT certification to a paramedic in two semesters, plus internship, instead of the traditional four semesters. In addition, CTC and the Fort Hood Transition Assistance Program are combining to offer a variety of programs in industrial/vocational technology to benefit transitioning soldiers.

Expanding opportunities for high school students in the area school districts to get a head start on a college education has also been a major part of CTC's offerings. Initially offering only dual-enrollment college courses, CTC partnered with the Killeen Independent School District to initiate the Early College High School in 2016.

This past fall, CTC welcomed back more than 200 KISD juniors to their new home, the recently remodeled Shoemaker Center, on the CTC campus. Many of these students are also enjoying classroom space in the newly remodeled Eagle Hall, which opened in the spring 2018 semester.

The Early College High School students are the first with the unique opportunity to combine high school and college courses to earn a college degree and a high school diploma in the spring of 2019. CTC has also opened a similar program with the Copperas Cove school district this fall.

"As we eclipse our 50-year milestone, one thing that remains constant is our passion to provide a quality affordable education and training to military connected students and families all over the world and to diverse students here in the heart of central Texas," said Jim Yeonopolus, CTC chancellor. "CTC's tuition is the most affordable in the region. Our class sizes are comfortable, not overwhelming and credits earned at CTC transfer seamlessly to four-year public and private institutions, saving thousands — often tens of thousands — of dollars. These reasons and the fact our high educational quality is never compromised make CTC an excellent choice for higher educational pursuits."

A&M-Central Texas offers affordable higher education

Texas A&M University-Central Texas seeks to continually expand its campus and programming since opening eight years ago.

The university is moving closer to realizing its 30-year plan, carried out with the construction of more buildings on campus.

The university also reached several other milestone achievements and has more on the horizon.

The university is on track to complete construction on Heritage Hall, a \$36 million, 60,000-square-foot third multi-use building, by August.

Heritage Hall will be the home of a new bachelor's degree coming to the school: Exercise Physiology and Human Performance. The degree will be a bachelor's of science.

Heritage, which includes an exercise lab, is where said students of this new program will study, said university spokeswoman Karen Clos.

The new building will also house offices for professors from the Arts and Science college, who teach subjects that include math, English, history, sociology and biology. The ROTC department, computer classrooms and a library archive will also be included in Heritage Hall.

Clos said architects originally designed A&M-Central Texas in a way that would allow for future buildings to be constructed alongside each other in a uniform, circular fashion. Heritage Hall will connect Founders and Warrior halls. "If I could describe Heritage Hall, I would call it very dramatic," Clos said.

U.S. News & World Report also ranked four graduate programs among its annual Best Online Programs list.

Two programs were in the top 100. The Master of Criminal Justice program ranked 28th, and the Master of Management and Leadership program ranked 95th. The Master of Business Administration program ranked 108th and the Master of Education program ranked 196th.

"Thousands of colleges and universities across the country vie for a place in this ranking," Clos said. "And although we are less than 10 years old as a university, we are demonstrating our com-



Patrons attend the Warrior Week celebration event at Texas A&M University-Central Texas in Killeen.

petitive abilities where it matters: the strength of our academic programs."

A&M-Central Texas received the Bronze Designation for the ALL IN Democracy Challenge for increasing student voting rates on campus for the 2016 election. The only other universities in Texas to receive this designation were the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Texas at Arlington.

A&M-Central Texas Research and Economic Development Office purchased a portable scanning electron microscope. The purchase of the microscope

inspires the interest of Central Texas students in STEM fields, Clos said.

The graduating class in December 2017, 366 graduates, was the largest in school history for any single commencement.

As with many other schools in the Killeen area, A&M-Central Texas had a large presence of military-connected students.

Out of the December 2017 class, 50 percent were military affiliated. There were 9.6 percent active-duty students, as well as veterans making up 29 percent.



UMHB's T.J. Josey, right, embraces Haston Adams after an NCAA Division III semifinal win over Brockport, 24-0, at Crusader Stadium on the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor campus in Belton.

UMHB prepares students for the future

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor continues to add to an expanding repertoire of facilities on campus.

In 2017, the university enjoyed a year marked with new facilities and the addition of new programs, such as the Sue & Frank Mayborn Performing Arts Center.

Reception to the Sue & Frank Mayborn Performing Arts Center has been "fantastic," according to university spokesman James Stafford.

The 40,725-square-foot facility has seen capacity crowds at several concerts and events hosted there, Stafford said. It opened in the fall, and the performing arts center includes multifunctional rooms that allow for learning and performance purposes.

The design also includes a 2,000-square-foot chamber hall, which can be used as a classroom, a venue for small concerts or recitals, or a reception space for social gatherings.

Hardy Hall is going to be renovated to accommodate the university's new Occupational Therapy program, which will start accepting students next year, Stafford said. Classes will begin in the spring of 2020.

New programs added this year include an accelerated RN to BSN program, a program in gerontology and occupational therapy. UMHB is also gearing up to

expand its health sciences program with the launch of a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy.

With an anticipated start date of January 2020, the department is moving full steam ahead under the leadership of its new director, Dr. Giulianne "Julie" Krug, who joined UMHB last August to develop the program.

"We are strongly committed to providing our future OT students with the most current education and hands-on learning experiences possible as we prepare graduates who are ready to enter the professional world with confidence, excellence, and excitement," Krug said.

UMHB reported another record enrollment year. According to the official report, 3,914 students now call UMHB home. This number included 174 students pursuing master degrees and 71 students pursuing their doctorate.

Last year, UMHB had 3,898 students enrolled.

The university currently has 11 active-duty military enrolled.

Notable accomplishments include the accreditation of the school's physical therapy program and donors contributing a total of \$82 million for the UMHB Momentum Campaign.

Stafford said he believes Mary Hardin-Baylor is on the cutting edge of all the top universities in the state.

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Metroplex provides medical services in Killeen area

Metroplex Adventist Hospital, located on Clear Creek Road in Killeen, opened its doors in 1978 to serve the growing population of the area, including a growing military community.

The hospital started with only 10 physicians on staff. Today, Metroplex has more than 300 physicians in 43 specialties. The 232-bed, multi-campus Metroplex Health System, a faith-based organization, employs about 1,200 area residents and cares for more than 110,000 patients each year.

Metroplex is one of 46 facilities within Adventist Health System, a faith-based healthcare organization headquartered in Altamonte Springs, Florida that spans across nine states.

Through its mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, Adventist Health System's more than 80,000 employees provide compassionate care and maintain a tradition of whole-person health by caring for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of every patient.

In 2008, Baylor Scott & White Health partnered with Adventist Health System to acquire a minority interest in Metroplex, which is a partnership that continues to flourish today.

RECENT AWARDS

In the past year, Metroplex received several awards including being a finalist for the Quest Award for High-value Healthcare; Mission: Lifeline Gold Receiving Quality Achievement Award; Mission: Lifeline Gold-Plus Award; and Mission: Lifeline NSTEMI Bronze Quality Achievement Award. Additionally, Metroplex received its seventh consecutive "A" grade for its hospital safety score, which rates how well hospitals protect patients from medical errors, injuries and infections within the hospital. It was named a 2017 Top Hospital by the Leapfrog Group.

In addition to its many awards, Metroplex Adventist Hospital received Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers from The Joint Commission for its compliance with stroke-related standards and requirements.

The hospital also was certified as a Stage 7 hospital by HIMSS Analytics,

a national healthcare data analyst, for reaching the highest level on the Electronic Medical Record Adaptation Model.

ROLLINS BROOK

Metroplex Health System operates several healthcare facilities, including Rollins Brook Community Hospital, a 25-bed critical access hospital in Lampasas. It offers many technological services, including a 24-hour emergency center, a state-of-the-art laboratory, medical and surgical rooms, CT and MRI scanning, digital mammography, cardiopulmonary services with EKG and stress testing, sleep disorder center, bone density testing and wound care therapies.

CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Metroplex Center for Behavioral Health is the area's only full-service behavioral health center for children, adolescents, adults and seniors. The 60-bed facility offers numerous treatment programs including inpatient, partial hospitalization and outpatient options. The center is a designated Killeen Independent School District campus, giving it the ability to meet the educational needs of children and adolescent patients while in inpatient or partial hospitalization care.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONS

Metroplex Heart and Vascular Center: Staffed by a team of highly trained technologists and diagnostic and interventional cardiologists, the Metroplex Heart and Vascular Center offers 24/7 cardiac services.

Metroplex Clinic Physicians: An ever-growing physician services organization and home to 8 physicians who practice a variety of specialties, two nurse practitioners and a licensed social worker.

Home Care of Metroplex: Accredited by The Joint Commission, Home Care of Metroplex is an award-winning provider of home health care services.

Metroplex Rehabilitation Center: As the largest outpatient rehabilitation center in Central Texas, the Metroplex Rehabilitation Center offers state-of-the-art treatments for physical and occupation-

al therapy, speech/language pathology services for children and adults, and a new lymphedema management program.

Metroplex Open MRI: Metroplex Open MRI utilizes the advanced Hitachi AIRIS Elite Open MRI system and is the only "true" Open (on four sides) MRI available in Killeen.

Metroplex Centers for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine: With centers in Killeen, Lampasas and Harker Heights, the Metroplex Centers for Wound Care and Hyperbaric Medicine provides advanced wound treatment, including hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

Metroplex Sleep Center offers outpatient diagnostic testing for sleep/wake disorders.

Metroplex Ambulatory Surgery Center is equipped to offer the most up-to-date surgical care, minimally invasive surgery options, and a comprehensive bariatric surgery (weight loss) program.

Metroplex Endoscopy Center: Featuring the latest in technological advancements, the Metroplex Endoscopy Center offers a comforting and caring environment for colonoscopies and other procedures specifically intended for the diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal disorders.

Community Wellness: Each year, Metroplex Wellness provides a variety of services for the community such as support groups, parenting classes, free exercise classes, free immunization and flu clinics, and free health screenings. A variety of wellness events are held, including the KidFest Health and Safety Fair, and the Silver Classic 5k. Community services are supported as well, such as the Greater Killeen Free Clinic.

Sue Mayborn Women's Center addresses women's health for all stages of life, including obstetrics and gynecology, labor and delivery, well-woman exams, mammograms and bone density testing.

Hemingway Medical Office Building: Located on the corner of Clear Creek and Bell Tower roads, the building houses physicians specializing in pediatrics, endoscopy, cardiology, gastroenterology, orthopedics, gynecology and surgery.

For more information, go to www.mplex.org.

Darnall helps soldiers, families by adding specialties

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Hood is expanding and growing patient services nearly two years in its new 1.6 million square-foot facility.

The hospital system serves nearly 100,000 beneficiaries, and consists of the main hospital with primary care and emergency services along with inpatient medical and behavioral health services. Darnall has a 151-bed capacity. On an average day, Darnall sees 3,700 daily visitors, which equates to roughly 1 million encounters per year. Of those visits about 1.2 million prescriptions keep its 13 pharmacies busy. Darnall's command team, led by commander Col. David R. Gibson, says the mission is to provide quality, patient-centered care that promotes soldier readiness, as well as community health and resilience.

Aside from the main hospital on post, Darnall's primary care clinics are on the installation and within neighboring communities. Of the primary care clinics, five are patient-centered medical homes, four are soldier-centered medical homes, and three are community-based medical homes. A fourth community-based medical home is expected to open later this year in Killeen.

Darnall has over 40 medical specialties, and recently added a rheumatologist, a spine surgeon and a plastic surgeon to the team.

Darnall has received recognition for its level of care. It's ranked No. 2 of 42 military health system facilities, putting it in the top 5 percent. It ranked in the top 4 percent of U.S. hospitals in the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program, and was awarded the 2017 Excellence in Teaching Award by Uniformed Services University.

Darnall's Women's Health Clinic offers family-centered care before, during and after childbirth. Delivering babies is an important part of what happens at Darnall, with 2,480 babies born in 2017. A new layette program ensures each baby delivered receives a unit-branded gift before leaving the hospital.

The Women's Health Clinic prides itself in the compassionate care it provides, such as respect for your emotional well-being, privacy and personal preferences and cultural beliefs; choices in



Fort Hood's Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center serves active-duty soldiers and their families.

treatment options for pain management, medications and tests; and the flexibility to welcome fathers, significant others and siblings to be part of the birth experience.

Darnall is affiliated with Texas A&M University health Science Center's College of Medicine, Baylor University, The University of Texas at Austin, Arlington and Houston; Texas Tech Nursing and school of Pharmacy and Texas Wesleyan University graduate medical education programs.

In addition, more than 5,000 prescriptions are filled daily, along with 6,719 radiology procedures and 2,400 laboratory procedures. The hospital is staffed by more than 3,608 military personnel, civilians and contractors.

TREATING INJURIES

To help soldiers dealing with fitness-related injuries, Darnall launched the Fort Hood Sparta Clinic, which is open during morning physical training. It provides early evaluation and treatment for acute musculoskeletal injuries.

In January 2017, the Fort Hood Intrepid Spirit center opened its doors and began patient treatment, caring for soldiers suffering from traumatic brain injuries, as well as post-traumatic stress and other psychological health conditions.

The \$11 million dollar facility was privately funded through the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund. It is the fourth in a series of nine such facilities to open on military bases across the country.

In January, Second Lady Karen Pence visited the center to champion its art therapy program.

"People think it's arts and crafts, but that's not what art therapy is," Pence said. "It is a mental health profession where a trained therapist uses art as

their medium to help guide someone through the healing process."

Pence has partnered with the Creative Forces Military Healing Arts Network, a joint pro-arts initiative between the National Endowment for the Arts, the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs, which put creative arts therapies at the core of patient-centered care at Fort Hood and 10 other military medical facilities across the country.

Pence's trip to Fort Hood included a tour of the Intrepid Spirit Center, an orientation to its Healing Arts program and a roundtable discussion with community leaders about the integration of art therapy in caring for service members.

"I hear a lot of stories about soldiers who initially don't want to go into art therapy sessions because it doesn't seem like the strong or tough thing to do," Pence said. "But then I hear them talk about the tremendous relief and success they experience after art therapy. One soldier confided in me that he doesn't go to that dark place anymore. Hearing success stories like that is powerful. It shows that art therapy saves lives."

Peter Buotte, healing arts and therapy coordinator, said art therapy fosters a safe, supportive environment for therapeutic self-expression. "At its deepest, the art therapy process can go beyond the verbal — and even beyond the recognizable image — in order to emotionally engage with the patient/client."

Art and music therapy have been integral components of the Intrepid Spirit Center's multi-disciplinary approach to restoring service member's medical readiness for more than a year. The center is one component of the comprehensive system of behavioral health care offered for service members and their families.

Scott & White runs medical center, children's hospital

Baylor Scott & White Health, the organization formed from the 2013 merger between Baylor Health Care System and Scott & White Healthcare, is the largest nonprofit health care system in the state.

In Killeen, and across Central and north Texas, Baylor Scott & White Health offers a range of medical services to meet the needs of patients.

Scott & White Medical Center-Temple is a 636-bed, fully accredited nonprofit hospital in Temple.

As the only Level 1 trauma center between Dallas and Austin, Scott & White Medical Center provides a broad spectrum of hospital and clinical services including heart and vascular, cancer care, transplantation, women's services and neurosciences.

While Scott & White Medical Center is in Temple, the system has 14 locations for services in the Killeen area, and is a partner with the Metroplex Health System.

Scott & White Clinic-Killeen at 3801 Scott & White Drive features family medicine and pediatrics. Services include family medicine, women's health, nephrology, psychology, adolescent medicine, chronic care, acute care for minor injuries, allergy care, preventive care that includes immunization and other vaccinations. Radiology and laboratory services are provided at Scott & White Clinic-Killeen.

Clinic services are available by appointment for patients of all ages by calling 254-680-1100. Weekend clinic hours are available for pediatric patients; call 254-724-5437.

Baylor Scott & White Convenient Care Clinic-Killeen is at 5702 E. Central Texas Expressway. The clinic is open from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. daily. The walk-in clinic includes exam rooms, a treatment room, X-ray, laboratory services and a community education wellness center.

Baylor Scott & White Clinic-Killeen West, 4501 Clear Creek Road, is staffed by family medicine providers. The clinic features 24 exam rooms and two treatment rooms offering services including primary care, family medicine, including the care of infants and children, women's health (OB/Gyn), as well as on-site X-ray and laboratory services. It

is open from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Call 254-501-6400.

Scott & White Specialty Clinic-Killeen Hemingway at 2405 S. Clear Creek Road is home to 14 Scott & White specialty clinics including adult services for pain management, cardiology, cosmetic surgery, gastroenterology, general surgery, neurology, women's health (OB/Gyn), orthopedics, podiatry, pulmonary, radiology, urology, and pediatric services including cardiology, hematology/oncology, pulmonology, nephrology and gastroenterology. Some Baylor Scott & White physicians in the Killeen Hemingway clinic also provide services at nearby Metroplex Hospital.

Scott & White Cancer Center-Killeen is in the Ledger-Smith Professional Building at 2207 S. Clear Creek Road, Suite 101, located on the Metroplex Hospital campus. The center provides chemotherapy, radiation therapy, anti-coagulation and other professional services for patients in Killeen, Nolanville, Harker Heights, Copperas Cove, Lampasas and beyond. Call 254-200-3200.

Scott & White Dialysis Center-Killeen, at 3701 Scott & White Drive, is a 12-station facility. Services include advanced dialysis equipment and heated seats in treatment areas. Hours of operations are 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Saturday. Call 254-680-1371.

Scott & White Dialysis Center-Killeen West at 2201 S. W.S. Young Drive, Suite 101B is a 12-station facility. Call 254-501-6467. Hours of operations are 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. with extended hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Baylor Scott & White Mental Health Clinic-Harker Heights is at 326 Morgan Street. The clinic provides outpatient mental health care for your family, from individual therapy to couples, family or group therapy. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Call 254-953-7600.

Baylor Scott & White Clinic-Copperas Cove at 239 W. U.S. Highway 190, is staffed by family medicine and internal medicine providers, as well as a cardiologist. The clinic features 24 exam rooms and two treatment rooms offering services that include: primary care, family medicine — including the care

of infants and children, women's health (OB/Gyn), cardiology, as well as on-site X-ray and laboratory services. It is open from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Call 254-542-9000.

Baylor Scott & White Clinic-Harker Heights is at 907 Mountain Lion Circle and offers preventive care, family medicine, sports medicine, general pediatric care, laboratory and X-ray services. Call the clinic at 254-953-7700. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Baylor Scott & White Eye Clinic-Harker Heights is a part of the Scott & White Eye Institute, and is at 201 E. Central Texas Expressway, Suite 1270 in Market Heights. With a full-time, board-certified optometrist, it offers comprehensive eye exams for ages 8 and over and a full optical shop with the latest styles in eyewear. It is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. Call 254-953-7650.

Baylor Scott & White Clinic-Salado offers primary care, general pediatric care, cancer screening, chronic disease management, office surgery, women's health, and preventive care and lab services. A Scott & White Pharmacy is in the same building. The clinic is at 3525 Farm-to-Market 2484. Call 254-947-7500. It is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Appointments can be made by calling each individual clinic. Non-acute care appointments also can be made online at appointments.sw.org.

MCLANE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER

Baylor Scott & White McLane Children's Medical Center is the first hospital exclusively for children in Central Texas at 1901 SW H.K. Dodgen Loop in Temple.

It includes a 112-bed, fully accredited, nonprofit hospital, ground and air transport, a five-story children's specialty clinic and 10 pediatric clinics located throughout Central Texas.

McLane Children's provides more than 40 specialty services including general pediatrics, pediatric surgery, cardiology, oncology, gastroenterology, neurosurgery, pediatric dialysis and pulmonology services.

McLane Children's has the region's only pediatric emergency medicine department and emergency room.

Seton provides medical care to Harker Heights and beyond

Seton Medical Center Harker Heights, a partnership between Seton Healthcare Family in Austin and Ardent Health Services in Nashville, Tennessee, is an accredited, Catholic hospital celebrating its sixth year in 2018.

Seton Medical Center Harker Heights, 850 W. Central Texas Expressway, recently received an "A" rating from the Leapfrog Group for patient safety.

Last year, also saw Seton Harker Heights voted Best Places to Work by Modern Healthcare and already this year, the readers of the Killeen Daily Herald voted the hospital the best in Central Texas.

More area residents are now able to access Seton and its staff of 425 associates and more than 300 physicians as it and Wellstone Health Partners now accept Scott and White Health Plan insurance products.

"This is exciting news for our hospital and the medical staff as we will now be able to serve the members of our

community who have Scott and White Health Plan insurance, giving them access to the high-quality patient-centered health care provided at SMCHH and Wellstone," said Zach Dietze, CEO at Seton Medical Center Harker Heights. "The well-being and health of our community is always at the forefront of the decisions we make, we feel confident that this decision will allow us to better serve our community."

Seton remains a chest pain accredited center and therefore offers the newest methods and best practices in heart care to ensure that patients receive the right care at the right time to reduce time to treatment during the critical stages of a heart attack.

The hospital is also Joint Commissions Accredited and dedicated to continuously improving the safety and quality of care while maintaining a high level of quality and compliance with the latest standards.

Seton Harker Heights expanded its

relationship with Freedom Urgent Care. Last summer their second partnership clinic open on W.S. Young Drive in Killeen. The first clinic opened the previous year, also in Killeen.

Seton's outpatient therapy program, in partnership with the Armed Services YMCA at the 54,000-square-foot wellness center in Harker Heights, founded in 2016, is still providing care.

With more than 80 beds, the hospital offers a full-service emergency department with a Level IV Trauma designation. It includes an array of services including: acute care, cardiology, family practice, gastroenterology, general medicine, imaging, internal medicine, intensive and critical care, nephrology, neurology, oncology, ophthalmology, orthopedics, otolaryngology, plastic surgery, podiatry, rheumatology, surgical services, urology and women's health.

Go to setonharkerheights.net for more information or to find a physician, or call 254-690-0900.

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Indigent health department works with providers

Local residents who need help accessing health care services and qualify by being very low income can use the Bell County Indigent Health Services.

The department works closely with area free clinics, local hospitals and other helping organizations to coordinate to fill gaps in health and human services.

Collaborations include addressing homelessness, mental illness and transportation needs of Bell County residents.

The department operates under the direction of the Bell County Commissioners Court to administer the County Indigent Health Care Program, an eligibility-based health coverage program funded by the county that provides medically necessary health care benefits to the lowest-income residents who meet income, resource, residency and household criteria, but who are not eligible for the Texas Medicaid program.

APPOINTMENTS

To request an appointment or an application for assistance, call 254-519-1229 or 254-618-4165 or toll free at 877-516-8593.

The office at 309 Priest Drive operates Monday through Friday and is open to the public without an appointment from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday. Appointments are available other days of the week. It is closed Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

The department has outreach services at the Temple Community Clinic, 1905 Curtis B. Elliott Drive, on Tuesdays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The department is headed by Rita Kelley.



Cassandra Batiste, a certified medical assistant, checks Dominique Harris' vital signs Jan. 29.

Clinic helps meet Killeen health needs

The Greater Killeen Free Clinic is now the Killeen Community Clinic after 24 years of serving the community.

Marlene DiLillo, executive director for the clinic, said the change was part of a re-branding process as the clinic approaches its 25th anniversary in 2019.

The clinic has also started a new policy asking patients to make a contribution to their care based on their income. Waivers are granted on a case-by-case basis, DiLillo said.

The story behind the Greater Killeen Free Clinic began in 1993, after an assessment determined that the needs of social service clients could be better met with more affordable medical care.

The facility at 718 N. Second St., Suite A (inside the Killeen Arts and Activities Center complex) opened less than a year later in November 1994, and continues to provide primary health care to children and adults who are impoverished, uninsured, or who have limited health care access. The clinic is nonprofit and volunteer based, and is open Monday through Thursday. Patients are seen on a first-come, first-served basis. Check-in is 3:30 p.m. on Monday and Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

Simple, uncomplicated conditions are treated, such as rash, ear infections, and bladder infections, as well as simple injuries, such as certain sprains or strains. In addition, care of simple wounds and nonsurgical wound infections can be administered, tooth pain treatment, and the administration of tetanus shots, and suture or staple removal

of non-surgical wounds.

The Well Women's Clinic provides services to women older than 44 who need gynecological care outside of family planning. Women get an exam and a free screening mammogram; it is available by appointment only.

The Chronic Care program provides treatment for patients diagnosed with diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, asthma/COPD and thyroid disease. It includes a mandatory education component. Patients receive free medications through enrollment in the Prescription Assistance Program. Chronic Care enrollment is by appointment only.

Patients seeking services must provide a photo ID, and proof of residency and household income for the previous month.

Free Zumba classes, Lunch n' Learn and The Walk Club are open to the community at no charge, and are included in the Health Promotion program.

The clinic received an Episcopal Health Foundation grant in late 2015 to help increase staffing and physical space to allow expansion. The clinic also is partnered with Texas A&M University and its psychiatry residency program, and Baylor Scott & White Health. Fourth-year psychiatry residents provide mental health services to clients referred the Bell County Indigent Defense Program.

Clients must be uninsured and not eligible for other health care programs to qualify for care at the clinic.

For more information, call 254-618-4211 or go to www.gkfclinic.org.

Bell County Public Health District offers variety of services

Multiple organizations across Central Texas provide people with the tools they need to stay healthy. One of those, the Bell County Public Health District, offers a wide array of services to help people maintain their health.

CLINICAL SERVICES

BCPHD offers well woman exams (including issuing a wide variety of contraceptive methods), immunizations, travel vaccines, pregnancy testing (to include proof of pregnancy for Medicaid), sexually transmitted disease testing/treatment, tuberculosis testing/treatment.

The clinics in Killeen and Temple are open from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Friday. The Killeen office is at 309 N. Second St. and the district's Temple office is at 509 S. Ninth St. Phone numbers are: 254-526-8371 in Killeen and 254-778-4766 in Temple.

The public health district's services are based on family size and income.

Services are either walk-in or appointment based, depending on the type of service desired.

WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM

Texas WIC Program provides the services, support and inspiration for families to eat right, have a healthy pregnancy and breastfeed successfully.

WIC helps families save at the grocery store and offers cooking lessons and health and nutrition wellness tips to support your lifestyle. WIC provides personalized support from registered dietitians, nutritionists, and lactation consultants.

Call for information or to make an appointment at one of the following four sites: Temple: 201 N. Eighth St., 254-778-1511; Killeen: 111 Santa Fe Plaza, 254-526-2033; Fort Hood: Re-Location TBA, 254-532-8680; Copperas Cove: 213 W. Avenue D, 254-547-9571.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental Health Division

services include routine inspections of food establishments, day care facilities and foster homes; food safety education, permitting of on-site sewage facilities and investigations of public health complaints.

The Killeen office can be reached at 254-526-3197. Contact food protection at 254-771-2106 or environmental at 254-778-7557 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PREPAREDNESS DIVISION

Preparedness Division prepares for threats such as infectious disease outbreak, bioterrorism event, chemical spill, contamination of drinking water and natural disasters.

Contact preparedness at 254-773-4457 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Friday.

More information on services can be found on the Bell County Public Health District's website, www.bellcounty-health.org.





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Several area facilities offer mental health services

Public and private mental health services are available to adults, adolescents and children at various facilities in Killeen and throughout Bell County.

METROPLEX

The Metroplex Center for Behavioral Health is the area's only full-service behavioral health center for children, adolescents, adults and seniors. The 60-bed facility offers numerous treatment programs including inpatient, partial hospitalization and outpatient options.

The center is also a designated Killeen Independent School District campus, giving it the ability to meet the educational needs of children and adolescent patients while they are in inpatient or partial hospitalization care.

The Metroplex Behavioral Health Center specializes in the needs of the military community, and is Tricare health care provider. Call 254-628-1000 or 800-926-9869. Intake is available 24 hours a day.

BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE

The Baylor Scott & White Killeen Mental Health Clinic is at 3106 S. W.S. Young Drive, Suite B-204. The clinic provides an array of care from individual therapy to couples, family or group therapy. Call 254-953-7600 to reach the Killeen office, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Call 254-724-2585 for the Temple location at 2401 S. 31st St. It is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CEDAR CREST

Cedar Crest is a full-service provider of mental health and substance abuse treatment. It has served Belton, Killeen and surrounding communities for nearly 30 years through inpatient, outpatient, residential and partial hospitalization services.

Whether pediatric, adolescent or adult, Cedar Crest is a place where a safe, therapeutic environment can be found. The treatment team specializes in individualized and group therapy on the 33-acre campus or outpatient satellite clinic.

The assessment and referral department is available 24/7 and offers free assessments/referrals. Most insurances

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Substance abuse treatment and recovery services are available to Killeen-area residents, including residential and outpatient programs for drugs and alcohol.

Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings are held regularly in the Killeen area every day. Go to sober.com to find times and locations.

Bluebonnet Trails Community Services, 1009 N. Georgetown St. in Round Rock, through a state program, services a 30-county Central Texas region that includes Bell, Coryell, Lampasas, and Williamson counties.

The main line is 844-309-6385 and the crisis hotline is 800-841-1255.

The Scott & White Mental Health Center, 2401 S. 31st St. in Temple, offers five-week evening outpatient sessions to make getting help convenient.

Individual and group therapy are incorporated, as well as seminars/presentations, therapeutic recreation, and 12-Step participation. A program for seniors is available. Call 254-724-2585.

Cedar Crest Hospital, 3500 S. Interstate Highway 35 in Belton, offers inpatient and outpatient alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs for children, teens and adults. Call 877-220-8379.

Central Texas Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse offers outpatient treatment, and provides educational programs for children. The center operates in Killeen, Harker Heights and Temple. Call 254-690-4455.

Christian Farms Treehouse, 3804 Riverside Trail in Temple, offers a Christian approach to treatment. It offers 30-, 60- and 90-day programs, and is funded by the United Way. Call 254-933-9400.

Abuse hotlines: Call 254-813-3313 in Copperas Cove and 254-690-5439 in Harker Heights.

Go to dshs.texas.gov/sa-search/ for additional resources listing licensed facilities.

are accepted. Cedar Crest Hospital and Residential Treatment Center is at 3500 N. Interstate 35 in Belton. Call 877-220-8379. Cedar Crest has an outpatient clinic in Killeen at 3106 S. W.S. Young Drive, Suite B-201. Call 254-519-4162.

CENTRAL COUNTIES SERVICES

Publicly funded outpatient services are provided by Central Counties Services in Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas and Milam counties.

Services are designed for people with severe mental health disorders, intellectual and developmental disabilities and other behavioral health needs. Psychiatric evaluation, medication, case management and rehabilitation services are provided to those who qualify.

Early Childhood Intervention services are provided for children with developmental delays from birth to 3 years old.

Youth, ages 3 through 17 with intellectual and developmental disabilities, a diagnosable mental illness and/or

who exhibit serious emotional behavioral problems, are eligible for services. Family and individual skills training services, case management, psychiatric evaluation and other therapeutic services are offered.

The crisis support line is 800-888-4036. The main line for general questions is 254-298-7000.

NAMI

The National Alliance on Mental Illness is a grass-roots support group for people with mental illness and their families, providing advocacy and education services to the community. The local chapter provides a support group the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Temple VA Hospital, in conference room 5G31, 1901 S. First St. Call 254-771-3638.

The NAMI Texas office can be reached at 512-693-2000; regular business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Medical homes link off-post communities with Darnall hospital

Fort Hood's Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center offers three U.S. Army Medical Homes in the community to provide medical care off-post for active-duty soldiers, retirees and their families.

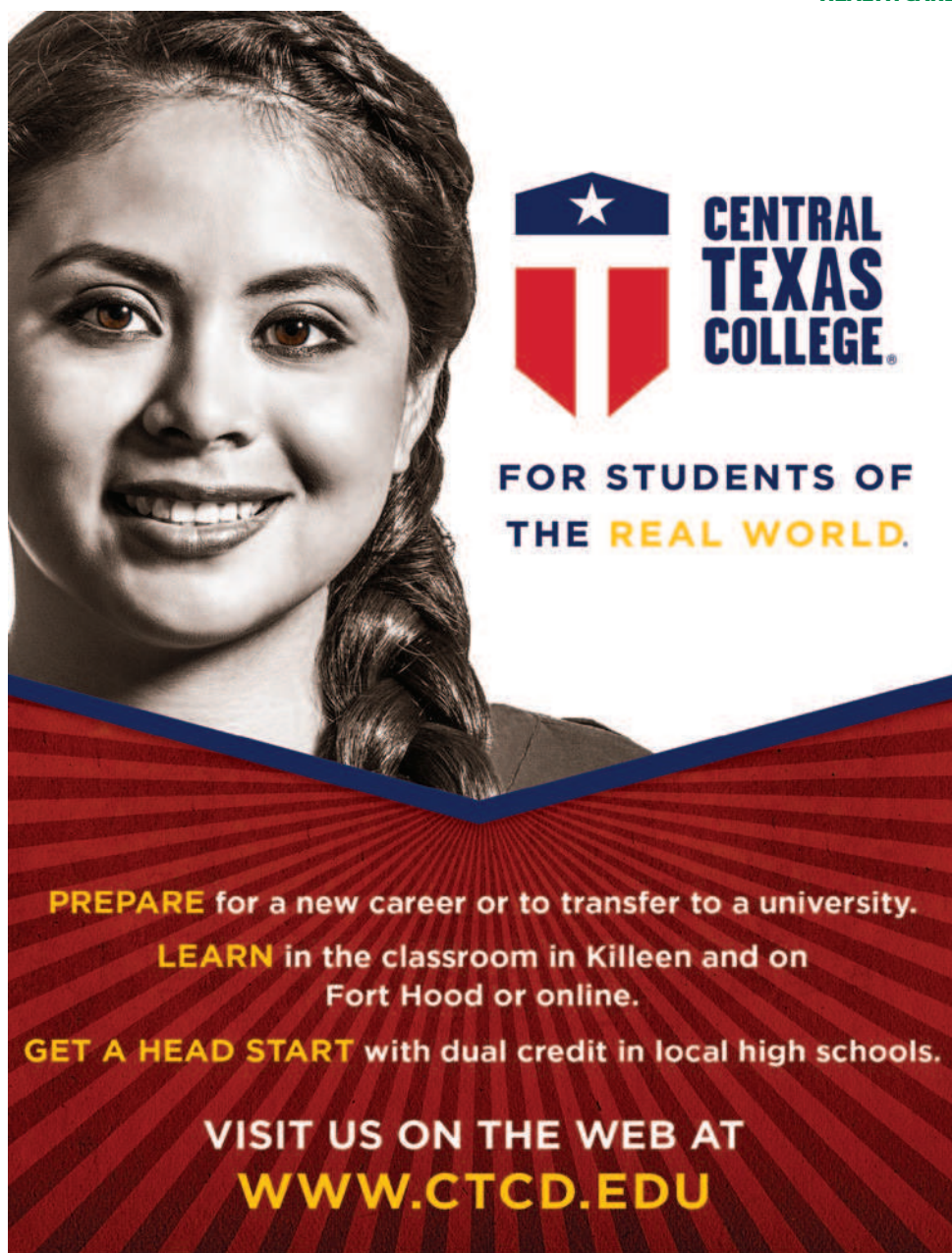
Army medical facilities function as family-practice clinics off post and work in conjunction with the hospital.

The Killeen facility, at 3404 Kaydence Court, serves soldiers and their family members in Killeen. Those living in Harker Heights, Belton and Salado are served by the Harker Heights clinic in the Market Heights shopping center at 201 E. Central Texas Expressway, Suite 200, and the Copperas Cove Clinic, at 458 Town Square on West Business Highway 190, serves Cove, Kempner and Lampasas residents.

In 2012, the three community-based clinics received their initial National Committee for Quality Assurance certification and are in the review process for recertification.

Darnall plans to open a fourth community medical home in south Killeen, although no date has been confirmed. It will be called Heart of Texas Medical Home.

Each clinic is capable of servicing more than 8,000 patients. The clinics offer women's health care, well baby and child exams, sports physicals and school immunizations, minor surgery, a pharmacy and laboratory services.



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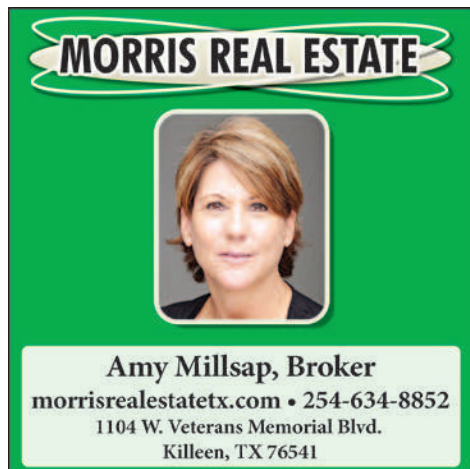


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Killeen chamber provides leadership to local businesses

The mission of the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce is to provide vision, leadership, and support to business and community leaders to create economic prosperity.

This is accomplished through a variety of membership and economic development programs, including the Killeen Economic Development Corporation, Business Resource Center, Greater Killeen Young Professionals and newly formed 14 Forward Foundation.

The chamber's office at 1 Santa Fe Plaza in downtown Killeen is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Friday.

The organization is governed by a board of directors elected from its membership of about 700.

The chamber's full-time, professional staff specializes in economic development, military relations, public policy, and community and talent development.

The chamber offers a variety of products, services and events throughout the year to benefit member businesses and the community, such as monthly mixers, Chamber Networking and News, Flavors of Central Texas, the annual membership banquet, and informative workshops.

Leadercast, an elite one-day leadership program offered only in select locations around the world, brings world-class leadership training to local professionals each May. This year's event will



Maj. Gen. Erik Peterson gives a speech during the Greater Killeen City Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet in Killeen.

be May 4 at Grace Christian Center. Advance registration is required and tickets can be purchased at the Chamber or at KilleenChamber.com.

The Military Relations Council promotes the importance and sustainability of Fort Hood and defense-related industries and builds on the strong relationship between the community and Fort Hood and with the U.S. Army.

The Public Education Council works with educational institutions to create and execute collaborative strategies to produce the workforce of tomorrow.

The Public Policy Council creates and executes strategies designed to unify the voices of the chamber's business and economic development leaders on important policy issues.

The Central Texas Business Re-

source Center, a partnership between the GKCC, Central Texas College and Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, offers free counseling and workshops for small-business operators or those interested in starting a business.

The Greater Killeen Young Professionals offers networking and professional development for young entrepreneurs and professionals. The group is composed of 20- to 40-something's and holds monthly socials and Lunch and Learns. Their annual Rock the Foundation Casino Night, held each spring, has raised more than \$107,000 for local scholarships. For more information about the group, visit gkyp.org.

In 2017, the chamber launched 14 Forward, an aggressive five-year campaign designed to help grow the region's economy. This \$2 million private-sector driven campaign is funded by more than 40 area businesses.

The chamber offers businesses exposure through ribbon-cutting and groundbreaking ceremonies, directory listings, event promotions, and a variety of advertising and sponsorship options. The chamber can help members build and launch targeted, multichannel marketing campaigns at a fraction of the cost of traditional solutions.

For more information, visit KilleenChamber.com. For membership information, call 254-526-9551 or email info@killeenchamber.com.

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Heights chamber promotes partnerships to help business

The more than 30,000 residents of Harker Heights partner with the Heights Chamber of Commerce as the resource center for all questions about the city billed as the Bright Star of Central Texas.

The mission of the chamber is not only to recruit new businesses and encourage them to become chamber members but to promote a partnership that will assist with the success of that business.

The visitor's center part of the mission is not only to showcase the highlights of the city but also to attract major events throughout the year that will bring people into the community who've never been there before.

Gina Pence, president and CEO of the chamber, said, "We are celebrating 30 years of supporting and serving our community this year. The dedication and hard work of the Chamber's team is creating programs for a healthy business environment, this is a continuous process where we simplify and improve each year."

The team joining Pence in this quest consists of Mary Shabunia, VP business development, Andrea Womack, business development,

Alexia Matthews, business development administrator, Jean Knowles, event coordinator, and Azlyn Petry, marketing.

The chamber board is made up of five



Volunteers put bracelets on attendees at the Harker Heights Food, Wine, and Brew Fest.

officers and 10 directors. The chamber membership now totals 853, an increase over last year.

"We want to work with all of our members, whether they're new, charter members or an individual member," Pence said.

Locally, the chamber sponsors ribbon cuttings for new businesses, networking events such as the Coffee Connection, Live After Five (behind the scenes

business tour/education), Business After-Hours, free membership tools to grow businesses with job fairs, job postings, grants, scholarships and a welcome bag program. The chamber also hosts events in support of Fort Hood and public policy.

Tourism comes to Harker Heights in many forms such as bus tours, day-trippers, doctor and hospital visits, church events, the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery, education, shopping, tournaments and conventions.

Similar to the last 10 years of the annual Food, Wine and Brew Fest, the event drew a large crowd, numbering close to 6,000, bringing visitors from all across the State of Texas and Louisiana.

The chamber continues to bring Fishing Tournament and other sporting events with assistance from Destination Central Texas partners.

A bright spot at the chamber for the past four years has been Vision XXI, inspired by Dr. Jim Anderson, retired chancellor of Central Texas College. The leadership group has attracted businessmen and women, educators, civic leaders and high school students.

The 2017 class project Anderson Arbors Beautification is planting 60 red crepe myrtles on Knights Way. The planting ceremony took place April 28.

To find out more about the chamber, go to www.hhchamber.com or call 254-254-699-4999.

 The advertisement is split into two main visual sections. On the left, a photograph of a modern church building with a prominent steeple, set against a cloudy sky. On the right, a blue graphic overlay contains the text and contact information.

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Cove Chamber and EDC help bring business to the city

Two organizations in Copperas Cove work to bring businesses and jobs to the city in different ways.

The Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce provides leadership and services for its more than 300 members who are business and professional people representing the diverse economy of the Cove area. Through the collective efforts of individual volunteers, the chamber fosters a competitive and cooperative business climate conducive to growth, prosperity and the maintenance of a high quality of life.

One of the primary goals of the chamber is to keep cash registers ringing all around town. To help achieve this goal, the chamber sponsors numerous events, such as the Gallop or Trot, Summer Run to Fun, Jack Rabbit Run 4 Hope and the Rabbit Fest.

The chamber interim president is Maurice Tobin and a 13-person board meets monthly. Members are: Chairman JC Stubbs, Chairman-elect Jennifer White, Dr. William Louis, Charlotte Heinze, WB Maples, Robert Weidinger, Tammy Rodriguez, Jennifer Cotter, Jeremy Pruitt, Bradi Diaz, Erica McPhail, Jack Smith, Ashley Whitworth

The Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce is open Monday through

Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 254-547-7571 or email chamber@copperascove.com.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORP.

The mission of the Copperas Cove Economic Development Corporation is to “establish and maintain a comprehensive economic development program for Copperas Cove through new industry recruitment, business expansion and retention activity and business development.”

Fulfilling that mission has been difficult this past year. In addition to the organization going through some leadership changes, the resignation of Cove’s long-time city manager has delayed the hiring of a new EDC director so programs can move forward.

For the first five months of 2017, Diane Drussell was the only EDC staff member. During that period, the EDC director’s duties were handled by the Copperas Cove city manager. A director for the EDC was hired and worked in the position from May through November 2017, when he was removed. An interim director was appointed, leaving in January 2018. Drussell has served as interim director of the EDC since that time.

The Copperas Cove Economic Development Corporation was formed in 1990

by a vote of the citizens. Board members are appointed by the City Council, serving three-year terms, which can be renewed by a vote of the council.

The EDC board has worked for nearly three decades to negotiate land deals with Fort Hood and attracted many businesses to retail developments and other areas of the city.

The EDC works with other Copperas Cove city departments to ensure the infrastructure for new businesses is in place. The EDC can also provide incentives for businesses interested in locating or expanding in Copperas Cove.

Classes and meetings provide encouraging small business development are part of the EDC program.

“The Economic Development Department participates in marketing/recruiting events, follows up on leads from the state and other resources, and makes calls to companies who have expressed interest in our city,” Drussell said.

The Copperas Cove EDC has a budget of \$253,731 for fiscal year 2017-2018, as approved by the City Council. Plans for 2018 are pending, Drussell said, with the hope businesses will continue to locate in Copperas Cove, increasing the tax base, employment base and giving residents a greater choice in services.

Better Business Bureau a valuable source of information

The Better Business Bureau is designed to be a valuable resource Central Texas residents can turn to for objective, unbiased information on businesses and charities.

The BBB’s vision is to promote an ethical marketplace where buyers and sellers can trust each other.

As a nonprofit organization, BBB provides a significant amount of free consumer and business education information, as well as tips and alerts on scams and “bad players” in the marketplace.

There are more than 100 BBB’s across the U.S. and Canada. The BBB serving the Heart of Texas covers the Greater Killeen area.

The regional office in Waco serves 14 counties, including Fort Hood and the cities of Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Hillsboro, Killeen, Lampasas, Salado, Temple and Waco.

Adam Price is BBB’s regional director and coordinates public relations, including a free speaker’s bureau for civic organizations and other groups.

BBB offers the following basic information and services:

Business Reviews: Information on businesses’ performance in the marketplace on both accredited and non-accredited businesses.

Charity Reports: Information on charities and other soliciting nonprofits that seek public donations.

Dispute Resolution: Help in resolving complaints against businesses using conciliation, mediation and arbitration services.

Consumer Information Clearinghouse: Brochures, books, public library videos and internet advisories on many important topics to assist consumers and businesses in making wise purchasing decisions.

Fighting Fraud: Information for consumers and law enforcement agencies about current marketplace scams and frauds.

Go to www.bbb.org/central-texas or call 800-580-8477 or 254-791-2222.

The regional office is at 200 W. Highway 6 in Waco.

Many options for local banking needs

Residents have a variety of banking options throughout Central Texas, including local and national companies and credit unions.

Bank of America

- 2551 Trimmier Road, Killeen.
- 301 Constitution Ave., Copperas Cove. (ATM only)

Chase

- 201 E. Central Texas Expressway, Unit 1800, Harker Heights.
- 1500 Lowes Blvd., Killeen. (ATM only)

Extraco Banks

- 1002 W. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen.
- 100 W. Central Texas Expressway in Harker Heights.
- 1003 E. U.S. Highway 190, Copperas Cove.

First National Bank Texas

- 507 N. Gray St., Killeen.
- 2201 Trimmier Road, Killeen.
- 4304 E. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen.
- 1002 N. 38th St., Killeen.
- 201 E. Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights.
- 107 W. U.S. Highway 190, Copperas Cove.

There are also First National Bank Texas services in these Wal-Marts:

- 1400 Lowes Blvd., Killeen.
- 3404 W. Stan Schlueter Loop, Killeen.
- 2020 Heights Drive, Harker Heights.
- H-E-B also houses several banking locations:
- 2511 Trimmier Road, Killeen.
- 601 Indian Trail, Harker Heights.
- 2990 E. U.S. Highway 190, Copperas Cove.

First State Bank Central Texas

- 181 W. U.S. Highway 190, Suite 2, Copperas Cove.
- 661 W. Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights.

Fort Hood National Bank

- 210 Constitution Drive, Suite A, Copperas Cove.
- Bldg. 109 T.J. Mills Blvd., Fort Hood. Bldg. 50004 Clear Creek Road, Fort Hood. (ATM only)
- Bldg. 4250 Clear Creek Road, Fort Hood.
- Bldg. 91079 Clarke Road, Fort Hood.
- Bldg. 85006 Warrior Way, Fort Hood.



First State Bank has locations in Harker Heights and Copperas Cove.

(ATM only)

- Bldg. 18010 Hood Road, Fort Hood.

National United Bank

- 4103 E. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen.
- 505 E. U.S. Highway 190, Copperas Cove.

- 905 E. Main St, Gatesville.

SouthStar Bank

- 905 E. Farm-to-Market 2410, Harker Heights.

Union State Bank

- 120 N. Gray St., Killeen.
- 100 E. Main St., Florence.
- 345 E. Farm-to-Market 2410, Harker Heights.
- 120 N. Gray St., Killeen.
- 2201 E. Stan Schlueter Loop, Suite B, Killeen.

CREDIT UNIONS

- Covenant Savings Federal Credit Union
- Educators Credit Union
- Greater Central Texas Federal Credit Union
- Heart O' Texas Federal Credit Union
- Navy Federal Credit Union
- Pentagon Federal Credit Union
- Texas Partners Federal Credit Union
- Texell Credit Union
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Harker Heights, TX 76548 • 699-2263 | 690-3300

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Workforce Solutions helps job seekers with training

Connecting employers to skilled employees and helping job hunters are two of the most important missions of Workforce Solutions of Central Texas.

The organization is governed by a board of 27 members, and represents a spectrum of business, education and community interests, providing “quality education, training, and labor market services,” according to its 2017-2020 strategic plan.

But it also continues to give clients a competitive advantage.

Data provided by the Workforce Solutions show that more than 25,000 job seekers were helped in 2017, including 9,080 dislocated workers and 6,539 veterans. About 55 percent claiming unemployment and searching for work found a job within 10 weeks, exceeding the group’s target placement.

A variety of services from career planning and job search to child care subsidies and vocational training assistance are offered. It serves Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills and San Saba counties.

Resources for military and military-connected job seekers and businesses are abundant.

As the largest single economic driver of the Central Texas economy, it says, Fort Hood supports 66,492 people on the post, including 21,221 civilians and contractors, and is credited for \$35.4 billion in statewide economic activity.

The “Hiring Red, White and You” Veterans Job Fair in November promoted helping veterans, drawing



Willie David, Teleperformance recruiter, speaks with a potential job candidate. Workforce Solutions helps people with career planning, training and job searches.

64 employers and 297 job seekers, of which 197 were veterans. Workforce Solutions of Central Texas supports training in high-skill, high-wage jobs that are predicted to have a consistent or growing need for more employees.

It is also an award-winning organization, and for the 12th consecutive year, was ranked in 2016 among the “Top 100 Best Companies to Work for in Texas,” as judged by the Texas Association of Business, Texas Monthly Magazine, and the Texas Society for Human Re-

source Management.

In 2015, it received the statewide “Child Care Quality Award” from the Texas Workforce Commission, and the “Workforce Excellence Award” from the Texas Economic Development Council.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, 300 Cheyenne Drive in Killeen, is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Go to <http://bit.ly/2nkN6wD> or call 254-200-2234 for more information.

FORT HOOD AREA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The Fort Hood Area Association of Realtors provides political advocacy, community involvement and continuing education to its members.

The group does not offer real state brokerage service, despite common misconception, according to Michael DeHart, the association executive.

Rather, the group works to protect property owners’ rights in the Fort Hood area.

The FHAAR helped pass legislation that prohibits a tax on real estate transactions, according to DeHart. This overruled a tax that DeHart believed to be unfair on many Texans.

According to DeHart, the FHAAR has taken a stand

against dramatic property tax increases and the current appraisal process. Part of the increase in local property tax revenue can be attributed to new property added to the appraisal roll and higher property values.

Additionally, the group supports the repeal of the “estimated property taxes” statement from the appraisal notice of value, as well as faster discovery in appraisal value lawsuits.

The FHAAR office is at 306 W. Mary Jane Drive in Killeen. The office is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To contact the association, call 254-634-4412, go to the association’s website, www.fhaar.org, find it on Facebook at [facebook.com/forthoodrealtors](https://www.facebook.com/forthoodrealtors), or follow the association on Twitter, @forthoodrealtors.

Fort Hood Habitat for Humanity helps with homeownership

Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity describes itself as building Strength, Stability and Self-reliance, through Shelter across Central Texas.

Serving Bell, Coryell and Lampasas counties, the nonprofit, ecumenical, Christian housing ministry builds simple, affordable housing for low-income families who cannot qualify for home financing from traditional lending institutions.

Qualified homeowners pay a no-profit monthly mortgage payment based on a reduced cost, thanks to volunteer labor.

Each family must perform a minimum number of “sweat equity” hours in the construction of homes and other community activities before work will begin on their home.

As Habitat for Humanity is not federally funded, the agency relies on donations and fundraising.

This includes the ReStore, a home improvement store, open to the public, for projects and construction materials.

The ReStore is at 2601 Atkinson Ave. in Killeen. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 10



Teeja Williams is photographed in front of her new home on Nov. 16. Williams recently received the home through Habitat for Humanity.

a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

The local organization is led by Ken Cates, CEO/executive director.

Volunteers can get involved by working in the office, at the ReStore, serving on one of their committees, or on construction sites and through Helping Hands projects, which involve critical home repairs and neighbor-

hood revitalizations.

The organization’s goal is to construct five to six homes a year, repair two to three homes and reduce construction waste across the three-county area.

To donate items to the ReStore, or to volunteer, call 254-680-4007, email community@fhahfh.org or go to www.fhahfh.org.

Hill Country Community Action Association provides many services

The Hill Country Community Action is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides a variety of programs and services in 17 counties and encompasses approximately 17,000 square miles.

Headquartered in San Saba, the HCCAA is dedicated to providing opportunities and resources to improve the lives of low-income children and families and the elderly in Central Texas.

Assistance includes paying energy bills, weatherizing homes, senior nutrition and more.

Some of the services for seniors include outreach, nutrition, and general counseling.

Hot, nutritious lunches are served Monday through Friday at the Killeen Senior Center and 11 other senior centers in the service area.

The Meals on Wheels program pro-

vides a meal to home-bound seniors and persons with disabilities Monday through Friday.

The Energy Assistance program helps low-income households reduce their energy burden by paying utility bills.

Crisis assistance may also be offered for utilities when there is a threat to the well-being of a member of the household such as an elderly or disabled person or children under age 5.

The NEAT Audit software is used to assess homes for the Weatherization program to help residents reduce their energy consumption by providing insulation, weather stripping, new doors and windows, and replacing inefficient heating and cooling appliances.

RSVP provides civic participation and volunteer service opportunities to persons 55 years and older.

The Head Start and Early Head Start Program is available for children from low-income families and for newborns to age 5. It offers children the opportunity for early childhood education.

Disability, dental care, nutritional and medical services are a few of the resources available to enrolled children.

The organization has partnered with the Central Texas Workforce Board to assist low-income families with paying for child care while the parents are working or in job training.

Services are provided at the Multi-Service Senior Center located at 916 Rev. R.A. Abercrombie Drive in Killeen. The phone number is 254-699-8888.

HCCAA also provides services at the Killeen HELP Center, 718 N. Second St. Call 254-519-3360 for more information.

Shelters offer help to community members in need

Open since Dec. 23, 2015, Friends In Crisis provides overnight shelter; an evening meal, access to showers and laundry facilities, breakfast items, and case management services.

In 2013, Families In Crisis was approached by the city of Killeen to address the long-standing absence of shelter services for the homeless in Killeen.

Using a building already owned by the agency, FIC began a \$1.4 million renovation project resulting in what is now a 78-bed, full-service homeless shelter, named Friends In Crisis, located at 412 E. Sprott Ave.

On most days, it is a 16-hour-per-day shelter opening at 3 p.m., which allows time for the cleaning of the facility and the washing of all bed linens and towels for the next night.

On-site services from partner organizations include assistance for veterans from the Veterans Administration Health care for the Homeless program, a medical clinic from the Greater Killeen Free Clinic, mental health services from Central Counties Services MHMR, and substance abuse assistance from Cenikor.

As a full-service shelter, it offers shelter, crisis intervention, job and life skills assistance, counseling, referrals, and transition housing assistance.

For 2017, the average number of persons nightly was 78.7, a total of 28,707 bed nights for the year. The largest number for one night was 104.

When the total exceeds the 78 beds available, cots are used. During 2017, 754 different individuals were housed at the shelter for one or more nights. Of those served, 69 percent were male and 31 percent female.

Many organizations, churches, service groups, and individuals are showing great support for this much needed facility and services for the homeless.

For more information about services or volunteer opportunities, call 254-634-1184 or go to www.familiesincrisis.net.

FAMILIES IN CRISIS

Many families across the state and the country are suffering, whether it be due to homelessness, violence or some other

factor. These families often need help, and fortunately there are some places in Central Texas that offer it.

Families In Crisis, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit United Way organization that houses, supports and empowers people experiencing family violence, sexual violence and homelessness in Bell, Coryell and Hamilton counties, including Fort Hood.

Formed in 1980 and located at 1305 E. Rancier Ave., it has evolved into a widely recognized community partner with 39 employees and an annual budget of over \$2 million.

The FIC domestic violence shelters offers emergency safe shelter to survivors at a 65-bed facility in Killeen and a 15-bed facility in Temple.

Additionally, outreach services are available to family violence survivors who are not seeking shelter, or who have already left one of the agency's shelters. In addition to shelter, services to family violence survivors include crisis intervention and case management, safety planning, hospital accompaniment, life skills classes, provision of food and necessary items, referrals, and transitional housing assistance.

In keeping with its history of responding to the needs of the community, FIC has expanded services over the years to include other underserved populations and unmet community needs.

In 1983, FIC merged with the Central Texas Rape Crisis Center to offer comprehensive services to women.

In 2008, FIC began offering rental assistance and supportive services to very-low income veterans and their families, youth aging out of foster care, and the general homeless population through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program.

FIC continues to offer rental assistance and supportive services to very-low-income veterans and their families through funds from the Department of Veterans Affairs Supportive Services for Veteran Families and the Texas Veteran's Commission.

A hallmark achievement in 2012 was the establishment of the agency's family violence survivor transitional housing program, which significantly expanded

the agency's capacity to provide housing options to family violence survivors.

FIC offers clients assistance, encouragement, and empowerment throughout the rebuilding process, helping them discover the tools within themselves to recover from violence and/or homelessness and lead stable, independent, economically viable lives.

In 2017, FIC's family violence shelters provided 23,522 shelter nights to 789 survivors for an average of 64 persons per night; 506 survivors were seen through the agency's outreach program and the hotline answered 4,871 calls. That same year, FIC provided housing assistance to 302 persons, including assistance to 121 new survivors who entered the agency's transitional housing program and 162 veterans and their families.

FIC's 24-hour family violence/sexual assault hotline can be reached at 1-888-799-SAFE. For more information about services or volunteer opportunities, call 254-634-1184 in Killeen, 254-773-7765 in Temple, or go to www.familiesincrisis.net.

COVE HOUSE

For more than 20 years, the Cove House Emergency Homeless Shelter Inc., has provided shelter and support for homeless residents in Bell and Coryell counties.

Located at 108 E. Halstead Ave. in Copperas Cove, the shelter serves as the emergency food pantry for residents in Copperas Cove, Kempner, Lampasas and Fort Hood. It provides two- to four-week emergency shelter for homeless residents. The emergency shelter works on a first-come, first-serve basis and has provided area residents with shelter since January 1996.

The shelter is equipped with men's and women's houses, as well as two family homes. Shelter office hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The shelter accepts baby supplies, household goods, food items and financial donations. Go to www.covehouse.org or call 254-547-4673.

In 2013, Cove House opened a free clinic. Open on Tuesdays, sign-in is from 5 to 6 p.m. The free clinic is in the Lovett Ledger Medical Plaza at 806 E. Avenue D, Suite D, in Copperas Cove.

Food banks provide resources to struggling families

KILLEEN FOOD CARE CENTER

The Killeen Food Care Center serves more than 80,000 clients and distributes more than 2 million pounds of food a month every year. It is operated by Executive Director Ken Adams.

No requirements have to be met to receive food from the center. New clients need to bring photo identification, proof of address with a letter or bill and income information.

Food is provided from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, with extended hours from 4 to 7 p.m., the first and third Friday of the month.

The Food Care Center is at 210 N. 16th St. in Killeen. Call 254-554-3400 or visit www.foodcare.org.

SOUTHSIDE FOOD PANTRY

Southside Food Pantry is a cooperative food pantry program, also providing free food to families in need.

It is open from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday and 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday at 1505 Trimmer Road in Killeen. Applications for service are required.

Call 254-526-3041 or visit <http://www.killeenchurch.org/capital.html>.

OPERATION PHANTOM SUPPORT

Operation Phantom Support's food pantry serves soldiers, veterans and their families in Central Texas. Hours of operation are noon to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursdays and Saturdays at 315 E. Avenue C in downtown Killeen. Go to www.operationphantomsupport.org.

HARKER HEIGHTS FOOD CARE CENTER

On average, about 350 families, or more than 1,000 individuals, are fed per month from the Harker Heights Food Care Center. Families and individuals receiving food submit an application, which follows the U.S. Department of Agriculture's guidelines for income.

Clients must meet residency and socio-economic need criteria to receive food. The center requests that new clients bring ID for every person being claimed in the household. Proof of residency in Harker Heights (i.e. utility bill or rental agreement) must be established.



Volunteers sort food donated to the Food for Families drive at the Killeen Special Events Center.

All food center clients will be re-certified and re-registered annually.

The center is open from 8 to 11:30 a.m. the first, third and fourth Saturday of each month at 100 E. Ruby in Harker Heights First Baptist Church.

Gift cards and donations can be made to P.O. Box 2238, Harker Heights, TX 76548. Go to www.hhfoodcenter.org or call 254-220-3602.

BAPTIST BENEVOLENCE MINISTRY

Baptist Benevolence Ministry is a collection of five Copperas Cove Baptist churches through which Copperas Cove families can get food, clothing and financial assistance from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday through Friday and from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday. Applications for financial assistance may be obtained during the same business hours. Financial assistance is limited to immediate needs and may be obtained no more than once in a 6 month period. The ministry operates at 307 N. Fifth St. Call 254-542-6780.

MY BROTHER'S HOUSE FOOD PANTRY

My Brother's House Food Pantry is operated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Holy Family Catholic Church in Copperas Cove. It serves Copperas Cove and Kempner residents with proof of identification.

Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 1

p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. It is at 107 Lyons St. in Copperas Cove. Contact Lynn Capps at 254-547-5206 to volunteer, or go to www.hf-cc.org/st-vincent-de-paul-svdp.

THE COVE LITTLE HOUSE

The Cove Little House is operated by the Church of Christ and started with mothers in the congregation sharing clothes. Clothing items for all ages, household goods and emergency food are offered free to anyone in need. It is open to the public 10 a.m. to noon each Tuesday at 306 W. Avenue E, in Copperas Cove. Call 254-547-3509.

COVE HOUSE

Copperas Cove gives food once a month to those living in Copperas Cove, Kempner, Fort Hood and Lampasas. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday at 108 E. Halstead Ave., in Copperas Cove. Call 254-547-4673.

NOLANVILLE FOOD PANTRY

Nolanville Food Pantry is operated by Mary Faye McDonald through Capital Area Food Bank. The food pantry is open from 3 to 6 p.m. every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 200 N. Main St. Call 254-698-6820.

KILLEEN HOUSING AUTHORITY

The Killeen Housing Authority is available for low-income families and residents who need assistance.

Two programs provide options for safe and affordable housing: public housing and voucher-based housing. There are often waiting lists for services, so it is important to be proactive.

The wait list for voucher-based housing closed, and the leasing jurisdiction is limited to a 5-mile radius. It includes Killeen, Harker Heights and Nolanville.

When the wait lists are open, applications are available online at www.killeen.housingmanager.com.

Both programs at the housing authority are funded Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Five commissioners appointed by the Killeen mayor provide oversight and set policy for the authority.

The main office is at 101 E. Avenue B in Killeen, but assistance is offered to residents looking to move to Harker Heights and some areas of Nolanville.

For more information, call 254-634-5243 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday or visit the authority's website at www.killeenha.org.

Adults in public housing must perform eight community service hours monthly unless exempted.

APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

The Apartment Association of Central Texas, 445 Central Texas Expressway in Harker Heights, also plays an integral part in helping area residents find affordable housing. The association of more than 200 members includes businesses, management companies, and owners, and services cities from Bartlett to Lampasas, including Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove.

Go to aactonline.org or call 254-939-5655 for more information.

Red Cross responds to emergencies

The American Red Cross' stated purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

The organization's stated mission is to "prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies."

With offices in Waco, Killeen, Austin and Bryan/College Station, the Red Cross is able to serve victims of any type of disaster that may befall the residents of Central Texas. The Heart of Texas Area Chapter provides services to 17 Texas counties, including Bell, Coryell and Lampasas, as well as Fort Hood.

Volunteers of all ages, skills and backgrounds are always needed, and there are many different types of volunteer roles available. The Red Cross also pro-

vides training in CPR, first aid, water safety and babysitting to individuals and businesses. Disaster assistance provides affected families with assistance in covering immediate needs such as food and shelter, replacing clothing, medicines and essential household furnishings destroyed in the disaster.

For military families and personnel, the Red Cross facilitates emergency communications worldwide, also helping veterans and active military in many other ways within the community.

The Red Cross provides 40 percent of the blood supply in the United States, collecting blood through local drives. Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org.

Access services, information and volunteer opportunities at www.redcross.org or call the local Red Cross at 254-523-4985, at 9205 Oak Creek Drive, Woodway.

Salvation Army helps families in need

The Salvation Army is an international movement and is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name without discrimination.

The Salvation Army in Killeen offers services to low-income families in times of need.

The Killeen organization has combined administrative operations, social services and a Family thrift store at 1306 E. Rancier Ave., and a Worship Center at 501 N. Second St. The thrift store is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Donations can be made to the thrift store during operational hours.

The Social Services branch of the organization is open 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday.

At the Family Store, people can purchase new and gently used clothing, appliances, furniture and various other items.

The Social Services office offers help to area residents suffering through difficult times with food, clothing, utilities assistance, Back-to-School and Christmas assistance.

Worship services are at 10 a.m. Sunday



John Stephenson volunteers as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army.

with youth character building groups on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Donations to the Salvation Army help provide these services and more for those in need. The Salvation Army also assists during disasters through its Emergency and Disaster Services mobile feeding vehicle.

The Salvation Army accepts volunteers for its annual Angel Tree Program, Red Kettle fundraising at Christmas, and in the Family Store year-round.

The Killeen location is headed by Majors David and Karen Craddock and covers Nolanville, Harker Heights and Fort Hood. The Killeen Salvation Army branch can be reached at 254-634-7172.

Animals, residents served by city adoption centers

Like any large city, Killeen has a large animal population, both in pets and in strays. The Animal Services Unit handles all animal-related issues for the city of Killeen. Issues can include barking dogs, dangerous animals, strays and neglect. The Killeen Animal Services Unit is under the Killeen Police Department.

The unit also runs the Killeen Animal Shelter located at 3118 Commerce Drive. The shelter is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. It is closed on Sundays and holidays. At max capacity, the shelter is able to hold 75 dogs and 68 cats.

Adoption fees are \$25 for unaltered animals and \$50 for sterilized cats and dogs. All dogs must now be microchipped to be adopted, so an additional \$15 fee is added for that service.

Animal Services officers respond to calls between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Concerns and complaints may be called in at 254-526-4455 or reported to animal@killeen-texas.gov.

The shelter provides 24-hour service, as on-call employees will respond after hours for emergencies. After-hours emergencies can be reported by calling 254-501-8800 between 4 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Lt. Tony McDaniel became the interim director at the shelter in late February, after the previous director, Ed Tucker, submitted his retirement while on administrative leave.

Aside from McDaniel, the shelter has several employees to help take care of the animals. The shelter employs five licensed animal control officers, three shelter assistants, three kennel technicians and one veterinary technician.

The shelter also has several volunteers that support its operations.

"We have an amazing partnership with the Killeen Career Center and students who are a part of the vet tech program there come in daily to work alongside our vet tech and assist with shelter operations," McDaniel said. "On average, we have about four to five students coming in each day to help."

The shelter works closely with area veterinarians, local rescue groups, volunteers and Petco in locating homes for the animals in its care.



Killeen Animal Shelter employee Reginald Blackstock takes a look at a dog held at the shelter.

The shelter's rules dictate that stray animals are housed for a minimum of three days before they are considered for adoption. Owners who want to surrender animals, such as deploying Fort Hood soldiers, may do so at the shelter on weekdays. The ability to intake owner surrenders is contingent on space. The shelter charges \$30 for Killeen residents and \$40 for nonresidents.

There is no fee for stray animals to be deposited at the shelter during normal business hours. Anyone considering adoption or relinquishment of an animal should be prepared to present government-issued identification. Volunteers are welcome.

In 2015, the city adopted an ordinance that requires all cats and dogs more than 4 months of age living within the city limits to be spayed or neutered and microchipped.

City officials said there are limited exceptions to the ordinance. Animals with a current breeding permit may be exempted from spaying and neutering but must have a veterinarian health statement that verifies a microchip with number. Competition animals may be exempted with from sterilization and microchipping with proper documentation. Medical reasons documented by a veterinarian may also exempt an animal from the new requirements.

When redeeming a pet, the owner must provide proof that the animal has been spayed or neutered. If the pet is not sterilized, the owner must sign an agreement to have the animal sterilized.

Veterinarians offer spay, neuter and microchip services. Low-cost options can be found in local business listings.

For photos and descriptions of animals available for adoption and a full list of ordinances, services and fees go to www.killeentexas.gov/animals.

HARKER HEIGHTS

The Pet Adoption Center is at 403 Indian Trail. Adoption hours are 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, 1 to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. Call 254-953-5472.

COPPERAS COVE

The Animal Control Facility is at 1601 N. First St. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. It is closed on Sunday. Call 254-547-5584.

TEXAS HUMANE HEROES

Originally CenTex Humane Society, the Second Chance Animal Shelter merged with the Humane Society of Williamson County to create Texas Humane Heroes. The no-kill shelter is at 5501 Clear Creek Road in Killeen. Hours are from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and noon to 5 p.m. Sundays. It is closed on Mondays. Call 254-526-6200 or go to www.texashumaneheroes.org.

FORT HOOD

The Fort Hood Stray Facility is on 80th Street and Engineer Drive in Building 4902. It is open noon to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is closed on weekends. For more information, call 254-287-4675.

BELL COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

2509 S. Loop 121, Belton.
Monday-Saturday: 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 254-933-6780.

TEMPLE ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

620 Mama Dog Circle, Temple.
Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday: noon to 4 p.m. Call 254-298-5732.

Gun laws govern ownership and handling across Texas

Texas may be a gun-friendly state, but the Legislature has several laws governing gun purchase, ownership and carrying by residents.

The law can differ depending on the type of gun one plans to purchase and carry. Rifles or long guns are generally legal to purchase and possess at the age of 18. No one under 21 is allowed to purchase a handgun.

Open carry of long guns or rifles is generally permitted by Texas law. However, it is possible to be cited for disorderly conduct for openly carrying a rifle in urban areas if law enforcement believes that act is intended to cause alarm. Unconcealed handguns must be carried in a shoulder or belt holster, and there is no separate license required to open carry.

Texas laws allow for handgun owners to earn a concealed handgun license. All applicants must be 21 years old with a clean criminal history, including military service records and recent juvenile records.

Convicted felons may not possess firearms and cannot apply for a CHL. Five years must also have elapsed since the conviction of either a Class A or Class B misdemeanor.

Applicants also cannot be subject to a protective order, be addicted to drugs or alcohol, or unsound mind or delinquent in paying fines, fees, taxes, child support or student loans.

Concealed carry is permitted on college campuses, while open carry is not. However, institutions are permitted to establish rules that regulate the storage of handguns in residence halls and dormitories.

Before getting a CHL, applicants must take a state-mandated course that includes all applicable laws for use of force and deadly force.

The state requires applicants to pass an exam that covers conflict de-escalation, resolution, firearms safety, criminal trespass and obligations to retreat.

CONCEALED HANDGUN LAWS

Residents must follow state's gun laws into effect in 1995. However, the law was rewritten in 1997 to take care of some technicalities that created conflicts with

FIREWORKS PROHIBITED IN CITY LIMITS

All Central Texas cities, including Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove, prohibit the use of all fireworks within city limits.

Traditionally, fireworks are allowed in the unincorporated areas of Texas counties, and this holds true for Bell County and Coryell County. County commissioners in both counties have approved fireworks during the holidays.

In Killeen, KPD spokeswoman Ofelia Miramontez reminds residents that it's illegal to possess, sell or explode any fireworks in the city and up to 5,000 feet outside city limits. Those who do may be charged with a Class C misdemeanor, and fined up to \$2,000.

"The use of fireworks can put an unnecessary strain on police and fire departments," Miramontez said in a news release.

Police focus on extra patrols during holidays that are typically accompanied by fireworks. Those extra patrols come from a grant called the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program from the Texas Department of Transportation.

FIREWORKS SAFETY TIPS

- Obey all local laws regarding the use of fireworks.
- Know your fireworks; read the cautionary labels and performance descriptions before igniting.
- A responsible adult should supervise all firework activities. Never give fireworks to children.



- Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Save your alcohol for after the show.
- Wear safety glasses when shooting fireworks.
- Light one firework at a time and then quickly move away.
- Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area; away from buildings and vehicles.
- Never relight a "dud" firework. Wait 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water.
- Always have a bucket of water and charged water hose nearby.
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them into metal or glass containers.
- Do not experiment with homemade fireworks.
- Dispose of spent fireworks by wetting them down and place in a metal trash can away from any building or combustible materials until the next day.
- FAA regulations prohibit the possession and transportation of fireworks in your checked baggage or carry-on luggage.
- Report illegal explosives, like M-80s and quarter sticks, to the fire or police department.

Source: National Council on Fireworks Safety

alcoholic beverage license regulations.

It is illegal to carry guns in many businesses, such as bars. Many other places, such as hospitals also prohibit the carry of guns.

Guns are also illegal to bring into government buildings, school grounds, courts and airports. Walk into the Killeen Mall, and one of the first things you will notice is a sign disallowing the open carrying of a firearm.

It is also illegal to discharge a firearm

within the city limits of Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove.

The state prohibits possession of the following weapons: explosive weapons, machine guns, short-barrel firearms, silencers, switch blades, brass knuckles, zip guns and armor-piercing rounds.

The state does not require any firearms to be registered. Texas residents are also not subject to any waiting periods for the purchase of handguns or rifles.



Caden Van Cleave learns about different types of rounds from Pfc. Bradley Ward at the National Night Out event at Fort Hood.

Local police promote community partnerships with National Night Out

In order to promote communication, trust and partnership with the community, local police departments offer a number of programs for residents and citizens.

Area police departments engage in community events like block parties, educational programs and neighborhood watches.

The biggest annual event for police departments is National Night Out.

Police departments in Killeen, Copperas Cove and Harker Heights each participate in the annual event that is designed to let neighbors get to know each other and their police officers.

The goal is for neighbors to become familiar with who should and should not be in their neighborhoods,

Fort Hood, Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove hold the event in early October. Residents throw parties and invite their neighbors. Police stop by each party to mingle citizens.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove each offer a course that teaches residents the inner workings of their respective departments and what policing looks like on a day-to-day basis.

Over the course of several weeks, students learn the structure of their police

department, how different units investigate different crimes, the practices and policies.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

To provide more eyes and ears for officers, local police participate in neighborhood watch programs. Alerting criminals to the presence of a neighborhood watch through street signs and window stickers can act as a preventive measure.

A neighborhood watch is led by a block captain, who serves as the liaison between the police department and residents.

Participants also learn simple crime prevention techniques such as making sure doors are locked, garage doors closed and valuables taken out of cars.

Killeen Police Department also oversees Killeen Citizens on Patrol, a similar program. However, this volunteer program asks for people to actually patrol streets.

It requires a background check, an eight-hour course and a ride-along with a police officer.

For more information about Killeen police community outreach programs, call Tammy Moseley at 254-501-8805. Copperas Cove residents should contact Sgt. Martin Ruiz at 254-547-8222.

In Harker Heights, call 254-699-7600.

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United Way supports variety of local organizations

The Greater Fort Hood Area United Way assists a wide range of local organizations, from substance abuse centers to special-needs child care facilities.

Annual campaigns raise money and awareness with the hope the community will come together and live united. The United Way's fundraising goal this year is \$625,000.

"We feel confident and optimistic that we will meet our goal," said Aaron Montemayor, executive director.

Montemayor said the organization uses the funds it receives to help provide human service programs to area residents in a timely manner. "Most processes are six months to a year to apply for funding," he said. "We can respond, based on the need, very quickly."

United Way supports 23 charitable programs through its member agencies.

The programs align with the organization's four areas of focus — basic needs, education, financial independence and health. The United Way office is at 208 W. Ave. A, Killeen. Call 254-634-0660 or go to unitedway-gfha.org/index.html.

AMERICAN RED CROSS, HEART of TEXAS AREA CHAPTER: 254-200-4400 — www.waco.redcross.org. Serving Fort Hood, Bell, Coryell, Lampasas, and Hamilton Counties. Provides Armed Forces Emergency Services, community disaster services, CPR, First Aid, aquatics, youth programs, and volunteer opportunities.

ARMED SERVICES YMCA: 254-634-5445 — www.asymca.net. Provides educational, preventive and social development programs for both the military and civilian populations throughout Central Texas.

AWARE CENTRAL TEXAS: 254-939-7582 — www.awarecentraltexas.org. Services are provided to children, and parents/caregivers that are at-risk of child abuse, neglect and family violence. Services include education, mentoring, case management, nurturing support and family coaching.

BELL COUNTY HELP SERVICES: 254-519-3360 — www.bellcountytexas.com. Provides short-term/emergency assistance with utilities, rent, water, identification, childcare, education supplies, employment supplies, other basic needs, information and referrals.

BRING EVERYONE IN THE ZONE: 254-681-

9112 — www.bringeveryoneinthezone.org. Provides peer support, resources and basic needs to our service members, veterans and dependents to help improve their quality of life.

BOY SCOUTS of AMERICA-LONGHORN COUNCIL: 817-231-8500 www.longhorn-council.org. The council provides a comprehensive youth development program for ages 7-20 years.

CASA OF BELL AND CORYELL COUNTIES: 254-774-1881 — www.casabellcoryell.org. Screen, train, and supervise community volunteers as the leading voice for safe, permanent and nurturing homes, for abused and neglected children.

CENIKOR FOUNDATION: 888-236-4567 — www.cenikor.org. Provides substance abuse services to people on an outpatient basis. A pregnant and postpartum intervention program assists women who are high risk for substance abuse.

CENTRAL TEXAS 4-C: 254-778-0489 — www.ct4c.org. High quality, comprehensive child development program for low income children ages 0-5 and their families. Includes health, disabilities, education, nutrition, literacy, mental health and family services.

CENTRAL TEXAS YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU: 254-939-3466 — www.central-texas-youth-services.org. Providing the following no cost services to children and youth age 0-21: emergency shelter, maternity group home, transitional/independent living programs and street outreach. Hotline 1-800-421-8336.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF CENTRAL TEXAS: 254-939-2946 — www.cacct.com. Provides collaborative, investigative and therapeutic services to victims of child abuse.

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS of GREATER CENTRAL TEXAS: 254-554-2132 — www.cis-tx.org. CIS closely monitors academics, behavior and attendance of at-risk youth. We promote students' staying in school and graduating.

COVE HOUSE EMERGENCY HOMELESS SHELTER: 254-547-4673 — www.cove-house.org. Provides free emergency shelter for homeless individuals and families. We also provide a free clinic for the community on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

FAMILIES IN CRISIS — FRIENDS IN

CRISIS: 254-634-1184 — www.familiesin-crisis.net. Provides safe shelter, crisis intervention, and outreach services for victims of family violence and sexual assault. Homeless shelter. Free and confidential 24-hour hotline, 1-888-799-SAFE.

FOOD CARE CENTER: 254-554-3400 — www.foodcare.org. Providing supplemental assistance with food, clothing, and household items for low-to-moderate income families.

FORT HOOD AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: 54-680-4007 — www.bellco-habitatforhumanity.org. A universal Christian Housing Ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing by building houses with volunteers that are sold to low-income families at 0 percent interest.

GIRL SCOUTS of CENTRAL TEXAS: 800-733-0011 — www.gsctx.org. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character.

KILLEEN COMMUNITY CLINIC: 254-618-4211 — www.gkfclinic.org. Provides medical treatment, medications and specialty referral to low income, uninsured children and adults.

HERITAGE HOUSE OF CENTRAL TEXAS: 254-226-4072 — www.hhct.weebly.com. Provides direct services to the homeless and at risk of becoming homeless that are designed to help achieve stable and independent lives.

HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION: Copperas Cove 254-547-6022 — Killeen 254-699-8888 — www.hccaa.com. The Senior Nutrition Program provides congregate and home delivered meals to eligible elderly, age 60+, and disabled participants five days a week, Monday through Friday.

THE REFUGE CORPORATION: 254-547-6753 — www.refugecorporation.org. Helping preserve family and community by providing a shelter for women and children, and health education programs.

VETS FOR PETS FOUNDATION: 254-690-4000 — www.texasvetsforpets.com. Killeen's locally owned and operated low cost, nonprofit spay, neuter and wellness provider.

VIALE OPTIONS IN COMMUNITY ENDEAVORS: 903-872-0180 — www.voiceinc.org. Serves children and their families by teaching healthy living skills, including tobacco, alcohol and drug education.



Kendra Ahart, 8, left, says the Cub Scout pledge at the start of the weekly meeting of Cub Scout Pack 257 on Jan. 30 at First Presbyterian Church in Copperas Cove.

Scouts provide leadership opportunity

The Leon Valley District of the Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts

The Boy Scouts of America is one of the nation's largest and oldest values-based youth development organizations.

In the local area, boys and young men, ages 6 to 20, get to experience the many benefits of the diverse programs offered by The Leon Valley District of the Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts. Beginning in the fall of 2018 the Family Scouting program will start. Young girls in grades Kinder to 5th will have the opportunity to join Cub Scouts.

The District includes Fort Hood, Killeen, Harker Heights, Copperas Cove and Gatesville. Belton, Temple and Salado are a part of the Chisholm Trail District.

The district's programs achieve the Boy Scout objectives of developing character, citizenship and personal fitness. Some of the programs include a STEM Center, space simulators, reptile shows, aquatic programs and summer camps, plus many more.

Go to www.beascout.org or call Dustin Weins, 254-772-8932.

A popular program is Venturing, which is available for both boys and girls ages 14 to 20. This program provides hobbies that teach leadership skills, sports, high adventure and gives youth the opportunity to teach and mentor each other.

Additionally, there is the career exploration co-ed program through the Killeen Police Department for youth ages 14 to 21, who are interested in pur-

suing a law enforcement career.

The program provides youth with the knowledge of day-to-day police operations in their community, and serves more than 1,200 kids. Contact Julian Martinez at 254-200-7930 for information.

GIRL SCOUTS OF CENTRAL TEXAS

The mission of the Girl Scouts is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, and it is open to girls in kindergarten through 12th grade.

The young girls experience learning opportunities in all areas, such as STEM, outdoors activities and life skills and entrepreneurship.

The Central Texas council is one of seven high-performing councils in the state. There are five units in this area, and all programs are girl-inspired by providing meaningful leadership experience.

Whether they're learning to write computer code for their program or hitting an archery target at summer camp, Girl Scouts cultivate their own spirit of adventure. They make contributions through community service; enjoy field trips, and learn interpersonal skills while working in a team atmosphere to accomplish goals.

Volunteers are always welcome to help with individual programs, serving on committees and manage cookie sales.

The Killeen Girl Scouts Service Center is located at 2909 Lake Road, phone: 800-733-0011.

The Temple Service Center is at 2721 Exchange Place, phone 800-733-0011, or visit the website: www.gsctx.org.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas spans eight communities in the Central Texas area and serves approximately 12,000 youth. Members can enjoy a variety of programs and activities provided by professionally trained staff.

Clements Teen Center is at 2900 E. Elms Road in Killeen. Members can experience exciting, engaging and hands-on activities in the STEM Center. An indoor gym is available for basketball, volleyball, and other sports, as well as games, and specialized programs. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-699-7406.

Bigham Unit is at 304 W. Avenue B in Killeen. This site includes a game room, computer lab, outdoor playground and arts and crafts. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-699-5808 ext. 100.

Woody Hall Unit at 5100 Trimmer Road in Killeen has a pool, gymnasium, and education rooms. This unit will also feature a new state-of-the-art interactive playground. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-634-0308 ext. 100.

Boys & Girls Club of Copperas Cove is at 1002 Veterans Ave. This site features a computer lab, arcade and movie room, and learning lab. The membership fee is \$100 a month, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-547-5578.

Boys & Girls Club of Lampasas is at 107 N. Main St. This site offers a full meal after school and homework help, plus a technology and learning center and sports activities. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 512-564-1669.

Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville is at 2533 E. Main St. in Gatesville. This site offers after-school meals, has a computer lab, library, new activities center and gym. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-865-8347.

To learn more, go to bgctx.org.

Armed Services YMCA offers programs for all ages

The Armed Services YMCA Killeen/Harker Heights has several significant programs to serve both the military and civilians of the Greater Fort Hood area.

One noteworthy program is the Before and After School Child Care Program, which runs at 41 area schools in the Killeen, Copperas Cove, Lampasas, Florence and Belton school districts.

In 2018, the “Y” has added an educational component to the child care program. The Armed Services YMCA Killeen also provides child care during the spring and winter break and starts as early as 6 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. The organization also offers a Summer Child Care program. Financial assistance is available for all child care programs.

“I take the same level of care I would expect for my children,” said Antionette Wiggins, associate executive director of Child Care.

A Program Center is at 100 E. Beeline in Harker Heights for ages 9 to 18, which provides a safe place for children to partake in activities, field trips and programs. Located adjacent to the Program Center is the Armed Services YMCA Aquatic Center that includes a swimming pool and spray pad.

New for 2018 is Armed Services YMCA Specialty Camps. These camps will run during spring, winter and summer times. Specialty camps are an

alternative for children who do not need all-day child care, but would like to learn a craft, hone a skill or have a good time. Each camp will be dedicated to a specific topic, anywhere from arts and crafts to STEM, cooking or sports.

Also, the ASYMCA offers Kids Night Out, which gives parents an opportunity to enjoy a night out while their children are in a safe and nurturing environment for an evening, offering activities for ages 6 months to 13 years old.

The organization is known throughout the world for its fitness centers. The Harker Heights Wellness Center is at 110 Mountain Lion Road and is a 54,000-square-foot facility and open seven days a week. It has a heated 10-lane lap pool, warm water therapy pool, 7,000-square-foot fitness floor, group exercise classes, personal training, child watch, basketball court, indoor running track, swim lessons, and a café. The ASYMCA tries to remove all barriers to anyone wanting to improve their health.

Fitness Director Katie Lochridge, said, “Being able to help people take a step toward better health is a win for themselves, their family, and the community.”

The Armed Services YMCA Killeen has a long history of military support programs. Operation Kid Comfort is a program in which volunteers make quilts for children of deployed soldiers

to help them cope with the separation due to deployments.

On the horizon, the ASYMCA is working to bring in two new military support programs. Teddy’s Child Watch provides childcare so that parents can focus on their health during appointments, and keeps children away from other sick patients. This program will reduce the financial hardship and stress to find drop-in child care, and will improve the overall health of the military family.

Operation Little Learners is a parent and child class that emphasizes Kindergarten readiness, socialization, and positive parent/child interaction. It provides a structured learning environment that prepares children for the classroom.

The Armed Services YMCA Killeen-Copperas Cove Family Center is at 501 Clara Drive, Copperas Cove. This facility holds activities for the whole family, as it offers a basketball court, teen center and fitness area.

The building offers a staffed child-watch area for members who work out, get personal training or are involved in Zumba, yoga, martial arts, running groups, Home School PE, boot camps and biddy sports, with some offered free with memberships or at low cost.

To find out more, go to asymca.org/killeen-home or fb.me/yourasymca or call 254-690-YMCA.

Bell County Expo Center hosts events large and small

One of the prime venues for a variety of events in the area — the Bell County Expo Center — will have a new equestrian/livestock complex later this year. The new equestrian facility will be air conditioned and will have an area of 170,000 square feet. It will feature an air-conditioned performance arena, a warmup arena, grill area, concourse and stock pens.

“We have already started booking the new facility that will open in August of this year,” said Expo Center Executive Director Tim Stephens.

The Expo Center marked its 30th anniversary in 2017 with a packed cal-

endar of events and a series of special anniversary-themed concerts.

Headlining the Expo Center’s offerings last year was the 30th Anniversary Concert Series, which began with a sold-out Willie Nelson show in March, followed by Casting Crowns, Bone Thugs N Harmony, ZZ Top, and winding up in November with a sold-out performance by Alan Jackson.

The Expo Center also hosts rodeos, trade shows, conferences and more. Built in 1987, the county-owned facility hosts up to 300 events annually. The main arena, which seats about 7,600 people, is the site of rodeos, horse shows,

concerts and conventions of all types. It hosts area school graduations each spring. Musical acts include big-name rock, country, Christian and rhythm and blues groups. Other events include circuses and arts and crafts shows.

The Central Texas State Fair is a major attraction on Labor Day weekend, and draws 20,000 to 30,000 people.

Other facilities include the assembly hall with 17,000 square feet that can seat 800 people. It is used for banquets, trade shows and other events.

For booking or more information, go to www.bellcountyexpo.com or call 254-933-5353.

Centers offer activities, fellowship for area seniors

Central Texans, age 55 and older, have plenty of opportunities to enjoy an active lifestyle at several senior centers.

KILLEEN

Two senior centers in Killeen serve the needs of the growing older population in the area. Both centers are open Monday through Friday.

The Bob Gilmore Center, at 2205 E. Veterans Memorial Blvd. is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with extended hours on Thursday until 9 p.m. Call 254-501-6554.

The Lions Club Park Senior Center, at 1700-B E. Stan Schlueter Loop, is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays with extended hours on Tuesday until 9 p.m. Call 254-501-6399.

Membership in both centers is free, regardless of residency, to a person 55 years or older. A person under 55 may join if their spouse is 55 and a member.

Both centers provide a daily hot lunch at 11:30 a.m. for \$3. There are many fun and engaging activities, including weekly dances; daily exercise classes, like aerobics, circuit training, and zumba, yoga, and Tai Chi, along with state-of-the-art exercise equipment in the Gary

Purser Jr. Fitness Room.

Arts and crafts classes include pottery, ceramics, scrapbooking and knitting, crocheting, quilting, plus many seasonal crafts. Seniors can also enjoy playing a variety of board games, taking computer classes, driver safety, grief counseling, and billiards, pickle ball, and day trips. During the year, the centers host many parties and celebrations, among other activities. Membership at both centers totals more than 7,000 people.

COPPERAS COVE

The Copperas Cove Senior Activity Center provides seniors with enrichment programs that encourage social interaction and fun, new experiences.

Located in the Human Resources Building at 1012 North Drive, Suite 5, the center accepts individuals age 55 and older. The programs include meals twice a week with a breakfast and a potluck once a month. Community sponsors perform health checks every month, exercise classes are offered three times a week, along with a yoga class on Mondays and Wednesdays. Recreational activities include games, crochet, knitting, cards, and dominoes, gardening, and

crafts. The center has a pool table, lending library and treadmills, plus weekly time for fellowship. Seniors can enjoy the "Dining with Friends" Program in which they visit a local restaurant each month for good food and conversation.

Occasional field trips are offered so members can visit an interesting town or see a new sight. Call 254-547-6049.

HARKER HEIGHTS

The Harker Heights Senior Recreation Program is designed for ages 50 and up. It offers activities and events that provide services to empower the seniors to focus on what matters most: their goals, hopes and dreams. The program promotes the participation of residents and nonresidents through quality, free programs in socialization, recreation, nutrition, health and social services.

With over 400 members, seniors enjoy taking monthly day trips, playing Granny Basketball and getting crafty with art classes. Programs are offered Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Activities Center, 400 Indian Trail. Pickleball and Granny Basketball is played at the Recreation Center, 307 Miller's Crossing. Call 254-953-5493.

Take a step back in time at Bell County Museum

The Bell County Museum has become a popular tourist attraction and a fun place to learn about Texas history.

The 16,000-square-foot facility located in downtown Belton, has both permanent and temporary exhibits, and educational programs for students, families, and adults of all ages. The museum's permanent exhibits focus on the history and prehistory of Bell County.

The Passport through Time includes objects and information related to county history, including the extensive Ma Ferguson Collection, the largest publicly held collection of Moustache Tea Cups in the United States, and interactive elements such as the Victory Garden and Morse code machine.

"The Gault Project: An Adventure in Time" is a permanent exhibit featuring large murals, discovery drawers, micro-

scopes and a film funded by the Texas Historical Foundation.

The museum also rotates new traveling exhibits every two to three months. The museum provides new and engaging exhibits, along with permanent ones, blending regional with national interests. Featured guest speakers this year include Dr. Dwight Watson, history professor at Texas State University, addressing the Civil Rights Movement, and Baylor University history professor Dr. Stephen Sloan, who will give a talk on "How Barbed Wire Changed the Chisholm Trail." The former Director of Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Dr. Ron Tyler, will speak on "Early Texas History through Art."

Currently, the museum is hosting two major traveling exhibits. "Texas History" is composed of three separate

exhibits: The Alamo, Texas Annexation, and Signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence. Children can also sign their own copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence.

The museum is open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays. The museum owns more than 12,000 objects related to Bell County and Central Texas. From projectile points made by early peoples to real-life clothing from the 18th through the 20th centuries, the museum regularly rotates artifacts and exhibits. Call 254-933-5243 or go to www.bellcountymuseum.org to become a Friend of the Museum. Friends receive gift shop discounts, invitations to exhibit openings, and a North American Reciprocal Museum membership, with free admission to over 900 museums across the country.

Festivals, fairs showcase the best of life in Central Texas

Central Texas has something going on throughout the year, from rodeos, food and wine festivals, to arts and craft fairs, sporting events, and plenty more. Here's a sampling:

MARCH

Take 190 West Art Festival, Killeen — Take 190 West is Killeen's weeklong salute to the arts. The event attracts sculptors, painters and authors, and events include book signings by authors, a sculpture contest featuring professional sculptors and the Killeen ISD student Art Show.

Go to: take190west.com.

Paws in the Park, Harker Heights — Paws in the Park at Purser Family Park is one of two annual dog-friendly events. Sponsored by the Harker Heights Parks & Recreation, the event celebrates all things canine, including contests for Best Dog Trick, Dog & Owner Look-A-Like, Best Dressed with dog-friendly vendors, too. The event also raises awareness about the city's pet adoption center and the park's dog facilities.

Go to: www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us

Wildflower Art Fair & Festival, Salado — Enjoy a weekend of art and nature strolling the grounds of Pace Park at this family-friendly event featuring 50 tents of art, entertainment and food. Activities include scrapbooking to oil, acrylics, watercolors, pastels and woodwork, sculpture and jewelry.

Go to: salado.com

APRIL

Bloomin' Fest, Lampasas — Springtime gardening is the focus of this free event held in Historical Downtown Lampasas at Courtyard Square. The festival offers gardening information and exhibits as well as plant, flower and craft vendors. There is a children's area on the grounds, and bandstand entertainment throughout the day.

Go to: lampasaschamber.org

MAY

Farmers Markets — Killeen has two locations where Farmers Markets take place on Saturday mornings: the Tractor Supply Company parking lot, 2002 E. Central Texas Expressway, and the Lowes parking lot, 2801 S. W.S. Young Drive.

Harker Heights' Farmers Market is on Saturdays from May to October; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Seton Medical Center Harker Heights, 850 W. Central Texas Expressway.

Copperas Cove's Farmers Market takes place on Thursday evenings, May to October, from 4 to 7 p.m. at City Park, 1206 W. Avenue B.

Celebrate Killeen — This festival celebrates Killeen's diversity. It features many international foods, multicultural entertainment performed by local artists, a statewide slow-pitch softball tournament, a 5K fun run and a car show.

Go to: killeentexas.gov

Rabbit Fest, Copperas Cove — Rabbit Fest is a four-day arts and crafts festival that draws more than 30,000 people annually. The family-friendly festival offers a live rabbit display, a parade, carnival rides, food and craft vendors and live entertainment.

Go to: rabbitfest.com



Strings the Thing performed Aug. 13 during the annual KidFest Health and Safety Fair, sponsored by Metroplex Hospital at the Killeen Conference and Civic Center.

Rodeo Killeen — Rodeo lovers kick up their spurs for this family favorite event. PRCA riders compete in bareback riding, barrel racing, and bronc riding, bull riding and steer roping. Additional events include a children's stick horse parade and a Rodeo Queen competition.

Go to: rodeokilleen.com

JUNE

Florence Friendship Days Festival, Florence — The quaint town of Florence loves to celebrate its friendliness. Events include the Miss Friendship Pageant and baby pageant, a live auction, a Kiddie Parade and parade down Main Street, a washer tournament and Cow Chip Contest. Vendor booths feature arts, crafts, food and more. A street dance with live music caps off the festival.

Go to: florencechamberofcommerce.org

JULY

Fourth of July Celebration & PRCA Rodeo & Festival, Belton — Fourth of July in Belton is a weekend of All-American fun. More than 30,000 spectators watch the annual parade filled with decorated vehicles, antique cars and floats and marching bands. The PRCA Rodeo has some of the best bullriders, barrel racers and ropers competing. The Festival on Nolan Creek is held at Yettie Polk Park offering crafts, food and live music.

Go to: rodeobelton.com

AUGUST

The Flavors of Central Texas, Killeen — Many of the area's best restaurants and caterers gather under one roof, so everyone can sample their finest dishes. There is also a cooking competition, cooking demonstrations and a silent auction.

Go to: killeenchamber.com

Pooch Pool PAW-TY, Harker Heights — It is the dog days of summer, and the outdoor pool at Carl Levin Park has gone to the dogs. Owners and their pets can enjoy swimming in the pool. Dogs are required to be on a leash outside the pool fenced area.

Go to: www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us

SEPTEMBER

The Central Texas Food, Wine & Brew Festival, Harker Heights —

A little bit of everything is available at the area's largest food and wine festival. Learn wine basics at the Wine 101 class and sample Texas craft beers. The event features live culinary chef demonstrations and a people's choice beer and wine competition.

Go to: hhfoodandwine.com

Four Winds Intertribal Society Powwow, Killeen — Providing a unique cultural and educational experience, the annual powwow showcases Native American life. More than 15 different nations are represented with eight dance competitions and Indian arts and crafts vendors.

Go to: fourwindstx.blogspot.com

OCTOBER

Monster Dash — The Rotary Clubs of Copperas Cove, Harker Heights and Killeen join to raise funds for youth oriented, local projects.

Participants can select the Monster Dash 5K walk/run, or 5K team competition or the 1/3-mile Little Monster Dash for children 10 years old and under. Children 10 years old and younger can participate in a costume competition.

Go to: www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us

Halloween Hoopla — Harker Heights offers area residents a safe alternative to door-to-door trick or treating. Families can dress up in costume and enjoy a spooky evening with inflatables, games, candy and more.

Go to: www.ci.harker-heights.tx.us

Annual Herb & Art Festival, Lampasas — This free event takes place at the unique Sculpture Garden in Campbell Park. Festivities include over 100 arts and crafts booths, great food, herbal gardening booths and a children's play area and live music.

Go to: lampasaschamber.org

DECEMBER

Frost Fest, Harker Heights — Santa comes to town each year to help kick off the Christmas season. The free event includes tasty treats with plenty of hot chocolate, music and Christmas light displays.

Go to: www.ci.harkerheights.tx.us

Krist Kindl Markt, Copperas Cove — The first weekend in December comes to life in downtown Copperas Cove with the charm of a German Christmas. A parade, food, arts and crafts and entertainment highlight the weekend festivities.

Go to: copperascove.com/specialevents/krist-kindl-markt

Santa Fest Holiday Market, Temple — Get in the spirit of the season and enjoy arts & crafts vendors, food trucks, and free entertainment. Admission to the market is free.

Go to: discovertemple.com

Georgetown Christmas Stroll, Georgetown — Downtown Georgetown Square transforms into a Norman Rockwell-picturesque scene with window displays, carolers, yummy goodies and local vendors. Visit the live nativity at the Bethlehem Village, tease the Grinch at the Whoo-Village and Santa makes an appearance at the parade on Saturday.

Go to: thegeorgetownsquare.com

Look for more events in the Killeen Daily Herald's Weekender section on Fridays and online at KDHEvents.com.

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Local theaters bring arts, culture to Central Texas

Art is a vibrant part of life in Central Texas. From the performing arts to concerts and symphonies, residents can enjoy exciting shows at local nonprofit community-based venues.

VIVE LES ARTS THEATRE

After more than 40 years, Vive Les Arts Theatre remains the premiere community theater in the Fort Hood-Killeen area. An innovative partnership with Waco Civic Theatre, under the direction of Eric Shepard, began with the 2017-2018 season.

"There's a wonderful range from the comic to drama, and celebrations of theatre that relate directly to today's world," Shepard said.

The 400-seat theater has a proscenium stage and is equipped with state of the art lighting and audio instruments, large mounted screen TVs in the theater and lobby. Funding comes from a variety of sources, like Killeen's hotel and motel taxes, grants from the Texas Commission on the Arts, season memberships and fundraisers. It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, so contributions are tax deductible.

The remainder of the 2017-2018 season will feature the musical "Grease." This summer's children's production is "Seussical Jr." The 2018-2019 season will include the musical "Rock of Ages," "Treasure Island," "Steel Magnolias," "Unnecessary Farce" and the musical "Mamma Mia." Vive Les Arts Theatre is at 3401 S. W.S. Young Drive. Call 254-526-9090 or go to vlakilleen.org.

THE TEMPLE CIVIC THEATRE

The Temple Civic Theatre has staged entertaining, family-friendly performances for more than 50 years. Founded as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation in 1965, the theater originally worked under the Cultural Activities Center. In 1974, it built its own 11,000-square-foot facility with a 228-seat thrust stage auditorium.

The remaining shows for the 2017-2018 season are "The Old People Are Revolting!" and the children's summer musical "Disney's Beauty and the Beast." The 2018-2019 season will be announced later in the year. Temple Civic Theatre is at 2413 S. 13th St., Temple. Call 254-778-

MOVIE THEATERS

REGAL-KILLEEN STADIUM 14

2501 E. Central Texas Expressway
Killeen
254-953-3991

CINEMARK AT MARKET HEIGHTS

201 E. Central Texas Expressway
Suite 100
Harker Heights
254-690-4581

CINERGY CINEMAS

402 Constitution Drive
Copperas Cove
254-542-3861

GRAND AVENUE THEATRE

2809 Oakmark Drive
Belton
254-939-5000

PREMIERE CINEMA + IMAX

3111 S. 13th St. (Temple Mall)
Temple
254-791-3900

CINEMARK TEMPLE AND XD

4501 S. General Bruce Drive
Temple
254-773-8497

LAST DRIVE-IN PICTURE SHOW

2912 S. State Highway 36
Gatesville
254-865-8445

4751 or go to artstemple.com.

TABLEROCK

A true Central Texas original, The Goodnight Amphitheater at Tablerock Festival is famous for its outdoor venues. The nonprofit's theater production is "Salado Legends," an epic musical/historical drama with a cast and crew of more than 100, plus livestock, pyrotechnics, and lots of singing and dancing.

A "Young Writers Contest" and "Central Texas Poetry and Prose Readings" spotlight local writing talent.

"Shakespeare on the Rock" will feature the "Taming of the Shrew" in June.

A Halloween classic is the annual "Fright Trail." With the help of 80 volunteers, a guide takes visitors through scenes from "Dracula," "Frankenstein,"

and "Phantom of the Opera," with excerpts from Edgar Allen Poe.

The annual production of Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol" is a family-friendly staple in December. The spring and summer seasons bring music to Salado with the Gospel Festival and Salado ISD Band Concert.

The nine-acre space is at Royal Street and Tablerock Road in Salado, Call 254-947-9205 or go to tablerock.org.

CENTRAL TEXAS ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

The Central Texas Orchestral Society offers performances by internationally known artists. Among the 2018 performers include the Spanish Brass Quintet. In addition to presenting world-class performances, CTOS provides a venue where patrons are able to closely interact with artists during pre- and post-concert events. It is the parent organization of the Wildflower Belle and Junior Cotillion programs that aim to teach students appropriate social and concert etiquette while fostering an appreciation for classical music.

Performances usually take place at Temple's Azalee Marshall Cultural Activities Center, Mayborn Auditorium, at 3011 N. Third St., Temple.

Call 254-773-9926 or go to cacarts.org.

TEMPLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

As the Temple Symphony Orchestra continues its 24th season, the Board of Directors is seeing the results of a new Endowment Campaign. Executive Director Jan Salzman, noted, "The value this dynamic group of musicians brings in terms of entertainment and education to Central Texas is immense."

Founding conductor and musical director, Thomas Fairlie, added, "The ongoing success of this orchestra is vital."

Among the performances set through 2018 are Van Cliburn finalist Jan Jiracek, 2017 Van Cliburn silver medalist Kenny Bronberg and the Temple College Choral.

The concerts take place at the new Mayborn Performing Arts Center, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, 810 N. Main St., Belton. For tickets and more information, call 254-778-6683 or go to templesymphony.org.

Killeen Civic and Conference Center offers space for events of all sizes

The Killeen Civic & Conference Center is a modern, multifunctional and accessible meeting space with a comfortable and flexible floor plan capable of hosting public and private events of any size.

The Conference Center, 3601 S. W.S. Young Drive, boasts 64,000 square feet, and offers a variety of meeting rooms to accommodate intimate parties and theater-style seating for up to 2,000 people.

A large ballroom can be arranged to seat 1,000 guests, or 100-750 in smaller spaces. Meeting rooms are flexible, too. Curved glass paneled walls adorn the view in a special events room; 3,500-square-feet to host 125 banquet seating or 250 theater-style.

An executive board room offers sophistication. A grand lobby and full kitchen ensure that the needs of all types of events are met.

Technology is embedded throughout the complex and provides several attractive capabilities, including internet-connected rooms and WiFi access, video-conferencing and satellite, and



media projectors and sound.

The conference center anchors the city's entertainment complex, which is also home to the Special Events Center with 53,000 square feet for auctions, food drives, roller derby and more.

The Killeen Rodeo Grounds hosts the city's annual rodeo event each May.

Finally, the complex proudly features the Nov. 5, 2009 Memorial and a Korean War Memorial.

Staff are experienced and ready to help with scheduling, room layouts, and catering.

Go to KilleenCivicCenter.com for more information or call 254-501-3888.

Mayborn Science Theater features 60-foot domed screen

The Mayborn Science Theater, located on the campus of Central Texas College in Killeen, opened in 2003 and is the only full-scale digital entertainment venue in the area.

After a million-dollar digital upgrade in 2009, the Mayborn Science Theater delivers state-of-the-art technology for projecting images on its 60-foot domed screen for an immersive experience with its full-dome shows and laser light shows that combine 3-D graphics, laser-generated colors and 15,000 watts of digitally reproduced sound.

The Mayborn Science Theater offers Saturday evening shows, Saturday and weekday matinees. It also features monthly star tours of the night sky, fun-filled science classes for youngsters, educational science exhibits and is home to GeekFest.

In addition, the theater hosts group shows, field trips, birthday parties and school programs. Groups of up to 180 people may reserve the theater for private showings or functions.

Membership is available. Benefits include free admission to shows, members-only invites to premieres, special screenings and events, guest passes and discounted or free admissions to more than 250 museums, ASTC science centers, arboretums and aquaria across the country.

The ticket counter is available only during scheduled shows, opening 30 minutes before showtime.

The administrative office is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Friday, at 6200 W. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen. Call 254-526-1800 or go to www.starsatnight.org.

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- Iglesia Adventista
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- New Hope Seventh-day Adventist
Church 4602 Clear Creek, K 554-7113
- Killeen Seventh-day Adventist
Church
4700 E. Rancier, K 699-6263

ANGLICAN

- Christ the King Anglican Church
273 Country Rd. 4877, CC 394-0798

APOSTOLIC

- Church of Jesus Christ House of
Prayer
200 N. Gray St., K 554-7551
- Holy Temple of Our Lord Jesus Christ
of the Apostolic Faith, Inc,
519 S. Pearl St., Belton 254-613-4591
- Jesus Name Apostolic Ministry
314 Casa Drive, CC 547-8358
- New Life Church
702 N. 8th St., K 618-5223
- New Apostolic Church
1207 Metropolitan Dr., K
www.newapostolicchurch.org
- New Harvest Apostolic Ministries
612 Gray St., K 383-5228
- Temple Of Faith Apostolic Ministries
808 N 8th St., K 247-1904

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

- Betel Asamblea De Dios
413 N. 8th, K 634-3772
- Bethel Temple Assembly of God
3102 S. Hwy, 195, K 526-2003
- First Assembly of God
502 N. 38th St., K 699-1954
- First Assembly of God
2205 FM 3046, CC 547-3724
- First Assembly of God
1601 S. Harley, HH 699-4114
- First Assembly of God
2514 E. Hwy 190, L 512-556-5185
- First Assembly of God
209 W. Hallmark, K 200-9356
- First Samoan Assembly of God
502 N. 38th St. Killeen, TX 371-0347
- Five Hills Assembly of God
302 East Ave. D, CC 547-9155
- Full Gospel Killeen Church
1410 S. Trimmier, K 526-9048
- Korean Full Gospel Killeen Church
1410 S. Trimmier, K 526-7777
- Korean Full Gospel New Light Church
112 E. Hallmark Ave, K 628-1116
- New Beginnings Assembly
Corner of Hwy 190 and Indian Trail

BAPTIST

- Anchor Of Hope Baptist Church
5700 FM 439, B 939-6044
- Bethel Baptist Church
508 East Jasper Drive, K
- Bible Way Baptist Church
2306 S. FM 116, CC 547-8584
- Calvary Independent Baptist Church
13341 State Hwy 195, K 634-9803
- Central Korean Baptist Church
1200 Old FM 440, K 526-8840

- Clear Creek Baptist Church
CC 547-2006 2.5 miles south on FM
2657
- Cedar Valley Baptist FM 2843, Salado
- Community Baptist Church
Hwy 195 & Briggs Rd., K
- Cornerstone Baptist Church
484 FM 3219, K 690-4114
- Cross Road Missionary Baptist Church
1212 East Veterans Memorial Blvd
HH 254-535-3322
- East Lake Baptist Church
3213 Lake Rd., K 690-4400
- East Side Baptist Church
500 N. W.S. Young, K 634-0358
- Eastside Baptist Church
1202 MLK Jr. Dr., CC 547-3401
- Fairview Baptist Church
1202 Veteran's Ave., CC 547-3421
- Faith Baptist Church
Ann Blvd. & Ruby, HH 699-9184
- First Baptist Church of Copperas Cove
300 W. Ave. B, CC 547-3717
- First Baptist Church of Killeen
3310 S.W.S. Young Dr., K 634-6262
- First Baptist Church
U.S. Hwy. 190, Kempner 512-932-3195
- First Baptist Church of Trimmier
E. Trimmier and Chapparral Rd., K
634-9717
- First Community Baptist Church
1320 Georgetown Rd. CC 547-3717
- Freedom Baptist Church
102 Northern Dove Ln., CC 518-0074
- Good News Baptist Church
204 West Ave. B, K 634-0497
- God's Way Community Baptist
Church
700 Whitlow Dr, K 690-0005
- Grace Baptist Church 947-5917
- Greater Gethsemane Missionary Bap-
tist 4213-A E. Veterans Memorial,
535-4908
- Greater Peace Missionary Baptist
Church 4201 S Zephyr Rd., K 680-
4378
- Holy Light United Baptist Church
1602 S. Main, CC
- Holy One Baptist Mission
211 E. Ave. C, K 519-3990
- The Homecoming
10060 E. Trimmier Rd., K 833-6359
- Killeen Baptist Temple
508 Jasper, K 526-4410
- Killeen Korean United Baptist Church
4103 Zephyr Rd., K 690-2233
- Landmark Missionary Baptist Church
7512 E Trimmier Rd, K, 501-9193
- Korean Memorial Baptist Church
113 S. 8th St., K 526-8866
- Korean Mission First Baptist
N. 5th & Ave. B, CC 547-3717
- Lawler Baptist Church
FM 2843 & CR 230, 254-793-2414
- Liberty Community Church
3002 Gus Drive, K 526-0114
- Light of Christ Missionary Baptist
Church
307 East Avenue D, K, 254-634-9620
- Lifeway Fellowship
4001 E. Elms Road, Killeen



Attendees dance in the aisle at the Agape Church of God in Christ during the Ladies In Prayer Stations-sponsored Pre-National Day of Prayer event.

- Marlboro Heights Missionary Baptist
2901 Illinois, K 690-4521
- 801 R.A Abercrombie Dr., K 690-4526
- Memorial Baptist Church
4001 Trimmier, K, 634-6882
- Missiona Bautista
54th & Turner K 699-5852
- Mountain View Baptist Church
Corner of FM 2410 & Cedar Knob
- Native American Baptist Fellowship
Church
6161 S 5th St, Temple 721-5758
- Nolan Valley Baptist Church
13206 W. FM 93, Belton 939-8367
- NorthSide Baptist Church
1800 W Hwy 190, Nolanville, 690-
6722
- Oak Hill Baptist Church FM 2657 and
Boys Ranch Rd., CC 547-4623
- Pershing Park Baptist Church
1200 Old FM 440, K 634-1013
- Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana
4102 Turner Ave. & 54th St., K 634-
0486
- Red Sea Baptist Church
1004 North 18th St., K, 628-8999
- Robertson Ave Baptist Church
305 E. Roberston Ave. CC 547-3155
- Second Street Baptist Church
1602 N. 2nd St. K 690-2886
- Simmonsville Missionary Baptist
Church 509 S. 42nd St., K 699-1956
- Skyline Baptist Church
906 Trimmier, K 699-4479
- Southern Hills Baptist Church
South FM 116, CC 547-0009
- Sunset Baptist Church
814 W. Ave. C, K 634-5055
- Tabernacle Baptist Church
6601 S. Ft. Hood St. K, 554-2920
- Thy Word is Truth Christian Ministries

- Missionary Baptist
1803 Sherman Dr. K, 254-526-8310
- Trinity Baptist Church
403 FM 2410, HH 699-4436
- Triple 7 Baptist Fellowship,
1501 Riverside Dr., K 254-290-1552
- Westside Baptist Church K 628-1004
- Westview Missionary Baptist Church
- ABA 1102 W. Main St., G 404-2316
- Unity Missionary Baptist Church
903 N. 1st, CC
- Youngsport Baptist Church
Rt. 2, Box 94, RM 2484, K 616-2484

BIBLE CHURCH

- Grace Bible Church
1203 Winkler Ave., K 690-1728
- Instituto Biblico Hosanna
205 E. Hallmark Ave., Suite B, K 953-
1113
- Killeen Bible Church
4717 Westcliff Road, K 690-4748
- Maranatha Bible Institute
Harker Heights, 699-8400

BUDDHIST

- Wat Pah Samarkki
20905 State Highway 195 K, 793-3713
- SGI-USA Killeen Activity Center
116 E. Ave. D, Killeen 554-6960

CAO DAI

- Cao Dai Temple of Harker Heights
127 E. Ruby Rd., HH 699-5074

CATHOLIC

- Red Team Chapel/58th St. Chapel
Corner of 58th & Battalion, 288-6548
- Holy Family Catholic Church
1001 Georgetown Rd., CC 547-3735
- St. Joseph's Catholic Church
2903 E. Rancier, K, 634-7878

- St. Paul Chong Hasang Catholic Church 1000 E. FM 2410, HH 698-4110

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- Cantico Nuevo 1801 Rancier, Killeen 258-2958
- Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 1301 Trimmer, K 526-2179
- Copperas Cove Christian Church (disciple of Christ) 1908 Morrow D.C.C. 547-2486
- Iglesia Christiana Sinai 701E. Stan Schlueter Lp. K. 628-1539
- Deliverance and Praise Temple Church of God in Christ 702 Harley Dr., 699-4346
- Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 1301 S. Trimmer, K 526-2179
- Copperas Cove Christian Church Disciples of Christ 1908 Morrow Dr., CC 547-2486
- Crestview Independent Christian Church 2608 S. FM 116, CC 547-4013
- Deliverance Ministries, Household of Faith, Church of the Living God 329 Indian Trail, HH 519-4659
- The Fellowship of Praise & Worship 301-A S. Main St., CC 458-8429
- House of Refuge Ministries 908 Highland Ave., K 213-0465
- Iglesia Cristiana Sinai 701 E. Stan Schlueter Lp, K 628-1539
- Iglesia Cristiana Misionera A.I.C. 1801 Nathan Dr, K 633-6230
- Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Vida 3709 Zephyr Rd., K 680-4422
- Iglesia Cristiana Uncion y Poder 313 S. 1st. St., CC 518-4452
- Min. Divina Misericordia 205 E. Hallmark Ave., Suite B, K 953-1113
- Restoration Christian Church Upstairs National Bank, CC 520-5419
- Samoan Christians Fellowship Assembly 406 N. 4th St. K 542-3792, 628-5449
- Samoan Congregational Christian 1st Cav. Div. Memorial Chapel, FH
- Solid Rock Family Christian Center 340A Copperas Cove Plaza, CC 518-1411

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

- Christian Science, Cowan Amenity Ctr., 1433 Cool Spring Way Sun City - Georgetown, 512-943-4784

CHURCH OF CHRIST

- Central Union Church of Christ 3202 Westcliff Ste. 100, K
- Church of Christ 400 N. W.S. Young Dr., K 634-7373
- Church of Christ 306 W. Avenue E., CC
- Church of Christ Cemetery Rd, Kempner
- Church of Christ Iglesia Ni Cristol 508 E. Jasper Dr., K
- College View Church of Christ 123 Yates Rd. , K (at Reese Creek) 254- 290-3541
- Nolanville Church of Christ

Main Street, Nolanville 462-5614

- Leon Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd., Belton 939-0682

- Southside Church of Christ 1505 Trimmer, K 526-3041
- Westside Church of Christ 152 Westside Church Rd. K, 554-6711
- Youngsport Church of Christ Youngsport, 634-3754

CHURCH OF GOD

- Christo-Vision Ministries 201 Ave. C., K 690-8200
- Abundant Life Church of God (Cleveland, TN) 1210 Florence Rd, K 526-4598
- Church of God The True Vine 211 Ave. D. Killeen
- End Time Church of God; Rt. 7, Box 7252, Twin Lakes Estates Belton 939-0326
- Deliverance Church of God (Cleveland, TN) 1618 Vet. Blvd., CC 518-3181
- Community Life Chapel Developing Community Leaders 254-415-2414
- West End Church of God in Christ 3601 S. WS Young Drive, K 254-213-5511

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

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- Bountiful New Life Church of God in Christ meets at Cove Library 501 S Main St, CC 702-3816
- Deliverance and Praise Temple C.O.G.I.C 702 Harley Drive, HH 699-4346
- Divine Faith Ministry Holiness Church 2201 W Stan Schlueter Lp, K 680-7951
- First Church of God in Christ 5201 Westcliff Rd., K 953-3100
- Garden of Gethsemane 111 Cox Dr., HH 690-2703
- God's Holy Tabernacle Church of God in Christ 500 S. 44th St., K
- New Bethel Christian Worship Center 4013-A Stan Schlueter Lp, K 368-6400
- Power House 110 FM 2410 Suite A, HH 699-2127
- Trinity Cathedral Church of God in Christ 1312 George Town Road, CC - 547-5493

COWBOY

- 5 Hills Cowboy Church 139 CR 4630 Kempner, 290-6005
- Maxdale Cowboy Church FM 2670 & Wolfbridge Rd., Maxdale, 254-368-2563

EASTERN ORTHODOX

- Call Father Paul Anderson at 254-

768-7649 for times, locations.

EPISCOPALIAN

- Darnall Army Hospital FH 288-8850
- St. Christopher's Episcopal Church 2800 Trimmer, K 634-7474
- St. Martin's Episcopal Church 1602 South FM 116, CC 547-0331
- St. Mary's Episcopal Church 4th & Chestnut, Lampasas 556-5433

FULL GOSPEL

- Bountiful Blessing Full Gospel Ministries 608 S. Ann St., HH 220-8899
- Grace Bible Fellowship 718 N. 2nd St., K 628-2111
- First Samoan Full Gospel Pentecostal Church Inc. 2602 S. FM 116, CC 245-2700 or 638-2900
- Full-Gospel Baptist Church Call for information 634-0940
- New Testament Christian Church 3500 Florence Rd., K 526-2149
- The Potter's House Corner of 10th & Ave C, CC 547-7918

HEBRAIC ROOTS

- B'nai Yisrael 2006 S. 57th St., T 598-2135

HOLINESS

- Divine Faith Ministry Holiness Church 2201 W Stan Schlueter Lp, K 680-7951

HOME & CELL CHURCHES

- Association of Home Churches Call 690-5856

INDEPENDENT

- Casa De Oracion-Asambe Dios 313 S. 8th St., K 634-3772
- Cornerstone Ministry Nolanville 698-2055
- Full Gospel Killeen Church English Congregation (Multi-Purpose Education & Activity Center) 1410 Trimmer Road, 499-7689
- Killeen Bible Church 4717 Westcliff, K 690-4748
- Protestant Women of the Chapel
- Comanche Chapel, FH Diane Kohl 542-7042
- Old Post Chapel, FH, 288-6545
- Post Chapel, FH, 287-5283-2642
- Post (Comanche) Chapel, FH, 288-6544
- Soldier's Hospitality House 3981 Chaparral Rd, K 634-0822
- West Fort Hood Chapel (Praise Service) FH 288-9219
- 1401 Elms Rd., K 634-6990

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

- Bell County Faith Fellowship & Christian Life Center 4705 E. Rancier Ave., K 681-1085
- North Pointe Church 1115 N. Main St. CC 547-7470
- St. John's Faith Outreach Baptist

Church 3507 Cranford Ave., K 699-4874

ISLAMIC FAITH

- The Islamic Community of Greater Killeen 5800 S. Fort Hood Road, K 634-8799, 634-1990

JEWISH

- Jewish Community Fort Hood The Spirit of Fort Hood Warrior and Family Chapel Campus, Tank Destroyer & 31st St, FH 254-287-3411
- Congregation Simcha Sinai 102 Cattail Circle, HH 231-4930
- LATTER-DAY SAINTS The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 2nd & Mary Jane, K 526-3013
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints 1502 Virginia, CC 547-1248
- Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Hillcrest Rd., Temple 547-7850

LUTHERAN

- Abiding Savior WELS 458 Turkey Trot Killeen, 953-4442
- Faith Lutheran Church LCMS Old Austin Rd. & Sunflower, L 512-556-3514
- Fort Hood Lutheran Fellowship Old Post Chapel, 761st Tank Destroyer Blvd 512-556-3514
- Grace Lutheran Church LCMS Trimmer & Bacon Ranch Rd., K 634-5858
- Immanuel Lutheran Church ELCA 3801 Cunningham Road, K 634-2772
- Immanuel Lutheran Church LCMS 922 Lutheran Church Rd, CC 547-3498
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 1215 South Wall, Belton 939-0824
- Trinity Lutheran Church Hwy 190 & Morris, CC 547-2225

METHODIST

- 4 ID Memorial Chapel, FH, 287-5334
- Adams Chapel AME Church 125 Ario, HH 699-3435
- Anderson Chapel AME Church 1002 Jefferies, K 690-5030
- Conder Valley Community Church 3601 Edgefield St., K 616-1664, Clau-dia 547-3349
- First United Methodist Church Killeen 3501 E Elms Rd, Killeen 634-6363 www.fumckilleen.com
- First United Methodist Church 302 E. Curry St. F 793-2535
- Grace United Methodist Church S. Main & Ave. F, CC 547-3729
- Harker Heights United Methodist Church Cardinal & Harley, HH 699-6271
- Hillside Evangelical Methodist Church 2602 S. FM 116, CC 547-3349
- Kempner United Methodist Church Hwy 190, Kempner 512-932-3011

CONTINUED

AREA CHURCHES

• Nolanville United Methodist Church
300 W. Ave I, Nolanville
• Pidcoke United Methodist Church
11230 FM 116, Gatesville 254-598-6094
• St. Luke United Methodist Church
102 E. Church Ave., K 526-3993, 526-5234
• St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
Florence and Fowler, K 634-7721
• Thomas Chapel AME Church
901 N. Main, CC 547-2410
• Topsey United Methodist Church
Rev. Deanna Ranes, 4406 FM 1113, CC 780-9245

NAZARENE

• Belton First Church of the Nazarene
1701 Sparta Rd., 939-3404
• First Church of the Nazarene
951 Stagecoach, K 634-7676
• First Church of the Nazarene
W. Hwy 190, CC 547-4032

NONDEMONINATIONAL

• Abundant Life Christian Church
3301 E. Rancier Ste. 102-B, K 813-1061
• Amazing Grace Fellowship
1600 E Rancier Ave, K 290-0403
• Antioch Fellowship Ministries
Church of God & Christ
210 W. Mary Jane, K 634-2101
• Agape Christian Center
321 N. Penelope, Belton 939-9673
• Bethesda Fellowship Ministries
1803 Pecan Cove, CC 547-3455
• Beyond the Veil Ministries
1801 N. 8th St., K 628-0145
• Calvary Christian Fellowship of
Georgetown
Dell Pickett Elementary School 1100
Thousand Oaks Blvd, Georgetown,
512-888-8892
• Carinthian Christian Church
Rte. 2 Box 65 D, CC 547-3755
• Chapel by the Lake Oakalla Road, K
• Christian House of Prayer
916 W. 190 CC 526-7021
3300 E. Stan Schlueter Lp, K 526-7021
• Common Ground Ministry
1600 E. Rancier Ave., K 383-4705
www.commongroundministry.org
• Deliverance Ministries, Household of
Faith, Church of the Living God, Inc.
329 Indian Trail, HH 690-0856
• Destiny World Outreach Center
101 N. W.S. Young Dr., Killeen 690-0856
• Disciples Church
Meets at Eastern Hills Middle School
300 Indian Trail HH
www.MakeDisciplesNow.org
• Divine Grace Ministries
205 E. Ave. C, K 458-0146
• Exalted Praise Worship Center
600 Indian Trail, Suite 201, HH 466-0749
• Excellent Covenant Powerhouse Min-
istries 4103 Zephyr Rd, K 699-6920
• Faith Christian Center

103 E. Mockingbird Dr., HH 519-3226
• Faith Community Church
3705 Zephyr Rd, K 254-338-8777
• Faith Tabernacle
812 Harley at Beeline, HH 394-0572
• Family Dominion Ministries Inc.
PO Box 11143, K 520-4269
• For Whosoever Will
3310 Florence Road, K 512-932-2716
• Fully Persuaded Church of Reconcili-
ation 602 Gray Street 526-2100
• Gift of Life Ministry
5802 Wedel Cemetery Rd.
Heiden Heimer, TX 983-1911
• God's TrueVine House of Worship
906 South Ann Blvd. HH, TX 338-2872
• Grace Abound Tabernacles
10th Street, Nolanville, 698-9910
• Grace Awakening Church
5400 East Veterans Memorial, K
554-2500
• Grace Bible Church
1203 Winkler Ave., Killeen 690-1728
• Grace Christian Center
1401 Elms Rd., K 634-6990
• Grace Ministries Apostolic Church
3119 Commerce St., K
• Greater Love Outreach Ministry
3603B E Veterans Memorial Blvd., K
634-2879
• Greater Vision Community Church
2000 E. Stan Schlueter Lp, K 200-4382
• Guiding Light Ministries
524 Shady Drive, Ste. A & B, K 690-0198
• Harker Heights Community Church
425 E. Cen Tex Expwy, HH 289-3861
• Harvest of Prayer
605 W. Ave. G, Temple 254-547-8877
• Killeen Christian Fellowship
803 E. Central Texas Expressway
723-6414
• Knowledge is Power Ministry
815 Florence Rd. Killeen 634-3463
• Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Es Mi Pastor
805 Hall St., Killeen 554-2147
• Iglesia Divina Misericordia
205 Suite B, Hallmark Ave K 953-1113
• Joint-Heirs with Christ Ministries
219 E. Ave. D., Killeen 526-0599
• Liberty Christian Center
801 N. 8th St., K 287-2470 or
415-7336
• Montessori Children's House School
Killeen, 699-104
• Movement of Faith International
Ministries 810 W Rancier Ave STE
100, K
• New Beginnings for All People
113 S 20th St, K 254-9004, www.
NBIMINC.org
• New Bethel Christian Worship Center
1301 8th St., K 254-368-6400
• New Covenant Christian Church
104 County Road #221., Oakalla 547-5082
• New Covenant Ministries Worship
Center
1340 E. Knights Way, HH 247-7466
• New Life Christian Center of Killeen

625 E. Vets Memorial Blvd, HH 699-5200
• New Life Fellowship
708 East Four, Belton 939-8011
• New Life Ministries
207 E. Avenue C, Killeen 953-3179
• New Covenant Mission Outreach
3401 Zephyr Rd, Killeen 501-FIRE
• New Jerusalem Church
1209 Hillcrest Rd., Temple 985-2079
• New Vision Church of Fellowship
1601 N Eighth St, K 371-1179
• The People's Choice Worship Center
802 N 2nd St., Building G; K 690-2066
• Praise & Deliverance House of Prayer
315 Gray St. Killeen 289-2922
• Praise Fellowship Church, 680-2983
• Precious People Ministry
319 N. Gray, K & 702 Elm Road, K
• Rivers of Living Waters
508 N. Gray St., K 690-9673
• Shekinah Glory Worship Center
205 S. 2nd St. & Ave E., CC 542-6100
• Southern Gospel Worship Center
501 W. Elms Rd, K 702-2777
• Tabernacle of Praise
348 S. 40th St. K, 702-1690
• Templo Victoria
514 E. Ave D, K 554-5371
• The Church of the New Command-
ment
997 Stagecoach Rd., K 681-0530
• The Home Full Gospel
1613 Illinois, K 699-0169
• The Salvation Army
501 N. 2nd, K 634-7172
• Transforming Life Fellowship Minis-
tries 4107 Westcliff Rd., 526-2997
• Trinity Worship Center
1802 Martin Luther King Blvd., CC
• True Gospel Church
1101 W. Ave E, K
• True Worship Ministries
103 E. Mockingbird Ln, HH 690-8730
• True Deliverance Ministries
508 Hall Ave., K 634-7082
• Truth and Deliverance Ministries
203 S. 2nd St., CC 514-2348
• Word of Knowledge Ministries
625 E. Vet. Mem. Blvd, HH 501-9105
• Word of Life
1506 McCarthy Ave, K 634-7082
• World Outreach Church of Killeen
1100 Hwy 440
• United Faith Church
1101 N. 1st, CC 547-8005
• Unity Church of Temple
12 S. Main St., Temple 770-0070
• Universal Life Wiccan Church
107 E. Ave E, CC 542-1555
• Victory Life Family Church
1196 Amy, HH 368-8690
• Vineyard Christian Fellowship
East Hwy. 36, Temple 778-2802
• Word of God Christian Fellowship
808 N 8th St, Killeen 690-3315

PRESBYTERIAN

• First Presbyterian Church
4705 East Rancier Ave., K 690-6464
• First Presbyterian Church
704 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., CC
542-4884
• First Presbyterian Church
2500 Church St., B 939-2115
• Hill Country Church (PCA)
1604 S. W.S. Young Dr, K 698-4950
• Presbyterian Church of Salado
105 Salado Plaza Dr. Salado 947-8106

TRANS DENOMINATIONAL

• Common Ground Ministries
1600 E. Rancier, K 383-4705

PENTECOSTAL

• Apostolic Faith "Living Water"
C.O.O.L.J.C. 62nd & Battalion, FH
547-1426

• Apostolic Temple Church
1408 N. 4th Street, 680-3787
• Bethel Church 4307 E. Hwy 190, K
• Christ Gospel Holiness Church
311 N. Gray, K 628-6000
• Christ Gospel Apostolic Church
200 S. Gray St. K 628-8000
• Church of Full Gospel
300-A W. Hallmark Ave., K 690-5361
• Faith Point Church
3504 E. Centex Expressway., K 699-5231
• First Church in Harker Heights
2314 Indian Trail, HH 698-4660
• Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church of
God 1704 N. 38th, K 690-1011
• Iglesia Cristiana Jehova Es Mi Pastor
805 Hall St., K 554-2147
• Jesus Christ Apostolic Faith Temple
Church
701 Sun Meadows Dr., HH 698-2000
• Jesus House of Prayer Apostolic
Ministries
Suite 911-B, Trimmier Rd., K 213-8164
• Killeen Holiness Church
607 W. Avenue G, K 634-5387
• The Lighthouse United Pentecostal
Church
1411 N. 38th St., K 519-1123
• Pentecostal Experience Holiness
Church
309 W. Ave. F, CC
• Potter's House
1306 E. Rancier Ave, K 554-4120
• Rivers of Living Waters
508 N. Gray St., K 690-9673
• Samoan First Assembly of God
502 N. 38th St, K 554-2901
• Tabernacle of Praise Pent. Church,
Inc.
5010 Trimmier Rd, K 526-4686
• True Deliverance Pentecostal Holiness
Church 524- C Shady Ln, K 245-6063/
245-6099
• United Pentecostal Church of
Copperas Cove, Pecan Cove Rd., CC
547-2264
• Saints Center of Copperas Cove
801 Industrial Ave. CC 542-3211

PRESBYTERIAN

• First Presbyterian Church
4705 East Rancier Ave., K 690-6464
• First Presbyterian Church
704 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., CC
542-4884
• First Presbyterian Church
2500 Church St., B 939-2115
• Hill Country Church (PCA)
1604 S. W.S. Young Dr, K 698-4950
• Presbyterian Church of Salado
105 Salado Plaza Dr. Salado 947-8106

TRANS DENOMINATIONAL

• Common Ground Ministries
1600 E. Rancier, K 383-4705

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

• Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
1726 Morgan's Point Road,
Morgan's Point 780-1008

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Area parks and rec programs have plenty to offer

Killeen has a hike and bike trail that is six miles long and includes a pedestrian bridge over Nolan Creek. It extends from South W.S. Young Drive to East Avenue G in downtown Killeen.

It is one of the fitness experiences that Killeen Parks and Recreation has to offer.

There are 20 parks scattered throughout the city, including five community parks and 15 neighborhood parks, an athletic complex and swimming pools.

The Killeen Parks and Recreation Department also provides activities such as art, fitness and dance classes. Five community parks — Conder Park, Lions Club Park, Community Center Complex, Long Branch Park and Fowler Park — are heavily used with events.

Two hike and bike trails, including the 1.4-mile-long Lions Club Park Hike and Bike Trail, are part of the region's ambitious long-range vision to build a series of trails linking Killeen's nearby lakes: Belton and Stillhouse Hollow.

Athletic fields host many regional and national tournaments for youth and adult sports, including soccer, football and baseball.

In 2008, the city opened the Lions Club Park — a campus that houses the Family Recreation Center, Senior Center and Aquatics Center. It is at 1700 E. Stan Schlueter Loop.

The Family Recreation Center gym is called Tommie Harris Fitness Center after the Killeen native who starred in football for the Oklahoma Sooners and Chicago Bears. Harris donated almost \$200,000 of gym equipment to the city. For more information, call 254-501-6390.

A wide variety of learning opportunities are available at the Killeen Community Center at 2201 E. Veterans Memorial Blvd. Classes include salsa dance for beginners, yoga, intermediated belly dancing, smooth cool line dancers, low-impact aerobics, kids Zumba, tai chi, oil painting, American ninjutsu, adult self defense and taekwondo. For schedules, visit www.KilleenTexas.gov.

HARKER HEIGHTS

Harker Heights Parks and Recreation has plenty of options for all ages with its long list of facilities and programs.



Michael Schnell prepares to do a trick on a skate ramp at Conder Park in Killeen.

After creating an adaptive sports program in 2010 and the Superhero Program in 2011, Harker Heights Parks and Recreation continues to provide a diverse set of activities for groups and individuals from children to adults.

The Superhero Program is for youth with physical and visual disabilities and children with mental impairments, who want to participate in athletics.

There are also free adaptive sports programs for disabled residents, including wheelchair basketball, hand cycling and adaptive rock climbing. The programs also include wheelchair archery and bocce.

Community Park houses eight baseball and softball fields, a batting cage, a concession stand, walking trail, covered playground, picnic tables and more.

Other facilities include the 4,300-square-foot Activities Center at 400 Indian Trail and the Harker Heights Community Park at 1501 E. Farm-to-Market 2410.

The Recreation Center at 307 Miller's Crossing houses the Parks and Recreation Department offices, which is where residents can sign up for sports leagues or other recreation programs. It is also the location for activities likeyo-

ga, hapkido, taekwondo, ballet and Zumba.

Among the youth sports leagues available to residents are winter soccer and basketball, spring baseball/softball and volleyball in the summer. Adults have their own activities, including year-round softball.

Harker Heights' most well known park is just down the street from the Recreation Center on Miller's Crossing. Carl Levin Park comprises 35 acres and features picnic tables, grills, a basketball court, a walking and jogging trail, playground equipment, an outdoor pool, exercise stations, a fishing pond, a 40-by-60 foot pavilion, gazebo and amphitheater.

Other parks under Harker Heights Parks and Recreation Department include Kern Field, Kern Park, Cardinal Park, Booker Park and Purser Family Park, which features a disc golf course.

COPPERAS COVE

Copperas Cove owns and operates seven parks. South Park offers a hike and bike trail, swimming pool, splash pad for kids, two sand volleyball courts and two youth soccer fields.

Ogletree Gap Park offers plenty of acreage for walking and exploring.

The City Park Complex is an 88-acre park. The complex offers picnic areas, children playscapes, soccer fields, baseball and softball fields, basketball and volleyball courts and an Olympic-sized swimming pool with a diving well, circular slide, mushroom fountain and a duck pond.

The city maintains tennis courts at Martin Walker and Mae Stevens Elementary schools, Turkey Creek Activity Center and Copperas Cove High School.

Youth can register for cheerleading, tackle and flag football, boys and girls soccer, volleyball and track. Adult sports include softball and flag football.

The department hosts the Polar Bear Swim event every January and Fishing in the Park in February. Additionally, the department puts on its annual Easter Egg Round Up and annual Christmas tree lighting.

The Copperas Cove Parks and Recreation Department can be reached at 254-542-2719 or go to CopperasCoveTX.gov.



Area residents can swim, fish and enjoy boating at Belton Lake.

Area lakes offer fishing, boating

Area residents have long enjoyed fishing, pitching tents, boating, swimming and grilling meat, and all five activities are occurring on area lakes.

Run by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the lakes' facilities include recreational activities at campsites, boat ramps, swimming areas and much more.

Campsites cost between \$12 for primitive tents-only sites to \$24 to \$40 for RV sites and \$30 for the screen shelters.

These prices are subject to change.

Federal discount passes are accepted.

Day-use fees are \$5 per car per day. And these fees can change as well.

People can register for campsites early by calling 877-444-6777, going online to Recreation.gov or in person at any gate house.

Both lakes are known for bass fishing. Tournament anglers enjoy fishing both lakes as do recreational anglers. Boating recreation, including water skiing and wake boarding, are also popular activities on the lakes.

STILLHOUSE HOLLOW LAKE

Stillhouse Hollow Lake has seven areas for recreational use, most of which include day use and camping areas, hiking and horse trails, swimming areas,

volleyball courts and horseshoe pits.

Stillhouse Park is a day use-only park and has several picnic areas and a swimming area. While the marina is open year-round, the day use portion of the park is closed between Dec. 1 and March 1. Union Grove is a popular camping site on Stillhouse Hollow.

Call 254-939-2461 for information. For camping reservations, call 877-444-6777.

BELTON LAKE

There are 14 areas for recreational use on Belton Lake. Much like Stillhouse, they include campsites, boat docks and parks. Temple Park has the largest day use in the area.

Cedar Ridge Park is a popular camping ground, and contains a marina, a large group camping area that will accommodate 12 RVs, about 68 regular campsites and eight screen-in shelters that campers who don't have tents can use.

BLORA — the Belton Lake Outdoor Recreation Area — on Sparta Road, six miles off Loop 121 North in Belton, is run by Fort Hood's Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Department.

Call 254-287-4907 or go to Hoodmwr.com/lake_activities.htm for more information.

Fort Hood offers many recreation opportunities for soldiers, families

Whether you want to sit back and enjoy the game, burn a few calories, feel the rush of competition again or enjoy some fun with the kids, the Fort Hood Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation department has something for you.

The MWR enhances quality of life by providing recreation and numerous services designed to equal those of their civilian counterparts and encourages growth and a feeling of self-reliance within the military community.

November brings about Anniversary Bingo to celebrate 21 years of the Community Events and Bingo Center. The event is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders.

Those new to the area are welcome to a soldier and family newcomers orientation presented by III Corps at Club Hood. This is a free seminar for spouses with free on-site child care and free lunch, and service members may obtain more information at the USAG Reception Detachment, Building 16008 or Building 16011 or by calling 254-287-4549.

Fort Hood offers fee-based Zumba, spin and yoga fitness classes. Spin classes are offered at the Abrams Physical Fitness Center, Zumba classes are offered at the Applied Functional Fitness Center and West Fort Hood Physical Fitness Center, and yoga classes may be taken at the Applied Functional Fitness Center.

Fort Hood MWR offers a variety of league and varsity sports opportunities in bowling, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, golf, racquetball, flag football and even roller derby.

For more information, go to hood.armymwr.com or call 254-287-4916.

Beat the summer heat at local pools and splash pads

Beating the summer heat in Killeen and its surrounding areas is easier with a trip to one of the refreshing swimming pools and aquatic parks.

Pools are a convenient and great alternative to the lake, and many pools have lifeguards and aquatic staff on duty. Daily admission and season passes are available for all of the area's public pools, which keep summer hours with swimming lessons available at some of the pools.

KILLEEN

Family Aquatic Center at Lions Club Park, 1800 E. Stan Schlueter Loop. The 10,360-square-foot multi-use pool also features a 25-meter lap pool (one-half the size of an Olympic pool) and has three water slides.

For more information, call Julianna Baxter, aquatics supervisor, at 254-501-6537 or call 254-501-6390.

Long Branch Pool, 1101 Branch Drive. Call 254-690-SWIM.

Junior Service League Spray Pad, 1101 Branch Drive. Call 254-690-SWIM.

HARKER HEIGHTS

Carl Levin City Park Pool, 400 Miller's Crossing. Call 254-953-1300. The lap swim area measures 45 feet by 82 feet. The pool has zero entry.

YMCA Spray 'n' Play is zero-depth with a 7,000-square-foot spray and play park, 901 S. Ann Blvd. Call 254-634-5445.

COPPERAS COVE

Copperas Cove has two pools open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. For more information, call 254-542-2719.

City Park Pool, 1200 W. Avenue B.

South Park Pool, 2602 Dennis St.

BELTON

Harris Community Park offers a splash pad, 312 N. Alexander St. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 254-933-5861 or 254-933-5860.

FORT HOOD

All swimming pools are authorized for use by all active duty, National Guard and Reservist, retired military, family members and Department of Defense



Lane Finley plays with a rotating water hose at the Lions Club Park Aquatic Center on May 27.

civilians and contract workers. Authorized patrons will need to show ID and may sign in two guests.

Abrams Indoor Pool, at the intersection of 62nd Street and Support Avenue, Building 23001. Call 287-4648.

Comanche Pool, Tank Destroyer Boulevard, Building 52932, next to the Comanche Youth Center. Call 254-287-7544.

Martin Pool, T.J. Mills Boulevard, Building 137, next to Fort Hood National Bank. Call 254-287-5037.

Patton Pool, located at the intersection of 24th Street and Tank Destroyer Boulevard, Building 5774. Call 254-285-5837.

The 1st Cavalry Division Pool, Hell on Wheels Avenue, Building 2479. Call 254-618-7336.

42nd Street Pool, Old Ironsides Avenue, Building 1676. Call 254-287-4094.

13th Sustainment Command Pool

Support Avenue, Building 2239. Call 254-287-3689.

West Fort Hood Pool, Headquarters Avenue, Building 91070. Call 254-288-9838.

LAMPASAS

Hanna Springs Swimming Pool is 75 feet long with six lanes. 512 E. North Ave. Call 512-556-4048 or 512-556-6831.

Hancock Springs Free Flow Pool is the oldest spring fed pool in Texas. Hancock Park Highway, U.S. 281, Lampasas, TX 76550. Call 512-556-4048.

GATESVILLE

City Pool is at 300 S. Eighth St. Call 254-535-4794.

Splash Park is in Raby Park at 910 Bridge St. Call 254-865-4012.

Strike up some family fun — go bowling

Killeen and Fort Hood both offer multiple centers for bowling.

The Killeen Bowlerama has been around since the 1950s and boasts a loyal customer base. The center hosts many leagues for adults, youth and senior bowlers.

At 922 N. 38th St., the 24-lane center also hosts the Killeen High School and Harker Heights High School bowling clubs.

Hallmark Lanes has been open for more than 30 years and has hosted the Professional Bowlers Association for more than two decades. The PBA Killeen Southwest Open brings the greatest bowlers in the world together for a three-day event that includes several competitions.

Located at 4203 Shawn Drive, Hallmark is modern and up-to-date after some remodeling work. Remodeled restrooms, large-screen televisions at lane side and a newly paved parking lot are just a few of the renovations. The center also installed synthetic lane surfaces.

Hallmark also offers leagues for adults, youth and seniors and sponsors the Ellison, Copperas Cove, Shoemaker high schools and Memorial Christian Academy bowling clubs.

Phantom Warrior Lanes is located at Building 49010 Clear Creek Road at Fort



Jeff Achee, left, shows Christian Marrero how to approach a bowling lane.

Hood and is the newest of the centers.

The 48-lane center is open to all active-duty and retired military, government employees and their spouses. The center hosts all types of leagues and is a local stop for the Traveling Classic Bowling Association.

The Greater Killeen-Fort Hood USBC Bowling Association conducts numerous tournaments throughout the year and rotates them between the centers.

Residents compete in Special Olympics

In 1968, Eunice Kennedy Shriver officially started Special Olympics, a program that allowed children and adults with special needs to compete in athletics. Today, more than 5 million athletes are involved in Special Olympics in 170 countries.

Those with special needs in the Greater Fort Hood area can participate on a popular area team called Killeen-Cove-Hood Phantoms. There is no charge to participate.

Special Olympics is funded by donations. The competitions are open to athletes ages 8 and up.

Parents of kids who participate in Special Olympics often say the fun, camaraderie and good-spirited competition helps the young athletes make

friends and develop better social skills. Of course, preparing for the competition helps adults and kids alike remain active.

The KCH Phantoms hold various fundraisers throughout the year.

Families often get involved in the Special Olympics experience. Family members, by either attending the events or helping coach the athletes, offer encouragement.

For more information, email kchphantoms@yahoo.com.

The Special Olympics athlete's oath, which was first introduced by Shriver at the inaugural Special Olympics international games in 1968, is "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

Skate parks offer Killeen, Fort Hood residents places to try new tricks

Local skaters have multiple options when it comes to skate parks — whether they are in Killeen or at Fort Hood.

The Mickey's Convenience Store Skate Park opened in 2010 and is in Long Branch Park at 1101 Branch Drive in Killeen.

The concrete pad is about 9,000 square feet and includes 14 obstacles, a lighted pavilion, restrooms and landscaping.

The obstacles include a 200-square-foot bowl with railing and ledges, multiple quarter pipes and a 360-degree concrete centerpiece with rail and stairs.

The park also sports several objects with steel-reinforced edges for grinding, including planter boxes, benches and a picnic table. The lighting also makes night skating possible at the facility.

Killeen also boasts a skate park in Conder Park, on the corner of Veterans Memorial Boulevard and Conder Street. The 10,000-square-foot facility is also a modular park and can accommodate about 30 skaters from sunup to sundown.

The Conder Park facility features a mini ramp, a fun box, ledges, quarter pipes, flat rails and bank ramps all underneath a covered awning.

For more information, call 254-501-8889.

FORT HOOD

Fort Hood also boasts two skate parks, including one at the Bronco Youth Center on Tank Destroyer Boulevard. That facility sports a mini ramp, quarter pipes, a fun box and rails.

Fort Hood has a second skate park between Abrams Physical Fitness Center and Robertson Blood Center.

Temple also has a skate park at Seventh Street and Avenue B across from the Santa Fe Depot.

Cowboys show off skills during area rodeos

If you enjoy rodeos, you won't be disappointed.

Whether you are a competitor, fan or just curious to see one of the wildly popular events firsthand, there are plenty of options in and around Killeen.

KILLEEN

The 71st annual Rodeo Killeen will be held just north of the Killeen Civic and Conference Center in May.

Opening night is designated as Military Appreciation Night with reduced pricing for active-duty personnel and their dependents, as well as retirees.

In addition to the regularly scheduled activities, there will be special demonstrations and performances. Nightly, pre-show activities begin at 7:30 p.m.

More information can be obtained at RodeoKilleen.com.

LAMPASAS

The annual Lampasas Riata Roundup Rodeo has become a popular event in Central Texas every year. It gets underway with the Lampasas County Jackpot Team Roping on opening night with the top 10 teams advancing.

The following evenings consist of rodeo competitions, team roping finals, children's activities, dancing, live music and the crowning of a new Riata Roundup Rodeo Queen.

Additional information on the rodeo can be found at LampasasChamber.org.



Junction cowboy Casey Gattis, right, prepares to deliver his loop in a team roping event at the Killeen Rodeo Arena.

BELTON

Belton hosts the Fourth of July Celebration and PRCA Rodeo every year in accordance with Independence Day at the Bell County Expo Center.

While the rodeo serves as the centerpiece, an entire array of events coincide with it. The rodeo, which has been an annual tradition since 1924, is the biggest draw, but the celebration includes a nationally acclaimed parade winding through the city's streets, a carnival, patriotic programs, a kickoff barbecue and the Festival on Nolan Creek — a free event with vendors, entertainment and The Texas Old Time Fiddler's Contest.

The entire schedule and additional information for both the rodeo and all other accompanying activities can be found at RodeoBelton.com.

GATESVILLE

The annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo will be held in late July or early August at the Gatesville Riding Club Arena.

With special nightly events such as mutton busting, team mugging and wild cow milking, the rodeo is an attraction for all ages.

For more information, go to GatesvilleRidingClub.org.

College sports programs thrive across Central Texas

For those who love college football, Central Texas is a place that offers plenty of options.

From big-time NCAA Division I teams that include national title contenders to a perennial Division III powerhouse, some of the best college football in the country is just a short drive away.

Two-time Big 12 champion Baylor University and the 2016 NCAA Division III champion University of Mary Hardin-Baylor both boast beautiful

new facilities in McLane Stadium and Crusader Stadium, respectively. McLane Stadium is located in Waco, while Crusader Stadium is in Belton.

Waco is also home to the Texas Sports Hall of Fame, which is walking distance from McLane Stadium. Established in 1951, the Texas Sports Hall of Fame was the first sports hall of fame specific to one state in the United States. More than 300 Texas athletes have been immortalized in the museum.

Also a short drive away is the Univer-

sity of Texas (Austin) and Texas A&M University (College Station).

The Longhorns have won four national championships with the most recent coming in 2005 and also appeared in the national championship game in 2010 while under former head coach Mack Brown.

The Aggies have two national titles with the last one coming in 1939. The Aggies boast a newly renovated stadium named Kyle Field, which now holds 102,733.

Central Texas offers many places to hunt, fish for sport or fun

Newcomers to the area will soon find out about the many places to both hunt and fish.

Belton Lake and Stillhouse Hollow Lake are popular places to catch fish, whether competing in tournaments or angling for leisure.

There are plenty of small lakes at Fort Hood at which to cast your lines, as well.

Many local hunters lease land from ranchers. If you're looking for a lease or a group to join, you can check the classified sections of the Killeen Daily Herald and look online at websites such as TexasHuntingForum.com. Keep in mind that hunting on private land requires the permission of the landowner.

Public hunting land is available at wildlife management areas around the local lakes. Anyone who chooses to hunt on public land is required to have proof of a hunter's education class.

Hunting is often ample at Fort Hood. A Fort Hood hunting permit is required and there are specific requirements governing access to these lands. It's best to check with Sportsmen's Center at Fort-HoodHunting.com or call 254-532-4552.

A Public Lands Hunting Permit is required and can be purchased at local license retailers of the Texas Parks and Wildlife office. Once you purchase this permit, you will receive a map booklet detailing all the public lands administered by Texas Parks and Wildlife.

Whitetail deer hunting is the most



Corey Manson transfers a fish to a net after reeling it in at a pond off Yowell Road in Killeen on Oct. 21.

popular type of hunting in the area. Be sure to check the Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual magazine, which is available wherever hunting licenses are sold, for specific regulations on bag limits and antler restrictions. You'll also want to make sure that you're only hunting during the legal season, and that information is in the magazine.

Feral hogs can be hunted at any time with no bag limits.

The website for Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual is tpwd.texas.gov and the site will be helpful to make sure you hunt in each animal's legal season.

HIKING

Hiking opportunities are available at Mother Neff State Park and Chalk Ridge Falls Park Trail.

Mother Neff State Park is at 1680 State Highway 236 in Moody. Daily entrance fees are \$2 for adults, and children get in free.

For more information, call 254-853-2389 or visit tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/mother-neff.

Chalk Ridge Falls Park Trail is a 2.5-mile, heavily trafficked, out-and-back trail at 5600 FM 1670 in Belton. Call 254-939-2461 for more information.



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For more information, please visit website www.bellcountytexas.gov or Email frank.tyquien@bellcounty.texas.gov

For Volunteer Opportunities,
Please call 254-618-4194



Chuck Holcomb, right, range safety officer, target practices inside of Mountain Creek Range in Killeen.

Aim to improve skills at gun ranges

Do you enjoy relaxing or competing at the gun range? There are five ranges in the area — two ranges near Florence on U.S. Highway 183, two at Fort Hood and one in Copperas Cove.

Two others are in the process of being built in Killeen.

FORT HOOD

Fort Hood has one open range and one skeet range. Both are open to the public, but all weapons must be registered at the visitor's center before they can be brought on post.

The skeet range is at the Sportsmen's Center at 1937 Rod & Gun Loop.

The range is open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the weekend.

Call 254-532-4552 for more information.

FLORENCE

Lonestar Range & Academy, 10000 N. Highway 183 in Florence, is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed on Mondays. The cost ranges from \$15 a day for adults to \$10 for children age 17 or younger.

An annual membership is available for \$250, and a biannual membership costs \$150 for six months.

There are discounts for seniors, and

TSRA and NRA members. The facility offers a 100-yard rifle range and a 25-yard pistol range.

Group events are available, and the training academy has classes for a variety of subjects from introduction to handguns to personal defense programs and NRA training programs.

Call 512-516-7640 for more information.

Astro Shooting Range, 300 Highway 183 in Florence, is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The range offers a 7- and 15-yard pistol range, 25-, 50- and 100-yard rifle ranges, two shotgun ranges and a bow-and-arrow range.

Individuals can shoot for \$12 a day, and discounts are available for military and law enforcement. Monthly concealed handgun license classes are available.

Call 512-489-2061 for more information.

COPPERAS COVE

EJI Firearms, 2901 Deer Flat Drive in Copperas Cove, is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and costs \$16 plus tax per shooter. Gun rentals are \$9 plus tax.

Hearing protection, safety glasses, staplers and seating and table are provided.

There are five pistol ranges from 3 to 25 yards and one rifle lane at 100 yards.

Call 254-547-8433 for more information.

It's always a great time for golf

For those who enjoy golfing, there are several quality courses in the area.

Stonetree Golf Club was built in 1970 and completely renovated in 2005. There are four sets of tees to provide a challenging, but fair test to golfers of all skill levels.

Tee times are available up to seven days in advance, with the first available time being 7:30 a.m. Reservations can be made by calling 254-501-6575.

Season passes are also available.

The pro shop is kept fully stocked with the latest in golf equipment and apparel. The clubhouse is an 8,000-square-foot structure that offers a daily menu, sports bar and is available for a variety of functions and parties. The address is 1600 Stonetree Drive, Killeen. For more information about Stonetree, go to golfkilleen.com.

The **Courses of Clear Creek** is on Battalion Avenue in Fort Hood.

The course is open to the public, though civilians will need to obtain a visitor's pass at the main gate.

The course is open from dawn to dusk each day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and severe weather days. The pro shop can be reached at 254-287-4130.

There is a 27-hole championship golf course and a free four-hole course designed especially for youngsters. Full and half-sets of clubs are available for rent. Eleven-round punch cards and season passes are also available. Lessons are also available. A 45-minute instruction session costs \$35 to \$45.

The 4,500-foot clubhouse has a full snack bar and lunch is served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays, and from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Hills of Cove Golf Course is at 1408 Golf Course Road in Copperas Cove. It is near the intersection of Golf Course Road and Texas Street.

The original nine holes were built in 1972. A second nine was added in 1999.

The phone number is 254-547-2606.

The course offers a golf professional, golf lessons, a full service pro-shop, beer sales, lighted driving range, grill and a fleet of 40 golf carts.

The course plays to 6,200 yards from the longest tees for a par of 71. The course rating is 69.0 and it has a slope rating of 114 on Bermuda grass. Hills of Cove is open from dawn to dusk daily, except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.



Copperas Cove's D.J. Dewald prepares to hit a tee shot during the opening day of the District 8-6A tournament at Stonetree Golf Club in Killeen.

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Catch a Triple-A game at Dell Diamond

Arlington, home of the Texas Rangers, is less than a 2½-hour drive for baseball fans to visit Globe Life Park and enjoy fresh, green grass and the loud crack of the bat. A trip to the Dell Diamond in Round Rock gives fans a chance to see tomorrow's Rangers today at one of the best minor league parks in the country.

The Round Rock Express play in the Pacific Coast League and are the Triple-A affiliate for the Rangers. The Express posted a record of 66-72 during the 2017 season. The Express were named after Hall of Fame pitcher and Lone Star State legend Nolan Ryan.

From 2000 to 2004, the Express were a Double-A affiliate in the Texas League and moved up a level in 2005 to become the Houston Astros' top farm team.

The Express play their home games

at the Dell Diamond, a stadium that has more than 8,000 permanent seats and has hosted crowds in excess of 12,000.

The Dell Diamond was named the Top Minor League Park by Minor League News in 2006 and 2007 and was the runner-up in 2008.

In 2016 Dell Diamond saw a total of 613,226 fans through its turnstiles and edged out the Sacramento as the highest Triple-A team attendance. The Express and River Cats were the only two PCL franchises to surpass 600,000 fans that season. The Dell Diamond is about an hour's drive from Killeen via Interstate 14/U.S. Highway 190 east to Belton and south on Interstate 35 or take state Highway 195 south to Georgetown. It is off U.S. Highway 79 east of Round Rock. Call 512-255-2255.

Texas Stars bring professional hockey to Cedar Park

The Texas Stars are currently in their ninth season of play in the American Hockey League. After going 34-37 last season and finishing third in the Pacific Division, the Stars currently sit at 36-24 and are headed to the playoffs.

In 2013-2014 they won the Calder Cup Championship.

Texas is the top minor league affiliate for the National Hockey League's Dallas Stars. A majority of NHL players go through the AHL to gain professional experience to improve their game.

The all-time season record for goals scored by a Texas Stars player is 37 by Matt Fraser, who accomplished the feat in (2011-2012). Travis Morin set the team's all-time assist record with 56 (2013-2014). Morin has played for the Dallas Stars. The top GAA (goals against average) was recorded by Richard Bachman, 2.20, in 2010-2011. Bachman now plays for the Vancouver Canucks.

The Texas Stars play their home games at the Cedar Park Center. The venue holds 6,800 fans for hockey games and 8,700 for concerts.

The AHL season runs from October to April and for more information, call 512-600-5000 or go to texastars.com. The Cedar Park Center is about 60 miles from Killeen. Fans can get to the arena via Farm-to-Market 2657 and U.S. Highway 183, Interstate 35 and Ranch Road 2243.

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Killeen Daily Herald brings news, information to residents

The Killeen Daily Herald, in its 128th year of continuous operation, is one of the oldest businesses in the Greater Killeen-Fort Hood area.

First published as a small weekly publication in 1890, the newspaper has evolved into a thriving, multimedia company that is recognized as an important source of news and information across Central Texas.

The Herald offers daily print and online editions, as well as several niche publications and digital services to serve the rapidly growing Central Texas region.

Earlier this year, the Herald launched its text alert system, providing readers with the latest breaking local news via text message to their smartphones. Herald readers can sign up for a number of categories — local news, crime, weather, traffic, schools and sports — free of charge. The simple process involves sending a text to 96362 and specifying which category of news is requested. Readers then receive a reply confirming they have signed up. Readers can sign up for as many categories as they like.

When breaking news occurs, readers who have registered will receive a text informing them of the news and linking them to the full story at kdhnews.com. Last fall, the Herald added KDHEvents.com, an online feature designed to help readers stay informed about events and activities going on throughout the area.

Also in the past year, the Herald continued streaming coverage of selected events and meetings via Facebook Live, increasing reader accessibility and engagement.

Whether in print or via digital platforms, the scope of the Herald's regional news coverage extends far beyond the Killeen-Fort Hood area.

FME News Service — a joint collaboration of the Herald and its sister paper, the Temple Daily Telegram — brings readers a broader spectrum of news, sports and information spanning the coverage areas of both publications.

In addition, the Associated Press, Washington Post and Texas Tribune news services bring news and commentary on state, national and world events home to Central Texas readers.

The Herald's commitment to timely,

thorough and accurate reporting of local, regional and state news — along with compelling photography and creative design — has earned the newspaper an array of prestigious journalism awards in recent years.

On April 15, the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors recognized the Herald as Newspaper of the Year in its circulation category at the annual state APME conference in Corpus Christi.

It was the third such honor in the past seven years, as the Texas APME gave the Herald top honors in 2011 and 2013.

The Herald earned several other notable awards at this year's conference.

Dave Miller, the Herald's deputy managing editor for opinion was honored as the Star Opinion Writer of the Year, for outstanding editorials, among newspapers in the Herald's circulation category. Then, he was named the Star of Stars, or best of the best statewide in opinion writing.

Herald Photo Editor Eric Shelton and correspondent Amy Proctor won first place for their gallery of photos for a military event. The Herald received a total of 17 honors in categories ranging from investigative reporting to community service and page design.

In addition to an award-winning daily newspaper, the Herald also produces three weekly publications to better serve specific audiences within the Central Texas community.

The Fort Hood Herald, the longest-running weekly, publishes each Wednesday, providing soldiers and their families with in-depth news and information.

The Harker Heights Herald and Copperas Cove Herald publish Friday, offering expanded coverage of news and events in those communities.

Another collaborative effort between the Temple Daily Telegram and the Killeen Daily Herald is *Tex Appeal* magazine, a publication about life and style in Central Texas. The magazine, which publishes six times annually, features articles on travel and leisure, food, fashion, health and people who make a difference throughout the Central Texas area.

The Herald's community involvement goes far beyond providing residents with informative and entertaining pub-

lications. The newspaper also regularly sponsors political forums — as it has twice this year. The Herald also sponsors regular job fairs, with plans to host three in 2018.

For the past decade, the Herald has also sponsored a well-attended bridal show featuring more than 40 vendors.

The Herald's website, KDHnews.com, offers subscribers access to the latest news and sports, plus classified ads, interactive forums, links and contact information, as well as videos, photo slide shows and blogs. The site can be accessed from any location via the Herald's news app, which is available on all iPhone and Android devices. Readers also can connect with the Herald on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

KDHPressbox.com offers fans expanded news on local prep sports, including video recaps and exclusive features.

The Herald offers several other websites to serve the community, including KDHJobs.com, KDHAutos.com, FortHoodRentals.com and FortHood-Homefinder.com.

KDH Digital Services provides small businesses with management of online reputation and social media, mobile marketing consulting and other services dedicated to increased visibility and revenue maximization.

The Herald also provides area residents with an established, full-service commercial printing service.

"The newspaper continues to grow with Central Texas, both in print and online," said Terry E. Gandy, the Herald's vice president and general manager. "We're very proud of the accomplishments of our news operation."

The newspaper was established as The Killeen Herald, in June 1890 by W.E. Bennett. J.T. Carter bought the paper in 1903. In 1953, communications pioneer Frank W. Mayborn bought the Herald and guided the newspaper for more than three decades until his death in 1987.

His wife, Sue Mayborn, assumed responsibilities as the owner, editor and publisher of both the Herald and the Telegram in 1987 and continues in that role today.

To subscribe to the Herald, call 254-501-7400 or go to KDHnews.com.

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512-580-6133..... 19

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texas/killeen/randy-hardin/
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232 Robert Griffin Blvd Suite 500
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www.bfjewelers.com
254-547-3828..... 41

Pagel & Sons Jewelers
2102 S W.S. Young Dr Suite 2
Killeen, TX 76543
www.pagelandsons.com
254-699-4653..... 63

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Hidden Falls Nursery & Garden Center
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Killeen, TX 76549
www.hiddenfallsnurserykilleen.com
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LOCKSMITH

Pop-A-Lock
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www.popalockkilleen.com
254-554-9966..... 101

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Bell County Indigent Health Services
309 Priest Dr
Killeen, TX 76541
bellcountytexas.com/departments/indigent_health_services/index.php
254-519-1229..... 108

Central Texas Behavioral Solutions
1020 Trimmer Rd
Killeen, TX 76542
www.ctbs.co
254-554-1466..... 15

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621A McClintic Dr
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866-753-0908..... 22

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Killeen, TX 76542
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facebook.com/pages/cherished-memorie-petcremt-service
254-317-7099..... 81

Killeen Veterinary Clinic
1321 Pershing Dr
Killeen, TX 76541
www.killeenvetclinic.com
254-634-0242..... 95

Pet Rest Memorial Park
390 Summers Rd
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
www.facebook.com/petrestpetcemetray/
254-681-7713..... 37

Stagecoach Pet Hospital
4826 Stagecoach Dr
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www.stagecoachpet.com
254-200-2790..... 27

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254-634-8554..... 97

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Ft Hood, TX 76544
www.forthoodfh.com
254-287-7974..... 25

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254-634-3311..... 101

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Killeen, TX 76542
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254-526-5921..... 56

Linneman Realty
3402 S W.S. Young Dr
Killeen, TX 76542
www.linnemanrealty.com
254-628-9272..... 27

Morris Real Estate
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www.morrisrealestatetx.com
254-634-8852..... 77

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www.firstchoicetexas-realtors.com
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www.realestateinspection.net
254-690-1186..... 24

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www.templerrhm.org
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Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum
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Waco, TX 76706
www.texasranger.org
254-750-8631..... 63

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City of Killeen Recycling
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www.killeentexas.gov/public_works
254-554-7572..... 17

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Texas Steak Express
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Killeen, TX 76549
www.steakexpress.com
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www.mililaniwoods.com
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Texas Star Shooting Range
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www.texasstarshootingrange.com
254-813-5884..... 31

Today's Car Wash
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www.paplys.com
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Pink Tulips Cakery
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www.pinktulipscakery.com
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Quality Quilts by Laura
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www.wellslaundry.com
254-953-1188..... 51

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Killeen, TX 76542
www.preciselyveiledtattoo.com
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Copperas Cove, TX 76522
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254-547-0773..... 62

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620 S Gray St
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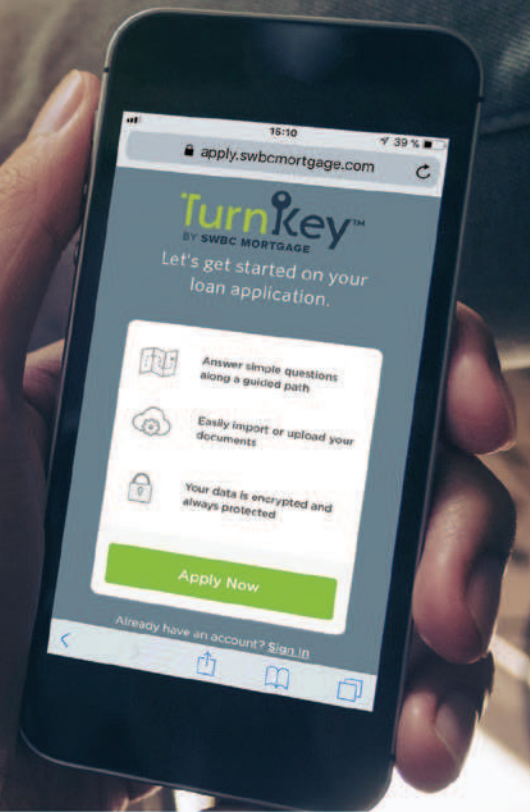
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