

Central Texas NEWCOMERS

WELCOME GUIDE

FALL
2018



The **BEST** RESOURCE
for NEWCOMERS of
CENTRAL TEXAS

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- Those laid off from Ft. Hood.

Services include:

- Career counseling and assessments.
- Funding to attend college for training in jobs that are in demand by local employers.
- Assistance with childcare, transportation and work related expenses, such as special uniforms.
- One-on-one staff support during training.
- Assistance with fees for health certificates, licensing and other work related expenses.

Additional services:

- Access to experts who can help you improve your match to local jobs.
- Local information on wages, jobs that are in demand, and employers who are hiring.
- Assistance with resume preparation, interviewing, dress for success, etc.
- Business start-up assistance and business counseling.

Let us put our resources to work for you. Contact us at Central Texas Workforce Center in Killeen or Temple.

Workforce Center in Killeen

300 Cheyenne Dr.
254-200-2000

Workforce Center in Temple

Santa Fe Business Center, 200 Santa Fe Way
254-742-4461

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas is an equal opportunity organization in both employment opportunities and program administration. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. For assistance, please contact us at 254-742-4510. For RELAY Texas: Dial 7-1-1.

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Welcome to Central Texas

The Fall 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, Jacob Brooks, David A. Bryant, Felisa Cardenas, Maria DiMichele, Rose Fitzpatrick, M. Clare Haefner, Emily Hilley-Sierzchula, Brad Kester, Dave Miller, Mark Miller, Deb Moore, Matt Payne, Artie Phillips, Amy Proctor, Katelyn Robertson, Ellen Villeneuve, Clay Whittington, Gabe Wolf and Andy Zavoina.

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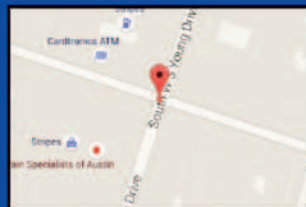
For the newsroom, call 254-501-7542.

The Killeen Daily Herald is at 1809 Florence Road, Killeen, TX 76541.

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Belva Crosby
254-466-9164
belvacrosby@remax.net

Realtor



Jessica Stanley
254-394-3392
jessicastanley@remax.net

Realtor



Steveon Dominguez
254-421-8273
steveon.dominguez@remax.net

Realtor



Heather Cisco
254-368-3988
heathercisco@remax.net

Realtor



Martha Perez
254-702-9586
soldbymarthaperez@gmail.com

Realtor



Tessa Stewart
254-681-6825
tessa.stewart01@gmail.com

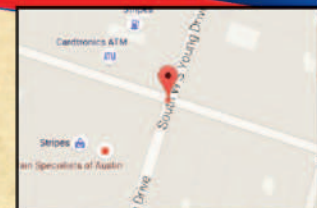
Realtor



Lorie Renegar
254-350-9396
lrjyourtxrealtor@gmail.com



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Register your vehicle within 30 days of moving to Texas

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 document issued by U.S. Citizenship and

DRIVER'S LICENSE OFFICES

KILLEEN

5100 W. Elms Road
254-616-1800
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FORT HOOD

Main Gate Visitor's Center,
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

Tuesday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

TEMPLE

6612 S. General Bruce Drive
254-770-6734 (recording)
Monday, Wednesday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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
Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.

TEMPLE

205 E. Central Ave., 254-770-6828

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 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 college journey.



Killeen City Manager Ron Olson discuss Killeen's financial issues during the forum hosted by Councilwoman Debbie Nash-King at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center on March 15.

City has council-manager form of government

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, Hugh “Butch” Menking 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 www.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.

City ordinances cover animal control, noise and more

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.

Books, electronic resources available at Killeen's libraries

Killeen officials consider the Killeen City Library System 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



A patron walks toward the Copper Mountain Branch of the Killeen library.

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.

Documents, deposit needed to begin utility service

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.

Killeen's police, fire chiefs in 1st, 2nd years on the job

Killeen's chiefs are no longer new, both men are involved in the everyday business of public service.

Charles "Chuck" Kimble took over the chief's chair at police headquarters just over a year ago, on Sept. 1, 2017, and Brian Brank is going on two years as the head of the fire department.

In November 2016, Brank became the permanent chief after serving in an interim capacity since October of that year. He was picked out of 53 candidates. Kimble was the top selection among 42 applicants.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Like the city itself, the Killeen Fire Department is growing. The newest fire station, Fire Station No. 9, opened for operations in March 2017. Brank has spoken about increasing recruitment and continued renovations at other stations.

"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."

Fire Station No. 9 services residents in the southwest part of Killeen, an area that continues to grow rapidly.

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 safety of those who live there.



Killeen firefighters prepare to put out a fire that destroyed a 2018 Jeep Cherokee Sept. 19 in the pre-owned lot of Mac Haik Killeen on the 5,600 block of E. Central Texas Expressway.

KILLEEN POLICE

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

"It's been fun, but a lot of work," Kimble said about his first year on the job.

People are concerned about violent crime in the city, which is why Kimble has been staying busy forming ties with neighborhood watch groups.

The police department headquarters was opened for use in 2010, and its community room has been the site of

several neighborhood watch meetings. The department has hosted two crime forums a year for at least a decade, said Ofelia Miramontez, Killeen Police Department spokeswoman.

Through community crime prevention coordinator Tammy Moseley and several Killeen council members, 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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A construction crew pours the foundation of a new home in the Heritage Oaks subdivision in Harker Heights on Oct. 12.

Harker Heights continues to attract residents, businesses

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

Located on Interstate 14 about 10 miles west of Interstate 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, long-term.

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

Work is proceeding on a construction project that will widen Interstate 14 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.) This phase is expected to be finished by spring 2019.

The next phase will extend the widen-

ing project to FM 2410 (Simmons Road) or approximately 8.58 miles. The second phase is set to be bid for construction in 2020.

Housing developments continued to have strong demand in Harker Heights. The city has issued 134 residential permits (single-family and duplex) so far in 2018, with 122 of those for single-family homes and 12 for two-family homes. Cedar Brook Ridge, a new subdivision off of FM 3481, began selling residential 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 and Recreation Department provides many opportunities for all citizens to be active.

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 Parks Department's page on the city's website. The Parks and Recreation Department offers a multitude of programs for residents.

The city provides traditional sports leagues and non-traditional programs such as the "Go Heights" program, which teaches such things as camp fire building or wild land survival.

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 activities and events for special-needs children.

Harker Heights is also home to the popular Harker Heights Food, Wine and Brew Fest, which occurs in September of every year. For more information on the Fest, visit <http://www.hhfoodandwine.com/>.

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

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Council-manager system governs Heights residents

The council/manager form of government in Harker Heights functions with five elected council members and an elected mayor. The city manager is a full-time employee who carries on the day-to-day operations of the city.

Serving as council members are: Hal Schiffman, Place 1; Michael Blomquist, Place 2; Jackeline Soriano Fountain, Mayor Pro-tem; 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.

Mayor Smith is serving a first term that expires in May of 2020. Council member Schiffman is serving a second term that expires in May of 2019. Michael Blomquist was elected in May and is serving his first term, which expires in May 2021. Mayor Pro Tem Fountain is serving a first term that expires in May 2019. Council member Reider is serving

a first term that expires in May 2020. Council member Nicholas is serving a second term that expires in May 2021.

David Mitchell is City Manager and began his career with the city in January 2014. Mitchell's responsibilities are to execute the city laws, prepare the budget, and administer the day-to-day governing under the leadership of the council. The city staff is under Mitchell's direction aided by Patty Brunson, assistant city manager.

The council meets at City Hall in the Kitty Young Council Chambers at 305 Miller's Crossing, just off Knights Way/FM 2410.

The city's tax rate is 67.7 cents per \$100 valuation for the 2018/19 fiscal year. The tax rate will provide the general fund with \$9,033,900 in revenues and the debt service with \$2,834,000. The budget includes total revenue of \$40,262,000. Total expenditures of \$51,499,000 and leaves a fund balance of \$7,097,000.

The budget is balanced with expenses in excess of revenues attributable to

funds borrowed in prior years being expended in the 2018/2019 budget year. Alberta Barrett, finance director said, "The biggest increase is in capital improvements. That's where we borrow money to spend on large projects. We've borrowed the money in prior years. We will spend more of that money this coming year which is the reason for why expenses are higher."

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. Items may be placed on the agenda by submitting a written request either in person, by email, or regular mail to Brunson. Brunson must receive it no less than seven days prior to the scheduled Council meeting.

Billy Ray Hall serves as Harker Heights' Municipal Court judge. Garland Potvin is the alternate municipal judge. Garland Potvin's appointment as was just extended an additional two years by the City Council.

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 \$18.51 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 duty phone for streets, drainage and sanitation: 254-319-4996.



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Harker Heights police, fire departments keep pace

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

The Harker Heights Police Department is tasked with making sure residents live and work in a peaceful and safe city.

Chief Phil Gadd took the reins from former Chief Mike Gentry in May. Gadd, who is a native Central Texan, served as deputy chief under Gentry starting in April 2015. He told the Herald that much will stay the same as it was under the former chief.

“Chief Gentry built a solid, professional police department,” Gadd said. “We’re keeping his policies in place, but we’re moving forward with an increase in technology and other minor changes.”

The department is divided into three divisions: criminal investigation, patrol and administration. Most HHPD officers are in the Patrol Division, which is where they most frequently interact with the public. A Special Operations section also works with patrol.

The Criminal Investigation Division consists of investigators and detectives to investigate crimes. The Administration Division includes records, sex offender registry 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. To contact the police department about non-emergency matters, call 254-953-5400.

The city’s animal control division is operated by the city and is in a new building at 403 Indian Trail, near the police and fire departments and library. For more information about pet adoption and hours, call 254-953-5472.

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 firefighters and rescue vehicles.

One of those stations is at 401 Indian Trail accommodates the administrative staff and 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.

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 story-times 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.

“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, down-

loadable 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.



The historic Bell County Courthouse is in Belton, the county seat. Bell County was founded in 1850 and is now home to more than 377,000 people.

Bell County's population, budget growing

The backbone of Bell County financial administration is the commissioner's court, which is comprised of five elected officials: the county judge and four precinct commissioners.

The court meets every Monday at 9 a.m. at the Bell County Courthouse at 101 Central Ave. in Belton. If there is a Monday holiday, the court meets on the following Tuesday. Agendas and minutes back to 2010 are available on the Bell County website.

"The Texas Constitution vests broad judicial and administrative powers in the position of county judge, who presides over a five-member commissioners court, which has budgetary and administrative authority over county government operations," according to Bell County. "The commissioner's court is responsible for building and maintaining the roads and bridges of the county..." and adopts the tax rate and budget for the county.

As of October, the current Bell County Commissioner's Court consists of County Judge Jon Burrows, Precinct 1 Commissioner Russell Schneider, Precinct 2 Commissioner Tim Brown, Precinct 3 Commissioner Bill Schumann and Precinct 4 Commissioner John Fisher.

The Nov. 6 elections will change the court, with David Blackburn possibly replacing Burrows, who served on the court for five terms. Blackburn does not have a named opponent on the ballot, but Ernest Wilkerson, a write-in candidate and former Killeen councilman, is running against him. Fisher is facing John Driver of Killeen. Tim Brown, who served on the court for 24 years, lost a run-off election and will be replaced by Bobby Whitson, who does not have a Democratic challenger.

COUNTY BUDGET INCREASES

The county budget has increased, mainly because the population has swelled, Burrows said.

In 1960, the county's population was a little over 94,000. In 2018, it is more than 377,000, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services.

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.

In the general fund, the county is projected to take in more than \$95 million in revenue, with more than \$99 million in expenditures, according to the 2018-2019 proposed budget.

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Many Nolanville families came out for the Back to School Splash event for a little fun before a new school year began in August.

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 Williams 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. Misha Johnson 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 eight 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 building official and oversees street maintenance, 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.

Andy Williams is president of the NEDC. The NEDC also coordinates activities through a subcommittee known as Keep Nolanville Beautiful that resulted in a won recognition by the Governor's Community Achievement Award in 2018 and a Gold Star Affiliation with Keep Texas Beautiful.

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

Chevan Jessamine is the chairman of Planning & Zoning and Brenda Huckaba chairs the Zoning Board of Adjustments.

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 4th 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."

Nolan Creek, which winds its way downtown, offers plenty of recreation opportunities. A park with nature trail and kayak/tube launch area is located just below the MLK bridge on Nolan Creek. Parking is 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 Annual Bacon, Blues and Brews Festival takes place each fall in Downtown Belton around the Courthouse Square. The two-day festival features blues bands, food trucks and breweries. The highlight of the festival is the bacon cook-off competition where teams compete to see who prepares the best bacon-inspired dish.

Belton and Stillhouse Hollow lakes host several annual events, and offer 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 U.S. Army 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, Wayne Carpenter, John Holmes, Dan Kirkley, Guy O'Banion and Craig Pearson make up the council.

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



Belton cheerleaders: Belton High School cheerleaders ride on top of a Belton Fire Department hook and ladder truck during the annual Fourth of July parade in Belton.

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Arts, antiques and events 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 attracting tourists. A variety of events, large and small, occur every year in Salado, including the Wildflower Weekend at the end of March, Chocolate and Wine in September and the Christmas Stroll in December among many others.

The Village is steeped in rich history and has been a destination for travelers for hundreds of years.

The Village now has art galleries, a microbrewery, a winery, an exceptional culinary scene, and many historic lodging options.

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.



Swimmers cool off in Salado Creek in June.

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 over 40 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, meetings, and relaxing escapes. The Stagecoach Inn Restaurant reopened in mid-June 2017 after an extensive renovation. The hotel re-opened recently, in September, and is now continuing its tradition of welcoming guests from all corners of the world.

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. Fred Brown, Michael Coggin, Michael McDougal, Andy Jackson and Frank Coachman make up the current board of aldermen. Learn more at www.salado.com or 254-947-8634.

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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 Candy Kyle.

The city has a busy library that offers classes and a book club that meets Tuesdays.

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.

TASTES OF TOWN

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 meals to longtime residents and newcomers, as well.

DOWNTOWN DRAWS

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 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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Bell County complex houses criminal justice system

The Bell County Criminal Justice Complex in Belton keeps the wheels of justice moving in the county.

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 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, where Paul LePak sits on the bench after being elected in May. Its former judge, Martha Trudo, retired last August.

Then-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, had prosecuted Child Protective Services cases. Her term expires on Dec. 31, 2018.

John Mischian, elected in 2006, oversees County Court at Law 2. He was elected in 2014. Rebecca DePew has served as judge of County Court at Law 3 since 2011.

Terms for both Mischian and DePew expire at the end of the year.

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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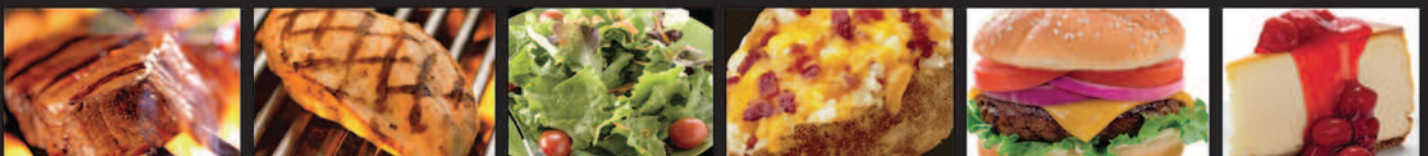
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JUSTICES OF THE PEACE PERFORM IN CIVIL, CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

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.

In Bell County, the justices of the peace serve four-year terms but do not have term limits. In Killeen, two justices of the peace serve Precinct 4, which encompasses most of western Bell County, including Killeen and Harker Heights.

The two Precinct 4 justices trade off each week when they are on call.

Claudia Brown has been Place 1 Justice of the Peace since January 2017. Brown is the first black woman to hold the title in the county's history. Her term is set to end in December 2020.

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 to the position.

He ran unopposed for the post in the March primary election, and his term ends in December 2022.

Precinct 4's office is in the Bell County Annex at 301 Priest Drive in Killeen.

In Coryell County, John Guinn, Precinct 1, and Bill Price, Precinct 2, both operate out of the Economic Development Corporation building in Copperas Cove at 210 S. First St.

Beverly Jones and Coy Latham oversee Precincts 3 and 4, respectively, in Gatesville.

Justices in both counties act as the initial magistrate judge for people charged with crimes, and they set bond rates. They also issue the times of death for fatalities, and can order an autopsy to determine the cause of death.

Their responsibilities also include acting as a judge in Class C misdemeanor cases, which typically are traffic violations. Judges also hear certain civil cases.

They have jurisdiction in evictions, small claims up to \$10,000, debt claims and tenant repair and remedy suits.

CASA volunteers advocate for children in court

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 they 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 advoca-

cy 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.

People can help by volunteering to become a CASA advocate, or by donating to the organization. Check the CASA Facebook page, which is updated often, for fundraising and volunteer information.

For more information, call 254-774-1881, visit www.casabellcoryell.org, or stop by the local office at 112 N. Main Street, Belton.



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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, and satellite offices are located in Temple, Killeen and Fort Hood.

County and Belton residents needing to take care of business in person can visit the Belton office at 550 E. Second Ave.

Three other full-service locations can be found in other cities: 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. Registration 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



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

requires a state inspection not more than 90 days before the expiration date of registration.

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

Bell County now has an election administrator 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, li-

braries, 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 government of Bell County exists to promote and sustain a superior quality of life in Central Texas.

The Bell County Clerk's office assists in that mission and handles much of the paperwork that documents the lives of Bell County residents, from births 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



Coston

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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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 488,128 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 Jon Jaffers, Interim Housing Assistance Director; Uryan Nelson, 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.

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 by state law 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/>.

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

The Clearwater District also monitors wells across the county, and has invested



Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District General Manager Dirk Aaron.

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. Clearwater with the Bell County Commissioners Court will add five new real-time

weather stations to Bell County. The first four are in place: One is south of Killeen in the Maxdale Community, one is in the city of Troy, one is located on the property of Central Texas Water Supply Corporation at Stillhouse Lake and the most recent is located at the city of Rogers in west Bell County.

The link to the TexMesonet Site is <https://www.texmesonet.org/Overview>. This statewide earth observation network, known as TexMesonet, delivers 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 with cooperators and support from the Bell County Commissioners Court, the state this summer installed the first four advanced weather stations Bell County. To learn more about this project, go to <https://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>.

Voters must be registered 30 days before election

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 general election Nov. 6.

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 25

In January 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 general election Nov. 6.

TEXAS LEGISLATURE

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

SENATE DISTRICT 24



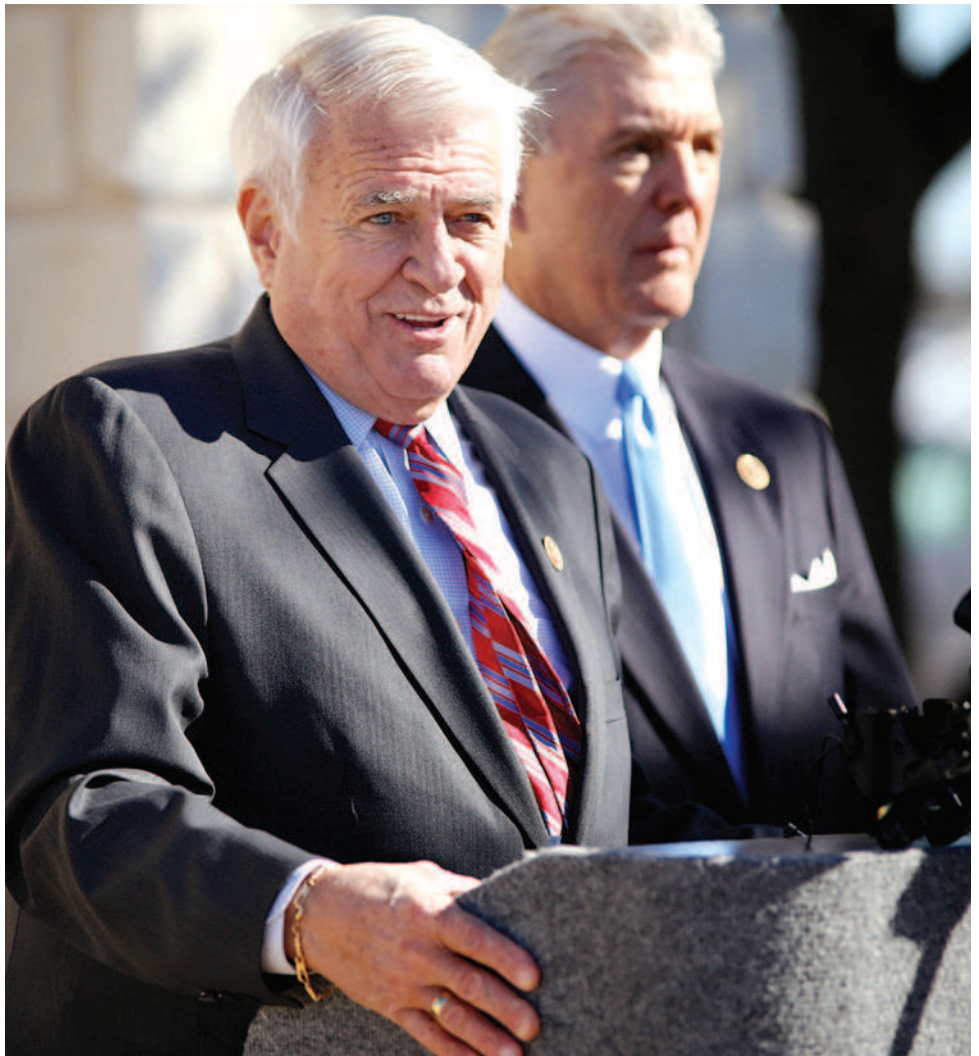
Republican Dawn Buckingham represents Senate District 24. The Lakeway resident represents a multi-county region that includes Bell, Coryell and Lampasas counties. The district also

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,



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



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.

In January, he will be succeeded in office by either Killeen veterinarian Brad Buckley, who defeated Cosper in May 22 Republican primary run-off election, or Democrat Kathy Richerson, a rural Bell County resident. The general election is Nov. 6.

HOUSE DISTRICT 55

District 55 is represented by Republi-



can 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 election.

HOUSE DISTRICT 59



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

Call his office at 512-463-0628.

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

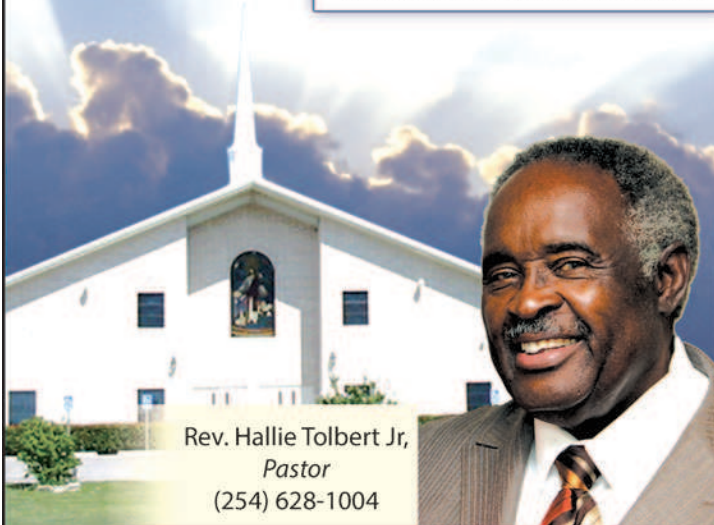
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Democratic, Republican parties active in Central Texas

Killeen-area 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 Belton, 104 E. Fourth 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.



Bell County Democrats Bill Rosenberg and Kathy Bradley registered voters during an election forum in 2017 hosted by the Killeen Chapter of the NAACP at the VFW Post 9191 in Killeen.

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 state Legislature to consider.

Seniors 60 and older are elected to a two-year term by their peers from 28 regions in Texas.

The Central Texas Council of Governments oversees the Area Agency on Aging Central Texas (AACT), 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 state 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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TRIEAGLE

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www.txu.com

VERDE ENERGY

844-845-3059
www.verdeenergytx.com

VETERAN ENERGY

800-578-7070
www.veteranenergy.us

Area residents have access to multiple post offices

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 by going to 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.



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

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

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 E. 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 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.

NOLANVILLE

Residents may obtain city permits online through the city's website. By heading to http://ci.nolanville.tx.us/page/Forms_Permits, residents may print out and fill out the permit form they need before submitting it at the city hall, at 101 North 5th Street.

BELTON

City residents can complete the entire permitting process online through the city's website. By going to www.beltontx.gov/departments/planning_department/building_permits_and_inspections.php, residents are allowed to apply for a variety of permits online as well as pay fees and track the progress of the permit application.

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.



III Corps and Fort Hood Commander Lt. Gen. Paul E. Funk II is greeted by Command Sgt. Maj. Maurice Jackson, Task Force Phantom command sergeant major, at Larkin Terminal at Robert Gray Army Airfield after returning from a deployment to the Middle East.

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 streamers 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, returned in September from 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 recently returned from a deployment 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. Kenneth L. Kamper. The deputy commander for support is British Maj. Gen. Felix Gedney. Fort Hood’s garrison commander is Col. Henry C. Perry, who took command in July 2017, and the garrison senior enlisted advisor is Command Sgt. Maj. Byron C. Larsen.

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-



Sgt. Ivan Arriaga, 4th Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, pulls security alongside a member of the Iraqi Security Forces on Aug. 26 in Mosul. Brave Rifles Troopers are currently deployed to Iraq.

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 2017. 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.



M1A1 Abrams main battle tanks from the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, prepare to move into defensive positions during a two-week situational training exercise at Fort Hood to prepare for a trip to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, and future deployments.

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. William "Hank" Taylor. As the Army's

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)

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 designated contingency area of operations by sea, land or air and conducts combined arms operations to prevent conflict, shape the operational environment and win any fight.

The 3d Cavalry Regiment uses the

battle cry "AI-EE-YAH!" instead of "Hooah!"

13TH EXPEDITIONARY SUSTAINMENT COMMAND

The 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command is led by Brig. Gen. Darren Werner. 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 area

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



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

services that are free on the installation and 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 Com-

munity 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 254-287-4916.

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 may gain access to the post by obtaining a pass from the visitor's center. This is a requirement. Those 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 and 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.

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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Exchange stores serve military members and 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, which 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.

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 the 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.

To use these facilities, an individual 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 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

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Museums on Fort Hood help tell Army's history

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 and are open to the public with visitor passes acquired at the visitor center outside the main gate.

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.



An artist's rendering shows the National Mounted Warfare Museum near the Fort Hood main gate. Fundraising efforts are underway to build the museum.

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 training 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 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 Larry Phelps, who started his term earlier this year.

"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," said Stephanie O'Banion, immediate past president the local



Johnny Mojica, area community coordinator and public affairs for H-E-B, and Stephanie O'Banion, president and CEO of the United Way of Central Texas, hold a donation of \$60,000 to be used for playground shades at Fort Hood during an AUSA meeting Nov. 15 at Club Hood.

AUSA chapter. "CTFH AUSA 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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Mayor Frank Seffrood carries the U.S. flag while jogging through City Park with members of the Copperas Cove High School Junior ROTC.

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.

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.

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 with a median and turn lanes at intersections. Bike lanes and sidewalks would increase safety for those traveling by alternative means.

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.

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 Jan-

uary 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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Stream Energy Local Agent.....254-294-5700
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Vivint Smart Home Special Offer!.....(Free \$229 Doorbell Camera. MUST MENTION PROMO CODE: B311) 254-699-6300

Cove ordinances clarify the rules for residents

Ordinances make it easier for new residents to understand the rules to keep them healthy and safe. The Copperas Cove City Council passes laws and restrictions to outline policies and punishments. Ordinances violation calls most often responded to by city officials include property maintenance, animal control and obstructing city property. The entire list of ordinances is on the city's website at copperascovetx.gov.

WEEDS AND RUBBISH

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 a 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 8 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 2 feet in height above the pavement and other landscaping structures or signs.

RIGHT OF WAY

Any person constructing, erecting

How to hook up utilities

UTILITY ADMINISTRATION

The city government in Copperas Cove provides multiple services to its residents, including solid waste collection, recycling, water and sewer. The City has an agreement with FATHOM Water Management Inc. for them 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 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>. Call FATHOM Customer Care 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. Residents can receive additional bins for an additional charge. 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 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, officials said.

Deposits for water services and sewer start at \$50 each. The rate for water 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 is \$6 for all customers per 1,000 gallons used with a minimum rate of \$12 per month for all customers.

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

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

of committing or creating a nuisance.

PARKING

The city has an ordinance that prohibits its 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 internet access, books

The Copperas Cove Public Library is 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 at work, home or in the library 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.



Singing Zoologist Lucas Miller entertains residents July 12 during a show at the Copperas Cove Public Library. Miller sings about wildlife and uses hand puppets to spread his message.

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.

City's elected officials find direction in 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 of this governing body in November of each year, with a rotation of seats up for election. All the council members are at-large and serve three-year terms, and may serve the maximum of 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 the council meetings, nor does the city manager, who attends the meetings and provides information to the council. The interim city manager is Ryan Haverlah.

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

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



McGruff the Crime Dog gives out hugs to children Sept. 29 during the 21st annual National Night Out Kick Off party in Copperas Cove.

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 29 patrol officers, including two school resource officers; seven corporals, nine sergeants and six detectives. 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 location.

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 in 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. Ave. E, Copperas Cove. The

phone number for non-emergencies is 254-547-8222.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Copperas Cove Fire Department provides both fire and EMS services to the citizens of Copperas Cove and to almost 90 square miles of southern Coryell County. The department responds to around 350 emergency calls each month.



Neujahr

The fire chief, Michael Neujahr, oversees approximately 50 firefighters of all ranks.

"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."

The department operates out of three stations and the main office is at 415 S. Main St., Copperas Cove.

Coryell County established in 1854

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 adopted on Feb. 24, 1986, in preparation for a number of anniversary events. In gold on white, it depicts the County Seal



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

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 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.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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.

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

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

Gatesville boasts world's largest collection of spurs

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 say they work with residents to determine the areas of greatest needs and interest.

Coryell Memorial Healthcare System, based in Gatesville, is in the midst of a \$42 million renovation and expansion. 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 was originally expected to be complete by the summer of 2018. A gas-related explosion on the construction site set the project back. Hospital spokeswoman Carly Latham



Main Street is seen June 29, connecting the west and east portions of Gatesville.

said the project will still see fruition.

The healthcare system features pulmonary rehabilitation and cardiac rehabilitation programs, as well as full-time staff including a cardiologist and a psychiatrist nurse practitioner on the team.

Some visitor-related businesses are also available in Gatesville. 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.

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

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The Armed Services YMCA has 41 before and after school child care sites in the Greater Fort Hood area in off-post schools in the Killeen ISD, Copperas Cove ISD, Belton ISD, Florence ISD, and Lampasas ISD. We proudly serve active duty, veterans, and the civilian community and financial assistance is available. We offer camps during spring and winter breaks and during the summer. Child care starts as early as 6 am and as late as 6 pm. Look for the Armed Services YMCA Speciality Camps to extend your children's fun and learning experiences year-round.

254.690.YMCA | asymca.org/killeen-home | fb.me/yourasymca

Kempner incorporated in 1997 to avoid annexation

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 friction with a tribe. Resident Dan Taylor asked then-Gov. F.R. Lubbock for ammunition to help the settlers hold their own against



Kempner Water Supply Corporation board members, from left, Mack Carroll, Ric Dominowski and Glenn Posey, vote to rescind the sale of the corporation at a board meeting May 16.

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. Council members include Melba Vandever, David Richardson, Clifton Morse, Bob Crane and Don Casper. The council meets at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 12288 E. Highway 190.

More information is available at cityofkempner.org.

Lampasas County governed by commissioners

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 without being too far away from one. The county has a population upwards of 20,100 residents. The county seat is Lampasas, and the governing body for the county 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 every month in the Lampasas County Courthouse courtroom, 501 E. Fourth St., Lampasas.

Boultinghouse's term will end at the end of 2018, and the position will be filled by Randy Hoyer. Voters decided 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.

The seat for Precinct 2 Commissioner had a runoff election in May, and candidate Jamie Smart was elected to the seat. His term will start in 2019.

In addition to the court's responsibilities required by the state, other responsibilities include setting the county's annual tax rate, monitoring the expenditure of county funds, handling budget responsibilities for all county offices and issuing bonds for building purchases and repairs to county buildings.

County Attorney John Greenwood is the chief prosecuting attorney for the county court.

The county attorney prosecutes 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 Lampasas County Elections Administrator Mark Bishop.

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



The 1st Cavalry Division Band leads the way during the Spring Ho Grand Parade on July 14 in Lampasas.

Lampasas touts rural, city life with lots of charm

The city of Lampasas walks 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 TJ Monroe, and council members Chuck Williamson, Robert McCauley, Delana Keele-Toups, Mike White, Catherine Kuehne and City Manager Finley deGraffenried.

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.

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, go to 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 and at the intersection Clear Creek Road, where a new overpass turnaround bridge is being constructed by TxDOT.

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 that 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.



A construction crew works March 5 in the 3100 block of South W.S. Young Drive in Killeen.

INTERSTATE 35

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



Students from Texas State Technical College wait to compete in a navigation competition at Skylark Field in Killeen.

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 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, 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 of him, as well as memorabilia, are displayed in the terminal.

Go to FlyKilleen.net for flight schedules, additional 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, next to Stonetree Golf Course, 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.

Skylark Field can be reached at 254-501-8728 or www.skylarkfield.net.

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 nine fixed routes 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. 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.

Multiride 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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Students at Killeen Early College High School work on assignments as a teacher walks around to supervise and answer questions.

Bond money to fund Killeen ISD construction

Big changes are happening in KISD.

In May, the Killeen Independent School District passed a \$426 million bond that was divided into two sections — \$235 million for district-wide improvements and the construction of new schools and \$191 million for campus renovations.

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.

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. Officials expect to see over 4,000 more new students come in to the district over the next 10 years.

Three of KISD's four traditional high schools are already over capacity, officials said, and the school district holds classes in 290 portable classrooms every day because the permanent buildings are crowded and over capacity at elementary, middle and high school levels.

Security measures are being enhanced at campuses district-wide, including the addition of perimeter fencing and state-

KILLEEN ISD REGISTRATION

For families new to the Killeen area who want to enroll their children with the Killeen Independent School District, the district has simplified the process with the addition of an online option.

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 <https://old.killeenisd.org/frontPage3/attZones.cfm>.

For more information on what supplies are needed for your student, go to https://www.killeenisd.org/school_supply_list_2018_2019.

of-the-art badge scanning and locking entry ways at several campuses.

Other initiatives are taking 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 academic 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 for the Killeen school

district. These items are included in the district's Strategic Facility Plan and 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 in the district is under construction on Morganite Lane in Killeen. The building will cost approximately \$37 million and is expected to be complete in time to open in the fall of 2019.

"We are excited and grateful to the community for allowing us to take on these projects to improve the education of the students," Superintendent John Craft said.



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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)
- *Indicates a partnership initiative between CTC & KISD.
www.killeenisd.org>Departments>Special Programs>Parent, Family & Community Engagement

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Students board the buses to head home after a successful first day of school at Martin Walker Elementary School in Copperas Cove on Aug. 15.

Copperas Cove ISD's enrollment continues to climb

As of Oct. 1, Copperas Cove Independent School District had enrolled over 100 new students more than last year, maintaining the district's status as one of the area's most steadily growing districts.

Despite the district's close proximity to Fort Hood, the majority of these additional students are not military-connected.

"Our city is conveniently located for families to work in the local area or also commute to the Austin area but live here at a much more affordable rate with a high quality of life," district representative Wendy Sledd said.

CCISD students and staff returned for the 2018-19 school year to several projects that had been completed to enhance their academic experience in the district.

CCISD opened its new transportation facility Aug. 13.

In July, CCISD opened its District Service and Training Center on Main Street. The expanded space is more convenient for families, who are able to access various departments in one single location.

Over the summer, the district also implemented technology upgrades in the schools and implemented turn lanes

COPPERAS COVE ISD REGISTRATION

In the summer of 2018, Copperas Cove ISD also added an online registration feature, and all students are asked to complete the online process before reporting to their campus to ensure the registration process is as efficient as possible. Necessary items for enrolling a new student are:

- Student's Social Security card

- Current immunization records
- Proof of residency 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 Parents tab.

and other enhancements to improve traffic flow during student drop-off and pick-up times.

Academically, CCHS changed from an eight-period block schedule to a even-period day. In addition, secondary campuses have changed the model for professional development and teacher collaboration. On every 10th day, students have expanded learning opportunities in grades 6-9 while their regular subject teachers have a full day for professional development and collaboration during Innovative Professional Learning (IPL). While teachers are participating in IPL, a team of PLUS master teachers provides instruction for the day.

CCISD is one of only 334 school

districts from more than 1,200 in the state that earned a "B" rating on the Texas Accountability Report Card. That places CCISD in the top 38 percent of school districts in the state. In addition to excelling academically, students also excel in the areas of fine arts, athletics and extra-curricular programs such as DECA where are students have competed at the international competition the last two years. Copperas Cove theater arts students won the regional one-act play competition and several sports teams qualified for the play-offs last school year.

Copperas Cove employs Communities in Schools representatives at all CCISD schools to address the needs of students outside the classroom.

Belton ISD dedicates auditorium, plans more schools

In May 2017 voters approved a \$149.7 million bond program to fund the construction of two new Belton ISD campuses, additions to Lakewood Elementary and renovations for the district's oldest performance and fine arts venue, the Wall Street Auditorium.

On Sept. 25, the Belton ISD community came together to celebrate the dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the substantial completion of the renovation of the auditorium, which first opened in 1966. Upgrades to the facility include: renovated electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems; installation of a new roof; updated interior finishes and seating; and ADA accessibility enhancements both outside and inside. Total construction costs are approximately \$2.3 million.

To celebrate the more than 60-year history of the venue and its significance to the community, personalized commemorative bricks sold through the Belton Educational Enrichment Foundation have been installed to create the BEEF Alumni & Friends Courtyard. In May, the Board of Trustees took action to officially name the facility the "Pittenger Fine Arts Center" in honor of former board President Randy Pittenger.

In August 2019, Charter Oak Elementary, located on Poison Oak Road in Temple, will open. The following year, Lake Belton High School will open in Temple. At the same time, the Belton High School ninth-grade campus will be repurposed as the district's fourth middle school. Due to these additions, new attendance boundaries for elementary,



Belton's Denver Holman (16) runs after a catch against Temple at Wildcat Stadium in Temple.

middle and high schools are needed.

A committee of parents representing every campus in the district, city and community representatives, along with teachers and departmental staff will be participating in a series of public meetings throughout the fall of 2018. The committee's goal is to make recommendations to the Belton ISD Board of Trustees in January 2019 so that the District can provide timely communication to students and their families.

Belton ISD has been ranked in the Top 100 districts in Texas according to <http://niche.com/>'s 2019 School District Report Cards. With an overall grade of an A, Belton ISD ranked 82nd out of 1,021 school districts reviewed by the online research company.

Niche.com/ analyzes dozens of federal and state data sets, along with millions of reviews from students and parents, to grade districts in several key areas such

as academics, teachers, diversity, and college prep.

Based on Belton ISD's 2019 Report Card, <http://niche.com/> also ranked the District as 59th for "Districts with the Best Teachers in Texas."

For the second year in a row, Belton High School students are the SkillsUSA TeamWorks National Champions. The team of construction trades students Bailey Eickenloff, William Glaser, Antonio Hernandez and Lyhue Penny took first place in the TeamWorks event at the June 2018 SkillsUSA National Student Leadership Conference held in Louisville, KY. In the TeamWorks competition, teams of four students receive blueprints for a construction project that requires carpentry, electrical, plumbing and masonry skills. After making a presentation on how they will approach the project, the teams have three days to complete the structure.

Belton New Tech High School @ Waskow has been awarded a silver medal, as one of the best high schools in the nation according to U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings. Fewer than one-third of schools nationwide are recognized, and less than 11 percent are awarded silver medals. Belton New Tech, which was awarded a bronze medal ranking in 2017, is again the only public high school in the area to be recognized by U.S. News in 2018.

Belton ISD takes a student-centered approach in meeting its mission to provide an education that challenges every student to excel. Belton's current enrollment is 11,896 students.

Lampasas ISD expands career and technology program

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

Serving nearly 3,500 students enrolled in prekindergarten through 12th grade, the district is a 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 (Career and Technology Education) 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 past school year.

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

Learn more at www.lisdtx.org.


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Florence's CJ Giddens (2) shoots against Georgetown Gateway's Michael Folsom during a District 25-3A play-in game at Jarrell High School in February.

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Florence ISD seeks \$7.5 million bond

The Florence Independent School District currently serves 1,080 students in Florence, south of Killeen on State Highway 195.

The Florence ISD Board of Trustees voted to call for a Nov. 6 bond election on a \$7.5 million proposal that would address needs in the following areas: safety and security, academic upgrades, technology, and other facility improvements.

The decision was based on information gathered through a long-range facilities planning process which included a recommendation from the planning committee, made up of stakeholders in the community.

Florence ISD is a recent recipient of a 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant award which provides funding to operate before and after school programs. This year the district


will operate centers at two site locations, one at the Florence Elementary School and one at the Florence High School. The high school center will serve middle school and high school students.


Florence schools maintain a climate and culture rooted in small-town, community, family-oriented values.

Florence schools offer a variety of academic and extracurricular activities including a nationally renowned Future Farmers of America program that is the product of a strong Career and Technology Education Program.

The district's enrollment is growing at a manageable rate, providing opportunity to expand and improve facilities and programming.

Florence ISD schools receive tremendous support from community business owners, parents, civic organizations and the community as a whole.





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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 \$25.7 million budget for 2018-2019 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 in his mission statement on the district's website.

"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."

Penrod said he may be reached at epenrod@gatesvilleisd.org.

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's Tyler Lewis avoids a tackle by Cameron Yoes' Kobe Young at McKarnie Field in Gatesville.

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

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

The administration building is at 311 S. Lovers Lane, Gatesville. For information, call 254-865-7251 or go to www.gatesvilleisd.org.

Salado ISD has four bond projects in the works

Salado Independent School District continues its growth, with the district's enrollment increasing to 1,944 from 1,854 students just last year.

Enrollment two years ago was 1,767 students.

The district is currently working on the design of four facility projects that were approved as part of a May bond election: a new middle school, new baseball and softball fields with concession stands and restrooms, connections between the three elementary and intermediate school buildings, and additional seating and restrooms, renovations to the concession stand

and a turf field at the football/soccer/track stadium.

The Salado Independent School District was awarded the Postsecondary Readiness Distinction Designation by the Texas Education Agency.

Salado ISD boasts a tradition of excellence in academics, athletics and fine arts. Salado High School won the Lone Star Cup award in 2008, 2013 and 2014. The University Interscholastic League awards these based on team performance in district and state championships in academics, athletics and music.

"Out of the 1,317 high schools in

Texas, we are one of only 42 high schools that have ever won a Lone Star Cup Award," Superintendent Michael Novotny said. "There are only 10 high schools in Texas that have won more Lone Star Cup awards than Salado."

In 2017, Salado placed 10th out of 191 high schools in the 4A classification, receiving points for achievements in volleyball, football, girls and boys soccer, softball, baseball and academics.

Salado has won nine state championships in UIL academics, and placed second out of the 191 high schools in academics last year.

Charter, private schools offer alternatives for education

Several area charter and private schools serve as an alternative option for parents seeking to enroll their children outside of standard public education.

THE RICHARD MILBURN ACADEMY

The Richard Milburn Academy Killeen is one of nine 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.rma-schools.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 instruction.

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. For more information, call 254-526-9299 or visit www.oakcreekkilleen.org.

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St. Joseph Catholic School is a parochial school of the Austin Diocese School District dedicated to the Catholic education of children.

The school is accredited by the Texas Catholic Conference Education Commission which is recognized by the Texas Commissioner of Education for the purpose of accrediting Catholic schools in the State of Texas.

It currently has 90 students enrolled and is a full-day school offering pre-kindergarten 3 through sixth grade. Besides the core subjects (reading, math, language arts, science and social studies) students attend religion, physical education, Spanish, music and art.

The school is at 2901 E. Rancier Ave. in Killeen. Call 254-634-7272 for more information.

KILLEEN ADVENTIST JUNIOR ACADEMY

The Killeen Adventist Junior Academy is a private, tuition-based school for prekindergarten through ninth-grade students that has a current enrollment of 58 students.

The academy is a part of the world-

wide Seventh-day Adventist School System. Its curriculum is distributed by the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventist Education Department while also incorporating the Common Core standards.

The mission of Killeen Adventist Junior Academy is to provide a high quality, Christ-centered education in a safe, caring, learning environment.

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 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 offered.

For more information, call 254-526-5403 or visit www.mcawarriors.com. The academy is at 4001 Trimmier Road, Killeen.

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Dropout prevention program serves 48 campuses

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.

The purpose of CIS is to improve student achievement, help decrease the dropout rate and increase the graduation rate.

Dewees believes the program is important to the Killeen/Central Texas area due to the sheer size of Killeen ISD, which serves over 43,000 students.



Susan Sellers leads a discussion about homework hassles with parents and students of S.C. Lee Junior High School in Copperas Cove.

According to the Texas Education Agency, approximately 49 percent of KISD students are identified as at-risk of dropping out of school and 55 percent are economically disadvantaged. In addition, students of our Fort Hood soldiers typically have high mobility/transient rates which are challenges within themselves for students and families.

"Communities In Schools of Greater Central Texas can assist these youth by bringing outside resources inside schools to assist with immediate necessities like food or clothing to more

complex needs like supportive guidance or emotional support," Dewees said. "It is our goal to continue to empower our youth to stay in school and achieve in life!"

To accomplish its goals, CIS partners with local businesses, social service agencies, health care providers and volunteers.

In the 2017-18 school year, CIS of Greater Central Texas served 5,239 students exceeding the state requirement of 4,808 students. Outcomes for the 2017-18 school year featured a 93 percent improvement among CIS students in academics compared to the state requirement of 85 percent. CIS achieved a 96 percent rating in improved behavior performance. The state requirement was 85 percent. 96 percent of CIS students were promoted to the next grade (requirement – 85 percent), 93 percent of CIS seniors graduated (requirement – 90 percent) and 99 percent stayed in school (requirement – 90 percent).

"I attribute the success of our staff to their undying dedication to their Communities In Schools' students, especially those who are struggling in school or those who face challenges which might cause them to struggle in school," Dewees said. "This passion for their students and helping them succeed is the catalyst for student success and thus program success."

To learn more or to make a donation, visit www.cis-tex.org.

Coalition's goal is to help military children be college ready

The Military Child Education Coalition is a nonprofit organization that works with area schools, businesses, military installments and families to provide support and educational opportunities for children of military families.

The vision of the coalition is that every military-connected child will be ready for college, the workforce and life.

It offers support and resources for the unique needs of a military child, including dealing with deployments, grief counseling, changing schools, moving and mental health support.

The organization also addresses families of students with special needs.

The coalition offers programs and events for students, as

well as parents and caregivers, in order to provide support to everyone involved with the education and success of the child.

The coalition works to ensure that the academic, social and emotional needs of military children are recognized and that appropriate responses are provided. This includes making sure that parents and other involved adults are provided with knowledge necessary to support the child, as well as a strong community partnership is built to ensure the child is in an environment in which he or she has the ability to thrive.

For more information, call 254-953-1923 or visit www.militarychild.org.

CTC offers programs for military, high school, traditional students

Since opening its doors to more than 2,000 students in 1967, Central Texas College has evolved into an institution focusing on providing students with an affordable, accessible education.

The school's diverse student population includes nearly 6,000 students per semester at its Killeen, Fort Hood and Service Area campuses, more than 18,000 students at sites across the globe and an additional 10,000 students taking classes online. The fall 2018 semester reported a Texas student count of 12,711.

The top college choice for graduating seniors, more than 20 percent of local high school students come to CTC. On average, 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.

As the community's college, CTC prepares students for the workforce, or to transfer to four-year universities, with more than 100 associate degrees and certificates of completion available in many diverse 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 and online class offerings continue to expand. CTC offers more than 400 online and blended (a combination of online and classroom) courses to accommodate the needs of students who may have work or family commitments that deter them from attending traditional lecture 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 is the CTC Degrees on The Go program, which was added in the spring semester. This allows students to earn an associate degree in 15-16 months through a combination of online classes and evening/weekend classes at either



Students walk out of the Anderson Campus Center at Central Texas College.

the CTC central campus in Killeen or its Fort Hood campus.

To further assist students to become more employable, CTC recently began offering stackable programs in many of its certificate of completion programs. Stackable programs provide students with immediate workforce skills, as classes taken in the eligible programs can be stacked or applied to an associate degree plan should a student choose to continue their education.

In the fall 2018 semester, CTC opened a new logistics and global supply chain management program. The program, which is included in the Business Administration department, leads to an associate of applied science degree in logistics and global supply chain

management or students can earn a global supply chain specialist level 1 certificate of completion. Courses in the curriculum prepare students for careers in transportation, warehousing, distribution, inventory control, purchasing and international logistics.

To stay current with changing technology, CTC has renamed its radio/TV academic program to Communication and Media Technology. The program has shifted its focus to digital and new technology, and continues to offer an associate of arts degree and three certificates of completion in radio broadcasting, television/radio broadcasting and television news videography. New academic programs focusing on digital media are in development.

CTC continues to foster its strong relationship with Fort Hood. The new military articulation paramedic program, which opened in fall 2017, recently recognized its first graduating class.

Expanding opportunities for high school students in the area school districts has also been a major part of CTC's offerings. CTC partnered with the Killeen Independent School District to initiate the Early College High School in 2016. With the fall 2018 semester, CTC welcomed back more than 200 KISD juniors and seniors to their new home, the recently remodeled Shoemaker Center. Many of these students are using classroom space in the newly remodeled Eagle Hall, which opened in the spring 2018 semester. The first class will graduate in spring 2019.

CTC has also opened a similar program with the Copperas Cove school district this fall. High school students can take an academic core plan or career and technical plan of dual credit classes to earn college credits while still in high school.

Most recently, CTC and KISD began plans to expand the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) academy to include college courses. Students can choose from 12 different programs of study of existing CTC classes. They can then opt for one of three plans, each earning different levels of college hours.

For more about all the programs offered at CTC, go to www.ctcd.edu.

A&M-Central Texas offers bachelor's, master's degrees

Nestled on a 672-acre campus, Texas A&M-Central Texas is the 10th of 11 regional universities of The Texas A&M University System. Established in 2009 as an upper-level, transfer university, A&M-Central Texas is an educational pathway to both the baccalaureate and post-baccalaureate graduate degree for area students.

Focusing on affordability, accessibility, and quality, A&M-Central Texas has grown to more than 2,000 students since 2009, yielding more than 6,000 degree recipients for the Central Texas region in the arts and sciences, business administration and education fields of study. Some 93 percent of A&M-Central Texas faculty have earned a doctoral degree.

AFFORDABILITY

In 2017, College for All Texans collected information regarding the cost of attendance for Texas public universities, finding A&M-Central Texas with the second-lowest average tuition and fees among other Texas public universities.

The university also offers an option that allows students to “lock in” their tuition called “The Warrior Guarantee.” A&M-Central Texas also offers “The Bachelor’s Bonus.” Under the Variable Rate Tuition Plan and The Warrior Guarantee, an undergraduate student’s tuition and mandatory fees are capped at 12 semester credit hours. For example, a student enrolling in 15 (or more) semester credit hours will pay tuition and mandatory fees at a rate of 12 semester credit hours.

ACCESSIBILITY

For A&M Central Texas, accessibility means that the undergraduate degree should be accessible for everyone who can demonstrate academic promise. So, admissions requirements reflect this mission. To be admitted to the university, a prospective student should demonstrate a 2.0 transfer GPA, a minimum of 30 hours of coursework, and be in good standing with the most recently attended community college or university.

As a “transfer-level” university, A&M Central Texas partners with area community colleges to offer an affordable “pathway” to the undergraduate degree



Speakers Yvonnilda Muniz and Olivia Ruiz discuss learning and behavioral disabilities during the Luke McGrew Special Education Seminar on May 19, at Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

that ensures the courses a student takes at Central Texas College or Temple College will transfer. Students transferring from these colleges are asked to follow The Warrior Corps Transfer Program that is a “pre-set” course outline, which prepares students to transfer into any one of the 25 baccalaureate degree programs prepared for the courses required for their major area of study.

The average student age is in the 30s, with roughly half of A&M_Central Texas students affiliated with the military, either active-duty, retired, or a relative or spouse of a service member.

QUALITY

A regional university and a part of The Texas A&M University System, A&M-Central Texas is an independent, separately accredited transfer university. There are three colleges within the

University: The College of Business Administration, The College of Arts and Science and The College of Education. Within the structure of those colleges, 25 baccalaureate degrees and 17 graduate programs are offered.

A&M-Central Texas has been acknowledged for the strengths of its academic programs, most recently by The U.S. News & World Report, which named the several of our online degree programs among the best in the nation. Five new degree programs began in Fall 2018:

- Bachelor of science in exercise physiology and human performance,
- Bachelor of music in music (in partnership with Temple College),
- Master of arts in English,
- Master of science in one planet leadership and
- Master of education in higher education leadership.

Mary Hardin-Baylor prepares students for the future

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor continues to grow and thrive.

For the ninth consecutive year, UMHB has been blessed with record freshman enrollment. In total, 875 new students chose to make Mary Hardin-Baylor their home this year, compared to 754 in 2017. Overall enrollment reached 3,888, including 3,334 undergraduate students and 491 students pursuing their master's or doctoral degrees. Despite this continuing growth, the university remains committed to the personal attention that has been a cornerstone of the UMHB experience for more than 170 years.

The university offers bachelor's degrees in 47 undergraduate majors, seven master's degree programs, and three doctoral degrees (Doctor of Education, Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Physical Therapy). This year, more than 900 students graduated from UMHB, including the first three graduates of MyWay at UMHB, the uni-

versity's competency-based education program for adult degree completers. This year the MyWay program expanded to include an online RN-to-BSN degree program. In May, the program saw its first graduates receive their diplomas, two in Organization Leadership and one a Bachelor of Nursing Science degree.

Most UMHB students live on campus in traditional dormitories or apartment-style residence halls. This fall the university opened Lord Hall, a 46,000-square-foot residence hall situated just off the campus quad. The three-story facility offers dormitory-style housing for 214 freshmen.

In October of 2017, the university dedicated its new Sue & Frank Mayborn Performing Arts Center. The centerpiece of the center is the Baugh Performance Hall, a 524-seat theater with a proscenium stage. The facility's design allows it to be used as a teaching facility as well as a venue for performances.

Through the support of generous alumni and friends of the university, the \$20 million building was completed debt-free.

The performing arts center was the final project of the Campus Master Plan adopted in February 2011, so this fall the university is also celebrating the success of Momentum: The Campaign for Mary Hardin-Baylor. The campaign exceeded its \$60 million goal by raising more than \$82 million for scholarships and Campus Master Plan projects. Since 2011 the university has completed eight new facilities, including the Bawcom Student Union, Baugh Center for the Visual Arts, Crusader Stadium, and Isabelle Rutherford Meyer Nursing Education Center.

In January, UMHB will begin accepting applications for its new Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program, which will be housed in the renovated Hardy Hall. The first 30 student cohort will begin classes in 2020.

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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 the 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 nonprofit 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.

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.

Metroplex will soon become Advent-Health Central Texas. The name change is part of a nationwide re-branding of Adventist Health Systems, expected to take place Jan. 2.

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.

In addition to its many awards, Metroplex 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 test-



ing, 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 highly trained technologists and diagnostic and interventional cardiologists, it offers 24/7 cardiac services.

Metroplex Clinic Physicians: An ever-growing physician services organization and home to eight 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 occupational 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: It offers outpatient diagnostic testing for sleep/wake disorders.

Metroplex Ambulatory Surgery Center:

It 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.

Sue Mayborn Women's Center: It 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.

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.

For more information, go to mplex.org.



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, Roman 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.

Seton Harker Heights was voted Best Places to Work by Modern Healthcare and 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 Commission 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.

As an Advanced Primary Stroke Center, the hospital provides next generation stroke care.

Seton Harker Heights expanded its relationship with Freedom Urgent Care, with two clinics in Killeen open so far.

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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Scott & White runs medical center, children's hospital

Baylor Scott & White Health is an organization formed from the 2013 merger between Baylor Health Care System and Scott & White Healthcare.

In October, Baylor S&W officials announced a future merger with Memorial Hermann, which will make it the largest healthcare system in Texas.

Baylor Scott & White Health offers a range of medical services to people in Killeen and across Central Texas.

Scott & White Medical Center-Temple is a 640-bed, fully accredited nonprofit hospital in Temple. It is a Level 1 trauma center, making it essential in Central Texas.

The 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, and 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.

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.

Community 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, 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 through 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.



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New Patients
Welcome!

Darnall in top 5% of military health system facilities

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 vision is to be the Premier Readiness Center- An Exceptional Experience – Every Single Time. Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center's mission is "Enabling Phantom Readiness by partnering to Improve Health and Save Lives.

The new motto is "CRDAMC Your Partner in Health."

The hospital system serves over 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 3,681 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 providing quality, patient-centered care that promotes soldier readiness, as well as community health and resilience is the aim. Readiness is the priority.

In addition to the main hospital on post, Darnall's primary care clinics are on the installation and within neighboring communities. Of the primary care clinics, four are patient-centered medical homes, four are soldier-centered medical homes, and four are community-based medical homes. The newest community based medical home in west Killeen opened Oct. 1 in Killeen.

Darnall has more than 40 medical specialties on 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. It also was rated number one for surgical safety by the National Surgical Quality Improvement-American College of Surgeons.

This year has been an exceptional year for CRDAMC. CRDAMC received the Practice Greenhealth Top 25 award.

Darnall has four family-practice clinics

Fort Hood's Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center offers four 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 serves soldiers and their family members in Killeen. Those living in Harker Heights, Belton and Salado are served by the Harker Heights clinic, and the Copperas Cove Clinic serves Cove, Kempner and Lampasas.

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 opened a fourth community medical home in south Killeen on Oct. 1, called the West Killeen 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.

LOCATIONS

- The Killeen facility is at 3404 Kaydence Court, off Elms Road near Stan Schlueter Loop.
- The West Killeen Medical Home is at 5200 Bunny Trail Drive.
- The Harker Heights Medical Home is in the Market Heights shopping center at 201 E. Central Texas Expressway, Suite 200.
- The Copperas Cove Medical Home Clinic is at 458 Town Square on West Business Highway 190.

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 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 3,526 prescriptions are filled daily, along with 693 radiology procedures and 3,065 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 2016, 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," Buotte said.

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 at Darnall.

Indigent health department works with providers

Local residents who need help accessing health care services and qualify by being 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 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.

The County Indigent Health Care Program began with a law passed by the state Legislature in 1985.

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 in Killeen 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, in Temple on Tuesdays between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. The department is headed by Rita Kelley.

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 a 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 Mental Health Clinic is at 326 Morgan St. in Harker Heights. The clinic provides an array of care from individual therapy to couples, family or group therapy. Call 254-953-7600 to reach the Harker Heights office, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. 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 insurance

Greater Killeen area offers several residential, outpatient substance abuse treatment services for residents who need help with recovery

Substance abuse treatment and recovery services are available to 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 dshtexas.gov/sa-search/ for more resources listing licensed facilities.

is 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 for the NAMI office in Temple.

Bell County Public Health District offers variety of services, programs

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

The Health District 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. The phone numbers for the offices 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 breast-feed 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: Building 36000 Darnall Loop (the second floor of the old Darnall Hospital), 254-532-8680; Copperas Cove: 213 W. Avenue D, 254-547-9571.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Environmental Health Division



A nurse prepares a immunization shot for a patient during National Infant Immunization Week at the Bell County Health Department in Killeen.

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 can be found on the Bell County Public Health District's website, www.bellcountyhealth.org.

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Charlie Watts, left, 2018 Roy J Smith Award winner, poses with Abdul Subhani and 2018 Roy J Smith Award winner Sis Beck on Sept. 20, during the Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce 85th annual Membership Banquet at the Killeen Civic and Conference Center.

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 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 Resource 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, 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.

Heights chamber promotes community partnerships

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 Anthony Triola, VP Business Development, Antonio Lejia, Business Development Director, Trisha Betts Business Development, Andrea Womack, Business Development, Ava Jayne, office manager and Azlyn Petry, Marketing.

The chamber board is made up of five 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-trip-



The Dancing Bee Winery booth was manned by Jonn Walker, left, and Chase Cohagon at the 10th Annual Food, Wine and Brew Fest at Harker Heights Community Park on Sept. 8 in Harker Heights.

pers, 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 in thousands of visitors from all across the state of Texas boosting the local economy and impacting sales.

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.



Local business owners attend a mixer hosted by the Copperas Cove Chamber of Commerce at BKCW insurance on July 26.

Cove chamber, EDC work to attract businesses

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 works to foster 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.

Members of the 12-person board of directors include: J.C. Stubbs, Tammy Rodriguez, Jennifer White, Charlotte Heinze, Jennifer Cotter, Bradi Diaz, William D. Lewis, Erica McPhail, Jeremy Pruitt, Jack Smith, Robert Weidinger, 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.”

The organization became its own entity outside of the city this year. The EDC still works closely with the city to achieve its goals. The EDC’s new address is 113 W. Ave. D.

The Copperas Cove Economic Development Corporation was formed in 1990 by a vote of the citizens. Board members are appointed by the Copperas Cove 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 providing encouraging small business development are part of the EDC program.

The Cove EDC works with businesses interested in locating or expanding to Copperas Cove. Recently, some of those businesses included Home Base, The Yellow Armadillo, Twin Liquors, Uptown Liquor, Integrity Urgent Care, Burke’s, Maurice’s, Ross Dress for Less, Rack Room Shoes, Raising Canes, and McAlister’s Deli.

“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,” said Board Member Diane Drussell. “In addition, we attend trade shows to help companies who are interested in relocating to Texas.”

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 surrounding cities of Copperas Cove, Gatesville, Lampasas, Hillsboro, Killeen, Salado, Temple, Waco and Fort Hood.

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)

BankcorpSouth Bank

- 181 W. U.S. Highway 190, Suite 2, Copperas Cove.
- 661 W. Central Texas Expressway, Harker Heights.

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.

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.



USAA has branches across Central Texas to serve military members and their families.

(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
- USAA Financial Center

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 24 members and 11 more “off seat members,” representing a spectrum of business, education and community interests.

The diversity of its members provides “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 of people who were claiming unemployment and searching for work found a job within 10 weeks, exceeding the group’s target placement.

A wide variety of services ranging 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, Fort Hood has more 35,000 soldiers and thousands of civilians and contractors, and is credited for more than \$24 billion in statewide economic activity.



Rian Melton, left, shakes hands with Misty Carr, of Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, during a job fair. Workforce Solutions helps people with career planning, training and job searches.

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.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas is located at 300 Cheyenne Drive

in Killeen. It 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.

For folks outside of Killeen, there also are locations in Temple, Belton, Lampasas, Rockdale and Cameron.

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.

Hill Country Community Action Association provides many services

The Hill Country Community Action is a private, non-profit 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. 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 provides 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 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.

Fort Hood Habitat for Humanity helps with homeownership

Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity knows that a safe, decent, affordable home is fundamental to a family forging a path out of poverty.

In a Habitat house, families find better health, more financial freedom, independence, and a stability and security that far too many families simply can't achieve without a helping hand.

Serving Bell, Coryell, and Lampasas counties, the nonprofit Christian organization partners with future and current homeowners to build simple, decent, and affordable housing for low to very low-income families.

Volunteers and future homeowners work together in the building process. Houses are sold at no profit and owners are charged no interest.

The purpose of the organization is to bring families and communities in need together with resources and volunteers to eliminate substandard housing in low-income areas.

The organization's goal is to continue building Strength, Stability, Self-reliance, and shelter for Central Texans.

As Habitat for Humanity is not federally funded, the agency relies on donations and fundraising.



Michelle Vosburgh, right, wipes away tears during the Fort Hood Area Habitat for Humanity home dedication to her and her children Abigail (6) and Jonathan (17) on March 21, 2015.

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 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

Volunteers are needed in the office, at the ReStore, or on repair, renovation and construction sites.

To donate items to the ReStore, or to volunteer, call 254-680-4007, email community@fhahfh.org or go to www.fhahfh.org.

Food banks provide resources to struggling families

KILLEEN FOOD CARE CENTER

The Killeen Food Care Center serves more than 84,000 clients and distributes more than 2.4 million pounds of food a month every year. It is operated by Executive Director Raymond Cockrell. Donations of \$1 are able to provide 7 meals for their clients, and they can be made on the website or by check to their mailing address: P.O. Box 1656, Killeen.

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, first responders and their families in Central Texas. Pantry Days are Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Every third Thursday of the month is our open pantry for the Fort Hood Community, so anyone can come on that day. The food pantry is at 315 E. Avenue C in downtown Killeen. Go to www.operationphantomsupport.org. Questions can be emailed to info@phantomsupport.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



Volunteer Maria Joseph carries potatoes at the Refuge Corporation's Mobile Food Bank in Killeen.

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. All food center clients will be re-certified and re-registered annually.

The center is open from 8 to noon the first, third and fourth Saturday of each month at 208 W. Cardinal Lane, Harker Heights United Methodist 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 six-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 the church office at 254-547-3735 to volunteer, or go to www.hf-cc.org/st-vincent-de-paul-svdvp.

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 2 to 6 p.m. every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 200 N. Main St. Call 254-698-6820.

Area shelters offer assistance to those 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 several 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 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.

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 volunteer roles available. The Red Cross also provides 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 redcross.org or call the regional office 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 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 thrift 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 with youth character building groups on



John Stephenson volunteers as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army.

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 thrift store year-round.

The Killeen location is headed by Majors David and Karen Craddock and covers the Greater Killeen area including Nolanville, Harker Heights and Fort Hood. The Killeen Salvation Army branch can be reached at 254-634-7172.

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.

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 at 3118 Commerce Drive. The shelter is open for adoptions from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. It is open for adoptions from 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 5 p.m. Concerns and complaints may be called in at 254-526-4455 or reported to animal@killeentexas.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. The full-time director position is currently under review by the Police Department and is expected to be posted in late 2018.

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 who 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, vol-



A cat waits for adoption at the Fort Hood shelter.

unteers and Petco in locating homes for the animals in its care.

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 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 within a specified period of time.

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

Harker Heights Pet Adoption Center is located 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 and holidays. 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.texas-humaneheroes.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 state Legislature has several laws governing gun purchase, ownership and open or concealed carrying by residents.

The law can differ depending on the type of gun one plans to purchase and carry. Long guns, or rifles and shotguns, are legal to purchase and possess at the age of 18. Long guns may be carried openly but 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. No one under 21 is allowed to purchase a handgun.

Handguns may be carried openly for people who have obtained the necessary permits and undergone training. Unconcealed handguns must be carried in a shoulder or belt holster.

CONCEALED HANDGUN LAWS

Texas laws allow for handgun owners to earn a concealed handgun license, or a Texas License to Carry a Handgun, according to the Texas Department of Public Safety. 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 concealed handgun license. Five years must have elapsed since the conviction of a Class A or Class B misdemeanor. Applicants 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.

Certain places are gun-free zones, such as many businesses. Handguns may not be carried “on the premises of a business that derives 51 percent or more of its income from the sale or service of alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption,” according to Texas DPS. Many other places, such as hospitals, amusement parks and churches, 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

All Central Texas cities, including Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove, prohibit the use of all fireworks within city limits.

Many fireworks are allowed in the unincorporated areas of Bell County and Coryell County. Commissioners in both counties have approved fireworks during the holidays.

KILLEEN REGULATIONS

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.

COPPERAS COVE AND HARKER HEIGHTS

It is illegal to sell or store fireworks in the city, or within 5,000 feet of city limits, according to the city ordinances. In Copperas Cove, people can apply with the fire chief for fireworks display permits, but otherwise fireworks are illegal to possess.

In Harker Heights, possession or ignition of fireworks is illegal and punishable with a citation.

city limits of Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove. 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 license to carry, applicants must take a state-mandated course. The state also requires applicants to pass an exam that covers conflict de-escalation, resolution, firearms

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 placing 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

safety, criminal trespass and obligations to retreat.

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. For more, visit the Texas DPS website.



Residents visit with police and firefighters during a National Night Out gathering in Nolanville.

Area cities participate in National Night Out, citizen police academies

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, which usually takes place on the first Tuesday in October.

Police departments in Killeen, Copperas Cove, Fort Hood 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. 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, 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-youthservices.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.

Scouts provide leadership opportunities for boys and girls

The Leon Valley District, Longhorn Council of 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 girls, kindergarten through age 20, get to experience the many benefits of the diverse programs offered by the Leon Valley District, Longhorn Council of the Boy Scouts. The Family Scouting program started this fall. Young girls in grades kindergarten to fifth grade will have the opportunity to join Cub Scouts.

The District includes Fort Hood, Killeen, Harker Heights and Copperas Cove. Gatesville. Belton, Temple and Salado are a part of the Chisholm Trail District. The Leon Valley 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. Go to www.beascout.org or call Dustin Weins, 254-772-

8932, or Tim Hays, 682-429-7476, tim.hays@scouting.org for information.

Another popular program within Scouting is Venturing, which is available for both boys and girls ages 14 through 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 pursuing 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 more 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 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 CLUBS OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas spans nine communities in the Central Texas area and serves approximately 13,000 youth per year. Members can enjoy a variety of programs and activities provided by professionally trained staff which are structured around three priority outcomes: Academic Success, Character and Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles. Learn more at bgctx.org. Local facilities include:

CLEMENTS TEEN CENTER (AGE 13-18)

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 (AGE 6-12)

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 (AGE 7-12)

5100 Trimmier Road in Killeen: This 60,000-plus square foot facility has a pool, gymnasium, games room, arts and crafts room, computer lab, kitchen, outdoor playground, and multiple recreation fields. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-634-0308 ext. 100.

NOLANVILLE UNIT (AGE 6-12)

100 Gold Star Avenue in Nolanville: Located in the City of Nolanville's Mary Marie Multi-Use Center, this site features a computer lab, game room, and outdoor playground. Annual membership is free for all youth thanks to a partnership with the City of Nolanville. Call 254-275-8166

KILLEEN ISD CLUB SITES (AGE 11-18)

Nolanville, Harker Heights, and Killeen: Clements Boys & Girls Clubs, the local affiliate of BGCTX, operates Club sites in every Killeen Independent School District Middle and High School. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-699-5808

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF COPPERAS COVE (AGE 6-12)

1202 Veterans Ave. in Copperas Cove: This site features a computer lab, arcade and movie room, and arts and crafts room. The membership fee is \$100 per year, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-547-5578.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF LAMPASAS (AGE 6-18)

107 N. Main St. in Lampasas: 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 (AGE 6-12)

2533 E. Main St. in Gatesville: This site has a computer lab, full kitchen, library, new activities center, a teen center, and gym. Annual membership is \$20, and free for military-connected youth. Call 254-865-8347.

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.

The national Armed Services YMCA was established during the Civil War and it has supported service members and their families during every conflict since then.

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” added an educational component to the child care program, to include curricula that will provide additional support to what they are taught in the classroom.

The Armed Services YMCA Killeen also provides child care during spring and winter breaks and starts as early as 6 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. The organization also offers a summer child care program for children that are in need of all-day child care. 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 that opens during the summer months and is open to the public.

New for 2018 is Armed Services YMCA Specialty Camps. These camps 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 just have a good time.

Each camp is dedicated to a specific topic, anywhere from arts and crafts to STEM, cooking or sports. There is something for everyone, from cooking classes to basketball or tae kwon do.

Also, the ASYMCA offers Kids Night Out, which gives parents an opportunity



Seton Dietitian Carey Stites provides recipes for healthy lunch options during an event at the Armed Forces YMCA in Harker Heights on April 5.

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 nonprofit organization is known throughout the world for its fitness centers, and the Armed Services YMCA is no exception.

The Harker Heights Wellness Center, 110 Mountain Lion Road, 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 Armed Services YMCA tries to remove all barriers to anyone wanting to improve their health.

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 child care 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.

COPPERAS COVE

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 P.E., boot camps and biddy sports, with some offered free with memberships or at low costs.

Another partner, Seton Medical Center Harker Heights, provides outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapy. Call 254-618-4900.

To find out more about the Armed Services YMCA Killeen, go to www.asymca.net or [Facebook.com/asymcakillean](https://www.facebook.com/asymcakillean), or call 254-690-YMCA.

Senior centers offer exercise classes, low-cost meals

Central Texans, age 55 and older, have plenty of opportunities to enjoy an active lifestyle provided by 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, 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, 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 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. Membership at both centers totals more than 7,000 people.

"The senior centers add to the quality of life enjoyed by our more mature residents," said Director of Communications Hilary Shine. "Programming offered at our centers provides something of value for every member."

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 during the week.

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. For more information, call 254-547-6049.

HARKER HEIGHTS

The Harker Heights Senior Recreation Program is designed for ages 50 and up.

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.

"We invite seniors to join us and discover the community experience we have to offer," said Heather Buller, activities coordinator. For more information, call 254-953-5493.

Take a step back in time at Bell County Museum in Belton

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 owns more than 12,000 objects related to Bell County and Central Texas, regularly rotating artifacts and exhibits. 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 Miriam A. Ferguson Collection, which includes items to document the state's first female governor; the Moustache Tea Cup Collection, which is the largest publicly held collection of tea cups in the country; 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,

microscopes and a film funded by the Texas Historical Foundation.

The museum also rotates new traveling exhibits every two to three months to provide new and engaging exhibits, along with permanent ones, all blending regional with national interests.

Currently, the museum is hosting an exhibit about the origins of the Texas cowboy, "Vaquero." The exhibit, which includes photographs and vaquero artifacts, will run through Dec. 29.

Call 254-933-5243 or go to www.bellcountymuseum.org for more information or 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.

The museum, 201 N. Main St., is open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

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:

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

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.

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 — now features an equestrian/livestock complex that opened in July.

The air-conditioned equestrian facility has an area of 220,000 square feet and features a performance arena, warm-up arena, bar and grill, concourse and stock pens.

The Expo Center, which is the home of the Central Texas State Fair, marked its 30th anniversary in 2017.

The center has been the site of big-name concerts such as Willie Nelson, Bone Thugs N Harmony, ZZ Top and 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 that can seat 800 people. It is used for banquets, trade shows and other events.

For booking or more information, go to www.bellcounty-expo.com or call 254-933-5353.



Children ride the dragon mini-roller coaster May 17 during Rabbit Fest in City Park in Copperas Cove.

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

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

Look for more events in the Killeen Daily Herald's Weekender section on Fridays and online at KDHEvents.com.

Arts abound in Central Texas with local theaters

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

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 theater 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 the City of Killeen's hotel and motel taxes, grants from the Texas Commission on the Arts, season memberships, fundraisers and other contributions. It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so all contributions are tax deductible.

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. For more information, call 254-526-9090 or go to vlakilleen.org.

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 theater, an 11,000-square-foot facility with a 228-seat thrust stage auditorium that offers patrons an excellent view from every seat.

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 254-778-4751 or go to

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

artstemple.com for more information.

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.

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 each December. The spring and summer seasons bring music to Salado with the Gospel Festival, Salado ISD Band Concert and Shakespeare On the Rock.

The nine-acre Tablerock is at Royal Street and Tablerock Road in Salado. Call 254-947-9205 or go to tablerock.org for more information.

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY

The Central Texas Orchestral Society offers performances by internationally known artists. The 2018 performers includes the Spanish Brass Quintet. 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 for more information.

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 capable of hosting 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 — everything you expect from a full-service organization to make an event successful.

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.

The facility offers weekday and Saturday matinees and Saturday evening shows. The theater 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 Mayborn Science Theater hosts group shows, field trips, birthday parties and school programs. Groups of up to 180 people may reserve the theater for private showings, meetings or functions.

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. This past summer, the Mayborn Science Theater underwent a second upgrade to further enhance show capabilities and offerings.

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 the first scheduled show. The administrative office is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, at 6200 W. Central Texas Expressway, Killeen.

Call 254-526-1800 for the show schedule or go to www.starsatnight.org for more information.

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AREA CHURCHES

ADVENTIST

- Iglesia Adventista
3705 Zephyr Rd., K 394-9980
- 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 Getsemane 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



Maria Davis examines a wreath for sale at the Lord's Acre fundraising event at Nolanville First United Methodist Church on Dec. 2.

- 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 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

- Agape Church of God in Christ 3716 E. Veterans Mem. Blvd, Suite C, K 690-6147
- Bibleway Church of God in Christ 300 Jasper Rd, K 213-9134
- 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 Bethal 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 542-7042
- 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

CONTINUED

AREA CHURCHES

- Kempner United Methodist Church Hwy 190, Kempner 512-932-3011
- 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

NONDENOMINATIONAL

- 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 Reconciliation 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
- Iglecia 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 Commandment 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 Ministries 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
- ## 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
- Iglecia 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 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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City 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, intermediate 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.



Logan Keith plays at Lions Club 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 like

yoga, 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's 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 screened-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.

Pools, aquatic parks offer ways to keep cool in summer

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 multiuse pool also features a 25-meter lap pool (one-half the size of an Olympic pool) and has three water slides. This center is closed until Memorial Day Weekend 2019. For more information, call Julianna Baxter, aquatics supervisor, at 254-501-6537 or call 254-501-6388.

Long Branch Pool is closed until Memorial Day Weekend 2019. The pool is at 1101 Branch Drive. Call 254-690-SWIM.

Junior Service League Spray Pad is closed until Spring 2019. The spray pad is at 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

Belton splash pad season runs from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Harris Community Park offers a splash pad, 312 N. Alexander St.

South Wall Tiger Park splash pad, 1895 S. Wall St.

For more information, call the Parks



Children swim at the Long Branch Pool on Branch Drive in North Killeen. The pool reopens in May.

and Recreation Department at 254-933-2469 or 254-933-5860.

FORT HOOD

All swimming pools on Fort Hood are authorized for use by all active duty, National Guard and Reservist, retired military, family members and Department of Defense 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, at the intersection of 24th Street and Tank Destroyer Boulevard, Building 5774. Call 254-285-5837.

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.

The city's **Splash Park** is in Raby Park at 910 Bridge St. Call 254-865-4012.

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.

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 at Building 49010 Clear Creek Road at Fort Hood and



Jeff Achee, left, shows Christian Marrero how to approach a bowling lane.

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 those who participate in Special Olympics often say the fun, camaraderie and good-spirited compe-

tition helps the young athletes make friends and develop better social skills. 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."

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 annual Rodeo Killeen is 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 is special demonstrations and performances.

More information can be obtained at RodeoKilleen.com.



Steer wrestler T.J. Hall grabs a steer by the horns at the Killeen Rodeo.

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.

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.

GATESVILLE

The annual Gatesville Riding Club Rodeo is 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.

Central Texas college sports programs offer lots of action

For those who love college football, Central Texas is a place that offers 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 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.



Corey Manson transfers a fish to a net after reeling it in at a pond off Yowell Road in Killeen.

Area offers many places to hunt, fish

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 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.

SPORTS & RECREATION



Consecration Service.....9:15 a.m.
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Senior Ministry (3rd Saturday).....12:00 noon

Wednesday Worship Service
(Following 3rd Sunday) 7:00 p.m.

Music Ministry.....Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Youth Choir.....Saturday 12:00 noon

Jail Ministry (2nd & 5th Saturday).....10:00 a.m.
Evangelism (3rd Saturday).....10:00 a.m.
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Aim to improve skills at gun ranges

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.

KILLEEN

The Gun Range, 2401 Fort Hood Street in Killeen, is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The cost ranges from \$30 to \$35 an hour depending on the type of firearm. Firearm rentals also vary between \$15 and \$25. An annual membership is available at three various packages ranging from \$35 a month to \$59 a month.

The facility includes 12 handgun lanes, four rifle lanes, a state-of-the-art simulator, a TV lounge of live feed of those shooting in the handgun range, a snack bar, a retail section and on-duty gunsmith. Sign-up is available in-person or online for classes including license to carry, beginning to advance handgun proficiencies and rifle reloading.

For those looking to protect their homes, a home defense course is available. The three-day class educates about gun safety and proper shooting. It includes an in-home evaluation of various ways to protect a house.

For those looking to become more comfortable before using a gun, the simulation room allows customers to use a .40-caliber or AR-15 rifle with the internals removed and replaced with the digitally compatible magazine. With the simulator, an instructor will teach the proper way to hold a firearm and shoot and will run customers through scenarios to learn when it is necessary to shoot.

One-on-one instruction also is available.

Mountain Creek Gun Range, 205 Mountain Creek Road in Killeen, is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and

Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays the facility is available for special events or by appointment only. Mountain Creek Range is an indoor facility with 20 lanes and offer NRA and LTC classes.

Gun and ammo sales are done on site and rentals are available. An all day shooting pass is \$15 and there is special pricing available for active duty military, veterans and Texas law shield members. For more information, call 254-312-0243.

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

EJ 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.



Stonetree Golf Club in Killeen can accommodate golfers of all abilities with four sets of tees.

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 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.

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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 celebrate 10 years of hockey in Cedar Park

The Texas Stars currently started their 10th season of play in the American Hockey League at the beginning of October.

After going 38-24 in the 2017-2018 season and losing in the Pacific Division finals, the Stars opened this season with 3-1 victory over the Grand Rapids Griffins. The opening day win pushes the Stars to a perfect 10-0-0-0 in home openers in franchise history.

In 2013-2014 the Stars 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. 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.

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 also provides streaming coverage of selected events and meetings via Facebook Live, increasing reader accessibility and engagement.

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.

NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Earlier this year, 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.

The Herald's deputy managing editor for opinion was honored as the Star Opinion Writer of the Year, for out-

standing editorials, among newspapers in the Herald's circulation category.

The submitted entries also were recognized by the Headliners Association of Texas with the Charles E. Green award, presented annually to the best opinion writer statewide.

The Herald also won top honors from APME for its 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.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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.

The Herald also serves the public with a wide variety of special publications, including newcomers guides, football season previews, election guides and back-to-school sections. Earlier this month, the Herald published a special section dedicated to the military's 17-year involvement in Afghanistan, and the soldiers who have served in the conflict.

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.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Herald's community involvement goes far beyond providing residents with informative and entertaining publications.

The newspaper also regularly sponsors political forums — as it has twice

this year. The Herald also sponsors regular job fairs.

For the past decade, the Herald has also sponsored a well-attended bridal show featuring more than 40 vendors.

DIGITAL OFFERINGS

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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MORTGAGE

Land Exchange Abstract & Title
3201 E Stan Schlueter Lp
Killeen, TX 76542
www.landexchangetitle.com
254-634-2227.....89

SWBC Mortgage
4524 S W S Young Dr Suite 101
Killeen, TX 76542
www.swbcmortgage.com
254-634-2822.....Back Cover

PET CARE & SERVICES

Cherished Memories
1613 S Fort Hood St
Killeen, TX 76542
facebook.com/pages/cherished-memorie-petcremnt-service
254-317-7099.....57

Killeen Veterinary Clinic
1321 Pershing Dr
Killeen, TX 76541
www.killeenvetclinic.com
254-634-0242.....15

PET CARE & SERVICES (CONT'D)

Stagecoach Pet Hospital
4826 Stagecoach Dr Suite 300
Killeen, TX 76542
www.stagecoachpet.com
254-200-2790.....101

REAL ESTATE & RENTALS

Brown's Temporary Apartments
www.brownstempapts.com
254-634-8554.....109

Elm Grove Estates
1704 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Killeen, TX 76543
www.elmgrovemhc.com
254-690-3838.....41

Hunter Rentals
1503 W Stan Schlueter Lp
Killeen, TX 76549
www.hunterrentals.com
254-634-3311.....37

JWC Rental Homes & Property Management
3800 S W S Young Dr Suite 101
Killeen, TX 76542
www.jwc rentals.com
254-526-5921.....25

Linneman Realty
3402 S W S Young Dr
Killeen, TX 76542
www.linnemannrealty.com
254-628-9272.....27

RE/MAX First Choice
4524 S W S Young Dr Suite 103
Killeen, TX 76542
firstchoicetexas-realtors.com
254-699-4990.....7

Rinehart Real Estate Inspection Services
445 E Central Texas Expy
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.realestateinspection.net
254-690-1186.....17

RECREATION & LEISURE

Salado Museum and College Park
423 S Main St
Salado, TX 76571
www.saladomuseum.org
254-947-5232.....108

RECREATION & LEISURE (CONT'D)

Temple Railroad and Heritage Museum
315 W Avenue B
Temple, TX 76501
www.templerrhm.org
254-298-5172.....101

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

LoneStar eBikes
560 N Main St #1
Salado, TX 76571
www.lonestarebikes.com
254-947-3969.....97

RECYCLING

City of Killeen Recycling
111 E Ave F
Killeen, TX 76541
killeentexas.gov/public_works
254-554-7572.....101

RESTAURANTS

Texas Steak Express
5304 W Elms Rd Suite 101
Killeen, TX 76549
www.steakexpress.com
254-554-5577.....24

SERVICES

Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home
1615 S Ft Hood St
Killeen, TX 76542
www.dignitymemorial.com
254-212-4008.....27

Fence USA
2406 Aycock Blvd Suite A
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.fenceusaco.com
254-698-1481.....109

SOLAR ENERGY

Solar Centex
1901 E FM 2410
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.solarcentex.com
254-393-1340.....69

SPECIALTY STORES

Crossroads to Texas Quilt Guild
208 W Cardinal Ln
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.facebook.com/CTTQG/
254-699-6271.....108

Kirbo's Office System
617 E Veterans Memorial Blvd
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.kirbos.com
254-526-6182.....108

Pink Tulips Cakery
Harker Heights, TX
www.pinktulipscakery.com
254-598-5318.....57

Quality Quilts by Laura
Harker Heights, TX
www.qualityquiltsbylaura.com
254-681-8239.....43

The Band Room
212 W Veterans Memorial Blvd
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.thebandroomtx.com
254-699-2263.....110

Wells Laundry
404 Indian Trail
Harker Heights, TX 76548
www.wellslaundry.com
254-699-5615.....27

TATTOO SHOP

Precisely Veiled Tattoo
4100 Mesa Dr
Killeen, TX 76542
www.preciselyveiledtattoo.com
254-213-9896.....17

TAX PREPARATION

John Lister
2420 E Business 190
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
www.johnlister.com
254-547-0773.....111

Lillie Agüero and Associates
620 S Gray St
Killeen, TX 76541
www.laguero-taxpro.com
254-554-8736.....110

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SWBC Mortgage Corporation
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Cell: 254.289.56261
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