



Breckenridge Fire Chief Malcolm Bufkin talks to the City Commission at their meeting Tuesday, April 1 regarding the current situation with the fire station.

Photo/Alex Kielar

City mulls over options for new fire station

Alex Kielar
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While everyone is on the same page regarding the Breckenridge Fire Department needing an upgrade to the current fire station, the city commission is split on how to move forward.

A decision will soon be made on whether to demolish the existing building and construct a completely new metal building on the remaining slab, construct a new metal building on the same property but leave the empty building or renovate the existing building.

A lengthy discussion regarding the next step for the fire station phasing was had during the commission's meeting Tuesday, April 1.

Phase one was completed last month, which involved placing temporary living quarters on the parking lot north of the fire station.

While the fire department sees a noticeable upgrade in their living quarters with the temporary building, they pleaded with the city commission for a new building to be erected and were adamant that the current building should be demolished.

A major concern is that if a new building is erected without demolishing the old building, it would sit there and deteriorate and cause potential other issues.

City staff created an ad hoc committee to come up with solutions for addressing the fire station and after further discussion, had requested commissioners to obtain a feasibility study to get more definitive information on the condition of the existing fire station and the cost to remodel.

Gary Baker & Associates

(GBA) completed the feasibility study and estimated a remodel price at \$1,182,134 and the engineered new building at \$2,221,524. With the city adding 10% for architecture/engineering and 35% for contingency, which wasn't added by GBA, the remodel price was estimated at \$1,714,094 and the new building at \$1,423,419. One of the biggest is-

See Fire station, Page 3

One transported after two-vehicle wreck



A two-vehicle wreck occurred at approximately 12:30 p.m. Monday, April 7 on Industrial Loop in front of Woodland Village Apartments. There were no serious injuries reported. However, one person was transported to Stephens Memorial Hospital. A horse being carried in the horse trailer pictured also sustained minor injuries.

Photo/Alex Kielar



With a portion of US 180 currently having sidewalks, the city is hoping to add more in helping to create alternate modes of transportation.

Photo/Alex Kielar

City seeks grant for sidewalk project

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While there are certain areas with sidewalks that create alternative ways to get around than just driving in Breckenridge, the city is looking to expand upon that.

The Transportation

Alternatives (TA) program has funded local project sponsors for planning projects, including sidewalks, on- and off-street bikeways, shared use paths and other non-motorized safety infrastructure for communities throughout Texas.

While the funding normally covers 80% with local government paying 20%, Breckenridge qualifies for Transportation Development Credits (TDC) which would cover them at 100%.

With a detailed ap-

See Sidewalk, Page 2

FCCLA taking 12 to state contest

Staff Report
editor@breckenridgeamerican.com

The Breckenridge High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) will be competing in contests Thursday, April 10 through Saturday, April 12 at the FCCLA State Leadership Conference in Dallas.

To get to the state competition, those 12 girls competed Friday, Feb. 28, in the Region II FCCLA competition in Waco and performed well enough to advance.

"The FCCLA students worked diligently to prepare since prior to Christmas and then really worked hard after the Christmas break," FCCLA Adviser Deborah Parker said. "Their hard work paid off with all

See FCCLA, Page 2

Weekly Local Forecast

Wednesday, April 9
High 91 | Low 55
Precipitation 0%

Thursday, April 10
High 87 | Low 52
Precipitation 2%

Friday, April 11
High 84 | Low 58
Precipitation 2%

Saturday, April 12
High 92 | Low 65
Precipitation 0%

Classifieds 6-7
Entertainment 7
Obituaries 2

Opinion 4-5
Sports 8

Sunday, April 13
High 97 | Low 67
Precipitation 0%

Monday, April 14
High 83 | Low 57
Precipitation 1%

Tuesday, April 15
High 81 | Low 56
Precipitation 2%

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Obituaries



Amber (Dickenson) Stoker

March 4, 1981 – March 30, 2025

Amber Stoker, age 44 of Breckenridge, passed away Sunday, March 30, 2025. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 5 at Bethany Baptist Church with Rev. Don Bearden and Will Thompson officiating. Visitation will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 4 at Morehart Mortuary.

Amber Nichole Dickenson was born March 4, 1981 in Midland to parents Ronald Dickenson and Rebecca Lambert Dickenson. She attended schools in Breckenridge and was a proud member of the Breckenridge High School class of 1999. Amber worked in home healthcare, serving many members of the community throughout the years. Most recently, she began working at The Woodlands Assisted Living in Eastland as the HR Director. She loved spending time with her family and friends, especially her children. She also enjoyed cooking and making big messy meals for her loved ones. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Delbert and Willadean Dickenson, James Rhodes, and Martha Horelica.

Amber is survived by her three children, Addison Dickenson-Stoker, Aryn Stoker and Abygail Stoker; her parents, Ronny Dickenson and Becky Lambert Dickenson; her sister, Cassy Peacock and husband Preston; niece and nephews, Preslea Leath and husband Wylie, Ethan Peacock, Ayden Peacock; partner, Gary Sullivan; and many friends.

Memorials may be made to The Woodlands Assisted Living and may be left at Morehart Mortuary. Condolences may be made online at www.morehartmortuary.net.

FCCLA

Continued from Page 1

of the students advancing in their chosen area.”

Gabby Smith and Kasey Walker will be participating in the Level 2 Professional Presentation contest. The pair presented a discussion about Red Dye 40 at the regional contest.

Also competing in the Level 2 Professional

al Presentation contest are Alana Williams and Brenna Groene, who presented a discussion about Technology and Children at the regional contest.

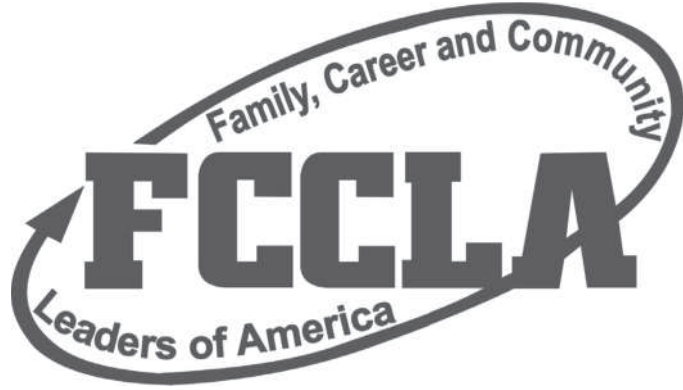
Kelsie Brazile and Emily Morin will compete in the Level 2 Focus on Children contest. The team presented their Pancakes with Santa project at the regional meet.

Emery Smith and Sylee Mitchell will compete in the Level 2 Sports Nutrition contest. They created a nutritional plan for a BHS softball player and presented that plan at the regional meet.

Participating in the Level 2 Texas Cupcake Presentation, an individual event, are Madai Alvarado, Kendra Palacios, and Melissa Palacios.

Gillian Wood will be competing in the Level 2 Texas Toys That Teach competition.

Parker said, “We wish these girls great success.”

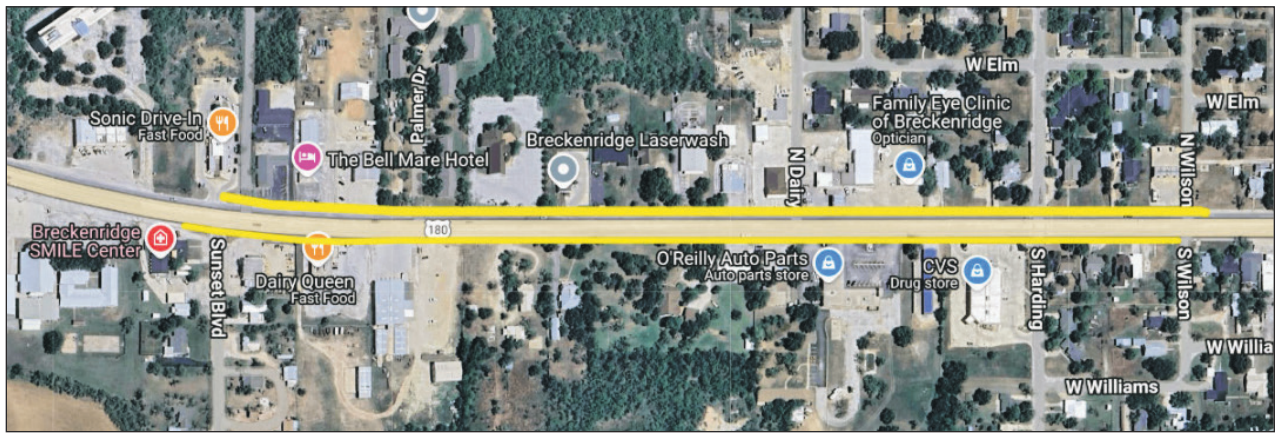


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The City of Breckenridge will be submitting a detailed application in June for the potential implementation of sidewalks and ADA accessibility on both the north and south sides of US 180. This map shows the area TXDOT is proposing for the sidewalks, going from Sunset Blvd to Wilson St.

Contributed photo

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Sidewalk

Continued from Page 1

plication due in June, the city is planning on submitting one for the implementation of sidewalks and ADA accessibility, on both the north and south side of US 180 from Sunset Blvd to Wilson St.

The current cost estimate is approximately \$2.4 million according to the project overview. The city will have resolution of support for the project on the May agenda, and if their application moves forward by TXDOT Commission in October,

they will need another resolution stating that the city would assume responsibility for over-ages of the project.

City Manager Cynthia Northrop said that there is an estimated 95% chance that the city will be selected to move forward with the application. However, she also said that there is only an estimated 20% chance that the project will actually get funded.

“There’s just a lot of people that are applying for funds and there’s not enough money,” Northrop said. “[TXDOT is] doing a lot of the work in submitting

the applications, so we will keep you posted on that.”

The city will need to get letters of support from businesses and community members to submit with the detailed application in June.

“We definitely do need sidewalks out there, so businesses would of course support that,” Northrop said.

The city manager noted that TXDOT picked the locations for the sidewalks and is trying to get sidewalks all along the main drag, especially in the most populated areas.

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Fire station

Continued from Page 1

sues with the current building is the roof, which still leaks after being repaired following the hailstorm in 2022. City Manager Cynthia Northrop said that in their discussions with GBA, they had told them that the roof had been newly repaired.

“So we did insurance cover reroofing the fire station. However, it’s a flat roof and there’s stuff in it that it’s still not good,” Northrop said. “It’s not that they didn’t do a good job, but it’s just a flat roof. There’s just going to be continual problems with that building.”

Assistant Fire Chief Wesley Turner spoke more about the roof, noting that it is not a completely flat roof, but a flat roof with a gable roof build in the middle of it.

“The wooden structure of that gable roof is bad. It has got siding on the side of it that’s bad, seams are open and anything that gets in the seams of the siding is going right underneath the roof,” Turner said. “There’s issues that they didn’t even look at. All around the edge of that building, 25-foot up, are cap stones... that are cracked completely through and no water lifter. So, at the same price, we haven’t addressed our main concern with the feasibility study, the envelope of the building.”

Breckenridge Fire

Chief Malcolm Bufkin said that what GBA is talking about with remodeling would not address the biggest problems with the building.

“It’s still going to leave the problem on top. It’s still going to be crumbling, moldy and it has still been leaking there for years,” Bufkin said. “It’s just basically going to seal the bottom floor; and then they said there’s going to be a maintenance cost to go with that. Every five years, we’re going to have to reseal that building. What kind of costs are involved with resealing the building every five years?”

Place 4 Commissioner Rob Durham was the lone commissioner at the meeting fully on board with the entirety of the proposed step 2, which was erecting a new building and demolishing the existing building.

“To cut to the chase, we just need a new building,” Durham said. “You can hang onto it, you can put lipstick on a pig, but in five years from now it’s still a pig... as much as it hangs on, it’s not safe for you guys from a health standpoint. When you start talking about mold, you start talking about all of this stuff.”

Durham talked about how giving the firefighters raises was something that was brought up to entice them to stick around to make for a higher retention rate.

“You give you guys a new place to stay, your morale is going to go through that new roof,” Durham said. “Then on top of that, you’re going to be on top of your game, because you’ve got new digs, you’ve got new equipment and now the city benefits from that morale.”

Place 1 Commissioner Blake Hamilton argued that a remodel isn’t totally off the table, as he said that the current building is “structurally sound” and could be saved. He was adamant about not demolishing the building if they were to erect a completely new one.

One argument he attempted to make was that people driving through town will not like the look of a metal building, but would be more enticed to stay if they see an old fire station.

After further discussion, Durham made the motion to move forward with the rebuild which would include a demolition of the current building. However, neither Hamilton or Place 2 Commissioner Greg Akers seconded the motion.

Further discussion was had and Akers pondered whether they could make another motion to erect a new building but take the demolition out. This came with much backlash from the fire department, police department and community members.

“If you get rid of that, then that area is cleared

out for possible future growth,” Durham said. “But if we don’t, you’ve got this structure there that we can pay homage to, knowing that it’s moldy and you’ve got possums spending the night in it.”

“I understand, and I came from a town that was founded in 1700, so history is an important part,” Police Chief Blake Johnson said. “But unfortunately, I can tell you that every building at one point or another got rebuilt under those guidelines... the people that are your best resource to go home at the end of the night are the guys that ultimately need a new place.”

One idea that was brought up by a community member was demolishing the building but keeping pieces of it and creating a monument of the old building to keep as a historic spot in the city.

The commission ultimately couldn’t agree on a conclusion to the discussion and tabled the action item for a special meeting within a week or two. Place 3 Commissioner Vince Moore was not at the meeting, so they will reconvene on this discussion at a time when all commissioners can be present.



The First Christian Church of Woodson will celebrate its heritage on Palm Sunday, March 13, with the unveiling of an historical marker. The regular service will be held at 11 a.m., a potluck meal at noon and the marker revelation at 1 p.m.

Contributed photo/Tacy Ellis

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The current Breckenridge Fire Station, with truck bays to the left, has been a hot button topic for the Breckenridge City Commission and they were split on what to do with it at last week’s meeting.

Photo/Alex Kielar

Property Tax Protest and Appeal Procedures

Property owners have the right to protest actions concerning their property tax appraisals. You may follow these appeal procedures if you have a concern about:

- your property’s appraised (market) value
- the unequal value of your property compared with other properties;
- your property’s inclusion on the appraisal records;
- any exemptions that may apply to you;
- qualification for an agricultural or timber appraisal;
- the taxing units taxing your property;
- the property’s ownership;
- the change of use of land receiving special appraisal;
- failure of the chief appraiser or appraisal review board (ARB) to send a required notice;
- the denial, modification or cancellation of the circuit breaker limitation on appraised value; or
- any action taken by the appraisal district or ARB that applies to and adversely affects you.

Informal Review

Please call, email or come by the appraisal district office to file a protest using the Texas Comptroller’s standard Form 50-132 (file:///C:/Users/Stephens/Downloads/50-132.pdf). Staff will contact taxpayers and attempt to settle each protest informally before advancing and scheduling the protest for the ARB.

Review by the ARB

If you cannot resolve your problem informally with the appraisal district, you have the right to have your case heard by the ARB.

The ARB is an independent board of citizens that hears and determines protests regarding property appraisals or other concerns listed above. It has the power to order the appraisal district to make the necessary changes based on evidence heard during the ARB hearing.

If you file a written request for an ARB hearing (notice of protest) before the deadline, the ARB will set your case for a hearing and send you written notice of the time, date, place and subject of the hearing. If necessary, you may request a hearing in the evening or on a Saturday. You may use Comptroller Form 50-132, *Property Appraisal - Notice of Protest*, to file your written request for an ARB hearing.

Prior to your hearing, you may request a copy of the evidence the appraisal district plans to introduce at the hearing to establish any matter at issue. Before a hearing on a protest or immediately after the hearing begins, you or your authorized representative and the appraisal district are required to provide each other with a copy of any materials (evidence) intended to be offered or submitted to the ARB at the hearing. Evidence may be submitted for any hearing type either in paper or on a small portable electronic device (such as a CD, USB flash drive or thumb drive) which will be kept by the ARB. Do NOT bring evidence on a smart phone. The ARB’s hearing procedures regarding all the requirements to properly submit evidence on a small portable electronic device must be reviewed.

To the greatest extent practicable, the hearing will be informal. You or your authorized representative may appear in person, by telephone conference or videoconference call or by submission of a written affidavit to present your evidence, facts and argument. You must indicate the type of hearing you request on your written notice of protest filed with the ARB not later than the 10th day before the hearing date and

provide your evidence and written affidavit before the ARB hearing begins. You may use Comptroller Form 50-283, *Property Owner’s Affidavit of Evidence to the Appraisal Review Board*, to submit evidence for your telephone or video conference call hearing or for hearing by affidavit.

You and the appraisal district representative have the opportunity to present evidence about your case. In most cases, the appraisal district has the burden of establishing the property’s value by a preponderance of the evidence presented.

In certain protests, the chief appraiser has the burden of proving the property’s value by clear and convincing evidence. You should review ARB hearing procedures to learn more about evidence and related matters.

You should not try to contact ARB members outside of the hearing. ARB members are required to sign an affidavit saying that they have not talked about your case before the ARB hears it.

If you believe that the ARB or chief appraiser failed to comply with an ARB procedural requirement, you may file a complaint with the local taxpayer liaison officer. If it is not resolved by the ARB or chief appraiser, you can request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or the chief appraiser to comply.

Review by the District Court, an Arbitrator or SOAH

After it decides your case, the ARB must send you a copy of its order by certified mail. If you are not satisfied with the ARB’s decision, you have the right to appeal to district court. As an alternative to district court, you may appeal through regular binding arbitration or the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) if you meet the qualifying criteria.

If you choose to go to district court, you must start the process by filing a petition with the district court within 60 days of the date you receive the ARB’s order. If you chose to appeal through regular binding arbitration, you must file a request for regular binding arbitration not later than the 60th day after you receive notice of the ARB order. Additional information on how to appeal through regular binding arbitration will be included with the ARB’s order of determination. If you chose to appeal to SOAH, you must file an appeal with the appraisal district not later than the 30th day after you receive notice of the ARB’s order. Appeals to district court, regular binding arbitration or SOAH all require payment of certain fees or deposits.

Tax Payment

You must pay the amount of taxes due on the portion of the taxable value not in dispute, the amount of taxes due on the property under the order from which the appeal is taken or the amount of taxes due in the previous year.

More Information

You can get more information by contacting your CAD at

*Stephens County Appraisal District
201 S Rose Ave.
Breckenridge, TX 76424
254-559-8233*

You can get Comptroller forms and additional information on how to prepare a protest from the Comptroller’s website at comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax.

Deadline for Filing Protests with the ARB*

Usual Deadline

Not later than May 15 (or within 30 days after a notice of appraised value was mailed to you, whichever is later).

Late protests are allowed for good cause if you miss the usual deadline. The ARB decides whether you have good cause. Late protests are not allowed after the ARB approves the appraisal records for the year.

Special Deadlines

For change of use (the appraisal district informed you that you are losing agricultural appraisal because you changed the use of your land), the deadline is not later than the 30th day after the notice of the determination was delivered to you.

*The deadline is postponed to the next business day if it falls on a weekend or legal, state or national holiday.

Stephens County Property Owners Should Soon Start Receiving Appraisal Notices for the 2025 Tax Year

You may soon receive an appraisal notice from the Stephens County Appraisal District. The appraisal district will mail about 32,000 appraisal notices on April 21, 2025. Your city, county, school district and other local taxing units will use the appraisal district’s value to set your 2025 property taxes.

Under Texas law, local appraisal districts must notify property owners about changes in their property’s value. The notice contains important information about the property’s location, ownership and property tax exemptions that apply to the property. It must also include a web address where tax information for the property can be found.

Property owners who disagree with their property’s appraised value, the exemptions or any other action by the appraisal district have the right to appeal to the Stephens County Appraisal Review Board (ARB). The ARB is an independent panel of citizens responsible for hearing and settling property owner protests.

The notice of appraised value includes instructions on how and when to file a protest, a protest form, a statement about the availability of an informal conference prior to attending a protest hearing and a copy of the Comptroller’s *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet*. The deadline for filing an ARB protest is May 15 or 30 days after your notice of appraised value was postmarked. The Comptroller’s publication, *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet*, explains in detail how to protest your property appraisal, what issues the ARB can consider and what to expect during a protest hearing. It also discusses the option to request limited binding arbitration to compel the ARB or chief appraiser to comply with a procedural requirement and the options of taking your case to district court, the State Office of Administrative Hearings or regular binding arbitration if you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your ARB hearing. The *Taxpayer Assistance Pamphlet* is available from the Stephens County Appraisal District at 201 S Rose Ave, Breckenridge, TX. The publication is also available on the Comptroller’s Property Tax Assistance Division’s website at www.comptroller.texas.gov/taxes/property-tax/.

Only constant is change...

The ballyhoo about “no free lunches” was first banded about in the 1880s and today, Southwest Airlines’ “bags fly free” death bell is on the verge of gonging.

Long known for allowing passengers to check two pieces of luggage “free,” SWA is altering its policy and there’s more story-spinning underway than a 10-year-old pulling the string from a new top.

Policy changes confuse mere mortals, but a couple of truths are emerging: SWA stockholders expect stronger returns on their investments, and the uniqueness of the “airline that LUV built” will occur again only when pigs fly, if then....

•••

Researching the “no

free lunches” thing is mind-boggling, but really nothing new. One 1880 come-on offered “free” lunches with alcohol purchases--IF enough of the devil’s brew was ordered. Asterisks explaining detailed restrictions have been with us forever.

Josephine Pollard’s poem “Somebody Pays”--written more than a century ago--seems to “fit” today as well, reading: “Free lunches, free passes, they have at command, Rich gifts that to others are lost, And gaily they feast on the fat of the land, And travel regardless of cost. But for all the fine banquets, The wear and the tear, Of public or private displays, Though you may go free, ‘tis as sure as can be, That somebody pays.”...

•••

I commend SWA story-spinners for their efforts to help the medicine go down.

The two best-known figures in SWA history--co-founder Herb Kelleher and Colleen Barrett, first woman president of a major airline--might have fought to the death for the “bags fly free” policy, working into the night until their eyes either crossed and/or had bags under them. But, circumstances change. Sadly, the current “hub-bub” is symbolic of our overall cultural funk: Instead of “something special in the air,” we’re gripped by “something dismal in despair.” Oh, ‘tis true, ‘tis true.

SWA social media folks are churning out messages at warp speed for damage con-



Don Newbury

The Idle American

trol. No doubt, they preferred bygone days when their aim was to keep SWA in the news and off the front page. I still consider it the airline of choice, as long as my SWA credit card allows me to check one bag free. (It’ll be packed to the last ounce.)....

•••

All this airline stuff lead me to aviation research once more. I’ve

See Newbury, Page 5

Ask Rusty: When is the best time for me to claim Social Security?

Dear Rusty: I will be 66 ½ in June and would like to discuss when would be the best time for me to start taking my social security benefits. I am still employed full time and don’t want to be penalized because of that. Please let me know what I need to do to set up an appointment with you. I got your information from the AMAC website, and I look forward to hearing from you. **Signed: Ready to Claim**

Dear Ready: You can certainly call us on 1.888.750.2622 during normal EST business hours for a personal conversation. But to facilitate that conversation, be aware that deciding when to claim your Social Security benefit normally depends on just a few factors, including your financial need, your health and expected longevity, and your marital status. A few things to be aware of:

- Born in 1958, your “full retirement age” is age 66 years and 8 months. If you were born in October 1958, you will reach you FRA in June 2025, and that is the point you can get 100% of the SS benefit you’ve earned from a lifetime of working.

- Once you reach your FRA in June, Social Security’s “annual earnings test” no longer applies. Thus, you can continue working after you start your SS benefits and your earnings will not negatively affect your monthly benefit amount. If you claim any earlier than your FRA, you will get a smaller benefit and also be subject to Social Security’s annual earnings test (which for you this year - your FRA year - is \$62,160, or \$5,180/month after you start your SS benefits). If you decide to claim before



Russell Gloor

Social Security Matters

your FRA, your benefit will be reduced by .556% for each month early (a permanent reduction).

- You can also wait beyond your FRA to claim and earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs) at the rate of .667% per month (8% per year of delay), in order to get an even higher benefit later. If financially feasible, you can delay up to the age of 70 when your monthly benefit will reach maximum - about 27% more than it will be in June of this year.

- If you are single and will not be eligible for a spousal benefit, then you should make your claiming decision based only on your own needs. If, however, you are married and your spouse’s FRA benefit is more than twice your FRA amount, you may be entitled to a “spousal boost” (a supplemental amount added to your own SS benefit).

- Your life expectancy should be considered when deciding when to claim your SS retirement benefits. If you expect to enjoy at least “average” longevity (about 87 for a woman your current age), then you might also consider delaying your claim (if financially feasible) and that is often a prudent choice. If you don’t expect to achieve a long life, or if you need the money sooner, or if you are entitled to spousal benefits, then claiming at your FRA of 66 years and 8 months is like-

See Matters, Page 5

Does Texas need more veterinarians? It depends.

At the committee’s request, the president of the Texas Veterinary Medical Association (TVMA) laid out the profession’s top issues before the House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock on March 4.

Don Ferrill, DVM, cautioned the panel that many bills backed by Wall Street concerns “will rest upon a faulty premise—that there is a massive shortage of veterinarians in Texas and across the country.”

Expert data, he said, “simply does not bear this out.” Demand for office visits is trending downward, and 13 new veterinary colleges are being planned across

the country. Those are reasons, Dr. Ferrill explained, for the committee to reject proposals that could water down the quality of care delivered to Texas pets and large animals.

Where Texas likely needs more veterinarians, Dr. Ferrill said, is in rural areas and along the border as well as in large animal and food animal practice. He praised the Texas Legislature for previous years’ investments in the new Texas Tech University School of Veterinary Medicine and in expanding the class size at the Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine. Both schools are



recruiting and graduating veterinarians to fill the need.

“Given that the food animal industry—mostly cattle—contributes nearly \$15 billion a year to Texas’ GDP, your targeted investment in veterinarians dedicated to this piece of our economy is significant and very much appreciated,” he said.

Dr. Ferrill said the legislature can further

that progress by appropriating \$5 million to the Rural Veterinarian Incentive Program.

“This loan repayment program ... allows new graduates to pursue their ambitions in large and food animal medicine, even if they could pay off their substantial student loans more easily in a small animal clinic in Houston or Dallas,” he said.

Dr. Ferrill recommended the legislature direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct an updated study of the veterinary workforce in Texas, last done in 2016.

“Now is a good time to examine where those new veterinarians [from Texas Tech and Texas A&M] are going and how they are affecting those communities,” he said.

Other recommendations Texas veterinarians have for the legislature include:

Not diluting the important public health

See Vets, Page 5

The Breckenridge American offers local readers an opportunity to share their opinions on community topics and issues of public importance. Mail or deliver letters to the office at 114 E. Elm Street in Breckenridge, or e-mail letters to editor@breckenridgeamerican.com. The deadline is 5 p.m. Friday for the midweek edition. Letters that do not meet the deadline will not be printed in the paper. Letters must be submitted by the author/signee, and not by a third-party on behalf of the author/signee. Letters must contain the author’s first name, last name, complete address, and telephone number. Only the writer’s name and title of the letter, as appropriate, will be published with the letter. Names cannot be withheld. Letters from any candidate who is actively running for any political office will not be published. Writers may submit letters of up to 500 words. Letters are not guaranteed to be published in the next edition, but every effort to do so will be made. Unverified letters and letters containing personal attacks the newspaper deems to be of a libelous nature will not be published. In any event, the newspaper reserves the sole discretion to decide whether or not a reader submission will be published. All letters and columns featured on the Opinion Page are the views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Breckenridge American.

Breckenridge American

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Newbury

Continued from Page 4

learned that the first motor-powered flight faced the prospect of splashing down rather than gliding in, since Kitty Hawk, NC, is in fact on an island.

The Wright brothers' first "flight" spanned 120 feet and finished 12 seconds later, having attained an altitude of eight feet!

Taking turns in the pilot's seat, Wilbur and Orville completed a total of four flights on that December day in 1903, the final one climbing to 20 feet and measuring almost a thousand feet. Alas, the plane sustained damage each flight, winding up on the scrap heap at day's end....

•••

Further, I learned about Brown County aviation history. I lived there for 40 years, remembering four flights daily by Trans Texas Airways, its DC-3 "blue goose" flying over our farm home in the 1950s.

Planes flew there as early as 1913. The postal department approved "Route Number 650.003, 'aeroplane' mail service between Brownwood and Comanche," 25 miles away, during the four-day "Brownwood Free Fall Fair" in October,

1913. Katherine Stinson, then the world's youngest aviator, carried passengers "up into the clouds" for \$25. (Free Fall?)

Numerous airlines served Brownwood for some four decades, ending in the late 1980s when government subsidies helping remote airports to attract scheduled airline service dried up. For about 20 years, Trans Texas Airways' flight schedules included daily service from Brownwood to San Angelo and Dallas. Later, the company name changed to Texas International Airlines. Still, playful TTA monikers abounded, including "tree-top airlines, tinker toy airlines and trick-or-treat airlines" (a trick to get on and a treat to get off).

One last thing: Rumor has it that some Southwest Airlines flight attendants are claiming "at least we didn't fire Luka."....

•••

Dr. Newbury, longtime university president, continues to write and speak. The Idle American, begun in 2003, is Texas' longest-running syndicated column. Contact: 817-447-3872. Email: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Audio version at speakerdoc.com.

Vets

Continued from Page 4

work of the Texas Animal Health Commission by expanding its mission to include programs for household pets, especially when the agency is engaged in protecting the public from animal-borne diseases such as Highly Pathogenic Avian In-

fluenza.

Expanding the resources available to the Veterinary Emergency Team at Texas A&M to better prepare Texas for the animal aspects of disaster response.

Examining the recent 75% increase in Texas veterinarians'

annual license fees.

About the Texas Veterinary Medical Association

Founded in 1903, the Texas Veterinary Medical Association is a professional association composed of more than 5,400 veterinarians and support staff committed to protecting

public health, promoting high educational, ethical and moral standards within the veterinary profession and educating the public about animal health and its relationship to human health. For more information, call 512-452-4224 or go to www.tvma.org.

Matters

Continued from Page 4

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al questions via email, which we will be most happy to respond to promptly.

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Breckenridge Devotional Page

1. Is the book of Haggai (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Where does Jesus speak of separating the sheep from the goats? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
3. Who told Saul that rebellion was as bad as witchcraft? Moloch, Mamath, Marduk, Samuel
4. From Proverbs 18, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth ..." Himself, Life, Good thing, Family
5. How old was Moses when he died? 100, 120, 160, 190
6. How many sons did Judah have? 3, 5, 6, 12

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Matthew (25:31-33), 3) Samuel, 4) Good thing, 5) 120, 6) 12

FEATURES FROM THE BIBLE
 TRUTH IN SCRIPTURE

Abram and Lot
 Genesis 13

The famine that sent Abram from Canaan to Egypt was over so Abram returned to Negev with his wife and his nephew, Lot, and everything he had. Abram was wealthy with livestock, silver and gold.

They continued to Bethel and on to the area between Bethel and Ai, where he had previously built an altar. There Abram called on the name of the Lord.

Lot also had flocks and herds and the land would not support both families. Quarreling arose between Abram's herdsmen and Lot's herdsmen. There were also the Canaanites and Perizzites living in the lands.

Being a peacemaker, Abram suggested that he and Lot part company. He gave Lot the privilege of choosing which part of the land he would take.

Lot chose the land near Sodom because it appeared to be more fertile. Abram continued to live in the less fertile land of Canaan.



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- ASSEMBLY OF GOD**
Christian Fellowship Church
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 Tom Moore, Min.
- La Hermosa Assembly of God**
 909 Jeanette St., 254-559-7329
 Raul Duran, Min.
- BAPTIST**
Bethany Baptist
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- Bethel Baptist**
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- New Hope Baptist #3**
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- Church of Christ**
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- Church of Christ**
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- Albany Church of Christ**
 417 N. Main Street, 325-762-2078
 Russell Scott, Minister
- Eliasville Church of Christ**
 Eliasville - Norman Carpenter, Min.
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Real Church
 515 N. Graham Ave., W.S. 10:30 a.m.

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 1612 Hwy. 180 E, 254-559-3600
 Dr. Craig Smeed, Lead Pastor
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- River of Life Fellowship**
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- The Ridge Cowboy Church @ Lakeside**
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Bucks place 2nd, Lady Bucks 3rd at District 8-3A track meet

Alex Kiehar
news@breckenridgeamerican.com

The Bucks and Lady Bucks each had a successful two days at the District 8-3A meet held in Dublin last week at Bob and Norma Cervet-Stadium.

After all was said and done, the Bucks came out as district runners-up and the Lady Bucks earned a third place finish.

The preliminary races, 3200-meter finals and some field events occurred Wednesday, April 2 to start the district meet, before the completion of field events and running finals Thursday, April 3.

With 161 points, the Bucks were only behind Peaster, who scored 179 points.

A notable mark was in the discus throw, where Douglas White set a PR on both his first and second throw.

The junior's second throw of 129'-2" was a 12-foot PR, according to assistant coach Jarrod Shepperd.

"My kids, they work hard every day, they show up every day and they give me all they got," boys head track coach Mark Young said.

The Lady Bucks

scored 99 points, behind Early's 108 points and Comanche's 149 points.

Freshman Kamden Tidwell represented well, winning the pole vault, triple jump and 400-meter dash, as well as being the lead leg of the 4x400-meter Relay relay team, which placed second with a time of 4:13.78.

"I am beyond proud of our athletes and the incredible work ethic and grit that they continue to display," girls head track coach Valerie Williams said. "They continue to push their limits as athletes and demonstrate what it looks like to be resilient, pushing through physical and mental challenges to achieve their personal bests."

The Bucks had area qualifiers in all but two events, only missing out on the long jump and 110-meter hurdles.

The top four finishers of each event qualified for the area meet to take place Thursday, April 10 in Graham.

The Lady Bucks qualified for area in 12 of their 17 events.

Boys Team Results

1. Peaster: 179
2. Breckenridge: 161

3. Eastland: 90
4. Comanche: 69
5. Tolar: 67
6. Early: 42
7. Dublin: 14
8. Millsap: 8

Buckaroos Results

3200-meter Run: *3. Chance Stewart, 10:18.77; 5. Gabriel Garcia, 10:50.67; 8. Kasen Ferguson, 11:15.09

4x100-meter Relay: *4. Breckenridge (Kennet Medina, Lesavier Gutierrez, Truett Trammel, Glen Thibodeaux), 44.51

800-meter Run: *1. Chance Stewart, 2:03.61; *3. Carlos Alvarado, 2:06.73; 7. Adrian Saucedo, 2:18.27 (PR)

110-meter Hurdles: 5. Slayden Young, 17.43

100-meter Dash: *2. Glen Thibodeaux, 11.18

4x200-meter Relay: *3. Breckenridge (Kennet Medina, Glen Thibodeaux, Truett Trammel, Sawyer Wimberley), 1:33.37

400-meter Dash: *2. Carlos Alvarado, 51.58; *4. Ryan Waller, 51.86; 6. Cameron David, 55.40

300-meter Hurdles: *2. Slayden Young, 41.79; 8. John Sackett, 47.15

200-meter Dash: *1. Sawyer Wimberley, 22.13

1600-meter Run: *3. Chance Stewart, 4:47.19; 5. Gabriel Garcia, 4:58.80; 7. Kasen Ferguson, 5:07.43

4x400-meter Relay: *1. Breckenridge (Slayden Young, Carlos Alvarado, Truett Trammel, Sawyer Wimberley), 3:29.07

High Jump: *2. Ryan Waller, 5-10

Pole Vault: *4. Cameron David, 11-6; 5. Emilio Castorena, 11-6; 6. Slayden Young, 11-0

Long Jump: 14. Lesavier Gutierrez, 17-10.75

Triple Jump: *4. Andrew White, 40-5.75

Discus: *2. Douglas White, 129-2; 5. Nathan Roberts, 124-9; 6. Christian Flores, 123-5

Shot Put: *2. Christian Flores, 44-10; *3. Brandon Niblett, 42-5; *4. Douglas White, 42-4.50

See Track, Page 8



Freshman Kamden Tidwell won three events at the District 8-3A meet, including the 400-meter dash in the running finals and two field events – the pole vault and triple jump. Tidwell was also the lead leg in the 4x400 relay team which placed second in the meet.

Photo/Alex Kiehar



Douglas White set a personal record in the discus throw with a mark of 129'-2" to place second in the event and qualify for the area meet Thursday, April 10 in Graham.

Photo/Alex Kiehar



Carlos Alvarado takes the baton from Slayden Young during the first exchange of the 4x400 race, in which the Bucks won as the final event Thursday, April 3 of the District 8-3A meet.

Photo/Alex Kiehar

CHAMBER CORNER




SCAN ME 

MISS Breckenridge PAGEANT

THE CROWNING OF NEW MISS BRECKENRIDGE

Date: SATURDAY, MAY 3
Venue: TRADE BARN
Time: TBD

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO COME



APPLICATIONS ARE READY FOR PICK UP AT THE CHAMBER OFFICE

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ORDINANCE NO. 2025-02

ORDENANZA NO. 2025-02

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 3, 2025 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS: CITY COMMISSIONERS, PLACE NOS. 3 AND 4, IN THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS.

UNA ORDENANZA QUE ESTABLECE QUE SE CELEBRARÁN ELECCIONES GENERALES EL 3 DE MAYO DE 2025 CON EL PROPÓSITO DE ELEGIR A LOS SIGUIENTES FUNCIONARIOS: COMISIONADOS DE LA CIUDAD, LUGAR NO. 3 Y 4, EN LA CIUDAD DE BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS:

LO ESTÁ ORDENADO POR LA COMISIÓN DE CIUDAD DE CIUDAD DE BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS.

Section 1. An election is hereby called to be held in the City of Breckenridge, Texas, on May 3, 2025, (being the first Saturday in May), for the purpose of electing City Commissioners, Place Nos. 3 and 4.

Sección 1. Por la presente se convoca a una elección que se llevará a cabo en la ciudad de Breckenridge, Texas, el 3 de mayo de 2025 (siendo el primer sábado de mayo), con el propósito de elegir a los comisionados de la ciudad, lugares 3 y 4.

Section 2. Said election shall be called and held as provided by the Charter of the City of Breckenridge and applicable laws pertaining thereto.

Sección 2. Dicha elección se convocará y llevará a cabo según lo dispuesto por la Carta Constitutiva de la Ciudad de Breckenridge y las leyes aplicables correspondientes.

Section 3. Candidates for Commissioner, in order to get their names on the official ballot, must proceed as follows: File a sworn application between the following dates: January 15 through February 14, 2025, with the City Secretary (as prescribed by Section 141.031 of the Texas Election Laws).

Sección 3. Los candidatos a Comisionado, para que sus nombres aparezcan en la boleta oficial, deben proceder de la siguiente manera: Presentar una solicitud jurada entre las siguientes fechas: del 15 de enero al 14 de febrero de 2025, ante el Secretario de la Ciudad (según lo prescrito por la Sección 141.031 de las Leyes Electorales de Texas).

Section 4. Said election shall be conducted and results canvassed and announced by the election authorities as prescribed by the general election laws of the State of Texas.

Sección 4. Dicha elección se llevará a cabo y los resultados serán escrutados y anunciados por las autoridades electorales según lo prescrito por las leyes electorales generales del Estado de Texas.

Section 5. The City Commission of the City of Breckenridge hereby adopts the use of the ES&S Express Vote Voter Assist Terminal V1.0.121 (to comply with the requirements of Section 301 (a)(3)(B) of the Help America Vote Act) for regular election day and early voting by personal appearance. The Express Vote is an optical scan ballot marking system. The City Commission of the City of Breckenridge also adopts the use of optical scan ballots for regular and early voting by personal appearance and by mail.

Sección 5. La Comisión de la Ciudad de Breckenridge adopta por la presente el uso de la Terminal de Asistencia al Votante de Voto Exprés de ES&S V1.0.121 (para cumplir con los requisitos de la Sección 301 (a)(3)(B) de la Ley de Ayuda a América a Votar) para el día regular de las elecciones y la votación anticipada por comparecencia personal. El Voto Exprés es un sistema de marcado de boletas de escaneo óptico. La Comisión Municipal de la Ciudad de Breckenridge también adopta el uso de boletas de escaneo óptico para la votación regular y anticipada por comparecencia personal y por correo.

Section 6. The City Commission of the City of Breckenridge, Texas, is hereby authorized and directed to issue the formal order for said election providing for the polling place, the judges and clerks of the election, Early Voting Ballot Board and Notice of Election and returns of the election.

Sección 6. La comisión de ciudad de la ciudad de Breckenridge, Tejas por esto está autorizada y dirigida proceder el orden formal para dicho elección proveciendo para el lugar de votación, los jueces y los secretarios de tribunales de la elección, Tribunal de Balota Votando Temprano y Noticia de Elección, y regresos de la elección.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 4th day of February 2025.

PASADO Y APROBADO este 4th día de Febrero de 2025

ATTEST:

BOB SIMS, MAYOR

JESSICA SUTTER, CITY SECRETARY



FE:

JESSICA SUTTER, SECRETARIA DE CIUDAD

BOB SIMS, ALCALDE



ORDER AND NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION

ORDEN Y AVISO DE LA ELECCIÓN DE LA CIUDAD

THE STATE OF TEXAS }
COUNTY OF STEPHENS }
CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE }

EL ESTADO DE TEXAS }
CONDADO DE STEPHENS }
CIUDAD DE BRECKENRIDGE }

ORDER AND NOTICE

ORDEN DE ELECCIÓN

The City Commission of the City of Breckenridge, Texas, by virtue of the power vested in it by law, does hereby order that an election be held in the City of Breckenridge on May 3, 2025, being the first Saturday thereof, for the purpose of electing the following offices of said City:

La Comisión Municipal de la Ciudad de Breckenridge, Texas, en virtud del poder que le confiere la ley, por la presente ordena que se celebre una elección en la Ciudad de Breckenridge el 3 de mayo de 2025, siendo el primer sábado de la misma, con el propósito de elegir los siguientes cargos de dicha Ciudad:

City Commissioner Place No. 3

Comisionado de ciudad, Lugar No. 3
Comisionado de ciudad, Lugar No. 4

City Commissioner Place No. 4

The City has entered into a Joint Election Agreement with Breckenridge Independent School District (School District) and Stephens Memorial Hospital District dba Stephens Memorial Hospital (Hospital District) to hold their May elections at the same polling place as the City - Breckenridge ISD Athletics and Fine Arts Facility, 607 West Second Street, Breckenridge, Texas 76424. If the City cancels its election, the School District will use its Administrative Offices located at 208 North Miller Street, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 and the Hospital District will use Stephens Memorial Hospital located at 200 South Geneva, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 as their election polling places. If the School District cancels its election, the City will use City Office located at 105 N. Rose Ave, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 and the Hospital District will use Stephens Memorial Hospital located at 200 South Geneva, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 as their election day polling place. If the Hospital District cancels its election, The Poll at the above-designated polling place shall on said Election Day be open from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. The following named persons are hereby appointed Managers thereof, to-wit:

La Ciudad ha celebrado un Acuerdo de Elección Conjunta con el Distrito Escolar Independiente de Breckenridge (Distrito Escolar) y el Distrito Hospitalario Stephens Memorial dba Stephens Memorial Hospital (Distrito Hospitalario) para celebrar sus elecciones de mayo en el mismo lugar de votación que la Ciudad: el Centro de Atletismo y Bellas Artes de Breckenridge ISD, 607 West Second Street, Breckenridge, Texas 76424. Si la Ciudad cancela su elección, el Distrito Escolar usará sus Oficinas Administrativas ubicadas en 208 North Miller Street, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 y el Distrito Hospitalario usará el Hospital Stephens Memorial ubicado en 200 South Geneva, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 como sus lugares de votación electoral. Si el Distrito Escolar cancela su elección, la Ciudad usará la Oficina de la Ciudad ubicada en 105 N. Rose Ave, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 y el Distrito Hospitalario usará el Hospital Stephens Memorial ubicado en 200 South Geneva, Breckenridge, Texas 76424 como su lugar de votación el día de las elecciones. Si el Distrito Hospitalario cancela su elección, la casilla en el lugar de votación designado anteriormente estará abierta el día de la elección de 7:00 a.m. a 7:00 p.m. Se nombran Administradores de los mismos a las siguientes personas, a saber:

- (To Be Named) JUDGE
(To Be Named) ALTERNATE JUDGE
(To Be Named) CLERK
(To Be Named) CLERK
(To Be Named) CLERK
(To Be Named) BILINGUAL CLERK

- (a ser nombrado) Juez
(a ser nombrado) Juez Alterno
(a ser nombrado) Secretario
(a ser nombrado) Secretario
(a ser nombrado) Secretario
(a ser nombrado) Empleado bilingüe

The City Secretary is hereby given the authority to change or replace the Election Judge or Alternate Judge as needed or if required prior to Election Day. The hourly rate of pay for the election Judge shall be \$12.00 per hour and each Election Clerk shall be \$10.00 per hour. The amount to be paid to the presiding Judge for delivering the election returns shall be \$25.00. The above shall also serve as the Early Voting Ballot Board, and the presiding Judge shall serve as the Boards presiding officer. The Early Voting Ballot Board is hereby designated to canvass the early votes cast by mail and by personal appearance.

Por la presente, se le otorga al Secretario de la Ciudad la autoridad para cambiar o reemplazar al Juez Electoral o al Juez Suplente según sea necesario o si se requiere antes del Día de las Elecciones. La tarifa de pago por hora para el Juez Electoral será de \$12.00 por hora y cada Secretario Electoral será de \$10.00 por hora. La cantidad que se pagará al juez presidente por la entrega de los resultados de las elecciones será de \$25.00. Lo anterior también servirá como la Junta de Boleta de Votación Anticipada, y el juez presidente servirá como el oficial que preside la Junta. Por la presente se designa a la Junta de Boleta de Votación Anticipada para que escrutara los votos anticipados emitidos por correo y por comparecencia personal.

ORDER AND NOTICE (Cont.)

ORDEN Y AVISO (Cont)

The City Secretary is hereby appointed Clerk for early voting, and Ms. Diane Latham, Ms. Lacy Botts, Ms. Angela Crowder, Ms. Sherry Morgan, Ms. Mercedes Luna and Ms. Christi Tidrow are hereby appointed Deputy Clerks for early voting. The early voting for the above-designated election shall be held at the City Offices, 105 North Rose Avenue, as follows:

Por la presente se nombra a la Secretaria de la Ciudad para la votación anticipada, y la Sra. Diane Latham, la Sra. Lacy Botts, la Sra. Angela Crowder, la Sra. Sherry Morgan, la Sra. Mercedes Luna y la Sra. Christi Tidrow son nombradas Secretarias Adjuntas para la votación anticipada. La votación anticipada para la elección designada anteriormente se llevará a cabo en las Oficinas de la Ciudad, 105 North Rose Avenue, de la siguiente manera:

April 21-25, 2025 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
April 28-29, 2025 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Abril 21-25, el 2025 8:00 A.M. a 5:00 P.M.
Abril 28-29, el 2025 8:00 A.M. a 5:00 P.M.

Applications for ballot by mail shall be mailed to: City of Breckenridge, Early Voting Clerk, 105 North Rose Avenue, Breckenridge, Texas 76424, (254)559-8287. Applications for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on April 22, 2025.

Las solicitudes de boleta por correo se enviarán por correo a: City of Breckenridge, Early Voting Clerk, 105 North Rose Avenue, Breckenridge, Texas 76424, (254)559-8287. Las solicitudes de boleta por correo deben recibirse a más tardar al cierre de operaciones el 22 de abril de 2025.

The City Commission will meet in special session on May 13, 2025, to canvass the returns of said Election to be held on May 3, 2025, and to declare the results of said election.

La Comisión de la Ciudad se reunirá en sesión especial el 13 de mayo de 2025 para realizar el escrutinio de los resultados de dicha elección que se llevará a cabo el 3 de mayo de 2025 y para declarar los resultados de dicha elección.

The City Secretary is hereby directed and instructed to post a properly executed copy of this order and notice of election at the City Offices. Said notice shall be posted no later than twenty-one (21) days before the date of said election. Notice of the time and place of holding said election shall be given by publication of such notice in a newspaper of general circulation published in the City of Breckenridge at least ten (10) days and not more than thirty (30) days prior to the date of said election.

Por la presente se ordena e instruye al Secretario de la Ciudad que publique una copia debidamente ejecutada de esta orden y aviso de elección en las Oficinas de la Ciudad. Dicho aviso se publicará a más tardar veintiún (21) días antes de la fecha de dicha elección. La notificación de la hora y el lugar de celebración de dicha elección se dará mediante la publicación de dicha notificación en un periódico de circulación general publicado en la Ciudad de Breckenridge por lo menos diez (10) días y no más de treinta (30) días antes de la fecha de dicha elección.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 4th day of February 2025.

PASADO Y APROBADO esta la 4th día de Febrero 2025.

BOB SIMS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JESSICA SUTTER, CITY SECRETARY



FE:

JESSICA SUTTER, SECRETARIA DE LA CIUDAD

BOB SIMS, ALCALDE



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450ac- Home, Lodge, Exotics, \$5,950,000	180ac- 75% Woods, 3Ponds, \$1,024,650	63ac- 2/2 Bams, 3Shops, \$1,490,000
320ac- Cabin, Creek, \$1,880,000	176ac- 3Ponds, Woods, \$895,000	38ac- Lake, Bison, Hunting, \$574,925
254ac- 2Ponds, Woods, \$1,220,736	160ac- Hunting, 2Ponds, \$920,000	
161ac- 3/2 Home, 2Ponds, \$995,000	150ac- 3Ponds, Home, \$937,500	KNOX COUNTY
128ac- 3Ponds, Electricity, \$665,200	118ac- 2Ponds, Waterline, \$865,500	222ac- Cultivation/Minerals, SALE
87ac- Clear Fork River, \$739,500	100ac- Lodge w/ High Fence, \$1,750,000	ARCHER COUNTY
50ac- 1 Pond, Near Starn, \$301,260	75ac- Brazos River, FM926, \$600,000	31ac- Home or Commercial, \$175,000
18ac- Cabin, Big Deer, SALE	74ac- 2Ponds, Great Hunting, \$650,000	
	50ac- 2Ponds, Home, Barn, \$735,000	HASKELL COUNTY
	45ac- Creek, Pond, In-Town, \$795,000	640ac- Minerals, 7Ponds, \$1,600,000
	20ac- 3/2 Home, Pond, Barn, \$499,000	
	18ac- 4/2.5 Home, Creek, \$630,000	SHACKELFORD COUNTY
	15ac- 3/2.5 Home, Fish Pond, \$575,000	180ac- 3/2 Home, Minerals, \$950,000



Travis Patterson, Agent
Heath Kramer, Agent
Kathy Bailes, Agent
LaChelle Clark, Agent
David Campbell, Agent
Boone Campbell, Broker

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Even Exchange answers

1. Bottle, Bottle	6. Leas, Leash
2. Ioser, Ioner	7. Normsn, Normal
3. Choro, Choso	8. Cajo, Carolo
4. Pultor, Puzor	9. Loan, You'n
5. N'ajon, Notan	10. Burs, Burt

SCRAMBLERS solution

1. Repeat 2. Routine;
3. Traipse; 4. Aught

Today's Word
SHOPPING

King Crossword - Answers
Solution time: 24 mins.

B	L	A	H	P	E	W	A	Q	U	A		
B	O	R	A	A	T	E	F	U	R	S		
Q	U	I	T	B	B	L	E	S	F	I	G	S
S	T	A	I	R	T	R	I	V	E	T		
T	O	N	S	A	X	E						
R	E	Q	S	A	P	P	T	R	A	M		
I	O	U	I	D	E	A	S	E	G	O		
A	N	T	B	A	N	S	A	D	A	M		
N	E	E	D	O	O	R						
P	E	T	I	T	E	R	E	L	I	T		
A	L	E	G	Q	U	I	T	T	E	R	S	
R	O	T	H	U	R	N	H	O	O	P		
M	I	S	T	I	L	K	A	N	N	S		

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800 PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
 Pursuant to Section 22-4-(B)(3) of the Breckenridge Code of Ordinances, the Planning & Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on:
DATE: Monday, April 28, 2025
TIME: 5:30 PM
PLACE: City Commission Chambers, 105 N. Rose Ave.
 Pursuant to Section 22-4-(B)(5) of the Breckenridge Code of Ordinances, the City Commission will hold a public hearing on:
DATE: Tuesday, May 6, 2025
TIME: 5:30 PM
PLACE: City Commission Chambers, 105 N. Rose Ave.
 The public hearings will be to consider:
Item 1: An amendment to the zoning ordinance to specify permissible residential uses for recreational vehicles within the City of Breckenridge.
Item 2: The property owner of 1200 W. 2nd (currently legally described as Mountain Heights Addition, Block 5, Lots 1, 2, & 3) request to replat these properties into two lots. The owner plans to place a mobile home on the north lot. Any and all persons interested in the above referenced item may attend such hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard.
 By: /s/ Jessica Sutter
 Jessica Sutter
 City Secretary
 City of Breckenridge, Texas

INVITATION FOR BID

The City of Breckenridge will receive sealed Bids addressed to the City of Breckenridge for the TWDB DWSRF #62913 Water Distribution System Improvements project until 11:00 a.m. local time on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at Breckenridge City Hall, located at 105 N. Rose Ave, Breckenridge, Texas 76424. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud immediately thereafter at same location.
 The work generally includes construction of: Approximately 7,000 LF (Base Bid) of existing water lines will be removed, disposed, and replaced with new DR18 C-900 PVC water lines in various locations throughout the City, including the installation of new gate valves, fire hydrants, and all related appurtenances. Replacement of asphalt, concrete and gravel pavements, including curbs and gutters in all disturbed areas as necessary. Installation of water service reconnects where new water lines are installed.
 The Bidding Documents may be obtained from Civcast at www.civcastusa.com. Prospective Bidders may examine the Bidding Documents at the Engineer's Office on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
 Each Bid shall be accompanied by a Cashier's Check or Bid Bond, acceptable to the Owner, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the total amount bid, as a guarantee that the successful bidder will enter into a proper Contract and execute Bonds on the forms provided in the Contract Documents. Bid sureties will be returned to all but the three lowest acceptable bidders within five days after the opening of Bids. Remaining bid sureties will be returned after complete execution of the Contract.
 The surety company providing the Bid Bond must conform to the same requirements for surety companies providing Performance and Payment Bonds described below.
 The successful bidder must furnish Performance and Payment Bond on the forms furnished with the

Contract Documents in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the total Contract price, from a surety company holding a permit from the State of Texas to act as surety. The surety company must have a minimum **Best's Key Rating of "B" or better.** The surety company, the agency and agent issuing the Performance and Payment Bond must be authorized to issue such bonds in Texas in an amount equal to or greater than the total contract price.
 This contract is contingent upon release of funds from the Texas Water Development Board. Any contract or contracts awarded under this Invitation for Bids are expected to be funded in part by financial assistance from the Texas Water Development Board. Neither the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or the State of Texas, nor any of its departments, agencies, or employees, are or will be a party to this Invitation for Bids or any resulting contract.
Equal Opportunity in Employment: All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age (40 or older), disability, or genetic information. Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the Department of Labor regulations at 41 CFR Part 60-4, relating to Construction Contractors-Affirmative Action Requirements, which include the President's Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order No. 11375 and Executive Order No. 13672, in the award and administration of contracts awarded under TWDB financial assistance agreements. Failure by the Contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach, which may result in the termination of the awarded financial assistance.
 The City of Breckenridge reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding.
 All laborers and mechanics working on the work site and employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund shall be paid wages as described in the section, Mandatory Davis-Bacon Act Contract Conditions.
 Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements apply to the construction, alteration or repair of treatment works carried out, in whole or in part, with assistance made available by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) or a construction project financed, in whole or in part, from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF).
 The Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements apply to Contractors and Subcontractors performing on federally funded or assisted contracts in excess of \$2,000 for the construction, alteration or repair (including painting) of a treatment works project under the CWSRF or a construction project under the DWSRF.
 For prime contracts in excess of \$100,000, Contractors and Subcontractors must also, under the provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as amended, pay laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, at least one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek. The Fair Labor Standards

Act may also apply to Davis-Bacon covered contracts.
 Any contracts or subcontracts in excess of \$2,000 must include the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Wage Rate Requirements found in TWDB Guidance No. DB-0156.
 This contract is subject to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, which includes EPA-approved fair share goals toward procurement of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) businesses. EPA rules require that applicants and prime contractors make a good faith effort to award a fair share of contracts, subcontracts, and procurements to M/WBEs through demonstration of the six affirmative steps. For more details of the DBE Program and the current, applicable fair share goals, please visit <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/dbe>.

Each Bidder must **submit the PRIME CONTRACTOR AFFIRMATIVE STEPS CERTIFICATION AND GOALS (WRD-0217) with the bid**, to demonstrate the Bidder's understanding and commitment to taking affirmative steps.
 Upon request, the Bidder must provide the Owner with the information required for DBE Certification and Participation Summary, TWDB document TWDB-0373 and provide sufficient documentation (TWDB-0216) that a "good faith effort" was made in offering fair opportunity for participation by qualified DBE firms. This information must be submitted prior to the contract award so the information can be approved and presented to the TWDB for funding of this contract.
 This project is subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of 33 U.S.C §1388 for Clean Water State Revolving Fund projects or Public Law 114-113, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, or subsequent appropriations acts, for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund projects. Any contract(s) awarded under this Invitation for Proposals is/are subject to the American Iron and Steel (AIS) requirements of Section 608 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.
Date Issued: April 9, 2025
 By: Cynthia Northrop, City Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 25-06 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BRECKENRIDGE, TEXAS AMENDING CHAPTER 10 "GARBAGE, TRASH, WEEDS AND OTHER WASTE", ARTICLE I "IN GENERAL", DIVISION 2 "CLEANLINESS OF PREMISES" OF THE BRECKENRIDGE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD SECTION 10-13 "PENALTY" TO ADD A PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF SAID DIVISION 2 AND TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM FINE FOR REPEATED VIOLATIONS; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Sec. 10-13. Penalty
 (a) Subject to subsection (b), a violation of any provision of this Division shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500.00, up to \$2,000.00 if the Court finds that the violation relates to public health or sanitation, or up to \$4,000.00 if the Court finds that the violation relates to the dumping of refuse.
 (b) A person who has been previously convicted of violating this Division shall be subject to a minimum fine of \$200.00 for subsequent convictions.
 (c) Each day a violation continues constitutes a separate offense.

ENTERTAINMENT Midweek Edition

OUT ON A LIMB by Gary Kopervas



THE SPATS by Jeff Pickering



POPEYE by Randy Milholland



Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an L, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

1. Combat	___ A ___	Baby feeder	___ O ___
2. Defeated one	___ S ___	Hermit	___ N ___
3. Household task	___ R ___	Selected	___ S ___
4. Concierge	___ R ___	Wanted sign	___ S ___
5. Movement	M ___	Idea	N ___
6. Smallest amount	___ T ___	Fido's rope	___ H ___
7. Bates of "Psycho"	___ N ___	Customary	___ L ___
8. Persuade	___ J ___	Tapestry creator	___ R ___
9. Acquire knowledge	L ___	Ache for	___ Y ___
10. Rupture	___ S ___	Charred	___ N ___

SCRAMBLERS
 Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Echo
PARTEE [] [] [] [] [] []

Usual
OUTERIN [] [] [] [] [] []

Walk
EPISTAR [] [] [] [] [] []

Zero
THUGA [] [] [] [] [] []

TODAY'S WORD
 [] [] [] [] [] []

"Why don't you run along home while I do some?"

Crossword

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18						19	20			
			21	22	23	24				
25	26	27		28	29		30	31	32	
33			34				35			
36			37				38			
		39	40		41		42			
43	44			45			46	47	48	49
50				51	52	53				
54				55			56			
57				58			59			

ACROSS

1 Mediocre
 5 Church seat
 8 Greenish blue
 12 Tora —, Afghani
 13 Noshed
 14 PETA concerns
 15 Slight criticisms
 17 Pear-shaped fruits
 18 Step
 19 Hot dish holder
 21 Oodles
 24 Log chopper
 25 Mandatory coll. courses
 28 Calendar entry (Abbr.)
 30 Zodiac animal
 33 Chit
 34 Concepts
 35 Swelled head
 36 Singer DiFranco
 37 Proscribes
 38 Eve's mate
 39 Born
 41 Entryway
 43 Dress designation
 46 Ignited again
 50 Shake — (hurry)
 51 Dropouts

DOWN

1 Bookouts, Cookouts
 2 LummoX
 3 Met solo
 4 Customs
 5 Bud
 6 Bordeaux summer
 7 Left on a map
 8 Tack on
 9 Trembled
 10 Desire
 11 Celeb's aide
 16 Buddy
 20 "Phooey!"
 22 Zilch
 23 Shell out
 25 Estuary
 26 A gazillion years
 27 Groups of five
 29 El —, Texas
 31 Turkish title
 32 Off-tattooed word
 34 "A likely story!"
 38 "Queen of Soul" Franklin
 40 Skating figure
 42 Scrap
 43 Italian cheese, for short
 44 Sci-fi race
 45 Iso-Boxer Spinks
 48 Press
 49 Recipe amts.
 52 Web address
 53 Squid squirt

Look for answers in the Classifieds.



Aurrian Matheson watches a pitch during a game earlier this season. Matheson recorded one hit in a 9-1 loss Friday, April 4 to the Eastland Lady Mavericks in which three other Lady Bucks had hits.

Photo/Alex Kielar

Lady Bucks dropped by Eastland

Alex Kielar
news@breckenridgeamerican.com

The Lady Bucks (7-14-1, 3-7) traveled to Eastland and faced the Lady Mavericks (14-8, 7-3) despite the questionable weather Friday, April 4.

The start time of the game was pushed back an hour to 6 p.m. with the wind and rain wreaking havoc.

Once the game got underway, it was the Lady Bucks who got on the board first with a home run by Joni Jackson in the first inning. The game went fairly smooth for starting pitcher Olyvia Perez on the mound for the first few innings, only allowing the tying run

to score in the bottom of the second.

But a couple of innings later, the Lady Mavericks would be the ones to wreak havoc as they scored six runs in the fourth inning. The sequence of the inning was a walk, error, sacrifice fly, two-RBI double, hit-by-pitch, single, popout and the other four runs scored when Eastland whacked a grand slam before the inning ended on a fly-out.

The Lady Bucks allowed two more runs in the sixth inning and didn't have many chances to get back in the game. They only recorded three other hits after the Jackson

homer in the first inning, one from Aurrian Matheson, one from Raegan Robinson and the third from Braylen McCoy. Pazley Funderburg also walked once in the game.

Over her six innings of work, Perez struck out three and walked two, while only two of her nine runs allowed were earned.

With only a few games remaining in the season, the Lady Bucks will have their Senior Night next Tuesday, April 15.

Their final game of the season is scheduled for Thursday, April 17 at Peaster, who as of Monday, April 7 are undefeated in district play.

Track

Continued from Page 8

Girls Team Results

- 1. Comanche: 149
- 2. Early: 108
- 3. Breckenridge: 99
- 4. Eastland: 93.50
- 5. Peaster: 91.50
- 6. Tolar: 45
- 7. Millsap: 24
- 8. Dublin: 10

Lady Bucks Results

- 3200-meter Run: *4. Lizanadra Rubio, 13:52.25; 8. Kendra Palacios, 15:40.22; 9. Emma McIntosh, 16:23.20
- 4x100-meter Relay: *4. Breckenridge (Abigail Duran, Kamden Tidwell, Ava Russell, Paisley Herring), 51.34
- 800-meter Run: 7. Isabelle Biddison, 2:54.25
- 100-meter Hurdles: 9. Preslie Malcuit, 19.08
- 100-meter Dash: 6. Ava Russell, 13.46
- 4x200-meter Relay: *4. Breckenridge (Abigail Duran, Paisley Herring, Lane Bartoske-witz, Karsyn Smalley), 1:50.17
- 400-meter Dash: *1. Kamden Tidwell, 1:01.14; 7. Ruthie Valdez, 1:05.38; 8. Saylor Townson, 1:05.39
- 200-meter Dash: *4. Karsyn Smalley, 27.12; 6. Paisley Herring, 27.50
- 1600-meter Run: *2. Lizandra Rubio, 6:08.09; 8. Haylee Stinnett, 6:48.06; 10. Kendra Palacios, 6:49.58
- 4x400-meter Relay: *2. Breckenridge (Kamden Tidwell, Ruthie Valdez, Lane Bartoske-witz, Karsyn Smalley), 4:13.78
- High Jump: *4. Miley Roberts, 4-8
- Pole Vault: *1. Kamden Tidwell, 10-10
- Long Jump: 11. Isa-

- belle Biddison, 14-1; 15. Paisley Herring, 12-3.25
- Triple Jump: *1. Kamden Tidwell, 35-0.25
- Discus: *4. Maria Duran, 98-1; 5. Joni Jackson, 97-0; 13. Rihana Fuller, 82-8
- Shot Put: *2. Joni Jackson, 35-7.50; 6. Maria Duran, 30-10.25; 10. Rylee Fuller, 29-0.75



Lizandra Rubio was one of the Lady Bucks' area qualifiers as she placed second in the 1600-meter run and fourth in the 3200-meter run in Dublin at the District 8-3A meet last week.

Photo/Alex Kielar



Good Luck!

We are so proud of you Mrs. Parker and all our state bound Lady Buckaroos!

Mom, Lanet, Keith

.....

LIGHT THAT B

