

Lake Watch

Lake Level
on September 27

530.46'

Normal Elevation 533.00'
Lake Watch is provided by the
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
on Lake Whitney

Lakeline

Angel Tree
apps available

Applications for the Lake Whitney Ministerial Alliance Angel Tree program are now available at Our Daily Bread Food Pantry. Applications are only available at the pantry and must be returned there by Thursday, October 29. Our Daily Bread is located at 100 Sims Drive in Whitney. The pantry is open from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mondays, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Thursdays. Late applications will not be accepted. For more information, call Michele at 254-283-4922.

Friday night
dinner at Legion

American Legion Post 522 will serve dinner Friday, October 2, at 5 p.m. The meal will be served at the American Legion, located at 303 Farm Road 2604 in Whitney. All are welcome.

Free breakfast
at Legion Sat.

American Legion Post 522 will serve a free breakfast Saturday, October 3, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The meal will be served at the American Legion, located at 303 Farm Road 2604 in Whitney. All are welcome.

Trunk or Treat
planned Oct. 31

Whitney's annual Trunk or Treat event will be held Saturday, October 31, in downtown Whitney from 5 to 8 p.m. The Lake Whitney Chamber of Commerce and downtown Whitney businesses will host the event. The community is welcome to participate by handing out candy or trick-or-treating. For more information, contact the Lake Whitney Chamber of Commerce at 254-625-2387.

MHMC to host
free clinic Sat.

Mission Hillsboro Medical Clinic, located at 120 East Franklin Street in Hillsboro, will be open Saturday, October 3, for its first-Saturday clinic. Registration begins at 6 a.m. Residents of Hill County without medical insurance are eligible to be seen. No appointments are necessary. Patients should bring all medications with them. Dental services will not be available October 3. Leave a message at 254-479-1489 for more information.

51st annual Pioneer Days Saturday

51st Annual PIONEER DAYS

Schedule Of Events

~ Thursday, October 1st - Saturday, October 3rd ~
Carnival Games & Rides Open in Downtown Area
Thurs. & Fri. Evening - Armbands \$25; Sat. All Day - Buy Tickets for Rides
~ Saturday, October 3, 2026 ~
(All events take place either on or in front of the Main Stage unless otherwise noted)

8:00 a.m. PIONEER DAYS BEGINS
8:45-9 a.m. NATIONAL ANTHEM, MAYOR'S WELCOME, PRAYER
9-10:15 a.m. RICK ROGERS CHRISTIAN MUSIC
10:15-11 a.m. WYS DANCE TEAMS
11 a.m. WELCOME BY CHAMBER PRES. CONNIE TERRY
BRIEF HISTORY OF WHITNEY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY SONG
12-12:50 p.m. WHS GERMAN FOLK DANCERS AND ROYELLES
12:50-1 p.m. MISS LW PAGEANT WINNERS RECOGNIZED

51ST ANNUAL PIONEER DAYS PARADE - 3 P.M.
Parade includes VIP vehicles, horses, bands, dancers, police, fire departments & EMS services, local organizations, clowns & more!
Participants line up at the Intermediate School grounds at 2 p.m.

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT
4-5 p.m. SUL ROSS BAND
5:30-7 p.m. THE JAVA LLAMAS
7:30-9 p.m. ZAK WEBB BAND

Candidate
Announcement



Albert Hunter
announces
campaign

Albert Hunter has announced his candidacy for the Texas House of Representatives District 13 seat.

Hunter is a lifelong resident of Bosque County. He graduated from Meridian High School and earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Tarleton State University.

After a 26-year career in public education, he retired and served for over five years as Bosque County's Indigent Health Care coordinator.

Along the way, he held a variety of jobs while working his way through college, experiences that deepened his commitment to service and community involvement.

Today, Hunter works in farming and ranching, serves on the Bosque County Historical Committee, volunteers

see HUNTER on back

County Development Services office taking shape

The Hill County Commissioners Court approved the purchase of equipment for the county's newly created Development Services office during a meeting held Tuesday, September 22.

The department has consolidated several county duties, including on-site sewage permitting and inspections, subdivision regulation compliance, 9-1-1 addressing, street signs and county garbage cleanup.

Development Services Director John Crawson said that shifting the signage and cleanup duties to his office will free up road and bridge crews to focus more on their primary duty of maintaining county roads.

Precinct 2 Commissioner Larry Crompton reported at the meeting that illegal dumping continues to be a major problem on county roads, and his crews have been addressing large furniture and other trash dumped in his precinct.

Crawson said that while the county's recent cleanup events were successful, more needs to be done in each precinct. He plans to purchase a truck, four roll-off dumpsters and a trailer, with the goal of placing a dumpster in each precinct for trash collection.

"We did a county-wide cleanup, but we don't think that's enough," he said. "We want to put a dumpster in an area and have citizens fill it up, and we'll pay the dump fees." He said that there are areas of the county that have a problem with trash, and some residents can't afford dumpsters or even trash service. He encouraged anyone struggling with trash to contact him so a solution can be figured out.

Crawson said that the money for the equipment was already in the department's budget, and he presented financing options through Government Capital for the court's consideration. Commissioners approved financing the \$190,914 cost of the equipment for five years with an interest rate of 5.559 percent.

Crawson said he also plans to hire an employee, which will be on an upcoming court agenda.

The court also approved a previously budgeted expenditure for Elections Administration, which plans to purchase 13 new printers to be used at polling locations starting with the November election. Elections Administrator Ada Motherspau said that the new printers will speed up the check-in process for voters. The total cost came to \$14,285.

Commissioners discussed

see COURT on back

Hill CAD chief appraiser plans to retire December 31



Mike McKibben

he developed his work ethic.

That early foundation gave him the unique opportunity to travel the state serving property owners across more than 50 different appraisal districts. He brought that rich, compassionate understanding of diverse communities to the Galveston Central Appraisal District as an appraiser and department supervisor (1987-1995), and later to the Franklin County Appraisal District as chief appraiser (1995-2001), before finding his true home in Hill County.

Hill CAD said that while McKibben brought a "warm, human touch" to the office every day, his leadership also yielded professional results.

Under his guidance, Hill CAD achieved a stellar operational record, consistently passing the State Comptroller's Methods and Assistance Program (MAP) reviews with never less than a perfect 100% rating. More importantly to McKibben, this meticulous accuracy ensured that no local school district ever lost a single dollar of vital state funding due to invalid appraisals—protecting the education of Hill County children.

"My retirement is filled with bittersweet emotions. Serving the citizens of Hill County and our local community for close to 26 years has been the greatest honor of my professional life," McKibben shared. "I am deeply grateful for the wonderful colleagues, lifelong friends and community partners who made this journey so incredibly fulfilling. I have been very blessed for the opportunity to lead, guide and mentor so many in this profession."

He added, "I hope my vision, hard work, commitment and dedication leave an unforgettable mark on our

see CAD on back

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