

BUZZ

April 2025

NORTHWEST TEXAS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (NWTHS) has a new emergency department location at 4207 W. Amarillo Blvd. Northwest Emergency at Tascosa is an 11,570 sq ft facility with nine treatment areas including a pediatric treatment room, imaging equipment, and an on-site laboratory.



APRIL JOHANSSON of **JOHANSSON & ASSOCIATES** is among the 2025 inductees of the **SOUTHWEST ADVERTISING HALL OF FAME**. April is being honored for her career of achievement, involvement, and innovation. The esteemed honorees will be inducted Friday, April 11th at the Arlington Hilton.



SCOTTIE DAVIS has joined **HTS COMMODITIES** as part of the Business Development team. He will be involved with business generation, retention, and client relations. Scottie was born and raised in the Texas Panhandle and spent most of his early years in college learning and working in agriculture. He spent some time in Austin working for Dell Computers in the early 2000's before moving to Hawaii to work as a hiking guide. Scottie has since returned to the Panhandle and for the last 20 years worked in the animal health industry primarily with feedlots. He is passionate about the cattle business and all that it entails and couldn't be more excited about the opportunity at Hilltop.

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) granted **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER (TTUHSC)** accreditation for a **GENERAL SURGERY RESIDENCY PROGRAM IN AMARILLO**. The accreditation was effective in the fall and will serve as many as 14 residents at its capacity. Recruitment for the program will begin in the 2025 Electronic Residency Application Service cycle in order for residents to begin on July 1, 2026. "As we prepare to launch our residency program in 2026, we are excited to embark on this journey that will not only shape the next generation of surgeons but also have a lasting impact on the health care landscape in the Texas Panhandle," **IZI OBOKHARE, M.D.**, TTUHSC School of Medicine professor and general surgery residency program director, said. In the United States, most general surgery residencies are five years

long, with an optional additional year for research or specialized training -- making it six to seven years in total. TTUHSC will accept two categorical residents a year to the general surgery residency in Amarillo. Additionally, up to two preliminary residents will be selected for the first year, with an option to stay for an additional year as a postgraduate year-2 preliminary resident.



MICHELE AGOSTINI was named **2025 MEDIATOR OF YEAR** by the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission Dispute Resolution Center. Michele is a member of the Texas Mediation Association and is credentialed through the Texas Mediation Credentialing Association.



Jacob Diaz



Stephanie Coggins

JACOB DIAZ received the 2025 Welcome Partner **FIRST RESPONDER OF DISTINCTION AWARD**. City of Amarillo Secretary **STEPHANIE COGGINS** received an

award for her hard work and caring service to Amarillo citizens and COA staff.

The **MAVERICK BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF AMARILLO** is 90 years experienced and is serving up to 650 kids daily. 89% of those kids are living in poverty. The club serves a daily hot meal, helps with homework, and provides quality staff to mentor and guide kids through the challenges they face. Recently, Alumni presented a banner to be hung in the gymnasium to honor **RALPH DYKEMAN**, former Executive Director. Mr. Dykeman is credited for engaging boys to become the best men they could possibly become. He believed in discipline and praise and created a type of comradery that is seen in military, where everyone had a sense of belonging. Even today, Alumni fly in from all over the world to reunite at the Annual Jim Lea Golf Classic. Mr. Dykeman used to have a banner in the gym that said, "Train up a child in the way that he should go and when he is older, he will not depart from it." A famous scripture. But Mr. Dykeman was known for living the bible, not just quoting it. So, replacing this banner was a very sentimental effort for kids of the club from yesterday and today! Accompanying the Alumni was **ANGELA HEDRICK**, with **SILK Sewing Club**. Angela is the wife of the Alumni President **GLENN HEDRICK**. Angela brought 750 hand sewn pillowcases for the boys and girls of the Maverick Club. Angela first brought pillowcases from her sewing club for the kids in the Tyson Night Owl program, in which kids are not picked up until 1:00 a.m. When we told her how special those pillowcases were to the kids, she offered to hand sew a pillowcase for every child in our care. We could not be more grateful for the special thought and care that went into the detail of each pillowcase! They are beautiful! **DONNA SORIA** is CEO of Maverick Boys & Girls Club of Amarillo.

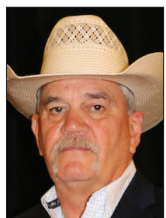


Mandi Booth-Ollinger, DDS



Courtney Carthel, DDS

MANDI BOOTHE-OLLINGER, DDS and COURTNEY CARTHEL, DDS have moved AMARILLO DENTAL WORKS to 7473 Pennsylvania Dr., Suite 100.



SKIP JONES of Amarillo, owner of **JONES QUARTER HORSE, JQH BUCKING BULLS**, is one of the newest inductees into the **NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION HALL OF FAME**. The inductee ceremony will be held during the NCHA Convention in San Antonio on June 21.



ZIVORAD FILLIPOVIC, with **AMARILLO FOOD BANK** was named a **MOSAIC STAR** at the **AAF TENTH DISTRICT ADVERTISING AWARDS!** The Mosaic Awards honors companies and individuals who display their commitment to diversity, equity,

and inclusion through creative work, advocacy, and company-wide initiatives.



NADIA GERMAN, PH.D., director of the Medicinal Chemistry program at the **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER (TTUHSC) JERRY H. HODGE SCHOOL OF PHARMACY**, and former TTUHSC Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences colleague

Constantinos Mikelis, Ph.D., received a U.S. patent in 2022 for a chemical that targets the brain's dopamine transporter (DAT), one of the ways by which dopamine levels in the brain can be controlled. To recognize this and other significant contributions to biomedical science and engineering, German has been named to the **NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS (NAI) 2025 CLASS OF SENIOR MEMBERS**. She will be inducted June 23-26th during the Senior Member Induction Ceremony at NAI's 14th Annual Conference in Atlanta.

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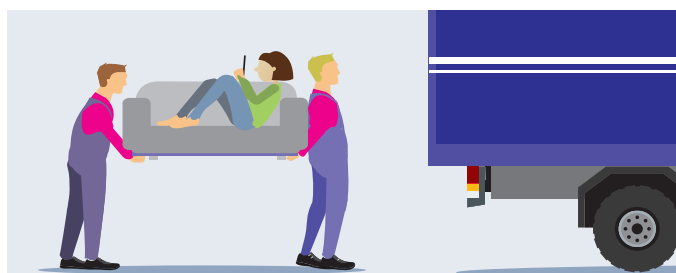
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The **AMARILLO WRANGLERS YOUTH SQUAD** recently won its **"WORLD SERIES"** at an annual tournament in Odessa. "It's our 14U team. It's 2010 and 2011 birth year players," said **AUSTIN SUTTER**, Head Coach of the Amarillo Wranglers 14U team. "All different teams represent different countries. We had teams from Austin, San Antonio, Odessa, Amarillo, Dallas, and Oklahoma City. So it was a good spread of teams from around the region." They were sporting the jersey of the Rögle BK hockey team, a Swedish hockey team featuring **BRADY FERGUSON**, a professional hockey player in the Swedish Hockey League, who played for two years on the Amarillo Bulls youth team when he was 17. "I come back every summer, and I help out and try to grow the game as much as I can," said Ferguson, who said he plans to come back to Amarillo and speak with the youth sometime this summer.

The **UNITED WAY OF AMARILLO & CANYON'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP CABINET**, with the support of **XCEL ENERGY**, is making a lasting impact by gifting brand-new bicycles to every second grader at Eastridge Elementary. This special gift stems from the Youth Cabinet Leadership Day in October 2024, where high school leaders came together for a hands-on service project: assembling bicycles for local students. The Youth Leadership Cabinet is designed to provide high school students with hands-on service experiences and leadership development opportunities, helping them understand the vital role of nonprofits and the importance of community involvement. Last month, each second-grade student at Eastridge Elementary received a new bike, built by these young leaders alongside volunteers from United Way and Xcel Energy.



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