

**AMARILLO**'s population is now over 200,000, a milestone that many believe will attract new businesses and jobs to Amarillo.



**PLAINS BANCORP, INC.**, holding company for **FIRST UNITED BANK**, announce the addition of **GARY HINDERS** to the Canyon team. Hinders will serve as a Senior Vice President of Commercial Lending and will office at the Canyon Banking Center located at 801 23<sup>rd</sup> St. Hinders, a longtime resident of Canyon, comes to First United Bank with 29 years of experience in the financial industry. He is a 1981 graduate of West Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture Business and Economics. Hinders is an active member and leader of the Canyon community. He currently serves as Mayor of Canyon and is a member of the Noon Lions Club, WTAMU School of Business Advisory Committee, WTAMU School of Agriculture Advisory Committee, the Canyon EDC Board, the Dreamland Cemetery Board and is a member of Summit Church.

**BRYAN BATEMAN** has been named chief executive officer of **PHYSICIANS SURGICAL HOSPITALS (PSH)** effective last month. Bateman earned a master's degree in health administration from Ohio University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Texas. Bateman has more than 18 years of healthcare leadership experience, having spent the majority of his career with Community Health Systems (CHS). While at CHS, he held positions of increasing responsibility, serving most recently as CEO of Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center in Poplar Bluff, Mo. During his tenure, Bateman spent seven years as CEO at Lake Area Medical Center in Lake Charles, La., where his business acumen and leadership earned him the CHS CEO of the Year award. The hospital was twice named one of Modern Healthcare's Best Places to



Work. Physicians Surgical Hospitals, L.L.C. is a BSA and physician-owned award-winning surgical facility. The comprehensive health care organization is comprised of two surgical hospitals, Panhandle Surgical Hospital and Quail Creek Surgical Hospital; a physical therapy center, Quail Creek Physical Therapy; and an imaging center, Advanced Imaging Center of Amarillo.

The **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER SCHOOL OF NURSING** was named the best nursing school in Texas and the Southwest region for 2022 by Nursing Schools Almanac. The school also ranked No. 10 nationally among public nursing schools and No. 18 among all nursing schools in the U.S.



**FIRSTBANK SOUTHWEST** announced the appointment of **GREG GRAHAM** as Vice President, Commercial Lender at their Downtown Banking Center. Greg was born and raised in Amarillo, graduating from Amarillo High School in 1978. Greg attended Amarillo College and then graduated from Texas A&M University, obtaining a BBA degree in Accounting and Finance in 1982. He continued his post-graduate education by obtaining a Commercial Lending Diploma from the American Institute of Banking in 1988. Mr. Graham will be responsible for the marketing, preparation, and servicing of loans to businesses and professionals.

The **AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS AMARILLO CHAPTER** celebrated their 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Design Awards. **PAUL HARE, AIA** and **NICHOLE CARROWAY, AIA**, with **PARKHILL**, accepted a Design Award for **BORGER ISD HIGH SCHOOL RENOVATIONS**. **WENDY MASSIE, AIA**, with **DEKKER/PERICH/SABATINI**, accepted a Design Award for **TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY WEEKS HALL RENOVATION**. **SCOTT SLAGLE, AIA**, with **PARKHILL**, accepted a Design Award for **HEREFORD COMMUNITY CENTER**. **KIM HOOKER, AIA, LEED AP, RAS**, with **PARKHILL**, accepted a Design Certificate for Merit for **MIDLAND COLLEGE JUNE & FRANK COWDEN JUNIOR DINING HALL RENOVATION**. **BRIAN GRIGGS, AIA**, with **PARKHILL**, accepted a Design Certificate for Merit for **SMU HUGHES-TRIGG STUDENT CENTER RENOVATION**.

**AMARILLO COLLEGE** and **MARTHA'S HOME**, a shelter

for homeless single women and mothers with children, are joining forces to empower the Home's adult residents as they strive to escape poverty by pursuing certificates and degrees through AC's Adult Education and Literacy program. The Home's new "Present Needs—Future Success" campaign, is already garnering meaningful local support. Two of the campaign's initial benefactors are **BETENBOUGH HOMES**, and the **PAUL F. AND VIRGINIA J. ENGLER FOUNDATION**.



**LINDA VAUGHN** was recently named to **THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF TEXAS 2022-2024** Board of Directors. A Director of LWV Amarillo, **Vaughn** is a retired Amarillo Independent School District

principal, serving for 33 years. In 2021 she was named Woman of the Year by the Amarillo Globe-News. LWVTX creates and issues a nonpartisan voters guide and the digital VOTE411.org site with each election. Its local area Leagues can be seen at city events, in high schools and colleges registering voters as well as naturalization ceremonies, registering thousands Texans citizens to vote every year.

**UNITED SUPERMARKETS** and **KELLOGG'S** recently presented **SNACK PAK 4 KIDS** with a \$25,000 check. As a part of the **NOURISHING NEIGHBORS** initiative and **FEED THE LOVE** campaign, this donation will go to strengthening food insecurities in the Amarillo area. The United Family also donated more than \$100,000 to **CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK**. The funds were raised during a donate-at-the-register campaign in May.

The area that Bealls left vacant in **WESTGATE MALL** will soon be bringing adventure to Amarillo. **URBAN AIR ADVENTURE** will officially open this November. With more than 48,000 square feet of space, the new adventure park offers a full line-up of activities, which include Urban Air's award-winning wall-to-wall trampolines, dodgeball courts and obstacle courses, plus tube playgrounds with multi-level climbing ropes and twisting tubes. A 19-year franchise industry veteran across West Texas, Alaska, and Oklahoma, **JOHN DOMERACKI**, is the owner and operator of the new park in Amarillo. Urban Air will employ 60 local residents for its newest location. Founded in 2011, the Dallas-based entertainment company pioneered the adventure park

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**801 S. Fillmore, Suite 600 Amarillo, TX 79101**  
**806.373.6661**

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concept and has since become the largest adventure park operator in the world with nearly 267 locations open and under development. Urban Air's purpose is to help kids have fun and aim higher, achieving those things that they never thought they could do.

Free drop-in tennis clinics are being offered by the **ALEX O'BRIEN TENNIS FOUNDATION (AOBTF)** this summer at **MEMORIAL PARK**, located at 2501 South Washington in Amarillo. Kids in kindergarten through high school can attend the tennis clinics Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Weekday instruction is scheduled through July 29, excluding July 4. All levels of tennis players are welcome; equipment is available to borrow. "We have been providing free tennis instruction in City of Amarillo parks for more than 15 years," **ALEX O'BRIEN**, AOBTF founder, said. "We are passionate about investing in kids and giving them an opportunity to learn to love the game of tennis. We're proud that over the years, hundreds of kids have strengthened their tennis skills thanks to this free program." Instructors are area high school and college-bound tennis players. The child to instructor ratio is very low and all instructors go through background checks. Parents are encouraged to stay for the clinics. Beginners learn proper racquet techniques, groundstroke and serve form, scoring and court etiquette. AOBTF's goal is to demonstrate that tennis is not a just country club sport but something everyone can learn to play and enjoy.

Prior to Covid, the **DEAF SMITH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY** held a highly successful **TRACTOR JUBILEE** in Hereford featuring an array of vintage farm tractors that paraded along the traditional route in Hereford and were then featured on display in Dameron Park. Efforts are now underway to renew this event August 20 in Hereford, and entries of vintage and classic farm tractors are being sought. For more information, contact Jim Steiert, Hereford 806-364-1855. *AW*