

14

### AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

#### Hays County Commissioners Court

Tuesdays at 9:00 AM

Request forms are due in Microsoft Word Format via email by 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

#### AGENDA ITEM

Discussion and possible action to consider a request for additional funding from the Open Space and Park Bond funds for the Dripping Springs Ranch Park.

ITEM TYPE	MEETING DATE	AMOUNT REQUIRED
ACTION-MISCELLANEOUS	April 16, 2013	

**LINE ITEM NUMBER**  
Park Bond Funds

AUDITOR USE ONLY

**AUDITOR COMMENTS:**

PURCHASING GUIDELINES FOLLOWED: N/A                      AUDITOR REVIEW: N/A

REQUESTED BY	SPONSOR	CO-SPONSOR
	WHISENANT	N/A

**SUMMARY**  
Backup will be presented in court.

FILED: 04 16 13  
HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
Resolution # Discussion VOL V PG 139  
*only*

**HAYS COUNTY FY07 PARK BOND PROJECTS**

APPROVAL DATE	CONTRACT DATE	PROJECT	PRECINCT 1	PRECINCT 2	PRECINCT 3	PRECINCT 4	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
8/14/2007		Hays County - Five Mile Dam Park (\$826,500 approved; interest swapped on Winters Mill Trail noted below)	\$726,500				\$726,500
8/12/2008		Additional funding - Phase 1 Construction - Principle	\$350,505				\$1,077,005
8/12/2008		Interest	\$134,495				\$1,211,500
12/11/2007	12/11/2008	Dripping Springs - Harrison Ranch Park 0 Land Acq.				\$775,000	\$1,986,500
1/22/2008	3/4/2008	CFPO/Village of San Marcos - Park Project (Original amount \$1,618,417; savings of \$48,490)	\$1,569,927				\$3,556,724
2/26/2008	2/26/2008	Wimberley Valley Watershed Association - Jacob's Well Project			\$3,000,000		\$6,556,427
3/18/2008	4/16/2008	North Hays Optimist Foundation - Sports Complex	\$581,000				\$7,137,427
4/22/2008	12/9/2008	Wimberley - Blue Hole Regional Park			\$2,000,000		\$9,137,427
5/13/2008	1/6/2009	City of Buda - Stagecoach Park		\$775,000			\$9,912,427
5/13/2008		City of Kyle - North East Regional Park *					
8/17/2010	11/23/2010	(modified from \$2,479,000 to \$1,200,000 for Gregg-Clark Park, City Square Park, and Plum Cr Preserve/Lake Kyle)		\$1,200,000			\$11,112,427
		<b>CITY OF SAN MARCOS - COMBINED PARK PROJECTS *</b>					
	*	Five Mile Dam, Rio Vista & Memorial Park	\$1,000,000				\$12,112,427
		Purgatory Creek Preserve			\$1,600,000		\$13,712,427

	*	Gary Sports Complex (San Marcos city limits, Caldwell County)	\$500,000					\$14,212,427
9/30/2008		Hays County - Dahlstrom Ranch Conservation Easement Phase I Public Access Park		\$4,900,000 \$350,000				\$19,112,427 \$19,462,427
11/24/2009		Transactional Costs		\$100,000				\$19,562,427
10/7/2008	10/7/2008	Dripping Springs Youth Sports Assoc. - Dripping Springs Founders Park Sports Fields				\$266,919		\$19,829,346
2/28/2006		Hays County - Winters Mill/Blue Hole Loop Trail (FY03 interest to FY07 Bond Funds		\$100,000				\$19,929,346
12/22/2009		Additional Allocation (FY07 Interest)		\$139,213				\$20,068,559
8/10/2010		Hays County - Jacob's Well - Additional 50 acres		\$850,000				\$20,918,559
8/10/2010		Hays County - Nicholson Ranch Associated Costs - (closing, survey, fencing, etc.)			\$5,000,000 \$300,000			\$25,918,559 \$26,218,559
11/23/2010	12/14/2010	Dripping Springs - Harrison Ranch Park - Development			\$1,700,000			\$27,918,559
12/7/2010		TPL - Purgatory Creek Expansion - San Marcos		\$800,000				\$28,718,559
12/7/2010	5/3/2011	Buda - Skate Park		\$140,000				\$28,858,559
12/7/2010	5/3/2011	Buda - Bradfield Park Trails System		\$310,000				\$29,168,559
12/7/2010	2/22/2011	Hays County Youth Athletic Assoc - Field Lighting/Improvements		\$447,256				\$29,615,815
3/8/2011	5/10/2011	Hays County WCID #2 - Bear Creek Trail/Park			\$100,000			\$29,715,815
<b>TOTAL DIRECT PROJECT EXPENDITURES</b>			<b>\$4,862,427</b>	<b>\$8,222,256</b>	<b>\$8,489,213</b>	<b>\$8,141,919</b>	<b>\$29,715,815</b>	



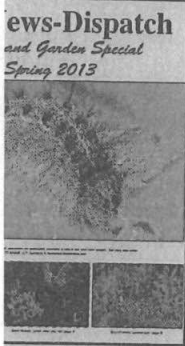
**Dripping Springs Ranch Park  
Total Project Cost-- \$5,871,742**

Hays County Contribution  
\$2,900,000

City of Dripping Springs Contribution  
\$2,300,119

**Funds needed to complete the project-- \$2,186,878  
City requesting \$1,800,000 from Hays County Park Bond Funds**

## Dripping Springs & Wimberley

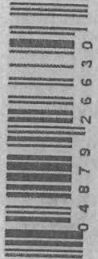


Play opens in Wimberley April 12  
See page 4



Ribbon Cutting Dripping Springs  
See page 10

75¢  
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# News-Dispatch

ing Western Hays County since 1982

Thursday April 4, 2013 • 75¢ ©2013

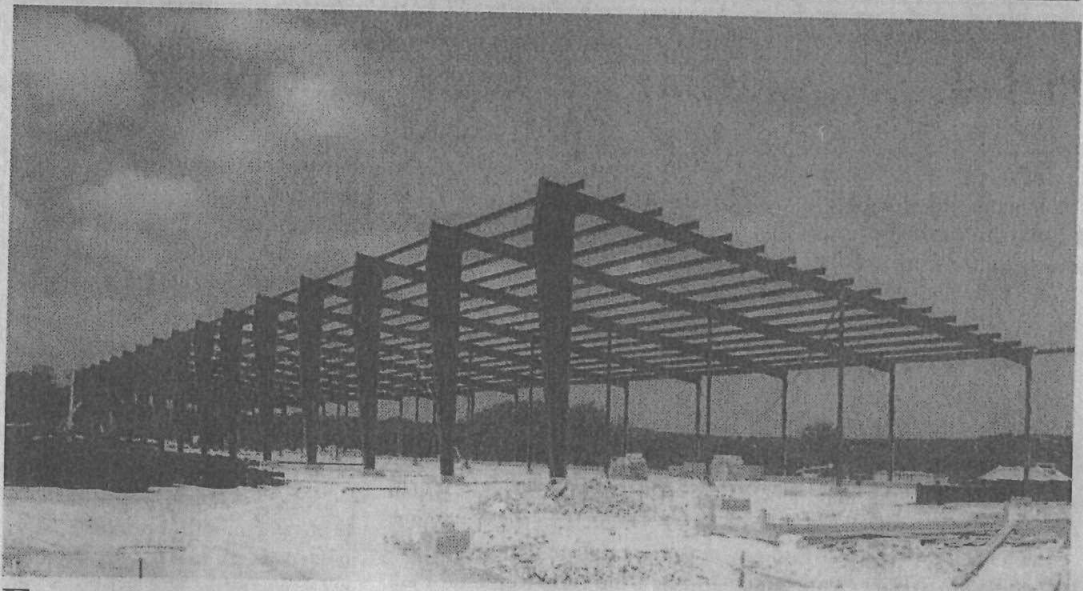
## Lockdown successful warning given

mer- as a test for the Wimberley ISD  
acti- to determine their readiness for  
ool to a potential threat in one of their  
tice schools.

The drill was activated with no  
advance warning to school staff,  
students or the School Resource  
Officer with the exception of the  
principal and assistant principal.  
Hays County Sheriff's Office  
deputies were on scene in plain-  
clothes to evaluate the school  
response.

The evaluation included many  
facets including the following

See WHS pg. 2



### FRAMED

The Covered Event Center at Dripping Springs Ranch Park took shape this week with erection of the steel framing. The 166,000 square-foot building will house such amenities as a riding arena, 15,000 sf partially open exhibit hall and a 12,000 sf meeting/banquet room among others. The \$5-6 million facility has been partially financed with grants from Texas Parks & Wildlife and Hays County. More financing is being sought.

News-Dispatch staff photo

## Want state lege nce utility rates

ers story.  
a "Many residents of Hays "Many of those companies have aggressively raised rates over

## Isaac's water bill passed by House

AUSTIN — The Texas House of Representatives passed House Bill 4 last week.



April 16, 2013

To the Honorable Members of the Hays County Commissioners Court:

I write to thank you for the Court's consideration of the City of Dripping Springs' request for additional funds from Hays County for the purpose of completing construction on certain critical improvements at Dripping Springs Ranch Park (the "Park").

I do so in the capacity as Chair of the City of Dripping Springs Economic Development Committee, appreciating the County's previous generosity toward the Park, and for the following reasons:

1. Once fully improved, the Park has the potential to generate tremendous additional tourism for the Dripping Springs Community. With restaurant, winery, destination wedding, and other tourism-related momentum, Dripping Springs is better positioned than ever within the Central Texas Region to become a destination for regional, state-wide, and national visitors. Full construction of the Park's assets will further this momentum for the great benefit of existing, local businesses and their Hays County owners and employees.
2. Additional tourism related to the Park will become a catalyst for additional investment, including the expansion of existing businesses, and the formation of new businesses, in the Dripping Springs Community. Imagine the impact, for example, of additional hotels and restaurants, a more fully-developed Mercer Street, and the jobs and opportunity related to the same. All will be benefited by the expansion and formation of businesses related to the Park's success.
3. Both items No. 1 and No. 2, above, will directly benefit Hays County through the generation of increased sales taxes from within and around the Dripping Springs Community. As it compares to other, worthwhile investments in parks and open space, investment in the Dripping Springs Ranch Park has the potential to be a sales tax catalyst for Hays County.

I regret the fact that I will be unable to attend your meeting today, but I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on this important opportunity for both the Dripping Springs Community and for Hays County. I appreciate and value your service and all that you do for the citizens of Hays County.

Sincerely,



Patrick M. Rose

Chair, City of Dripping Springs Economic Development Committee



Hays County Commissioners Court  
111 E. San Antonio St., Ste. 300  
San Marcos, Texas 78666

Dear Commissioners:

The Board of Directors of the Dripping Springs Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau supports seeking additional funds to fully complete the development of Dripping Springs Ranch Park and event venue facility in Dripping Springs.

The Dripping Springs area hosts a large population base within our geographical boundaries. In recent years, many in our community have continued to express a need for a meeting facility, as well as a place to hold local events.

As an example of the need for this facility, the Chamber's annual Dripping with Taste Wine & Food Festival has outgrown every venue within close proximity of our city. Last year, the festival tripled its attendance numbers from the previous year with many of those attendees coming from outside the Dripping Springs area. We have reserved the new venue at Dripping Springs Ranch Park for our 2013 Dripping with Taste Wine & Food Festival.

The Chamber expects that with the total completion of the Dripping Springs Ranch Venue there will be an immediate and significant increase in the sales figures of our local businesses, sales taxes paid to Hays County and a tremendous impact on the economic development of our city's tourism and tax base. It will also serve to enhance the recreational quality of life for residents in Northern Hays County.

This year, the Chamber and its Economic Development Committee will be working towards increasing tourism to our community. The completion of the Dripping Springs Ranch Park and Event facility is crucial to that goal. We fully support the City of Dripping Springs obtaining any additional funds that would bring this project to completion.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Humphrey  
Chairman of the Board



Dear City of Dripping Springs,

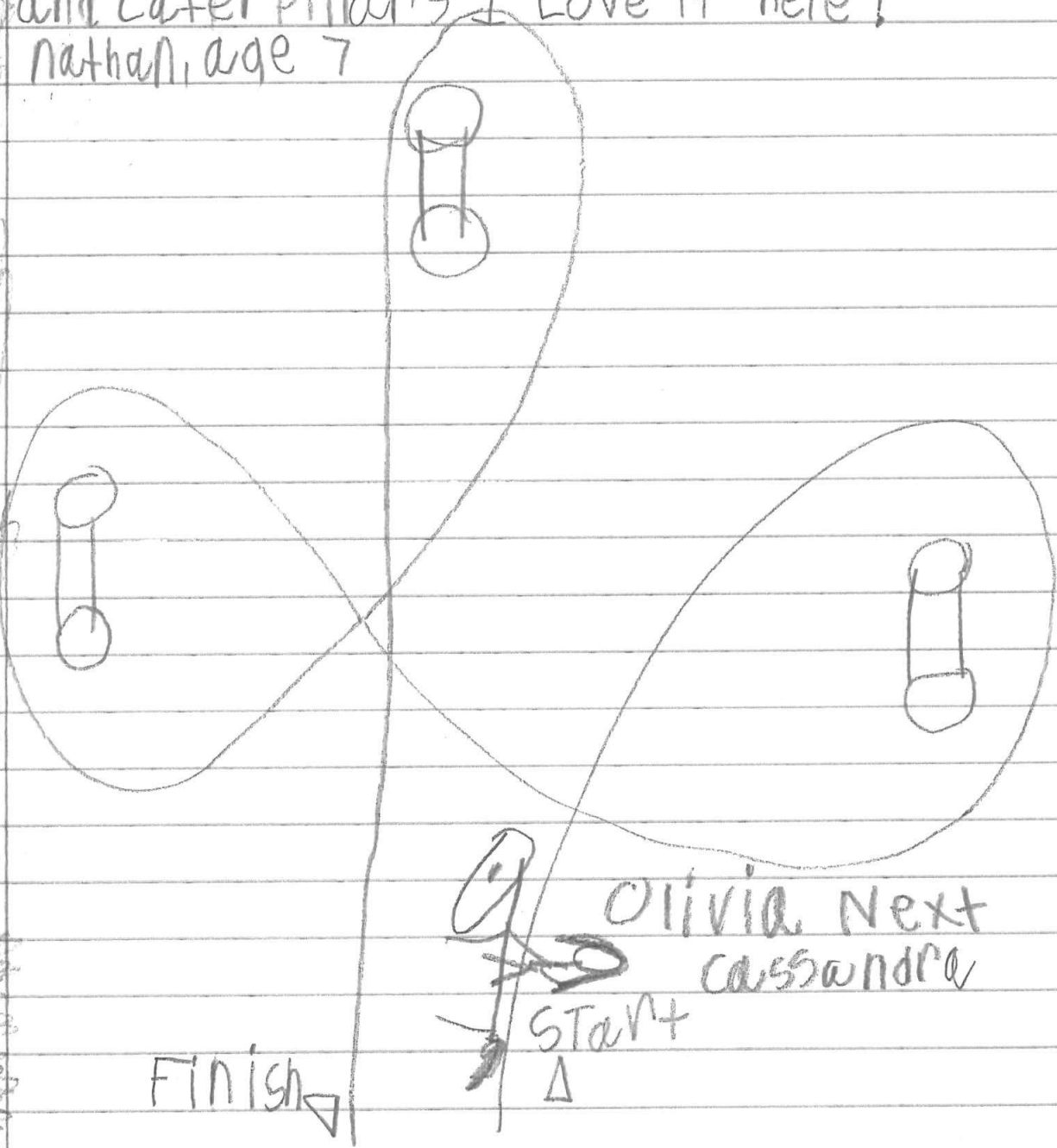
I moved to Dripping Springs when I was eleven years old, the year Dripping Springs Ranch Park was opened. My parents had just bought me seven acres and a horse. However, there was no adequate room to ride due to the rocky terrain. If it were not for the availability of DSRP's riding facility it would have been impossible for me to practice and grow in my passion. In the past five years I have competed in an un-namable number of events from Dressage to reining, all hosted at the park. I am a regular user of the facility and owe it greatly for the opportunities it has presented me to excel at what I love. As there are few other local Equine facilities open to the public I am not positive that I would have been able to continue riding if not for the park. I am a Dripping Springs 4-H officer and Junior Equine Project leader and therefore have seen the same progression in other 4-H members in regards to the park. The addition of the new riding facility will greatly benefit the community, I am certain. The gratitude I have for all who have made the park a growing success cannot be expressed enough. I am anxious to see the new covered arena structure rise and am sure of its usability by the community. Also I know that with it particularly the 4-H and FFA organizations, who are devoted to the enrichment of our communities young people, will see drastic increase in membership due to the sure popularity of city's massive expansion of DSRP.

I am anxious to witness the beneficial opportunity the young people of Dripping Springs will be able to experience with the growth of Dripping Springs Ranch Park.

Thanks for helping others and myself obtain our goals through your park.

Pratie Hooper

I Love to play at Dripping Springs  
Ranch park. My older sisters barrel race at  
The park and I enjoy going there to play  
when they ride. Sometimes when I go  
I see animals. I've seen vultures, dogs  
and caterpillars I Love it here!  
Nathan, age 7





10930 Signal Hill Road, Austin, TX 78737  
skm@2-2horses.com  
(512) 997-8486

March 7, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you in support of Dripping Springs Ranch Park and its future improvement plans. My family and I live and work in the Dripping Springs area and take part in events at the park at least once a month. I train horses professionally and am extremely fortunate to have such an equine facility in close proximity to my training facility.

Professionally, having a local facility which can hold competitive equine events is vital to the success of my students and my training horses. We compete at a local, state, and national level with Stock Horse of Texas (SHOT) and other organizations that offer stock and ranch horse versatility. The park is a platform for my students to practice and take part in their first horse shows which then become stepping stones to larger competitions.

Dripping Springs is an ideal area for the arena because of its affluence and western lifestyle and it has a huge equine community. In the past two years, I hosted many successful local events, clinics, and schooling shows for stock horse versatility and western dressage. These events serve to expand and educate the equine community in Dripping Springs. All of our previous events, as well as events scheduled for 2013, benefit Dripping Springs Ranch Park and all profits are donated to the park. With the plans for the new covered arena, stalls and RV hook-ups, DSRP has the potential to host these larger shows and I hope to hold a sanctioned SHOT event there in June of 2014.

As a mother, I appreciate the park's conservation of land and western heritage. I hope that my son will be able to use the park not only for equine events and 4H, but as a place for many other events, sports and nature outings.

I believe Dripping Springs Ranch Park to be a wonderful addition the equine community and the Dripping Springs community at large. The park itself will create revenue through the events to sustain itself and the events will bring consumers to Dripping Springs that would not otherwise visit. It is an excellent facility to hold equine events and non-equine events alike and I am proud to be a part of the success of Dripping Springs Ranch Park and the Dripping Springs community.

Sincerely,

Stacey McAlexander  
2 Bar 2 Horses



February 28, 2013

Dear Dripping Springs Ranch Park,

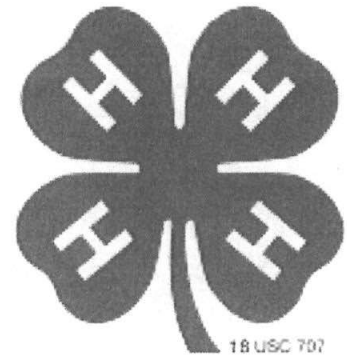
“Thank you” doesn’t even begin to cover how thrilled we are that you are building this fantastic covered facility with arenas, stalls, concessions and viewing areas at the DS Ranch Park!

The Capitol Area Quarter Horse Association is one of the largest regional quarter horse associations in the country. We hold four All Breed Open Shows each year, two Ranch Horse Versatility Shows, a number of clinics and, trail rides. The addition of the covered facility to your already wonderful park would allow our organization to offer even more of these events. We are excited to begin booking our shows and clinics with you for late 2013 and all of 2014!

Keep us all posted on the progress of the construction of the new facility. We look forward to doing business with DS Ranch Park for years to come!

Sincerely,

Penny Reeves  
President, CAQHA  
[www.caqha.com](http://www.caqha.com)



***Dripping Springs 4H Club***

February 27, 2013

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Dripping Springs 4H Club to express our support and appreciation of Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Having a multi-use facility within our community is a great thing for the Dripping Springs 4H program, other Hays County 4H programs and our community in general.

Since the park has been open, countless Dripping Springs 4H members have utilized the park for activities such as horseback riding practices, horse shows, livestock shows, bird watching, hiking and playground playing! As a club, we've also set up booths as part of the Wild West Fest and Red Arena Roundup. We've used these booths as an outreach opportunity to speak with members of the community about the Dripping Springs 4H Club and the many activities available within 4H. Our members enjoy being part of these types of events and our club as a whole is strengthened when our members come together for these types of activities.


Additionally, as part of the National One Day 4H day of community service in October, members of the Dripping Springs 4H club devoted over 96 man-hours to a workday clean up project at Dripping Springs Ranch Park. Our members enjoyed

working hard on a variety of projects to clean and beautify the park, and it was decided that we will make a workday at the park an annual Dripping Springs 4H event.

As construction gets underway for the new facility, enthusiasm and excitement among our members is also increasing. At our most recent officers meeting, the student leaders involved in leading the Dripping Springs 4H Club, discussed ways our club can support Dripping Springs Ranch Park. One idea that generated a great deal of enthusiasm by the students was the possibility of our club creating and maintaining a community learning garden for area kids to visit.

The Dripping Springs 4H Club is the largest 4H club in Hays County and having a multi-use facility in our own community will be of huge benefit to not only to our club, but the various 4H clubs within Hays County and the surrounding area. The Dripping Springs 4H Club looks forward to utilizing the park in many ways, but also being an integral part in promoting and maintaining the park.

Thank you,



Dripping Springs 4H Club



To the City of Dripping Springs

I would like to offer a note of thanks and encouragement to all those responsible for making the Dripping Springs Ranch Park possible. I am President of the Stock Horse of Texas Association, and many of our members (local and otherwise) have seen much benefit from use of the DSRP. A series of educational horse events was held there in 2012 and another four-part series (educational clinic, judging seminar, and show) is scheduled for 2013.

Stock Horse of Texas (SHOT) is one of the largest, thriving horse associations in Texas. With an active annual membership of around 800 members, riders travel all over the state to events that are based on education and competitive performance. The association has deep roots in the ranching community, and our mission is to promote the "all-around" ranch horse that holds a place in history and in today's equine industry. The kick-off to the 2013 season was just last weekend in Abilene. There were nearly 100 riders entered in the clinic portion and over 230 riders in the show. Competitors included six collegiate teams and even a handful of international (Argentina, Germany) riders.

Some cities where our events are held have performed convention bureau type studies on local economy impact, and the results are of course very positive. Competitors and their families rent hotel rooms and patronize local businesses (restaurants, feed stores, convenient stores). The influence of a major SHOT event on a local economy is a boost for local merchants and excellent exposure for the area (visitors are likely to return for recreation once they become familiar with a scenic area such as Dripping Springs).

The DSRP has a great layout for a small SHOT event such as the existing series. SHOT is very excited at the prospect of additional facilities (such as more stalls, a covered pen, more parking), as this would make DSRP a possible venue for a "full-blown" SHOT event.

As a Dripping Springs resident, I am particularly proud of the DSRP and have helped with other horse events at the park. As a clinician and competitor for several years in a variety of associations, I have heard positive feedback from many riders who participated in events at the DSRP. There are horse venues all around the state, but venues set in a large, scenic spot such as DSRP are few and special indeed.

On behalf of SHOT, thank you so very much for all the hard work in making the DSRP a great facility and thank you for moving forward with plans to create a venue that can host large-scale horse events. We see great things on the horizon, and cannot wait for the opportunity to share Dripping Springs with more members of the horse industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Laurie Shelton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laurie Shelton, DVM

President, Stock Horse of Texas Association



March 15, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

*2013 Directors*

*Tami Burkland  
Teri George  
Keri Gohlke  
Cressent Nickes  
Debbie Spears  
Jamie Steiner  
Dyan Twining  
Nancy Woodward*

The Texas Hill Country Barrel Racing Association has been using the current outdoor arena at Dripping Springs Ranch Park for over 3 years now. I am writing to express to you how excited we are about the construction of a new covered facility there.

We hold 8 to 10 full day barrel races a year and weekly exhibition/jackpot events every Tuesday night. We have a strong following of local riders but attract riders from around the state as well. Our larger barrel races have been drawing between 70 and 100 entries in the current facility.

We expect a significant increase in participation once the new covered arena is available. Rainouts have been a nagging problem with the outdoor pen and create a level of uncertainty that dampens attendance. In addition, it will be possible to maintain more consistent dirt conditions in a covered arena which will encourage greater participation. Finally, with stall and RV space rentals available, we will be able to host multi-day events that draw a greater number of participants.

We are watching the new arena go up with excitement and are anxious to see it become a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Woodward".

Nancy Woodward  
Director



Cowboy Construction/Leaning Post Ranch  
1010 Brownson Lane  
Driftwood, Texas 78619-9144  
[www.cowboyconstructiontx.com](http://www.cowboyconstructiontx.com)

March 15, 2013

Mayor Todd Purcell  
City of Dripping Springs  
P.O. Box 384  
Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

Dear Mr. Purcell:

I write today to offer my strongest support for the continued development and expansion of Dripping Springs Ranch Park. As a volunteer who solely organized, promoted, and managed the inaugural Classical and Western "Dressage in the Hill Country" schooling show on October 29, 2011, at DSRP, I believe that this multi-use facility provides unlimited opportunities for the City, its residents, and other individuals and groups to enjoy a wide variety of cultural and recreational activities all in one venue. This event was one of the first of its kind, "bridging the disciplines" of English and Western riding. I believe it is appropriate, then, that Dripping Springs continue to expand the offerings of Dripping Springs Ranch Park to reflect the diversity of our expanding community and provide as much appeal to users/vendors and enjoyment to all guests as possible.

Having raised a daughter in 4-H and related activities in Dripping Springs and Central Texas, it is unfortunate that our children for many years used facilities in San Marcos, Blanco, or Johnson City for their activities and events instead of staying local. As an equestrian myself, I would welcome even more and diverse activities at DSRP, including low-level eventing schooling shows, cowboy golf, and competitive trail. My husband, a working cowboy and rodeo/ranch rodeo competitor would also appreciate more scheduled events appealing to cowboys. To summarize, there are abundant opportunities available to financially support the Park and volunteers, such as me, are willing to put forth the effort to make the Park successful.

Dripping Springs is the "Gateway to the Hill Country" and exists geographically and from a marketing perspective in an ideal place to provide amazing cultural and recreational experiences for residents as well as visitors. I continue to provide my support in a variety of capacities, such as show manager for this year's SHOT series as well as "Dressage in the Hill Country," now expanded to two dates, one in June and the other in December. I hope you will champion the effort to fully develop Drippings Springs Ranch Park to reach the broadest audience possible. I am happy to assist in whatever capacity possible.

Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, or if you'd like to propose another event.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Connie".

Connie Brownson  
c. (512) 569-2095  
[cbrownson@txstate.edu](mailto:cbrownson@txstate.edu)



# *The Dripping Springs* **VOCATIONAL AG BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION**

*State of Texas Non-Profit Charter #1085900*



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*Dedicated to Preserving Our Community's Agriculture  
And Vocational Heritages Through Our Youth*

March 21, 2013

**OFFICERS**  
***For 2012-2013***

**President**  
***Terry Polk***  
**20**

**Vice President**  
***Rich Moore***

**Second Vice President**  
***Mark Coffman***

**Treasurer**  
***Curtis Crews***

**Secretary**  
***Tracie Spillar***

**Reporter**  
***Cami Jones***

To the Commissioners of Hays County,

I'm writing this on behalf of the Dripping Springs Vocational Ag Boosters Association. We would like to thank you for the support you have shown for the new covered arena at Dripping Springs Ranch Park and ask that you continue to help see this project through to the end.

We are an organization that supports the youth in the Dripping Springs area who are involved in 4H and FFA. This past January we were able to spend \$19,000 at the Hays County Livestock Show and are currently going through the application process to award up to \$10,000 in scholarships to our graduating seniors. All of this money has come from fundraising, principally from our Fall Classic Livestock Show and the new Dripping Springs Rodeo.

The Dripping Springs Fall Classic Livestock Show has been held for the past 11 years. But for the last 5 years we have had to hold this event in Johnson City at the Blanco County Show Barn as it is the closest facility to our area. We look forward to being able to bring this event home to Dripping Springs where it belongs.

In 2012 the DSVABA partnered with the City of Dripping Springs to bring the sport of rodeo back to our city for the first time since the 80's. Despite putting on the rodeo in a small outdoor arena at Dripping Springs Ranch Park that was never designed for such an event - it was a huge success. With the building of this new indoor facility we are looking forward to continuing this partnership with the City and making this a major annual event for Hays County.

Again, thank you so much for having the vision to see this project for what it is, a jewel for Hays County, and ask that you continue your support for this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Polk'.

Terry Polk  
President  
Dripping Springs Ag Boosters  
www.dsagboosters.org  
dsagboosters@gmail.com