



CARTHAGE NATIVE MAKES HIS CASE

Carthage Native Cagan Baldree Joins
Longview Law Firm as Associate...
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The Panola Watchman

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HOPE Community Medicine plans new Carthage facility

VIRGINIA PIERCE
Staff Writer

HOPE Community Medicine is preparing to open a new Carthage facility in spring 2027, bringing medical care, pharmacy services and behavioral health services together in one location.

Project registration records filed with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation list a \$549,000 renovation of approximately 4,500 square feet at 109 W. Panola

St. The project was initially listed with a projected completion date of Dec. 31, 2026.

Blair Vaughn of HOPE Community Medicine said the new location will bring several services together to create a more convenient experience for patients.

“One of the most exciting things about this new location is that it will bring medical care, pharmacy services, and behavioral health services all together under one roof!” Vaughn said.

The new facility will house HOPE Community Medicine’s primary care and medical services, HOPE Pharmacy and HOPE Behavioral Health.

According to Vaughn, the organization’s current Carthage clinic will close, and all medical services will relocate to the new facility.

“Having all three services in one building will allow us to provide a more convenient, accessible, and

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Horticulture in the Evening to explore the world of honeybees



From Staff Reports

Honeybees play an important role in agriculture and the landscapes around us, but how much do we really know about these busy pollinators? Panola County residents will have an opportunity to learn more about honeybees and the basics of beekeeping during the upcoming Horticulture in the Evening program Oct. 20 at Sammy Brown Library.

Dr. Garrett Slater, AgriLife Extension bee specialist, will present “Bees! Understanding Them and Starting Bees at Home” at 6 p.m. The program will take a closer look at honeybees, how a colony functions, and the role these insects play in supporting agriculture and the environment. Attendees also will learn about considerations for those interested in starting their own beekeeping operation at home.

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BIG HAIR, HIGH NOON

Wild West Revue brings comedy, romance and gun-slinging action to Carthage

STEPHANIE PAGE
Contributing Writer

The dust of the western plains rolled into The Esquire Theater in downtown Carthage on Saturday, Oct. 10, as The Esquire’s Wild West Revue and Dolly Parton Look-Alike Contest brought together live country music, comedy, romance and frontier-style action.

The evening’s production featured The Dusty Boots Band, Chase Dawson and The Esquire Players, delivering an entertaining mix of old-fashioned Western storytelling and saloon-style humor. Organizers also teased a spooky-season twist, promising a few surprises alongside the familiar sounds and antics of the Old West.

The Revue blended the romance of the frontier with the humor of saloon life, creating a lively mix of characters and situations. Just when comedy threatened to steal the spotlight, a romantic subplot and a showdown with guns brought the action audiences have come to expect from The Esquire Players.

Live music played a central role in the production, with The Dusty Boots Band and Chase Dawson providing the sounds of the Old West.

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Sheriff Buck Law (Brice Riddell) threatens to lock Black Bart (Tony DeJohn) up for bank robberies, stagecoach hold-ups and stolen horses. (Stephanie Page/Esquire Players)



Ma Law (Cherry Fisher) threatens Black Bart (Tony DeJohn) for eating her Blue Ribbon Apple Pie (Stephanie Page/Esquire Players)



Love interests Black Bart (Tony DeJohn) and Fannie Mae (Jessica DeJohn) dance to music by The Dusty Boots Band (Stephanie Page/Esquire Players)

ETCOG Announces Camp County Judge AJ Mason as Chairman and Welcomes New Board Officers, Executive Committee Member Terms

Special to the Panola Watchman

ETCOG is pleased to announce its new Chairman, Camp County Judge AJ Mason; the new Board and Executive Committee Officers serving for FY 2027; and Executive Committee members beginning a new two-year term. The ETCOG Board of Directors appoints the Executive Committee, which meets monthly and is responsible for establishing the policies, programs, and services on behalf of the Board for our 14-county region.

Board Officers

- Chairman – Camp County Judge AJ



- Mason
 - 1st Vice-Chairman – Smith County Commissioner Ralph Carraway, Sr.
 - 2nd Vice Chairman – City of Carthage City Commissioner Tate Barber
 - 3rd Vice Chairman – Rains County Commissioner Jeremy Cook
 - Secretary/Treasurer – City of Longview Mayor Kristen Ishihara
- “Working with elected officials from across East Texas is

a privilege I greatly enjoy while serving on the ETCOG Executive Committee,” said Judge Mason. “Due to the efforts of ETCOG leadership and staff, we look forward to a record year in FY 2027. Serving East Texans in communities in all 14 counties is our focus. Senior meal programs, childcare, employers and job seekers, rural transportation, public safety and peace officer training, 911 emergency systems and economic development are only a

few of the areas benefitting our East Texas communities due to the efforts of this outstanding organization.”

Executive Committee Members Returning for New Terms

The following Executive Committee members have been appointed to new two-year terms:

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NEWS

New Neuropsychology Clinic expands access to specialized care in East Texas...
more on 4A



SPORTS

Dawgs sink Pirates in district opener...
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