



## Cougarettes, Lady Rangers secure back-to-back outright district championships

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## Tyson announces \$58M expansion in Seguin

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# NEW BRAUNFELS Herald-Zeitung

Reporting the life story of New Braunfels since 1852

### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

## Another developer eyes area

### Nashville firm picks Texas builder to lead new division

By Steve Knight  
The Herald-Zeitung

A Nashville-based real estate developer is setting its sights on residential development opportunities in the Texas Hill Country, including Comal County, through its homebuilding group, SLC Homes.

As part of an expansion effort into the Hill Country, Southern Land Company tapped Texas builder Dan Hutts to lead the SLC Homes Hill Country Division as president.



Dan Hutts

Early in his real estate career, Hutts was the owner of Emerson Residential in Dallas, where he helped to build a multi-million-dollar luxury custom home building operation in neighborhoods such as Highland and University Parks.

Most recently, he was the owner of Austin-based Oak Valley Custom Homes, focusing on high-end custom homes.

"We were attracted to SLC Homes because of their commitment to quality over quantity," Hutts said. "Collectively, we believe that solid planning principles and attention to detail are invaluable when you are targeting the higher-end home market. By joining SLC Homes, we have significantly expanded our local resources

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Adriana Tovar of the Danzantes de Corazon dance group dances at the Dia de los Muertos Festival Saturday, Oct. 23 in New Braunfels. The live festival marked its return in 2021, after being canceled in 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. ALMA E. HERNANDEZ | Herald-Zeitung

## A day of remembrance

### Thousands come to downtown NB for festival's return

By Lisa Dreher  
The Herald-Zeitung

The Dia de los Muertos Festival saw thousands this Saturday eat up local food, dance along to live music and walk ceremoniously to honor loved ones who passed away.

The live festival was canceled last year due to the pandemic, but sprung back this year with organizers saying that large crowds of people attended.

Dia de los Muertos, translated from Spanish to "Day of the Dead," celebrates the lives and memories of loved ones passed. The Mexican holiday is Nov. 1 and 2.

The New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce Hispanic Business Alliance brought the community together to celebrate memories of those who passed, especially due to COVID.

"It was phenomenal," HBA



Esther Benitez and her granddaughter Jenna Arellano add family members to the community ofrenda at the Dia de los Muertos Festival on Saturday, Oct. 23 in New Braunfels. ALMA E. HERNANDEZ | Herald-Zeitung

chair Mary Ann Labowski said. "From 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. People started getting there at 10 a.m. and the festival started at noon. It was probably like a revolving crowd, everywhere you looked it was filled with the community."

Proceeds from the event benefit the HBA, which uses the funds for scholarships and grants.

"We're taking what we learned this year, it's a brand new footprint," HBA past president Shelley Bujnoch said. "We learned

a lot and hopefully next year it gets bigger and better. The more we're able to raise we can give back through scholarships to children and also small business grants. It allows us the opportunity to give back to the city of New Braunfels and to our community in general."

The main event was the walk from the procession to the ofrenda, a 24-foot altar made and donated by Kram Roofing out of

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### NOVEMBER ELECTION

## Voters pick up the pace for weekend

### Early turnout edges above 2% for Nov. 2 balloting

By Will Wright  
The Herald-Zeitung

Comal and Guadalupe county voters hit the polls over the weekend, combining to cast 1,323 in-person early votes for the Nov. 2 elections on Saturday and Sunday.

It edged both counties past 2% in total turnout, which was barely 1% after the first three days of early voting for proposed

state constitutional amendments, two school district bonds and several city and municipal board services and candidates.

### FIND IT INSIDE

If you're looking for times and locations of early voting spots in Comal and Guadalupe counties, find them on page 3

Unofficially, 896 voters cast ballots Saturday and Sunday at nine Comal County polling sites for 3,683 in-person votes and another 191 through the mail for 3,874 total, or 3.18% of 121,711 registered. Guadalupe County voters cast 427 ballots at six locations for 1,597 ballots cast in-person and 1,421 mailed in for 3,018 total, or 2.65% of 113,504 eligible voters.

Both counties are deciding New Braunfels Independent School District's \$348 million bond, and five counties are participating in Comal ISD's \$527 million bond and voter approved tax ratification election.

Comal Emergency Services District No. 7 has a sales tax

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### COVID-19 PANDEMIC

## New Braunfels man in his 50s becomes Comal County's 443rd COVID-19 death

By Steve Knight  
The Herald-Zeitung

Comal County's active COVID-19 case count crept up slightly on Monday, with the death toll rising to 443 as county officials reported an additional death.

County health officials reported the death of a New Braunfels man in his 50s, who died at a local hospital on Oct. 20.

### WANT TO GET VACCINATED?

Appointments can be made by calling the Comal County Health Department at 830-221-1150.

There have now been 442 COVID-19 deaths reported since the pandemic arrived in March of 2020.

The county's active case count stood at 464 on Mon-

day, up seven from Friday's report and down 52 from a week ago, with public health adding 50 new cases and 42 recoveries.

Of those active cases, 28 patients are hospitalized, unchanged from Friday's report and up seven from a week ago.

Comal County's hospitals reported caring for 20

See COVID, page 3

### COMAL COUNTY

## Deputy wounded in shooting among employees recognized for county service

By Will Wright  
The Herald-Zeitung

Comal County Sheriff Mark Reynolds can't say enough about Eddy's Luna's spirit.

"It's his character, strength and drive — just his steadfast determination," Reynolds said of his deputy who is rehabilitating after losing part right arm to a shotgun blast while serving a warrant last year. The sheriff marveled at Luna's annual involvement in the Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre

Association's Rocktober Fest, which last weekend showcased local bands in a fundraiser for CCSO's Green Santa program and other charitable causes.

"There's just nothing that slows this guy down, which is amazing," Reynolds said of Luna, who is out on leave but scheduled to appear before

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Eddy Luna

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